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## President's Report 2015

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Last year was a dynamic year. We had changes in the board as well as in our committees, all due to our lives as expats. Luckily this had no effect on our fundraising efforts. With help from our members and volunteers we managed to attend nine fairs to sell our merchandise and organize several very successful fundraising events like two Garage Sales, the NCA Christmas Fair and two Lucky Draws.

Last year our focus was to implement the strategy we initiated in 2014 and presented at the AGM in 2015. Our foundation stayed the same: as Dutch residents of the Singaporean society we like to give something back and contribute to the welfare of the society we so happily live in. In order to strengthen our foundation and grow our fundraising activities, we extended our focus from the Dutch community to the international expat community in Singapore. This way we created an opportunity for more expats to help the underprivileged as well as an opportunity for the NCA to raise more funds.

### Our organization

The board has seen some changes since the AGM of 2015. Annette Smith has resigned as our Treasurer after 3 years and Willemijn Hamaker-Dorrepaal has stepped up as our new Treasurer. Jolijn Heine moved to Vietnam, and therefore stepped down as President. Lisette Davis, as the Vice-President took over. Furthermore, Pleun Brevet joined the board as representative of the Marketing and Communications Committee.

In the strategy we arranged the organization around committees. Our most important committee is the Marcom committee. They are responsible for the promotion, and sometimes also the organization, of all our events. They also worked hard with the board on the opening of our web shop. In this online shop you can find all sorts of products to support our charities.

We were very happy we could grow the numbers of our Marcom committee. It is a wonderful team of enthusiastic and motivated volunteers. They structured and professionalized the way we communicate and with their skilled help we were able to reach out to all expats in Singapore.

Our other committees were not so lucky. Due to relocation we are still looking for volunteers to coordinate our Fair committee and the Merchandise committee. The Charity and Sponsor & Member committees are currently coordinated by the board.

No charity can exist without volunteers. To thank our loyal volunteers we ended the year with an informal drink. The evening brought board and volunteers closer together and the board received some constructive feedback to improve our organization.

### NCA Board 2016

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| ▪ President      | Lisette Davis ( <i>Jolijn Heine</i> )                |
| ▪ Vice President | Sheila Bouwman ( <i>Lisette Davis</i> )              |
| ▪ Treasurer      | Willemijn Hamaker-Dorrepaal ( <i>Annette Smith</i> ) |
| ▪ Secretary      | Laura Weller ( <i>Sheila Bouwman</i> )               |
| ▪ Communication  | Pleun Brevet   |



Without exaggerating, all our events were very successful and well attended. I'm convinced that the success of these events is a direct result from our renewed broadened focus on the international expat community.

## Members and sponsors

In 2015 we had 72 members which resulted in a total amount of 4985 SGD. The number of members is lower than in 2014 and provides reason for concern. Without members and sponsors a charity organization can be vulnerable, not only financially but also in volunteers to help organize fundraising events. For this reason we will focus on the acquisition of new members in 2016.

All our current business sponsors supported us in 2015 as well; either through a corporate membership or donations in kind. We acquired one new corporate sponsor, one of our current sponsors generously committed to a corporate sponsorship for the next 3 years and another business sponsor donated an extra ad hoc contribution. For our two Lucky Draws we were able to attract new sponsors who donated in kind. With their help we could offer a range of very attractive prizes to the audiences. All our sponsors are mentioned on our 'Friends of the NCA' page on our website.

We are very grateful to all our members and sponsors. Without them and their dedication we could not have gotten the great results we did!

## Charities

We strengthened our ties with the charities we support. In line with the organization around committees, we decided that one board member should be responsible to manage these important relationships so that our gifts and volunteering can be better synchronized. Handing out a cheque every year is greatly appreciated but there is so much more we can do.

We started to look for opportunities to support the charities in multiple ways. To name a few: we organized a visit to the soup kitchen of Willing Hearts for our volunteers. We assisted members and volunteers who are looking for opportunities to help out at one of our supported charities. We helped Good Shepherd with their baking competition among the girls in the shelters by tasting and judging their creations. We also visited their Thanksgiving evening where the girls from the shelter performed a beautiful and moving show. For HOME we provided nice preloved clothing we selected for them at our Garage Sale. They used it for their Talent & Pageant Show for migrant workers to help them dress up and feel proud of themselves.

A one-off project was conducted by students of the Heling Liang Hwa Chong Junior college. For a school project, they chose to help raise funds by selling stationery. They decided on stationery because this has great practical values to students and would help their sales. The project raised a few hundred dollars and equally important, it created awareness among students for underprivileged children.

The organizations below received a sizable donation from the NCA in 2015. Details can be found in our audited Financial Statements.

- Breadline
- Good Shepherd
- H.O.M.E.
- SILRA

In addition, MINDS and the Salvation Army received donations in kind, being all 2nd hand items not sold at both Garage Sales.

## **Outlook 2016**

In 2015 we've worked hard to make NCA more visible and known in Singapore. 2016 started with the decision for a new appropriate logo. We believe this new logo will help us further to be more visible, especially online, within the expat community. In the first half year we continue on working to update our website, brochures and merchandise accordingly, so the new logo will become more and more visible.

Our events calendar for 2016 is again filled with familiar fundraising events like the Garage Sale, Christmas Fair, Black & White tour and the organization of Lucky Draws.

We intend to create new original products we can sell with a Dutch-Singaporean twist and if possible in cooperation with the charities we support. One product is currently ready: a new set of 4 post cards which we created together with the residents of Good Shepherd.

In 2016 we will continue to intensify our relationship with the charities. Part of that is a new initiative of organizing events for/with them to engage our members and volunteers.

Last but not least: to strengthen the foundation of the NCA we will focus on growing the number of memberships and business sponsors. This growth will provide a financial continuity but will also create opportunities to attract more volunteers and organize more fundraising events.

NCA President  
Lisette Davis  
April 2016