

# 2006 National Day Parade Family



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5th EXCO  
Issue 5

## FEATURING:

*Chairman's Foreword*  
*Sponsorship at Work*  
*Interview with Sylvia Mc Gully*  
*Interview with Mr Tay Poh Soon*  
*Fourth Exco Meeting*  
*Visit to Nan-Hua Secondary*  
*Work in Progress*



# Chairman's Foreword



I trust all of you enjoyed the Fourth EXCO Meeting on board the RSS Resolution. It was heartening to see so many members of our large NDP 2006 family turn up to mingle and interact in what was a rather novel setting for most. I must again extend my gratitude to 3rd Flotilla for making this event possible.

On the evening of March 1st the Organising Secretariat gathered on the East Wing of the National Stadium to witness the lighting of the newly refurbished cauldron. It was the first time in 13 years that this majestic torch illuminated the sky above the National Stadium. As I watched this wonderful sight, I reflected that this glowing flame symbolized the national spirit that we are trying to ignite in every Singaporean during NDP 2006. This kindling of the cauldron reminds us not only of our destination, but also that our voyage is now truly and surely on its way.

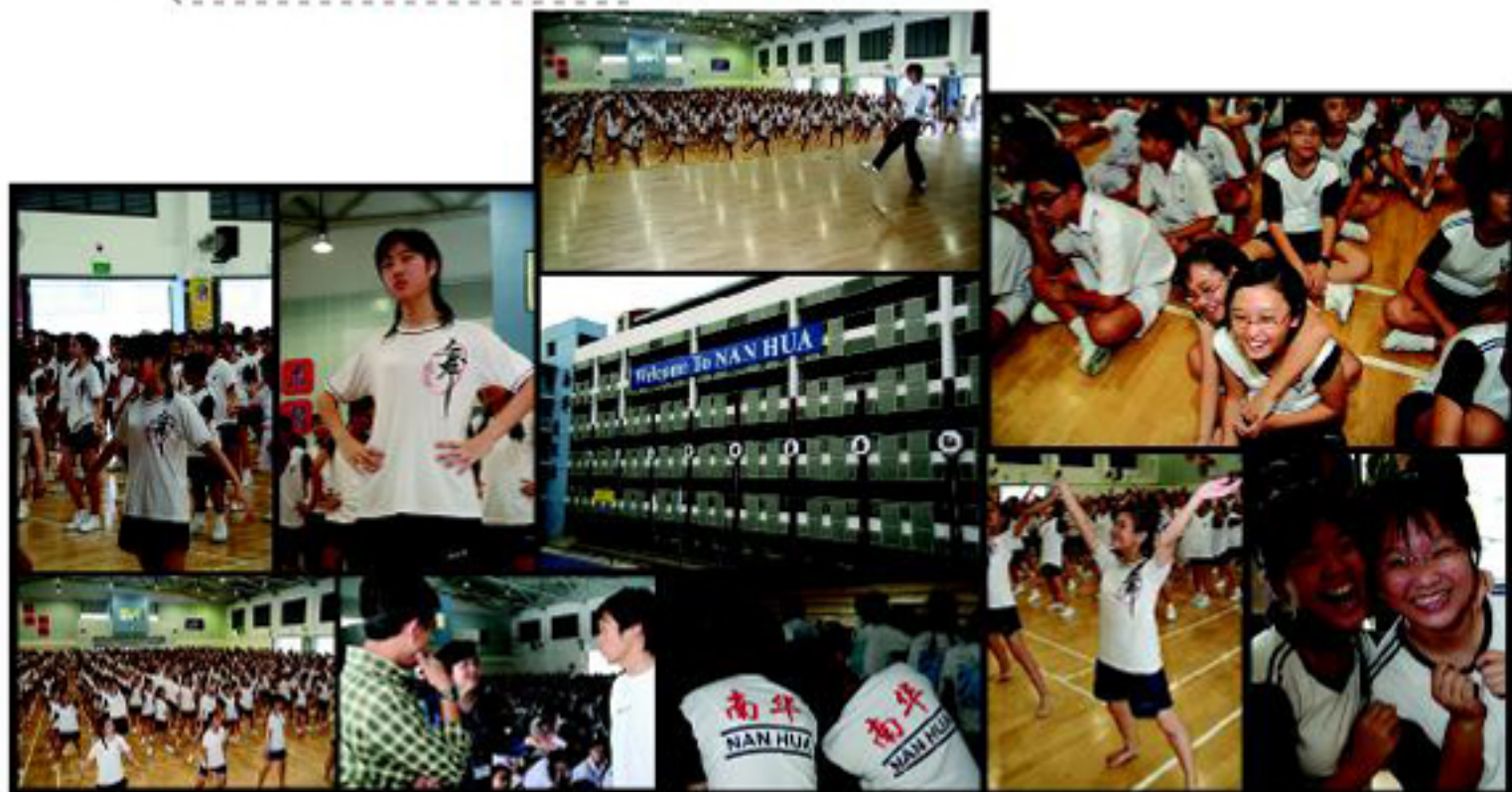
In the last newsletter, I mentioned that the various committees were finalizing plans; many of them have now moved into the execution stages. Nan Hua Secondary School, Rulang Primary School, People's Association and the Singapore Soka Association are already in the thick of show rehearsals and musical elements of the celebration are coming together with a flurry of activity at the recording studios involving the Anderson Secondary School choir, Kairul Shabir and Weilian. Special thanks must go to Guna for helping in the arrangement of "Endu Singapore".

Much work has gone into the supporting infrastructure and preparation of the stadium. Fireworks, transport, multimedia and sound equipment, amongst others, have been put to tender and some are under appraisal at the moment. The various committees are working hard on the finer details to ensure that we hire first-rate equipment and talent at the most competitive prices.

All these activities would not have been possible without the support of our kind sponsors and I would like to thank all those who have been stalwarts in our collaboration towards NDP 2006. We are at an important juncture and I urge all of you who have been contemplating joining us on this exhilarating adventure to do so quickly.

Our germinating plans are beginning to come to life and I hope all of you will continue to relish the NDP 2006 journey! I look forward to the moment on 9th August 2006 when the cauldron erupts into flames of orange, yellow and red, rising with it the cheer and spirits of the nation. That is the moment when we will know that our best endeavours have succeeded.

## A Trip to Nan-Hua





# Who's - Who? Air-Participation



TOP: (left to right)  
**Secretary:** MAJ Chia Chee Kiang  
**Chairman:** COL David Wong  
**Chief Safety Officer:** LTC Mike Yeo  
**Dy Chairman/MotherGoose:** LTC Jaspal Singh

BOTTOM: (left to right)  
**COMMS Team**  
**Dy Secretary:** CPT Ang Eng Kwee  
**Dy MotherGoose:** LTC Leng Wai Mun

# Who's - Who? Comms



Pictures from left clockwise:  
 Siva, Edwin, Ginny, Kah Tat, Chandran, Eric, Mun Kin, Roger, Puh Ying, King Siong, See Kiat, Kiam Ching, Victor, Royston, Chuan Lee

One connection, one heartbeat - With many objectives successfully met for the preparation of NDP 06, we will be leading technology in communications and scaling it to greater heights. Hear from us our experiences we have notched over the past few months. Listen to your heart what we are calling out from our committee the credits our sponsors have magnanimously contributed over the past months.

# Who's - Who? Celebrate Singapore

**Chairman  
Celebrate Singapore**  
 LTC Alvin Chia



**Dy Chairman  
Celebrate Singapore**  
 MAJ Chin Seng Heng



# An Interview Tay Poh Soon

A fine product of a man who struggled with childhood dreams and passions, Tay Poh Soon joined the People's Association in 1982 as a full time dancer and later rose through its ranks to become a Choreographer for PA's Culture Talent Group.

Comprising 60 core dancers and backed up by more than 700 supporting mass dance participants from a variety of schools and organizations for this year's performance, the primary responsibility for developing and conceptualizing the designs and actions of the mass display in which PA participates in falls squarely on Tay's shoulders.

As a young boy, Tay had developed a strong interest in Chinese Opera and began lessons in Singapore at a tender age of 12. Beginning with folk dance before progressing to cultural performances, Tay later received professional training in Hong Kong and China where he focused intensely on drama and opera. Although discriminated in the early stages, by virtue of being male, Tay grasped strength through every little achievement that came as a result of passion, determination and satisfaction in work and result.

With only about ten choreographers, excluding those under SOKA's wings, all of whom are Singaporean, the biggest challenge faced is the need to develop new and refreshing concepts and ideas for every new performance. Utilizing the themes, topics and guidelines provided, Tay humbly reveals that the end product as seen by all Singaporeans is the collective work of a close knitted team discussing, collaborating, visioning together backed by inspiration garnered from all of wonders that surround him.

Passionate as he is of the performing Arts, Tay kindly obliged our request to break out into a spontaneous dance routine so as to provide a sneak peek of this year's mass display movements. Without any preparations whatsoever, his naturally elegant moves bear testament of a giant within the field of Dance Choreography...

\*The author deeply appreciates the contribution(s) of Mr. Clarence Chan and Mr. Lim Geok Boon, both of whom are representatives of PA, for the production of this article.





# *An Interview Sylvia McCully*



Welcoming us into her dance studio located at Thomson Plaza in a warm and motherly tone that puts us right at ease, Sylvia McCully is a lady who needs no introduction for those already in the Performing Arts scene. A professional ballerina whose alma mater is that of the prestigious Royal School of Ballet, United Kingdom, Sylvia has had the privilege of experience to have performed in many countries including Russia and Bali.

With over ten years of working experience in NDP parades, such extensive working relations is reflected in her training philosophy- unlike many others who start with a grand principle / dance routine, Sylvia McCully believes in working from the ground up and rightly so. With the dance ensemble comprising many students not coming in with a drama-choir background, her primary concern is that the choir performers be able to manage a touching performance rather than for a fancy idea to be forced upon them. As such, unique as it may be, Sylvia never prepares choreography before she meets and interacts with the students involved.

Although the choir had began as a filler for in-between segments in the NDP, their purpose and intent developed into one that leads and motivates the public into rousing burst of songs and dance. Like a motivator, it excites the crowds and lays down the foundation for a dashing celebration.

The goal of a choir, to Sylvia, is not just a performance of songs and dance. Instead, far more significantly, it is the coming together of many youths to represent the vibrance of the nation and glimpse into Singapore's future. As for the performers, the insight of the pomp, discipline and likes of organizing an entire production of this scale is invaluable. Certainly, the friendships, bonds and memories formed last through all of time.



# Sponsorship Committee *at Work!*



"Sharing with our partner  
what NDP 2006 is all about"



"I will try my best"

"Strike while the iron is still hot". This perhaps best describes how the Sponsorship Committee has been working relentlessly with our partners after the Sponsorship Launch in Oct 2005. The pause arising from a major training exercise and the year-end festivities did not dampen the fighting (or marketing) spirit of the Marketing Directors.

Armed with the knowledge from the persuasive presentation training, the Marketing Directors covered every corners of Singapore to meet up with potential partners. Their passion and enthusiasm were handsomely rewarded as about half of the 400 over companies had already committed or pledged their support. With the great start and persistence the Sponsorship Committee is confident that the remaining requirements will be met soon.

The next few months promise to be equally intensive as the Marketing Directors will need to work with the remaining partners as well as on the acknowledgement of their contributions through the various media. The Sponsorship Committee look forward to working with our partners in this NDP 2006 journey in the months ahead.

"You need to eat to play well"



"Presto...."





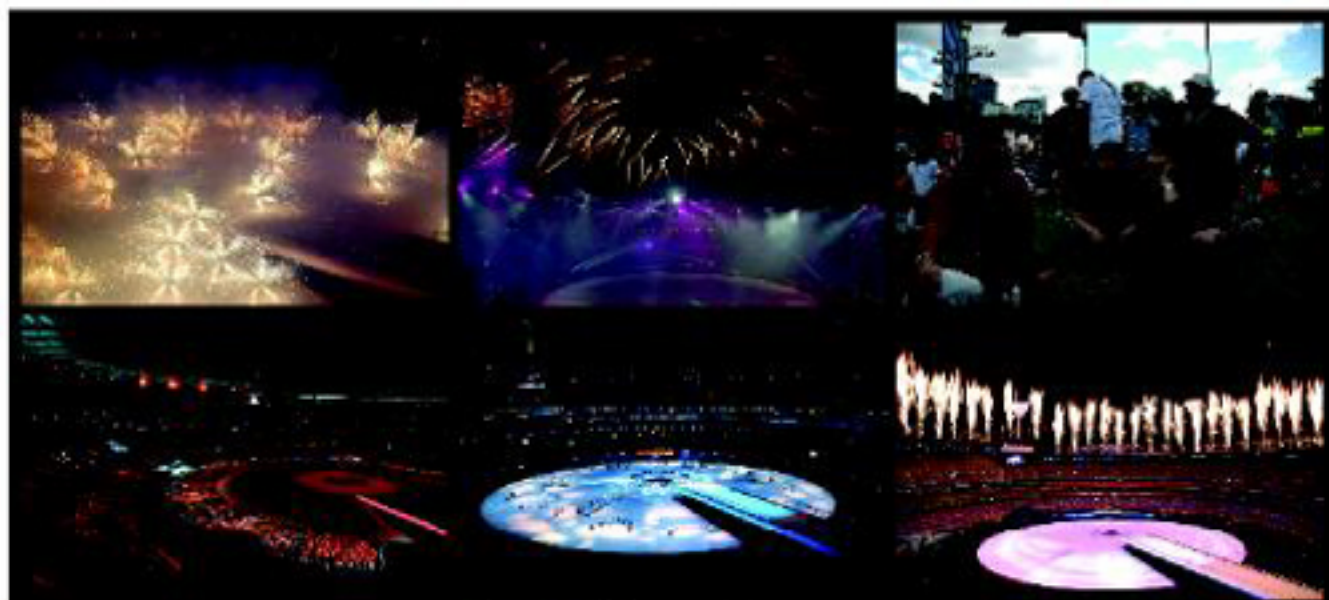
# Fourth Exco Meeting

The 4<sup>th</sup> EXCO held onboard RSS Resolution was certainly an eye opener for most of us. Stepping onto a Naval craft for a very first time, the tour of the Landing Ship Tank was exciting and truly engaging. With dining by the side of still waters accompanied by soothing music pieces, the evening was one of merry making for all who came. With NDP OS making every attempt to make each EXCO activity different from the other, we sure look forward to more special moments.





# Work in Progress



Idea-Sourcing Trip  
**MELBOURNE**



Light up of  
**CAULDRON**

