

**POLICE
LIFE**

THE SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE MAGAZINE

2022 / ISSUE 4

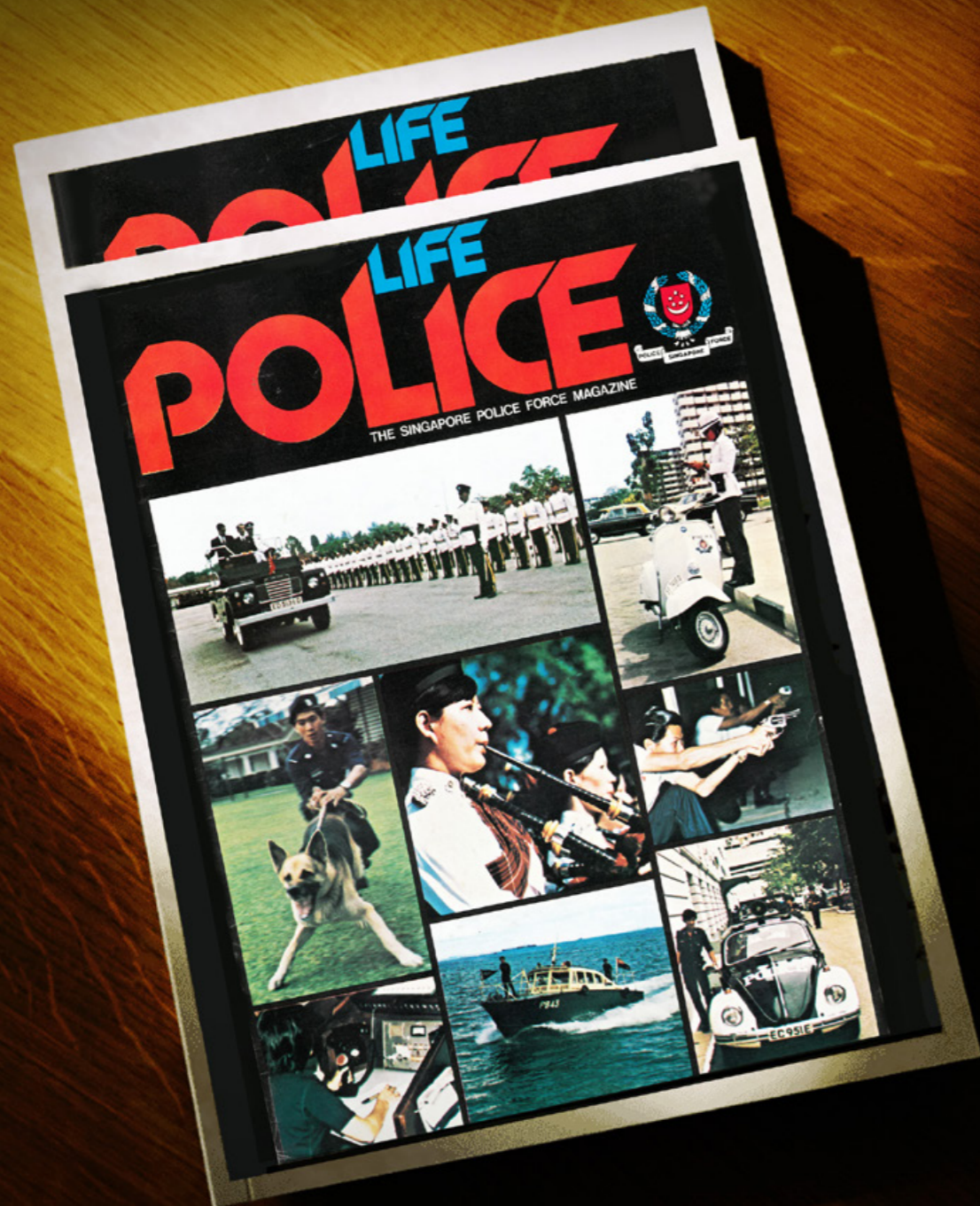


Celebrating the **SPF Spirit**



DID YOU KNOW?

The first issue of *Police Life* was printed and distributed in August 1976!



BUT, CHANGE IS COMING

STAY TUNED

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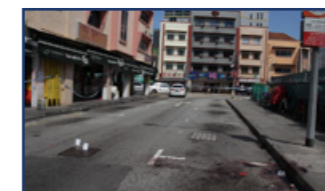
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Serene Chiu

Chief Editor

Ho Yenn Dar

Senior Editor

Mike Tan

Editor

Seah Hwee Khan

Journalist

Domnic Dass

Journalist

Christabelle Lim

Journalist

Leow Su Ling

Journalist

Nurfarahin Hassan

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Getting a Grip on the Police's Use of Force

✍️ Christabelle Lim 📷 Roger Yue

Police officers work in a dynamic environment and routinely attend to situations where they may have to use necessary force. Such situations include protecting or saving lives and preventing an offence, as well as arresting suspects who've committed offences. In such situations, the use of force by Police officers may be necessary to prevent the suspect from harming others (including officers) or themselves.

Officers put their safety and lives on the line every time they intervene to prevent an offence from being committed, or to protect the public. To gain a deeper understanding of how Police officers are trained in the use of force, *Police Life* joined a training session for members of the media at the Home Team Academy (HTA).

First Time with a Firearm

I took off my ear muffers and surveyed the target. The five training rounds I was given all hit the paper target. "Not too bad for half a day's practice," I thought.

The weight of a pistol is heavier than most people realise. Aside from its physical weight, it also comes with the weight of responsibility and duty. At the SPF's Training Command (TRACOM), we were taught the basics of handling a pistol, from how to stand to how to grip, rack, aim and fire. Throughout the session, we were also given insights into the attention needed when handling firearms, with the instructors drilling into us the importance of treating every firearm as if it was "live" and loaded.



"Live" Firing Practice

Since we were using practice FX rounds (which fires ink pellets), we were given the opportunity to witness a practice shoot with "live" rounds. We shuffled to the firing range with our ear muffers in hand, crowding around the booth (at a safe distance) where the trainer was preparing his weapon.



The trainer's intense focus on the threat was palpable as the gunshots reverberated through the firing range.

"Put down your weapon!" *Bang bang bang.*
The last shot continued to echo in our ears.

A silence descended at the range. The trainer practised drawing his pistol from his holster. Rack, aim and squeeze. "*Krrr---chkkk.*" This was the sound of the hammer hitting the chamber where the round would be.

Shuffle. The trainer positioned himself in a strong stance.

"Load holster," came the instruction. *Click.*

"Ready? Watch your front. React and shoot. React and shoot."

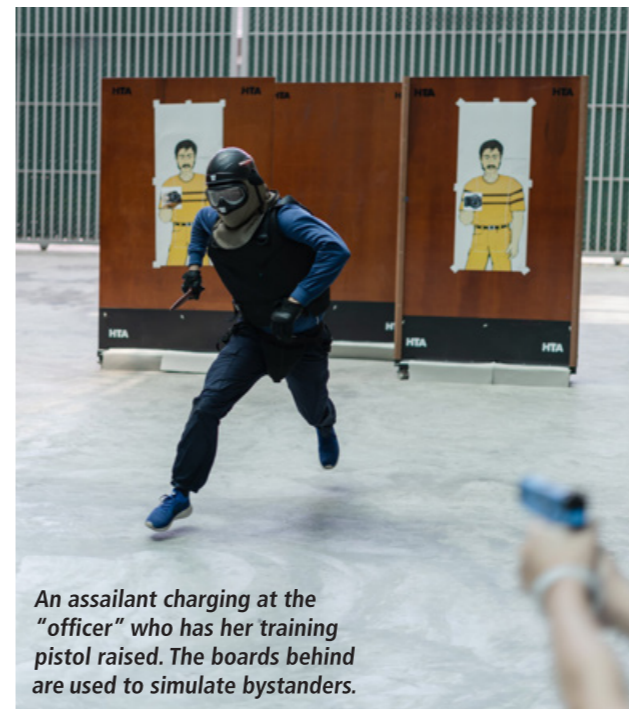
Whirrr. The paper target started moving towards the trainer.

"Police, stop!" shouted the trainer. "Put down your weapon!"

Bang.

His first shot reverberated around the firing range. "Put down your weapon, don't move," he shouted again. *Bang.*

"Do not move! Put down your weapon now!" *Bang. Bang. Bang.*



An assailant charging at the "officer" who has her training pistol raised. The boards behind are used to simulate bystanders.

before the assailant crossed a blue "safety line" just one metre away from us. Meanwhile, the trainers who were paired with us were equipped the same way as ground patrol officers, with their guns holstered and secured.

Ready, Steady...

During the simulation, we found that there was no time to react; the first few groups didn't even manage to fire off a shot before the assailant crossed the blue line. We were simply not prepared for the speed and shock of having someone charge at us. In that one second, however, our partnering officer was able to assess the situation and take decisive action by applying proportional force to the perceived threat.

I knew the assailant was going to charge at me. I fired off a shot. Bang.

In situations where there's an imminent threat of grievous hurt or death, officers may have to take decisive action and deploy their firearms. Officers are trained to fire at the centre of the body in such fast-changing situations, as this provides a higher probability of hitting and stopping the target, while also reducing the risk of injuries to innocent bystanders.

A stationary paper target was one thing, I thought. The possibility of life or death was another altogether.

Quick on the Draw

Next, we headed to the HTA Training Village for a simulated shooting exercise. For this exercise, a trainer playing the role of an armed assailant will charge at us through a crowd from about seven metres away, simulating an armed attack. Our task was to react to the "armed assailant" with a training pistol (which fires FX rounds). To make things easier for us civilians, we'd have the training pistol already unholstered, racked and readied – so we'd just have to raise it, aim and fire



The exercise ended. My partnering officer asked me kindly, "Did your shot hit the assailant?"

The officer who was roleplaying as the assailant also piped up: "Yeah, I didn't feel the shot. You might have missed! Let's have another go!"

Bang. Bang. Bang. The exercise ended. This time, one shot did hit the assailant, but not where I was aiming at. I wondered where the other two shots went.



Practicing the stance. A firm and swift downward swipe was needed to get the baton to fully extend. We had to grip the base of the baton tightly. Otherwise, it could fly out of our hands!

By the end of the exercise, there were pink ink spots on the boards behind the assailant, indicating our shots had landed among bystanders, while blue ink spots on the assailant indicated where the trainers' shots had landed – a mark of their experience and training.

Thrown in the Dojo

Police officers are also trained in the use of less-lethal force techniques such as contact tactics, batons and Tasers to de-escalate and contain situations they may come across during their day-to-day operations. At the HTA dojo, we practised using the straight extendable baton and went through the typical contact tactics that Police officers use to bring down, subdue and immobilise a suspect.

Pinning Down the Technique

It's hard to explain how a wrist lock or take-down works unless you've been immobilised by such moves. During the demonstration, the trainers skillfully applied their techniques to the levers of our body – our joints and other vulnerable points. Not surprisingly, when we practised these techniques for ourselves, we seemed to be grasping at straws. Thankfully, we were compliant "suspects" when we practised the moves on each other. This isn't what Police officers encounter on the ground.

Faced with an uncooperative suspect, the trainers gave verbal instructions such as, "Sir, Sir, I need you to stand, please," demonstrating their professionalism in a potentially violent situation. But the suspect refused to comply with the instructions to stand, stop or respond.

To ensure everyone's safety, two trainers flanked the suspect and performed an arm lock on each of his arms, while a third trainer took care to protect the suspect's head by cushioning it until the suspect lay prone on the ground.



Trainers demonstrating a take-down using a wrist lock (left) before working together to pin down a suspect.

The Taser: A Shock to the System

Another option in the use of force is the Taser. When a Taser is deployed, two probes will be fired from it, and when they land on the suspect, a surge of electricity is delivered to the suspect's body, which causes an uncontrollable contraction of the muscles. This results in the temporary physical incapacitation of the suspect.

The Taser's effectiveness depends on where the probes land on a suspect. The greater the spread (or distance) between the two probes, the more effective the surge is. In addition, one or both probes may miss, not embed properly or get dislodged even if embedded properly earlier. All these scenarios can happen in a dynamic situation. The clothes worn by the suspect, the distance between the suspect and the officer as well as movements by the suspect may affect the successful deployment of the Taser.

Stepping up to hold the Taser, it was a relief to know that it didn't have a live cartridge with an actual charge. Compared to the firearm, it wasn't difficult to fire. The challenge was in not knowing whether the probes would land as intended. Seeing how I'd previously missed while firing a single bullet, I didn't know if two probes gave me a higher chance of landing a hit, or just two chances to fail!



Training for the Frontlines

Five scenarios were played out in the dojo at the end of the day. We were tasked to work in pairs. The aggressive stick-wielding suspect, Tasered. The drunk suspect, Tasered. A routine spot-check started friendly but left us reeling when the suspect turned violent. The suspect held back, and gave time for us to draw our Tasers, and was promptly Tasered. The self-harming suspect, Tasered. The aggressive knife-wielding suspect lunged at us. We couldn't draw our firearms in time.

All cases involving the use of firearms and Tasers are reviewed thoroughly to ensure that they're in accordance with the Police's doctrines and training. Officers are also required to undergo annual re-certification tests and training to maintain their proficiency.

"The Singapore Police Force (SPF) continuously reviews the training, procedures and equipment of our officers," explained Superintendent of Police Toh Pei Lian, Commanding Officer of TRACOM's Frontline Policing Training School. "This ensures that our officers can execute their duties effectively and safely in line with the current security climate."

Conditions on the frontlines are dynamic. It's where our officers put their lives on the line. At the end of the day, our Police officers' use of force is to resolve the situation in the best possible way – with minimal harm.



The Singapore Road Safety Month 2022!



✍️ Domnic Dass

📷 Joel Kuan

The Singapore Road Safety Council (SRSC) and Traffic Police (TP), with support from the Land Transport Authority (LTA), Ministry of Education (MOE), People's Association (PA) and Automobile Association of Singapore (AAS) launched the Singapore Road Safety Month (SRS) 2022 campaign on 31 May 2022. The theme of the month-long campaign is "Road Safety for All". The campaign focused on raising awareness on red-light running and speeding offences.

Here are **three things** you should know about **keeping safe on our roads!**

1 Public Education is Key

One of the key visuals that was produced as part of the SRS's efforts to raise awareness on road safety, was to install banners at all Primary schools.

The road safety banners will aim to educate students on good road safety habits. The horizontal banners will be installed at the school's fencing nearest to the main entrance, from the end of June onwards.



2 We Can All Play a Part

The "Friends of SRSC" programme encourages those interested in improving road safety to come on board as volunteers and to be the eyes and ears of the SRSC. Volunteers can help to amplify the SRSC's outreach efforts by sharing road safety messages with their friends and family members.



The new "Friends of SRSC" logo.

A logo design competition was organised in March this year, as part of the campaign and was open to students from arts institutions, polytechnics, the Institute of Technical Education, junior colleges and autonomous universities in Singapore.

A student from ITE College Central won first place in the competition. The winning logo was unveiled during the campaign launch as the official logo of the "Friends of SRSC".



Volunteer
with the SRSC
by scanning this
QR code!

3 Gaming is a Great Way to Reinforce Road Safety Rules

The Shell Traffic Games provides an interactive and fun way for children to learn about road safety, allowing them to role-play as pedestrians or motorists (via bicycles and pedal go-karts) in order to learn basic traffic rules.

The TP's Road Safety Branch (RSB) conducted the Shell Traffic Games at the Road Safety Community Park, together with PA, on 9 June 2022.

Originally opened in 1961, the current Road Safety Park at East Coast was launched in January 1981. The Park offers young participants a realistic experience of being pedestrians and motorists. Its network of roads allows children to familiarise themselves with road markings, traffic lights and zebra crossings.

This year's Shell Traffic Games hosted about 50 members from Heartbeat@Bedok PA. Here are some of the highlights of the Games!



Senior Staff Sergeant Lee Yong Kang giving a safety briefing to the eager participants before the Games.



One of the two motorist roles that the children were eager to take on was being a cyclist. The participants had to don helmets, elbow and knee guards, and were assessed by RSB officers for safety, before riding in the Park.



Participants used personal mobile devices with a pre-installed Shell Traffic Games app to complete their tasks.

🗣️ **During the June holidays, we organised the Shell Traffic Games with PA so that families could spend quality time together and also learn important road safety values!** 🗣️

Superintendent of Police Jimmy Law,
Commanding Officer, RSB, TP



Assistant Superintendent of Police Jeric Ng helping to adjust the seats for the eager pedal go-kart "motorists". One child quipped: "I love the go-karts because they look like Formula 1 cars!"



Parent-volunteers who took on the role of Road Safety Marshals (in reflective vests), helped to ensure the safety of participants and issued demerit points to anyone who broke traffic rules.

“ This is a fruitful community collaboration with TP. We’re glad to come to the Road Safety Community Park and relive our memories. It’s nice to see the Park still teaching kids the same values we had learned as children – that road safety is a shared responsibility! ”

Ms Queen Yap

Assistant Director Programming, Partnership & Marketing,
Heartbeat@Bedok, People’s Association



RSB officers, PA staff, parent-volunteers and happy participants of the Shell Traffic Games!



Road Safety is a Shared Responsibility

Be Seen, Be Safe Look Out for One Another





Celebrating the SPF spirit

By Christabelle Lim, Seah Hwee Khan & Domic Dass
Infographic and Photos by Naveen Raj

On 3 June 2022, the annual Police Day Parade, presided over by President Halimah Yacob, returned for the first time in two years to its traditional ground at the Home Team Academy.

Officers of various Police vocations, attired in their respective operational uniforms and driving their various operational vehicles, were also represented at the March Past and Mobile Column segments of the Parade.



After the National Anthem was played, Parade Commander AC Justin Wong led officers in the Bicentennial Salute to recognise the contributions of all serving officers, past and present.



Inauguration of the Police Bicentennial 2020 Medal and Medallion, to commemorate 200 years of the SPF.



Led by Commissioner of Police Hoong Wee Teck, officers renewed their pledge to reaffirm their commitment to serve the nation.



Baris, Hormat Polis Republik Singapura, Hormat Senjata! The Parade accorded a salute to SPF officers past and present, to recognise and thank them for their contributions towards making Singapore one of the safest cities in the world.

Scan this QR code to watch Police Day Parade 2022



EIGHT QUESTIONS FOR THE PARADE COMMANDER

Seah Hwee Khan

Singapore Police Force



Police Life caught up with the Parade Commander of Police Day Parade 2022, Assistant Commissioner of Police (AC) Justin Wong. Ever wondered what it's like to have to give commands to hundreds of parade participants in front of an audience that includes the President of Singapore? Read on to find out!

Police Life (PL): Hello, AC Wong! Can you tell us about your job in the Singapore Police Force (SPF)?

AC Wong: I'm the Assistant Director for Major Crime in the Criminal Investigation Department. I oversee investigations into cases involving murder, sexual assault, firearms and kidnapping, among other major crimes.

PL: What does Police Day mean to you?

AC Wong: Marking Police Day reminds me that, as a Police officer, we're part of something larger than ourselves. The traditions we observe – from the Police pledge we recite with pride, to the minute of silence that we observe for fallen comrades – link us to those who have served before us, and who have yet to serve. These traditions matter. I'm glad we managed to celebrate together once again on the Parade Square, after a three-year pause.

PL: How did you feel when you found out that you were to be the Parade Commander for Police Day Parade 2022?

AC Wong: I felt a tremendous sense of responsibility, tinged with nervousness. The Parade Commander usually has the benefit of being the understudy the year before. But due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I didn't have that opportunity. So, I was concerned about whether I'd be able to match the high standards of previous Parade Commanders.

PL: If you could describe the experience as Parade Commander in one word, what would it be, and why?

AC Wong: Rewarding! The rehearsals weren't always easy, to be honest. Sometimes, I could feel the afternoon sun through the toecaps of my boots. However, knowing that the parade participants were all there together helped me get through it. On top of that, when I about-faced and saw the sea of blue

uniforms and peaked caps on the grandstand, that made it all worthwhile, because I remembered that I was doing it for all the SPF officers out there.

PL: What do you think is the most challenging part about being the Parade Commander?

AC Wong: The most challenging part was "restarting the engine" after a pause of three years. Full credit must go to the team from Training Command (TRACOM) for their efforts. We haven't had a Police Day Parade since 2019, which meant the organisers had to work hard to pull the pieces together. The TRACOM team did a fabulous job, and all credit goes to them.

PL: What's the best thing about being the Parade Commander?

AC Wong: Being able to catch up with old friends! I met officers who I worked with back in my training days and from my previous postings in SPF. I hadn't seen several of them for some time, and I was glad to catch up with them over rehearsals.

PL: What would you like to share with the participants of Police Day Parade 2022?

AC Wong: Before the Parade began, I went to each contingent and spoke with the parade participants. I could sense their pride and their determination to put on an excellent Parade. I'd like to say to the Parade participants that they delivered on that, and more. Thank you. It was my honour to have marched alongside all of you.

PL: What advice do you have for the Parade Commander of the next Police Day Parade?

AC Wong: Enjoy the experience! The rehearsals may be "siong" but marching alongside your fellow officers to commemorate Police Day is well worth it!

Scan the QR code to watch the interview with the Parade Commander for Police Day Parade 2022!





Welcoming Little Friends of the Force

 Nurfarahin Hassan  Singapore Police Force

After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Police Heritage Centre (PHC) has finally reopened its doors to visitors on 3 June 2022 to celebrate Police Day! Read on to find out more!



What is the Police Heritage Centre?

The PHC was officially opened on 15 August 2002. Managed by the Public Affairs Department's Heritage and Social Responsibility Branch (HSB), the PHC showcases artefacts and multimedia displays that highlight the rich history of the Singapore Police Force (SPF) from colonial times to the present day.

Besides casting a spotlight on the trust and rapport that has been built up over the years between the SPF and the community, the PHC also pays tribute to the men and women in blue who gave their lives in the line of duty to help keep Singapore safe and secure.

Little Friends of the Force

The PHC finally reopened again after a two-year hiatus with a children's programme called Little Friends of the Force, in conjunction with this year's Police Day.

"We're thrilled to commemorate this year's Police Day with our young visitors!" exclaimed Koh Jieling, a Management Executive with HSB. "It's the perfect



Children excitedly answering questions during the tour.



Trying out police equipment with a CPU officer.

moment to reopen PHC and celebrate together with children and their families."

The Little Friends of the Force programme aims to share the SPF's rich heritage and build a deeper understanding of the SPF's history among children. To keep young minds engaged, the programme clocks in at a brisk 45 minutes.

Additional activities were conducted for children after the tour. These included a talk conducted by officers from the Community Policing Unit of Kampong Java Neighbourhood Police Centre on road safety and being careful of strangers as well as a worksheet colouring session thereafter.

As Jieling explained, "Such outreach activities allow us to interact with children and educate them about road safety and crime prevention. We also hope to inspire children to become Police officers through such engagements!"

A Big Thumbs Up!

Response to the Little Friends of the Force programme has been overwhelming. The children enjoy the tour and activities, displaying a keen sense of curiosity about the SPF. Parents have also been supportive, with many providing positive feedback and requesting that the programme be extended. "During the June school holidays, the slots were fully booked within seven hours!" exclaimed Jieling.



Activity-time!

Going Virtual

During the COVID-19 pandemic, when PHC had to be closed to the public, HSB found a way to continue sharing the SPF's history with visitors – a virtual tour of the PHC. Coinciding with the SPF's bicentennial anniversary in 2020, HSB launched the SPF200 Exhibition: Frontier Town to Safest City. This virtual exhibition took visitors on a journey that charted the SPF's evolution from the 1820s to the present day. Using 360-degree video technology, visitors could learn about the history of the Force beyond the physical space.



Engaging with the children during activity-time.



Photo-taking at the PHC.

Looking Forward

Now that the PHC is open to the public again, HSB has plans to further its children's programme. The team is currently planning for the December school holidays.

"The planning for this year definitely had its challenges, and it wasn't always smooth-sailing," said Jieling. "But the result has been very satisfying. Looking at the children's smiles and seeing them learn more about the SPF – that makes everything worthwhile."

Do keep a lookout on the SPF's social media platforms for further details! Scan the QR code below to find out more!



We look forward to seeing you!

BEWARE OF FAKE CALLS

IF IT'S A "+" NUMBER





IT COULD BE A SCAM

Learn how to spot Impersonation scams at notwhotheysaytheyare.sg

SPOT THE SIGNS. STOP THE CRIMES.

NS55: CELEBRATING OUR FATHERS IN BLUE!

 Domnic Dass  Joel Kuan

This Father's Day, *Police Life* hears from Operationally Ready Police National Servicemen (PNSmen) who are fathers, as they share how they balance their National Service (NS), work and fatherly responsibilities!



Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) (NS) Paul Lim Zhiwei
NS 3rd Division Commander,
Protective Security Command (ProCom)

Police Life (PL): What is your current NS appointment and what responsibilities does the role entail?

DSP (NS) Lim: I'm an NS Division Commander in ProCom. My role centres around motivating and leading the Division to be the best in ProCom – in terms of either operational excellence, fitness, training and manpower or other administrative or logistics matters.

Being an NS Commander is very much like being a father. I have to lead by example, set the right tone and instil the right processes. It isn't much different from being a father at home to my children!

PL: Tell us more about yourself and your family.

DSP (NS) Lim: In my day job, I'm currently working as a Chief Commodity Pricing Analyst with a global price reporting agency for the Asia Pacific. I lead a team of pricing analysts who analyse price patterns and market behaviours of key commodities such as iron ore, lithium, steel, and how they affect costs of downstream industries such as steelmaking and electric vehicles.

I have been married for eight years now. I have a four-year-old son and a two-year-old daughter. My job requires me to travel frequently so I'm happiest when I'm back home and am spending time with my family.

My PNSmen are also like family to me, and I do my best to interact with every single one of them and get to know them personally. Most of them just want to be recognised as individuals who are doing their best in their NS duties, so it's important for them to be acknowledged by the Commander. I feel a sense of achievement when my PNSmen return for their duties at ProCom and give their best.

PL: What's your proudest moment as a father so far?

DSP (NS) Lim: Seeing my children grow up with the right values and attitudes, thinking on their feet, and respecting people around them.

It's very much like leading an NS division - when officers improve, show that they're motivated and know what to do in challenging situations, it makes me proud. I know that I'm working with capable officers in ProCom.

PL: What are some of your challenges as a working dad with NS duties, and how do you deal with them?

DSP (NS) Lim: I need to juggle my time between work, family and my NS duties, while taking a strategic approach to what I want to do. But I enjoy these



challenges as they give me a different perspective on how I can achieve my goals.

I try to approach my roles with a positive attitude and enthusiasm, so I don't find it tiring to juggle being both a father and PNSman. In fact, my children get very excited whenever they see me in uniform!

PL: How has your NS journey been and why is it important to you?

DSP (NS) Lim: My NS journey has been extremely enriching, and I always enjoy doing my Operationally

Ready NS cycles. It has also been transformative, and I think my positive NS experiences have shaped my attitude and beliefs, making me a better father and leader.

PL: Any advice for other dads out there?

DSP (NS) Lim: Treasure your spouses! They're the ones holding the fort at home when you're on duty. Give them a nice treat whenever you can, and they'll appreciate it.

PL: Share with us your NS roles and responsibilities.

ASP (NS) Rahimi: I'm currently the DOC of a PNSmen Public Order Troop in SOC. My responsibilities include ensuring my troopers are ready to fulfil their duties during their deployment cycle, coordinating training schedules and managing administrative matters for the unit.

PL: Tell us about yourself and your family.

ASP (NS) Rahimi: I'm currently working as a Senior Project Engineer for a local Information Technology (IT) infrastructure cabling company, where my day to day job involves project planning, scheduling, monitoring progress and preparing reports as well as putting up assessments.

I've been married for less than two years now. My wife and I just had our first child, a baby boy!

PL: What are some of your challenges as a working dad with NS duties, and how do you deal with them?

ASP (NS) Rahimi: Getting up in the middle of the night and going to bed later are all new experiences that take



Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) (NS) Muhammad Rahimi Bin Buhari
Deputy Officer Commanding (DOC) of PNSmen Public Order Troop Reservist
Kilo-Alpha, Special Operations Command (SOC)

some getting used to. So, I'm still trying to find the best balance for myself.

PL: How has your NS journey been, and why is it important to you?

ASP (NS) Rahimi: My NS experience has been both interesting and rewarding. There have been numerous pivotal moments along the way that have moulded my growth and development, first as an individual and trooper, then as a leader, and finally as a mentor.

I was initially posted to Pulau Tekong to undergo Basic Military Training. After that, I was posted to the Home Team Academy to undergo Officer Cadet Training with the Singapore Police Force. I was subsequently posted to SOC as a Trooper.



As a trooper, I was taught to be resilient and selfless. My NS experience has made me into a holistic leader and mentor.

PL: What are you looking forward to in the next phase of parenthood?

ASP (NS) Rahimi: Cherishing the time I have with my son and watching him grow.



WITHOUT HESITATION, WITHOUT FEAR

 **Domnic Dass**  **Naveen Raj**

What started as a regular night shift duty turned into an unforgettable evening for two Woodlands West Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) Ground Response Force (GRF) officers, Sergeant (Sgt) Nur Fadilah and Special Constable (SC) Franco Kam. Learn how they saved two toddlers from a fire!

An Urgent Despatch

On 22 June 2022, Sgt Fadilah and SC Franco were deployed for their night shift duty. At around 10pm, their portable radio sets crackled:



Sgt Fadilah is an SPF officer with 13 years of experience. SC Franco is a Full-time Police National Service (PNSF) officer who joined Woodlands West NPC in April.

"Case of fire reported at Block 218 Marsiling Crescent. To proceed for urgent despatch, over."

"Roger! Proceeding to 218 Marsiling Crescent now, over," replied Sgt Fadilah.

Both officers rushed to Block 218 in their Next-Generation Fast Response Car (NGFRC) and arrived within minutes.

Fire Burns Brighter in the Darkness

As they entered the carpark, they could see a crowd of around 20 residents waving at them. Above them, they could see raging flames escaping through the back of a unit. The crowd swarmed around the NGFRC, frantically pointing at the second floor. "I could see thick black smoke pouring out from the unit's kitchen window," shared SC Franco.

The officers looked around the carpark. They realised they were the first at the scene, and that firefighters hadn't arrived yet. Their adrenaline started to kick in.

"We knew the fire was big," said Sgt Fadilah, "and we were deliberating on our next course of actions following a more thorough appreciation of situation at the location."



It was then they heard it:

"There are people trapped inside the unit! Faster go!"

Without hesitation, Sgt Fadilah quickly instructed her fellow officer: "Franco! Grab the fire extinguisher from the booth now! Let's go!" Together with Sgt Fadilah, SC Franco ran up the flight of stairs with the extinguisher but uncertain about what they'd face.

Along the corridor of the unit on fire, they found thick acrid smoke surrounding them. The heat wrapped around their skin tightly – the smoke, even tighter.

SC Franco saw black smoke escaping through the gaps of the living room's windowpanes from the blazing unit. "We started knocking on the door," he said. "I then realised that the gate was unlocked, and the door was ajar, so we went in immediately."

An Unexpected Discovery

A cloud of dense, black smoke pressed against the officers as they opened the door. Their eyes stung, and their lungs choked. Cupping their mouths, the officers shone their police-issue flashlights through the near-zero visibility smoke. The officers were desperately trying to find any sign of human activity.



Then, something caught their eyes. A hint of exposed skin, illuminating brightly by their shining lights, in the unforgiving smoke.

"Wait, is that a person? Is that a child?" they both pondered.

A young boy clad only in diapers stood in the smoke, looking towards their light, with the raging fire behind him.

Without a second thought, Sgt Fadilah, a mother of two young kids, rushed through the smoke and heat to grab the young boy and carry him out. At the same time, SC Franco scanned the room for anyone else whom they might have missed. It was then that he spotted another boy curled up on the sofa.

The toddler was silent. Fearing the worst, SC Franco rushed towards the sofa and cradled the boy in his arms, checked the unit fully once more before running out. Thankfully, the young boy started crying once he was carried downstairs.

In less than five minutes, both toddlers were rescued from the unit.

A Community Effort

Downstairs, two off-duty nurses, who were living nearby, helped with checking on the boys. Residents also brought drinks for them. A short while later, the firefighters arrived and tried to douse the fire. Paramedics responding to the incident also attended to the toddlers to ensure that they were well.

But there was more to be done. Several residents, together with Sgt Fadilah and SC Franco, went up the block again to help evacuate other occupants near the unit. Very soon, other police officers came to assist with evacuating residents from the whole block. By now, a crowd of more than 50 people had gathered. The area was also cordoned off and managed by officers and firefighters.

"I was touched by how everyone looked out for one another," shared Sgt Fadilah. "As both a police officer and as a mother, this had to be one of the most significant and unforgettable incidents that I had attended to."

SC Franco stated that the incident had reaffirmed his belief that police officers safeguard our community, including the most vulnerable among us. "Policing is not just about maintaining law and order, but it is also about protecting and saving lives. I am proud to be able to contribute as a PNSF officer with the SPF," he said.

Crime Files: Murder by a Rag-and-Bone Man

Edwin Lim

Singapore Police Force

Keeping Singapore safe and secure – in this edition of Crime Files, we find out how dedicated officers from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) cracked the case of a murder in Geylang and brought the accused to justice.

Hello Police?

The early morning calm of 9 July 2016 was punctuated by the blaring sirens of emergency service vehicles. They were responding to a call for assistance for a man lying motionless in a pool of blood by the side of a road. Police had received the call just before 8 am from a motorist who was driving down Lorong 23 Geylang.

Police first responders were greeted by a bloody sight and quickly cordoned off the scene as paramedics tried to resuscitate the man. Unfortunately, they were unsuccessful and pronounced the man dead at 8:11 am.

Putting Two and Two Together

Investigators from CID's Special Investigation Section (SIS) sprang into action. At the scene, they found a bloodied knife sheathed in a clear plastic cover near the right side of the victim. A wooden stick was also found lying near the left leg of the victim. There were also several slash wounds on the body.



The bloodied knife sheathed in its clear plastic cover.



Items found at the scene of the crime.

Meticulous Police work and the use of technology swiftly led to a breakthrough. From eyewitness accounts and Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) footage gathered from the vicinity, investigators discovered that the victim had two altercations with a man sporting a long hairdo earlier in the day.

The first incident occurred when the long-haired man approached the victim to ask if he was selling drugs. Angered by the question, the victim hurled vulgarities at the man and a fight broke out between the two. The altercation ended quickly and both men left in different directions. However, the victim was injured during the fight and went to a nearby shop located along Aljunied Road to clean himself up. At this time, the long-haired man was captured on CCTV at a budget shop located along Lorong 25 Geylang. He was observed to have bought a knife from the shop.



The kerb where the victim was found.

The long-haired man was then seen returning to Lorong 23 Geylang, where he spotted the victim. The long-haired man rushed towards the victim, and the second altercation occurred. During the fight, the long-haired man used the knife he'd bought earlier to slash the victim multiple times on his body and face.

At this point, the caller spotted the altercation and shouted at both men. The long-haired man then dropped his knife and fled in the direction of Lorong 21 Geylang. The victim struggled to find his footing and finally lay down by the kerb, his life slipping away. He'd sustained multiple cuts to his body and an autopsy later determined that he'd bled to death from a stab wound to his right upper arm.

Catching a Killer

With the assistance of officers from Geylang Neighbourhood Police Centre, investigators were able to identify the long-haired man as 64-year-old Toh Sia Guan. A rag-and-bone man, he was a known character in the Geylang area.

Investigators immediately issued an islandwide alert to find Toh. Their efforts paid off 12 days later when he was spotted in the vicinity of Labrador Park MRT Station. Toh was successfully identified and arrested even though he'd shaved off his long hair.

The Conviction

Toh was charged in court soon after his arrest. On 2 March 2020, he was convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Despite Toh's efforts to evade detection by shaving off his moustache and hair, CID officers were able to ascertain his involvement in the crime by working round the clock. They trawled through more than 72 hours of CCTV footage and processed over 80 pieces of evidence gathered from the crime scene.

More than 80 officers (including Crime Strike Force officers from Geylang Neighbourhood Police Centre and Forensics experts from the Health Sciences Authority) were also involved in the investigations to bring the accused to justice.



Watch the reenactment of this case on **Crimewatch** by scanning the QR code above!

Smashing his Way to Gold!

 Domnic Dass

 Roger Yue



We hear from Special Constable (SC) Ethan Poh, a Full-time Police National Service (PNSF) officer from the Police Transport Security Command (TransCom). Find out more about his NS journey and his participation in the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games 2022!

Police Life (PL): How did you get started in table tennis?

SC Poh: When I was four, I found some old rackets which belonged to my parents. I started playing with them, bouncing the ball on the floor with the racket towards my grandma. That was how my parents decided to get me started in the sport. I started formal training when I was around five years old.

PL: What makes table tennis special to you? Why not another sport?

SC Poh: It was the first sport that I tried, and took up seriously. It's fast-paced and exciting as there are many kinds of playing styles, types of rackets and tactics that

players need to adapt to in order to excel in the game.

PL: What challenges did you face taking up table tennis professionally from an early age?

SC Poh: I had to sacrifice much of my social life for training. Even in secondary school, I had very little personal time as I had to catch up with my schoolwork whenever I travelled overseas for competitions. It was a sacrifice that I made.

PL: How do you juggle your NS responsibilities and your sporting career?

SC Poh: Currently, I'm a Staff Officer in TransCom.

Through good time management, I was able to fulfil my duties and train effectively. After work, I head to training in the evenings. I'm thankful to the support of my supervisors to allow me to train daily.

I have supportive colleagues who covered my duties especially during the SEA Games competition. They even followed my matches closely and cheered me throughout. I would not have achieved without their support!

PL: How was your journey during the SEA Games in May 2022?

SC Poh: This year's SEA Games was my third so far and my most memorable. I won my first gold medal in the Men's Doubles event, which is my most momentous achievement in the sport.

In 2017, I won two silver medals in my first SEA Games competition for Singapore. Unfortunately, in 2019, I didn't take the podium. This year, I managed to win the gold medal. It's a testament to the fact that hard work pays off and that no matter what challenges come your way, if you face them head-on, the end results will always be rewarding.

PL: How did you prepare for the SEA Games?

SC Poh: The Singapore national table tennis team conducts centralised training a few months before any major competition. We have training sessions every



SC Ethan Poh (right) with his teammate, Clarence Chew. The duo won the gold medal for the Table Tennis Men's Double event.

day. Besides practising, we also have strength and conditioning training to strengthen ourselves and prevent injuries.

PL: How has your NS experience helped your development as a table tennis player?

SC Poh: The SPF values I learned during my Police Officers' Basic Course (POBC) helped me to make a positive change in my approach towards training and competition. It also gave me time to reflect and improve. My dream is to someday represent Singapore in the Olympic Games!

SC Poh (back row, middle) and his Singapore national table tennis teammates.



Let's Get Social!

Domnic Dass

Check out the Singapore Police Force's Social media platform page to find out the latest happenings! Here are some of the highlights you might missed!

Singapore Police Force
June 11 at 10:00 AM · 🌐

The Police Day Parade was held at Home Team Academy last Friday (3 June). Here are some key highlights of the Parade:

- Award presentation for the Full-time Police National Service of the Year, PNSmen of the Year, Best Operationally Ready Unit and the Best Land Division
- Inauguration of Singapore Police Bicentennial Medal & Medallion... [See more](#)

POLICE DAY PARADE
3 June 2022

Patrick Tay 郑德源 and 1.1K others · 57 Comments · 345 Shares

Yam Gurung
Awesome. Mind blowing performance. 🙌🙌🙌
Like Reply 2w

Mok Ying Shan
Happy SPF day to all officers past, present and future
Like Reply 2w

Colin Chee TC
Bravo...Excellent Parade and Band Show... Unique n Goose pimples rise.. The Finale Segment
Like Reply 2w Edited



Singapore Police Force
June 2 at 8:00 PM · 🌐

Police Heritage Thursday – The First Police Day (3 June 1971)

On 3 June 1971, then Minister for Home Affairs, Professor Wong Lin Ken announced that 3rd of June would be designated as Police Day. In his speech, Professor Wong stated that Police Day re-affirmed that the Police is part of our society, responsible to an elected government, and maintain law and order to serve the community. On Police Day, officers celebrate their achievements, recognise the contributions of past and present officers, and renew their pledge to carry out their duties with courage, loyalty, integrity and fairness. In conjunction with Police Day, we will also be welcoming children and their families to the Police Heritage Centre (PHC) for guided tours in June 2022 after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. We wish all Police officers a Happy Police Day in advance!

#singaporepoliceheritage
#policeheritagethursdays
#singaporepoliceforce

Photo: The Police Day ceremony on 3 June 1971
(Source: Ministry of Information and the Arts Collection, courtesy of National Archives of Singapore)

Shawn Huang Wei Zhong 黄伟中 and 697 others · 22 Comments · 56 Shares

Jon Joni Jonathan
Wishing my brothers and sisters in Law Enforcement a very Happy Police day.
Like Reply 2w

Gan Aurora
Salute to Singapore Police Force
Like Reply 2w



Singapore Police Force
May 31 · 🌐

My Duty, My Calling: SSGT Khairulanwar
"I was dragged for about 124 meters before I managed to free myself"

In this line of duty, you can expect some risks on the job. I've been in the Traffic Police (TP) patrol unit for about eight years. My father was a TP officer too, so when he first learned that I joined, he was a little worried for my safety. I was undeterred though, because I've always felt the need to serve in the force.
It was about 9pm on 17 Nov 2017. I was ou... [See more](#)

Okay, first, do you know what a Personal Security Officer (PSO) does?

@Singapore Police Force · 16h ago
Can Xuan Lin protect a VVIP? Xuan Lin joins the Police Security Command to get some hands-on experience. Watch the full video in bio!
#wtbp#safeguardingeveryday#singaporepoliceforce

Joseph Kuruvilla
This is amazing!!! 🙌
Like Reply 4w

Miguel Azconá
learnt so much about PSOs from Xuan Lin. she is very cool!
Like Reply 4w

user1089461584523
i respect (Singapore Police Force!)
Like Reply 4w

user2004494619734
wow I also want to be police
Like Reply 4w



Singapore Police Force
May 31 · 🌐

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"I was dragged for about 124 meters before I managed to free myself"

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It was about 9pm on 17 Nov 2017. I was ou... [See more](#)

Mohd Khair
Welcome back!
By God's Grace, you are back on the road to ensure and enforce road safety.
May you be protected from further harm while you keep our roads safe. ...
[See more](#)
Like Reply 4w

Peter Lim
 Hoping that you'll come back stronger despite the bad memories of that incident, thank you very much for your dedication and commitment in keeping our roads safe SSGT Khai!
Like Reply 4w

Carl S Don
👏👏👏 Keep up that fire and passion in you. Well done and that was really brave of you.
Like Reply 4w





SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE
SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY

**HERE I AM TODAY,
FORGED BY
200 YEARS
OF COURAGE.**



Special Tactics
and Rescue Officer


**I AM A
SPECIAL
TACTICS
AND RESCUE
OFFICER**





Singapore did not become one of the safest countries in the world by chance. The courage and commitment of our officers made it possible. Leading by example is the STAR unit, taking on the toughest of threats to protect you and safeguard the future. We have been here for 200 years, and we will continue to be here for you.

Make history with us. Join the Singapore Police Force.

www.police.gov.sg/career

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