

**POLICE  
LIFE**

THE SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE MAGAZINE  
2020 / ISSUE 02

# POLICE BICENTENNIAL LAUNCH



**Frontier Town to Safest City  
Officer with a Roaring Passion**

# CONTENT SPOTLIGHT



## Frontier Town to Safest City

The SPF200 Exhibition sums up 200 years of policing history in Singapore through pictures, videos and artefacts dating back to the 1820s. *Police Life* brings you the highlights from the launch and our visitors' experiences at the exhibition.

P12



## Crime Files: USD \$870,000 Recovered from Scammers

Assistant Superintendent of Police Alan Tan recovered one of the heftiest sums of money in a case of Business Email Compromise Fraud last year. Find out how the investigations resulted in the swift recovery of USD \$870,000 from international scammers.

P22



## Officer with a Roaring Passion

*Police Life* delved into the world of lion dance through the eyes of Special Constable/Corporal Chui as he shared with us the motivation behind his roaring passion, and how lion dance has made a profound impact in his life.

P30

ON THE COVER: Photo from *The Straits Times* courtesy of Singapore Press Holdings Limited.

# Contents



04  
Let's Get Social



10  
Police Bicentennial Launch



16  
Poster



19  
Introducing our Online Police Avatar: Inspector Clif



21  
Police Wonder Women



24  
Simulator Training: Inculcating Safe Driving Habits in Learner Motorists



28  
Let's Fight Scams! @ EOY J-Culture Festival 2019



06  
SPF200 Run: Saluting the Past, Safeguarding the Future



12  
Frontier Town to Safest City



18  
Stamp Set Commemorating 200 Years of Policing



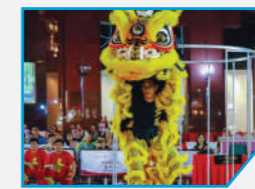
20  
International Call Centre Awards



22  
Crime Files: USD \$870,000 Recovered from Scammers



26  
When Duty Calls



30  
Officer with a Roaring Passion

## Committee

**Editorial Advisor**  
Wilson Lim

**Chief Editor**  
Serene Chiu

**Senior Editor**  
Matthew Chua

**Editor**  
Denise Luo

**Journalist**  
Hadi Hafidz

**Journalist**  
Irwan Shah

**Journalist**  
Syam Roslan

*Police Life* is a publication of the Singapore Police Force. For feedback or enquiries, please write to the editorial team at SPF\_PLM@spf.gov.sg. The materials in this publication are not to be reproduced in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the Editorial Committee. All rights reserved. Whilst we tried to ensure that information provided is up-to-date and accurate, the publisher will not be responsible for any errors or omissions.

# Let's Get Social!

By Rachel Tee

Check out the Singapore Police Force's Facebook page to find out the latest happenings in the Force! Here are some of the highlights for the months of January and February!

**Singapore Police Force**  
January 11 · 🌐

We've been here for 200 years, and we'll continue to be here for you. Make history with us. Join the Singapore Police Force. [www.police.gov.sg/career](http://www.police.gov.sg/career)



1.2K 111 Comments 682 Shares

**Swee Keow Koh** Thank so much SPF for keeping our country safe. Your hard work n commitment have given us peace and prosperity all these years 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 7w

**Koichirou Jtan** Thank you SPF! Appreciate the force and all the good things you have done.  
Like · Reply · 7w

**Khokan Sa Noor** Great police force in the world 🌍🌍🌍  
Like · Reply · 7w



**Singapore Police Force**  
January 11 at 11:21 AM · 🌐

The Police Bicentennial (SPF200) was officially launched by President Halimah Yacob at the OCBC Square at Singapore Sports Hub on 11 January 2020. On 10 January 2020, SPF kicked off SPF200 with the SPF200 Run. More than 300 officers completed a total relay distance of 200km in 24 hours, passing through the sites of 30 past and present SPF establishments across the island. Past and present SPF officers also showed their support to the participants in the form of donations to t...  
Continue Reading




1.2K 22 Comments 137 Shares

- Sabaree San** Congratulations, I love Singapore. Thanks for keeping us safe  
Like · Reply · 1w · Edited
- AL Amin** Congrats to SPF  
Like · Reply · 1w
- Eric Chiang** Thank you SPF!!!  
Like · Reply · 1w



**Singapore Police Force**  
February 13 at 10:00 AM · 🌐

Our SPF200 Heritage – The Sikh Police Contingent  
The Sikh Police Contingent used to be a vital component of the Straits Settlements Police Force. Introduced in 1881, the contingent was reputed for their effectiveness and was deployed to handle civil unrest. In times of peace, it also carried out guard and escort duties. It was disbanded in 1945.  
---... See More



465 19 Comments 49 Shares

- 陈家升** I still remembered my sec 1 history textbook in 1991 that stated that many sikhs became policemen or watchmen when they first came to Singapore bec they are tall and big sized and can frighten away the thieves and robbers.  
Like · Reply · 2w
- Ravinder Singh Kalsi** Thanks for the recognition and sharing our rich history! we are pleased to see that not just in India/UK, Sikh Army have played a vital role across the globe. I'm sure our ancestors must have been honoured to serve for Singapore!  
Like · Reply · 2w
- Clarence Tey** Sikh guard were famous for their loyalty and bravery during that time.  
Like · Reply · 2w



**Singapore Police Force**  
January 10 at 6:46 PM · 🌐

At 98, Mr Yusof is the oldest retired police officer alive in Singapore.



CHANNELNEWSASIA.COM  
When policemen wore shorts: Singapore's oldest living retired officer recounts the early years of the force

1.2K 30 Comments 358 Shares

**Loga Eswara Raj** Thank you for your service, sir. 🙏  
Like · Reply · 1w

**Zakir Usen Rafsanjani** I would be humbled & honoured if I can meet him personally and bring up heartfelt regards & respect for him.  
Like · Reply · 1w · Edited

**Teo Woen Hiim** Thank you for your service, Encik Yusof. Wishing you good health  
Like · Reply · 1w

**Singapore Police Force**  
February 14 at 9:30 AM · 🌐

The Singapore Police Force is one of the oldest institutions in Singapore. Its history goes back to 1820, shortly after the arrival of Raffles. This documentary traces the journey of the police force, from a team of 12 men to a force for the nation. Catch it on CNA on 21 February @ 9pm and Ch 5 on 27 February @ 7.30pm.



A FORCE FOR THE NATION  
FRI 9:00

561 28 Comments 200 Shares

**MD Shariff Abdullah** Thank You SPF, my late father was a Riot Police back in 50/60s. Singapore Police is one of the best in the world. My truly respect all ❤️  
Like · Reply · 2w

**Eugene Ong** Safeguarding for 200 years  
Like · Reply · 2w

**Kelvin Ezekiel** Thank you SPF for the 200 years of Policing  
Like · Reply · 1w

# SPF200 RUN:

## SALUTING THE PAST, SAFEGUARDING THE FUTURE

By Syam Roslan  
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)



Commissioner of Police Hoong Wee Teck flagging off the start of the relay run at the Special Operations Command Base in Queenstown.

**200km relay run around Singapore in 24 hours. This was the target set by the Singapore Police Force (SPF) as its officers embarked on a relay run to mark 200 years of policing in Singapore.**

To commemorate this significant milestone, the SPF kicked off the Police Bicentennial commemorations with the SPF200 Run on 10 January 2020, a relay run where SPF officers from various units came together to complete a distance of 200km in 24 hours. The 200km signifies 200 years of policing in Singapore, while the 24-hour duration symbolises the SPF's enduring commitment to be a Force for the Nation, safeguarding Singapore 24/7 every day.

The run, which was flagged off at 10am at the Special Operations Command Base in Queenstown, saw more than 300 participants, including past and present police officers, civilian staff, Police National Servicemen, Volunteer Special Constabulary officers and Citizens on Patrol volunteers, taking part. The 200km run took the runners past the sites of 30 past and present SPF establishments across the island, including the first police station and the Old Police Academy. To show their support for the SPF200 Run participants, past and present officers also donated and raised funds for the Community Chest.

The final lap of the run was flagged off the next day by President Halimah Yacob at the Marina Barrage. Over 3,200 SPF officers, and their family members, and beneficiaries from the Community Chest joined the final lap, which ended at the OCBC Square at the Singapore Sports Hub where the SPF200 Police Family Day Carnival was held. President Halimah then officially launched the Police Bicentennial, which marked the start of a series of commemorative events that will be held throughout the year.

Let us hear from some of the SPF200 Run participants who shared their thoughts on this special occasion!



“

*Policing in Singapore carries a unique definition, where every citizen, be it regular officers, civilian officers, national servicemen and volunteers, have the opportunity to play a part in keeping Singapore safe and secure. The Police Bicentennial is a significant milestone and a great reminder that we will not be where we are today if not for the tireless work and sacrifices of those who came before us. So let us continue to play our part, no matter how big or small, to keep our beloved country safe and secure.*

Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Police (NS)  
Mohammed Azhar Bin Yusof  
Police National Serviceman  
Deputy Commander (NS), Protective Security Command



“

*It is a great milestone as the SPF includes many leaders who are now paving the way for the nation. As a retired officer myself, I can now see how our efforts and sacrifices in the past are being recognised. I hope that our current SPF officers will understand that their efforts today will leave a deep and lasting impact on our society in the future.*

Senior Station Inspector (2) (Ret.) Sri Kanthan Chelliah  
Retired Police Officer  
Former Officer-in-Charge of Field Trainers



“

*Being a civilian officer and a part of the SPF's New Media Team, I contribute to policing in a different way. While a uniformed officer fights crime directly on the frontline, I educate the public and produce stories to humanise the Force and shed light on the challenges that a uniformed officer faces on the job. The SPF has come a long way as it has progressed from a humble 12-man team to a professional police force today. Despite the uncertainties and challenges ahead, we will continue to safeguard Singapore, our home.*

Ms Winnie Loke  
Public Communications Officer (New Media Engagement)  
Public Affairs Department



“

*Our nation has come a long way since the early settlement days, and the peace and stability we enjoy today are made possible by the efforts of the SPF. Serving in the Volunteer Special Constabulary has enhanced my role as a citizen, a community responder and a member of the Force. As we look towards the next 200 years and more of continued policing legacy, we salute the past and pay tribute to our pioneers who have laid the foundation for us in safeguarding our future.*

Sergeant 2 (V) Yang Da Wei  
Volunteer Special Constabulary Officer  
Woodlands Division



Once a police officer, always a police officer. Some of our retired officers taking a picture with current serving officers before their relay set off from New Phoenix Park to Junior Officers' Mess.



No amount of rain could deter our officers from completing the run.



Volunteer Special Constabulary officers and Citizens on Patrol volunteers running alongside our regular officers at Woodlands Division.



The sun has set, but the spirit lives on. Numerous trainees at the Home Team Academy showing their support to the incoming relay runners from the SPF's K-9 Unit.



Our runners warmly welcomed into Marina Barrage.



President Halimah Yacob, flagging off the final lap of the relay run.



Over 3,200 officers, family members and beneficiaries from the Community Chest gathered at the Marina Barrage to take part in the final lap of the run.



Deputy Commissioner of Police (Operations) Tan Hung Hooi leading our runners to the finishing line at the Singapore Sports Hub, concluding the 200km run in under 24 hours.

# POLICE BICENTENNIAL LAUNCH

By Hadi Hafidz (Photos: Public Affairs Department)

*“Thanks to 200 years of dedicated service by our SPF officers, our people are able to live, work and play in one of the safest cities in the world...the positive qualities of our SPF officers, such as your unwavering commitment to keep Singapore and Singaporeans safe, your selfless and courageous contributions, and your pride in being a part of this noble calling, have remained unchanged through the years. You have given much for what we have today.”*

— President Halimah Yacob

On 11 January 2020, officers and members of the public gathered to participate in the official launch of the Police Bicentennial (SPF200) by President Halimah Yacob at the OCBC Square at the Singapore Sports Hub.

This was followed by the unveiling of the SPF200 commemorative stamps. The set of six stamps features various police vocations and depicts the strong partnership between the Police and community in safeguarding Singapore every day. The stamps also pay tribute to the Singapore Police Force’s (SPF) pioneering officers who have laid a strong foundation for future generations of officers to build on.

Another highlight was the Police Family Day Carnival, which lasted for two days. In addition to police-themed boat rides and displays by the K-9 Unit, visitors were also serenaded with musical performances by the SPF Band.

Here’s a glimpse of the event highlights!



# FRONTIER TOWN TO SAFEST CITY

By Irwan Shah (Photos: Public Affairs Department)

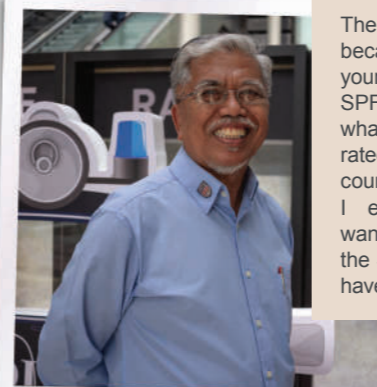
*Bravery in the face of danger, of bringing criminals to justice, of duty above self. This sentence encapsulates the essence of the Singapore Police Force's (SPF) 200-year policing journey through the SPF200 Exhibition. Launched on 6 February 2020 by Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law, Mr K Shanmugam, the exhibition invites visitors to take a dive into the SPF's past trials and tribulations, and the evolution of policing, through pictures, videos and artefacts dating back to the 1820s.*

*Themed as "Frontier Town to Safest City", the exhibition will run from 6 February to 17 May 2020 at the National Museum of Singapore. Complementing the exhibition in the Stamford Gallery is a roving exhibition that is on display from now till 7 March 2020, after which it will be staged at public libraries, community clubs and police community roadshows throughout the rest of this year.*

*Check out the photo highlights from the SPF200 Exhibition's opening!*



## Police Officers



Staff Sergeant (Ret.) Omar Mohamed

The exhibition is good because it educates the young ones about how the SPF rose from nothing to what it is today. We are rated as one of the safest countries in the world, and I encourage those who want to know more about the SPF to come down and have a look at the exhibition.



Sergeant Shoban

The exhibition is very informative. There are still a lot of things that I did not know about the police force. I think the younger police officers will better appreciate serving the Force now with this understanding of the Force's history.



Sergeant Muhd Ridhwan

It is good to refresh our memories on what our predecessors have done for us. It is a good reminder for us to be grateful. What we have right now is better than the past. It is because of our predecessors that we are where we are today.



Special Constable/Sergeant Ricky Liao

I think the exhibition is very educational. I get to learn more about the history of the police force and it makes me cherish the times that we have now. In the past, it was much more dangerous compared to the present day and a lot has changed since then.



Inspector Ho Baxin

The exhibition is quite interesting and there is a lot of historical information. I feel proud as a police officer since the SPF has come a long way from a 12-man team to what we are today.



Assistant Superintendent of Police Seah Seow Hui

The exhibition is interesting. It is cool that they managed to get the original documents and equipment that police officers used before. It gives us a good idea of how far we have come since then.

### Members of the Public

The SPF200 Exhibition is wonderful. It reminds me of the stories that my father shared. He showed what his work life was and it brought me memories.

— Carol Ann Boudewyn



(From Left)  
Carol Ann Boudewyn  
Peter Boudewyn  
Tess Boudewyn

It is very realistic and accurate. It is stuff that I knew and have seen from my childhood, from my father who was in the police force. I think the exhibition is impressive.

— Peter Boudewyn

My late husband, Halford, had been part of the SPF for nearly four decades. So a lot of what I saw at the SPF200 Exhibition was a big part of my life too – lovely, fond memories.

— Tess Boudewyn

I liked the exhibition very much and I really enjoyed it. If I have to pick a section, I will definitely pick the panel with the interactive screens.



Kenneth Foo (First visitor)

The exhibition is very impressive. Not all places celebrate police anniversaries like this, with an exhibition and people explaining. It is really good.



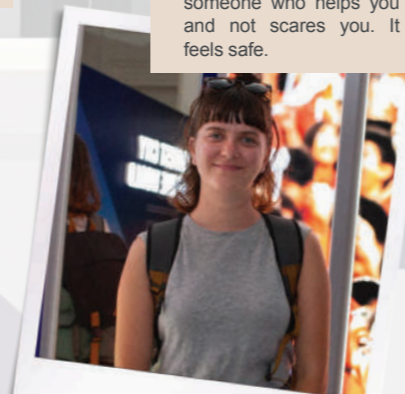
Loubna Kassou

I think the exhibition is very comprehensive. There is a lot of new information that we previously did not know about. I think it is good to have ex-police officers as guides because of their knowledge and life experiences.



Kevin Chong

The exhibition is really interesting. I like how it is like a journey in the beginning, how it changes, and how the public view the Police. The impression is of someone who helps you and not scares you. It feels safe.



Anna Kliz

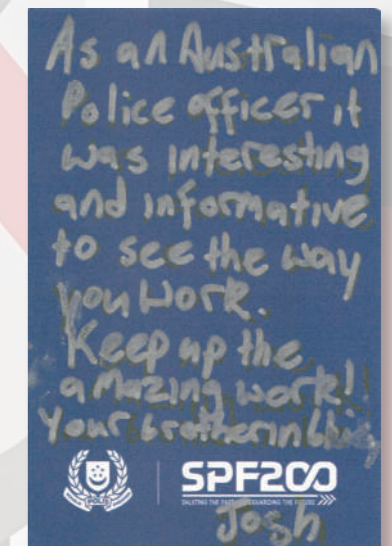
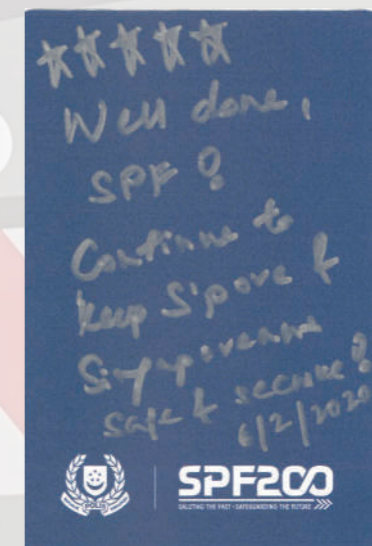
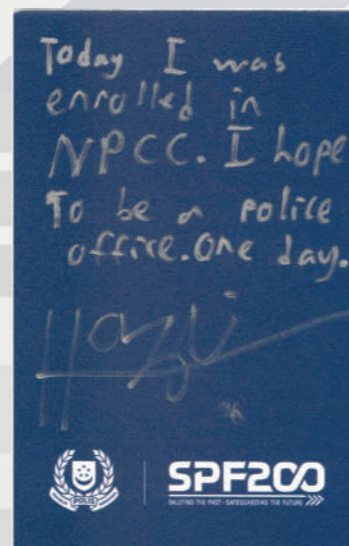
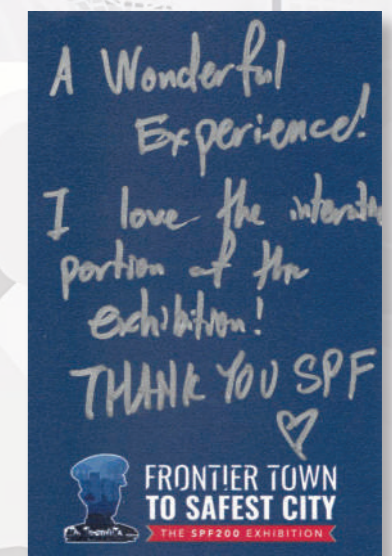
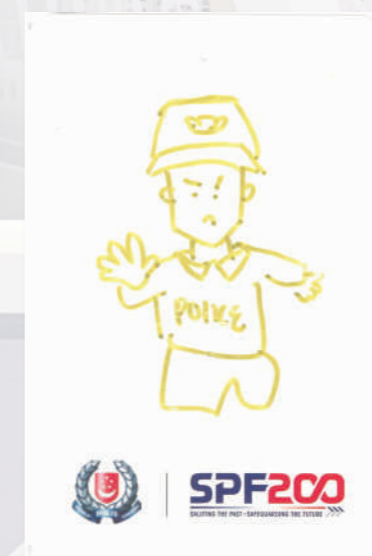
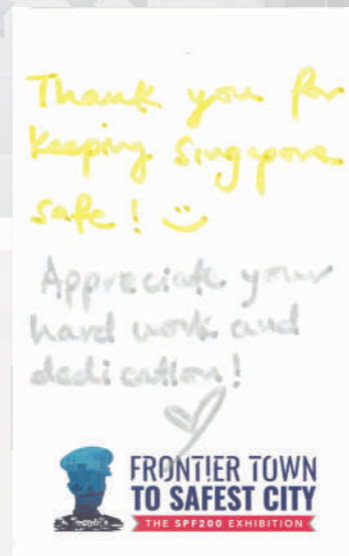
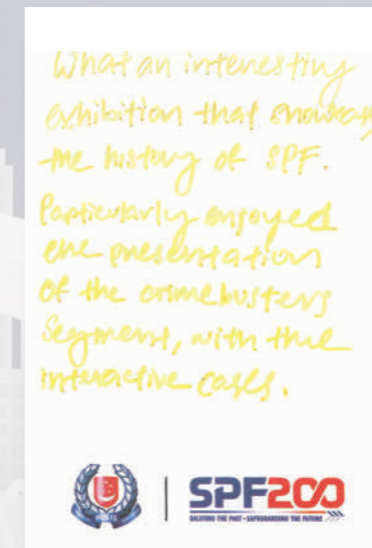
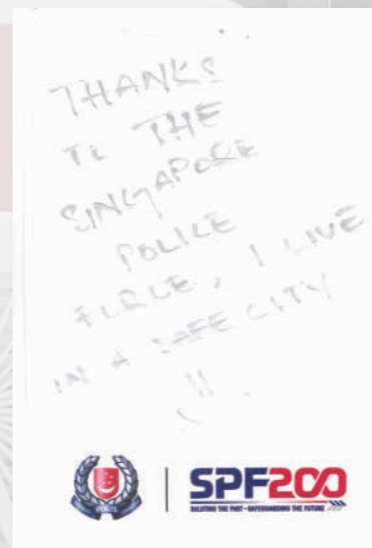
### SPF200 Exhibition guides are retired police officers! Spot them in the SPF200 polo tees!

FUN FACT



Our five guides with the exhibition's curator-cum-researcher

# Thank You Cards







**SINGAPORE  
POLICE FORCE**  
SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY



Photo by: Chee Yong Tat

# STAMP SET COMMEMORATING 200 YEARS OF POLICING

By Irwan Shah

President Halimah Yacob unveiled a set of six stamps at the launch of the Police Bicentennial (SPF200) to commemorate 200 years of policing on 11 January 2020. Designed by stamp designer, Mr Wong Wui Kong, the stamps feature various police vocations and the strong police-community partnership that keeps Singapore safe and secure every day. We got our hands on these special stamps, and took a deeper look at the designs.



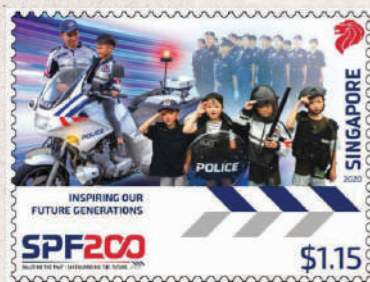
**Keeping Our Citizens  
Safe And Secure  
(1st Local)**

As a Force for the Nation, the Singapore Police Force (SPF) is committed to keeping Singapore safe and secure 24/7. Relentless in its mission to prevent, deter and detect crime, the SPF has been strengthening its response capabilities and is well prepared to deal with security threats.



**Safeguarding  
Our Borders  
(70c)**

From securing our homes to safeguarding our territorial waters and airports, the SPF officers are highly trained to fight crime and terrorism to ensure the safety and security of our nation and our people.



**Inspiring  
Our Future  
Generations  
(\$1.15)**

The SPF inspires the younger generation to pursue a future career in policing and to make a real difference to the community through its outreach activities.

The stamps are available for purchase at:

- All post offices
- Philatelic Store at the General Post Office
- Online at <http://shop.singpost.com>



**Connecting With  
Our Community  
(60c)**

The public's high level of trust in the SPF is a key cornerstone of its policing strategy. Through the SPF's collaborative and engagement efforts with the community, the SPF builds a community of prepared citizens who take on active roles alongside the Police to safeguard Singapore every day.



**Protecting  
Our Nation  
(90c)**

In times of crises and emergencies, the SPF officers are prepared and equipped to neutralise security threats swiftly and decisively.



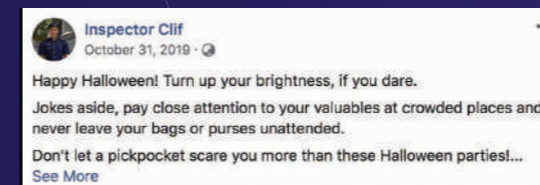
**Saluting Our  
Pioneers  
(\$1.40)**

Singapore is one of the safest cities in the world. This achievement did not come by chance. It was built by pioneering officers who dedicated their lives to safeguarding our nation. The SPF salutes not only those who had sacrificed themselves in the line of duty but also all the men and women in the Force, including their families who have been giving their unwavering support towards Singapore's safety and security.

# INTRODUCING OUR ONLINE POLICE AVATAR: INSPECTOR CLIF

By Rachel Tee  
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)

Look out for my posts and feel free to share your comments. I look forward to connecting with you soon!



Hi there! I am Inspector Clif, an online police avatar from the Singapore Police Force (SPF). My Facebook page was created on 11 November 2019. Interesting fact, my name is actually an acronym of the SPF's core values - Courage, Loyalty, Integrity and Fairness.

Wonder why I decided to have my very own Facebook page? Just like many of you out there, I enjoy browsing online as there is just so much to see and do, from interacting with friends on social media to catching up with the latest happenings! However, the increased digital connectivity and growing use of social media has also made it easier for those with malicious intent to commit crime online.

Fret not! Through this platform, I hope to better engage you in our crime prevention and deterrence efforts so that we can be vigilant and safeguard ourselves from falling victim to online crimes such as credit card fraud, email scams and cyber extortion.

Apart from sharing SPF-related content, I also enjoy sharing about my life outside of work, such as my hobbies which include working out and savouring my favourite local food. For those who may not know yet, you can find me at <https://www.facebook.com/InspectorClif/> or search 'Inspector Clif' on Facebook.

# INTERNATIONAL CALL CENTRE AWARDS

By Hadi Hafidz  
(Photos: Singapore Police Force)



**The Singapore Police Force (SPF) recently achieved the top spot in the Police Emergency category at the inaugural International Call Centre Awards 2019, which was held from 12 to 14 November 2019 in Dubai. Police Life shares with you what makes the Police Operations Command Centre (POCC) worthy of this prestigious award.**

Organised by the Dubai Police, the awards recognise call centres for their delivery of excellent customer service and their continuous efforts in improving service standards. The initial stage of the competition saw more than 500 police forces around the world submitting write-ups about their respective call centres.

Amongst the various measures implemented by the POCC, the SPF team profiled initiatives including the SMS contact '70999' platform, which enabled callers with any speech or hearing disabilities to contact the Police during emergencies. The SGSecure app, which allows the public to send photos or videos to the Police, was also cited in the write-up.

*"While there are various initiatives that have been put in place, customer experience is, after all, still dependent on the quality of our services. As such, regular audits on '999' call recordings were conducted by our Service Quality Branch to ensure the quality of our services and that protocols were strictly adhered to,"* elaborated Mr Muhammad Hendra, officer-in-charge of Emergency Communications Group, Team A POCC.

## Competing for the Top Spot

After the preliminary round of evaluation, the SPF emerged as one of the top three police forces with the best call centre capabilities and was shortlisted to fly to Dubai where the teams would compete for the top spot. Led by Assistant Commissioner of Police Lee Su Peng who is the Commander POCC, the SPF team delivered their presentation to a panel of international judges.

During the presentation, our officers emphasised how POCC operates and strives towards the SPF's Service Pledge of "answering '999' calls within 10 seconds, 90% of the time", and went on to elaborate on the importance of this target. They also shared about various training implementations such as the regular stress-test exercises and the monthly training conducted for their officers.

Additionally, Mr Hendra also spoke about POCC's foreign translation service that provides interpretation services in 10 different languages, which helped POCC officers to bridge the communication barrier for 999 callers who can only speak these foreign languages.

This service is especially important given Singapore's status as a global city with many foreigners who work and live here or are here as tourists. *"After presenting on the various operational aspects, we elaborated on the soft skills that our officers are trained on, such as the need to be patient and empathetic towards the callers and most importantly, asking the right questions so that we can get an accurate understanding of the actual situation,"* recalled Mr Hendra.

This achievement has certainly affirmed the status of our POCC officers as specialists in this critical field of work, supporting our frontline police officers in safeguarding Singapore every day. Heartiest congratulations to the POCC family!



# POLICE WONDER WOMEN

**First time WPCs are trained for riot control duties**

Reproduced from *Police Life* Vol.5 No.1 1981

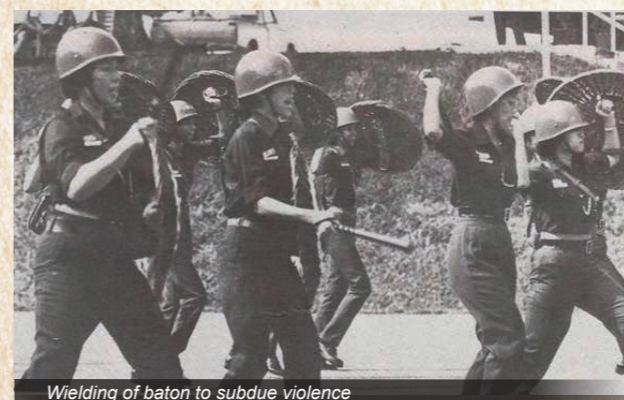
A riot drill demonstration by 44 women officers on Oct 11 at Mount Vernon marked the end of their one-month intensive training on riot and crowd control tactics.

This is the first time policewomen in Singapore have been trained as a troop for riot and crowd control. According to Ag DSP Lee Kok Leong, who is OC of Police Task Force I and IV, *"a situation may well arise in the future which may require the response of an all-woman troop. This is when these women officers will really have to demonstrate their discipline and skills."*

From the display it was evident that these women officers had put in a lot of hard work during their four weeks of training. One police officer from overseas was impressed by the demonstration and was heard commenting that these *"Singapore girls are very fierce and fit."*

The training course in riot and crowd control normally lasts six weeks. But in just four weeks, these women officers had learnt basic and advanced riot drills, as well as the light striking force drill. However, it was not just drills all the time. During the classroom sessions, the officers were given theoretical illustrations on formations and crowd clearance. They were also taught training techniques. Every evening, they played games or went on cross-country runs.

The officers were from the various divisions, including Traffic Police and Airport Police. They will return to their divisions to perform their normal duties and will be called back to the Police Task Force at Mount Vernon once every three months for short refresher courses. This will ensure their continued effectiveness as a troop.



## CRIME FILES: USD \$870,000 RECOVERED FROM SCAMMERS

By Irwan Shah (Photo: Erwyn Shah)

Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Alan Tan from the Singapore Police Force's (SPF) Commercial Affairs Department (CAD) received a commendation from the Singapore office of a United States (US) multinational corporation (MNC) after successfully recovering USD \$870,000 (one of the heftiest sums that CAD has recovered), in a case of a Business Email Compromise (BEC) Fraud last year. Police Life had the opportunity to chat with ASP Tan to find out more about this BEC Fraud case and the investigation that followed.



### What is BEC Fraud?

A BEC Fraud case involves a victim, usually a staff of an organisation, receiving fraudulent email instructions from scammers, posing as employees or associates of the organisation, to transfer funds to the scammers' bank accounts.

"Victims can be deceived because the culprits have either spoofed or hacked into an associate's email account, allowing them to send out the fraudulent instructions. Victims may also receive fraudulent payment instructions from scammers purportedly impersonating their supervisors," ASP Tan explained.

### The BEC Case

On 27 May 2019, a Finance Director of a US MNC's Singapore office received an email from her 'European counterpart', requesting a loan of USD \$1,500,000 for a project in Dubai. She was informed that she would have to transfer USD \$500,000 first, followed by the remaining USD \$1,000,000.

About two months later, while she was overseas, the Finance Director was notified by her 'European counterpart' to transfer USD \$250,000 to a company in Hong Kong, their supposed supplier for the project. On 1 August 2019, the sum was transferred. The next day, she transferred another USD \$240,000 followed by USD \$380,000 to banks in Hong Kong and China upon request. These three sums totalled USD \$870,000.

On 4 August 2019, the Finance Director was again requested to transfer USD \$763,460 to a supplier in Hong Kong. This aroused her suspicion, prompting her to begin cross-referencing the emails she had received from her 'European counterpart' with past emails from the legitimate Finance Director of the European Office. That was when she discovered that the emails from her 'European counterpart' were fraudulent and that there was no actual loan request made. The Finance Director immediately recalled the transferred funds from their local bank and lodged a police report upon returning to Singapore the next day.

### A Race Against Time

This case was assigned to ASP Tan, who immediately contacted the Finance Director to gather more information. He discovered that the transferred funds would be fully processed within just three working days, prompting a race against time to get the monies back.

"We had to quickly try to stop the funds from leaving the bank account as there would be little chance of recovery if they did," elaborated ASP Tan.

With no time to waste, ASP Tan instructed the Finance Director to request her local bank to contact its foreign beneficiary banks immediately to inform them about the fraud. At the same time, he alerted his counterparts in the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) to contact the beneficiary banks and request them to hold back the fund transfers. This method worked, halting the first and second transactions. However, the recovery of the third transaction proved to be trickier than the rest as the recipient's bank account was traced to a bank in Shanghai, China, even though the beneficiary's address was somewhere in Hong Kong.

"Since China is a big country, we had to use the bank code itself to pinpoint the bank's actual location. Thus, we sought assistance from Interpol to relay the fraud case to the relevant Chinese police authorities. The fact that the US MNC had initiated their fund recall early also complemented our efforts," explained ASP Tan.

Thankfully, the monies from the first and second transaction were successfully recovered from Hong Kong within two days. Within a week, the US MNC informed CAD that all the monies were returned to it. Due to the swift and wise decisions made by ASP Tan and the timely co-operation of all stakeholders, this BEC case was resolved.

### All Ends Well

After the incident, ASP Tan was pleasantly surprised to hear that the US MNC intended to present him with a letter of commendation and a plaque to recognise his efforts.

"While we do not clamour for such recognition, I appreciate that the MNC has acknowledged our contributions," said ASP Tan.

To further raise awareness of BEC fraud, the CAD has issued crime prevention advisories to organisations and is also working together with local banks to develop viable solutions, and remind customers to be cautious when making fund transactions. These initiatives contribute towards CAD's efforts in preventing BEC frauds, and will go a long way in keeping Singapore's cyberspace safe and secure.

### How to prevent BEC Fraud

- 1) Enhance IT security features on the email system and check for suspicious domain names disguised as your business contacts when you click 'reply' to emails received.
- 2) Do not rely solely on email correspondence for payment instructions, particularly when receiving new bank details. Always use a secondary mode of communication to confirm the transfer instructions.
- 3) Always confirm with the recipient immediately once a transfer is made. Early detection of any fraudulent transfer increases the chances of fund recovery.
- 4) If a BEC Fraud is detected, inform your bank immediately and lodge a police report.

# SIMULATOR TRAINING: INCULCATING SAFE DRIVING HABITS IN LEARNER MOTORISTS

By Syam Roslan  
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)



*As part of Traffic Police's (TP) continual efforts to help learner motorists better prepare for various road situations, TP has introduced the mandatory driving or riding simulator training to inculcate good and safe driving habits in them.*

With effect from 16 December 2019, learner motorists undergoing courses for the Class 2, 2A, 2B, 3 and 3A licences are now required to complete the simulator training before they are allowed to book their Practical Driving/Riding Tests. This requirement does not apply to learner motorists who have enrolled with the driving schools before 16 December 2019.

The simulator training provides learner motorists with the opportunity to practise defensive driving or riding in a safe and controlled environment. The scenarios used in the training are based on the top 10 causes of traffic accidents that often result in injuries. The scenarios include high-speed expressway cornering, cyclists in blind spots, and driving or riding in wet weather conditions.

To fully benefit from the scenario-based training, learner motorists must have an adequate level of competency in controlling the respective class of vehicles which they are seeking to obtain a driving licence for. They would also have to complete a minimum of five practical lessons before booking the simulator training, which is only available at ComfortDelGro Driving Centre, Bukit Batok Driving Centre and Singapore Safety Driving Centre.

With the implementation of the simulator training, learner motorists can look forward to a realistic and safe training environment that would better prepare them to be responsible and safe motorists, which will in turn contribute to safer roads for all!



## THOUGHTS OF LEARNER MOTORISTS

“

From ComfortDelGro Driving School:

"The simulator is very realistic, it helps me to have an understanding on how driving out of a circuit feels like, and it also exposes me to the potential dangers and accidents that could happen in real life. Overall, I enjoyed the driving simulator experience."

Lim Ken Chi, 28 Years Old  
Quality Assurance Engineer

“

From Bukit Batok Driving Centre:

"The instruction during the simulator training was good and easy to follow."

Azzahabie Sadali, 19 Years Old  
Student

“

From Singapore Safety Driving Centre:

"The whole experience was great. I thoroughly enjoyed going through the simulator training."

Fiona Devi, 26 Years Old  
Research Officer

For further information, learner motorists may visit <https://www.police.gov.sg/Advisories/Traffic/Traffic-Matters> or the websites of the following driving schools:

- ComfortDelGro Driving Centre: <http://www.cdc.com.sg>
- Bukit Batok Driving Centre: <http://www.bbdc.com.sg>
- Singapore Safety Driving Centre: <http://www.ssdcl.com.sg>

# WHEN DUTY CALLS

By Elliot Wong  
(Photo: Elliot Wong)



*Round the clock, be it day or night, police officers of the Singapore Police Force (SPF) are committed to protecting the people who live in Singapore from crime and all manner of criminal harm. Regardless of whether they are on or off duty, this commitment stays true. Police Life shares with you how one such off-duty officer stepped in to stop an armed assailant, preventing what could have been an otherwise bloody situation.*

## The Assailant

It was 4 am on 1 December 2019. Sergeant (Sgt) Pang Lin Tong, an off-duty police officer from Bukit Merah East Neighbourhood Police Centre, was waiting to take a taxi home from near Riverside Point. Unbeknownst to him, his ride home was about to be interrupted.

From a distance, Sgt Pang saw several figures moving swiftly in the shadows, which he made out to be a man chasing after a group of men and woman in a wobbly manner. The lone figure could be heard hurling vulgarities at the group. Out of his right hand, something shiny seemed to reflect the light off the dim streetlamps, the shape of which resembled a knuckle duster. It did not take long for Sgt Pang to put two and two together, and his police instincts instantly kicked in.

## The Confrontation

*"I decided to confront the man as it seemed like he was about to cause hurt to others,"* Sgt Pang recalled. He approached the man with caution, asking him to calm down while keeping an eye out for the knuckle duster. In his drunken state, the man threatened to punch him. Sgt Pang stood his ground, shouting for someone else to call the police. It was at this moment that the man threw two punches at him.

The knuckle duster struck two blows on Sgt Pang's left cheek. He was caught off-guard, but he managed to react quickly and blocked both blows with his arms. His training in defence tactics as a police officer had served him well, providing him with the swift intuition to defend himself in close combat.

The drunk man then started walking away. The injured Sgt Pang proceeded to tail him and whipped out his phone to dial 999. However, the man heard the officer on the phone and turned around to throw yet another punch, which landed above the officer's left ear.

With the help of two passers-by, Sgt Pang managed to pin his attacker to the ground, after which he identified himself as a police officer. The man did not go down without a fight, flailing around in an attempt to escape. Nonetheless, Sgt Pang's police defence tactics training served him well once again, as he was able to pin the man back down until back-up arrived shortly to arrest him.

## Answering the Call of Duty

Sgt Pang is but one of many SPF officers working tirelessly to keep Singapore's streets safe. The courage that he has demonstrated in this case is testament to the SPF's core values, and it is an example of how officers will always be there to serve and protect when duty calls.

# LET'S FIGHT SCAMS!



## @ EOY J-CULTURE FESTIVAL 2019

By Hadi Hafidz  
(Photos: Kampong Java Neighbourhood Police Centre)



Scam cases have been on the rise in recent years, affecting people from all walks of life. To raise public awareness of such crimes, officers from the Singapore Police Force (SPF) have been constantly exploring new and innovative ways. Read on and learn how Community Policing Unit (CPU) officers from Kampong Java Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) took on an unconventional outreach approach to share crime prevention advisories with the public.

On 28 and 29 December 2019, Kampong Java NPC collaborated with organisers of the Events of the Year (EOY) J-Culture Festival 2019 to raise awareness of scams. Held at Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, officers set up an exhibition booth with the theme, "Let's Fight Scams!" The booth saw a turnout of 3,000 attendees.

### Root of the Idea

The idea began with a casual conversation between two colleagues. During the conversation, Station Inspector (SI) Cheng Wen Xue of Kampong Java NPC raised the idea of getting anime cosplayers to deliver crime prevention talks to the public. SI Cheng thought that it would be an interesting and refreshing idea, especially with the rising popularity of anime and cosplayers' eye-catching costumes. This prompted him to contact organisers of the EOY J-Culture Festival 2019, one of the largest Japanese sub-cultural festivals in Singapore which is popular with cosplayers.

*"When we shared the idea with the organisers, they too felt that it would be a good platform to raise public awareness and educate people to be vigilant against scams. Moreover, their participants who are between 15 – 35 years old, spend a significant time interacting and discussing ideas online, and are likely to come across different forms of online scams,"* recalled SI Cheng.

During the two-day event, the SPF's exhibition booth organised a slew of activities including Virtual Reality games and scam quizzes. These games aimed to teach participants how to identify and protect themselves from scams.

*"In line with the J-culture, officers proposed the idea of a 'Claw Machine' with police bears as prizes after they have completed one of the interactive games. Claw machines are very popular in Japan and it will be very interesting to have such machines at a roadshow,"* elaborated Inspector Irene Yong, lead liaison officer from Kampong Java NPC.

### Collaborating with Cosplay Influencers

On top of the activities at the SPF exhibition booth, officers from Kampong Java NPC also collaborated with Mr Kamal Hakim from the Commercial Affairs Department (CAD) and local cosplay influencers to hold daily anti-scam talk shows on stage. During the talk show, the cosplay influencers shared their personal encounters with various types of scams, including impersonation scams and online purchase scams.



Mr Kamal shared the following advice to help protect ourselves from being scammed:

**Don't Panic** – Ignore the caller's instructions to provide personal details or transfer money over the phone, even if they threaten or tell you not to talk to anyone about your situation. No government agency would request such details through a phone call.

**Don't Believe** – Scammers may use caller identification (ID) spoofing technology to mask the actual phone number and display a different number. Calls that appear to be from a local number may not actually be made from Singapore. If you receive a suspicious call from a local number, hang up first. After some time, call the number back to check the validity of the request.

**Don't Give** – Never reveal your personal information, bank details, credit card numbers and especially OTP codes to anyone. Not even your loved ones.

If you need advice, please call our Anti-scam Helpline at 1800-722-6688 or go to [www.scamalert.sg](http://www.scamalert.sg)

*With scams constantly evolving and happening every day in Singapore, let us work together to fight scams and prevent our loved ones from becoming the next victims!*





## OFFICER WITH A ROARING PASSION

By Rachel Tee  
(Photos: Jeremy Chui Jin Wei)

**Legend has it that an emperor in the Tang dynasty dreamt of a lion-like creature saving his life. Since then, the lion has become a symbol of good luck in Chinese culture and lion dance is performed to ward off evil spirits. Till today, lion dance never fails to awe its spectators with eye-catching tricks and routines. Read on as Police Life caught up with our very own lion dancer, Special Constable/Corporal (SC/Cpl) Jeremy Chui Jin Wei, who is currently serving his National Service with the Community Policing Unit (CPU) at Kampong Java Neighbourhood Police Centre.**

### Early Exposure to Lion Dance

The passion for lion dance runs in the Chui family. SC/Cpl Chui's father and grand-uncle are both seasoned lion dancers. Moreover, with his grand-uncle being the founder of the World Sar Ping Lion Dance Federation, it would come as no surprise that SC/Cpl Chui was introduced to this cultural performance at a young age.

*"Growing up, my father and grand-uncle often took me to watch lion dance performances. Sometimes, my grand-uncle would even take me to my father's performances to cheer him on,"* shared SC/Cpl Chui.

*"It was thrilling to watch the lion dancers execute dangerous tricks and stunts with such precision and skill. This made me wonder how different it would have felt if I were to be the performer and not a spectator,"* SC/Cpl Chui quipped.

Under the tutelage of his grand-uncle, SC/Cpl Chui began practising some basic moves. Albeit challenging for a kid to remember such moves, SC/Cpl Chui trained hard.

*"I was either four or five years old when I decided to throw a spontaneous performance for my parents and grand-uncle, using a smaller version of the lion. My grand-uncle was especially delighted to see my enthusiasm for this cultural art form. Since then, he became my key pillar of support, guiding me and seeing me through my subsequent journey in lion dance,"* recounted SC/Cpl Chui.

### Balancing Hobby with Work

Currently serving his National Service stint with the police force, SC/Cpl Chui continues to make time for lion dance even if it means sacrificing sleep and time spent with his family and friends. As a Community Engagement officer in the CPU, SC/Cpl Chui can only attend his lion dance training in the evenings, which at times lasts till midnight. This routine goes on for about three to four times weekly.

Aside from training for competitions, SC/Cpl Chui also conducts lion dance lessons for children aged four to 12. Through this, he hopes to raise awareness of this traditional art form amongst the young. Despite his hectic schedule, SC/Cpl Chui has no qualms managing his responsibilities as he derives fulfilment from both performing and teaching lion dance.

*"Whenever I feel tired after performances or training sessions, the support and encouragement from my teammates as well as the audience never fail to boost my morale. It is always heartening to see and hear the spectators cheering during a performance. The kids, in particular, really enjoy lion dance performances. They are very fascinated by the costumes and always want to touch them,"* exclaimed SC/Cpl Chui.



### Blood, Sweat and Tears

As much as SC/Cpl Chui enjoys performing lion dance, he admits that it is no mean feat. Due to the hefty weight of the lion headgear, which also limits their vision, lion dance can be physically demanding. Furthermore, lion dance performances usually involve high-risk stunts that require lion dancers to stand on and jump from each other's shoulders or leap from stilt to stilt. To execute such stunts, there needs to be flawless coordination between the lion dancers. This requires sheer focus and a lot of practice. Falls and even injuries are common occurrences.

*"Just recently, during a lion dance performance at Jurong Point, my partner and I were not careful and failed to land safely when jumping from pole to pole, causing both of us to fall. As a result, I suffered leg and hand injuries that took around two to three weeks to recover,"* said SC/Cpl Chui.

However, SC/Cpl Chui believes that these rough times have strengthened his mental resilience and that better prepares him for any challenges that may come his way.



### Carrying on the Tradition

Having emerged champion with his team at the 2017 Ngee Ann City Traditional Lion Dance Championships after multiple attempts, SC/Cpl Chui looks forward to gaining more experiences at such competitions. Come July this year, there will be the biennial Genting World Lion Dance Championship which SC/Cpl and his fellow lion dancers are training hard for. The Genting World Lion Dance Championship is one of the grandest lion dance championships globally and only the top three teams in Singapore will be able to participate in it.

Meanwhile, SC/Cpl Chui will continue to teach lion dance part-time, in hopes that more people will take up lion dance. *"Lion dance is a unique cultural sport with a rich history and heritage. I hope that we can continue to pass on this tradition for many years to come so that lion dance will never die out."*





**SPF200**  
SALUTING THE PAST - SAFEGUARDING THE FUTURE



# FRONTIER TOWN TO SAFEST CITY

THE SPF200 EXHIBITION

6 FEBRUARY TO 17 MAY 2020  
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE

FREE ADMISSION

The SPF200 Exhibition, “Frontier Town to Safest City” tells the stories of our 200-year policing journey - bravery in the face of danger, of bringing criminals to justice, of duty above self. Join us to discover the SPF’s journey over the last 200 years.



Visit <https://www.police.gov.sg/spf200>  
for more information

Venue Supporter:

N M  
S  
National Museum  
of Singapore