

April - May 2014

# sea voices

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Bi-Monthly Publication of the **Singapore Maritime Officers' Union** and **Wavelink Co-operative**

## RIDING INTO THE YEAR OF THE HORSE AS ONE



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### Operating hours:

Mon to Fri : 9am to 6pm  
Sat : 9am to 1pm

### Lighthouse operating hours:

Mon to Sat: : 11.30am to 10pm

# \$22 MILLION MORE FOR TNTA



Guest-of-Honour Minister for Health Mr Gan Kim Yong delivering his address.

The Year of the Horse kicked off to a rousing start for Singapore's maritime industry when Minister for Health Mr Gan Kim Yong announced a bountiful \$22 million boost in funding the Tripartite Nautical Training Award (TNTA) programme.

Over a five-year period, the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA), NTUC's Employment & Employability Institute (e2i) and SMOU will be pumping funds into covering the training fees as well as a monthly allowance of up to \$1,400 per cadet during the 31-month training course.

Since the start of the place-and-train programme in 2009, 13 shipping companies have participated and more than 130 individuals have been awarded with the TNTA scholarship.

In his speech, Mr Gan commended SMOU for championing the welfare of its members; for nurturing the young with the setting up of Young SMOU in 2005; caring for seniors through its half a million dollar SMOU Care Fund and organising various health-related events.

***"This SMOU Care Fund will help needy senior members, including those who are working, with financial assistance if they have any medical and mobility issues,"*** he added.

Mr Gan also congratulated Ms Mary Liew's appointment as General Secretary of SMOU and pointed out: ***"I am sure that she will take SMOU to greater heights with her vision and passion on the development of SMOU and the welfare of its members."***

# YOUNG SMOU SHINES AT ANNUAL



Guest-of-Honour Minister for Health Mr Gan Kim Yong, NTUC President Ms Diana Chia, SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew, Emeritus General Secretary Mr Thomas Tay, together with tripartite partners from the Government and various shipping companies tossing the Lo Hei.

Young SMOU Committee stepped up to the challenge and showed that they have what it takes to pull off the SMOU and Wavelink Lunar New Year Hong Bao Presentation Luncheon with teamwork and a heart at the right place.

And from the guests' feedback and approving nods, the committee deserved a pat on the back.

Guest-of-Honour Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Health, summed it up by saying: ***"I think they have done a wonderful job."***

For the first time, the opening address was delivered by Young SMOU Chairman Mr Terence Tan. His speech was peppered with anecdotes on how the Young SMOU and maritime students have reached out to the seniors from Henderson Senior Citizens' Home, the Union's adopted charity.

***"We strongly believe that our seniors can share their wisdom, their invaluable advice and life experiences with us. This will help to mould and shape our perspectives and make us a better human being,"*** said Mr Tan.



Officials from Unions, Government, Shipping companies, Co-operative and friends tossing Lo Hei together.

# LUNAR NEW YEAR LUNCHEON



In his speech, he shared that his personal mission is to "foster stronger relationships amongst the maritime youths" and to establish themselves as "Singapore's most vibrant maritime youth movement."

Giving credit to the SMOU leaders, Mr Tan pointed out that the senior leaders have shown throughout the years, integrity, passion, and genuine care for the elderly as well as the less privileged in the society. The SMOU senior members have also contributed to what SMOU is today.

***"You have inspired, guided and nurtured us. Your every contribution has made the union stronger and we will do our best to make you proud,"*** Mr Tan highlighted.

From the way the event turned out, the SMOU senior leaders have good reasons to be very proud.

One of the event highlights was having Health Minister Mr Gan Kim Yong, NTUC President Ms Diana Chia, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) Chief Executive Mr Andrew Tan and Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) Chairman Mr Ong Ye Kung presenting red packets as symbols of good fortune and well wishes to SMOU senior members and residents from Henderson Senior Citizens' Home. They were joined by SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew, Emeritus General Secretary Mr Thomas Tay, and Young SMOU Chairman Mr Terence Tan.

***"I enjoy coming to socialise with my friends and to take part in SMOU events like this."***

- Mr Mohamed Sarib, SMOU senior member for 35 years

***"I like the way SMOU organises activities for family and friends."***

- Mr Low Loke Kwai, SMOU senior member for 30 years

***"I am very happy to be here as I have been coming for many years. Everything is good and I am enjoying myself. Thank you."***

- Mr Oi Sam Huat, 91 year old member, SMOU senior member for 53 years

***"We are really pleased to be part of this celebration. Capt Robin Foo and his team never fail to visit us when they have the time. It is the personal touch as well as the larger contributions that make SMOU such a caring Union."***

- Ms Mariana Cory, volunteer, Henderson Senior Citizens' Home

***"This celebration organised by SMOU gives those who work in the shipping industry the opportunity to interact with one another. I am very happy to be a part of this event."***

- Capt Wang Xin Sheng, COSCO (S) Pte Ltd

# YOUNG SMOU SHINES AT ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR LUNCHEON



NTUC President Ms Diana Chia and Young SMOU Chairman Mr Terence Tan presenting hong bao to SMOU members.



Chairman of e2i Mr Ong Ye Kung and Capt Robin Foo giving out hong bao.



Guest-of-Honour Minister for Health Mr Gan Kim Yong and SMOU General Secretary Ms Mary Liew engaging SMOU senior members when presenting them hong bao.



MPA Chief Executive Mr Andrew Tan interacting with the senior members together with Emeritus General Secretary Mr Thomas Tay.



The event hall was filled with festive cheer!

# I SUPPORT THE BILL

To align itself with international standards on maritime labour regulations, Singapore needs to incorporate the requirements of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Bill into its domestic laws.

The Bill, to be administered by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, sets up the minimum requirements and conditions for seafarers' employment, as well as requirements for working conditions onboard ships, and more. It will apply to all Singapore-registered ships that are engaged in commercial activities and to all foreign ships when they call at Singapore, said Senior Minister of State for Transport and Finance Mrs Josephine Teo at the first parliamentary sitting of 2014. She said:

***“Reflecting the more comprehensive and rigorous standards introduced by the MLC, this Bill will repeal some of our existing legislation dealing with various aspects of seafarer employment, and consolidate the revised employment standards under a single piece of legislation. This will provide greater clarity for both employers and seafarers on the applicable standards under the MLC, and make clear how Singapore is meeting our international obligations.”***

On 21 January 2014, Labour Member of Parliament (MP) and NTUC Assistant Secretary-General, Mr Patrick Tay spoke in support of the bill. SMOU General Secretary and Nominated Member of Parliament (NMP) Ms Mary Liew, also spoke in favour of the Bill but not without first highlighting the challenges in implementation.

Here are the excerpts of her speech.

***“It is heartening to know that the very nature of pervasive tripartism was demonstrated through this process where all tripartite partners were actively involved in the formation of the national determinants for compliance with the MLC that led to the current legislation of this Bill.***

***I would like to strongly encourage this spirit of tripartism to prevail as our Tripartite Working Group partners continue to work on the regulations and enforcement policies. Having a convention on paper is not good enough. The dangers that seafarers face are very real when they are away from home for months, sailing the vast oceans, braving the ever-changing climatic conditions, and words on paper, if it is not put into action, Sir, will do nothing***

***to help them.***

***Implementation, in itself, is going to be a huge challenge and I hope that MPA can give substantial focus and scrutiny into how we address these challenges:***

***Firstly, with the increased number of vessels registering in Singapore and calling at our ports, are the current manpower levels in MPA sufficient to cope with the added responsibilities of quality inspection on the working conditions on board ships for compliance?***

***Secondly, will there be adequate training resources to ensure that the MPA's Flag State and Port State Control Officers are equipped with the additional relevant competencies to conduct these inspections?***

***Thirdly, how will the authorities ensure compliance of the Act by all ship owners and ship managers?***

***Lastly, will MPA's Port State Control Officers ensure a “no more favourable treatment” by detaining foreign ships that do not comply with the MLC, so that there is a level-playing field for our Singapore shipping owners and employers who have put in significant resources and effort to ensure compliance?”***

***“I am confident that the MLC Act will not only protect seafarers' rights, but in the long run benefit all responsible shipowners, thus, keeping the shipping industry vibrant and attractive. Madam, I support the Bill.”***

- Ms Mary Liew, SMOU General Secretary and Nominated MP



***“Let me assure the House that the Government has and will continue to work closely with the maritime industry and seafarer unions to ensure the full and fair implementation of the MLC. And I would like to further assure Ms Liew that MPA has steadily built up its capacities to administer the MLC. We agree with Ms Liew that it is important to ensure a level playing field for the shipping community in Singapore.”*** - Mrs Josephine Teo, Senior Minister of State for Transport

# FESTIVE LUNCH WITH OUR PIONEER GENERATION



MP for Moulmein-Kallang GRC Mr Edwin Tong, SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew, Emeritus General Secretary Mr Thomas Tay, SMOU 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mr Rahim Jaffar, SMOU Treasurer Mr Tan Hung Tat and SMOU Assistant Treasurer Mr Ismail Ahamad.

This Lunar New Year, the Young SMOU members showed its care and concern for the pioneer generation through two heartwarming lunches specially designed to bring cheer and joy at the Lighthouse Bistro.



MP for Moulmein-Kallang GRC Mr Edwin Tong handing out hong bao to senior citizens from Jalan Besar with General Secretary Ms Mary Liew.

On 8 February 2014, special guest Mr Edwin Tong, Member of Parliament (MP) for Moulmein-Kallang GRC was present to personally thank some 100 seniors from Jalan Besar for their past sacrifices and wish them the best of health in the Year of the Horse.

Giving SMOU a pat on the back for the good work of organising the lunch on 11 February was special guest, MP for Nee Soon GRC Mr Patrick Tay who was invited to spend the festive season with some 90 residents from the three charity homes, namely, Jamiyah Home for the Aged, Hope Community Home and Care Community Home.

On both events, the invited guests were enthralled by the colourful lion dance performances and were touched by the Union's generosity. Besides the sumptuous lunch and the signature festive lo hei, the seniors were presented with hong bao and bags of Chinese New Year goodies for their enjoyment.



MP for Nee Soon GRC Mr Patrick Tay with SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew, Young SMOU 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson Mr Shawn Hoe and Young SMOU Community member Mr Neo Kia Seng with the elderly of Care Community Home.



MP for Nee Soon GRC Mr Patrick Tay, SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew and Young SMOU 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson Mr Shawn Hoe interacting with the elderly and tossing the Lo Hei with officials from the various homes.

***"This luncheon is a good opportunity for the young to connect with the elderly and let them know that their sacrifices were not forgotten."***

- Mr Shawn Hoe, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson, Young SMOU

***"Events such as this will give different age groups exposure to each other. It is important for the young to catch on values such as compassion and care especially towards the less fortunate."***

- Mr Neo Kia Seng, Young SMOU Committee Member

***"This is my first time coming to such an event, I am "I am very excited to be here. I am happy every day and this event is something that makes me smile even more!"***

- Madam Ramiah, Care Community Home

***"It is good that SMOU organises lunches such as this. This is my third time coming, I like it a lot and I look forward to it every year!"***

- Mr Leow Hai Chwee, Jamiyah Home for the Aged

# REFUGE FOR FISHERMEN



Conditions on fishing boat where men used to gather before Seafarers' Welfare Centre (SWC).

A place of refuge for fishermen, the Seafarers' Welfare Centre (SWC), is finally set up and officially opened on 10 January 2014 at the Jurong Fishery Port.

At the first welfare-cum-help Centre, fishermen who could not have access to help can now get assistance on employment related issues.

SMOU first highlighted to the Migrant Welfare Centre (MWC) the plight of these fishermen who do not hold legal work or stay visas in Singapore and thus, have no access to established legal processes when their rights are infringed. SMOU provides humanitarian support and mount advocacy efforts for better welfare and protection of this group of workers.

In 2012, the two maritime unions approached MWC to champion the set up of a facility in Jurong Fishery Port to help address the concerns of fishermen and to care for them. The new SWC is the outcome of the collaborative efforts of the Unions, MWC, seafarer mission groups and government agencies and partners.

***“Abuse and exploitation are common among migrant fishermen. Finally, they have a place to go to when they need rest and help on issues such as unpaid wages,”*** said SMOU President, Capt Robin Foo.

SWC is staffed daily from 5pm to 9pm and the hours can be scaled up depending on demand. The centre is setting up mobile phone and internet access to allow users to contact their homes and families in times of need. The centre will be open for fishermen to use the facility as a much needed resting area.



Challenges faced by fishermen were vast.



Jurong Fishery Port Seafarers' Welfare Centre.

# WOMEN TRANSPORT WORKERS FIGHT BACK



(L-R) Ms Sheela Naikwade, Womens' Representative, Maharashtra State Transport Kamgar Sanghatna, India; Ms Alison McGarry, ITF Women Transport Workers' Coordinator; Ms Mary Liew, SMOU General Secretary and ITF Executive Board Women's Representative, Asia-Pacific Region; Ms Diana Holland, ITF Women Transport Workers' Committee Chair, UK.

**Some 300 women from 80 countries pledged to take action to lead change, grow their unions to strengthen gender work and combat the challenges facing transport workers across the world.**

At the ITF Women's Conference held from 27 to 28 January 2014 in New Delhi, India, the participants addressed the challenges faced by women and identified priority areas of work to be recommended to the ITF's 43<sup>rd</sup> Congress which will be held in Bulgaria in August this year.

Based on the theme 'From global crisis to global justice: women transport workers fighting back', the ITF Women's Conference had the delegates debating, among other issues, the importance of women within the leadership structure of their unions.

SMOU General Secretary Ms Mary Liew who is also the ITF Executive Board Women's representative (Asia Pacific Region), chaired a plenary session and facilitated the discussion on Developing Women Trade Union Leaders. The participants concluded that women are needed in union leadership to strategise, motivate, mobilise and mentor sisters to build strong unions for the next generations.



Delegates from various countries standing united for the cause for women.

The conference ended with a widely publicised street rally at the main railway station in New Delhi to show solidarity with Indian women who are asking for justice and the end to violence against women.

***"Nothing beats going out in the streets, uniting our voices in letting New Delhi know that women transport workers all over the world are standing in solidarity in stating that any form of violence, be it physical or emotional, against women has to stop,"*** said Ms Liew.

Also present at the rally were SMOU Women's Committee Members, Ms Arina Lee and Ms Annie Sng, who commented: ***"The conference was a great platform to find out what women transport workers are doing in other parts of the world and learn from them. Participating in the street rally was also the first for me. I felt honored to walk alongside with our sisters from all over the world."***

The Conference was a resounding success. It gave women from developing and developed countries a platform to exchange views, share experiences, support each other and strengthen workers' rights.



Women representatives from SMOU participating in the rally to stop violence against women.

# COMPANIES UNION RAPPORT EXERCISE (C.U.R.E.) COCKTAIL



*“This is a great bipartism chance to meet people from the industry and also from the union. I appreciate SMOU’s efforts in organising this.”*

- Mr Eric Von Livonius, Head of Crewing, Maersk Tankers

(L-R) SMOU Industrial Relations Manager Mr Gwee Guo Duan, Emeritus General Secretary Mr Thomas Tay, Head of Crewing, Maersk Tankers, Mr Eric Von Livonius, SMOU General Secretary Ms Mary Liew, Managing Director, Pacific Lines (Pte) Ltd, Mr Teo Siong Seng and SMOU President Capt Robin Foo.

The much anticipated annual Companies, Union, Rapport Exercise (C.U.R.E.) Cocktail has always been a hit among the tripartite partners and this year was no exception.

Held on 8 January 2014, the casual and comfortable atmosphere provided by Lighthouse Bistro stirred up engaging conversations, relaxing sharing and heartwarming befriending. Guests mingled freely with each other as they sampled the delicious buffet laid out for them. Representatives from various tripartite groups were present to enjoy networking, renewing old ties and forging new relations with the maritime community.





*“C.U.R.E. presents a great opportunity to meet people from the industry and the union. Usually we meet them in a more formal setting, but this casual and social setting allows for more networking.”*

- Mr Erle Miranda, Fleet Personnel Manager, Epic Ship Management Pte Ltd (third from the right)

# SMOU AND CSU SIGN BILATERAL AGREEMENT

SMOU and Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS) entered into a bilateral agreement with the Chinese Seamen's Union (CSU) on 28 November 2013 in Beijing.

After the signing of the agreement, the unions pledged to further strengthen their bilateral ties by having regular meetings to update each other on their latest developments.

The union leaders, represented by SMOU General Secretary Ms Mary Liew; SOS General Secretary Mr Kam Soon Huat and CSU Vice Chairman Ms Wei Wei, felt that it is important to learn from one other's experiences, strengthen union-to-seafarers links, as well as broaden their cooperation on the regional front. The bilateral agreement is a testimony of maritime unions coming together for the good of their members.

## SMOU EXCO VISITS GUANGDONG



SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew and SMOU Cadre, Mr Sidek Saniff, together with Mr Liao Rujie, Vice President of the Guangdong Federation of Trade Unions and Mr Kang Shengzhong, Chairman of the Provincial Committee of Guangdong Seamen's Union.

SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew and Emeritus General Secretary Mr Thomas Tay together with the Executive Committee members visited the Guangdong Federation of Trade Unions and the Provincial Committee of Guangdong Seamen's Union.

The visit, which took place from 15 to 19 January 2014, provided an opportunity for the Singapore unionists to further understand the history, workings and membership benefits offered by the China's trades unions. Overall, stronger ties were forged and relationships were developed and built upon as the unionists shared openly their challenges, solutions and future plans with each other.



SMOU Executive Committee members together with the Guangdong Federation of Trade Unions and the Provincial Committee of Guangdong Seamen's Union leaders.

# BUSTLING FESTIVE NETWORKING AT LIGHTHOUSE BISTRO



A series of SMOU festive lunches and dinners were held over the Lunar New Year season at Lighthouse Bistro.

**Cheers to a good start in the Year of the Horse!**

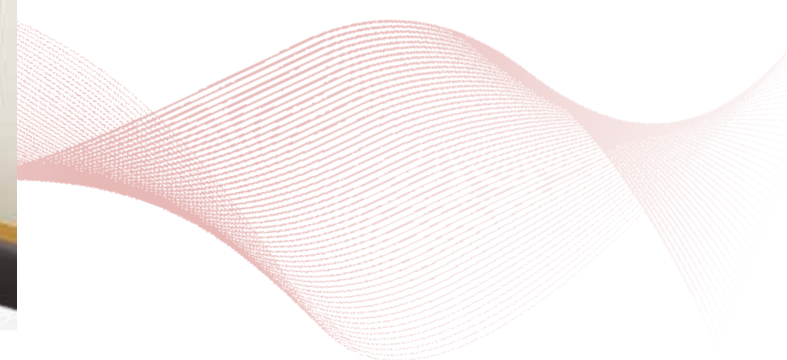


# USHERING IN THE FESTIVE CHEER ONBOARD



The SMOU Industrial Relations (IR) Team comprising of IR Officer Mr Daylen Tan and Membership Representative Ms Huang Wan Yi ushered in the lunar new year festive cheer onboard five vessels.

The appreciative seafarers of MOL Quest, Kota Nebula, Mindoro, Kota Lukis and NYK Fuji received hampers filled with new year goodies, copies of SeaVoices and more. What was more precious was the care shown by the SMOU team, their listening ears and engaging presence. The duo took the opportunity to update the crew on the Seafarers' Provident Fund (SPF) and the various ways they can collect their savings.



# FOC VESSELS IDENTIFIED IN S.E. ASIAN WEEK OF ACTION



SMOU IR manager Mr Gwee Guo Duan in action.

**Thirty four merchant vessels flying flags of convenience (FOC) were inspected by dockers and seafarers unions in Singapore, Indonesia, Myanmar and Philippines.**

Unions affiliated to the ITF boarded the vessels during the South East Asian Week of Action from 13 to 17 January 2014 to check on crew conditions, employment contracts, safety and compliance of Maritime Labour Convention 2006 which came into force in August 2013.

In Singapore, a total of 17 vessels were paid a visit during the eventful week by representatives from the SMOU

Industrial Relations (IR) Department. Inspection teams also visited Australian flagged Pacific Raider 4, a fishing vessel which lies abandoned since September 2013. Of the original 16 Indonesian and Vietnamese crew, only four are left on board. It is noted that wages have not been paid since December 2012.

Commenting on the action week programme, SMOU IR Manager Mr Gwee Guo Duan said: ***“Singapore will continue to work closely with the ITF and be involved in the FOC Week of Action to ensure that terms and conditions are in compliance with the ITF policy.”***



SMOU and SOS team inspecting the paperwork on board the ship.



SMOU and SOS representatives with the crew on board an FOC vessel.

# HEARTWARMING HOME VISITS TO



Mr Tan Wee Guan Robert, member for 32 years, together with SMOU President Capt Robin Foo and General Secretary Ms Mary Liew.



General Secretary Ms Mary Liew, listening to the stories of Mr Leong Tong Seng, member for 37 years.



Mr Tan Ah Seng, member for 34 years, sharing his experiences with President Capt Robin Foo and Chairperson, Membership Services Committee, Mr Sasid Pachanpillai.

During the excitement of the Lunar New Year holiday period, SMOU sees to it that the elderly and infirm union members were not left out in the celebrations.

From 7 to 10 Feb 2014, SMOU President Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary Ms Mary Liew, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mr Rahim Jaffar, Treasurer Mr Tan Hung Tat, Chairperson, Membership Services Committee Mr Sasid Pachanpillai and Executive Committee Member Mr Goh Seow Juay went to the homes, hospitals and nursing facilities to distribute hong bao, hampers and offer a friendly heart-to-heart chat with the elderly SMOU members.

The union representatives visited a total of nine families over the festive season to spread some cheer. Some of the members were too weak to walk due to their old age, others unfortunately suffered a stroke or coma.

***"Our hearts go out to each of our members who are not in the pink of health. This is a little gesture on our part to let them know that they are valued and are certainly not forgotten by SMOU,"*** said General Secretary, Ms Mary Liew.

# OUR ELDERLY MEMBERS



Mr Mohamed Amin Bin Elam Din's family, member for 21 years, received the SLF hardship grant during this time of need with SMOU 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mr Rahim Jaffar and Chairperson, Membership Services Committee, Mr Sasid Pachanpillai.



Mr Lai Kwan To, member for 32 years were all smiles with SMOU Treasurer Tan Hung Tat and SMOU Exco Member Mr Goh Seow Juay.



Receiving the hamper is Mr Leo Boon Fui and family, member for 30 years from SMOU.



Mr Frank Edwin and family, member for 34 years receiving the Lunar New Year hamper.



Mr Jaafar B Mohd Babu, member for 52 years, receiving a hamper of goodies from SMOU.

# LOVE IS IN THE AIR

Lighthouse Bistro turned itself into a Valentine's Day romantic dinner spot as members dined in on 14 February 2014. Flowers and balloons decorated the bistro as the couples enjoyed a delightful set menu designed especially to celebrate the day of love.



# SWINGING TO A NEW YEAR

To get into the swing of the Year of the Horse, the SMOU Lunar New Year Golf League was held on 12 February 2014 for avid golfers with the tee off at Orchid Country Club. As with many good celebrations, there were Lucky Draw prizes to be won and the traditional Lo Hei tossing.



*Preparing the perfect putt!*



*A golfer with a perfect swing!*

**Tournament Winner:**  
Mr Tan Lye Soon

**Runner up:**  
Mr Kelvin Tan

**Second Runner Up:**  
Mr Michael Koh



*Thumbs up for SMOU Lunar New Year Golf League.*



*SMOU golfers tossing to a great year ahead!*

## NOTICE OF CHANGE in SMOU One Stop Service Centre Operation Hours

*Dear Members,*

Since September 2013, SMOU has introduced an e-service for members to do online booking and payment of chalets, golf cards, etc at their own convenience.

With the introduction of the new e-services, we are streamlining our work processes. As such, please note the new operating hours of SMOU One Stop Service Centre, effective **1<sup>st</sup> May, 2014 (Thursday)**.

**Monday - Friday, 9.00am - 6.00pm (No change)**  
**Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays (Closed)**

\*Operating hours will be extended to 8pm on Mariners' Nite. (1<sup>st</sup> working Friday of each month)

Thank you for your continued support. For enquiries, kindly email SMOU at [enquiries@smou.org.sg](mailto:enquiries@smou.org.sg).

# EXCITING ACTIVITIES AWAITING YOU! APRIL 2014 - MARCH 2015

2014

## APRIL

- 4<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite
- 12<sup>th</sup> Mary Kay's Workshop (Skin Care)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Health Talk
- 25<sup>th</sup> Young Mariners' Nite



## MAY

- 1<sup>st</sup> May Day Rally
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mariners' Nite
- 13<sup>th</sup> Beijing Night & Cadetplus Graduation
- 21<sup>st</sup> Young Mariners' Networking

## JUNE

- 6<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family Gathering
- \*\* Manila Night & Cadetplus Graduation
- \*\* Kids School Holiday Program
- 27<sup>th</sup> Young Mariners' Nite



## JULY

- 4<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite



- 1<sup>st</sup> Mariners' Nite
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Family Connection (National Day Celebration)
- 12<sup>th</sup> SMOU Golf League
- 16<sup>th</sup> YSMOU Annual Bowling Challenge
- 29<sup>th</sup> Young Mariners' Nite



## SEPTEMBER

- 5<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite
- 6<sup>th</sup> SMOU Bursary & Scholarship Award Presentation



## OCTOBER

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mariners' Nite
- \*\* Silver Collar Trip
- 25<sup>th</sup> Family Connection (Festive Celebration)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Young Mariners' Nite



## NOVEMBER

- 7<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite
- \*\* Young Mariners' Networking
- \*\* Long Membership Award Presentation Nite
- 21<sup>st</sup> Social Nite

## DECEMBER

- 5<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite
- \*\* Movie Special
- \*\* Year-end Celebration
- 26<sup>th</sup> Young Mariners' Nite



2015

## JANUARY

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mariners' Nite
- \*\* One Day Lunar New Year Shopping Trip



## FEBRUARY

- 6<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite
- 14<sup>th</sup> Be My Valentine
- 25<sup>th</sup> SMOU Lunar New Year Luncheon & Hong Bao Presentation
- 27<sup>th</sup> Young Mariners' Nite



## MARCH

- 6<sup>th</sup> Mariners' Nite
- \*\* Lunar New Year Golf League
- \*\* School Holiday Trip
- 28<sup>th</sup> Family Connection

Programme is subject to changes without prior notices, \*\* Dates to be confirmed

For more information and online booking, visit SMOU website at [www.smou.org.sg](http://www.smou.org.sg)

Update your email address with us at [booking@smou.org.sg](mailto:booking@smou.org.sg) to receive news of our latest events!

# HAVE YOU COLLECTED YOUR SPF?

Set up by SMOU in 2001 to improve the welfare of seafaring members on board ships covered by the SMOU Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA), the Seafarers' Provident Fund (SPF) was administered and managed by Wavelink Thrift Pte Ltd, and co-managed by NTUC Thrift & Loan. However, NTUC Thrift & Loan had discontinued with the administration and management of the SPF and has since terminated SPF from 1 October 2012 onwards.

With effect from 1 October 2012, the SPF is now governed by the Scheme of Administration to provide a clear and transparent mechanism for the dissolution and distribution of the SPF funds.

## Salient Points on SPF Balance Withdrawals:

### Submission Period

Seven years with effect from 1 January 2013 to 1 December 2019.

### Submission Requirements

Members are required to submit their request for SPF withdrawal with the relevant documentations:

1. Duly completed Withdrawal Form (can be downloaded from [www.ispf.org.sg](http://www.ispf.org.sg))
2. Copy of NRIC/Passport (both old and new ones)
3. Copy of Seaman Log Book(s)
4. Indicate mode of payment as:
  - "Cheque" for personal collection by members who are based in Singapore.
 or
  - "Telegraphic Transfer" for members who are based overseas. It is compulsory to provide a copy of the Bank Book/Statement, clearly showing the name of the bank, swift code of the bank, member's name and member's bank account number.
5. Provide additional documents like Birth/Death/Marriage Certificate if payout is to be made in the name of the nominee/beneficiary.

### Additional Information


1. Charges for Telegraphic Transfer will be imposed by the bank and offset from the payout money.
2. An administrative fee of 2.8% approved by the SPF Advisory Committee shall be deducted from the SPF money due to the member before payout to the member or the member's proper claimant.

No. of Members' Claims	Amount Paid (\$\$)
2,431	\$4,954,269

### Submission channels

The duly completed Withdrawal Form and all the relevant documentation may be submitted via the available channels:

 **Email:** [spf@wavelink.com.sg](mailto:spf@wavelink.com.sg)

 **Post:** Wavelink Thrift Pte Ltd  
75 Jellicoe Road #02-01  
Wavelink Building Singapore 208738

### Contact Details

SPF Administrator email: [spf@wavelink.com.sg](mailto:spf@wavelink.com.sg)



*We have collected our SPF, have you?*

# OUR VISION

The Number One  
Professional, Dynamic  
and Growing Organisation  
For The Maritime  
Community  
And Beyond.



## Subsidiary Companies and Business Divisions



# TRAINING CALENDAR

April 2014 - June 2014							
Course Title	Date	Duration	Course Fee	Course Title	Date	Duration	Course Fee
<b>MPA Mandatory Courses</b>							
Pilotage Exemption (Large Vessels) Course & Assessment	On Demand	5 Hrs	\$2,808.75	Experienced Tug Master (Refresher)	On Demand	1.5 Hrs	\$483.64
Pilotage Exemption (Large Vessels) Renewal Assessment	On Demand	2.5 Hrs	\$1,472.32	Passenger Ferry Safety (New)	On Demand	1 Day	\$309.23
Pilotage Exemption (Small Vessels) New	On Demand	1 Day	\$402.32	Passenger Ferry Safety (Refresher)	On Demand	4 Hrs	\$241.82
Pilotage Exemption (Small Vessels) Refresher	On Demand	3 Hrs	\$350.96	Port Limit Special Grade (Deck Officer)	On Demand	3 Days	\$471.87
Port Limit Tanker Master (New)	On Demand	1.5 Days	\$621.67	Bunker Surveying Course	On Demand	2 Days	\$337.05
Port Limit Tanker Master (Refresher)	On Demand	4 Hrs	\$268.57	Oil Spill Control	On Demand	1 Day	\$179.76
Tug Master (New)	On Demand	3 Hrs	\$880.61				
<b>Maritime Courses</b>							
Maritime Resource Management Course (MRM)**	26 - 28 Apr 7 - 9 May 18 - 20 Jun	3 Days	\$909.50	IMO Model Course 1.27 - Operational Use of ECDIS**	21 - 25 Apr 5 - 9 May 16 - 20 Jun	5 Days	\$1,016.50
Ship Simulator and Bridge Teamwork (BTM)	28 - 30 Apr 9 - 11 May 20 - 22 Jun	3 Days	\$1,070.00	IMO Model Course 3.19 - Ship Security Officer (SSO)**	20 - 21 May	2 Days	\$642.00
Maritime Resource & Bridge Team Management Course (MRM & BTM)	26 - 30 Apr 7 - 11 May 18 - 22 Jun	5 Days	\$1,605.00	IMO Model Course 3.20 - Company Security Officer (CSO)**	20 - 22 May	3 Days	\$963.00
Shiphandling Course (SH)	On Demand	3 Days	\$1,284.00	IMO Model Course 3.21 - Port Facility Security Officer (PFSO)**	24 - 26 Jun	3 Days	\$963.00
Ship Safety Officer Course (SSaO)	On Demand	2 Days	\$642.00	ISM & ISPS Internal Auditor**	14 - 16 May	3 Days	\$1,284.00
Senior Officers Leadership Assessment Program (SOLAP)	19 - 21 Apr 10 - 12 May 21 - 23 Jun	3 Days	\$2,675.00	ISM Internal Auditor **	14 - 15 May	2 Days	\$695.50
				ISPS Internal Auditor **	15 - 16 May	2 Days	\$856.00
<b>Maritime Introductory Courses</b>							
Familiarisation on Operational Use of ECDIS	21 - 22 Apr 5 - 6 May 16 - 17 Jun	2 Day	\$535.00	Designated Person Ashore (DPA) Training Course	10 - 11 Jun	2 Days	\$749.00
Safety Culture for Optimum Safety Performance	On Demand	1 Day	\$272.85	Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 Awareness Program (MLC)**	29 Apr 27 Jun	1 Day	\$321.00
Proficiency in Designated Security Duties (SDSD)	27 May	1 Day	\$256.80	Familiarisation with Shipping Terms & Maritime Jargon	On Demand	1 Day	\$272.85
Proficiency in Security Awareness (SAT)	28 May	0.5 Day	\$160.50	Introduction to Risk Management	On Demand	1 Day	\$272.85

\*\* MCF subsidies available for eligible candidates

Course Fees inclusive of 7% GST

Training Calendar is also available at: [www.wavelink.com.sg/wmi](http://www.wavelink.com.sg/wmi)

**For registration or enquiries, please contact:**  
**Mr Anthony Loh**  
 Tel: (65) 6390 1648  
 Fax: (65) 6295 1121  
 Email: [courses@wavelink.com.sg](mailto:courses@wavelink.com.sg)

**For MPA Mandatory Courses, please contact:**  
**Mr Kevin Loh**  
 Tel: (65) 6390 1651  
 Fax: (65) 6295 1121  
 Email: [kevin@wavelink.com.sg](mailto:kevin@wavelink.com.sg)

# RECORD BREAKING TURNOUT AT TNTA INDUSTRIAL BRIEFING

On 12 February 2014, 380 young Singaporean candidates registered for the Tripartite Nautical Training Award (TNTA) Industrial Briefing through Employment and Employability Institute (e2i), indicating their interest to find out more about the place-and-train programme in the seafaring industry.

The briefing, which was held at Devan Nair Institute, had Chairman of the TNTA Advisory Committee Capt Anthony Khoo from PACC and Mr Nathanael Leong from Maersk Tankers sharing about the various aspects required of a seafarer from the viewpoint of a shipping employer. Their inspiring talk gave the future cadets a true insight into the adventurous working life on board a ship.

Representatives from WMI were on hand to give an overview of what to expect from the course and what candidates can hope to achieve throughout their career. The representatives also took questions from the eager audience such as what the living conditions are like on board a vessel, matters concerning wages and allowances.



Capt Anthony Khoo, Chairman of TNTA Advisory Committee, addressing the audience.



Mr Nathanael Leong from AP Moller Maersk Group sharing his experiences.

Ms Toh Sze Yi, the youngest among all who turned up for the briefing, is greatly influenced by her grandfather who loved the sea. She has aspirations to be a seafarer since young. The idea of transporting goods on vessels thrills her. It is no surprise that she eagerly looks forward to undertaking the TNTA programme.

***"The industrial briefing has been very informative. I am more than ready to embark on this exciting career."***

- Ms Toh Sze Yi



Holding a Diploma in Maritime Transportation, Mr Kevin Lin Zi Quan has always wanted to sail but his parents felt he was too young then. Now at 32 years old, he remains passionate about pursuing a seafaring career.

***"This career path is something I have given a lot of thought into. At this briefing, the experienced seafarers clarified all the doubts I have. It has made me even more certain that I want to join the TNTA programme."***

- Mr Lin Zi Quan Kevin



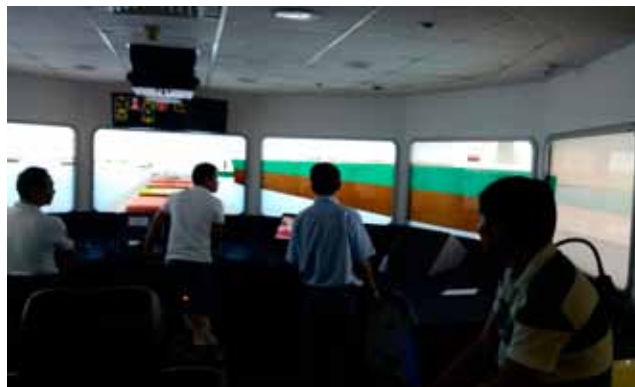
# CONTINUING THE SUPPORT FOR TRAINING OF CBA COMPANIES

As concurred during the Singapore Maritime Training Fund (SMTF) meeting and Maritime Manpower Seminar (MMS), CBA companies agreed that collective training is beneficial because it serves many different companies, is cost effective and of international standard. CBA companies who have small numbers can tap on this to regularise collective training through the use of SMTF fund and attractive Wavelink Maritime Institute (WMI) discount.

In 2013, our OfficersPlus programme was well received by CBA companies and a good number of officers were trained in various countries conducted by highly qualified trainers from WMI.

Beginning in April 2013, WMI has served around 500 officers in the first 9 months and projected to train over 600 officers in a SMTF calendar year. WMI will continue this initiative in conducting our OfficersPlus collective training on a monthly basis in Singapore and quarterly in China, Philippines, Myanmar and India.

## WMI has increased participation for our Bridge Team Management course!



Bridge Team Management course in Manila with 16 officers conducted by Capt KK Yeow (top left) and co-conducted by Capt ZM Chen (top right) and Capt CH Tan (not in picture) in January 2014.

## CONTINUING THE SUPPORT FOR TRAINING OF CBA COMPANIES



*CadetsPlus Programme in China, Qingdao 2007.*

Also in 2013, WMI has trained over 300 cadets in China, Philippines and Indonesia. Since the start of CadetsPlus programme in 2007, it has helped prepare more than 1,000 cadets for a smoother transition into their shipboard

training. WMI is still continuing with this effort and has CadetsPlus programmes lined up in China – Xiamen in March and Tianjin in May. WMI is also taking steps to serve as many countries as possible. Trainees can look forward



*CadetsPlus Programme in Philippines, Iloilo 2008.*



*CadetsPlus Programme in Indonesia, Surabaya 2012.*

to Cadetsplus Programme in Philippines and the inaugural CadetsPlus programme in Myanmar, slated for late May.

On top of that, WMI is also looking into organising a Maritime Manpower Seminar (MMS) in Beijing, China, to give our CBA companies a better view of the employment of Chinese seafarers.



*CadetsPlus Programme in China, Qingdao 2013.*

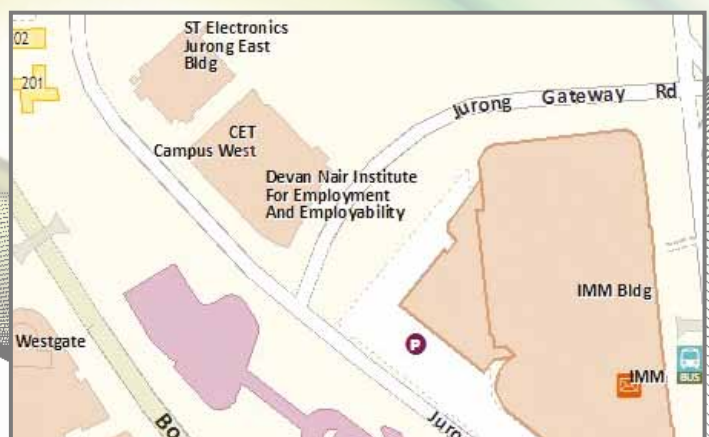
# LOOK OUT FOR WAVELINK SIMULATION CENTRE OPENING IN MAY 2014



The state-of-the-art Wavelink Simulation Centre (WSC) aims to provide both standard and customised simulator-based collective training programme.

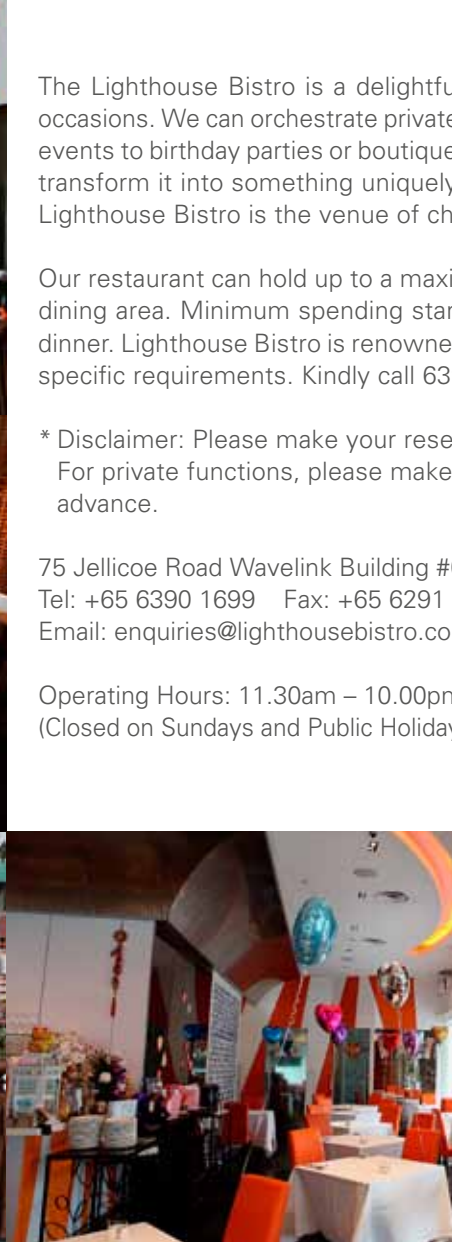
This is to address the high training demand of CBA shipping companies and is also a collective effort to develop the Singaporean core in maritime industry. WSC comprises a 240 degree Full Mission bridge Simulator, Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS), Navigation, Liquid Cargo Handling as well as Engine Room Simulators. The Singapore Maritime Training Fund (SMTF) can be optimised under the OfficersPlus simulator-based training programme. CBA shipping companies are welcome to contact WMI to make arrangements to conduct their customised simulator-based training in WSC.

SMOU members will be able to enjoy the privilege of using WSC facilities. Meeting room and training rooms in theatre or cluster style are also available in WSC for companies who need the facilities for training.



**WSC will be located at:** Devan Nair Institute,  
80 Jurong East Street 21, Level 6, Singapore 609607

# A Venue Like No Other for Special Occasions



The Lighthouse Bistro is a delightful venue for your joyous and celebrative occasions. We can orchestrate private functions such as large scale networking events to birthday parties or boutique dinners. Whatever the occasion, we can transform it into something uniquely special! All done at competitive prices, Lighthouse Bistro is the venue of choice.

Our restaurant can hold up to a maximum of 74 people including the outdoor dining area. Minimum spending starts from \$1,000 for lunch and \$1,400 for dinner. Lighthouse Bistro is renowned for customising the menu to meet your specific requirements. Kindly call 6390 1699 for more details.

\* Disclaimer: Please make your reservation at least 3 days in advance.  
For private functions, please make reservations at least two weeks in advance.

75 Jellicoe Road Wavelink Building #01-00 Singapore 208738  
Tel: +65 6390 1699 Fax: +65 6291 0700  
Email: [enquiries@lighthousebistro.com.sg](mailto:enquiries@lighthousebistro.com.sg)

Operating Hours: 11.30am – 10.00pm  
(Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays)



Follow us on Facebook!



## APRIL/MAY

### Teriyaki Saba Fish with Rice

The Japanese Saba Fish gets a brand new spin by expert hands at the Lighthouse Bistro. From traditional to modern and fresh! The succulence of the fish pairs well with the complexity and sweetness of the sauce, while the rice rounds off the dish. A truly satisfying meal!



# Lighthouse Bistro Monthly Specials



## JUNE

### Rendang Chicken Pasta

Rendang, a very typical Asian dish, is created anew in a fusion of east meets west by Chef Eddie. The rendang sauce uniquely drizzled on the pasta provides a mouthwatering, delectable meal. The richness and heat of the rendang flavours provide a taste sensation that is truly unforgettable!

**SMOU members - 20% off!**

*10% service charge applies*

*No GST charges!*