

THE PERANAKAN

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PERANAKAN ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 1996

MITA (P) 290/08/96

DISTRIBUTED FREE

The 9th Baba Convention 15-17 November 1996

This is the first time that the Baba Convention held in Singapore is jointly organised by The Peranakan Association, the Gunong Sayang Association and the National Heritage Board. We welcome this move as such a combined effort augurs well for the future.

Convention delegates from Penang and Malacca arriving on 15 November will check into the Hotel Royal at Newton Road.

Malam Jolly

The Convention proceedings will begin at 6 pm at the Singapore Swimming Club at Tanjong Rhu Road when all participants from Singapore and Malaysia will register themselves before Mr Lee Kip Lee, the Convention Chairman, declares open the event.

Following readings of messages and reports of the Presidents of the various associations the evening of fun and entertainment, aptly entitled *Malam Jolly Jolly*, will commence. There will be a buffet dinner and entertainment for the whole evening has been planned by the Gunong Sayang Association. You can therefore be assured of a rip-roaring time enjoying the surprises the GSA have in store for us, especially with the popular GT Lye and Sally Gan as comperes. However, as space is limited, reservations will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. So please book early.

The Seminar

The events of the second day, Saturday 16 November, will take place at the National Museum Theatre at Stamford Road, with the subjects for the talks and discussion reflecting our theme *From Replication to Innovation*.

In the morning session there will be three talks: *The Salon Architecture of the Peranakans* by Dr Jon SH Lim, *Welcome to Peranakan Nouvelle Cuisine* by Ms Violet Oon, and *Neo-Naivism: Recent Peranakan Art Forms* by Mr Desmond Sim.



The Convention logo

After that, lunch will be served and during this break there will be cultural performances by members of the Gunong Sayang Association as well as an opportunity to preview *Rumah Peranakan*, an exhibition organised by the Singapore History Museum.

The Seminar resumes in the afternoon when a Forum, to be chaired by Mrs Anamah Tan, will discuss the theme - *Innovation in Peranakan Culture - A Viable Future?* The three panelists we have invited are Mr Robert Yeo, Mr Kenneth Liang and Dr Anne Pakir.

During the Seminar there will be fringe events including demonstrations of *chongkak* and *cherki*. The Convention will end with a Closing Ceremony at 5 pm.

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TW Ong

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Peranakan Rhapsody

On the night of Saturday 16 November we shall be celebrating our 96th Anniversary and Annual Dinner & Dance at the Sheraton Towers Hotel in Scotts Road where we expect an attendance of 450 people who will gather to enjoy a *Peranakan Rhapsody - an Evening of Song* (the event's theme).

You will enter into a world of nostalgia and music featuring Peranakan food, a Gunong Sayang Association sketch, *dondang sayang*, *keronchong*, and a band performing western songs much loved by the Peranakans for your dancing pleasure.

In the hotel lobby, made attractive by floral decorations, there will also be stalls selling Nyonya goodies and Peranakan artefacts besides a display of *the good old days*.

We would take this opportunity to explain that the normal price per person for the Dinner & Dance is \$68. The optional \$30 extra for a \$98 ticket is a donation to the Association to help defray running expenses normally met by monthly subscriptions which are not levied. A Donation Table will cost more than \$98 per head. The higher prices will also give priority in the reservation of seats or tables.

Exhibition Opening

Finally, on the morning of Sunday 17 November there will be the official opening of the *Rumah Peranakan* exhibition at the National Museum, Stamford Road (By Invitation Only) after which there will be a reception and a tour of the Exhibition.

Mari datang, lah! Fill up the registration forms already sent to you as soon as possible to make sure that you participate in Singapore's most important Peranakan event of this year!

New Name for the Newsletter

As you would have noticed the name of the newsletter has been shortened to *The Peranakan*. This new name gives the publication a more distinct identity. It is just one effort in improving the image and quality of the newsletter, which the editorial team constantly strives to do. Any suggestions and feedback will be welcome.

Another question that keeps cropping up is the regularity of the newsletter. It has been the fault of the editorial team for not making that clear on the cover. As members will now notice, the words *Quarterly Newsletter of The Peranakan Association* are now prominently stated below the mast-head. Apologies from the editorial team for the inconvenience caused.

TOMBOLA

The favourable response of members to the two well-attended Tombola sessions at The Boom Boom Room testified to the popularity of the occasions - held on Saturday 27 July and Saturday 31 August 1996.

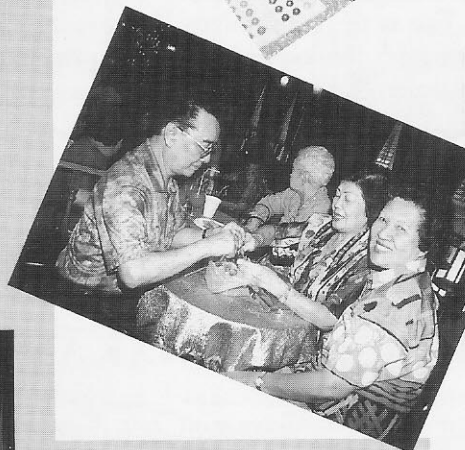
Those who came welcomed the opportunity to socialise with other members, make new friends and renew old acquaintanceship. The camaraderie was obvious once they started to *berbual* with each other during the High Tea, and shared the excitement of marking their cards.

The numbers were expertly called, in the Peranakan style - *kawin dua* (22), *tiang goal* (11), *orang kuat* (1), *kuching melari* (23) - by GT Lye assisted by Alan Koh on the first afternoon, and by Roland Yap assisted by Zainal Abidin bin Abdul Hamid (Zaibo of *Under One Roof* fame) on the second afternoon.

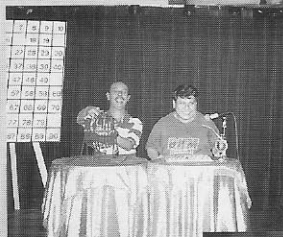
The Permit to hold the Tombola session stipulated that it was to be strictly for members only. As a result, a few enthusiasts like Mrs Daisy Oh enrolled her husband as a member so that they could come together. How wonderful!

The Grand Prize of a return air ticket to Perth has still to be won. So, do come along the next time!

27 July 1996



31 August 1996



CLARIFYING A MISCONCEPTION OF THE USAGE OF THE WORD *PERANAKAN*

by Lee Kip Lee

In a recent letter to the Straits Times a reader remarked that media writers had been inaccurately using the word *Peranakan* as an ethnic proper noun to describe the community instead of the accepted ethnic proper noun *Baba-Nyonya*.

That is not correct (although it is true that the word *Peranakan* is a Malay noun and it signifies someone who is local-born, irrespective of race) because in English usage in Singapore and Malaysia, as well as in the usage in the Baba community here, the word is generally regarded to be synonymous with *Babas* and *Straits Chinese*. *Baba-Nyonya* is a term used by the Penang Peranakans to describe themselves. And the proper Malay term for a Peranakan is *Peranakan Cina*.

Academics such as Dr Tan Chee Beng and Associate Professor Leo Suriyadinata have described us in their writings as *Peranakan Chinese*, while Dr Anne Pakir wrote of us as "the *Peranakan Cina* or the *Peranakan* (synonymously known as the *Straits Chinese* or the *Baba community*).

John Clammer considered that "there is some confusion of terminology which we must settle right at the beginning. Three terms are commonly used to refer to the subjects of this study - the *Straits Chinese*, *Peranakans* or *Babas*, and these terms will be used as synonyms throughout this book. The term *Peranakan* is less confusing, and is simply the Malay designation for 'local-born people.' This is the term universally employed in Indonesia to distinguish the locally-born and assimilated Chinese, who have many characteristics in

common with their Singapore/Malaysian counterparts, from the rest of the Chinese population. When the term *Peranakan* is used without qualification, it thus refers, in Malaysia and Singapore, to a *Straits Chinese* or *Baba Chinese*."

The fact that we refer to ourselves as *Peranakan* explains why we named our Singapore, Malacca and Penang associations as the Peranakan Association, the Persatuan Peranakan Cina Melaka and the Persatuan Peranakan Cina Pulau Pinang respectively, with the common bond that our ancestors originated from the former British Straits Settlements of Singapore, Malacca and Penang. In this sense, the term *Straits Chinese*, referring to the Chinese of the Straits Settlements, is rather anachronistic. But not *Peranakan* which is presently applied to anything else connected with us, be it our food, stage plays, antiques or jewellery.

Sources:

Tan Chee Beng, *Chinese Peranakan Heritage in Malaysia and Singapore*, Penerbit Fajar Bakti Sdn Bhd, Kuala Lumpur, 1993.

Leo Suriyadinata, *Peranakan's Search for National Identity - Biographical Studies of Seven Indonesian Chinese*, Times Academic Press, Singapore, 1993.

William Gwee Thian Hock, *Mas Sepuloh - Baba Conversational Gems*, Armour Publishing, Singapore, 1993, in which the Introduction by Dr. Anne Pakir appeared.

John R Clammer, *Straits Chinese Society*, Singapore University Press, Singapore, 1980.

THE MELAKA CHITTY

THE INDIAN PERANAKAN OF MELAKA

By Kenneth Cheo Kim Ban

Not many Singaporean Peranakans are aware that we have our Indian counterparts, the Melaka Chitties, who live in their own Chitty Village in Jalan Gajah Berang (The Fierce Elephant Road) in Melaka.

Before I go further about this group of Peranakans I would like to clarify that the earlier Chitties were traders, property owners and merchants whilst their present-day descendants are professionals and civil servants.

They are not to be confused with the Chettiers, the well-known moneylenders characterised by their big, black umbrellas and their rows of shops at Market Street with raised

platforms on which were the black boxes containing their IOUs, promissory notes and other documents of their trade.

The origins of the Chitties are lost in the mists of history. They know little of their roots except that their forefathers came from South India, and in the course of time married the local pre-Muslim women. This union produced the Chitties.

In every way, the Melaka Chitties of those days (especially the womenfolk) were indistinguishable from the Nyonyas, from the *sanggul-Melaka*, to their *baju panjang* and *kerongsang*, to their slippers. And at home they wore the

same wooden clogs known as *terompas*. The only differences were the long beads which the Chitty women wore around their neck, their nose-studs and the studs on the upper part of the ear.

Language-wise, the Chitties speak almost the same dialect as the Babas and Nyonyas except for some words and phrases which mirror their Hindu heritage. Similarly, just as the Babas and Nyonyas of yore still followed the religious rites and festivals of their Chinese forefathers, so too did the Chitties still follow very strictly Hindu religious rites and festivals among which *ponggal* (harvest festival) was the most prominent.

There is a strong bond between the Melaka Chitties and the Babas and Nyonyas for the two communities can intermarry without any religious obstacle, despite their different religions. Consequently, there are many Baba families with Melaka Chitty blood and vice versa.

As to food, the Melaka Chitties eat almost the same type of food and prepare the same *kuih-kuih* as we do. There is much "borrowing" of one another's cuisine so that they feel quite at home eating in each other's residence.

Where a Chitty man has married a Nyonya, the lady soon learns the Chitty ways including their various forms of worship, rites and ceremonies. At the same time, the whole family also celebrate Chinese New Year, *Ti-Kong Seh* and other occasions.

I witnessed quite a number of such families celebrating *Ti-Kong Seh* on the eighth night of the Chinese New Year observed in full with the setting up of the *sam-kai* (altar), the hanging of the *chye kee* (red bunting strung across the doorway) and the burning of *stangee* (an incense burnt by Baba families on auspicious days).

At one marriage of a Melaka Chitty man to a Nyonya the full Baba traditional marriage ceremony was carried out, complete with the sedan-chairs, the *seronee* (Chinese band), and the observance of the various dates of celebration such as the *chia-sia* (wedding invitation) and the *dua belas hari* (twelfth day).

What was of exceptional interest was that on the third day, after proceeding in procession in a sedan chair to worship in a Chinese temple, the bridal couple and their entourage then wended their way to a Hindu temple to be greeted by the sound of Indian music from a clarinet and drums. There, in accordance with Hindu marriage rites the *thali* was tied round the bride's neck to signify her marriage.

Yet another interesting wedding was that of the son of a Chitty father and a Nyonya mother to a Hindu girl. Here, parts of Chitty and Baba cultures were somehow or other incorporated into a harmonious whole.

The wedding procession consisted of the bridegroom, bare-bodied and wearing a white *dhotti*, carrying a branch of a mango tree with a bundle of his clothes at the end of it, walking to fetch his bride, with Chinese lanterns and bunnings ahead accompanied by a Chinese *seronee* band and a Hindu temple band forming the rear.

In death though, the rites and ceremonies of the Melaka Chitties are pure Hindu ending in the cremation of the dead.

What has been written here is only a brief outline, and I hope that those with more information will come forward to contribute their knowledge of the subject. •

LETTER

FROM MR WEE KIM WEE A MESSAGE TO THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

So you are now the *New Man at the Helm*! I am glad to read in the latest issue of the Newsletter (June issue) that you have a strong new Management Team. All this should augur well for the Association to go for "greater heights" as Anthony Oei says in his report.

The transfer of the leadership from Dr George Tay to you was done so well that it seems such a contrast to the same exercise in other clubs and associations, in some cases with vicious struggles for leadership and committee positions. This is a feather in the cap of the Association and its leaders.

Now that you have the "ship" and a fine "crew", Peranakans will watch with keen expectations the course you will take it to "greater heights" as the Newsletter report says. I know you are more than fully equipped for this task. The only two things you need are luck and the full support of members, both of which you deserve.

With the 60 new members your strength is now given as 647. If half of this figure were to bring in one new member, within a year, you should end your first year as President with a membership hitting the thousandth mark. The simplistic formula may not be easily attainable, but is worth trying.

Finally, my warmest congratulations and best wishes to you and your new Management Committee

Wee Kim Wee

LANGUAGE

INCHI KABIN OR ENGLISH CAPON? PLUS A PICTURESQUE EMBOK EMBOK WORD

Those of us familiar with Penang food must remember the delicious, deep-fried chicken served with a Worcester sauce-curry powder-mustard gravy into which the cooked meat is dipped. It is called Inchi Kabin and, according to my father, it is a corruption of the English term English Capon. It does make some sense as a "capon" is a "male chicken castrated and fattened for eating." Can anyone contribute more material on this topic?

Besides that, there was also, in our family, a picturesque word which we frequently used:

AMBLAIR - a term of indignation applied by an older woman when, with hand on hip, she described a younger one as being impudent.

"Aye! Perempuan itu bukan main amblair lagi. Jangan kasi dia munkah skali!"

"Oh dear! That woman is really impudent. Don't give her any face at all."

Please write in if you know of any unusual words! •

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome aboard the following 52 new members, whose addition increases our roll to 699 members:

Life members

Mr Ang Ah Wah
 Ms Magdaline Chan
 Mr Cheong Cheng Law
 Mrs Margaret Chew
 Mr Chia Cheong Fook
 Mr Philip Chia Kim Leng
 Mr Chua Seck Cheow
 Ms Betty Foo
 Ms Foo Soo Ling Agnes
 Mrs Goh Boon Keng
 Ms Rosalind Goh
 Mr Koh Boon Chiang
 Mdm Kung Hye Choo
 Mr Kwan Wai Meng Robert
 Justice Lai Kew Chai
 Mrs Lau Boon Keow
 Mdm Lim Gaik Kee
 Mr Lim Hang Kiat
 Mr Lim Kay Siu
 Dr Lim Kim Leong
 Mdm Lim Poh Choo Nancy
 Mrs Low Poh Choo Ruth
 Ms Neo Swee Lin
 Mr Ng Kim Siang Tony
 Mr Robert Oh
 Mr Oh Teng Hin
 Ms Ong Chwee Neo Irene
 Mdm Oon Kim Lian Nancy
 Ms Doreen Pang
 Mr Adrian Collin Png
 Mr Felix Poh
 Mr Seck Kar Wai Benjamin
 Mr Seow Siew Hock
 Mr Sim Yong Chuan
 Mr Alan B H Tan
 Ms Tan Chwee Neo Daisy
 Ms Irene Tan J E
 Mdm Josephine Tan
 Ms Tan Gek Neo Ruth
 Mrs Juliana Tan Sweet Lian
 Ms Teo Bee Eng
 Mdm Lily Teo
 Mdm Molly Teo
 Mr Teoh Beng San Sonny
 Mr Tham Tuck Low Arthur
 Mr Wee Yang Ee Milton Joseph
 Mr Wee Yang Teck Jansen Paul
 Mr Freddy Wee Yew Tiong
 Mr Wong Kok Long Leonard
 Mr Yeow Day Cheong
 Ms Yeo Seok Hean

Associate Member

Mr Zainal Ariffin bin Abdul Hamid

ARTS

EMILY OF EMERALD HILL



This fifth version of Stella Kon's *Emily of Emerald Hill* was presented at the Auditorium of The Singapore Chinese Girls' School from 15-17 August 1996. It starred Neo Swee Lin and was directed by her husband Lim Kay Siu (both members of The Peranakan Association). In this one-actor play Neo Swee Lin's convincing portrayal of Emily and her vivid monologue captivated the audience. Her mannerisms, phrasing and costume authentically wove the story of her life first as a young nyonya wife, then a fond, nagging mother and mistress of the mansion at Emerald Hill, and finally as an old lady who had lost those closest to her.

The set and staging were creative, with Neo even walking into the auditorium and talking to the audience at one stage. *Dondang sayang* music in the background, Peranakan furniture on stage and fine lighting set the audience in the mood to sit back and enjoy this wonderful production.

KALU JODOH TAK MANA LARI

The Gunong Sayang Association outdid themselves in their latest musical play which ran from 29 August to 8 September at the WTC Auditorium. The story, written by William Gwee Thian Hock, spans fifty years, and centres on the unrequited love of a couple, which reaches its destiny only in the form of their children falling in love. The play was full of interesting characters, such as GT Lye as the matriarch and Sally Gan as her maid (undoubtedly the stars of the play). They were supported by a strong cast including Mabel Lee, David Goh, Tony Quek and KT. There were also quite a few songs during the play, written by Mr Gwee. During the interval the audience was treated to some extra-turns, including *dondang sayang* from Baba William Tan. The show was very well organised, with subtitles and interesting set changes, and credit must be given to the show chairman Thomas Tan, and to artistic director Richard Tan.

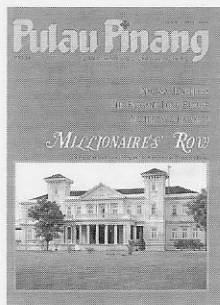


CHRISTIE'S

Christie's will be holding their sale of Straits Chinese artefacts on 6 October 1996. On offer will be 115 lots including ceramics, jewellery, furniture and textiles. Viewing begins on 3 October at the Hyatt Regency.



BOOKS



Pulau Pinang - A guide to the local way of life & culture of Penang.

Out of Print - limited copies available at The Phoenix Press, 6 Lebuhr Gereja, 10200 Penang, Malaysia. @ RM3-00 per copy.

This beautiful pictorial magazine is a treasure trove of Penang's heritage with excellent colour photographs illustrating well-written articles on subjects ranging from

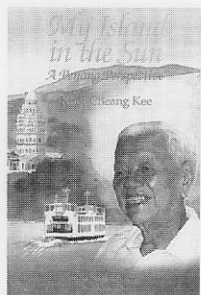
"Bangsawan, The People's Opera," "Marriage, Baba-Nyonya Style," "A Night of Dondang Sayang," "Nyonya Jewellery," "Adorning The Nyonya - The romance in traditional Nyonya dress" - topics all dear to the hearts of Peranakans - to a "Special Issue on Wet Markets," "Millionaires' Row - an era of ostentatious living in the mansions of Northam Road," "Our Streets, our World - featuring the competition, streetscapes and the inspirations behind street names," "Mansion of an Empire-Builder - the House of Cheong Fatt Sze," and a description of the elaborate premises of the "Khoo Kongsi at Cannon Square."

Edited with great dedication by Khoo Su Nin, the magazine's list of contributors include Christine Khor, Khoo Joo Ee, Jon S.H. Lim, and Lim Kean Siew, who are some of the writers providing such a wealth of information on aspects of Penang culture, food, people, and historical events and places.

Pulau Pinang, a bi-monthly magazine, first appeared in January 1989 with Volume 1 and continued into 1990 with Volume 2 with each volume consisting of six issues. After a lapse of one year it re-emerged in 1991 with Vol.3 No.1 and ceased publication with Vol. 3 No.2.

My Island in the Sun - A Penang Perspective

by Khor Cheang Kee
Published by Southbound
for Institut Masyarakata, 1996



This is a posthumous collection from the late Mr Khor Cheang Kee's weekly column - *Penang Perspectives* - which was featured in the New Straits Times in the 1970s.

He worked for more than 50 years on newspapers beginning with the *Pinang Gazette*, the *Straits Echo* under the legendary Sara (Manikam Saravanamuttu), the post-war *Straits Times* and the *New Straits Times*.

In his Foreword, Tan Sri Lee Siew Yee, former Director and Editor-in-Chief of the *New Straits Times*, wrote "Cheang Kee was, is, Baba and the Baba ethos shows itself in such pieces as 'Falling in Love on the 15th Night,' (that's all about the love parade on *Chap Goh Meh*); 'When your In-laws Keep You in Style' (*Chin Choey, Chu-ah* and *Kah kee-tuah* forms of marriage); 'All About those Penang Misers (the *kedekuts*) and, above all, 'Where Have All the *Sangguls* gone?' And what is - was - the *Sanggul*?"

Here, Tan Sri Lee quoted Khor Cheang Kee's definition: "The *sanggul*: was the aeroplane style of coiffeur worn by our mothers and grandmothers before them. It was an intricate kind of hair-do spun into a knot which sprouted wings at both sides with an *in-boi* at the back resembling the tailwing of an aircraft. Atop the bun would be six hairpins studded with diamonds."

This heartwarming, nostalgic book is the author's paen to his beloved Penang in which praise his late wife Margaret joined him in her lyrical description of the Penang scene: "Rising from the sea in that first light of dawn that touches reality with a gentle charm the Penang hills provide an unforgettable landmark for the visitor sailing in from the sea."

Khor Cheang Kee even chronicles such seemingly inconsequential details as the rivalry between the boys of the Penang Free School and St. Xavier's Institution with each side trying to show off their supremacy over the other to the girls of the Convent which was sandwiched between them. Matters came to such a head that "the Education Department stepped in and promptly called for peace talks," as a result of which it was decided "in the interests of law and order to stagger the *tiffin* times (no such thing as 'lunch' those days) for the three schools and thereby keep the combatants apart."

The Straits Chinese - A Cultural History

by Khoo Joo Ee
Published by The Pepin Press, Amsterdam, 1996



This has been advertised in the bookshops as the definitive book on the Straits Chinese. The book is certainly a sumptuous publication with an excellent introduction to Peranakan history, life, society culture and art and architecture. The author, Khoo Joo Ee is a well-respected art historian who has created a well-researched and written work on this subject. The book is also generously filled with interesting photographs, many of which have never been published before.

It is only unfortunate that the author, who hails from Penang, lent too much of a Penang bias to her book. Most of the photographs, for example, are of Penang or were sourced from there. Somehow, the differences and similarities between the communities of the former Straits Settlements were also not distinct. In the section on dress, the description of a Burmese-influenced hairstyle, for example, is not described as a particularly Penang style of chignon, which was rarely seen in Malacca or Singapore.

Perhaps this is less a fault of the content than of the title. Perhaps one like *The Straits Chinese of Penang* would have been more appropriate. It is nevertheless a an enjoyable repository of information (all 288 pages of it!), a book which every Baba family should own - perfect as a reference book or on your coffee table.

PROMOTIONS

Discounts for members, on presentation of membership cards, are available in the following shops and restaurants:

RESTAURANTS

Baba Inn & Lounge

103 Frankel Avenue
Singapore 458225
Tel: 4452404

Peranakan Inn & Lounge

210 East Coast Road
Singapore 428909
Tel: 4406195

10% discount to all members in these long-established restaurants run by Bob Seah, one of the pioneers of the Peranakan restaurant.

Fairway Garden

300 Orchard Road
Eatz Food Court, #B2-01
The Promenade
Singapore 238861
3 Telok Kurau Road
Singapore 423757
Tel: 3486669

10% discount for food purchases above \$25. Fairway Garden, the best of healthy, wholesome home-style vegetarian food.

Guan Hoe Soon

214 Joo Chiat Road
Singapore 427482
Tel: 3442761
10% discount for their array of all-time Peranakan favourites. Guan Hoe Soon have been the caterers for our annual dinners for many years.

SPORTSWEAR

Canterbury of New Zealand

160 Orchard Road
#02-16 Orchard Point
Singapore 238842
Tel: 7329489
Discount of 15% for their full range of authentic rugbywear, fashion jerseys and accessories. Also a 10% discount for Kasco products, a complete line of top quality golf equipment and accessories.

Prosimmon Golf Centre

101 Thomson Road
#01-80 United Square
Singapore 307591
Tel: 2564863
One of Australia's top custom-made golf clubs. A 15% discount for a full-set of clubs, free gift, and free club testing and fitting.

PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES

Image Presentation

Blk 1093 Lower Delta Road
#06-13 Tiong Bahru Industrial Estate
Singapore 169204
Tel: 2761778
10% discount for portraits. Please call for appointment. They have laboratories and studio, and a range of photographic services.

BEAUTY THERAPY

Bella Donna

402 Orchard Road
#03-18 Delfi Orchard
Singapore 238876
Tel: 2350662
Producers of one of the finest aromatic essential oils. Now offering a 30% discount for foot massage therapy in a relaxing environment. Please call for appointment.

FLORIST

Paisley Florist & Gifts

1 Brooke Road
#B1-22 Katong Plaza
Singapore 429979
Tel: 3467813
A 15% discount for purchases below \$100 and a 20% discount for purchases above \$100. Run by member Roland Yap, Paisley specialises in all floral arrangements, floral gifts, hampers, wedding packages, office arrangements, and theme parties.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

May Clinic

Mrs Cathy Baker, a member, is assisting at the May Clinic which provides free quarterly ENT check-ups for residents of Alexandra, Queenstown and Chinatown. Any member interested to help this cause may contact Mrs Baker at telephone no. 3451377.

Tsao Foundation

Arrangements can also be made for members to attend health talks about caring for senior citizens organised by the Tsao Foundation. Will those who are interested, please contact Mrs Helen Tan, Committee Member in charge of Community Service - telephone no. 4402040.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tea & Tombola

28 September 1996
Boom Boom Room
3.00pm

Dinner Talk

3 October 1996
Collecting Straits Chinese Ceramics
by Dr Lye Wai Choong
RELC Building
7.30 pm

For more information
Please call Mrs Lim Geok Huay
Tel: 2550704