



Undeclared ... by COVID-19!

07 July 2020

SITizens continue to learn, play, and work – pandemic or not! They made the shift to full Home Based Learning, had their exams and played the Inter Cluster Games 2020 – E-Sports League online. One SITizen even started a home-cooked food delivery business when she could no longer go to New York for her one-year internship.

Life Goes On, as Learning and Exams Go Online!

With the shift to full Home-Based Learning (HBL), SIT acquired licensees for learning tools such as Zoom, and organised training workshops to familiarise faculty with these tools and how best to engage students through online learning. Laptops were loaned to students so that none was left behind in the transition. Students placed on a Leave of Absence (LOA) or under Quarantine Orders (QO) were supported with alternative learning plans. SIT also saw the implementation of full HBL for the trimester (started 18 May), which is a first for the university.



Remote Learning Workshops were organised for faculty to familiarise them with online learning tools and how to best engage students through them.

SITizens were given an extension of the recess break as all physical proctored examinations were converted to online examinations. Technical helpdesk hotlines were set up to provide support to students in the event of glitches during the examinations, and security measures were put in place. SIT actively identified students in need and delivered more than 110 laptops and 80 Data SIM cards to them islandwide.

SITizens put their game faces on for first-ever E-Sports League

SITizens may not be able to gather in a traditional setting for the Inter-Cluster Games 2020 but it did not stop them from coming together online to play for the championship title at the inaugural e-Inter-Cluster Games – the E-Sports League. They formed teams to represent their Clusters in DOTA 2 and CounterStrike:GO, and also added more points to the tally table by taking part in the Push-Up Challenge.

The Infocomm Technology Cluster emerged champions while the Health and Social Sciences Cluster and Engineering Cluster were the first runner-up and second runner-up respectively.



Whipping up a storm, COVID-19 or not

Chef-in-training Shanice Lim, from CIA's Bachelor of Business Administration in Food Business Management (Culinary Arts) degree programme at SIT, started Two Hands Two Hands, a home-cooked food delivery business, after her plans of an one-year internship at a Michelin-starred restaurant in New York City fell through, and she was unsuccessful in finding a position in any restaurant kitchen locally.

Lim was featured by Channel News Asia website for her initiative. She feels very honoured and humbled, she says, adding, "I started the business as a way to survive the pandemic and to keep the hawker culture going, when I heard that hawkers were losing business during this period."

What the graduate-to-be learnt in school such as costings, marketing, and managing a business were all put into good use for her side business. Lim says the COVID-19 pandemic has also taught her something, "I learnt that I can't beat myself up and I should try my best to look on the bright side. There are still opportunities if I look for them."

Lim has now secured an internship as a chef-in-training at The Masses, serving up French cuisine with Asian influences while running Two Hands Two Woks on the side. Watch out for slots opening [here](#) to place an order for some local grub!



Inspired by Lim's grandmother recipes, the signature Curry Fish Head dish uses white snapper.

New Bursary Uplifts Future Healthcare Professionals

The Ti Sui Tsu Bursary at SIT will provide permanent support for Nursing and Allied Health undergraduates – thanks to a new endowed gift made by the Ti Sui Tsu Memorial Fund

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In honour of Ms Ti Sui Tsu's 100th birthdate on 12 April 2020, the Ti Sui Tsu Memorial Fund made an endowed gift to the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), to establish the Ti Sui Tsu Bursary in support of Nursing and Allied Health students at the university.

The late Ms Ti was a pioneer in the nursing profession in Singapore and had a career spanning over 30 years. She was among the first batch of six local nurses who were promoted to Ward Sister at Singapore General Hospital in 1951, and retired as Matron in the 1970s. She was passionate about helping those in need, especially nursing students. After her passing in 1988, she bequeathed her estate to several charities including the Barker Road Methodist Church, which set up the Memorial Fund in her name. In accordance with her wishes, they have supported many needy students.

The Ti Sui Tsu Bursary, valued at \$5,000 each, will support deserving undergraduates in SIT's Nursing or Allied Health programmes. At least seven bursaries will be awarded annually and in perpetuity.



Helping Community Physiotherapists Provide Safe Treatment in a Pandemic

SIT's Professional Officers conduct mask fitting and Personal Protective Equipment training to community and home-based physiotherapists

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The Vesak Day Public Holiday on 7 May 2020 was a little different for four of SIT's Professional Officers. Justine Vincent Ramos, Mohamed Shazni Bin Badaruzaman, Tan Yong Ming and Lazarus Samuel Gill all stepped up to answer the call from the Ministry of Health (MOH) to conduct training for frontline physiotherapists to keep them and their clients safe during the extended Circuit Breaker period.

MOH had reached out to SIT to conduct the training for these physiotherapists, following the announcement that various allied health services outside of public healthcare institutions would be re-classified as essential services and allowed to operate during the extended Circuit Breaker period from 29 April.

Within a week, logistics and safety measures were in place for the training to take place at SIT@Dover.

About 20 physiotherapists, who come from a variety of settings – from community hospitals to day rehabilitation centres to nursing homes and rehabilitation-based residential care facilities – attended the session the session, where they learnt the principle of hand hygiene and the use of Personal Protective Equipment. They also underwent an N95 mask-fit test on specific N95 respirator models.



The training took place on-site at SIT@Dover, fully complying with social distancing measures.

Passionate SITizens Step in to Lead Ground-up Initiatives

Supporting the community through initiatives such as Project CBK, #BYOBClean, #StayFitAtHome Challenge and more, they are making an impact amid the outbreak even as they shape their COVID-19 narratives

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Project CBK

Project CBK (Circuit Breaker Kooks) provides eateries with much-needed manpower, and currently comprises 24 regular volunteers – 22 of whom are SITizens from the Culinary Institute of America (CIA), Singapore – and about 10 ad-hoc helpers. The volunteer initiative was launched by Joel Tan, a final-year undergraduate from the Food Business Management (Culinary Arts) programme and Dylan Ong, owner of The Masses Restaurant.

Joel was initially offered an internship under celebrity chef Dominique Crenn in San Francisco, but it was retracted due to the pandemic. However, that did not deter him from coming forward with his know-how to lend a helping hand and gaining experience in the process. "As someone involved in the food and beverage industry, I felt useless not being able to do a single thing for the industry I loved being in as well as grew up with. I wanted to help in some ways or another," Joel said.



Left pic: Joel Tan (right) partnered with Dylan Ong (left) to do their part for the F&B industry. Right pic: Ramsay and Noah, were one of the 22 regular volunteers to join Project CBK.

World Gourmet Summit Honours Healthcare Heroes at Sengkang General Hospital

SITizens from CIA also joined 20 other food and beverage establishments in preparing lunch for 1,100 staff at Sengkang General Hospital. The activity was part of World Gourmet Summit's initiative to thank healthcare heroes for their fight against COVID-19.

Year 1 student Carlson Teo shared that it was a great experience being able to contribute to the initiative. "This experience made me realise that chefs can also contribute meaningfully to the community during this pandemic. I am extremely honoured to be able to help out."

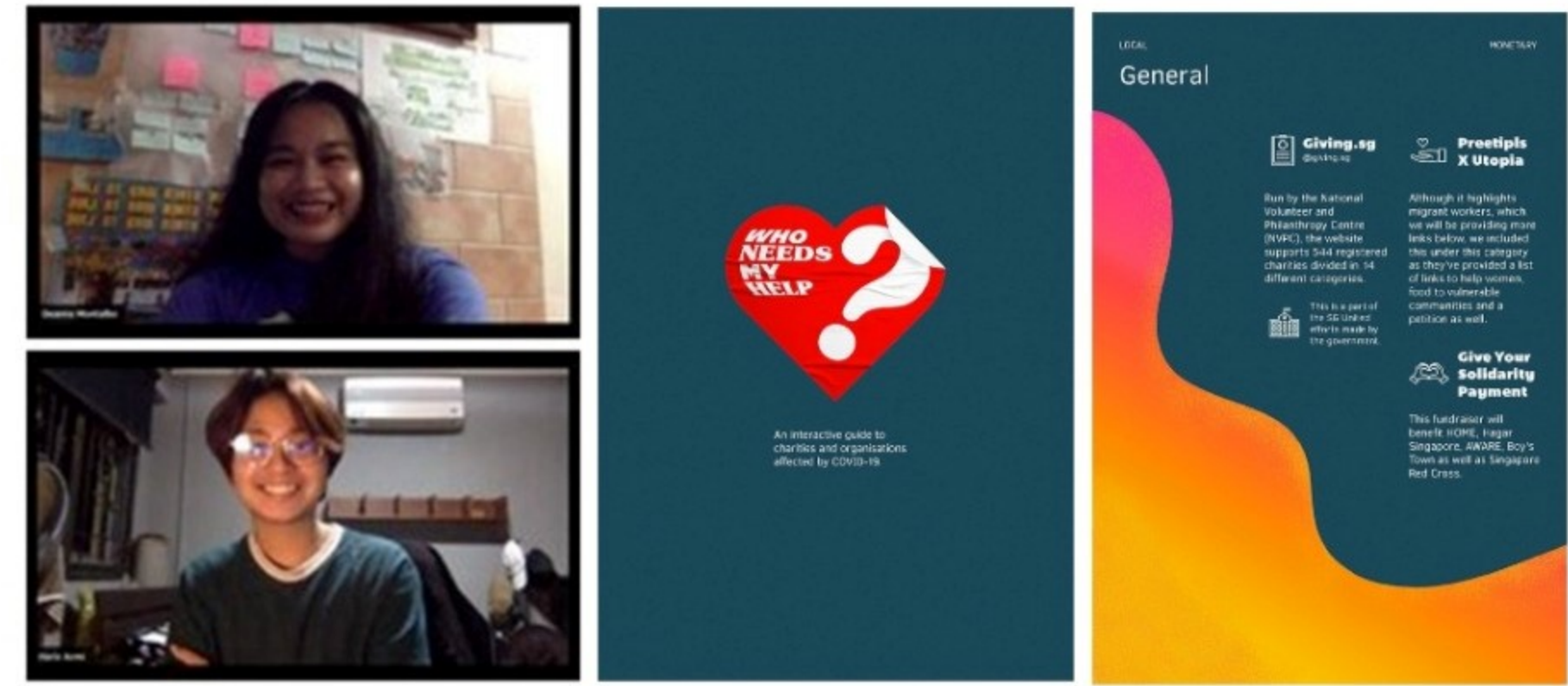


Students from CIA, SG preparing delectable meals for healthcare workers

Who Needs My Help? – An Interactive Guide to Charities and Organisations

Deanna Montalbo and Hariz Azmi from the Glasgow School of Art (GSA) recognised the importance of reaching out to people in need of extra support. They created "Who Needs My Help?", a comprehensive interactive guide that provides easy reference to charities and organisations that accept donations to help Singaporeans in need, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The COVID-19 situation has taken a toll on everyone. While I was looking up ways to contribute to those in need, I was heartened to see the many channels available. Hariz and I decided to compile them into this handy guide. We hope it'll benefit our fellow Singaporeans and encourage everyone to keep reaching out to those in need, in whatever small ways we can," said Deanna.



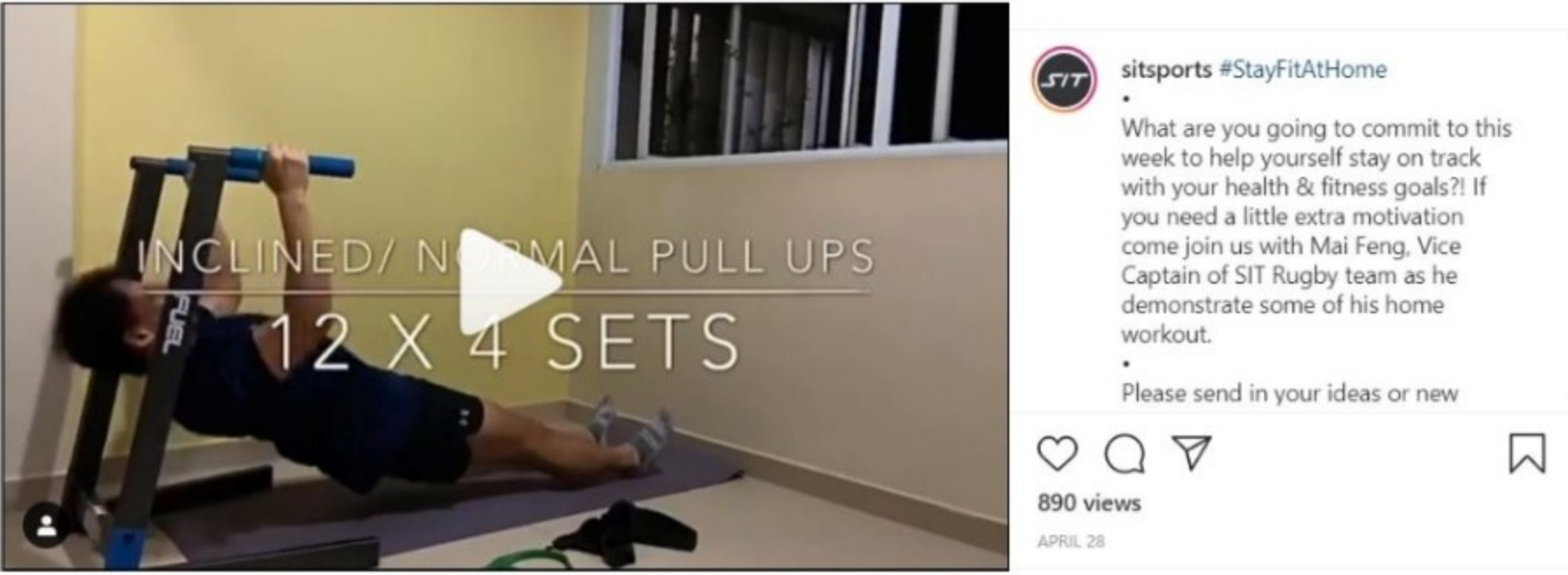
Deanna (top) and Hariz (bottom) compiled their research into a handy guide (right) that is easily accessible online.

#BYOBclean Hand Sanitiser Distribution and #StayFitAtHome Challenge

Students at SIT have also been readily coming forward to contribute to activities organised by SIT, such as the #BYOBclean Hand Sanitiser Distribution and #StayFitAtHome Challenge.



Between 23 March and 3 April 2020, 42 SITizens assisted SIT staff in an initiative by Temasek Foundation to distribute free zero-alcohol hand sanitisers to the public. Each student committed to a roster of five-hour shifts at IMM in the initiative



To encourage fellow SITizens to stay healthy during Circuit Breaker, 35 varsity leaders from various sports and programmes contributed to the #StayFitAtHome Challenge in the form of Instagram videos. These videos featured SITizens demonstrating fitness tips – from lunges to push-ups and squats – to encourage their peers to keep fit at home. The videos have since encouraged more than 150 students to create their own fitness videos.

A Scent-sational Workshop from Home

SITizens learn about the complex world of perfume with Oo La Lab at the Perfume Mixology Workshop

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Participants used blotting papers to “test” scents from their mixology kits, before combining them in a vial.

The circuit breaker period may have had Singaporeans stuck at home, but SITizens didn’t let this stop them from enjoying fun activities as they participated in online workshops specially. One such workshop was the Perfume Mixology Workshop, led by craft fragrance lab Oo La Lab.

Organised by the SIT Alumni Leisure Network, the workshop taught participants how to experiment with scents and craft their own unique fragrance. Participants were sent a Perfume Mixology kit that included 12 unique scents, and a formula card to record formulas that they had concocted. A useful tip provided by perfume mixologist Mr Van Bruce was to pick out scents based on how they made them feel, as one’s sense of smell is also linked to memory and emotions.

The participants then had to select scents that would make the top, middle, and base notes of their fragrance. They spent the evening trying out scents such as Tea, Dahlia, and Vanilla, finally combining them in vials to create their own unique formula.



Happy SITizens with their completed formulas! The workshop was held over three sessions to accommodate more participants.

Besides the Perfume Mixology Workshop, the SIT Alumni Networks have been conducting a variety of Leisure, Career, and Sports workshops for SITizens to enjoy from home.

Follow the SIT Alumni Instagram (@sitalumni) to check out recent online workshops such as the **Concrete Stationary Holder Workshop**, **Yoga Basics**, and **Acing The Virtual Interview!**

Giveaway: Share Your Stay Home Story and Win Food Vouchers!

Singaporeans have been picking up creative ways to pass the time at home amid the COVID-19 outbreak. Share with us the interesting activities you have been up to this period, and stand a chance to win a \$50 Food Voucher from Hatter Street!

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Did you use this stay-at-home golden opportunity to pick up a new skill, work on your fitness, start new hobbies or other interesting activities? We would like to hear what you've been up to!

Here's how to enter our Instagram Giveaway:

1. Post a photo or video that best represents your story! It could be about anything, from a brand-new hobby you finally had the chance to pick up, positive causes you decided to support, or even activities to bond with your family.
2. Follow and tag us on Instagram ([@sitalumni](#)) and use the hashtags #sitalumngiveaway! Don't forget to make your account public so we can find you!
3. Tag 2 friends on our Instagram post [here](#)!

The top 3 entries will win a meal on us, delivered from Hatter Street!

Contest ends on **21 July 2020**.

About Hatter Street

Co-founded by Alumnus Yvette Chua (Culinary Arts Management, Class of 2012), Hatter Street is a quaint and cozy café in Hougang, known for its popular waffle desserts. Hatter Street's culinary movement is characterized by comfort food influenced by Asian culinary traditions versus the implementation of avant-garde techniques. Hatter Street will also be introducing brand new savoury options.

Address: Blk 212 Hougang Street 21 #01-333. Singapore 530212

Operating Hours: 1 – 10 pm daily

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HatterStreet/>

Instagram: [@hatterstreet](#)

With Their Powers Combined

SIT alumni battled together in DOTA 2 and CS:GO during SIT's first-ever e-Inter-Cluster Games (eICG)!

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From 25 May to 29 May 2020, SIT held its first-ever e-Inter-Cluster Games (eICG) in place of the traditional sports-based ICG held every year.

SIT students and alumni formed teams together in their respective clusters and competed from the comfort of home in DOTA 2 and CS:GO. SITizen Buzz heard more about the experience from two alumni from the Engineering Cluster who led their teams to 2nd place in both games.

Dota 2



The Engineering team's superior teamwork helped them beat their counterparts from Health and Social Sciences. For their second place win, each teammate received \$15 GrabFood vouchers.

Karthigesan S/O Murukan, a Class of 2016 alumnus from the Engineering Cluster, was team lead for the Engineering team that took second place in DOTA 2. He shares his experience with us.

Q: What is your level of Dota 2 experience?

I used to play e-sports competitively during secondary school, when it was Dota 1. As for Dota 2, when I was playing more regularly around two years ago, I was playing at Divine rank.

Q: Describe your playstyle.

I like to keep myself as a very dynamic player and I don't have a particular preference. Usually, I'm the one who plays support in a competitive setting but I'm comfortable with playing other roles and filling in if my team lacks a certain role. My favourite hero is Crystal Maiden.

Q: Were you and your team expecting that you would be able to take second place?

We joined with no expectations and just wanted to have fun and support the event. Getting second place was a bonus for us. Although I was initially looking forward to the traditional sports, this e-ICG event showed that the organisers were quite open-minded and had alternative solutions to dealing with the effects of COVID-19. They really put in a lot of effort to organise the game.

It was nice teaming up with my juniors to play too and they were cooperative and engaging as well. Dota can be quite a heated game but we were quite encouraging of each other and it was nice to see this rather than everyone getting heated up and being overly competitive.



From left: Karthigesan, Ivan Ko, Leon Tan, and Suyash Shukla (not in photo) were the alumni members of the second place Engineering team for Dota 2.

CS:GO



Desmond Lee (top right), Aloysius Lim (right) Samuel Han (center), Daryl Lim (bottom), and Capone Giulio Dionisio (left) were the alumni members of the second place Engineering team for CS:GO. Each received \$15 GrabFood Vouchers for their win.

Class of 2017 alumnus from the Engineering Cluster, Desmond Lee, was the team lead for his CS:GO team. He tells us more about his eICG experience.

Q: What is your level of CS:GO experience?

I've never played competitively before. My CS:GO rank is Distinguished Master Guardian.

Q: What do you think your team did better than others?

I've known my alumni teammates for around three to four years and played with them for a few years. I think we did better simply because we had more experience. We've played a long time together, although we've never practised playing competitively.

Q: What do you think is the fastest way to improve in CS:GO?

Watch more competitive players online, follow their strategies, and learn what to look out for from them.

Q: Do you think e-sports should be a regular feature for future ICGs?

Games are popular anywhere, so if it's a regular feature it's not bad. But if it causes some people to have problems with studying or to focus too much on games then it's not good. There are pros and cons.