



# FELLOWSHIP

An MGS Alumnae Association Newsletter 2017



\* President's Message \* 129<sup>th</sup> Founders' Day \* Teachers' Day 2016 \* 130<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Service \*  
\* Reunion - Class of 2006 \* Shopping! \*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Mrs Tjio Bee Ann, Class of 1981  
President  
MGS Alumnae Association

Dear Alumnae,  
You may be surprised to see me penning this year's President's message. Yes, there's been a change! For the past 11 years, Barbara Chee has done an incredible job helming the Alumnae Committee, and

her shoes are hard to fill, and we are grateful she continues to play an integral part as our Vice-President. Even as we welcomed new committee members Lynn Lee, Melissa Fam and Claire Tan at the last AGM, we said farewell and thanked Elizabeth Tan (Claire's mum!), Lydia Yam and Sylvia Chen for their many years of sterling service to the committee.

We are well into 2017 and the many exciting events planned to celebrate MGS 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary are well on the way. We had a lovely Thanksgiving Service in January which marked the debut of our very own Alumnae choir and string ensemble! Rev Dr Gordon Wong's sermon, aptly, was "To God Be The Glory" and our refreshments after the service were from Mrs Ellice Handy's recipes.

Since that meaningful start to the year, we have hosted the homecoming of the Class of 2016, a second successful fund-raising dinner in February at Aura for the Heritage Centre, and a social mixer in March with our brothers in the ACS OBA.

Our thanks to the supportive alumna and friends who donated money to the Heritage Centre.



“ Yes! MGS now has her own sports complex, with an indoor sports hall, dance studios, tennis and squash courts, a state-of-the-art astro-turf football field and our own Olympic-sized swimming pool, plus an indoor training pool! ”

At last year's Founder's Day, we launched "Faces Of MGS" a social media project leading up to our milestone anniversary this year. You may have seen some of the posts on either Instagram (@facesofmgs) or on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/mgsalumnae>). We welcome submissions from anyone in the MGS family. Send your photos in with a short story, caption or anecdote to [facesofmgs@gmail.com](mailto:facesofmgs@gmail.com) and your story may be the next one we share!

Other events to mark on your calendar: the Alumnae Association's AGM on April 29, Love MG on May 26, the MGS Carnival on July 1, Founder's Day Dinner on July 25, the official opening of the Heritage Centre on Aug 15 and Alumnae Day (aka Past vs Present games) on Aug 19. As always, do check the Alumnae webpage (<http://mgs.moe.edu.sg/others/alumnae/announcements-n-events>) or follow us on Facebook

(Methodist Girls' School Alumnae Association - Singapore) for details. More and more, we will be reaching out via email so please keep us updated on both your home and email addresses.

At the MGS Carnival on Saturday, July 1, the Alumnae will be running our Bakes, Bags, Balloons and Barang<sup>2</sup> stall at the Secondary Hall. There will be delicious treats, second-hand bags and alumnae merchandise on sale. Be sure to pop by! Also, THE much-awaited best-selling Alumnae Special Bakes pre-sale is back in May – the order forms will be out via email and FB soon.

All the years of fund-raising finally bore fruit when the MGS Sports Complex received TOP at the end of 2016. Yes! MGS now has her own sports complex, with an indoor sports hall, dance studios, tennis and squash courts, a state-of-the-art astro-turf football field and our own Olympic-sized



swimming pool, plus an indoor training pool!

To facilitate that, we will issue Alumnae membership cards with photo ID - another reason to keep in touch with us. More details will be out soon.

Finally, I would like to thank each committee member for her hard work and commitment to ensure all our projects and events run smoothly and successfully. You're all wonderful to work with!

Thanks also to the SMT especially Ms Grace Ng and Mrs Corinne Sim, for partnering and supporting us, as well as to Ms Joanna Kong, who has been efficiently managing a lot of the administration for the committee.

**Mrs Tjio Bee Ann**  
Class of 1981  
President  
MGS Alumnae Association



#### MGS Alumnae Association Committee 2016/2017

##### Seated from left:

Jean Lee; Corinne Sim, Vice Principal;  
Barbara Chee, Vice President;  
Tjio Bee Ann, President; Sng Jen Hwei  
and Lynn Lee

##### Standing from left:

Claire Tan; Anjna Vij; Ruth Yam;  
Sharmila Nair; Deborah Wong;  
Angelina Wong; Melissa Fam;  
Fock Yin Ling; Joy-Marie Toh;  
Fang Lum and Dorothea Lim



# To God Be The Glory

*We celebrated the 130<sup>th</sup> year of our alma mater's founding with a special Thanksgiving Service in January where we gave God the glory for the great things He has done for MGS*

*Lynn Lee, Class of 1987*

Our Thanksgiving Service on Saturday January 7, saw generations of MGS Alumnae attend a very special "chapel". We were especially blessed with joyous song by our 70-plus-strong Alumnae choir who came together just to sing for this service under the baton of Valarie Koh-Wilson, Class of 1987. Reverend Gordon Wong's message was aptly titled "To God Be The Glory" and yes, we sang the old school favourite, Hymn 63 "To God Be The Glory"! What a meaningful start to the 130<sup>th</sup> Year of our school's founding.



Above: Alumnae musicians at the MGS 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thanksgiving Service  
Cello: Shernice Khoo (Class of '06); Maryann Seah (Class of '16); Harp: Christabelle Sheum (Sec 3, 2017); Piano: Selena Lai (Class of '81); Viola: Chan Mui Tuan (Class of '84); Violin: Vivien Goh (Class of '64); Constance Wong (Class of '86) and Mary Wong (Class of '89)





# THE YOUNG ONES

*Each year, the graduating class is invited to return to their new alma mater for a special celebration to commemorate their new status as MGS Alumnae*

*Beverly Low, Class of 2016*



The Class of 2016 returned to MGS for a special celebration on Saturday, January 21, 2017. The party-themed event, known as the Youth Chapter on our Alumnae Association's calendar, kicked off at 8.30am with familiar squeals of laughter as the girls busted their moves in an energetic mass dance to music blasting overhead.

This was followed by a meaningful time of worship, after the opening address by the Alumnae Association's president, Mrs Tjio Bee Ann, who welcomed us as the newly minted alumnae. Our worship reminded us that God is our cornerstone, and no matter what phase we are in on our life journey, our Heavenly Father provides us all the grace we need.

We then reflected on this poignant message and penned down our dreams on little note cards.

One of the highlights of the morning was when we gathered in the quadrangle with our helium-filled balloons in blue and yellow. With some (hollered!) directions from the third floor, we were soon assembled to form a giant heart outline for our group photo. We could not release the balloons for air space security reasons but in our hearts, we knew we could let our dreams fly high and boldly work towards our goals. But wherever our dreams may take us, we will always recall the friendships made and pleasures shared at Blackmore Drive, in what has now become our alma mater.

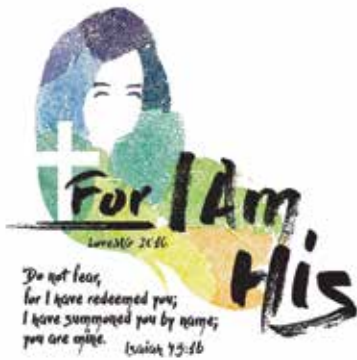




# FOR I AM HIS

*Love MGS is an annual event that was borne out of persistent prayer and a vision to see MGS Girls, past and present, united in worship*

*Sarah Chooi, Class of 2013*



God has been immensely faithful in seeing LoveMGS come to pass every year since 2000, and He has definitely continued to be present in LoveMGS 2016.

As a team of old girls prayed for LoveMGS this year, God revealed a need for MGS girls to be assured of His unfailing love for them, and to know that transient worldly things like popularity and grades do not define them but, rather, that their identity is rooted in Christ. Hence, the theme for LoveMGS 2016 was "For I Am His", with the accompanying theme verse being Isaiah 43:1b,

where God declares, "you are Mine". "For I Am His" emphasizes the need to respond to this declaration, and to realise the multiple blessings that arise from being His child.

Held on Tuesday evening on July 5, 2016, we were blessed to have our very own old girl, Jemima Ooi, who is currently pursuing a long-term missionary call in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as the speaker that night. Jemima shared her inspiring testimonies of God's provision and protection upon her team on the mission field and of God's realness in her personal relationship with Him. She delivered the Word of God from Matthew 13:45-46, reminding us of how precious and valued we are in God's sight no matter what we've done or been through. The night ended with a time of ministry and healing for the brokenhearted, and an invitation for a generation of Godly lifelong servants to arise and walk with the Lord devotedly.





# ALL OF THE STARS

*The annual Teachers' Day luncheon is a red-lettered highlight in the calendars of both the Alumnae Association and all MGS staff. The theme for 2016's celebration was "Musical Mayhem" and in true MGS form, the teachers shone like the stars that they are!*

Barbara Chee, Class of 1971



Held at the ballroom of the Singapore Island Country Club on September 1, the "Musical Mayhem" started early morning when the Alumnae committee members transformed the reception area with balloons, banners and Broadway posters, to welcome the MGS staff, teaching and non-teaching, retired teachers and MGS board members, who had contributed to the event.

Our publicity officer Lynn Lee turned emcee for the event, dressed as Dorothy from "The Wizard Of Oz", complete with ruby red shoes and Toto in a basket! We saw many colourful, and some unexpected characters from a spectrum of musicals and Broadway productions – from the kid-friendly "Madagascar: A Musical Adventure Live On Stage" to classics such as "Singing In The Rain", "Cats" and "The Sound Of Music". Also in the mix: A troupe from "The Phantom Of The Opera" and robed students from Hogwarts (a la "Harry Potter") as well as the winner of the Best Dressed Individual award, The Lion King himself, standing six feet tall in his royal regalia!



The MGS 美女 Band

Clockwise from back:  
Audrey Tang, Class of '86; Lee Ming Ying, Class of '81; Selena Lai, Class of '81; Lorraine Chee, Class of '00; Jocelyn Ong, (P6, Class of '92); Natalie Hiong, Class of '03 and Crystal Wong, Class of '06

As usual, the sumptuous buffet was well received, as was the entertainment by our Alumnae band, "MGS 美女" (translation: "The MGS Beauties"). Back by popular demand, and sporting limited edition reprints of our PE tees from the 70s and 80s, the band belted out their own mashups of musical favorites. Thanks to the generous



sponsorship of our MGS parents, the teachers all received a custom-made card holder and souvenir MGS flash card. There were also many attractive lucky draw prizes as tokens of our appreciation to our staff's selfless care and dedication to our girls and our school.



# FAMILIAR FACES

*Launched on Founder's Day 2016, our Faces of MGS social media project on Instagram has been steadily garnering followers and views. And no wonder, our year-long project celebrates the MGS spirit that lives on within all students, teachers and staff, both past and present*

*Fock Yin Ling, Class of 1989*

This year is proving to be an event-filled one as we commemorate MGS' 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As part of the lead up to Founder's Day 2017, the Alumnae launched a social media project called Faces of MGS on Instagram (@facesofmgs), with the posts also appearing on our Facebook page, for those not on the Instagram bandwagon. The first post was made on Founder's Day 2016, and the aim is to fill the feed with contributions from those in the MGS Community for an entire year.

There have been contributions from students past and present,

parents, grandparents and staff of MGS. It has proven a wonderful avenue for reflection, for thanksgiving, for reminiscing, for looking back with nostalgia and gratitude, as well as looking forward with hope and anticipation.

On this page are just a few of the posts which have resonated with the MGS community. With a few months to go to our 130<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day, dig up your photos old and new and keep your contributions coming!

*All contributions can be made by tagging us on Instagram @facesofmgs or by emailing us at [facesofmgs@gmail.com](mailto:facesofmgs@gmail.com).*



# YESTERDAY ONCE MORE

*On July 17, 2016, the MGS Class of 2006 gathered on the rooftop of the YMCA to celebrate their 10-year reunion in an gathering awash with giggles, nostalgia and old-school games*

*Crystal Wong, Class of 2006*

Many of us had been eagerly anticipating our 10-year reunion well before it was even planned – an indication of the strong sense of community that had been established during our school years and had yet to be forgotten. Unsurprisingly, we had an excellent turnout where many friendships were renewed, and more pleasures shared.

It was an evening of fun and nostalgia as we reminisced about our time in MGS. This reunion would not have been possible without God and without the heart work and hard work of an organizing committee that covered all grounds. This included creating invites and collating responses, to creating an attractive door gift (an exclusive notebook to commemorate the special



occasion) and putting up fairy lights, to selecting the food and lining up an exciting programme comprising live music and games. One of the games even brought out the squealing giggly girls in us once more as we saw 26-year olds being transformed into toilet-paper mummies. Clearly, not much has changed even a decade on.

As we bade farewell to one another, there was an unspoken affirmation that however different our lives may be years from now, MGS will always be the tie that binds – the place where we learnt and were amply prepared for life after graduation; the place where we mastered, we grew, and we served together.

## LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

*Our annual Past Vs Present Games is a morning of fun we always look forward to on our calendar!*

*Lynn Lee, Class of 1987*

In August last year, MGS played host to a sporting event some might say, threw some shade on the Olympics: Alumnae Day's Past Vs Present Games! For those of you who have not had a chance to come back to school for our "extended recess", may we invite you to come this year? Games include outdoor sports like soccer and netball, and for the more, ahem, cerebral of us, there are board games like Scrabble and Boggle. Can you guess who won the coveted Anna Tham Challenge Shield?





# SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

*Our Founder's Day Dinners are indeed joyous (and chatter-filled!) evenings of reunions, reconnecting and remembering the love we hold, for our own dear MGS*

*Angelina Wong, Class of 1986*

Each time July comes around, MGS is always abuzz with activity and excitement as the school prepares to celebrate Founder's Day. The run-up to the 129<sup>th</sup> anniversary of dear MGS was just as special, with celebrations culminating in the annual Founder's Day Dinner on Monday July 25, 2016 at the Island Ballroom of the Shangri-La Hotel. Throughout the evening, the MGS family of past and present girls, staff and friends of MGS had a wonderful time of fellowship. We had many different cohorts from the past coming back to join us at the Dinner, and it was heart-warming to see old friends reunite and relive their school days. The present girls were represented by the graduating Primary 6 and



Secondary 4 classes of 2016. We are so glad that they were able to be part of this occasion and witness the love our old girls have for MGS and the enduring bonds that continue even after we have left school.

The Dinner was also a great opportunity to recognise the service and dedication of those who "worked and gave their best" to MGS. Various awards were presented that night, including the Mrs Margaret Goh Service Award to Mrs Charlotte Goh ; the Service to Education Award to Mrs Sim Suh Ting ; and Long Service Awards to Mrs Joyce Ang, Mrs Maria Tan and Mrs Annie Fong for 20 years of service, Mrs Diana Goh and Ms Julie Chng for 25



years of service, Mrs AA David and Mrs Corinne Sim for 30 years of service, and Ms Ruby Soh for 45 years of service.

This year, we are celebrating 130 years of God's love, grace and faithfulness to MGS. Our 130<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day Dinner will be held on Tuesday July 25, 2017 at the Shangri-La Hotel and we really hope that you will be able to join us there. Booking forms are available on the school website or at the school office.



# WEAR IT LOUD, WEAR IT PROUD

*Our MGS Alumnae Association commemorative merchandise just got a shot in the arm with our best-selling organic cotton tees now in a new range of colours. Plus a whole lot more!*

## Alumnae Collegiate T-shirt

\$20 each

Available in dark grey, maroon, navy blue and black.

100% organic cotton

Sizes: XS, S, M, L



**TIP: Cut a bit large so order one size smaller than your usual, if you prefer your tees fitted.**



## Alumnae MGS cap

\$15 each

In white or yellow monogram

One size, adjustable



**TIP: Perfect to show support from the stands at school events and competitions!**



## MGS Foldable Umbrella

\$10 each

Available in green, red or orange

**END OF SEASON SALE: Buy-one-get-one-free**





The inverted design means easier access into your car on rainy days and no more rain water on your lap when trying to close your umbrella getting into the car!

## NEW Must-have MGS Reverse Umbrella

\$80 each

Innovative design closes upwards and C-hook handle fits in the crook of your arm for "hands-free" use. Double-layered with school motto inside and crest on the outside.



Miniature  
Badge Collar  
Pin  
\$3 each



Luggage Tag  
\$5 each

Owl Travel Packing  
Cubes (3 in a pack)  
\$20

OUR BEST-SELLERS!

<http://www.mgs.sch.edu.sg/others/alumnae/shopping>



## Behind the scenes

We wear many hats on the Alumnae Association Committee! Treasurer Fang turned photographer and comm member, Ruth Yam, was the stylist for our photo shoot with our young MGS Alumnae models from the Class of 2014 - Elisabeth Tan, Rebecca Goh, Joanna Low and Natalie Yeo.

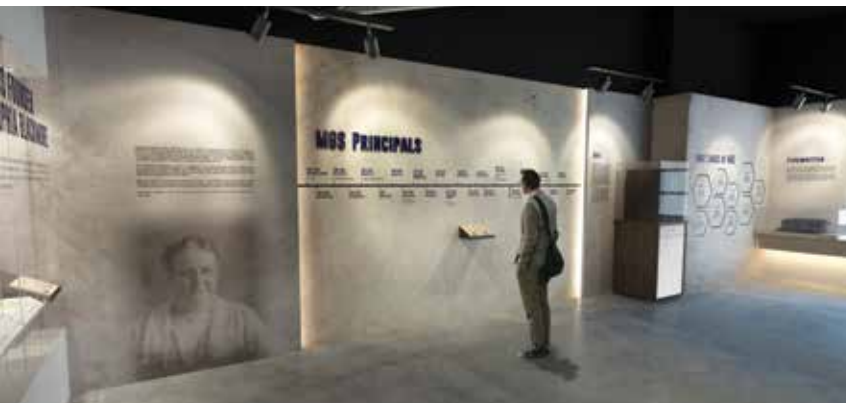


# DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS

*We are eagerly anticipating the unveiling of our upcoming Heritage Centre that will showcase our school's rich heritage. In the meanwhile, here's a sneak peek*

Sharmila Nair, Class of 1986

The eagerly anticipated unveiling of the MGS Heritage Centre is scheduled for August 2017. We look forward to welcoming Old Girls, parents & students to walk down 130 years of memories with us. The Heritage Centre will feature artifacts from Mt. Sophia that will bring back wonderful memories and conjure stories for our current students. Do look out for more details soon!





# A FINE NIGHT TO REMEMBER

*As MGS celebrates her 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, we Old Girls look back and reflect on how God has blessed and provided for our school*

Joy-Marie Toh, Class of 1989



To date, the MGS Alumnae Association has hosted two fundraising dinners in aid of the MGS Heritage Centre Fund. The first event was held at the exclusive Saint Pierre at One Fullerton on September 16, 2016. The guests were delighted by the gastronomic journey prepared by celebrity chef and Grand Chef Relais & Châteaux Emmanuel Stroobant, with wine pairing sponsored by world-renowned wine connoisseurs Dr N.K. and Melina Yong. Special thanks to Jonathan Yuen for his generous underwriting of the dinner.

Our second Heritage Centre Fundraising Dinner on February 17, 2017 was held at Aura Restaurant, National Gallery, with a breath-taking view of Singapore's

beautiful marina skyline. The MGS Alumnae Association is honoured that some of our former teachers accepted our invitation to join us. Miss Kon Mei Leen, Mrs Tay Poh Imm, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Dorcas Ang, Mrs Gaspar, Ms KN Ng, Mrs Corinne Sim and Mr Lim Chong Han brought back many memories of our time spent at MGS. We are grateful to Chan Chia Lin and Whang Shang Ying of Cellar Masters for their sponsorship of the wines that evening.

The MGS Alumnae Association is pleased to share that our last two fundraising dinners have raised over \$170,000. Please continue to support our efforts to preserve our 'Memories, Gems and Sentiments' and join us at the Founder's Day Dinner on July 25.





# THE MGS CARNIVAL A TIME TO GIVE THANKS

*Daphne Tan, MGS ParentLink*

MGS gives thanks for 130 years of God's blessings and we are inviting all MGS alumnae and your families to return to your alma mater for a good cause. This year's Carnival with the theme "A Time To Give Thanks" is a mega fundraising event for the MGS Sports Complex which was completed in December 2016. The Alumnae Association will also be raising funds at the Carnival for the renovation of the upcoming Heritage Centre.

The Carnival, organized by ParentLink in collaboration with the school and the MGS Alumnae Association, will be held on Saturday July 1, 2017. We hope you can return to visit familiar grounds and your presence will be a meaningful addition to this community effort by students, parents, alumnae and all stakeholders.

This year, as you mingle and participate in the many activities

around the school, some highlights will include a new F&B addition of food trucks and a mouth-watering selection of mains, desserts and drink stalls. The Marketplace will entice you with a wide selection of curated housewares and dry goods and Beauty World will appeal to the young fashionista. Our Uncle Ringo rides and homemade games by our girls will also be a part of the Carnival atmosphere.

To purchase your Carnival coupons, drop by the Finance Office located at the Concourse (Monday – Friday, 9am to 5pm) from April 17 onwards. Coupons are also available for sale on Carnival Day. Each coupon booklet is priced at \$50.

To stay up-to-date on Carnival happenings, follow us on FB MGS130 Carnival page. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday July 1, 2017.



# the MGS. Carnival

*A Time to Give Thanks*

Methodist Girls' School gives thanks for  
130 years of God's blessings.  
Come celebrate with us at the MGS Carnival!

**Date:** Saturday, 1 July 2017

**Time:** 9am to 4pm

**Venue:** Methodist Girls' School,  
11 Blackmore Drive

*Coupons are available for sale now and on-site on Carnival day*



Please take the  
Downtown Line to the  
MGS Carnival (King Albert  
Park station, DT6)



For pre-Carnival coupon  
sale dates and Carnival  
updates, please check  
our FB page



MGS130 Carnival



# TAKE YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT WITH YOU!



**NEW MGS MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE**



## SHOP NOW!

<http://www.mgs.sch.edu.sg/others/alumnae/shopping>

