

## The Singapore Press Club is now a CLG

As it prepares to mark its Golden Jubilee this year, the Singapore Press Club is pleased to report that it has received official approval to convert the club into a Public Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG).

The approval was conveyed on 14 June 2021 by the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority of Singapore (ACRA).

The Club is pleased it was allowed to retain its name and be called **Singapore Press Club Ltd** (with a new UEN No. S71SS0029D). This will happen when its assets, liabilities and business as a going concern are formally transferred to the CLG before end-June 2021. The current Club will then no longer be a registered society under the Registry of Societies.

The proposal to convert to a CLG received final approval at the Club's **50th Annual General Meeting (AGM)** held online on Monday, 31 May 2021. The plan had been in the works for the past two years and was endorsed in principle at the previous 49th AGM on 4 May 2020.

Under the new set-up, the current Club's membership roll will be transferred smoothly to a membership club to be operated under the CLG. The membership club (still called the **Singapore Press Club**) will continue to be managed and administered by a Management Committee elected by Members.

Members will retain their rights and current membership categories under an updated set of By-Laws. The By-Laws, as well as the CLG's new Constitution, will be published on the Club's website by the end of June 2021.

### Incoming Management Committee (2021-2023)

The 50th AGM of the Club also elected a new Management Committee (MC) for a two-year term, from 2021 to 2023. The elected office-bearers and members of the MC are:

Club President:	Mr Patrick Daniel ( <i>Life Regular</i> ) - re-elected
Vice Presidents:	Mr Zakir Hussain ( <i>Life Regular</i> ) - re-elected
	Ms Lau Joon-Nie ( <i>Life Regular</i> ) - re-elected
	Mr Bhagman Singh ( <i>Life Regular</i> ) - re-elected

Honorary Secretary:	Ms Janet Wee - Ng ( <i>Life Regular</i> )
Asst Hon. Secretary:	Mr Oo Gin Lee ( <i>Associate</i> )

Honorary Treasurer:	Ms Elsie Chua ( <i>Life Regular</i> )
Assistant Honorary Treasurer:	Mr Stephen Chen Weng Leong ( <i>Life Associate</i> )

Management Committee members:

Ms Carol Foo (*Life Regular*) – re-elected  
Mr Yeo Sam Jo (*Regular*) – re-elected  
Mr Thomas Benner (*Regular*) – re-elected  
Ms Rachel Kelly (*Regular*)  
Mr Eugene Leow (*Life Regular*)  
Ms Serene Goh (*Associate*)  
Ms Selena Oh (*Associate*)  
Mr Aziz Tayabali Samiwalla (*Life Associate*) – co-opted

The AGM also re-appointed the following:

Honorary Legal Adviser: Ms Angeline Joyce Lee  
Assistant Honorary Legal Adviser: Ms Chung Siqi

## **The Next 50 Years**

Mr Daniel, who has served as Club President for the past 13 years, said: "We are delighted to mark the Club's 50th anniversary with our conversion to a CLG. It marks an important new milestone for the Club."

Mr Daniel added: "To have remained active for 50 years is quite an achievement. We have put the club on a firmer footing by professionalising our secretariat with Janet Wee – Ng as General Manager. We've also invested our reserves with a professional fund manager. We aim to do much more in the coming years."

In his President's report at the AGM, Mr Daniel noted that despite the Covid-19 pandemic the Club remained active in 2020. Amid the "circuit-breaker" and strict social distancing guidelines, the Club pivoted to online platforms and organised or worked with partners on 82 events, up from 51 in 2019, across a wide range of interests.

Many of the Club's events involved novel approaches, including "Zoom dinners" and webinars on a range of topics - from health to digital skills - which drew good participation from members, including associates, corporate partners and guests.

The Club also soft-launched a Freelance Network, a free service for Club members who are able and willing to undertake freelance project work, to provide members with an efficient platform to connect with companies, organisations and individuals who need media-related services.

Ms Janet Wee - Ng, the Club's General Manager, said: "With the incorporation of the CLG, the Press Club will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a refreshed logo and website, and a series of activities including forums, dialogues and social networking programmes. These will largely take place online given the prevailing Covid-19 requirements, but will shift to physical settings as soon as it's permitted."

Mrs Wee added: "We have much to celebrate at 50, and we have no doubt that the next 50 can be ever more dynamic. We look forward to our members' continued support and participation in our programmes and hopefully more from the Singapore media community will join the club."

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Should you have any queries about the Club, please contact

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