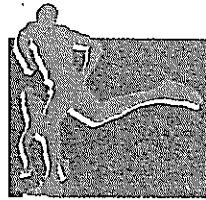


# 2 more days



Standard Chartered  
**SINGAPORE  
MARATHON 2009**

6 December 2009

www.singaporemarathon.com

PROJECT 3/12

## Something old, something new

The S'pore story as told by ordinary folk; National Symbols Kit gets an update

DYLAN LOH

dylanloh@mediacorp.com.sg

SINGAPORE — History remembers Dec 3, 1959, as the day Singapore took the first step towards independence, when the first Malayan-born Head of State Yusof Ishak was installed. But for Mr Mohamed Shararuddin, it was momentous for a personal reason.

He was born that same day at Kandang Kerbau Hospital — and “my mother told me, because my father, a police officer, was escorting Encik Yusof Ishak in a motorcade, he could not be with us”, said Mr Mohamed Shararuddin, himself a police officer.

On that day too, this nation's first three national symbols — the National Flag, State Crest and the National Anthem — were unveiled. And to commemorate this, along with 50 years of Singapore's self-governance, the National Heritage Board (NHB) yesterday launched a travelling exhibition and an updated National Symbols Kit.

Project 3/12: *A Nation Remembers* traces the lives of ordinary Singaporeans over the last half-century, and appropriately at its

launch yesterday, 18 people born on Dec 3, 1959 joined in cutting a 6kg birthday cake.

They were among 28 Singaporeans interviewed for the exhibition, which incorporates their stories, memories and thoughts on the journey since self-governance.

“Visitors will see a side of Singapore's history through the eyes of the average Singaporean and not that of a historian's,” said Ms Thangamma Karthigesu, director of NHB's Education and Outreach Division.

The exhibition is on until Jan 3 at the Central Public Library, and will thereafter travel to schools, community centres and malls.

FANCY A NATIONAL SYMBOL TATTOO?

Also launched was an updated version of the National Symbols Kit, with additions to “keep up with the times”, in the words of Acting Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts Lui Tuck Yew.

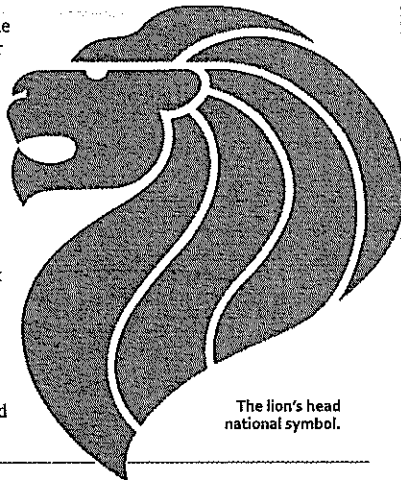
Some 5,000 kits will be available at major bookstores from next month. Each kit — priced at \$26.65 (inclusive of GST) — includes an information booklet, the National Anthem audio CD, an *Anthems of our Land* video CD, flag, a lion head collar pin, a flag car decal and a pair of lion head temporary tattoos.

To raise awareness of the national symbols, the NHB will distribute 50,000 ZoCards over five weeks, with the public invited to guess how many national symbols are hidden in the card's design. They stand to win \$100 cash.



www.mystory.sg

The Project 3/12 campaign site at the MyStory portal



The lion's head national symbol.

## Sacked athlete had to fork out nearly \$60,000 in expenses

SINGAPORE — A day after it was revealed in court that Mr Luan Wei's parents had paid 20,000 yuan (\$4,043) in penalties to a Shanghai sports school to come to Singapore, it emerged that they had to fork out the equivalent of nearly \$60,000 in expenses after he was sacked by the Singapore Athletic Association (SAA).

Yesterday, at the Subordinate Courts, their lawyer Edmond Pereira submitted claims on behalf of Mr Luan Wei for the loss of university education, loss of future earnings, loss of athletic ability/potential/reputation, economic loss, and loss of professional monies and loss of obtaining citizenship. However, no amount was indicated in his submission.

Mr Pereira also filed another claim for special damages on behalf of the athlete's

mother, Madam Zhang Ping, amounting to 316,000 yuan. The figure includes the 20,000-yuan fine she had to pay to the Shanghai Sports Development School; and 46,000 yuan in flight and accommodation expenses. The claim also covers expenses incurred for her son's university education at the Hunan University and for hiring a new coach.

Defence counsel Giam Chin Toon called for clarification of the claims and special damages. He pointed out that some matters, such as flight and accommodation expenses for Mr Luan Wei's parents, were not part of the contract between the athlete and the SAA.

In his cross-examination of Mdm Zhang Ping, Mr Giam disputed the eight promises that the plaintiffs claimed the SAA had

made in 1999, one of which was that food and accommodation provided had to be better than that in Shanghai.

The Senior Counsel pointed out that Mr Luan Wei had received a meal allowance of \$17 per day, which is comparable to the 45 yuan a day he had received when he was with the Shanghai track and field team. Mdm Zhang disagreed with the points raised.

Mr Luan Wei, now 27, was one of six foreign athletes recruited by the SAA in 1999 to train and compete for Singapore. But he was dropped in 2004 after failing to meet the standards set by the SAA. He subsequently filed a civil suit against the association.

The hearing continues today.  
LOW LIN FHOONG

## SINGAPORE ROUNDUP

CELEBRATE MUSIC WITHOUT BORDERS ON SUNDAY

This Sunday, celebrate Music Without Borders with the Disabled People's Association (DPA) to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

The music festival, at 4pm to 6pm at Rider's Lodge on Turf Club Road, features well-known international and local musicians — from Dubai's soul diva Salha and the United Kingdom's Clare Moorhouse, to the Teng Ensemble and Leandra & Clarence.

People with disabilities, their family members and care-givers can make use of a shuttle service operating from 3pm to 7pm between Dover MRT station and Rider's Lodge.

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities, which was commemorated globally yesterday, aims — among other things — to get disabled and non-disabled persons to engage one other and pursue the goal of an inclusive society, said the DPA.

ROAD CLOSURES DURING THE STANDARD CHARTERED SINGAPORE MARATHON

With the Standard Chartered Singapore Marathon taking place this Sunday, many roads in the Central Business District area, as well as parts of Nicoll Highway, the East Coast Parkway and East Coast Park Service Road, will be closed at various points between 1am to 3.30pm.

Also affected are roads in the area around Stadium Drive, Geylang, Kallang and Sims Way.

During the road closures, auxiliary police officers will be deployed at affected road junctions to assist motorists and regulate traffic.

Those travelling to the National Stadium, Tanjong Rhu and Kampong Arang are advised to use the ECP (Airport) and exit at Fort Road, while those travelling to Meyer Road and Wilkinson Road are advised to use Tanjong Katong Road. Motorists heading to the CBD are advised to use South Bridge Road.

Parking restrictions along the peripheral roads will be strictly enforced. For enquiries, call the organiser's hotline at 6248 6033.