



radiance

Jan - Mar 2015

Inspiring volunteerism, one issue at a time

The last quarter of FY2014 has come and gone, and as part of leadership renewal and succession, we now have a new committee. On that note, I hope you have enjoyed the 4 issues of Radiance in FY14. It's been a pleasure producing them, knowing that they represent the voices and thoughts of our volunteers and trainees. Please continue to give Pearlyn and Wei Ting your support as they take over the editorship of Radiance in FY15.

- Mindy (WE)

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Upcoming events

- MYG Volunteer Training: 16 May
- ACID Camp: 13 - 14 June
- VA Activity (tentative): 17 June

MYG Committee FY 2015

Chairperson: Eugene (BK)

Vice-Chairperson: Jieyin (FV)

Secretary: Whitney (RO)

Treasurer: Xiang Hui (AMK)

Publications and Public Education: Pearlynn (WE) and Wei Ting (AMK)

Service Development: Ee Hiang (TH) and Zhuo Bin (WE)

Volunteer Coordinator: Wei Ling (AMK) and Jordan (RO)

Training Coordinator: Pam (AMK)

Webmaster: Felix (TH)

Student Ambassador IC: Claire Chin (WE)



RSPID and West End Meet Nature

By: Ang Kenneth Patrick

Remember back in your younger days where your school would bring your class for a visit to the zoo or the Botanic Gardens? We would call it an excursion, an escape from the monotonous flow of repeated daily activities. Everyone would be excited and await that particular day. This was the exact same feeling experienced by our trainees when we announced that we would be taking them for a trekking trip at Dairy Farm Nature Reserve located along Dairy Farm Road.

The main purpose of this outing was to allow our trainees to be exposed to nature, and get fresh air from the trees and plants surrounding the area. Trekking would also mean that they had to do a moderate amount of walking. It was a good challenge for our trainees as most of them rarely have the opportunity to exercise.

Our trainees and volunteers gathered at car park A before making their way along the walking trail with gentle ups and downs to the quarry.



Fortunately for us, the weather was perfect for trekking. Volunteers constantly encouraged and motivated their trainees. Despite having difference paces, everyone managed to reach the quarry for a breathtaking view of the landscape. This showcased the perseverance of our trainees. There, countless photos and selfies were taken with the beautiful scenery.



Once everyone had enough water and sufficient rest, the next phase of trekking continued which lasted more than a kilometre. Next stop was the Wallace Education Centre where our hungry trainees had their tea break.



Trainees were exhausted in the end but nevertheless, they definitely enjoyed the entire journey. That very night ought to have been a good night's sleep for most. Simple outings like this bring smiles and satisfaction to our trainees and we will continue to have more of such activities with any available opportunity.





Fun in the Snow!

By: Rowena Tan Chu Jie

**For the first time in forever, snow and laughter greet their sight...
For the first time in forever, magic dazzles in the light...**

Just as the song suggests, it was a day of many firsts for the trainees at RSPID & West End on the morning of 7 March 2015.

When we reached Snow City, the trainees were first treated to a fascinating magic show. Even though most of us didn't understand the science behind it, we still oohed and aahed when the liquid nitrogen deflated balloons, disintegrated flowers and even created mushroom smoke clouds in the air!

Next, the trainees got to try their hands at making their very own ice cream! Using our own ingredients, trainees at each table chose their ice cream flavours and volunteers were then challenged to stir the liquid into what we all know as ice cream! Thankfully, the thick gloves protected our hands from freezing into ice, and the trainees then got to enjoy their own labour of love!



Finally, it was time for the highlight of the day- going into The Snow! Trainees and volunteers alike appeared excited as they chose their own boots and gloves, and put on their big and puffy winter jackets!



The cold wave hit us as we entered the chamber of ice carvings and some of the trainees looked slightly apprehensive in the unfamiliar (and super cold) surroundings. After taking numerous pictures with the sculptures, we queued up to start snow tubing! All of us climbed in anticipation to the top, as we saw others before us screaming their way down. Though it was cold on the outside, it was especially heartwarming to see trainees like En Kuan and Xiao Feng sliding happily in the snow.

Finally it was my turn! Hand in hand with Christine, we slid down the snow covered slope. It was a short but thrilling ride, and all of us had so much fun experiencing the cold and snow for the first time.



Reflections of a New EP Volunteer

I have been volunteering with the MYG EP project for the past few weeks. Spending few hours a week with the kids is an experience I enjoy. The programme focuses on the kids having a social experience by interacting with other kids and volunteers. They happily sing, dance, play and learn together with their peers during these sessions.

Special occasions turn out to be more fun, thanks to the senior volunteers who arrange for occasion specific activities. Like during this CNY, the kids got to try out their calligraphy skills which they did with so much interest. It was followed by a popiah making session where everyone got to make two popiahs, one for themselves and one for their parents. Kids enjoy themselves as they listen to their favorite songs live on stage. The session ended with all of us tossing up a good fortune for the coming year with Loh Hei.

I see the commitment of the senior volunteers and the passion they have for what they do. This inspires the new volunteers like myself. And the kids adore them. A quote of Mother Theresa comes to my mind: "In life we always cannot do great things but we can do small things with great love".



Trainees enjoying VGC performance



chinese calligraphy written by trainees



GLOBAL VILLAGE

ACID CAMP 2015

Raffles Institution
JUNE 13 - JUNE 14



COMING TO MINDS MYG REALLY SOON !

#ACID2015 #MINDSMYG #GLOBALVILLAGE