

Newsletter

Chairman's Message

Dear Friends in St John Singapore,

On behalf of National St John Council of Singapore (NSJCS), I wish all in the organisation a Happy St John Day 2022.

As Singapore is opening up, as a result of relaxation of restrictions, we have increased our activities of all the 'fronts' within St John Singapore (SJS). Of course, we do it with vigilance and care with regards to safety and Safe Management Measures (SMM). We need to be mindful to practice good hygiene and cleanliness at all times, so that we avoid a resurgence of infection. All guidance by the government authorities shall be strictly followed.

With respect to discipline, we have taken advantage of the COVID period to formalise our long awaited Policy Manuals. SJS now has a set of 5 Policy Manuals : the Board Manual, the Human Resource Manual, the Finance Manual, the Fund Raising Manual and the Volunteer Management Manual. These Manuals were developed with the assistance from Shared Services for Charities. They explain the correct processes and procedures to be practiced within SJS.

Over the next 6 months, we hope to conduct sessions to explain each Manual to relevant people within SJS, so that all will be familiar with these documents over time.

We also look forward to some upgrading work of the buildings on our campus. This would include electrical upgrading, replacement of the fence with improved security features, repair of the roof and improvement of the air conditioners.

On behalf of NSJCS, I wish all of you, success in all your endeavours during the rest of 2022.

*Pro Fide and
Pro Utilitate Hominum.*

Dr Sayampanathan S R E ➤
PBM, KStJ

Chairman,
National St John Council
of Singapore



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Presentation of Colours

Restructuring of **St John Brigade** to adapt to changing demographics.

On 19th February 2022, St John Singapore marked the restructuring of the Brigade with the Presentation of new Colours to its Brigade HQ and five newly formed Districts. The Guest-of-Honour, **President Halimah Yacob**, was hosted by St John Council Chairman, Dr Selan Sayampanathan and Brigade Chief Commissioner, Dr Nelson Chua.

The parade and ceremony kicked off in the afternoon with the Consecration of Colours Ceremony where the new Colours were blessed by St John Singapore's spiritual counselors. The two parade contingents comprised members from the CHIJ St Nicholas Corps and adult NCOs across the five districts. President Halimah Yacob presented the newly consecrated Colours to the Brigade Secretary and the five District Commissioners in a dignified parade at the St John Headquarters Parade Square.

The event was livestreamed with an outreach of more than 1,500 viewers, allowing Brigade members who were unable to be physically present at the parade to still participate via *Facebook Live*.



President Halimah Yacob presenting the new Colours to Brigade representatives. 



Following the presentation of new Colours, President Halimah Yacob embarked on the **St John Singapore Heritage Trail**, where she learnt about St John Singapore's rich history since 1885. Thereafter, members of the Council, Brigade, Association, and Board of Presidents had the opportunity of interacting with President Halimah Yacob both in person and virtually. They shared their volunteering experiences at St John Singapore with her.

To conclude the event, President Halimah Yacob and Dr Selan Sayampanathan unveiled an oil painting, which carried a symbolic meaning. The painting illustrated the long and rich history of St John Singapore, its contribution to Total Defence, the delivery of quality first aid and home nursing training, and the organization's current role in Singapore's fight against COVID-19.

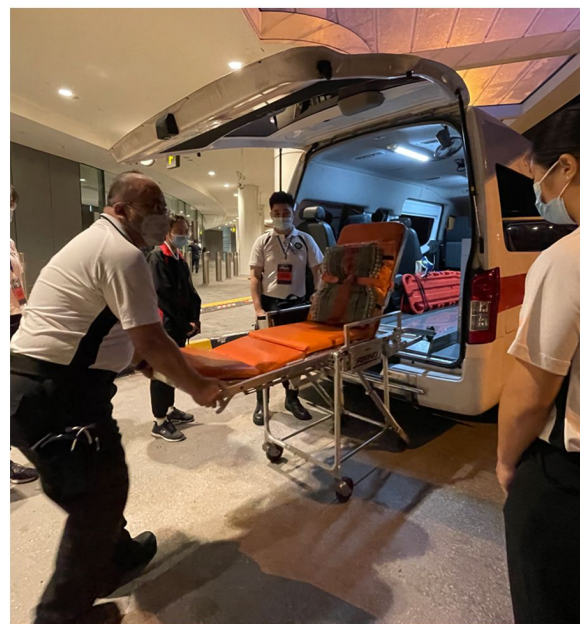


The event marked a significant milestone for the Brigade's restructuring journey to better meet Singapore's evolving demographics and improve St John Singapore's outreach and community engagement efforts.

Mr Edwin Leong <

*District Commissioner, North District
St John Brigade Singapore*





Chingay Parade Public Duty

➤ St John Responder Unit (SJRU)

First aiders from St John Singapore have been a fixture in the annual Chingay Parade providing first aid and medical support for the performers and audience throughout the painstaking rehearsals and spectacular performances.

This relationship has not changed even through the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Parade commemorated its 50th anniversary with a hybrid show at JEWEL Changi Airport, 40 first aiders across the Brigade continued to provide a safe space for the performers and staff across 7 days.

With the resumption of Public Duties, came the opportunity for training and familiarisation with ambulance operations and equipment.

“
I am honored that I am able to participate in duties of a national scale as it is a sign of progression in the midst of this ongoing pandemic.
”

- Alexius Lim, District SO(3)

These opportunities were scarce throughout the pandemic, but are returning with the resumption of events.

The St John Responder Unit would like to express its heartfelt gratitude for the volunteers' commitment in supporting the Public Duty.

“
As a first aider, it has been a while since some of us have covered an event of this scale. During certain pockets of time, the seniors from SJRU also instructed us on the use of life-saving equipment, which added value to our time spent.
”

- Kek Huiyi, District SO(5)