



**MINUTES OF THE 100th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
OLD RAFFLESIANS' ASSOCIATION (ORA)
HELD ON 31 MARCH 2023 AT 7.00 PM VIA ELECTRONIC PLATFORM ZOOM**

1. The meeting Chairman, Mr Dennis Foo, ORA President, warmly welcomed and thanked the Ordinary Members for taking their time to attend the virtual AGM. Chairman also thanked representatives from RI - Ms Cheryl Yap (RI, Head Alumni Relations), Ms Alicia Pang (RI, Alumni Relations Executive), for their attendance and assistance.
2. Together with the current Central Executive Management Council, Chairman gave a summary and updates of events and activities during the year.

2.1 Raffles Rovers Scouts Interest Group

The Raffles Rovers Scout Crew (Raffles Rovers) continued with their usual programmes, like the befriending of rough sleepers and vulnerable individuals (tissue paper sellers/cardboard and can collectors) and were recognised by MSF with the 2022 COVID Public Sector Transformation Award – Star Partner Award and 2022 MSF's Community Cares Award.

Besides the above, they also worked with the Jalan Besar -Toa Payoh Social Service Office (SSO) under the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) on Community Link (ComLink) related projects which involved planning and executing suitable programmes for young people staying in rental flats in the Toa Payoh area. The first project involved a weekly homework guidance programme lasting from May to October 2022 while the second project involved a Holiday Outdoor Experience Programme during the December school holidays that ended with a day hike on Pulau Ubin.

2.2 ORA Music Interest Groups

Raffles Winds

Coda XIV: Surf & Turf! on 3rd September 2022 marked the successful return of the Raffles Winds' annual concert series after a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19. The Raffles Winds also produced a music video titled "A Song for Our Bicentennial" to commemorate RI's founding, which brought audiences on a musical journey through the ages. Those who attended the 99th ORA Dinner in 2022 were also privileged to enjoy a sneak peek of the music video before it was launched on ORA and RI's social media channels.

The Raffles Winds was also delighted to be part of The Art Faculty's & Professor Brawn Café's Christmas festivities at the Enabling Village in December 2022, where its ensembles performed for shoppers and diners, in support of the differently abled artists. **Coda XV** has also been planned for 1st September 2023.

Raffles Singers

Raffles Singers eagerly sprung back into action, as they presented three full-length concerts for the year of 2022. Supported by the National Arts Council, as well as for the first time by Tote Board Arts Fund, this year's concerts were particularly meaningful and included many firsts for the Raffles Singers. Portion of the proceeds from the first concert in March was donated to the Ukraine Crisis Relief Fund. The Singers' second concert in August featured their President and Assistant Conductor Xie Zhizhong, making his conducting debut in Victoria Concert Hall.

Keeping up with the Singers' commitment to nurture the next generation of musicians and artistes, their third and final concert in December featured yet another Assistant Conductor Ethel Poh, making her conducting debut in the Esplanade Recital Studio. Raffles Singers also brought their concert repertoire to the broader community, as they performed Christmas carols at All Saints Home and Science Centre to wrap up the year with good cheer. There are plans to represent Singapore in a European choral festival in 2023.

Raffles Alumni Chinese Orchestra (RACO)

The RACO is in the midst of planning its concert in August 2023 and this will be its first performance since the pandemic, where it will showcase Chinese Orchestra classics, as well as works by its own alumnus, Wang Chenwei. RACO is also reaching out to the recently graduated alumni, in hopes of providing them with a concert experience that they have missed during their last few years in RI due to the pandemic.

2.3 ORA Sports Interest Groups

ORA Hockey

The club established its first-ever women's team in July 2022, which participated in the Women's Liga. 2022 also marked ORA Hockey's resumption of events, training, and participation in respective leagues. The club achieved 1st runners-up in Men's Hockey League 1 (MHL1) and was champion in MHL3.

They also established the ORA Youth Development Squad using SHF's Youth Development Grant of \$10,000. The initiative aimed to develop Raffles Institution (RI) boys under the U19 and U17 categories, playing in MHL4 and MHL5 in 2022. In MHL4, the ORA Youth Development Squad emerged as a champion, showcasing the success of the initiative.

To further develop young talents, the ORA Youth Development squad embarked on a training trip in Malacca, playing against Malaysian opponents SSN Predator Melaka. Two teams, each consisting of players from ORA, achieved 2nd and 6th places, respectively, in the Super Liga Tournament. ORA Hockey Club also achieved 2nd and 3rd placings in the Pesta Sukan 6-a-side tournament. The club was also crowned Champions of Premier Liga.

ORA Softball

ORA Softball has about 220 active alumni players and boast a network of more than 600 members till date. The second half of 2022 saw the resumption of its softball activities, with ORA Softball hosting a 6-team tournament in Oct 2022 at RI, where ORA emerged as the eventual Champions.

In the year 2023 ahead, training will be resumed and there are plans to host a Fastpitch tournament in May, the signature ORA Slowpitch Carnival (Internal-family day) in June and a Slowpitch tournament in October. ORA Softball interest group has also pledged \$3,000 to the 1823 Trees: Rooting for a Greener Campaign and joined the Tree Planting activity on 25 February.

Gryphons Basketball

In April 2022, Gryphons Basketball returns for its weekly Saturday scrimmage at RI Year 5 – 6 basketball courts. The main activity for 2022 was its Annual Gryphons Basketball Cup held over three days across two weekends. A total of 16 teams comprising the oldest Pioneer team to the youngest Secondary 3 took part in the Cup and Plate events. Some members even flew back from their country of residence to participate in the Cup. Over the 3 days, 250 to 300 past and present RI basketballers and their family members attended the event. The 2023 Gryphons Cup has been scheduled for July 2023.

2.4 Cultural Interest Groups

Indian Language and Cultural Community

In Q2 2022, the Indian Language and Cultural Community (ILCC) organised a workshop on filmmaking for the students at RI. In Q3, a Career/Competency workshop was conducted. Both events were well attended and received. ILCC was also involved in the Raffles Institution Archives & Museum's visit to Little India and the learning journey at Indian Heritage Centre and are working with the school to help develop materials to capture the rich history of RI with respect to the development of Language and Culture.

2.5 ORA Golf with Alumni Series

ORA successfully held its annual golf tournament on 5 October 2022 in Seletar Country Club, of which all 38 flights had been sold for the event. Themed as ORA Reunion, the golfing event was led by Chairperson, Ms Cheong Yoke Keng, and her tireless team, the event was well-organised and supported strongly by the Rafflesian community. At the end of the event, ORA was able to achieve a surplus of \$30,000.

The committee would like to express its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mr Choo Chiau Beng, an ardent supporter and strong contributor to many ORA events, who had grace and participated in this year's Golf Tournament. Also, special appreciation to the enthusiastic golf committee members such as Dr Chan Peng Mun, Jeffrey Chua, Lum Hon Fye and Kelvin Tan, as well as ORA Council members, Debby Lim, Elena Chua and Monica Tung for helping out on the event day.

2.6 ORA Speaker Series

ORA held the first joint-speaker series with ACSOBA on 5 March 2022. This webinar was especially unique as it was a collaboration with ACSOBA, bringing the speakers from both Alumni together to share their valuable experiences in their career pursuits.

In the joint series, Mr Lai Chang Wen, Founder and CEO of Ninjavan, as well as Mr Joshua Leong, Founder of Josh Leong Shoe & Heirloom and co-Founder of Palola shared candidly regarding the entrepreneurship journey of their respective companies, their success & failures and the motivation that kept their business going. The webinar was oversubscribed and attracted enthusiastic participation from the audience during the 2-hours period.

2.7 Bicentennial Activities

Leading to RI's 200th Founder's Day celebration slated on 28 May 2023, several events have been planned towards the countdown to the RI Bicentennial. In particular, 2022 saw the following achievements;

29th October 2022 – Tree-planting with 40 trees sponsored by an international legal firm – Sidley Austin LLP (Singapore), co-managed by an alumnus.

9th November 2022 – RI Staff tree-planting in the Marsiling, Woodlands and West Coast area.

14th – 15th November 2022 – RI Teachers' Conference where RI played host to presenters and attendees from other schools.

22nd – 24th November 2022 – Water-is-Life Conference where RI partners with other overseas schools.

2.8 ORA Scholarships & Awards

ORA presented awards to 10 students of the Raffles schools for academic excellence, leadership and community service.

3. AGM Agenda Items

The following had been confirmed/approved/adopted by the meeting as indicated by members in their proxy forms to appoint the Chairman as their proxy:

- 1 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 28 March 2022
 - 2 Annual Report of the Central Executive Council (“Annual Report”) for 2022
 - 3 Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 (“Audited Financial Statements”)
 - 4 Appointment of AccAssurance LLP as Auditors for FY2023 in accordance with Article 34 of the Old Rafflesians’ Association Constitution
4. Chairman shared with members that the RI200 & ORA100 Gala Dinner will be held on 19 August 2023 and called for the support of members to attend this meaningful milestone.

As there was no other business, Chairman thanked all members for attending the AGM.

Recorded by

Confirmed by

Ravin Periasamy
Honorary Secretary

Dennis Foo
President