



SINGAPORE PRESS CLUB

www.pressclub.org.sg

Founder Member, International Association of Press Clubs (IAPC)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2007

2007 was another landmark year for the Press Club.

A host of highly successful activities were organised for the members.

Among the high profile activities of the Press Club in 2007 were the Goodwill Mission to Pakistan in March, the inaugural International Association of Press Clubs (IAPC) dinner talk by Riz Khan in May and a luncheon talk by Steve Forbes at the Raffles Hotel Ballroom in September.

On the financial side too, the Club continues to do well. Our cash balance increased by a record \$71,410 during the year. The surplus was boosted by the well over \$50,000 worth of sponsorships raised during the year, which was another record for the Club.

There was strong support from members too. Subscriptions and entrance fees collections also hit a new record with nearly \$44,000 banked in during the year. Many members supported the Club by taking up Life membership.

The Club now has over \$1,558,000 in the bank.

Meanwhile, the Club continues to maintain its membership fees at the level set in 1971 by our founders, the late Wee Kim Wee and the late T. S. Khoo. The entrance fee continues to be \$10 and the yearly membership fee \$30 for Regular members.



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The highlight of the year was the Goodwill Mission to Pakistan from March 17 to 27. Led by the Club's Honorary Secretary Narendra Aggarwal, a 35-member delegation visited Karachi, Islamabad, Rawalpindi and Lahore. The delegation held wide ranging discussions among others with the Pakistan Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers, the Governor of Punjab province, the Director of the Institute of Strategic Studies, the Karachi and Lahore Press Clubs, Pakistan TV and Chambers of Commerce.

The visit to Pakistan was the 12th such annual study trip organised by the Club under which members spend their own time and money to gain a first hand understanding of countries which are often in the news.

At the annual IAPC General Assembly in April in Dubai, member clubs were urged to organise an annual talk to help generate awareness of the IAPC among their members so that they could avail of the reciprocal visiting privileges offered by the world body which brings together over 25 press clubs around the globe.

Our Press Club was the first to kick off the annual lecture series by inviting prominent TV personality Riz Khan to give a dinner talk in May. Although there were several competing events that Friday evening, Riz Khan's talk drew a full house at the East Indian Rooms of Raffles Hotel.

But perhaps the biggest event of the year was the talk by Steve Forbes in September. Even though it was the very first time the Club had organised an event on a Sunday in its 36 years history, we had a full house with 25 tables at The Ballroom of Raffles Hotel.



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It was a lively talk and Q&A session, free flow of Tiger beer and members paid just \$10 each for a sit-down lunch. Still the club managed to generate a healthy four figure surplus from the event which was cosponsored by Citi, Asia Pacific Breweries and Raffles Hotel.

Among the other talks and seminars during the year was the property discussion by a panel of experts, a presentation by the IMF's Asia Director and the Indian High Commissioner's luncheon talk in December.

Two Mediabuzz discussions were also organised during the year.

The socials organised during the year included the New Year Party sponsored by Citi, the Chinese New Year lunch, a July 4 party cosponsored by Hyatt Hotel, National Day Press Nite Film Show, Mooncake Festival social-gathering, the annual IPRS-Press Club lunch and the Year-end Party cosponsored by Audi, the highlight of which was the test drives by members of some of the finest Audi cars.

As for membership, the Club welcomed about a 100 new members during the year. We continue to maintain our position as the largest media club in Singapore with over 500 active members.

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