

ccording to Chinese belief, the Year of the Fire Monkey will be a particularly auspicious one, with a lot of dynamism and evolution. May you and your loved ones bask in this prediction. True also indeed for our Club in that we will need to embark on re-inventing ourselves so as to remain a premier golf and country club as we adapt to land use issues via judicious use of our reserves.

The Club is actively engaging the Ministry of Law and the Labour Movement to finalise the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Bukit location, hopefully by the deadline of 31 March 2016. An Extraordinary General Meeting will be scheduled soon to seek members' endorsement.

Further to feedback from committees, members and surveys, our Bukit freehold land (this is where tennis, squash, swimming pool and some parking are sited) winning design architect will be developing an optimal "Bukit Town Club (BTC)" proposal with detailed engineering studies and cost estimates. We will need to compact and reinstate desired facilities as well as provide for buggy and car parking.

It is envisaged the new building will incorporate functionality and non-ostentatious aesthetics as it sits amidst its natural setting and be of a possible stand-alone social club stature. It will be more efficient in maintenance compared to the two existing buildings and be state of the art and coordinated operationally.

In terms of provision of golfing, we are looking at increasing playability of Island golf courses beyond 2021 (when a course at Bukit location is lost) and then 2030 (when the other Bukit location course is lost). With the impending reduction of golf courses in Singapore, our capability to provide best in class golf courses will maintain our stature and value. There have been thoughts of a championship course on the existing New/ Millennium land instead of the 27-hole and to also either do only major drainage works or a revamp of the Island Course (where we are also studying the impact of PUB subterranean water pipes). Do give your feedback via the General Manager as we prepare to present options to membership.

Rest-assured that we are mindful about the need to phase golf redevelopment works so that there is minimal disruption to golfing and overall services to members. We are actively following up with the authorities per Island Location lease renewal, to lend our plans more certainty.





The appointed consultant for the Bukit Course buggy track project will carry out site inspections soon and present their final design, construction timeline and cost estimates for approval. Management will work closely with the contractors to minimise downtime at the Course.

From feedback for such a facility at Island location, we will be creating the cosy ambience of our Bukit Bar at Island A Frame building to be, obviously, called Island Bar. The ambience will be one-of-a-kind as it overlooks the golf course with uninterrupted greenery. There already exists needed ancillary equipment that can be easily appropriately enhanced and that will enable a quick inauguration. Target opening is mid-year. More details will be released soon.

In our continuing role as a responsible corporate citizen, our annual SICC May Day Charity beckons. This event has raised over \$19 million for more than 100 beneficiaries since its inception in 1972. Do show your strong support yet again, and even more, such that our efforts for the less fortunate in society will bear even better fruit. We thank the many corporations and individuals who have untiringly given selfless support and look forward to even more coming forward.

As portrayed to the press, which eventually presented the positives as well, the proposed workshop to be conducted by Methodist Welfare Services is indeed pertinent to society and not novel. Management is of the view that our continuing community service commitment was, understandably, detracted by the title of the workshop. For good measure, our Lifestyle Department has decided to postpone the workshop, especially as response has been affected by the publicity.

Undoubtedly, we are not stepping back from all our other efforts for the community such as our ongoing visits to homes and field excursions.

On this note, I appeal to all members to give your strongest support for May Day Charity 2016.

Yours sincerely,

**Alex Ooi** President