

highlights



Tasek Saves Endangered Species In Malaysia, One Turtle At A Time

Learning
Chinese Is Very
Important:
Chairman Kwek
Launches
Chinese Edition
《在商言商：郭令
明》

The Lounge At
New World
Millennium
Hong Kong
Reopens With
Sabrage
Ceremony

SIT Welcomes
Chairman
Kwek To The
Newly Opened
Kwek Leng
Beng
University
Tower

Hong Leong
Group Helps
To Raise
S\$103,000 To
Keep
Children's
Dreams Alive



SIT Welcomes
Chairman Kwek
To The Newly
Opened
Kwek Leng Beng
University Tower

Celebrating the opening of Kwek Leng Beng Tower (L-R): CDL Group Chief Operating Officer Mr Kwek Eik Sheng; SIT Vice President for Applied Research Ms Susanna Leong; Mrs Cecilia Kwek; Chairman Kwek Leng Beng; Institute Professor Tan Thiam Soon; and CDL Group Chief Executive Officer Mr Sherman Kwek.

The Kwek Leng Beng Tower at Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) is now opened. The university's administrative building is named after Hong Leong Group Executive Chairman Mr Kwek Leng Beng in recognition of his joint S\$25 million endowed gift with CDL towards school's Hospitality Business Programme (BHB) in November last year. It is also the tallest building on SIT's campus in Punggol, Singapore.

To mark its opening, SIT recently invited Mr Kwek, his wife Mrs Cecilia Kwek and CDL senior management Chief Executive Officer Mr Sherman Kwek and Chief Operating Officer Mr Kwek Eik Sheng for a visit which included a tour of the new building, and presentations by SIT professors and students.

Associate Professor George Liu said the programme is a direct honours degree programme with an annual intake of 150 students, and the first and only hospitality business degree programme offered by an autonomous university in Singapore. He also shared updates of ongoing collaborations between SIT and Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) that include training and internship placements for five of its students in May 2024.



The façade view of the completed Kwek Leng Beng University Tower.

BHB student Gerald Oh shared about his journey in the programme and how he has benefited from Mr Kwek and CDL's donations. Please refer to the 'Voices' section to read more about his journey.



Institute Professor Tan Thiam Soon thanked Chairman Kwek and CDL for their generous endowed gift to the school.



Chairman Kwek, Mrs Cecilia Kwek, CDL Group CEO Mr Sherman Kwek and CDL Group COO Mr Kwek Eik Sheng enjoying a tour of the new Kwek Leng Beng Tower (left photo) and the panoramic views of the Punggol area.



The Lounge
At New World
Millennium
Hong Kong
Marks Reopening
With Sabrage
Ceremony

Dato' Gan Khai Choo, also Managing Director of Hong Leong International (Hong Kong) Limited, sabering a bottle of champagne to kick off the grand opening festivities at The Lounge at New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel.

New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel's The Lounge has reopened after a five-month renovation, revealing an inviting and versatile space for social gatherings, business conversations or quiet respite. An innovative wine programme, with new cellar and revamped wine selection at exceptional value prices, create an oenophile's dream destination in the evening hours.

The opening was celebrated on 20 September at The Lounge and Vin et Vin Wine Cellar at the hotel. The evening-to-remember began with welcome speeches from Dato Gan and Mr. Julian Wipper, our hotel's general manager. Dato Gan then sabered a bottle of Champagne in front of more than 120 special guests. This marked the official debut of the exciting, versatile venue which offers a wide wine selection of rare pours and classic vintages at exceptional prices.



New World Millennium Hong Kong General Manager Mr Julian Wipper (left) thanking guest Chef Swan Gireaud from sister hotel, M Social Paris who flew in specially to present his signature creations for the celebrations.



Assistant Director of Food and Beverage, also the Chief Sommelier, Mr Sam Chong (centre) and his team of wine gurus have meticulously sourced classic vintages, rare pours and hidden gem boutique finds from around the world.



live

The sparkling wining and dining experience that followed included the savouring of newly unveiled wine and snack menus, live band music and personal tours of the Vin et Vin private cellar, home to more than 1,000 fine wine labels hand-picked by our sommeliers. Wine connoisseurs and lovers enjoyed great exchanges with our knowledgeable wine team throughout the night.



During the day, The Lounge is bathed in natural light with floor-to-ceiling windows, lending a tranquil and elegant experience with contemporary chandeliers and camellia-patterned carpet.



A giant glass wine cabinet takes centre stage at the "Vin et Vin" area, containing a spiral staircase that descends into a modern, well-equipped cellar storing more than 1,000 labels of old and new world wines.



live



And The Search Begins.

Nominations Now Open For 'Singaporean Of The Year 2024'

Award recipients of the Singaporean of the Year 2024 will win stays at any of MHR global properties, including the recently opened lifestyle hotel, M Social Phuket (above).

For the 10th year running, The Straits Times is on the hunt for individuals or groups that have made significant contributions to society, for its annual Singaporean of the Year award.

Previous nominees include national athletes who have shone on the world stage, Singaporeans who have donated an organ to save the life of a stranger, and people who selflessly lent a helping hand to those in need.

Organised by The Straits Times and presented by founding partner UBS Singapore, the official airline partner is Singapore Airlines and the global hotel partner is Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR)

Mr Kwek Eik Sheng, executive director of Millennium Hotels and Resorts, said: "As we celebrate Singaporean of the Year's 10th anniversary, we also laud the diversity, inclusivity and extraordinary human spirit that make us proud to be part of our Singaporean community. We look forward to more exemplary role models and shining beacons in the near future."

Do you know anyone who has gone beyond the call of duty to help others or put Singapore on the world map?



The M Social Paris is another luxurious stay that combines 1920s grandeur with modern amenities and impeccable service.

Nominations are open till 31 December 2024. The award will be given out in the first quarter of 2025. The winner can be an individual or a group.



Korean Grill
Kensington
Celebrates
1st Year And
Awarded
'Diners' Choice'
In London

Located at Millennium Gloucester, Korean Grill Kensington (KGK) showcases an eclectic mix of elegance and theatrics in the heart of South Kensington, celebrating the very foundations of Korean cuisine. It is the only Korean grill restaurant in the upscale area of Kensington in London.

Located at Millennium Gloucester, Korean Grill Kensington recently celebrated its first year of grilling and was hailed by OpenTable's diners as 'Diners' Choice 2024' as one of the best restaurants to dine in Kensington. It is the one and only Korean grill restaurant in the upscale area of Kensington in London.

KGK held a buzzing birthday dinner and hosted popular food influencers and representatives from high profile press media publications such as GQ Magazine, Cosmopolitan Magazine and METRO.

The evening started with guests being served KGK's premium and renowned fruity soju which included strawberry and grape flavours. The sit-down celebration included a mouthwatering tapestry of traditional Korean culinary traditions featuring seasonal specialities and salads, followed by the main event, premium cuts of meat grilled to perfection on the in-built tabletop grills at each table to each individual's taste, allowing guests to indulge in an interactive grilling experience, each cut of meat perfectly paired with KGK's signature sauces.



The celebration saw a buzzing crowd of diners that included popular food influencers and representatives from high profile media publications.

No party is complete without cake. KGK celebrated its first birthday with a three-tiered chocolate ganache cake, decorated with green icing and gold leaf flowers to compliment the restaurant's unique interior décor.



live

As all guests sang “Happy Birthday” to KGK, the evening was closed up with a thankful and moving speech by Mr Chris van Dam, Millennium Hotel Gloucester and Conference Centre General Manager.

He said, “Thank you for sharing your time to celebrate KGK’s birthday, whether it’s your first time or you’ve dined with us in the past, we wouldn’t be here without you, we hope you enjoyed the experience as we continuously aim to provide an even more tastier dining experience for you”, The General Manager of KGK also shared a few words “We hope you enjoyed our new autumn/winter menu and look forward to celebrating many more birthdays, but not least seeing you dine with us again”.



Diners were treated to Korean culinary traditions and premium meat cuts, as well as a three-tiered chocolate ganache cake decorated with green icing and gold leaf flowers.



Indonesian Wonders At Orchard Hotel With Food And Cultural Performance

Orchard Hotel Singapore launched 'Wonderful Indonesia: A Cultural and Culinary Journey,' featuring Indonesian culture and cuisine for a month-long celebration, with performances by local students and renowned dancer Didik Nini Thowok. Pictured here is Indonesian ambassador Mr Suryo Pratomo (centre in blue shirt) and Orchard Hotel General Manager Ms Jacqueline Ho (wearing a black blouse) with students from Sekolah Indonesia Singapura (SIS).

Orchard Hotel Singapore hosted a month-long cultural and culinary event titled "Wonderful Indonesia: A Cultural and Culinary Journey," which aimed to introduce Indonesian culture and food to its guests. The event, which marked Indonesia as the first country to showcase its heritage at the hotel, featured performances by renowned Indonesian dancer Didik Nini Thowok and students from the Indonesian School of Singapore.

The event kicked off with a special performance by the students from Sekolah Indonesia Singapura (SIS), who performed traditional Indonesian dances, including Ondel-Ondel and Saman. Their vibrant performances added a cultural touch to the opening ceremony, which took place at Orchard Hotel Singapore. The inclusion of students in the event highlighted the importance of cultural diplomacy through youth involvement.



Guests were treated to a fine feast of Indonesian specialties with cultural performances that promote Indonesia's rich heritage.



Clockwise from top left corner: Grand Millennium Beijing; M Social Suzhou; Millennium Resort Wuyishan; and Grand Hyatt Taipei.

More Chinese are headed to Europe and other far-flung hotspots during the Golden Week holiday that sees hundreds of millions in the country on the move, in the most robust signs of a travel rebound since the country reopened its borders.

Bookings for overseas flights and hotels have spiked from 2023's holiday week, with international flight reservations doubling and Europe showing some of the biggest growth, according to Qunar and Trip.com, among the biggest online travel agencies in China. Overseas car rental bookings have surged by more than 150 per cent from 2023, while cruise holidays have spiked sevenfold, according to Fliggy, Alibaba Group Holding's travel unit.

Lower airfares and visa-free travel

It predicts international destinations of choice for outbound travellers will continue to be short-haul Asian hubs, such as Japan, South Korea, Thailand and Singapore.

According to Mr Andy Tan, Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) Senior Vice President for Global Sales & Partnership, China is one of the top three markets for Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) six hotels in Singapore.

"Since the visa-free arrangement, Chinese tourists' room bookings in the first nine months of this year have increased by 67%. The occupancy rate of our Singapore hotels remained at 80% during the Golden Week, with more last-minute bookings expected," said Mr Tan.

According to Reuters, with the slowing China economy, many travellers are expected to opt for cheaper domestic or short-haul overseas destinations and take advantage of the decline in airfares.



The 368-room Grand Millennium Hongqiao is in the commercial and residential district of Hongqiao in Shanghai.



With 243 modern rooms and suites, Millennium Taichung in the luxurious district in Shih-Jen centre in Taichung, Taiwan, is the best place to stay with nearby Taichung City Hall, Fulfillment Amphitheatre and National Taichung Theatre.

“Not only have flights been cheaper, data also indicates that domestic travellers are opting for lower cost transport options. Our hotels are currently hovering at 80% occupancy,” said Mr Lawrence Yip, MHR’s country head for China.

MHR has 14 hotels in its Greater China portfolio including Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Overall, tourism spend and travel numbers within China have risen this year compared to 2023. The country expects to see 4.29 billion domestic trips in the first three quarters of this year, 16.8% higher than same period last year, according to Chinese state media.



Mr. Dao Viet Anh, a director of Kim Long Motor (left) and Mr Qiwei Wu, CEO of China Yuchai, signed a technology transfer agreement for the production and exclusive distribution of Yuchai engines in the Vietnamese market, as well as in other Southeast Asian countries and South Korea. The ceremony was held at Yuchai's headquarters in Nanning City, Guangxi Province, China.

China Yuchai (CYI), a subsidiary of Hong Leong Asia and China's leading engine manufacturer, has transferred manufacturing technology and exclusive distribution rights for Yuchai engine products in Southeast Asia and South Korea to Vietnam's Kim Long Motor.

This event marks a significant milestone following the comprehensive strategic cooperation agreement between Yuchai and Kim Long Motor. It also followed a groundbreaking ceremony for the Kim Long Hue engine manufacturing factory and the launch of the KimLong99 brand bus, which features the new-generation Yuchai K11 engine, at the Kim Long Motor Hue Industrial Park

The exclusive licensing agreement covers not only the transfer of engine manufacturing technology but also technical services for building digital systems and the provision of production machinery and equipment at the Kim Long Hue engine manufacturing factory.



Kim Long Motors and China Yuchai held a groundbreaking ceremony for their \$260 million car engine plant in Thua Thien-Hue, central Vietnam. (Credit: Thanh Nien newspaper)

This factory represents a \$260 million investment and features an automation level of over 90%. It will produce a range of engines for various applications, including engines for automobile manufacturing, marine activities, power generators, agricultural machinery and civil construction machines.



work

The partnership between Kim Long Motor and Yuchai aims to boost local production capacity and enhance the image and reputation of Yuchai's high-quality engines in the region, executives said.

"We expect this partnership to meet growing demand for engines in Vietnam and the regional market," said Mr Qiwei Wu, CEO of China Yuchai.

"We are embarking on an exciting journey to expand market opportunities for Yuchai engine products in Vietnam and the region. This not only contributes to the development of Vietnam's automotive industry but also strengthens the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and China," said Mr Dao Viet Anh, a director of Kim Long Motor.



Local Buyer Finalising Deal To Purchase Millennium St. Louis Hotel

The 780-room Millennium St. Louis Hotel was the largest hotel in St. Louis City, and a short walk from Busch Stadium and Gateway Arch grounds.

According to news reports, a local entity in the city of St. Louis in Missouri, US, is finalising a deal to buy the vacant Millennium St. Louis Hotel in the city's downtown centre.

In a joint report, business group Greater St. Louis Inc. and city development agency St. Louis Development Corp (SLDC) said, "The redevelopment of the sites at Millennium Hotel and Railway Exchange Building is a crucial step towards the transformational revitalisation of downtown St. Louis." Both properties have been vacant since 2014. SLDC and Greater St. Louis Inc. are keen to bring two of St. Louis downtown's largest empty buildings back to life.



During its heyday, the hotel was the toast of the St. Louis riverfront with its revolving restaurant, "Top of the Riverfront" on the hotel's top floor offering 360-degree views of the city.

The 780-room Millennium was the largest hotel in the region, a short walk from Busch Stadium and the Gateway Arch grounds. Situated at 200 S. Fourth St., the hotel was listed for sale earlier this year.

Two towers, Millennium Hotel Tower I and Millennium Hotel Tower II, made up the hotel space. Tower I is 28 stories tall and was constructed in 1968. Tower II is 11 stories tall and was constructed in 1974. The hotel had 780 rooms and 19 suites.



Green Standards Of Offices A Top Priority For Relocating Tenants Looking To Meet ESG Requirements

Republic Plaza (flagship building of CDL) and Hong Leong Building (flagship of Hong Leong Holdings) have achieved the highest tier Green Mark Platinum certification.

As businesses change, there is an urgent need for relocating offices to meet specific ESG standards. The great focus on ESG credentials is leading many organisations to newer buildings where ESG considerations are already built into the design of the asset.

Research and consultancy Savills said the trend to move to newer and better ESG rated buildings began around the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020.

Commercial real estate services firm, Cushman & Wakefield said more companies are embracing ESG due to the transition to hybrid work during- and after pandemic. This gives them greater flexibility in their workplace strategy, right-size to better-quality offices, and ESG-compliant ones within a similar budget.

Hong Leong Holdings' flagship Hong Leong Building is certified BCA Green Mark Platinum and retrofitted for energy efficiency, water conservation, waste reduction and use of sustainable materials. The developer is currently carrying out asset enhancement works to the property with the completion date set at the end of 2025.

Meanwhile, CDL has upgraded all its existing office buildings to the latest Green Mark standard. For example, older buildings such as flagship **Republic Plaza** and King's Centre have been upgraded and retrofitted to improve energy efficiency. CDL also has a pilot City Green Tenant Bonus programme (started in 2024), which aims to promote, encourage, and incentivise tenants to adopt sustainable practices and effectively reduce energy consumption.



Private banking services provider Lombard Odier Group is among Republic Plaza's tenants in the City Green Tenant Bonus programme. Pictured here is Ms Carol Chan, COO at Lombard Odier and Mr Allen Ang, EVP, Head of Green Building & Technology Application at CDL.



HLA And CDL
Invest In
Green Building
Technology
To Ease
Construction
Labour Pressures

Investing in construction technology can help developers and construction companies tackle labour shortages, material costs and regulatory changes.

Concerns over labour, decarbonisation and safety are among the key issues facing the construction industry.

Hong Leong Asia (HLA) has joined forces with construction technology company, Hubble Aura IoT that provides real-time tracking of worker locations, including specific floor positions, to optimise workforce management and achieve cost savings.

Hubble Aura IoT uses a combination of Bluetooth and Wifi that allows HLA to track each worker at any moment, which is crucial for maintaining efficiency and safety.



HLA adopted the technology of Hubble Aura IoT to significantly enhance its workforce tracking for safety and efficiency across its work sites. They include the HL-Sunway integrated construction and prefabrication hub at Punggol Barat Lane (left photo), and subsidiary, HL Building Materials' indoor and outdoor sites (right photo) where precast components are stored and produced.

Meanwhile, **City Developments Limited (CDL)** has made strategic investments into startups that focus on energy-saving or green building technology, PropTech and ConTech to drive value chain transformation through digitalisation and innovation.



work

These include funds run by US proptech VC Fifth Wall and Australia-based real estate VC Taronga Ventures, local paint company Gush – with its paints used at some of our properties and projects, as well as adopted tech from our portfolio company Ampd Energy, which replaces diesel generators at building sites with batteries. We have deployed the technology in six project sites, which has helped achieve a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 1,700 tonnes.

“Such investments create long-term value for CDL, by fostering the development of technologies that align with the evolving needs of the real estate industry, and are integral to our commitment to sustainability, customer satisfaction, operational excellence, and staying competitive in a rapidly changing industry,” said Mr Ke-Vin Lim, CDL’s Head of Group Innovation.



Collaboration,
Inclusivity And
Innovation
Is Key To A
Healthy And
Productive
Culture

CDL recently held its Townhall at The Singapore Edition that included a Q&A session for interaction between employees and senior management, as well as a Long Service Award ceremony.

CDL recently held its Townhall at The Singapore EDITION, where Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO), Mr Sherman Kwek, provided an update on the company's performance, strategic initiatives under its Growth Enhancement Transformation (GET) strategy, and CDL's achievements over the past year.

He emphasised the need to foster a collaborative and inclusive culture to grow and succeed as a team, and stressed the importance of health and safety for all employees. He also highlighted the global impact of climate change and the crucial role CDL plays in the race to net-zero emissions.

In alignment with these priorities, Ms Xuejia Qian, from Green Building Decarbonisation & Safety shared insights on about decarbonisation efforts and our sustainability initiatives, such as the CDL Green Tenant Bonus Programme, one of our programme implemented in the journey towards net-zero emissions. Mr Ke-Vin Lim from Group Innovation also presented an exciting showcase about innovations initiatives in CDL aimed at enhancing operational efficiency and productivity, reinforcing our commitment to continuous transformation and improvement.



On the Q&A panel (starting from left): Head of Human Resources, Mr Alvin Tan, Group Chief Financial Officer, Ms Yiong Yim Ming; GCEO Mr Sherman Kwek; Group Chief Operating Officer, Mr Kwek Eik Sheng; and Group General Manager, Mr Chia Ngiang Hong.

There was also an engaging Q&A session moderated by Mr Alvin Tan, Head of Human Resources that provided interaction between employees and the Executive Committee (Group Chief Executive Officer, Mr Sherman Kwek, Group Chief Operating Officer, Mr Kwek Eik Sheng, Group General Manager, Mr Chia Ngiang Hong, Group Chief Financial Officer, Ms Yiong Yim Ming) which further fostered a culture of transparency and inclusivity.

A particularly meaningful moment during the Townhall was the Long Service Award ceremony. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the recipients for their dedication and commitment to CDL. Their loyalty is deeply appreciated, and their contributions are essential to our success.

The Townhall not only delivered valuable updates and strategic insights but also highlighted the importance of unity, transparency, and a shared purpose within CDL. It served as a crucial touchpoint for aligning goals, celebrating achievements, and ensuring that everyone plays an active role in shaping our future success.



Mr Ke-Vin Lim and Ms Xuejia Qian presented CDL's innovation initiatives and decarbonisation efforts respectively.



The highlight was the Long Service Award ceremony where all recipients were acknowledged and congratulated on their success and contributions to the company.



CDL Opens Previews Of Norwood Grand In Champions Way, Woodlands

Set amidst lush greenery and natural landscapes, the 348-unit Norwood Grand marks the first luxury private residential launch in Woodlands in over 12 years. (Artist's impression)

The preview of 348-unit Norwood Grand, a residential development in Champions Way, commenced on 4 October 2024. Sales bookings are scheduled to begin on 19 October. Set amidst lush greenery and natural landscapes, Norwood Grand is conceived as a serene retreat combining modern living with nature's beauty and brings a new level of luxury to the North region.

A good mix of apartment types is available, ranging from 495 square feet (sq ft) for a one-bedroom plus study to 1,335 sq ft for a four-bedroom premium plus study unit. Apartments are attractively priced from S\$988,000 for a one-bedroom plus study (495 sq ft); S\$1.238 million for a two-bedroom (624 sq ft); S\$1.698 million for a three-bedroom deluxe (883 sq ft); and S\$2.238 million for a four-bedroom deluxe plus study (1,173 sq ft).

Woodlands is one of the towns undergoing rejuvenation under the Ministry of National Development's Remaking Our Heartland (ROH) programme. It is envisioned to be the largest economic hub in Singapore's North region with the development of Woodlands Regional Centre under the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) Master Plan 2019. Norwood Grand is strategically located near this future hub, which will house the Northern Agri-Tech and Food Corridor, and the Woodlands Health Campus.

Mr Sherman Kwek, CDL's Group Chief Executive Officer, said, "We are thrilled to preview Norwood Grand, the first new luxury private residential launch in Woodlands in over 12 years. As an area poised for rapid growth, Woodlands is transforming into a dynamic hub with new infrastructure and excellent connectivity to the city and Johor Bahru via various transport nodes. Norwood Grand offers unparalleled convenience, combining luxury, sustainability, comfort and thoughtful design. The prime location and access to amenities in one of Singapore's most promising districts will offer compelling value to homeowners."

Unmatched Connectivity and Convenience

Norwood Grand is well-connected to other parts of Singapore via the Seletar Expressway (SLE), Bukit Timah Expressway (BKE) and the future North-South Corridor. It is within a five-minute walk to Woodlands South MRT station on the Thomson-East Coast Line (TEL), providing residents with

direct access to the CBD and Orchard shopping belt. Woodlands South MRT station is one stop to Woodlands Integrated Transport Hub, consisting of Woodlands MRT station (TEL/North-South Line) and Woodlands Bus Interchange.

Apart from the convenience of an Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC) at its doorstep, Norwood Grand is also near numerous education institutions like Innova Primary School, Christ Church Secondary School, Singapore Sports School, Singapore American School, Republic Polytechnic and the future Yishun Innova Junior College, as well as lifestyle amenities such as ACE The Place Community Club, Causeway Point, Vista Point, Woodlands North Plaza, Woods Square, Woodlands Civic Centre and Kampung Admiralty.

A smart and sustainable home in luxurious living



Green spaces are integrated across Norwood Grand with over 20 recreational facilities, including a Treetop Walk, a Cabana Garden (pictured), a luxurious Grand Club, two BBQ pavilions, a 50-metre lap pool, a tennis court and a Treehouse Playground, amongst others. (Artist's impression)

Green spaces are integrated across the development, offering over 20 recreational facilities, including a Treetop Walk, a luxurious Grand Club, a social deck, two BBQ pavilions, a function room, a 50-metre lap pool, a gymnasium, a tennis court and a Treehouse Playground. Each apartment features quality carpentry, with high-end wares from Geberit and fittings by Hansgrohe as well as premium kitchen appliances from Bosch and Samsung.

Designed with sustainability in mind, Norwood Grand is targeting to attain the Green Mark Platinum Super Low Energy by Building and Construction Authority (BCA) under the newly launched Green Mark (GM2021) Criteria with the Whole Life Carbon and Maintainability Badge.

The development uses solar photovoltaic panels on the roofs to partially replace energy for the day-to-day operations of various common areas. Its design, layout and orientation take into consideration the site's natural attributes and integrate passive cooling design architecture to enhance energy efficiency and natural ventilation. Units are designed to minimise direct west-facing orientation and optimise natural ventilation for thermal comfort.

The Norwood Grand Sales Gallery, located along Sembawang Vista (next to Sembawang MRT station and Sun Plaza), is open from 4 October 2024, 10.00 am to 7.00 pm. Marketing agents are ERA, Huttons, PropNex, OrangeTee & Tie and SRI. For enquiries, please call the sales hotline: +65 6877 1818.



meals & deals



A Pistachio Pleasure
At New World
Millennium Hong
Kong's
Newly Renovated
'The Lounge'

Dine at The Lounge's latest delightful Pistachio Fever Afternoon Tea to relish more than eight pistachio-infused sweets and savouries.

To celebrate the completion of a refreshed look, The Lounge at New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel is serving a specially curated Pistachio Afternoon Tea from 1 September to 30 November.

You will indulge in pistachio-infused sweets and savouries in a three-tiered birdcage such as a nutty Pistachio Scone, Cream Cheesecake, Mille Feuille, Crème Brûlée Tart, Tiramisu Cup and Mochi, all with rich and decadent pistachio paste or fillings.

Treat your taste buds with Pistachio-infused savoury bites such as Chicken Mousse with Melon and Caviar, Baked Beef and Foie Gras Tart, Pan-fried Hokkaido Scallop, a Gourmet Sandwich, and a refreshing Prawn and Lychee Aspic to round off the afternoon teatime feast.

The Pistachio Fever Afternoon Tea set includes premium tea, coffee, or opt for the ultimate nutty enjoyment with a Pistachio Latte for an additional HKD18 per person.

Available from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. daily, the tea experience is priced at HKD308 per person and HKD598 for two persons. All prices are subject to 10% service charge. One-day reservation is recommended by calling +852 2313 4222 or visit the [website](#).



Pistachio Tiramisu Cup is a classic twist on the Italian dessert that incorporates pistachio paste in the mascarpone cheese filling for nutty richness and a pleasing contrast with coffee-soaked ladyfingers.

* Information correct at time of print.



meals & deals



A Cray-Cray Season At The Corner Bistro, Grand Millennium Beijing Hotel

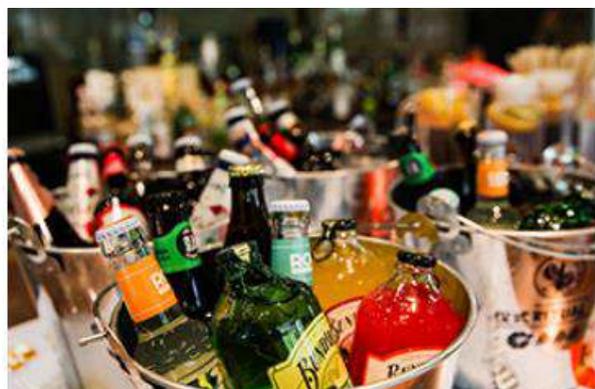
The Corner Bistro brings casual dining to the CBD with great quality food at a reasonable price where menus are seasonal with dishes being changed and updated regularly.

Looking for a good place to relax and enjoy a cool evening breeze with delicious grilled skewers and beers? Grab a table at Grand Millennium Beijing's beer garden with a newly refreshed Crayfish menu!

The Corner Bistro has prepared an array of crayfish delicacies such as Crayfish Pizza, Crayfish Tacos, Crayfish Burgers, Cold Spicy Skewers of Crayfish and more! Boost up your meal with a variety of beer, whisky, or cocktails.

Starting from RMB258, enjoy a leisure barbecue in the beer garden with a splendid view of Beijing's CBD! For more information or to make reservations, please contact The Corner Bistro at +86 10 8587 6888.

** Information correct at time of print.*



The Corner Bistro is a great spot for those working in the CBD area with a great selection of food and drinks with a range of different beers on tap and by the bottle from both international and local breweries.



meals & deals



MILLENNIUM
HOTELS AND RESORTS

**HALA
SUMMER**

RELAX · DISCOVER · GO GREEN

BOOK NOW. SAVE MORE!

A City Of Light
And Blue Beach:
Experience The
Ultimate Retreat
With
Millennium Hotels
& Resorts
MEA's
Hala Summer
Campaign

The Hala Summer campaign will provide an unparalleled experience that caters to both adults and children, ensuring that everyone has a memorable time. With properties located in some of the most sought-after destinations across the Middle East, Millennium Hotels & Resorts MEA offers a diverse range of experiences that appeal to all.

As summer winds down, there's no better time to create unforgettable memories with your loved ones. Millennium Hotels & Resorts MEA is offering the perfect opportunity to do just that with its exclusive **Hala Summer campaign**, where families can experience a blend of relaxation, adventure, and sustainability across various destinations in the Middle East.

Explore a Variety of Destinations Across the Middle East



Millennium Resort Salalah is a new and award-winning 5-star resort situated North of Salalah, Al Saada, just a few kilometres from the beach and the mountains.



Millennium Downtown Abu Dhabi Hotel offers a prime location for both business and leisure travellers, with easy access to the city's major attractions, business districts, and shopping centres.

Whether you're in the mood for a relaxing beachside retreat or a bustling city adventure, Millennium Hotels & Resorts MEA has something for everyone. The properties are strategically located to provide easy access to iconic landmarks, cultural hotspots, shopping districts, and entertainment venues.



meals & deals

- **Relaxing Beach Escapes:** Enjoy a tranquil stay at any of the beachfront properties, where pristine sands and clear blue waters set the stage for family fun. Take part in water sports, or simply relax under the sun while sipping a refreshing drink.
- **Vibrant City Getaways:** Discover the energy of dynamic cities with our centrally located hotels, perfect for families who love exploring urban landscapes. Whether it's shopping, dining, or sightseeing, there's no shortage of activities to keep everyone entertained.

The offer includes:

- 50% off your 2nd room. (50% off Best Available Rate)
- Discount will be applied upon arrival (The 2nd room must be occupied by children age 16 yrs and under).
- The offer will apply to families that book two rooms or more and mention that they will be accompanied by kids.

Promotion Period: From June 15th to October 15th, 2024.

Promo Code: BWKSM

** Information correct at time of print.*

Hi
Life!

meals & deals



Kick Back And Relax With CBM Home's Newest Mobile App!

CBM Home has 50 years of experience providing professional, comprehensive, and quality home services - from routine maintenance to emergency repairs and more!

Leave your home maintenance matters to CBM while you make more time for yourself to unwind and relax from your daily grind. The all-new CBM Home App mobile allows you to experience a seamless and easy booking at your convenience!

Promotion details:

- Enjoy 15% Off every Service with promo code **HLGSR15**.
- Earn and Accumulate Points to offset against payment for future Services used.

Terms & Conditions:

- Promotion shall apply each time with a total spending of \$100 and above.

How to redeem:

- Download Home App
- Use Promo Code HLGSR15 each time you use the App to enjoy 15% Off

This corporate offer is valid to all employees of Hong Leong Group (Singapore).

* Information correct at time of print.



Experience premium and efficient services with no hidden fees with 24/7 Customer Service Hotline, 100% satisfaction guaranteed!



meals & deals



Best Brunch Spots For A Weekend Treat In Singapore

Brunches in Singapore are a must-do with its bottomless champagne brunches, free-flow alcohol and other drink options. You can take your pick from buffets or à la carte menu but remember to always go with an empty stomach!

The best part about the weekend is... *brunch!*

With a vast selection of offerings across Singapore, we have put together a list of highly-rated restaurants for you and your loved ones to sit back, relax, and unwind over the weekend.

Madame Fan: "Dim Sum, Drink Sum" Brunch

The Madame has spoken, there's no better place to be than the house of Madame Fan for over-the-top weekend shenanigans.



A curated selection of dim sum for both the traditionalists and the adventurous at heart. Treat your loved ones to a weekend brunch of handcrafted Cantonese dim sum and classic specialities with a flow of champagne, cocktails, wine and beer.



meals & deals

Be spoilt for choice as the menu features over 40 unlimited servings of Dim Sum, Cantonese classic dishes and signature cocktails to fill any heart's desire. From the traditional Siew Long Bao to Black Truffle Dumplings, you will find modern Cantonese dishes like the Ume Wasabi Prawn, Steamed Boston Lobster and Jasmine Tea Smoked Ribs.

Elevate your experience with the Guzzle package and dig into mouthwatering plates while sipping on flutes of champagne. Those who prefer imbibing on cocktails can find a selection of concoctions to choose from.

Available Saturday, Sunday and public holidays at S\$98++ per person, 11:30am to 3pm at The NCO Club, South Beach.

A.B.C: Akira Back Brunch Club

Start your weekend with the Akira Back Brunch Club's latest brunch menu offering chef de cuisine Bill Hong's signatures. Handpicked seafood items are flown in daily from Japan, ensuring the highest quality fish used in the chef's daily assortment of sashimi, nigiri and maki rolls.

The South Korean heritage course that follows is a nod to chef-owner Akira Back's roots, which he incorporates into his modern Japanese cuisine. One of the highlights is the mung bean pancake accompanied by a light and colourful kimchi salad. The indulgence continues with unlimited servings of hotplates beef Toban and slices of Angus beef.

Available on Saturdays, from 12.00 PM. Brunch starts from \$98++ per person, at JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach, Level B1M.

Beach Road Kitchen

Beach Roach Kitchen offers an extensive brunch buffet menu with premium Lobster Claws, seasonal Oysters, German-style Pork Knuckle and an assortment of Cheese and Charcuterie for a hearty meal.

For an umami punch, you won't want to miss the signature Funghi Formaggio Pizza, a classic combination of cheese and mushrooms. Take a local twist with the Singapore Lobster Claw Laksa and savour delicate pâtisseries like Sakura Tartlet or Matcha Citrus Raspberry cake.



Savour modern Japanese cuisine from world-renowned chef Akira Back, featuring reinvented flavours, Korean accents and global influences.



Sunday Brunch just got better at Beach Road Kitchen with refreshed menu items such as Lobster Thermidor.



meals & deals

The Astor Grill

Sunday champagne brunch at The Astor Grill is an elegant fare, expect the best of French classic cuisine when you visit the restaurant.

Don't miss the creamy and buttery Foie Gras that pairs perfectly with the savoury onion jam and polenta. The premium mains on offer include a pan-seared Cod Fish with sautéed bell peppers and Taggiasca olives or an oven-roasted rack of Lamb that pairs beautifully with a sweet and spicy Romesco sauce and artichokes.

Available on Sundays, 12.30PM to 3.00PM
\$198++ per person (with Champagne R De Ruinart Brut NV); \$168++ per person (Sommelier's Choice – Wine); \$138++ person (Non-alcoholic Beverages); \$75++ (kids) at The St. Regis Hotel Lobby



Sunday brunch at The Astor Grill is a gourmet haven sprinkled with je ne sais quoi. Revel in a convivial showcase of seafood, gourmet cheese, chef's pass-around and main course.

** Information correct at time of print.*



Beijing Riviera
Mid-Autumn
Festival:
Mooncakes,
Lanterns
And
So Much More!

Two cute little younglings excitedly posing with the festival's backdrop as they immerse themselves in the festivities.

The Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Moon Festival or Mooncake Festival, is a harvest festival celebrated in Chinese culture. It is held on the 15th day of the 8th month of the Chinese lunisolar calendar with a full moon at night, corresponding to mid-September to early October of the Gregorian calendar.

On this day, the Chinese believe that the moon is at its brightest and fullest size, coinciding with harvest time in the middle of autumn. To celebrate this tradition, Beijing Riviera recently hosted its community to soak in the Mid-Autumn atmosphere.



They say effort triumphs over everything else, this statement cannot be more appropriate as little ones created their mooncakes for the many tummies at the festival.

The celebration included a DIY mooncake workshop where children participated in the process and fun of making iced skin mooncakes and crafted creative lanterns. Families and children had their fun together with riddles and hoop toss.



What is a celebration without fun family games for the adults and children!

When the moon shone over the event, families gathered with their lanterns to appreciate the moon, sharing warm moments and celebrating the beauty of the Mid-Autumn festival.



meals & deals



The Heritage Hotel Manila Celebrates 30th Anniversary And Appreciation For Long-Service Staff

At the milestone event, tokens of appreciation were given to 29 Heritage Hotel Manila staff for their 30 years of service.

The Heritage Hotel Manila recently celebrated its 30th anniversary by honouring employees who have rendered 3 decades of commitment and dedication.

The event shone its spotlight on 29 Service Awardees of 30 Years, as well as the 5, 10, 20, and 25 Years of Service.

"We are deeply grateful to everyone who joined us in celebrating this milestone," said Farid Schoucair, General Manager, The Heritage Hotel Manila. "We would not have gone this far if not for all of you. You are the reason why we are consistently No. 1 in guest engagement. You are the reason why guests keep coming back and supporting us. We look forward to many more years of being Home away from Home."

The Heritage Hotel Manila's history is a remarkable journey that began in August 1994, built to meet the rising need for upscale accommodations in the heart of Manila. What started as a modest venture has evolved into a renowned 4-star hotel, playing a pivotal role in the Philippines' hospitality industry. Its strategic location near NAIA Terminal 3 has made it a preferred destination for both international and local travellers.

For almost 30 years, this property has provided exceptional service and witnessed countless personal milestones and celebrations. As The Heritage Hotel Manila looks to the future, it remains focused on maintaining its signature service, while continuing to innovate and elevate the guest experience.



The celebration also recognised staff who invested their careers with Heritage Hotel Manila for 5, 10, 20, and 25 years.

“Our 30th anniversary is not only a time to celebrate the past but also to look ahead to the future. The ongoing refurbishment project and upcoming rebranding are part of our commitment that we continue to offer our guests quality standards of comfort and convenience.”



FIDE Celebrates Centenary In Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel And Hosted The Women's Grand Prix

Georgia became the epicentre of the chess world as elite women Grandmasters embark on an intense competition that will extend into the coming year.

The FIDE's 100th anniversary and Women's Chess Grand Prix recently took place at the Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel. This inaugural event features a strong lineup, including two former Women's World Champions - Alexandra Kosteniuk, winner of the Munich leg in the 2022/23 series, and Mariya Muzychuk - alongside some of the most promising players in the chess world today.

"We are delighted that this event will start in Georgia, given the country's rich chess legacy", said FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich.

"FIDE has made women's chess one of its priorities, and the updated Women's Grand Prix series is an opportunity to further raise awareness of women's chess, hopefully getting more female players and more sponsors involved".

Georgia's most revered chess figure, Nona Gaprindashvili, delighted the audience by playing a friendly chess match with FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich. In a twist, midway through the game, they stepped away from the board, inviting another pair of players - Anna Muzychuk and Alina Kashlinskaya - to continue the match.



The tournament features a ten-player round-robin, including two former Women's World Champions — Alexandra Kosteniuk, winner of the Munich leg in the 2022/23 series, and Mariya Muzychuk.



Nona Gaprindashvili (left) shook hands with FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich (right) before commencing a friendly chess match for the audience. To celebrate the occasion, a giant 120cm tall commemorative cake shaped like a chess queen was presented at the end of the ceremony.

Celebrating its 100th anniversary

The venue for the FIDE 100 ceremony, the Congress Hall of the Biltmore Hotel, holds deep historical significance. This Tbilisi landmark, which once housed sessions of the Georgian Parliament, is symbolic of the country's history. It was here that the 1991 Act of Restoration of State Independence and the 1995 Constitution of Georgia were signed.

"It is my pleasure and honour to be here for the first stage of the Women's Grand Prix. I am delighted to celebrate FIDE's 100th anniversary. The torch has travelled to many countries, including Canada just a few days ago, and now it has arrived in Tbilisi. I would like to thank the Georgian authorities and the Georgian Chess Federation for welcoming us. Georgia has consistently hosted top-level events, and we are grateful for that. I am sure we will return here again," said Arkady.



The Congress Hall of Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel holds a significant history and role in Georgian and chess history. It also hosted the finals of the 2017 FIDE World Cup between Levon Aronian and Ding Liren

The Tbilisi celebration is one of many global events marking FIDE's 100th anniversary, reflecting the enduring legacy of chess and its continued relevance on the world stage.



play



Let The Good Times Roll With HLGSRC

Tedric Foo (HLGSRC Sports Secretary) in disbelief as his comrades celebrate his amazing spare.

Hong Leong Group Sports & Recreation Club (HLGSRC) held its Bowling Tournament for staff from the Hong Leong Group of Companies Singapore on 8 September 2024 at Superbowl SAFRA Mount Faber.

The atmosphere was lively as the annual event saw more than 40 staff sharing laughs and cheers over friendly competition.



Cheers to rolling good times!

Whether they bowled strikes or spares, everyone walked away a winner with stronger bonds and memories of good times on the lanes.



Congratulations to our winners! Top 3 men (from left): Poh Liong Yan (1st runner up, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel), Tse Chun Kit (Champion, City Developments Ltd), Tan Boh Meng (2nd runner up, CBM Pte Ltd) Top 3 ladies (from left): Sophia Peh (2nd runner up, City Developments Ltd), Violet Leong (Champion, Orchard Hotel Singapore), Pedrinha Furtado (1st runner up, City Serviced Offices).



A Pink Celebration For Millennium Sirih Jakarta's Pearl Anniversary

Millennium Sirih Jakarta General Manager Mr Manny Mercado (centre) celebrates the hotel's 30th anniversary with his team in a unified colour theme of pink.

Millennium Hotel Sirih Jakarta recently celebrated its pearl anniversary with a tribute to the hotel's 30 years of excellence with employees, guests and business associates.

In honour of this remarkable achievement, the hotel curated a series of exclusive promotions and events where guests were rewarded with special room packages and enticing food and beverage offers that highlighted the hotel's unwavering dedication to providing exceptional hospitality



The celebratory journey for employees included a special race event in conjunction with Indonesia's Independence Day (17 Aug) and outings to the cinema foster camaraderie and team spirit



play

The anniversary festivities culminated on 5 September 2024, as corporate and government accounts were invited to the hotel lobby for an intimate celebration. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Mr. Allova Herling Mengko, Company Director of Millennium Hotel Sirih Jakarta.

This event featured exquisite decorations and commenced with a captivating Traditional Indonesian Dance, "Jaipong." A welcoming speech delivered by Mr. Manny Mercado, the General Manager, followed by the sharing of the festive Nasi Tumpeng and Giant Cake with all attendees.



The festivities included a traditional Indonesian dance "Jaipong" (left photo) and even a blood donation drive to give back to the community that has contributed to the hotel's 30 years of success (right photo).

Throughout the afternoon, guests were delighted by the Nusantara Journeys culinary celebration, showcasing a diverse array of traditional and modern Indonesian dishes.

In line with the hotel's commitment to community welfare, both guests and employees had the opportunity to donate blood, underscoring the hotel's dedication to making a positive impact beyond its walls.

Sincere gratitude was extended to all who contributed to Millennium Hotel Sirih Jakarta's journey over the past 30 years, and this remarkable milestone was celebrated together.



The team poses for a shot at the hotel entrance to mark the joyous occasion.

Hi
Life!

play



The Best Sentosa
Beach Club
For A Day
Of Fun
In The Sun

Dive into one of the largest private outdoor pools in Singapore with a vibrant marina experience.

Lifestyle publication Urban List recently featured the sizzling **WET Deck at W Singapore – Sentosa Cove** as one of the coolest Sentosa beach clubs to enjoy a day out in the sun!

With its idyllic location and unrivalled amenities, WET Deck is an exclusive poolside day escape offering relaxation and entertainment. You can indulge in their private cabanas (complete with plush poolside sofas), take a dip in the resort pool, enjoy refreshing cocktails from the poolside bar, bust a move to live DJ performances, and even pamper yourself with a rejuvenating spa treatment.

Once you've worked up an appetite, the menu showcases a fusion of international flavours, featuring fresh seafood, vibrant salads, and delectable snacks.

To top off your indulgent experience, book a stay at one of the hotel's luxurious rooms so the fun doesn't stop!



MHR Raises S\$500,000 For Community Chest At Retro-Themed Annual Charity Dinner

MHR Executive Director Mr Kwek Eik Sheng (right) presenting the donation cheque of S\$500,000 to Community Chest Chairman Mr Chew Sutat (centre) and Community Chest Vice Chairman Mr Chew Kwee San (left).

On 30 August, Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) successfully hosted its second annual Charity Dinner at Orchard Hotel Singapore, raising a remarkable \$500,000 in support of Community Chest.

This year's retro-themed event took guests on a journey through time, offering a fun and nostalgic atmosphere. The dinner saw a 30% increase in attendees and funds raised compared to last year, reflecting the growing support and enthusiasm for this meaningful cause.

The evening was filled with entertainment, starting with lively tunes from the Summertimes Big Band, which set the perfect mood for the retro-themed event. One of the highlights of the night was a heartfelt performance by Ms Claire Teo, a visually impaired vocalist from ART:DIS, an organisation that benefits from Community Chest's initiatives.

MHR's fundraising efforts since the start of 2024, including hosting Sharity's Birthday Lunch at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel and the funds raised during the Charity Dinner, contributed to the S\$500,000 donation to Community Chest. Together, these efforts have made a significant impact, enabling continued support for Community Chest's various programmes that uplift those in need.



(L-R) Mr Vincent Yeo, CEO of CDL Hospitality Trusts; Mrs Eunice Yeo, Founder of Peace of Art; Mr Andy Tan, SVP, Sales & Partnership; Mr Chew Kwee San, Vice Chairman of Singapore Community Chest; Mr Kwek Eik Sheng, MHR Executive Director; Mr Saurabh Prakash, Chief Operating Officer & Chief Commercial Officer; Mr Benedict Ng, VP, Operations SEA and North America.



Participants turned up in their retro best, all ready to celebrate and raise funds for Community Chest.



Attendees gamely participated in the stage games and brought much laughter and cheers from the crowds.

Affirming MHR's commitment in giving back to the community, this year's Charity Dinner stands out as a shining example of how collaboration between businesses, individuals, and communities can create positive change. The event's success and increased participation highlight the power of unity and compassion in building a more inclusive society.



Ending the night on a high note! The MHR team has once again shown its strong commitment to supporting the community and creating positive change.



Heartwarming Blood Donation Drive Unites Community At Millennium Place Doha

The blood donation drive saw enthusiastic participants coming together with a shared purpose to save lives.

The heartwarming blood donation drive held on 25 August at Millennium Place Doha was a testament to the power of community and the importance of giving back to society.

Held in partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation, the event saw enthusiastic participants coming together with a shared purpose to make a difference and save lives. The cheerful energy and genuine smiles that filled the space created an uplifting atmosphere, with donors eagerly rolling up their sleeves to contribute to this meaningful cause.

The welcoming environment, coupled with the diligent efforts of the Hamad Medical Corporation team, ensured a smooth and comfortable experience for all participants. The event not only showcased the generosity of those who participated but also highlighted the spirit of unity and camaraderie that defines Millennium Place Doha.

The success of this event reflects the impact that can be made when individuals come together for a common goal. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the donors and the incredible team at Hamad Medical Corporation for their contributions in making the world a brighter and better place.

Hi Life!

care



The positive energy and strong support from the donors and the team from Hamad Medical Corporation made the blood donation drive a great success.



Millennium Airport Dubai Exceeds Target To Recycle, Reforest, And Repeat

In support of the "Recycle. Reforest. Repeat" campaign by the Emirates Environmental Group, Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai collected over 2,420 kg of paper during the campaign period.

Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai recently did their bit to reduce, reuse, and recycle to manage waste and minimise environment impact.

To commemorate "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought", the hotel participated in the Emirates Environmental Group's "Recycle. Reforest. Repeat" 2024 campaign.

The campaign aims to collect 1,000 kg of paper from all sectors from 17 June to 24 July 2024, including old newspapers, magazines, cardboard, office papers, and envelopes

The team at Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai collected over 2,420 kg of paper during the campaign, exceeding the minimum requirement of 1,000 kg. By participating in this campaign, the hotel aimed to reduce its carbon footprint, support local reforestation projects, and inspire the community to adopt more sustainable practices.

Kudos to the team for its strong efforts and let's continue to recycle, reforest, and repeat to preserve our planet for future generations!



CDL Volunteers
Bring Mid-Autumn
Cheer To
Patients At
Assisi Hospice

CDL Group Chief Operating Officer Mr Kwek Eik Sheng (right) and Group General Manager Mr Chia Ngiang Hong (centre) distributed mooncakes to in-ward patients at Assisi Hospice to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival.

To celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival, a cheery group of City Developments Limited (CDL) volunteers, including some from CDL's employee volunteer platform City Sunshine Club, came together and brought a celestial celebration to the patients at Assisi Hospice.

It was heartwarming to see the patients create precious memories with their loved ones through various activities such as the making of floral boat lanterns and watching roving circus performances presented by skilled professionals. One of the main highlights included a light up of giant animal lanterns by CEO of Assisi Hospice, Ms Choo Shiu Ling and CDL's Group Chief Operating Officer, Mr Kwek Eik Sheng.



To mark the start of the lantern walk, Assisi Hospice CEO Ms Choo Shiu Ling and CDL Group Chief Operating Officer Mr Kwek Eik Sheng lit the giant animal lanterns at the courtyard.



Volunteers from CDL's employee volunteer platform City Sunshine Club, joined Assisi Hospice Day Care patients and their families in floral boat lantern making session, creating beautifully handcrafted lanterns using preserved flowers and fairy lights.



Tasek Saves Endangered Species In Malaysia, One Turtle At A Time

An enjoyable and informative learning session at the Segari Turtle Sanctuary, which seeks to educate the public on the conservation and protection of sea turtle.

There is no better way to show care for the environment than through real action.

This was exactly what 43 of our colleagues from cement manufacturer, Tasek Corporation (also a subsidiary of Hong Leong Asia) did. The enthusiastic group spent a meaningful Saturday morning with their families at Segari Turtle Sanctuary in the coastal town of Lumut in the state of Perak, West Malaysia.



Both adult and children volunteers received a meaningful hands-on experience to care for the turtles and the sanctuary.

Segari Turtle Sanctuary is a turtle nursery and hatching centre that also serves as a visitor information centre to educate the public on the conservation and protection of sea turtle. The Hatching Centre releases between 2,500 and 3,500 turtle hatchlings annually into the sea since 1990.

The event was a great success. It not only contributed to the well-being of the turtles at the sanctuary, but also fostered a sense of environmental stewardship among the participants. This in line with HLA's aspiration of enabling healthier environments and communities under its corporate responsibility initiative, #BeyondHLA.



Big smiles from the team after a fruitful morning at the Segari Turtle Sanctuary. Beyond caring for the turtles at the sanctuary, the visit also created greater awareness and a sense of environmental stewardship among the participants.



Hong Leong Group Helps Raise S\$103,000 To Keep Children's Dreams Alive

700 students embark on a historical adventure for Children's Day.

Our representatives from the Hong Leong Group of companies taking a pose with Guest-of-Honour Ms Gan Siow Huang, Minister of State for Education and Manpower (centre) at the Children for Children charity event.

Clockwise from left in the foreground: Mr Allen Ang (CDL EVP for Green Building and Safety); Mr Andy Tan (MHR SVP of Global Sales & Partnerships); Ms Joan Yeo (HLF CFO); Mr Kwek Eik Sheng (Hong Leong Foundation Governor); Mr Chia Ngiang Hong (CDL Group General Manager); Ms Tan Siow Leng (HLH Senior Legal Counsel); and Ms Kwek Pei Xuan (HLA Executive Director).

The Hong Leong Group of companies returned with enthusiastic support for Children for Children (CFC), an annual community event, and helped raise S\$103,000 for underprivileged kids this year. The companies are Hong Leong Foundation, City Developments Limited (CDL), Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR), Hong Leong Holdings (HLH), Hong Leong Asia (HLA) and Hong Leong Finance (HLF).

Other donors for CFC 2024 include CWT Limited, Nippon Paint, Ransack, TS Group and UBS. Together with Hong Leong Group, a total of S\$103,000 was raised for underprivileged children this year.

During the event 3 October, 700 school students came together to celebrate Children's Day with The Great Puzzle Hunt, a fun-filled day of adventure that included a visit to The Battlebox, Singapore's only operational World War II bunker. The Battlebox reopened last year under new management and provides enhanced experience including 270° projection rooms, offering a unique learning opportunity about the nation's wartime history using modern technology.



Event donors including representatives from Hong Leong Group of companies enjoying an educational tour at The Battlebox with school children as tour guides.

After the puzzle hunt, students from CHIJ (Kellock) will host the event's participants with performances and mini-carnival activities at Fort Canning Hotel, adding a festive and celebratory atmosphere to the day.

The event is jointly organised by CHIJ (Kellock), non-profit arts organisation TRCL, and Singapore's business daily, The Business Times. The event aims to provide children with a meaningful experience that blends education and entertainment while fostering a deeper understanding of Singapore's heritage and history. This year's event had Ms Gan Siow Huang, Minister of State for Education and Manpower as the Guest-of-Honour.

Ms Chen Huifen, Editor of The Business Times, hopes the event can energise the children. She said: "The Business Times Budding Artists Fund (BT BAF) remains committed to its mission that no child is left behind, and CFC is an annual undertaking that resonates strongly with these words. As one of the first instances where children comes into contact with BT BAF and its work, CFC is also a chance to show that we remember and are aware of our underserved children in society. 'Hold on to Our Dreams' is also an apt theme to remind the children to stay strong in the face of adversity and keep their dreams and aspirations as their focus as they grow up."

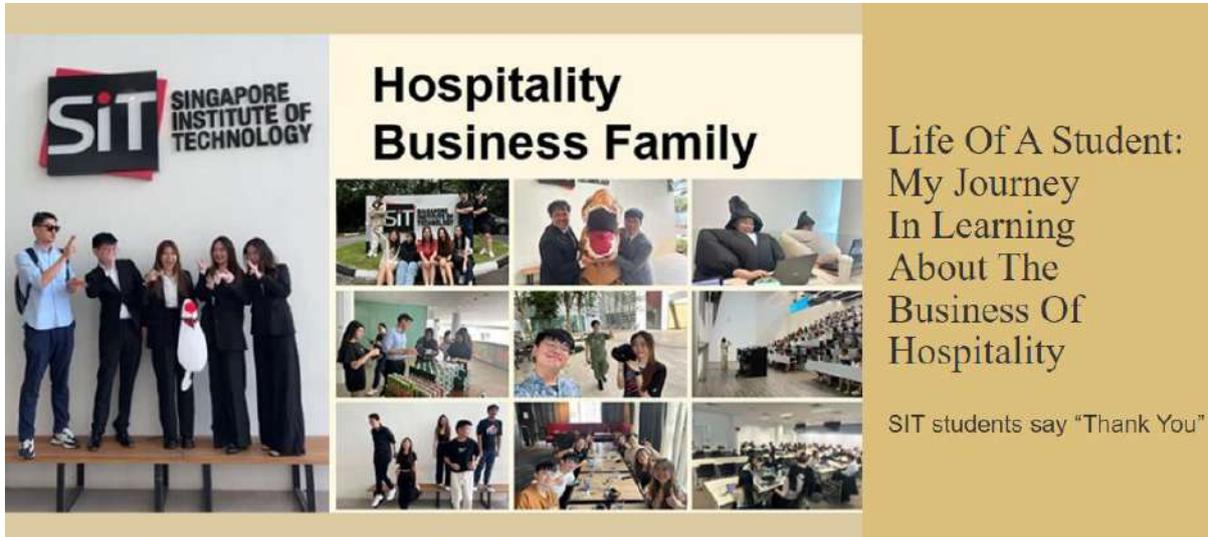
CFC is more than just a fun-filled event—it also serves as a fundraiser for BT BAF, which aims to uplift underserved children and youth aged between six to 19 years old through the transformative power of the arts via fully sponsored arts training programmes; helping them build confidence, develop their characters and expand their skill sets.



The event also included student performances by CHIJ (Kellock) Primary School that included a mesmerising performance by the school's gymnastics team (pictured above).



voices



The student council at Singapore Institute of Technology's (SIT) Hospitality Business programme and their activities to provide real-life work experiences and act as a bridge between the student body and the faculty.

Mr Gerald Oh is a 2nd year undergraduate currently studying in SIT's Hospitality Business (HB) Programme. He is also President of HB Student Management Committee that organises student activities for the HB community.

Grateful for Chairman Kwek and CDL's joint donations towards SIT and the HB programme, Gerald submitted a special contribution to Hi Life and share his journey with us.

How and what got you inspired to learn about hospitality?

My passion for hospitality stems from my love of organising and planning events, which began during my time in secondary school. I later pursued this passion by enrolling in the Events and Project Management course at Singapore Polytechnic. Wanting to deepen my knowledge and refine my skills further, I decided to join SIT's Hospitality Business (HB) programme. The diverse and vibrant nature of the hospitality industry, coupled with my desire to create memorable experiences for others, inspired me to learn more about this exciting field.

What did you learn in the HB programme?

The HB programme has been an enriching journey that combines both theoretical knowledge and practical experience. Through hands-on projects with industry partners, we've tackled real-life challenges such as designing a hybrid human-robot-AI service innovation blueprint. The programme also provided opportunities to participate in the Overseas Winter School Exchange, where we collaborated with German counterparts on entrepreneurship. The 8-month Integrated Work Study Programme (IWSP) was particularly impactful, allowing us to apply what we've learned in the classroom to actual industry settings. These experiences have given me a comprehensive understanding of the hospitality sector and equipped me with the skills needed to navigate its challenges.



An overview of the activities organised by SIT Hospitality Business Student Management Committee in 2024.

What are some takeaways, and how do you think you have benefited from the programme that Mr Kwek and CDL helped to support?

One of the key takeaways from the HB programme is the importance of adaptability and innovation in the ever-evolving hospitality landscape. The support from Mr Kwek and CDL has been instrumental in making my educational journey at SIT possible. The scholarships, bursaries, and opportunities funded through their generosity have not only alleviated financial burdens but also motivated us to strive for academic and leadership excellence. Additionally, the new Punggol campus, with the support of their endowed gifts, enhances our learning experience and provides an ideal environment for growth. The learning environment at SIT, with cutting-edge facilities and strong industry integration, is something we are truly grateful for.

Is the Hospitality Business programme been helpful in your career aspirations? What are your future plans and goals?

Absolutely. The HB programme has aligned perfectly with my career aspirations. I aim to continue contributing to the hospitality industry by pursuing a role that combines my passion for event management with innovative service solutions. The skills and experiences I've gained through the programme have strengthened my confidence in navigating the complexities of the industry. In the future, I aspire to take on leadership roles, potentially working towards shaping new hospitality experiences that embrace technology while maintaining the warmth and personal touch that define the sector.



Here is Gerald Oh and his family. With passions in community service, concerts and events, his life motto is to “live fully, cherish every moment, experience everything and anything.”

Any words or personal thoughts you’d like to share with Mr Kwek, CDL, and our companies?

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Mr Kwek and CDL for their unwavering support of SIT and students like myself. The endowed gift and initiatives have opened up so many doors for us, both in terms of financial aid and the opportunities to excel academically and personally. The Kwek Leng Beng University Tower at the Punggol campus is a symbol of how their generosity has enriched our learning journey. The book, "Strictly Business: The Kwek Leng Beng Story," has also been an inspiration, showing us the importance of perseverance and vision in creating a legacy in the hospitality industry. Thank you for empowering the next generation of hospitality leaders—we are all excited to carry forward the values of excellence and innovation that you embody.



Ms Vivian Tan, currently Assistant Manager with CDL's Sales & Marketing team for Property Development, shares about her professional growth with the company.

Vivian Tan started at CDL as a Marketing Executive six years ago and was soon entrusted with managing a residential project launch. This experience played a key role in her development as a real estate marketing professional. This is what she said.

“ Since joining CDL, I have advanced from a junior position to roles with increased responsibilities, supported by growth opportunities and challenging projects like Haus on Handy.

It was the first project I was entrusted with during my second year with CDL. This project marked the beginning of a journey filled with continuous growth, learning, and meaningful contributions to CDL.

As the main lead, I was responsible for organising and leading meetings, conducting in-depth market research to understand the competitive landscape, maintaining regular communication with stakeholders to integrate their feedback and spearheading the development, formulation and execution of sales and marketing strategies for the project. and form

Through effective teamwork, we launched our project, exceeded key marketing milestones, garnered positive stakeholder feedback and achieved a full sell-out.



Pictured here is Vivian with her colleagues at the show flat of Haus on Handy as they prepared for the balloting of units. (L-R): SVP and Head of Sales & Marketing Ms Adeline Ong; AVP for Marketing Communications Ms April Chiang; Ms Vivian Tan; and AVP for Property Development Ms Rachel Ong.



voices

From Marketing Executive to Assistant Manager, my career progressed from executing campaigns and leading projects to strategic decision-making and mentoring junior colleagues.

This progression has been supported by mentorship and professional development opportunities that enhanced my leadership skills and strategic insights. I look forward to further contributing to CDL's success and advancing in the dynamic field of marketing management.



The 188-unit Haus on Handy residential condominium private residences successfully launched in 2019 and was fully sold in March 2023. Pictured above was the packed show flat when Haus on Handy first opened for previews in June 2019.



Ms Tan (seated centre) with the Sales & Marketing team at CDL's 60th anniversary dinner in January this year.



congratulations / appointments



UK's Crème
De La Crème
Of Spas
Revealed With
The Lowry Hotel
In 2nd Spot!

Be rejuvenated at RE:TREAT, which offers state-of-the art technology and a wide range of holistic treatments and wellness classes.

The UK's crème de la crème of spas have been revealed and RE:TREAT at The Lowry Hotel in Manchester took the second spot in The Good Spa Guide's 15th annual awards. More than 259,000 spa enthusiasts participated in the awards to cast their votes for their favourite spa.

The Lowry Hotel prides itself on offering the extraordinary and that extends to its spa, which invites you to 'arrive beautiful, leave gorgeous' alongside a generous helping of serenity. Following a transformative refurbishment, the RE:TREAT spa offers a sanctuary of well-being and state-of-the-art experiences.



RE:TREAT features technology-based equipment such as the ice-pod cryotherapy chamber (left) and wellness classes from yoga to guided meditation and sound healing.

RE:TREAT boasts of highly trained therapists and technology-based equipment such as a cryotherapy chamber, meditation pod and sensory deprivation tank. There are also six treatment rooms where therapists use a combination of Grown Alchemist, GAIA and Elemis product lines as well as their own in-house brands, to deliver an enticing collection of face and body treatments. Guests can also enjoy the relaxation room, manicure and pedicure services, or attend specialised wellness classes at the well-equipped gym and fitness studio.



congratulations / appointments



CDL Sweeps Multiple Awards In September, Showcasing Its Strong Leadership And Governance

CDL team at the 2024 Sustainability Impact Awards.

September was an exciting month for City Developments Limited (CDL) as it received accolades and recognition across multiple award categories. Congratulations to the CDL team for the remarkable achievements!

2024 Sustainability Impact Awards



CDL Group CEO Mr Sherman Kwek (right) receiving the Impact Enterprise of the Year award from President Tharman Shanmugaratnam.



CDL Chief Sustainability Officer Ms Esther An (right) was recognised as the Impact Leader of the Year for being a pioneer in sustainability.

CDL clinched the **Impact Enterprise of the Year award** under the large enterprise category for its capacity-building and thought leadership in climate action at the 2024 Sustainability Impact Awards. In addition, Chief Sustainability Officer Ms Esther An was named **Impact Leader of the Year** for being a pioneer in the sustainability arena.



congratulations / appointments

Jointly presented by The Business Times and UOB, the Sustainability Impact Awards was first launched in February 2023 to recognise and celebrate outstanding individuals and companies who strive to make an impact on the environment and society, driving innovations towards a greener future.

Investors' Choice Awards 2024



A double win for CDL at the Investors' Choice Awards 2024, reflecting its strong commitment to corporate governance excellence.

CDL received double honours for corporate governance excellence at the Securities Investors Association (Singapore) Investors' Choice Awards 2024, which recognises outstanding companies and individuals who exemplify top-tier ESG and corporate governance practices.

This year, CDL received the **Most Transparent Company Award** (Real Estate Category) and the **Shareholder Communications Excellence Award** (Big Cap Category).

For close to three decades, CDL's triple bottom line approach — balancing financial performance, ethical responsibility, and a commitment to environmental and social stewardship — has driven value creation and delivered positive impact. Looking ahead, its ESG framework will continue to guide CDL in refining its business practices, uncovering sustainable opportunities and implementing cutting-edge strategies for future success.

Building and Construction Authority (BCA) Awards 2024

Cementing its leadership in the built environment sector, CDL was conferred the pinnacle **Company of the Year Award** at the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) Awards 2024, in recognition of its long-standing commitment and contributions to driving enterprise and value-chain transformation.



congratulations / appointments

Introduced this year, the Award seeks to spur firms in the sector to go beyond project-level initiatives towards outstanding achievements in their business operations and value chain, as well as workforce transformation at the enterprise level.

CDL also received the **Quality Excellence Award**, marking its 12th consecutive win since 2013. This award recognises leading progressive developers and builders for their commitment and achievement in delivering high quality homes, workmanship excellence and quality assurance programmes.



CDL is the only developer to receive the prestigious Company of the Year Award.



congratulations / appointments



Mr Devendra
Shivhare
Joins MHR As
Vice President Of
Global Information
Systems &
Digital Solutions

With over 20 years of experience in information technology and digital transformation, Mr Devendra Shivhare will oversee the strategic planning, application and implementation of MHR's global IT infrastructure, digital transformation projects, and cybersecurity measures.

Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) welcomes Mr Devendra Shivhare (Dev), who joined MHR in September as Vice President, Global Information Systems & Digital Solutions.

Dev brings over 20 years of experience in information technology and digital transformation, having worked with organisations such as The Coca-Cola Company, Singapore Press Holdings Group, and Criteo.

In his new role, Dev will oversee the strategic planning, application and implementation of MHR's global IT infrastructure, digital transformation projects, and cybersecurity measures. He will also work closely with the leadership team to align technology initiatives with MHR's organisational objectives and drive innovation across its operations.



congratulations / appointments



Adrian Ellis,
Retired GM Of
The Lowry Hotel
Wins Lifetime
Achievement
Award

Mr Adrian Ellis, former general manager of The Lowry Hotel, was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award, honouring his 40-year career in hospitality and his dedication to education in the sector.

Congratulations to Mr Adrian Ellis, former General Manager of The Lowry Hotel in Manchester, for receiving top honour at the AA Hospitality Awards 2024.

Mr Ellis who retired in June 2024, was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his 40-year career running hotels in the UK and abroad, as well as launching the Schools and Hotels Liaison Programme to educate the next generation about hospitality.

He said: "I am delighted and honoured to receive this award in recognition of my commitment both to the industry and to developing educational initiatives and tackling the recruitment challenges that the industry still faces."

Adrian was the General Manager of The Lowry Hotel since 2015 and retired this year after almost ten years of excellent service and leadership. He was awarded the coveted Hotelier of the Year title in 2022.

The 61-year-old spent 15 years abroad working in Singapore, Warsaw, Budapest, Baku and Bali, he returned to the UK in 2015 and has been general manager of the Lowry ever since. During his time at the hotel, he oversaw a full-scale refurbishment and tackled the challenges of the pandemic. He also introduced the UK's first city visitor charge under his eight-year-long chairmanship of the Manchester Hotel Association (MHA).

"All my jobs in hospitality, from the first I had when I was 26 managing a hotel to my last position at the Lowry, have been varied, interesting and very fulfilling. It's time to say goodbye to a life of full-on operations, so I'm bowing out gracefully. I had a really great career and loved every minute of it, but it is time to do something new. I'm retiring, but I'm not disappearing!" said Mr Ellis in an interview with *The Caterer*, a hospitality publication.

From all of us at Hi Life, we wish Mr Ellis a happy retirement!



getting to know you



“Learning Chinese Is Very Important.”

Chairman Kwek Launches Chinese Edition Of His Biography

Marking the successful launch of *Strictly Business: The Kwek Leng Beng Story* 《在商言商：郭令明》: (L-R) Ms Lee Huay Leng, Editor-in-Chief, Chinese Media Group, SPH Media 李慧玲女士, 新报业媒体华文媒体集团社长; Mrs Cecilia Kwek 郭佩玲女士; Mr Kwek Leng Beng, Executive Chairman of Hong Leong Group 郭令明先生, 丰隆集团执行主席; Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat 副总理王瑞杰先生; Mr Peh Shing Huei, book's author 白胜晖先生, 《在商言商》作者; Ms Suzane Quek, book's translator 郭书真女士, 《在商言商》中文版翻译者.

On 26 September 2024, Hong Leong Group Executive Chairman Mr Kwek Leng Beng launched the Chinese edition of his biography, *Strictly Business: The Kwek Leng Beng Story*, with Singapore Deputy Prime Minister Heng (DPM) Swee Keat as the Guest-of-Honour. Titled 《在商言商：郭令明》, the book follows the successful launch of the English edition last November.

Written by award-winning author Mr Peh Shing Huei and translated by Ms Suzane Quek, the book was launched this morning with 150 guests at a private event at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel Singapore. Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) Heng Swee Keat was the Guest-of-Honour. 《在商言商》 is published in collaboration with Focus Publishing Ltd, a subsidiary of SPH Media Holdings.

Mr Kwek, who is Executive Chairman of Hong Leong Group Singapore and leading global real estate company City Developments Limited (CDL), said, “After the launch of the English edition of my biography, it was important that we publish a Chinese edition to reach out to the Chinese-speaking community in Singapore and overseas, as this holds special significance for me. This book is a written testament of my experiences and the lessons I’ve learnt over the years that have guided my business thinking and shaped my philosophy.”



getting to know you



Mr Kwek presenting an artwork as a token of appreciation to Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) Heng Swee Keat.



Mr Kwek gamely thanked the audience in Mandarin, while DPM lauded him for his fortitude and stoicism for steering Hong Leong Group out of crises and turning them into opportunities over the years.

Flying our flag in five continents; inspiring a new generation of entrepreneurs worldwide

“My father, Kwek Hong Png, started Hong Leong Group by working closely with the local community and small and medium enterprises. We steadily grew the business over the years but have never forgotten our roots. Hong Leong Group is very much a part of Singapore’s corporate history, and I am proud we are flying our flag today in five continents. Through this book, I hope to connect more deeply with the local community, and to inspire other entrepreneurs and business leaders to pursue their passion and make their mark in the world of business.”

《在商言商》 *Strictly Business* spans Mr Kwek’s six decades of breakthroughs across multiple sectors, including real estate, hospitality, and finance. It tells the story of a driven business leader who consistently overcame crises to build one of Asia’s largest conglomerates, with his companies and brands being blue-chip counters and household names.



DPM Heng and his wife Mrs Heng (in blue jacket) were warmly welcomed by Chairman Kwek and Mrs Cecilia Kwek, CDL Group CEO Mr Sherman Kwek (behind Mrs Kwek).



getting to know you



Mr Sherman Kwek who also gave a congratulatory speech at the event, took a pose with Chairman Kwek while holding a copy of the book.

Being accessible to the global Chinese-speaking community

Ms Lee Huay Leng, Editor-in-Chief, Chinese Media Group, SPH Media, said, “The story of Mr Kwek Leng Beng represents a significant chapter in our shared Singapore narrative. It is wonderful that the journey of this Singaporean Chinese entrepreneur, who has made a global impact through his family business, is being made accessible to Chinese-speaking readers at home and abroad.”

CDL Group Chief Executive Officer Mr Sherman Kwek and author Mr Peh Shing Huei who were at the event, also delivered their congratulatory speeches to Mr Kwek on the successful launch of the Chinese edition of his biography.



Ms Lee Huay Leng, Editor-in-Chief of Chinese Media Group, SPH Media (left) said the book is being made accessible to Chinese-speaking readers, while author Mr Peh Shing Huei enthusiastically said the book is a must-read for all business leaders and entrepreneurs.



getting to know you



Chairman, DPM Heng and his wife Mrs Heng spotted sharing a light-hearted moment.



Staff and senior executives from Hong Leong Group and CDL take a group shot with DPM Heng.



The Hong Leong Finance team also took the opportunity to take a selfie with DPM Heng.



getting to know you

Standing tallest: Completion of Kwek Leng Beng University Tower

The event also unveiled the completion of the Kwek Leng Beng University Tower at the Singapore Institute of Technology's (SIT) new Punggol campus. Housing SIT's academic and administrative offices, the tower is named in appreciation of the joint endowed gift of S\$24 million by Mr Kwek and CDL. With a matching grant from the Government, the total endowment contribution amounts to S\$60 million.

Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR), a subsidiary of CDL, showed its strong support for Mr Kwek's book launch by serving well-known speciality dishes from its Singapore hotels and restaurants at the reception. These included special menu items by Hua Ting Restaurant from Orchard Hotel Singapore, Grand Shanghai Restaurant, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel's Banquet team, and Princess Terrace Café from Copthorne King's Hotel.

A musical ensemble from Siong Leng Musical Association, a beneficiary of Hong Leong Foundation, added to the celebratory mood by performing a medley of Chinese classics and pop songs with the guzheng, pipa, erhu and dizi.



The book 《在商言商》 Strictly Business made several sales at the event.



A total of 150 guests including the Kwek family, friends, Hong Leong Group staff and executives, as well as business associates and partners (left photo) enjoyed the speeches, and the medley of Chinese music performed by Siong Leong Music Association (right photo).





getting to know you



A customised feast of special Chinese items was prepared with the combined effort of MHR's culinary teams from Hua Ting Restaurant from Orchard Hotel Singapore, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel's Banquet team, Grand Shanghai Restaurant, and Princess Terrace from Copthorne King's Hotel.

Let's give our best. Hwaiting!

《在商言商》 *Strictly Business* is available at all major bookstores and on [ZShop](#) at the retail price of S\$28 (before GST). For bulk purchases, kindly email focuspub@sph.com.sg.



《在商言商》 *Strictly Business* is available at all major bookstores including Books Kinokuniya, a major Japanese bookstore chain, and on [ZShop](#) at the retail price of S\$28.