

**MEDIA RELEASE  
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**Start of enhancement works for the new Tropical Montane Orchidetum at National Orchid Garden to showcase greater variety of orchid exhibits**

- *Refreshed orchid exhibits at the Tropical Montane Orchidetum comprising The Sembcorp Cool House, Tan Hoon Siang Mist House, Yuen Peng McNeice Bromeliad House, and Secret Ravine to be ready in 2019*

Singapore, 30 June 2017 – The National Parks Board (NParks) today announced the start of enhancement works for the National Orchid Garden, located within the Singapore Botanic Gardens. The enhancements will focus on the new Tropical Montane Orchidetum, comprising The Sembcorp Cool House, Tan Hoon Siang Mist House and Yuen Peng McNeice Bromeliad House, all of which will be connected by the Secret Ravine. The consolidation of the Cool House, Bromeliad House and Mist House into one curated attraction will increase the combined display area by three times. The enhancement of the 22-year-old National Orchid Garden will strengthen the Singapore Botanic Gardens' role in orchid conservation, breeding and research, while cultivating in visitors a greater appreciation for orchids. The enhancements are targeted to complete in 2019 and the cost of these works will be partially borne by contributions from the community. These contributions include a S\$10 million donation by Sembcorp Industries, made in line with the company's longstanding commitment to give back to its communities. This is the largest single donation to the Garden City Fund to date, and will go towards the upgrading of The Sembcorp Cool House.

Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance Lawrence Wong officiated a ceremony this evening to mark the start of works at the Orchid Garden, together with Mr Ang Kong Hua, Chairman of Sembcorp Industries. The ceremony also kick-started festivities for the annual Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Festival, which will run from 30 June to 9 July 2017.

New Tropical Montane Orchidetum at National Orchid Garden to be completed by 2019

When the enhancement works are completed in 2019, the National Orchid Garden will welcome visitors to the new Tropical Montane Orchidetum showcasing the most diversity of orchids ranging from those found in the rich mid to high-elevation montane forest, in a single location in Singapore. A new Secret Ravine will take visitors seamlessly from the mid forest zones of the Yuen Peng McNeice Bromeliad House, to the tropical garden in the Tan Hoon Siang Mist House, continuously into the cool, tropical upper montane atmosphere of The Sembcorp Cool House. The Tropical Montane Orchidetum will also be home to the Singapore Botanic Gardens' hybrids, which can only be seen in the Gardens. Details of the enhancement works can be found in Media Factsheet A.

### The Sembcorp Cool House will showcase rare orchids at higher elevations

The Sembcorp Cool House will be installed with optimal system designs that meet energy efficiency and sustainability requirements. This will also provide more opportunities to grow and bring to flower rare orchids found naturally at higher elevations while paving the way for greater conservation possibilities. In addition, there will be a four-fold increase in the plant display area in The Sembcorp Cool House, to allow visitors intimate access to the orchids and other plants located at the higher levels.

Chairman of Garden City Fund Professor Leo Tan said, “We are pleased that individuals and corporate partners such as Sembcorp have rendered such great support for the National Orchid Garden enhancement programme. The enhanced Orchid Garden will exhibit a greater variety of orchids for visitors to appreciate, as well as offer more conservation and research opportunities. In addition, visitors will be able to learn how the Singapore Botanic Gardens’ efforts in orchid research is part of its rich heritage which has been sustained to this day. We hope that Sembcorp’s support will inspire more organisations and individuals to play a role in the living legacy of the Gardens.”

Mr Ang Kong Hua, Chairman, Sembcorp Industries said, “As a home-grown company, Sembcorp hopes that our contribution will help to further enhance our country’s natural heritage for everyone to enjoy, and also add value to the Singapore Botanic Gardens’ standing as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.”

“This is just one of several projects we at Sembcorp have been working with NParks, in line with our longstanding commitment to give back to communities where we operate. Past initiatives include the establishment of the Sembcorp Forest of Giants, a living gallery of endangered giant tree species at the Southern Ridges, as well as the Festival of Biodiversity, which promoted environmental education and conservation in our community.”

### Community support for the National Orchid Garden

Apart from Sembcorp’s contribution towards The Sembcorp Cool House, global paints and coatings company, AkzoNobel, has also just completed a 5-month effort to refresh Burkill Hall in order to return it to its original identity as an Anglo-Malayan Plantation Style House.

### Newly completed orchid theme displays in the interim period

To ensure that visitor experience is not compromised while works are taking place, NParks has curated new orchid-themed displays, namely the Mist Garden, Silver Arches, Orchid Safari, Orchid Checkerboard, and the Enchanted Garden, which features inter-generic hybrids, such as the *Vanda Sunlight x Paraphalaenopsis denevei*. In addition, visitors will be able to see 30 more warm-growing orchid varieties that were previously not exhibited in the Orchid Garden. These displays will debut at the Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Festival, when Singapore citizens, Permanent Residents and Work Permit holders can enjoy free entry to the Orchid Garden. Details of the newly enhanced orchid displays can be found in Media Factsheet B.

### Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Festival runs from 30 June to 9 July

With activities and programmes spread across the Gardens, highlights of the annual Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Festival include a carnival with stalls selling plants,

games and food, concerts at the Bandstand and Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage, as well as tours around the Gardens. Cafes and restaurants in the Gardens will also be rolling out promotional menus and organising live demonstrations in celebration of the Gardens' rich heritage.

For a full list of activities during the Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Festival, please refer to the Annex.

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**About Singapore Botanic Gardens**

Established in 1859, the Singapore Botanic Gardens played an important historical role in the introduction and promotion of many plants of economic value to Southeast Asia, including the Para rubber tree. Over the years, the Gardens has continued to introduce and rejuvenate its horticultural attractions while continuing its mission of connecting plants and people.

Today, the 82-hectare Gardens is a key civic and community space, and an international tourist destination. Attracting an annual visitorship of more than 4.5 million, it is also an important institution for tropical botanical and horticultural research, education and conservation.

The Gardens showcases the best and most spectacular of tropical flora, including more than 10,000 types of plants and the region's most significant living collection of documented palms, orchids, cycads and gingers. Its historic 19th century garden landscape is well preserved and includes the earliest ornamental designed lake in Singapore. Home to numerous heritage trees and a tract of primary rainforest, the Gardens is less than a 10-minute walk from the shopping belt in Orchard Road. The Gardens was inscribed as Singapore's first UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2015.



The Gardens was ranked the number one park in Asia in TripAdvisor's Travellers' Choice Awards for attractions in 2014. In 2012, it clinched the inaugural Garden of the Year Award by the Canadian Garden Tourism Council. In 2008, it was awarded the Michelin three-star rating and selected by Time Magazine as Asia's Best Urban Jungle.

The Singapore Botanic Gardens is managed by the National Parks Board. For more information, visit [www.sbg.org.sg](http://www.sbg.org.sg) and [www.facebook.com/singaporebotanicgardens](https://www.facebook.com/singaporebotanicgardens).

### **About National Parks Board (NParks)**

National Parks Board (NParks) is responsible for providing and enhancing the greenery of our City in a Garden. Beyond building green infrastructure, NParks is actively engaging the community to enhance the quality of our living environment.

NParks manages 350 parks and 300 km of park connectors, 3,347 hectares of nature reserves and the Singapore Botanic Gardens. We also manage Pulau Ubin and the Sisters' Islands Marine Park. Adding to this is the extensive streetscape, or roadside greenery, that forms the backbone of our City in a Garden. The island-wide Park Connector Network is also being developed to link major parks, nature areas and residential estates.

As the lead agency on biodiversity conservation, NParks has developed an urban biodiversity conservation model, which aims to conserve representative eco-systems in land-scarce Singapore. NParks also monitors and coordinates measures to enhance the presence of biodiversity in our urban landscape.

NParks is working closely with partners in the landscape and horticulture industry to increase productivity, and provide training for all levels of the workforce. Enhancing competencies of the industry will support Singapore's vision of being a City in a Garden.

For more information, visit [www.nparks.gov.sg](http://www.nparks.gov.sg) and [www.facebook.com/nparksbuzz](https://www.facebook.com/nparksbuzz)

### **About Sembcorp Industries**

Sembcorp Industries is a leading energy, water and marine group operating across five continents worldwide. With facilities of about 11,000 megawatts of gross power capacity and close to nine million cubic metres of water per day in operation and under development, Sembcorp is a trusted provider of essential energy and water solutions to both industrial and municipal customers. It is also a world leader in marine and offshore engineering, as well as an established brand name in urban development.

The Group has total assets of over S\$22 billion and employs 8,000 employees. Listed on the main board of the Singapore Exchange, it is a component stock of the Straits Times Index and several MSCI and FTSE indices.

**Note to Editors:** Please refer to the company as "**Sembcorp**" (with "**S**" in upper case and "**c**" in lower case), or "**Sembcorp Industries**" in full. Please also note that "**Sembcorp**" is not an abbreviation of "**Sembawang Corporation**" but a brand name in itself, and it is therefore incorrect to refer to our company as "**Sembawang**", "**Sembawang Corporation**" or similar.

## ANNEX

The Singapore Botanic Gardens has always been a part of Singapore's social and cultural history. As Singapore moved towards independence, the Gardens became a venue for promoting racial cohesion and the development of a distinct national culture. On 2 August 1959, founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew officially opened the inaugural People's Variety Show at the Gardens. It was a key historical milestone marking the first of a series of cultural concerts with a multiracial theme organised by Singapore's then Ministry of Culture. In his opening speech, Mr Lee said to an audience of 22,000, "Here, under open skies, Malays, Chinese, Indians will, I hope, discover the materials for a national art and national culture." Today, the Gardens continues to play an important role in fostering social cohesion by providing a common space for the community to bond through various public activities and performances.

The annual Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Festival will be held from 30 June to 9 July 2017 to celebrate the rich heritage of Singapore's first UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Location, Date and Time	Activity	Description
Bandstand 30 June 6.45pm – 9.30pm	Performances	Kick-starting the Festival is an evening of performances by SA The Collective and The Lorong Boys performing cultural music with a different and refreshing spin.
Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage 1 July 6pm – 7.30pm	Performances	Multicultural beats by yIN Harmony, Reverberance, Ocarina House, Hibikiya and Bellydance Extraordinaire.
Bandstand 1 July 7.30pm – 9pm	Performances	Intercultural Jam concert featuring Raghajazz and Nam Hwa Opera
National Orchid Garden 1 July – 9 July 8.30am – 7pm	Orchid display	A stunning showcase of the Gardens' collection of prized orchids in themed displays.  Free entry to the National Orchid Garden
Bandstand 1 & 2 July 7.30am – 8.30am	Laughter Yoga	Laughter Yoga is a unique exercise routine which combines laughter exercise and Yogic breathing exercise where anyone can laugh, breathe and relax.

Green Pavilion 1,2,8,9 July 9.30am – 12pm, 2pm – 5pm	Children's craft workshops	Craft making activities for children include 'My Bandstand' and 'Pop-Up Orchid'.
Orchid Plaza 1, 2, 8, 9 July 9am – 8pm	Carnival and Plant Bazaar	A wide range of stalls will be offering local culinary favourites as well as snacks and games from our childhood. Local nurseries will also be selling their prized blooms at the Plant Bazaar.
Various locations 1,2,8,9 July 10am – 5pm	Talks	Learn more about the Gardens' living heritage through talks about its botanical research and history.
Various locations 1,2,8,9 July 9am – 4pm	Tours of the Singapore Botanic Gardens	Learn more about the Gardens' living heritage through tours of the National Orchid Garden, Learning Forest, Rainforest, Healing Garden, and Tanglin Core.
Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage 2 July 5pm – 6.30pm	Performances	Unwind in the evening to music by string chamber group T'ang Quartet and guzheng trio Z3nith Ensemble. Presented by NAC- ExxonMobil Concert in the Park series.
Bandstand 7 July 7.30pm – 9pm	Performances	Intercultural Jam concert featuring Bronzage Gamelan and Flame of the Forest.
Bandstand 8 July 7.30pm – 9pm	Performances	Relive great memories as homegrown singers bring the audience down memory lane with classic Canto, Mando and Hokkien hits from the 70s and after. Featuring The ETC and Jason Chung.
Palm Valley 8 July 3pm – 7pm 9 July 3pm – 5.30pm	Performances	Enjoy Picnic Day by Tiong Bahru Bakery with activities such as seed bomb and essential oil making, painting with fruits and vegetables, and be entertained by buskers.
Shaw Foundation	Performances	The young Sembawang Wind Orchestra and the Apex Project will be closing the Festival with

<p>Symphony Stage 9 July 5.30pm – 7.30pm</p>		<p>youthful renditions of familiar tunes by pop icons such as Dick Lee and A*Mei.</p>
<p>Bandstand 8 &amp; 9 July 7.30am – 8.30am</p>	<p>Qigong</p>	<p>Health Qigong is an exercise regime which incorporates the mind, breathing and body. An exercise that is sanctioned by Health Promotion Board and brought to popularity by People's Association, this is a workout suitable for everyone.</p>

Cafés and restaurants in the Singapore Botanic Gardens will be rolling out special offerings for the Heritage Festival.

<b>Dining establishment or shop</b>	<b>Description</b>
<p><b>Corner House</b></p> <p>The Corner House is a two-storey Black and White bungalow built in 1910. Today, the house has been converted into a restaurant.</p> <p>The cuisine created by Chef Jason Tan, Gastro-Botanica, combines the passion that E J H Corner had for nature, especially plants, with the techniques of a modern kitchen. Among various accolades, Corner House received one star in the Singapore Michelin Guide 2016.</p>	<p><u>Heritage Discovery Menu</u></p> <p>Corner House will be presenting the Heritage Discovery Menu (\$128++), a specially curated menu with Singaporean influences.</p> <p><u>Corner House Open House</u></p> <p>The restaurant will be opening its doors on 1, 2, 8, and 9 July from 3.45pm – 5.15pm for visitors to take a closer look at the former residence of E J H Corner, who was Assistant Director of Singapore Botanic Gardens from 1929 to 1945. For a glimpse of the history of the building as well as the life and work of Corner, visitors can sign up for a guided walk of the house.</p> <p>Admission is free. On-site registration required.</p>
<p><b>The Garage</b></p> <p>The Garage houses both Bee's Knees and Botanico – under one roof. The Garage sits within the compound of the former Economic Garden, thus named for the economic crops cultivated in it.</p> <p>Bee's Knees is a laid-back all-day dining garden café and bistro, with takeaway options and retail offerings. It offers a breakfast menu of eggs, waffles, home-made fruit bowls, cakes, pizzas and pastas, as well as salads and sandwiches.</p> <p>Botanico, on the second floor, is a restaurant that offers a contemporary-bistro, seasonality-driven menu, presenting the gifts of soil, land and sea in a cuisine inspired by the natural cycles of the year and by bistronomy.</p>	<p><u>Chargrilled Ibérico Char Siew</u></p> <p>The Garage will be offering the Chargrilled Ibérico Char Siew, its own interpretation of Char Siew which is a popular local dish, at \$34++, only for the duration of the Heritage Festival.</p> <p><u>Heritage Festival Promotional Items</u></p> <p>Other offerings include a promotional price for items on the menu at \$12++. Tropical Fruits (U.P. \$14++), comprises Laksa Leaf Ice Cream, Turmeric Ganache, Palm Fruit and Jackfruit, and pays tribute to The Garage's history and location. Turmeric Twist (U.P. \$16++) is a refreshing vibrant orange-yellow cocktail, best paired with Tropical Fruits.</p> <p><u>Kids' Pizza-making Workshops</u></p> <p>The Garage will be holding Pizza-Making Workshops on 1 and 2 July. These pizza-making workshops are for kids aged 4 to 12, at</p>



	<p>\$30 per pax. Limited slots are available. Register at <a href="mailto:enquiry@thegarage.sg">enquiry@thegarage.sg</a>.</p>
<p><b>Halia</b></p> <p>Halia, meaning 'ginger' in Malay, is aptly located in the Singapore Botanic Gardens' Ginger Garden. The restaurant is renowned for its contemporary Asian-inspired European cuisine, with specialities such as Halia's Singapore-style Chilli Crab Spaghettini. The ginger theme is also present in some of the restaurant's signature dishes and beverages which have received rave reviews in local and international media.</p>	<p><u>Halia's Heritage Set</u></p> <p>The Halia will be offering a special Heritage Set: Halia's Singapore-style Chilli Crab Spaghettini and Chilled Lemongrass &amp; Ginger Infusion Drink, at \$30++ per set. The Halia's Singapore-style Chilli Crab Spaghettini is the restaurant's signature dish for the past 12 years. The pasta cooked al dente is swathed in a spicy, sweet and tangy sauce reminiscent of the iconic Singapore chilli crab dish.</p> <p><u>Halia's Chilli Crab Sauce Cooking Demonstration</u></p> <p>On 1, 2, 8, and 9 July, the Halia will be conducting a free cooking demonstration of Halia's Chilli Crab Sauce. Limited slots are available. Register at <a href="mailto:general.hsbg@thehalia.com">general.hsbg@thehalia.com</a>.</p> <p><u>Halia's Provisions Store's Promotions</u></p> <p>The Provisions Store will be offering a 10% discount for various items during the Heritage Festival, such as Halia's Chilli Crab Sauce, Ginger Flower Sauce, Ginger Pineapple Jam, Curry Oil Dip with Kicap Manis, Chilli Crab Bun, and Spiced Island Coffee / Tea Kit.</p>
<p><b>Casa Verde</b></p> <p>Casa Verde, which means 'Green House' in Italian, is a casual trattoria nestled within the Singapore Botanic Gardens. It is a café by day and restaurant by night, providing all-day dining with classic Italian dishes, as well as a number of local favourites.</p>	<p><u>Beef Rendang Pizza</u></p> <p>Casa Verde will be offering the Beef Rendang Pizza at \$25 nett. Casa Verde's Asian-Italian fusion Beef Rendang Pizza is a modern rendition of this mouth-watering dish.</p> <p><u>Heritage Set</u></p> <p>The Heritage Festival exclusive set (\$19.50 nett) comprises Prawn Noodles Soup or Seafood Char Kway Teow, Iced Jelly with Aloe Vera, and a choice of soft drink or regular</p>

	<p>coffee.</p> <p><u>Mui Kee Congee</u></p> <p>On 30 June, Casa Verde will be launching a special menu to introduce Mui Kee Congee in Singapore. Mui Kee is a 3-generation Cantonese porridge concept that adopts traditional cooking methods and flavours, with a rich heritage surrounding the brand.</p>
<p><b>Food Canopy</b></p> <p>The Food Canopy food court houses a total of seven stalls where visitors can enjoy affordable local favourites from morning to evening. There are a wide variety of dishes at the food court such as chicken rice, fish soup, wonton mee, and halal options like nasi padang.</p> <p>Di Wei Teochew Restaurant, housed within Food Canopy, offers authentic Teochew dishes. Di Wei is helmed by Head Chef Khoo who has over 30 years of experience in preparing traditional Teochew dishes like cold crab, pan-fried pomfret, yam ring, and yam paste.</p>	<p><u>Heritage Festival Special Di Wei Set Menu</u></p> <p>Di Wei at Food Canopy is offering a Heritage Festival Special Di Wei Set Menu which comprises a few of its signature dishes – Cai Po Kway Teow, Prawn Balls, and Teochew Yam Paste with Gingko Nuts. The special menu is available at \$8.80 per set for 1 pax.</p>
<p><b>Food For Thought</b></p> <p>FFT@SBG is a restaurant designed around the principles of “love for family”, “care for the environment”, “enjoyment of rest” and other aspects of sustainable living. It looks to transform community spaces and to bring people together to enjoy Good Food for a Good Cause.</p>	<p><u>Food For Thought’s Heritage Set</u></p> <p>Food For Thought @ Singapore Botanic Gardens will be offering a modern twist to classic local favourites – Nasi Lemak Risotto and Iced Rose Bandung Ice Cream Ripple. The Nasi Lemak Risotto is a combination of a crispy chilli chicken cutlet and a rich, creamy coconut risotto, served with a poached egg, <i>ikan bilis</i>, peanuts, and sambal. The special menu will be available during the Heritage Festival and through the month of July, at \$18 per set.</p> <p><u>Food For Thought’s Old School Mini Carnival</u></p> <p>FFT@SBG will also organising an Old School</p>

	<p>Mini Carnival on 8 and 9 July, from 11am – 2pm. Children will be able to enjoy a slice of Singapore as it used to be, with traditional games like Goli and Chaptah, and have a taste of local snacks such as kachang putih, ice balls and gula melaka cotton candy. The carnival is free, no prior registration is required.</p>
<p><b>Gardens Shop</b></p> <p>The Gardens Shop offers a wide selection of nature-inspired gifts and souvenirs, from floral jewellery and exotic teas to botanical print notebooks and bookmarks. The Gardens Shop's concept stores are available at the Singapore Botanic Gardens' Tanglin Gate, Nassim Gate and National Orchid Garden.</p>	<p><u>Complimentary Tea Sampler Pack Giveaway</u></p> <p>The Gardens Shop will be giving away Complimentary Tea Sampler Packs with any purchase from Gardens Shop at the National Orchid Garden, available while stocks last.</p> <p><u>Heritage-inspired Merchandise</u></p> <p>In conjunction with the Heritage Festival, The Gardens Shop will be bringing in a range of heritage-inspired snacks, toys and more on top of their existing wide range of products to choose from.</p> <p><u>Jewelry Demonstration and Spice Talk</u></p> <p>Gardens Shop will be organizing a jewelry demonstration by Eden + Elie, a Singapore-based jewelry brand focused on using hand-weaving techniques to create functional, wearable pieces with a modern contemporary aesthetic.</p> <p>In addition, Gardens Shop will also be bringing in talks by Indian Spice Box about homemade Indian food, recipes and the benefits of all the spices used.</p> <p>The jewellery demonstration and spice talks will be held on 1 and 8 July, 2 and 9 July respectively. The demonstrations and talks are free.</p>