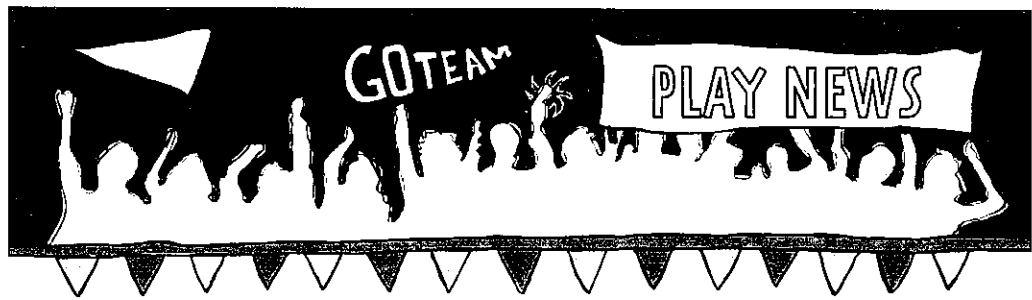




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Guides throught Bishan Park by Tan Thiam Peng

Thursday, June 26, 2008 7:11 PM



There was a strong turnout of current Guides, former ones, and volunteers. A Fun Dress Challenge was organized to celebrate the achievements of past woman leaders that have made an impact on the world. Girls came decorated as personalities like amiable monarch Queen Elizabeth, saint Joan of Arc, war heroine Elizabeth Choy, legendary character Hua Mulan and even the epitome of the common but good-natured, Ugly Betty. The carnival surely brought out the very best in creativity and enthusiasm.

Guest-of-Honour at the walkathon was singer Kit Chan. She was hosted by President of GGS, Mrs Joy Balakrishnan, wife of Vivian, Minister for Community Development, Youth & Sports.

Said Joy, "Many successful women in the political, business and artistic arenas have benefited greatly from the Girl Guide programme that aims to develop girls' potentials, build character and cultivate leadership skills. I am sure that every girl who has experienced the Girl Guide programme would, in their own way, have become a better daughter, wife, mother and employer/employee."

Besides fund-raising, GGS had hoped to generate awareness and understanding of the Girl Guiding programme among girls and stakeholders through this event. The association also wished to promote pro-family interactions through several engaging and healthy activities that were suitable for everyone.

GGS has complemented Singapore schools' formal education and helped nurture girls and young women into all-rounded, responsible citizens and leaders in their own fields.

Since its humble beginnings in 1917, the association has grown from strength to strength with more than 10,000 registered members currently and has nurtured more than 200,000 girls and women over that last nine decades.

The walkathon raised close to S\$184,000. "We are grateful to our volunteers, friends, partners, schools and parents for the generous support of their time and resources, without which we would not have been able to sustain the vibrancy and strength of GGS today," said Yvonne Lim, Chief Commissioner of GGS.

Proceeds will help their programmes, which can go a long way.

Members of the association have participated in several community projects both locally and overseas, including working with the Spastic Children's Association; partnering Girl Guides in Sri Lanka and Thailand in fund-raising and rehabilitation work for Tsunami victims; raising funds and packing survival kits for victims of the Pakistan earthquake; fund-raising and contributing necessities for the victims of the floods in Malaysia last year.

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