

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

### September 1, 1999

SPH's wholly-owned subsidiary, AsiaOne Internet Pte Ltd (now known as SPH AsiaOne Ltd) commenced business to spearhead the Group's Internet ventures with greater autonomy for maximum results.

### September 4, 1999

*Fukan*, the lifestyle section of *Lianhe Zaobao*, underwent a revamp and was renamed *zbNOW* to appeal to younger readers.

### September 13, 1999

SPH was awarded the Distinguished Patron of the Arts award for the seventh time since 1993, affirming our commitment as a sponsor of the arts.

### September 23, 1999

*The Business Times* was revamped with a new look and design.

### October 1 to 3, 1999

The Children's Day Carnival & Kids Plus '99, organised by SPH's Marketing Division to profile *Lianhe Zaobao*, *Lianhe Wanbao* and *Shin Min Daily News* attracted a record of nearly 200,000 visitors.

### October 9, 1999

*Lianhe Wanbao* and *Shin Min Daily News* started early weekend editions of its newspapers, available from 3.00pm.

### October 10, 1999

*Tamil Murasu Sunday* achieved a record circulation of 16,457.

### October 20, 1999

*Computer Times*, a technology pullout, became a weekly distributed with *The Straits Times* on Wednesdays.

### November 3, 1999

*Shin Min Daily News* achieved a record circulation of 151,547.



*Denis Tay, Deputy President of SPH, received the Distinguished Patron of the Arts award from Lee Yock Suan, Minister for Information and the Arts.*

### November 25, 1999 to January 9, 2000

SPH newspapers co-sponsored Saltimbanco as official media. Staged by Montreal-based Cirque du Soleil, this 'circus' without animals combined theatrical artistry, athletic grace and situational humour.

### December 1999

SPH was voted the best managed company in Singapore by Asiamoney, a Hong Kong based financial magazine and member of Euromoney Institutional Investor Group.



### December 1999

SPH was ranked sixth in the Far Eastern Economic Review's annual survey of corporate leadership, among 90 companies from outside Asia with operations in the region, as well as 10 firms from each of 11 Asian countries.

### December 18, 1999

ST Timesport 50 Greatest Athletes was organised by *The Straits Times*' Sports Desk to honour Singapore's 50 greatest athletes of the century. Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong was the Guest of Honour.

### December 26, 1999

*The New Paper On Sunday* achieved a record circulation of 200,888.



*Performers of Saltimbanco thrilled audiences with their outstanding performance.*

### January 15, 2000

*Tamil Murasu* went online.

### January 15, 2000

Deputy Prime Minister BG (NS) Lee Hsien Loong launched *Thumbs Up*, a new weekly Chinese tabloid for students between Primary 3 and 6.

*First to take a peek: Deputy Prime Minister BG (NS) Lee Hsien Loong and Tjong Yik Min, Group President of SPH, enjoying the new product.*

### January 18, 2000

Mr Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Health, officiated at the opening of Paragon following a \$130-million facelift and construction of a new 14-storey commercial building above the retail podium. Paragon, in which SPH holds a 85 per cent stake, is a prime commercial building in the heart of Orchard Road.



*Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Health, accompanied by Lim Kim San, Executive Chairman of SPH, at the opening of Paragon. Looking on from far left is Tjong Yik Min, Group President of SPH.*

### January 21, 2000

Singapore 1000 companies and Singapore 500 SMEs were jointly organised by *The Business Times*, DPI Information Network Pte Ltd, Ernst & Young and Singapore Productivity & Standards Board. Dr Richard Hu, Minister for Finance, gave away the awards to the top five companies in each category.

### January 25, 2000

AsiaOne was relaunched with more online services to users, and a new look for *asiaone.com* and *zaobao.com*.

### January 26, 2000

Listing of products and services in *The Straits Times Classifieds* were made available on *asiaone.com*.

### February 1, 2000

*Project Eyeball*, a new morning tabloid for young and Net-savvy readers, received its licence to publish.

### February 1, 2000

SPH newspapers were made available for sale at Tricon restaurants.

### February 8, 2000

All the text in SPH morning dailies was printed in red to announce the increase in total newspaper readership by 18.3 per cent.

### February 26, 2000

*Berita Harian* achieved record circulation of 69,320.

### March 2, 2000

Ms Jennie Chua was awarded Her World's Woman of the Year 1999 for her achievements in the hotel and tourism industry. A new award, Young Woman Achiever Award, was given to singer Ms Kit Chan in recognition of her successful singing career. A special award for the new millennium went to Ms Teresa Hsu for her humanitarian work for the poor and the aged sick.

### March 10, 2000

Jointly organised by *The Business Times* and DHL Worldwide Express, Mr Tommie Goh, Chairman of JIT Holdings Ltd, was named Businessman of the Year 1999.

### April 6, 2000

SPH contributed \$50,000 to the Singapore-Latin American Everest Expedition 2001 as the official media, in support of their attempt to scale Mount Everest from Tibet via the more challenging Mallory route.

### April 12, 2000

Zaobao.com Ltd was incorporated as a wholly-owned subsidiary of SPH AsiaOne Ltd.

### April 13, 2000

SPH AsiaOne Ltd partnered The Fantastic Corporation to form a joint venture company called FantasticOne (Asia-Pacific) Pte Ltd to provide broadband multimedia solutions for the Asian market.



*Saluting the women of substance: Award winners (third from left) Teresa Hsu, Jennie Chua and Kit Chan, with (from left) Robert lau, Chairman of Judging Panel, Evelyn Lauder, Senior Corporate Vice-President of Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. and Denis Tay, Deputy President of SPH.*



*Businessman of the Year Tommie Goh (middle) with Enterprise Award winner Teh Bong Lim of MMI Holdings and CEO of the Year, Peter Seah, President and CEO of Overseas Union Bank.*

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

### April 14, 2000

Eating Air and Darkness & Light, two films sponsored by SPH at the Singapore International Film Festival, won the Singapore Film Commission Young Cinema Award and Best Film Award respectively at the Silver Screen Awards.

### April 26, 2000

2<sup>nd</sup> Long Xi Creative Awards was presented by *Lianhe Zaobao* and organised by Marketing Division. 965 entries from around the world competed in 57 categories to be the best in Chinese creative advertising.

### April 27 to 29, 2000

SPH Community Project 2000 kicked off with staff visits to charities and performances by celebrities to boost participation in the Community Chest's SHARE programme. SPH matches dollar-for-dollar its employees' SHARE contributions.

### May 12, 2000

Radm (NS) Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Education, launched the abridged versions of "The Singapore Story: Memoirs of Lee Kuan Yew", intended for the younger generation.

### May 21, 2000

Radm (NS) Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Education, flagged off the 10<sup>th</sup> TNP Big Walk which achieved a record 77,500 participants and qualified for inclusion in the Guinness Book of World Records.

### May 27, 2000

*Young Parents* organised the first Family of the Year award to promote family life. The award was launched by Mr Abdullah Tarmugi, Minister for Community Development and Sports.



*The series of zbNOW advertisements won the silver award at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Long Xi Creative Awards.*



*A team from Times Periodicals Pte Ltd brought cheers to the children at Spastic Children's Association of Singapore Special School.*



*"The Singapore Story: Memoirs of Lee Kuan Yew".*

### June 2000

*Go* was renamed *Go Flirt* and subsequently, *Flirt*.



*The Cheong Family with their trophy for Young Parents Family of the Year award.*

### June 5, 2000

SPH AsiaOne Ltd made its debut on the mainboard of the Singapore Exchange.

### June 5, 2000

AsiaOne was ranked second in the Nielson Net Ratings for Top 10 Property Web Sites according to time spent.

### June 6, 2000

*Streets*, a free tabloid-sized newspaper for morning commuters, received its newspaper publishing licence.

### June 8, 2000

Announcement of the formation of SPH MediaWorks Ltd, SPH's venture into terrestrial television.

### June 10 to 18, 2000

The World Book Fair, organised by SPH's Chinese Newspapers Division, attracted 760,000 visitors.



### June 19, 2000

*The Straits Times* and *The Business Times* were awarded two-year memberships in the exclusive International Newspaper Colour Quality Club for their high standards of colour reproduction.

### June 29, 2000

The redesigned *Lianhe Zaobao* and introduction of the afternoon editions of *Lianhe Wanbao* and *Shin Min Daily News* were revealed at a Trade launch.

### July 6, 2000

*Tamil Murasu* inaugurated the Indian Family of the Year award where over 500 nominations were received.

### July 7, 2000

Noon editions of *Lianhe Wanbao* and *Shin Min Daily News* were launched.

### July 7, 2000

*Lianhe Zaobao* unveiled its new look at Starry Night Concert 2000, an outdoor Chinese pop concert where 8,000 people attended.

### July 14, 2000

Trade launch for *Project Eyeball*, the first integrated online/print newspaper.

### July 17, 2000

*Project Eyeball*'s online version was launched on AsiaOne.

### July 17, 2000

Mr Ivan Fernandez was appointed Editor of The New Paper.

### July 21 to 22, 2000

SPH launched Writers' Lab with the 24-hour Playwriting Competition on board the Superstar Virgo. This marked SPH's 10<sup>th</sup> year of sponsorship for Writers' Lab.

### July 26, 2000

Associate Professor Aziz Nather was awarded the *Berita Harian* Achiever of the Year 2000 for his outstanding contribution in the field of tissue banking.



*The first Indian Family of the Year seen here with Professor S Jayakumar, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law.*



*Both local and foreign artistes performed at the Starry Night Concert 2000.*

### July 28, 2000

Trade launch organised by Marketing Division for *Streets*, a free commuter newspaper.

### August 14, 2000

*Project Eyeball* was launched.

### August 22, 2000

SPH set up English and Chinese TV News units for MediaWorks.



*Associate Professor Aziz Nather received the Berita Harian Achiever of the Year 2000 award from Radm (NS) Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Education. With them is Guntor Sadali, Editor of Berita Harian.*

### August 31, 2000

AsiaOne launched AsiaOne Markets, a premier financial investment website which provides the latest business information and sophisticated investment tools for users.