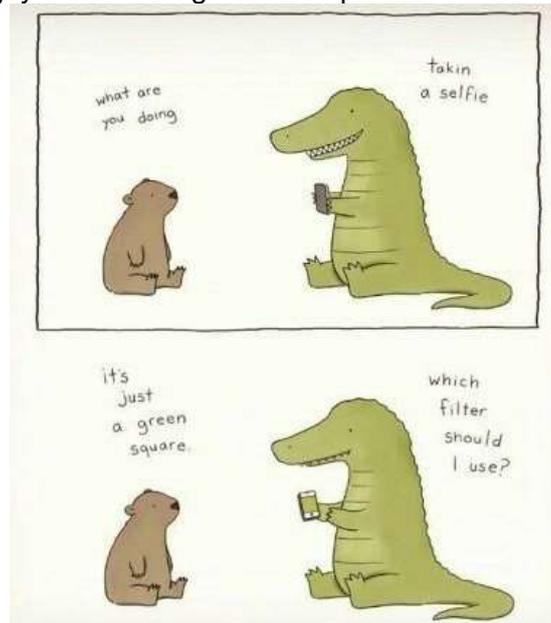


Careen Ng (Editor)
Idayu Chuni (Author)
Karthi d/o Chanthiran (Contributor)
Azaman Bin Dollazi (Event Photographer)

15 Hill Street
3rd Storey, Telephone House Complex II
Singapore 179352
Tel: 6337 1122
Fax: 6339 6040
www.utes.org.sg

Take a refresher and enjoy the following comic strips!



Credits: <http://bit.ly/1RytBuz>



Credits: <http://bit.ly/21u8KR5>

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed herein belong to the respective contributors and do not necessarily represent nor reflect those of the Singapore government, the National Trade Union Congress and the companies that the Union of Telecoms Employees of Singapore represents. Information featured in Newsflash is current as at date of release.

FEEDBACK AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please direct your feedback and newsworthy contributions for Newsflash to email@utes.org.sg

Contents

03	Deepavali Night 2015
06	Unionization of 3 New Companies
06	SkillsFuture & UTAP
07	MediShield Life
08	Retirement Awards 2016
10	Family Fun Fiesta (F ³)
12	Celebrate Love with UTES – Winners
14	UTES Annual Souvenir Distribution Exercise 2015
14	UTES Benefits Summary
14	Upcoming & Ongoing Events Calendar 2015/2016
15	UTES Perks and Promotions
15	UTES Exclusive Chalet at D'Resort
16	NTUC Events and Promotions
16	FairPrice Walks With U
17	MegaZip Adventure Park
17	ZALORA

Deepavali Night 2015

UTES ended our SG50 celebrations last year with an event held in conjunction with the Indian Festival - the Deepavali Night. It was held at the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry on 21st November 2015. Our members and guests came dressed up for the event. The men came smartly dressed in the traditional sherwani and kurtas and the ladies were gorgeously dressed in their beautiful sarees. A doorgift of laddu and colorful jewel box were presented to all guests.



The night kick started with a Bhangra performance, who welcomed our Guest of Honour, Ms Aileen Tan, Group Chief Human Resources of Singtel. Among those who graced our event were guests from our represented companies, guests from other unions and also UTES Executive Secretary, Mr Heng Chee How. Ms Aileen and General Secretary Mr Thuvinder lighted up the traditional lamp and commenced the night.



Guests were treated to some pre-dinner activities like henna art and photo taking at our special photo booth by De Whizz Pique. A kacang putih man was also present to relive the old-school moments, serving variety of kacang putih in paper cones on a bicycle. A dance performance energized the hall with their upbeat and cool moves. Guests were served an array of delish South Indian cuisine and everyone had an enjoyable night.





The highlight of the night was crowning of UTES Saree Queen contest. A few gorgeous ladies in sarees were picked to be up on stage to contest for the crown.

Winner of the night was Ms Liana, extravagantly dressed in pink saree and heavily ornamented with accessories. A sash and a crown were presented to Ms Liana by our GOH Ms Aileen Tan. All contestants were winners too and we thank everyone for dressing their best that night.

An event like this will not be complete without lucky draw. There were over 20 lucky draw prizes given out that night, some which includes OSIM U-Pamper, digital camera and 2D1N Executive Stay at Aranda Country Club. We thank all members and management partners who contributed to the success of this event!



So, everyone gets \$500 SkillsFuture Credit, but if you are a Union Member, you will get more! You will get an additional funding from UTAP (Union Training Assistance Programme). UTAP will cover 50% of your unfunded course fees capped at \$250 every year. However this is only for courses approved by e2i. To see the list of UTAP-approved courses and/or make a claim, please visit <http://skillsupgrade.ntuc.org.sg>.

If your chosen course is in both lists of approved courses under SkillsFuture and UTAP, you may submit claims for both. This will optimize the use of your credits and UTAP funding.

So, with fundings readily available for all of us, why wait? Let's start our journey to empower and upgrade!

MediShield Life

Another talk of the town is on MediShield Life.

With the recent hilarious television advertisements, it definitely catches our attention and increase our awareness of MediShield Life and what it covers.

In a nutshell, here's 8 things we need to know about MediShield Life.

More details can be found at www.medishieldlife.sg.

8 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MEDISHIELD LIFE

- 1 It covers everyone**
 - All Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents
 - Even if you have pre-existing conditions
 - Even if you were previously rejected by insurers
- 2 It protects you for life**
- 3 It provides better benefits than MediShield**
 - MediShield Life will pay more of your hospital bill, and you will pay less
- 4 Premiums will be payable by Medisave**
- 5 With better benefits, premiums will be higher than MediShield**
- 6 Government will provide significant support**
 - Premium Subsidies for the lower- to middle-income
 - Pioneer Generation Subsidies
 - Transitional Subsidies for all Singaporean Citizens for the first four years to ease the shift from MediShield to MediShield Life
- 7 The needy will not lose coverage**
 - Additional Premium Support for those who cannot afford premiums even after subsidies
- 8 No need to apply**
 - MediShield Life will replace MediShield in end 2015
 - Automatic inclusion for Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents

Credits: https://www.moh.gov.sg/content/moh_web/medishield-life/about-medishield-life/what-is-medishield-life.html

UTES Retirement Awards 2015 – 2nd Run



“Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.”
— Voltaire

The UTES Retirement Award is a onetime pay-out of \$150.00 to our members at the legislative retirement age of 62. It serves as a platform to appreciate the efforts and support of our members to the union over the years of their service.

The UTES Retirement Awards Ceremony is held bi-annually. We invite qualifying members and a partner to join us for dinner at the ceremony and thereafter present them with the cheques.

On 24th February 2016, UTES held our Retirement Awards Ceremony, honouring our members who qualify for the awards from July to December 2015. The event was held at Happy Days, 445 Bedok North Street 1, Princess Theatre Building, #02-02, Singapore 469661. On this note, UTES would like to place on record our appreciation towards the 113 awardees for their support towards UTES all these years.



UTES President Mr. Roger Tan Seng Chye delivered the opening address welcoming the members. UTES had also invited Mr. Abdullah Bin Abdul Talib from U Live Community, NTUC to share on exclusive benefits that U Live caters for members above the age of 55.



Ms Yip Cheu Fong, Chief Trainer for MediShield Life from IFPAS was also invited to share more on the MediShield Life Program with our members. A recap of UTES Exclusive benefits was also presented for members to refresh and update themselves on the existing union benefits that they would still enjoy, post retirement.



The Retirement awards cheques were proudly presented by UTES General Secretary, Mr. Thuvinder Singh. Behind the broad smiles of our recipients, one could sense pride and appreciation as they received their awards.



A special lucky draw session was also arranged to commemorate the festive period. Members walked away with 30 attractive prizes as the night drew to an end. More photos can be found on our website!

Family Fun Fiesta (F³)



Previously known as the Family Recreation & Fun (FRF) Carnival, the annual programme has been renamed as **Family Fun Fiesta (F³) @ Downtown East!** We are pleased to announce that F³ application is now open.

Family Fun Fiesta 2016

F³ is organised and sponsored by NTUC Club in support of the Labour Movement's U Care initiative. It aims to strengthen family bonding, promote a greater work-life balance and better well-being by enabling lower-income union members to enjoy a day of fun with their families at Downtown East, all at no cost. Besides free admission to Downtown East facilities, F&B and bowling coupons and unlimited play at game stalls, members can look forward to better programmes and activities, plus a lucky draw chance to win more attractive prizes including the new D'Resort room stay.

There will be 3 runs of F³ which will be held on **Sundays: 17 July, 24 July and 7 August 2016**. As Downtown East will be undergoing major renovation works at the later part of this year and to minimise any inconvenience to our members, there would not be any runs in the last quarter. As an inclusive Labour Movement, NTUC Club has also avoided holding the runs during the Ramadan period in June so that our Muslim brothers and sisters could have more carnival dates to choose from. We seek your kind understanding on this arrangement.

Applications are open from **14th March 2016 to 14 April 2016**. Application forms can be found [here](#).

Note: For all successful applicants of Back to School 2015, Family Fun Fiesta (F3) 2016 is pre-approved. A separate letter and application form will be send to you by mail.

Criteria:

- **Combined Total Gross Household income of \$4000 and below** OR
- **Per Capita Income of \$1000 and below**
- **Member must not be in arrears of membership dues**

All applications must be submitted with the following documents:

If Member is Employed:

A photocopy of recent payslip. If payslip is not available, please provide a letter from your employer stating gross monthly income OR CPF statement showing the past 3 months' contribution history OR IR8A (for Year of Assessment 2015).

If Member is Unemployed or Self-Employed:

CPF statement showing the past 3 months' contribution history.

Note: Applicant may be asked to submit other supporting documents, if necessary, for verification and audit purposes.

Important:

1. Applicants are reminded to send completed documents with the supporting documents. Incomplete applications will not be approved for final submission to NTUC.

Kindly take note that in accordance with the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA), coming into effect from 2 July 2014, the applicant is required to give consent for the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Data under the "Declaration by Applicant" section of the form.

2. Kindly indicate a choice of 1-3 for the carnival dates for ballot purposes.
3. All applications must reach UTES HQ before 14 April 2016.
4. Hardcopy Applications can be mailed to the below address:

ATTN: MEMBERSHIP DEPT

UCARE PROGRAM 2014 (USV/BTS)

UNION OF TELECOMS EMPLOYEE OF SINGAPORE

15 HILL STREET, TELEPHONE HOUSE COMPLEX II

3RD STOREY, S (179352)

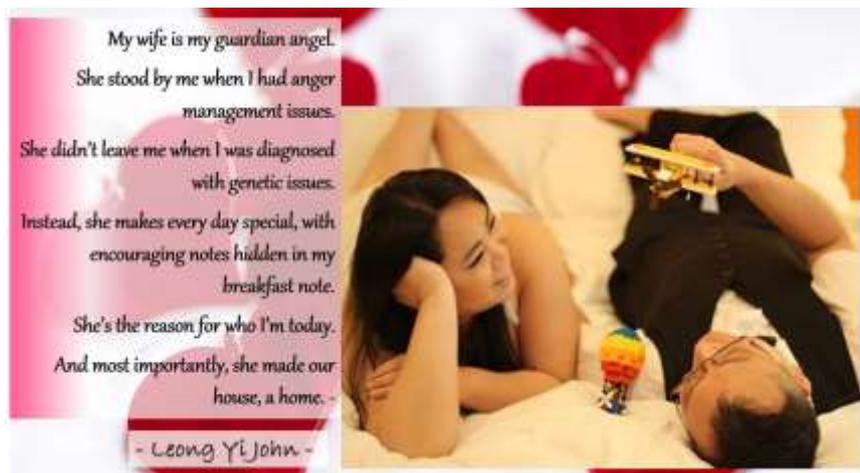
5. **Signed copies** of the applications can be faxed to 63396040*.
6. Alternatively a **signed** and scanned copy of the application can be forwarded to us at membership@utes.org.sg

For further enquiries, please contact UTES Membership Department at 63371122 or email to membership@utes.org.sg

Celebrate Love with UTES

In the month of February, UTES organized a contest in conjunction with Valentine's Day. Members submitted photographs of them and their loved ones. Along with the photograph, members described how special their loved ones are to them. UTES received numerous entries from members and the here are the winning entries! We thank all participants for your enthusiastic participation. Congratulations to all winners!

Here's our Winner, Leong Yi John's submission. He walks away with:



1. Voucher worth \$182.00 for 2D/1N Stay at Banyu Biru Villa at Nirwana Gardens Resort in Bintan , Indonesia
2. S\$80.00 worth of Fairprice Vouchers
3. An OTO neck snuggler/massager

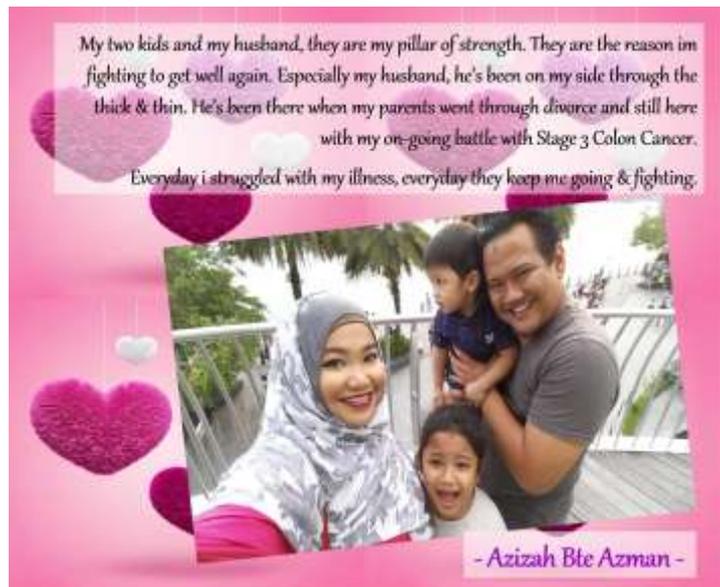


This is our 1st Runner, Salmah Md Amin's submission and she walks away with:

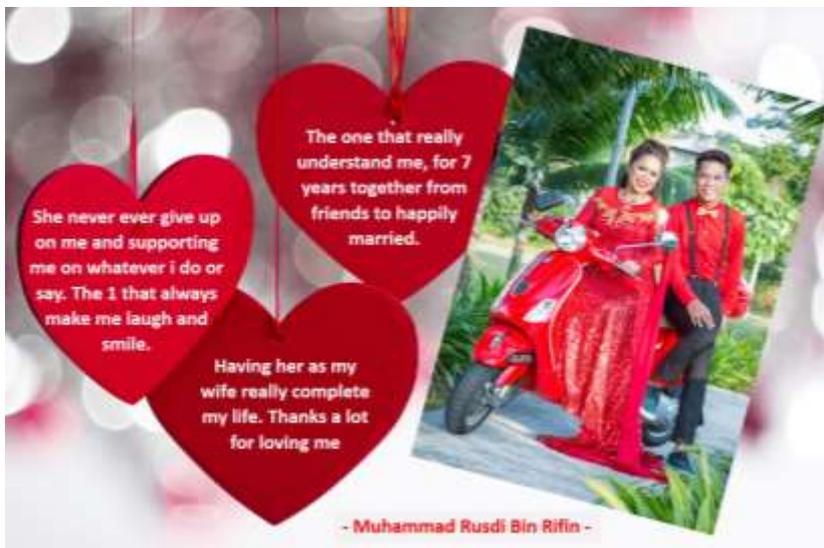
1. Voucher worth \$182.00 for 2D/1N Stay at Banyu Biru Villa at Nirwana Gardens Resort in Bintan , Indonesia
2. S\$40.00 worth of Fairprice Vouchers
3. An OTO neck snuggler

Here's our 1st Runner-up, Azizah Bte Azman's submission. She walks away with:

1. Voucher worth \$182.00 for 2D/1N Stay at Banyu Biru Villa at Nirwana Gardens Resort in Bintan , Indonesia
2. An OTO neck snuggler/massager



We also have 2 consolation Prize winners, Muhd Rusdi and Nuridayu. Here are their submissions:



They walk away with

1. An OTO neck snuggler
2. A set of 2 Passport covers & 2 luggage tags.



UTES Annual Membership Souvenir Distribution Exercise 2015



Collection for 2015 Souvenir will cease on 31 March 2016.

Kindly collect your souvenirs before the said date.

UTES Benefits Summary

<u>Type of Membership Benefit</u>	<u>4th Quarter 2015 (\$)</u>
Benevolent Grant	2,400.00
Get Well Hamper	2,840.00
Hospitalisation Reimbursement	9,090.00
Medical Assistance Scheme	9,000.00
NTUC Gift	39,500.00
SLF Hardship Grant	2,000.00
Total	64,830.00

Upcoming / Ongoing Events Calendar 2016/2017

Lookout for our email broadcasts and UTES website for more details of these exciting events lined up just for you!

✚ *UTES Annual Bursary Awards 2016: Aug 2016*

✚ *UTES Annual Souvenir Distribution Exercise 2016: Oct 2016 to March 2017*

UTES PERKS AND PROMOTIONS

UTES Exclusive Chalet at D'Resort



MARCH – APRIL 2016 RATES D'RESORT @ DOWNTOWN EAST

Peak *: 12 to 20 Mar 2016
(School Holidays)

Only Available in Packages:

4D/3N (Fri to Mon)

3D/2N (Mon to Wed OR
Wed to Fri)



New Improved rooms – Mangrove (Lvl 2)



* BBQ Pits, subject to D'Resort availability.

* Unlimited entry to Wild Wild Wet

Package	Off-Peak	Peak *
FRI – SUN (3D/2N)	\$350.00	-
FRI – MON (4D/3N)	-	\$450.00
SUN – FRI: 2D/1N	\$150.00	
3D/2N	\$200.00	\$250.00
4D/3N	\$300.00	-
5D/4N	\$350.00	-
6D/5N	\$400.00	-

For booking of BBQ Pits, kindly contact D'Resort club directly
at 65891865 / 65823322

For chalet booking enquiries, please call UTES
at 63371122 Fax 63396040 or email noora@utes.org.sg

Application Form for Chalet Booking

NTUC EVENTS & PROMOTIONS

FairPrice Walks With U

Click on the image for more information!

FairPrice Walks with U

Making Lives Better Through The Years

Saturday, 14 May 2016
8am - 12 noon

SINGAPORE SPORTS HUB

Join us as we take a morning walk down memory lane! Witness FairPrice's journey through the past decades with interactive exhibits, displays and entertaining carnival activities!

Take a picture and post it with a #fairpricewalk in the caption to show why walking with your family is fun or memorable.

FairPrice Foundation will pledge \$150 for every registration received to help needy families through the FairPrice Food Voucher Scheme.

Sign up now and receive an attractive goodie bag worth \$70! Enjoy special rates for NTUC Members, FairPrice Staff/Ex-staff and OCBC Plus! Visa Card Holders!

Category	NTUC Member & FairPrice Staff/ Ex-staff		OCBC Plus! Visa Card Holder		Public	
	Individual	Group of 4	Individual	Group of 4	Individual	Group of 4
Early Bird rate	\$10	\$40	\$10	\$40	\$12	\$42
Regular rate	\$13	\$52	\$13	\$52	\$15	\$54

For bulk booking of 21 pax and above, please call 5790 0331 or email enquiries@ntuc.com.sg

*Registration ends on 3 April. Early bird rate valid till 4 March. Limited to the first 1,000 registrants. Other terms & conditions apply.

Find out more at www.fairprice.com.sg/walk

Event Organiser



Official Venue Partner



Sponsors



NTUC EVENTS & PROMOTIONS

MegaZip Adventure Park



Photo Credits: NTUC

- FREE MegaBounce with purchase of any activity
- 20% OFF Mega Adventure Park Packages

Terms and conditions apply:

- Valid till 31 Dec 2016
- Present NTUC Card to enjoy the privilege
- Not valid in conjunction with other promotions
- Other terms & conditions apply. Click [here](#) for more information!

ZALORA



Photo Credits: NTUC

Offer Date: Valid till 31 Mar 2016

Merchant Website: <http://www.zalora.sg> (<http://goo.gl/j4riU7>)

15% OFF Storewide with min. spend of \$90. Plus, stand a chance to win prizes!

Shop now and enter promo code: **ZALNTUC15**

Terms & conditions:

- Valid till 31 Mar 2016
- Voucher code is applicable at www.zalora.sg only and must be entered at checkout
- Not applicable on discounted items and items sold by sellers
- Brand exclusions apply: www.zalora.sg/faq-non-sale/
- ZALORA Singapore reserves the right to amend/cancel the promotion at any time