

Weekly	Activity	Time	Group
Monday	On Piano – Ms Ng Bie Tin	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Sapphire (Musicians)
Tuesday	Hair-cutting	8.30am – 10.30am	Sunstone
Wednesday	Library Volunteers	10.00am – 12noon	Sapphire
	On Piano – Ms Donna Samuel	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Sapphire (Musicians)
Thursday	Patients' Outing	8.30am – 12noon	Emerald
	On Piano – Ms Yuko Arai	9.00am – 10.00am	Sapphire (Musicians)
Friday	Happy Hour	4.15pm – 5.15pm	Sapphire
	On Piano – Mr Patrick Foo	5.00pm – 6.00pm	Sapphire (Musicians)
Saturday	Gardening	10.00am – 1.00pm	Topaz, Sunshine
	Arts & Craft	1.00pm – 3.00pm	Crystal
	On Piano – Mr Lin Xu Zheng	3.00pm – 4.00pm	Sapphire (Musicians)
	Dr Lai Kok Fung	4.00pm – 5.30pm	
	Massaging Patients	4.00pm – 6.00pm	Opal
Sunday	On Piano – Mr Kelvin Huang	5.30pm – 6.30pm	Sapphire (Musicians)

Monthly	Activity	Time	Group
Monday			
8 May & 12 Jun	Pet-Assisted Therapy	2.30pm – 3.30pm	Ruby
Wednesday			
17 May & 21 Jun	Soup for Patients	12.00noon – 1.30pm	Pearlie's Angels
Saturday			
6 May & 3 Jun	Birthdays	3.00pm – 5.00pm	Diamond
	Ukulele performance for patients by Moulmein CCC	3.00pm – 4.00pm	Aquamarine
6 & 20 May 3 & 17 Jun	On Piano – Ms Mikaela Low	10.30am – 11.30am	Sapphire (Musicians)
	Popular evergreen songs for patients	11.00am – 12.00noon	Charis Amethyst
13 & 27 May 10 & 24 Jun	Saturday Afternoon Sing-Along	3.00pm – 5.00pm	Blue Sapphire
	Pet-Assisted Therapy	10.00am – 11.00am	Ruby
Sunday			
14 & 21 May 11 & 18 Jun	Kopi & Roti Session	10.00am – 12.00noon	SOKA

Training Courses	Date	Time	Venue
<i>Courses are conducted in English</i>			
Introduction to volunteering at DPH	4 May	7.00pm – 8.00pm	Resource Room

For more information on DPH programmes, please contact:
Tok Shou Wee at Tel: 6500 7265 / HP: 9048 9174 or email shouwee_tok@doverpark.org.sg

ChitChat



DOVER PARK HOSPICE
Every Moment Matters

Newsletter for Dover Park Hospice Volunteers • Thank you for Volunteering

May - Jun 2017

Clicking to Make Every Moment Precious

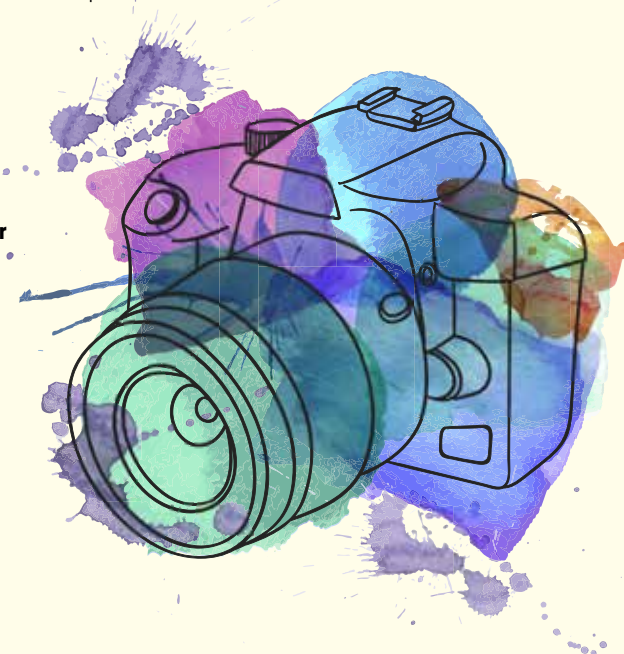
In this issue of Chit Chat, we catch up with two of our Volunteer photographers, Aundry and Reno, to see what makes them tick and click. Even though they are usually behind the scenes "in the thick of action", their work is no less powerful as their keen eyes help create every moment that is precious for our patients and their families.

AUNDRY GAN
DPH Volunteer for 6 Years

RENO WISMANTO
DPH Volunteer for 3 Years

DPH: Why do you want to volunteer your time taking pictures of patients?

Aundry (A): I've had a good run of being a professional photographer for the past 30 years. One day, it occurred to me and I thought to myself, "Wouldn't it be nice to give back to society?" Since I lost both my mother and sister to cancer and saw first-hand how difficult it was for one to go through such a tough situation, I decided to volunteer my time at a hospice. Every time when I take photos of patients and their loved ones, and when I hand them





the printed copies, the smiles on their faces are priceless. They remind me why I am doing what I am doing.

Reno (R): When I was studying in Australia, my dearest grandma passed away. I was having my exams then. My mom didn't tell me, not until my exam was done. I was devastated when I eventually learned that my grandma had passed away. To lose someone very dear is extremely painful. However, the most heart-wrenching thing was that I was unable to see her for the last time.

Three years later, after I returned home from Australia, I realized that I did not have any photo of me with my deceased grandma. It seemed like I had never taken any photos with her; from the moment I was born until the moment she passed on. This pained me even more, with deep regret.

What do you want to achieve personally or professionally?

A: In terms of my career, I am already an established professional. Personally, I hope to contribute as much as I could, back to society, and continue to make a difference in someone's life.

R: Incidentally, I picked up photography while I was studying in Australia. I could never imagine that I would be able to use this skill to help and comfort both terminally-ill patients and their families. I believe that when the patients are undergoing and enduring any medical treatments, they would feel awful, burdening their own families with those expensive medical bills. I also believe that they may wish to do something for their families too, but couldn't. Therefore, to the patients, I wish that the photos I have taken for them can be used as a gift, from them to their families. Meanwhile, to the patients' families, I wish that the photos I have taken for them can become a precious memento of their loved ones.

"A moment together can last forever in their memories."

What do you hope to capture on the pictures for patients? How do you make that happen?

A: I focus on just one thing - a raw and genuine smile on their faces. For every portrait I capture with my camera, I make sure to get their names first. And, together with the help of their caregiver and some patience, we call out for them to get their attention to look into my lens and *clickkkkk!*

R: What the patients and their families wish to see on the pictures is actually what I hope to capture. And actually, I do not know how to make that happen. With families, it just happens naturally. I just smile at them before taking aim with my camera and I start clicking away.

What about taking photos for patients touch your heart?

A: When they look into my camera and flash a bright smile, it is as if in that moment, they forget all their troubles. I feel it is like a photo therapy for them. Also, in between frames, the patients and I get to chit-chat. They would share their stories with me. Some of them resonate with me and bring back memories of my late mother and sister.

R: The moment they smile back at me, while looking at my camera while I am photographing them ... their smiles just touch my heart. To me, those smiles from the patients and/ or their families are worth much more than just an inspiration.

What are some of the challenges you typically faced or have overcome while taking photos of patients?

A: I try not to disrupt patients who are confined to their beds and/or are heavily-medicated so they get their uninterrupted rest as much as possible. At times, the solemn looks from a family member and/ or caregiver surrounding the patients can be quite a challenge.

R: Most of the time, patients are quite reluctant to take photos, especially when their families are not around. That is why I am really grateful to those Volunteers who selflessly comfort and take care of them. The Volunteers would help me direct the patients to look at the camera. Although at times, even with the Volunteer's help, the patients may not want to smile, but they are willing to take a photo. I totally understand that.

How did you overcome such challenges?

A: I have to keep in mind not to ask silly or frivolous questions, which may subconsciously dampen their mood. I try to keep conversations as lively as possible. Also, photography has its own challenges because every click is a decisive moment -- Being alert, being in THE moment is key.

R: I try to put myself in their shoes; I try my best to understand them, because no one else can. With that in mind, I think all things just fall into place.

