



Takeaways

A newsletter by RICE



Leaving things in the past sucks.

Like, for instance, the stack of unread books you have languishing on a shelf. Or a box full of magazines, posters, and photos that were part of an important phase of your life. We're in a post-KonMari world right now—we're absolutely only keeping things that give us joy, we tell ourselves.

But for stuff that doesn't spark joy, is it really *that* easy to throw them out? Sentimentality aside, it's just *nice* to have things. The problem is that space is just a rare commodity in Singapore, and the bleak news is that it always will be.

However, aside from the physical objects you can't bear to put away, what about the ephemeral side of life? This week, we see how a bunch of Singaporean men can't seem to let the prestige of their education go, and how relationship breakdowns often stem from holding on to faded bonds.

(But, if you still have your old Game Boy somewhere, hold on to it. They're only increasing in price now.)

*P.S. We've also learnt some of you found your way here through your friends. If you haven't already, **subscribe** to our weekly newsletter today!*

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The (Boys) Is Yet to Be (Men)



It's common knowledge that if someone you meet tells you they're from Anglo Chinese School (ACS), they may never stop talking about it.

It's not really a knock—it's common for people to peak early in life. When you're riding on the wave of past glories into adulthood, it can be an embarrassing look, especially when it's *entirely* irrelevant to the situation at hand. Exhibit A.

**An Elite School Boy's Take on
'We Are ACS Boys'**

In the Bedroom



Sex isn't everything. But it is... well, *something*.

Whenever intimacy is a core tenet of a happy relationship—which may not always apply to existing couples—bonds can break down when it's overlooked. What then?

**The Suffocating Loneliness of
Singaporeans in Sexless
Marriages**

Analog Kids



In the early 2000s, there were screens. And there were portable screens.

The latter was a game-changer, with niche gadgets like portable DVD players and PDAs (remember those?). But when it came to the Game Boy, it arguably set a precedent for what kids have now.

For those who were screen-less in their youth, what were their childhoods like?

**What Did Singaporean Kids Do
Back Then With No Screens?**

“Double-Edged Sword”



Talking about Palestine in Singapore is—as we’ve learned a lot these few months—tricky.

Solidarity should be a basic courtesy, not least when we’re seeing more and more horrors pouring out from these atrocities in Gaza and beyond. When it comes to speaking about it, especially in a public space, it gets dicey.

Here’s what happened at *SCAPE last weekend when such an event happened.

**Gaza Monologues: What
Happened at a Government-
Approved Event
on Palestine?**

Short Grains, or *piping-hot topics by the spoonful.*

- The US House of Representatives passed a bill that hands Chinese tech firm ByteDance an ultimatum: sell its controlling stake in TikTok or risk

the app being banned in the country. (via *BBC*)

- Singapore is set to deliver their third tranche of aid to Gaza, with the RSAF deployed to conduct airdrops. (via *The Straits Times*)
 - In Japan, a mysterious bacterial infection is spreading at an alarming rate, with officials puzzled over its cause. (via *The Guardian*)
 - Singaporean actor Tay Ping Hui has announced he will be moving forward as a freelancer for the first time in his 25-year showbiz career. Gig economy, am I right? (via *CNA*)
 - After the hubbub over Taylor Swift's Singapore exclusivity, Indonesia's tourism minister has expressed interest to work together for future large-scale concerts. (via *SCMP*)
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Given Gurmit Singh's comedic brilliance and Phua Chu Kang's cultural legacy, people often confuse them for the same person.

But is that really the case? Alongside our recent long-form read, we took the entertainment icon out for a day at Haw Par Villa.

**Do We Know the Real
Gurmit Singh?**

We like to go out! We also hate our weather.

But as much as our team is full of contradictions, we simply can't go by our weekend without checking out some things. If you're still deciding on where to go, let us highlight some unmissable events for you:

- This one's a real feast for the senses: [Sentosa Sensoryscape](#), officially launched yesterday, promises a new way to experience the island resort's lush scenery with newly integrated zones, astounding structures and AR technology.
- The annual [PetExpo](#) celebrates its 10th year anniversary with a power-packed event for your furkids at Singapore Expo this weekend from 10am to 8pm.
- From 5pm till late, [Trifecta Backyard Sessions](#) will offer up close and personal performances by rappers Akeem Jahat and Mary Sue, singer-songwriter Joie Tan, and indie rock band Islandeer—all before capping the night off with an indie rock dance party courtesy of Eatmepoptart.
- The libations of St. Patrick's Day will be unleashed in full-force with a [street festival sponsored by Guinness](#) this weekend along Circular Road after a three-year hiatus.
- And, for something deeper into the underground, there's the transgressive dance party [xxxxexxxexex](#), headlined by DJ and artist Juliana Huxtable.

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