



# Takeaways

A newsletter by RICE



## Back in those days

Nostalgia is one hell of a drug—marketing teams can't stop exploiting it, and millennials can't get enough of it. As much as it might over-romanticise the past, nostalgia can only take us in if there is some truth to our memories of yesteryear.

Times... were genuinely simpler, as was happiness. Our simple joys didn't need a lot. We were hypnotised by tops spinning in circles, spinning in a way that would leave our current adult selves perplexed. What was so revolutionary about Beyblade? Our writer Kimberly finds out from Beyblade's sizeable following.

Or maybe we're just making things too complicated; not everything needs to have a point. This week we try to slow down, smell the roses and spin some tops.

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*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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# Spinning Through Time



Gone are the days when you'd hear kids yelling "Let it rip" from the void decks. It's not because Beyblades have disappeared, it's just that the catchphrase has changed with the times.

And apart from kids, you'll now hear adults yelling "3,2,1! Go shoot!"

**Singapore's Grown-Up Beybladers  
on the Joys That Keep Them  
Spinning Kids' Toys**

## Space Between Spaces



When was the last time you stopped to relax at the void deck?

Between the days of void deck football of the past and now, void decks don't look quite the same anymore. They're smaller, clinical and segmented. Has the expiration date of the place we pass by, passed us by?

**A Day in the Life of a Void Deck**

## **Door to Door, Heart to Heart**



34 Whampoa West is home to Singapore's longest HDB common corridor, with 46 units lined up from end to end on each level.

No walls, no partitions. Just one shared space that connects everyone. Our photographer spent weeks trying to capture how design defines relationships.

**Singapore's Longest Curved HDB  
Corridor, and the Distance  
Between Our Neighbours**

## Better Days





With internships being a compulsory graduation requirement, companies now have an infinite supply of optimistic kids at their beck and call to do the heavy lifting. And boy, some of them sure don't hold back from exploiting discounted labour.

**True Singapore Intern Stories:  
Horror Stories from Interns Past  
and Present**

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

- If you haven't already ditched Shein products, maybe it's time to do so after [toxic chemicals](#) were detected in Shein products. (via CNA)
- HDB will offer [open-concept flats](#) in a Kallang-Whampoa BTO project, which will have no partitions and beams. ( via Straits Times)
- American burger chain [In-N-Out](#) announced a one-day pop-up at Columbus Coffee Co cafe on 31 May. (via Straits Times)
- Starting 1 June, Malaysians travelling by bus or motorcycle through Johor's land checkpoints can clear immigration using [QR codes](#). (via CNA)

- Tampines residents just can't catch a break, or some Zs, thanks to a pretty fowl problem. (via AsiaOne)
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What happened to Beyblades? More than two decades after kids were battling it out at void decks, these toys have spun their way into modern culture, with official tournaments where parents compete alongside their kids.

### Beyblades' Next-Generation Revolution

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### **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:

- Start June off on the right foot by joining the second edition of Healthy Living Festival @ North West! With over 30 family-friendly activities and workshops, there is something for everyone here.
- Lean back, let loose and sample new electronic music! Enjoy live performances from local artists at Sample This! Live.
- From costumes to artefacts to interactive exhibits, experience and celebrate 120 years of women's history encapsulated in film, by visiting ArtScience Museum's exhibition Goddess: Brave. Bold. Beautiful.

- NParks Concert Series in the Park: [Rockestra®](#) is back, featuring local artists Club Mild, Owen Li Shazza and SuperSonic. Kids are welcome to join, and can enjoy a bouncy castle and other kid-centric activities!
- Eat, shop, and indulge in local and international cuisines and tunes at Singapore's largest food and music festival, [GastroBeats](#), which starts this weekend and runs till 23 June.

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