



Takeaways

A newsletter by RICE



A little bit of both...

We love our chicken rice with chilli, we also love it with dark soy sauce. We love our teh, but we also love our kopi. We love new things, we also love old things. In a way, Singapore and her Singaporeans are a proud walking dichotomy. Sometimes, though, it feels as if we struggle with toeing the line and maintaining balance.

The struggle to preserve heritage while embracing progress is palpable. When we are victorious in saving old buildings, the feeling is often bittersweet. These spaces, once preserved, tend to be revitalised by brands and businesses that don't exactly conform to our nostalgic ideas of tradition, so accusations of gentrification are inevitable. The charm of the old is infused with the sheen of the new, sometimes at the cost of authenticity.

Finding a true balance remains an ongoing quest. Is there a way to meld preservation with progress without losing the essence of either? The search for this equilibrium continues.

*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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Out with the old, in with the new



New Bahru is everything we love—shiny and new. But beneath the facade of preserving heritage buildings and featuring homegrown brands, have we taken gentrification a step too far?

**New Bahru and the Gentrification
of Our Historical Buildings**

What goes up must come down



What used to be a playground favourite is now a rare sight. Is there some grand conspiracy to remove all the swings from Singapore, or are we just too old for playtime now?

Where Have All the Playground Swings Gone?

Best of both worlds



Balance, harmony, yin and yang—all words that can be used to describe the most slept-on coffee shop beverage. Say goodbye to your decision fatigue and never settle for either coffee or tea again.

**A Love Letter to Yuan Yang, the
Most Underrated Coffee Shop
Drink**

Feverish decisions



Anyone sick on a weekday knows the anxious dilemma of deciding whether to take an MC or risk starting an infection in the office. Because the only thing

worse than being sick is being sick with worry.

**The Unspoken Checklist For The
Average Worker Before Taking
MC**

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

- This is a reminder to stop scrolling and give your eyes a break, especially since the cases of high myopia among adults have been on the rise. (via *Straits Times*)
 - Fortunately for young Malaysians, parents are no longer allowed to name their children “Skibidi” or “Bodoh” amongst other weird names. (via *Straits Times*)
 - The Singapore Lionesses scored a big one—a record 9-0 win against Macau in a friendly match ahead of the 2024 Asean Women’s Championship. (via *Straits Times*)
 - It’s not yet Hungry Ghost Festival but ActiveSG swimming pools and gyms have been visited by people using accounts of dead members. (via *CNA*)
 - Even rodents can’t get enough of the iconic Don Don Donki theme song, as evident from this rat’s appearance at the Orchard Central branch’s dining area. (via *AsiaOne*)
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Goodbyes are never easy, but support from loved ones and professionals can make a significant difference.

Learning to Say Goodbye

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:

- Catch the premiere of the *Rite of Spring*, the newest choreography by Kinsun Chan, along with 2 other captivating ballets at the [Singapore Ballet Festival](#) this weekend!
- Behind The Green Door presents: [Jaden Thompson](#). Known for his distinctive Chicago house sound and energetic sets, don't miss this opportunity to experience his dynamic mixes live!
- Want to learn more about coffee? Here's your chance with Kind Kones x Insanely Good Coffee: [Speciality coffee and plant-based ice cream tasting experience](#)! Explore unique flavours, learn about different brew methods and producers, and elevate your coffee knowledge.
- Head down to 195 Pearl's Hill Terrace this weekend. Presented by Supper House, [Let It Linger](#) is a curated group show featuring six local artists exploring the site's rich history and social significance.

- Groove to hip-hop, EDM and top 40s sets by three DJs at [Silent Disco Asia](#), which just might be the most happening but quietest party this weekend.

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