

## Celebrating the 4th Birthday of Green Culture Singapore

**Green Culture Singapore Feature Article for September 2008**

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**Above:** A group photograph that was taken during the Green Culture Singapore 4<sup>th</sup> birthday gathering.

Green Culture Singapore (GCS), a website and discussion forum started to provide a convenient platform for Singaporeans to learn more about gardening, celebrated her 4th birthday on 13 September 2008. This year, our interest group's birthday party was held two days earlier than its actual date so that it falls on a weekend, making it easier for our members to attend. The gathering was held at the Viewing Gallery in The Serangoon.

The celebration was marked by a gathering similar to those organised in previous years. Members of the GCS discussion forum would bring food and drinks for the potluck dinner. It was also a time for everyone who was present, to mingle around and catch up with fellow members. A few members also brought along some plants to give away, show-and-tell or sell to fellow members.



**Above:** Lily and Teresa at Wilson's place making the souvenirs that were later given out to members during the gathering.

This year, we tried to do something quite different: Souvenirs were given out to everyone who attended this memorable event. It was a hand-made token of appreciation and a display ornament that was made out of different plant seeds stacked in layers. Our heartfelt thanks go to Lily Chen (davidia) and Teresa Theng (sasa) who came forward to help in the making of these souvenirs. We also wish to thank Richmond (kiddyduck) who has volunteered to help us print the stickers which were stuck on the side of each tube.

There are another two persons whom we would like to thank. They are namely, Mr Ng Cheow Kheng from the Community in Bloom, for his support and collaboration and Mr Phillippe Noor (Wild Ginger), one of our forum members, who helped to conceptualise the GCS booth during the recent Singapore Garden Festival. We presented to them each a handmade souvenir too.

We also expressed our gratitude to those members who have volunteered their valuable time to be present at the GCS booth at the Singapore Garden Festival. They include Lynnette (Velvetine), Cindy, Chong Ren (chongren), Xuan Hong (limxuanhong), Eng Ong (Bluefly), Teresa, Lily and Richmond.



**Above:** Wilson telling fellow GCS members more about the gac fruit.

There was an interesting highlight at the gathering where one of our members brought along a rare fruit, called the gac fruit, all the way from Vietnam. Many members were curious and interested to find out more about this rare fruit and I am glad I was able to share with them what I knew about it. Many of us also got to taste the carotenoid-rich aril that surrounds each large seed. A few lucky members even had the opportunity to bring home some seeds to grow. Many thanks to Karen (Karen79) who gave all of us a pleasant surprise!

This year will be a memorable one for us because we have a couple more likeminded members who have come forward to join me in this same league to promote gardening. I am heartened every time I noticed three of our young members, namely, Richmond, Chong Ren and Xuan Hong, wearing the GCS collar pins on their sleeves during the occasions where I did not expect them to wear it. Mr Tan Eng Ong have been spotted on many occasions to have proudly donned the GCS t-shirt when he is present at various gardening-related events.



**Above:** Wilson presenting a token of appreciation to Mr Ng Cheow Kheng from the National Parks Board's Community in Bloom.

## Acknowledgements

Green Culture Singapore would like to thank the following people:

1. Fellow GCS members and Mr Ng Cheow Kheng who have made the effort to come down to support the GCS 4th Anniversary Gathering.
2. Kevin Cheong (greenhorn) - for providing some exotic airplants for the gathering.
3. Casey Toh (skyfiery) and partner - for helping to take the numerous pictures to commemorate this gathering.
4. Lily, Chong Ren, Xuan Hong & Richmond for forming the advance party to help set things up at the gathering venue.

## More Pictures

More pictures of the gathering can be viewed by clicking the following link:

<http://smg.photobucket.com/albums/v504/alakhis/GCS%204th%20Birthday%20Bash%20130908/?start=all>

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<http://www.greenculturesg.com/forum/index.php?showtopic=15241>

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