

THE VOICE

Monthly Newsletter for our Australian Alumni Community

ISSUE 26 | APRIL 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members & Partners,

I had the opportunity to attend ANZAC Day commemorative dawn service that was held at the Kranji War Memorial on 25th April. ANZAC Day marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces. It is one of Australia's most important national occasions which is commemorated around the world.

The solemn event in Singapore was attended by over 700 people from all walks of life including diplomatic representatives from many countries including the newly appointed Australian High Commissioner to Singapore, H.E. Allaster Cox and New Zealand High Commissioner to Singapore H.E. Gabrielle Rush.

AAS paid our respects and laid a wreath as a tribute to the brave souls who made the ultimate sacrifice. As I paid my respects, it reminded me that the day unites people of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds and teaches us courage, mateship, and selfless sacrifice. My thoughts and prayers are with everyone around the world who is impacted by conflicts.

I had the opportunity to briefly meet H.E. Allaster Cox and congratulated him on his appointment to lead the Australian mission in Singapore. AAS Management Committee and I look forward to working closely with H.E. Allaster Cox in the coming years to continue building the strong pillar of alumni engagement which has played an ever-important role in building stronger ties between Australia and Singapore.

The newly elected AAS Management Committee held our first MC meeting this month. We have assigned the roles and responsibilities of the newly minted office bearers as well as discussed our direction this year. In the coming months, I will be sharing more about the plans we are putting together for our community.

If you have some thoughts and ideas on how we can be more impactful to you and our community, please reach out to us at secretariat@aas.org.sg.

Yours Sincerely,



Rajaneesh R Kurup
#forwardtogether



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Revolutionising food: Australia's protein industry leads the way in sustainability



Australia could capture an additional \$13 billion to produce new and improved products for all types of protein

Australian proteins have long been a staple of Singaporean households and in the food service industry with Aussie beef and lamb trusted as safe, nutritious and tasty. Recently chicken has been on the minds of many and we are pleased to see more Australian chicken making its way to Singapore – hopefully into your atas chicken rice!

[Australia's Protein Roadmap](#) released by [CSIRO](#) shows that the future of global food security will rely heavily on global access to proteins creating significant opportunity for agricultural, meat and livestock industries.

But did you know Australia also has a growing alternative protein industry?

Australia is home to several innovative startups that are leading the way in this space. From plant based protein to insect protein and lab grown meat, these companies are offering interesting, sustainable and healthy protein options.

One of the most prominent players in the Australian alternative protein scene is v2food. Backed by the [Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation \(CSIRO\)](#) Australia's national science agency and a Singaporean state owned investor, v2food has developed a process that uses legumes to create a protein that has a meat like texture and taste. With a strong focus on sustainability, v2food's mission is to create plant based foods that are not only healthy and tasty but also better for the planet.

Another player in the Australian alternative protein landscape is BuggyBix, an Australian pet food company that produces sustainable and healthy pet food products made from insect based protein. BuggyBix's products are made from black soldier fly larvae which are a sustainable and ecofriendly source of protein. BuggyBix has a strong focus on reducing food waste, using food waste such as fruit and vegetable scraps to produce its insect based protein.

Australians like Singaporeans love to makan and are super adventurous with food trends including going flexitarian! Alternative protein products are becoming more prevalent in mainstream supermarkets and food service companies in Australia.

In addition to these Australian companies, the recent announcement by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) to approve the sale of 16 insect species as food in Singapore has garnered interest in the industry. Insects are a rich source of protein and have a low environmental footprint for production. Will consumers be open to insect based ingredients and products? We think so.

From plant based meats to insects protein, these innovative startups are creating delicious, sustainable and healthy options for both humans and pets.

Australia and Singapore continue to collaborate closely on increasing two way flows of business, science and research and we expect to see more in the alternative proteins sector as both countries focus on food security and sustainability goals.

Interested to learn more about Australian proteins? Or have a Singaporean alternative protein company looking to Australia for feedstock or research capability? We'd love to hear from you.

Singapore@austrade.gov.au

AAS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

GIRISH JAGAJEEVAN, AAS CHAIR OF MEMBERSHIP

FIEAUST, MIES | M&E CONSULTANT | MARKETING LEAD | MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL | STRATEGIST | PUBLIC SPEAKER | UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE GRADUATE |



Having 15 years of experience working in Australia, Malaysia, Vietnam, India, and Singapore, Girish is well-versed in client relations, contract negotiations and providing engineering solutions. He works for CASY Engineering Consultancy as their Marketing Manager.

As a student at the University of Newcastle, he played cricket for the Uni 5th Side and coached the University's Women's Football Team. He is interested in sustainability and is actively involved in encouraging companies and societies to go green.

As Honorary Secretary of the Engineers Australia Singapore Chapter, Girish meets members regularly to arrange networking opportunities, continuous professional development (CPD) events and mentoring. He also guest-lectures final-year students at the University of Newcastle (Singapore) on post-University life and career options.

Girish holds an Honours Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Newcastle and a postgraduate certificate in Strategic Leadership and Management from the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers and a Member of the Institution of Engineers Singapore.

Girish is married to Sneha Menon, a graduate of James Cook University. They love to travel to new locations and explore the world.



AAS 68th Management Committee & Honorary Auditor for term 2023-2024



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Mr Rajaneesh Kurup
James Cook University



Vice - President &
Chair of Digital Transformation
Mr Kevin Dam
University of Technology Sydney



Honorary Auditor
Mr Cliff Goh
Curtin University



Secretary
Ms Nurhidayah Ekbal
James Cook University



Treasurer &
Co - Chair of CSR
Mr Michael Aw
La Trobe University



Chair of Memberships
Mr Girish Jagajeevan
University of Newcastle



Chair of Events
Ms Maribel Colmenares
La Trobe University



Chair of Partner University
Programs & Sponsorships
Mr Johnny Teng
University of Tasmania



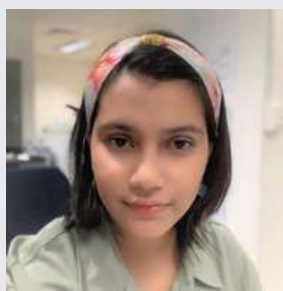
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Swinburne University
of Technology



Chair of Mentorship Program
Mr Victor Tay
Curtin University



Co - Chair of Events
Mr Noel Ng
University of Tasmania



Co - Chair of Mentorship Program
Ms Dipanti Das
James Cook University



Alumni Engagement
Mr Richard Ngo
University of Tasmania

The Way Forward - Stronger Together

James Cook University in Singapore receives prestigious EduTrust Star award for the third time



The third consecutive EduTrust Star award for James Cook University in Singapore reaffirms the University's commitment to quality.

James Cook University (JCU) in Singapore has once again received the prestigious EduTrust Star award, making it the third time the University has achieved this recognition for its outstanding academic standards and commitment to excellence.

The EduTrust Star award is an industry benchmark of quality and excellence for private education institutions in Singapore. It is awarded to institutions that have demonstrated a strong commitment to providing quality education, excellent student support services, and effective organisational management.



JCU in Singapore has consistently demonstrated these qualities since it first opened its doors in Singapore in 2003. The University offers a wide range of programmes, and is also home to a vibrant research community that is focused on addressing some of the most pressing challenges facing Singapore and the wider region. Through its focus and commitment to academic excellence, research, and student support, JCU in Singapore became the first-ever organisation to attain the EduTrust Star in 2015.

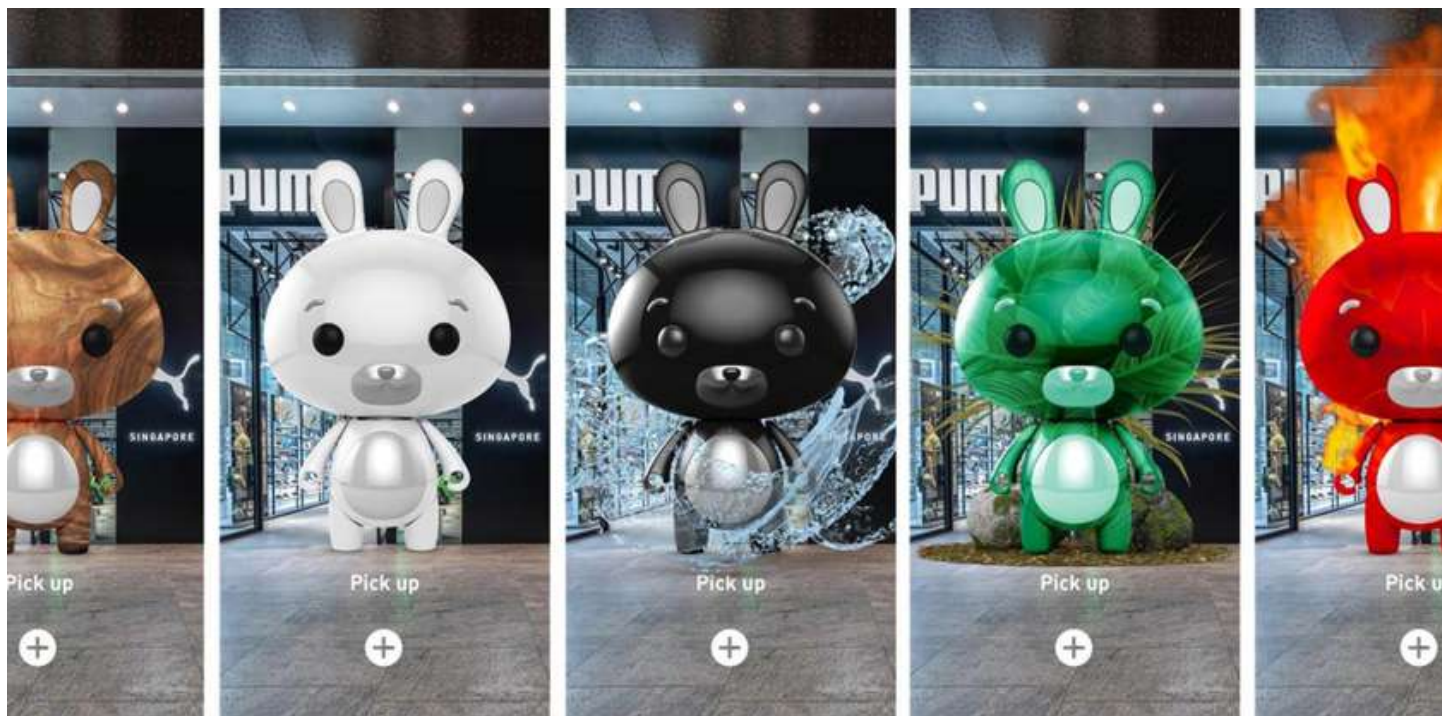
Speaking about the award, Professor Chris Rudd OBE — Deputy Vice Chancellor and Head of Campus, Singapore at JCU — said, “We are honored to receive the EduTrust Star award for the third time. This award is a testament to our commitment to providing high-quality education and excellent student support services. We are proud of our dedicated faculty, staff, and students, who have all contributed to making JCU a leading institution of higher education in Singapore. We will continue to innovate and adapt to meet the changing needs of our students, and to provide them with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to succeed in their chosen fields.”

Find out more about the [Singapore campus of James Cook University](#).

Contacts

Media: [Mr Edwin Teo](#)

Accenture and Lendlease Expand Partnership to Grow Podium Property Insights Platform



Accenture and Lendlease announced that they are expanding their partnership to further invest in developing Lendlease's industry-leading Podium Property Insights (PPI) platform. Using real-time data collected from sensors placed within building environments, PPI provides real estate managers with valuable insights to better understand how their workplaces are utilised and chart a course toward meeting their sustainability, cost and employee engagement goals.

In addition, Lendlease will now also extend the Podium platform into retail portfolios, with the introduction of a new augmented reality capability that creates immersive retail experiences for customers. The PPI platform will house the data that enables landlords and tenants to make informed data decisions, partnering together to increase foot traffic and dwell time through new offers and experiences within the digital/metaverse layers of their physical assets.

With the use of artificial intelligence, augmented reality and virtual reality, Accenture and Lendlease delivered an innovative experience in Lendlease's shopping malls in Singapore in celebration of Chinese New Year. The trial allowed customers to access in-store offers, digital tokens and NFTs, enabling retailers to blur the line between online and in-store experiences.

Over the course of the four-week trial, 10,000 wallets were created via a mobile app and 29,000 offers collected and viewed across 50 participating tenant stores. Accenture research has found that approximately two-thirds of both in-store and mobile shoppers believe that technologies and innovations improve their shopping experience.

While the pandemic has caused disruptions and set in place new trends across both workplace and retail, the collaboration between Accenture and Lendlease has allowed for the embracement and understanding of new trends.

SportNXT returned to Melbourne



This week SportNXT returned to Melbourne. We were delighted to support more than 20 delegates from Southeast Asia to participate in the event, business matching and site visits, to Global Victoria Invest Victoria

Melbourne is recognised as one of the world's great sporting capitals and it's fitting this event is planned just prior to the Australian F1 Grand Prix.

Delegates from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines and Thailand met with leading services, tech and goods exporters.

The content and speakers were world class, just like the venue, CENTREPIECE at Melbourne Park, that served up a great space for connecting and learning from the best.

So what did we learn?

Victoria 2026 and Brisbane 2032 are guiding much of the sector focus and global attention. We gleaned new insights from leaders guiding these important legacy building projects.

ASTN - Australian Sports Technologies Network and its members are doing some amazing things, and we hope to see more coming to Southeast Asia.

Victoria is home to around 44 per cent of Australia's sports technology companies? More than 7,500 people are currently employed in Victoria's sports technology sector, developing products and services in areas like media, artificial intelligence, entertainment, stadiums, major events, wearables and e-sports.

Many of Australia National codes and peak sporting bodies are seeking to engage in new ways in Southeast Asia, and we are ready to help. Shout out to National Basketball League (NBL) who are leading the charge.

Till sportnxt2024 we'll be busy connecting the sports ecosystem in Southeast Asia and Victoria.



The Fred Hollows Foundation is a global leader in eye health and international development working towards the elimination of avoidable blindness. The Foundation was founded in 1992 in Australia, and now works in more than 25 countries in Australasia, Africa, East Asia, South Asia & Middle East.

Headquartered in Sydney, The Foundation was founded by Professor Fred Hollows and Gabi Hollows. Fred was an eye doctor, renowned ophthalmologist and highly respected Australian dedicated to ending avoidable blindness in developing countries. Today, we continue Fred's vision of a world in which no person is needlessly blind.



Global Blindness

There are 43 million people in the world who are blind and another 295 million are vision impaired.

9 out of 10 people who are blind or vision impaired don't need to be. Eye diseases such as cataract, diabetic retinopathy, trachoma, and refractive error are either treatable or preventable.



Our Approach and Impact

Over the past 31 years, we have restored sight to more than 3 million people around the world and supported programs to deliver more than 200 million doses of antibiotics for trachoma.

The Foundation is unique in its sustainable, long-term approach. We not only treat patients, but we also equip hospitals, train eye health teams and work with health authorities and other partners to empower local people to deliver local services. We are proud of our record of training future generations of eye doctors, building local eye health capacity, driving innovation, and advocating for the integration of eye health in national health systems.

The Fred Hollows Foundation Singapore

31% of the world's blind reside in the Asia region. Despite a dramatic economic upturn in recent years, many people in the region are still living with blindness that is either treatable or preventable. The Foundation is active throughout the ASEAN region, and we expanded our operations to Singapore in late 2022 to reach the growing number of needlessly blind people in the region. Singapore is a major hub for the Southeast Asia region, so our Singapore office plays a pivotal role in supporting our fundraising and advocacy efforts as well as raising awareness about our sight-saving work.

Visit our website at www.hollows.org if you are interested to find out more or contact our Hong Kong-ASEAN Chief Representative, Laura Lee at llee@hollows.org

Find out more:



UPCOMING EVENTS

AAS Mother's Day CSR Event 2023 (Joint event with Boss Group Limited)

Venue: Kovan Hub

206 Hougang St 21, Singapore 530206

Sunday 14 May 2023

8.00am to 12 noon



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Happy
Mother's
Day

母亲节快乐

Date: 14th May 2023 (Sunday)

Time: 8.30am – 11.00am

Address: Kovan Hub 206 Hougang St21
Singapore 530206

Uniform: Red T-shirt

Program:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8.30am: | Briefing of Volunteers |
| 9:00am: | Emcee to start the event |
| 9.05am - 9.15am | Emcee to Invite Boss Group Chairman Jackson |
| 9.15am - 9.25am | Emcee to Invite Paya Lebar CCC Advisor Alex Yeo |
| 9.25am - 9.30am | Photo Taking with BG & Advisor |
| 9.30am - 9.45am | Hearing Aid Talk |
| 9.45am - 9.55am | Physiotherapy Talk |
| 9.55am - 10.05am | Magic Show on stage |
| 10.05am - 10.15am | Sponsorship Plaque- 3k |
| 10.15am - 10.30am | Sponsorship Plaque- 10k |
| 10.30am - 10.45am | Sing Songs together - Lyrics, give flowers to elderly |
| 11:00 AM | 5 group Leader with Volunteers, start to give flowers away. - Each volunteer have 30 flowers to give away |



25 Volunteers needed.

Both individual and family/ group
volunteers welcomed.

To sign up by 1st May 23:

<https://bit.ly/14May2023AASCSR>



*Volunteers will each be given 30 stalks of
roses (at 11.00am) to be given to hawkers /
working adults nearby .*

*This is to show appreciation to the many
mothers who needs to work even on their
special day!*



UPCOMING EVENTS



JAMES COOK
UNIVERSITY
SINGAPORE

Celebrating
20
YEARS
2003-2023

Sat, 20 May 2023

JCU Open House



When: 20 May 2023, 11am -- 5pm

Location: 149 Sims Drive, Singapore 387380, Sims Drive Campus

Welcome to the JCU Open House!

Discover more about the Singapore campus of James Cook University (JCU) on 20 May 2023, 11am - 5pm! We will have activities throughout the day, ranging from program talks, showcases, booths, and more! Take the opportunity to have a chat with our academics, students, as well as our admissions and marketing staff. You can also arrange a visit to explore our campus through a guided walking tour.

[Register Here Today!](#)

Photos and recording will be taken during the event for news and various publicity purposes

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY BEACH CLEAN UP

by OCEAN PURPOSE PROJECT



For more information & to Register, please scan the Whatsapp QR Code and join AAS Sustainability Social Interest Group



AAS CYCLING INTEREST GROUP MONTHLY MEETUP

SATURDAY, 12 MAY 2023 | 6.30AM SGT

For more information and to Register, please scan the Whatsapp QR Code and join the AAS Cycling Social Interest Group below.



[LINK](#)



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Rankings 2025



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November
25 Saturday

AAS 68TH GALA DINNER

Save
the Date

AAS 68th Anniversary Gala Dinner

Date: Saturday, 25 Nov 2023

Venue: Grand Ballroom @

Grand Copthorne Waterfront

Australian Alumni Singapore | 57th Anniversary
TH Gala Dinner



Australian Alumni Singapore | 57th Anniversary
TH Gala Dinner



View the full album [here](#)

Australian Alumni Singapore | 57th Anniversary
TH Gala Dinner



Australian Alumni Singapore | 57th Anniversary
TH Gala Dinner

**Congratulations to the
Best Dressed Winners!**



Thank you to all for dressing up
for the Oscars

Australian Alumni Singapore | 57th Anniversary
TH Gala Dinner

**Congratulations to
winners of the top 10
Lucky Draw Prizes!**



PAST EVENTS

AAS 2nd Beer & Brains Session (2023)

Venue: Topsy Flamingo

252 North Bridge Road, Raffles City Shopping Centre #01-17A, Singapore

Thursday 27 April 2023 | 7pm SGT



We had a fun night with attendees of the bi-monthly Beer and Brains event. Catch you at the next one!



PAST EVENTS

James Cook University Graduation Ceremony 2023

AAS Membership Roadshow

Saturday, 15 Apr 2023, Sands Expo and Convention Centre Grand Ballroom



PAST EVENTS

Meeting with the Hon Madeleine King, Minister for Resources and Minister for Northern Australia

Wednesday, 5th Apr 2023, Australian High Commission, Singapore



ANZAC Day 2023

Tuesday, 25th April 2023, Kranji War Memorial, Singapore



PAST EVENTS

Talk on ChatGPT

Singapore Alumni Event - University of Wollongong

Thursday 30 March 2023

7.00pm -9.00pm



It was fascinating learning about ChatGPT from Australian cybersecurity scientist, cryptographer and Distinguished Professor Willy Susilo.

The alumni enjoyed the discussion and had a good chance to network with their alumni and friends.



SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Scan or click the link to join & connect with like minded AAS members



AAS-Tennis Group
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS| Wine & Spirits Group
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS-Cycling Group
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AAS -Sustainability Group
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[LINK](#)



AAS - Volunteer
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS - Leverage SEO Group



[LINK](#)

If you would like to form and lead an interest group, please feel free to contact secretariat@aas.org.sg





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- If you are a new user, **register** you Glue Up account directly on the app. Otherwise, simply log in to your existing account.
- Start exploring My Glue app!
- Check the following 3 slides to understand how you should proceed based on your user status.

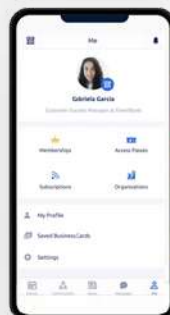
How to get the mobile app?

Download it on

iOS [App Store]



Android [Google Play]



Click [HERE](#) to learn more about GlueUp.

EXCLUSIVE OFFERS BY PARTNERS

lendlease

Paya Lebar Quarter

Festive Redemption | 14 Apr - 28 May 2023

[Lendlease Plus Members Exclusive] Spend a min. of \$200 to redeem a \$10 Lendlease E-Voucher*.

*Limited to first 4000 redemptions and 1 redemption per member per day.

Raya Rewards | 22 Apr - 7 May 2023

[Lendlease Plus Members Exclusive] Earn 2X Plus\$* when you spend a min. of \$50 in a single same-day receipt.

*Capped at max. 10,000 Plus\$ per Basic member and 20,000 Plus\$ per Premium member per day.

Parking Perks | 14 Apr - 28 May 2023

[Lendlease Plus Members Exclusive] Redeem \$3 Park Plus\$* with a min. nett spend of \$30 in a single receipt. Head to PLQ Mall L4 Concierge Desk for redemption.

*Limited to first 50 redemptions per day and 1 redemption per member per day.

Parkway Parade

App-solutely Rewarding | 17 Apr - 14 May 2023

[Lendlease Plus Members Exclusive] Be rewarded with **\$10,000 Plus\$** with a min. nett spend of \$200*. Simply upload your receipts via the Lendlease Plus mobile app to qualify.

*Max. 3 same-day combined receipts. Limited to the first 5,000 redemptions and 1 redemption member per day..

Weekday Parking Perks | 17 Apr - 14 May 2023

[Lendlease Plus Members Exclusive] Redeem **\$3 Park Plus\$** with a min. nett spend of \$50* in a single receipt at L2 Concierge desk from Mon - Fri.

*Limited to first 100 redemptions per day and 1 redemption per member per day. Redemption of Park Plus\$ is only for Lendlease Plus members who have their corresponding vehicle number and IU number registered in the system.

Mother's Day Special | 14 May 2023

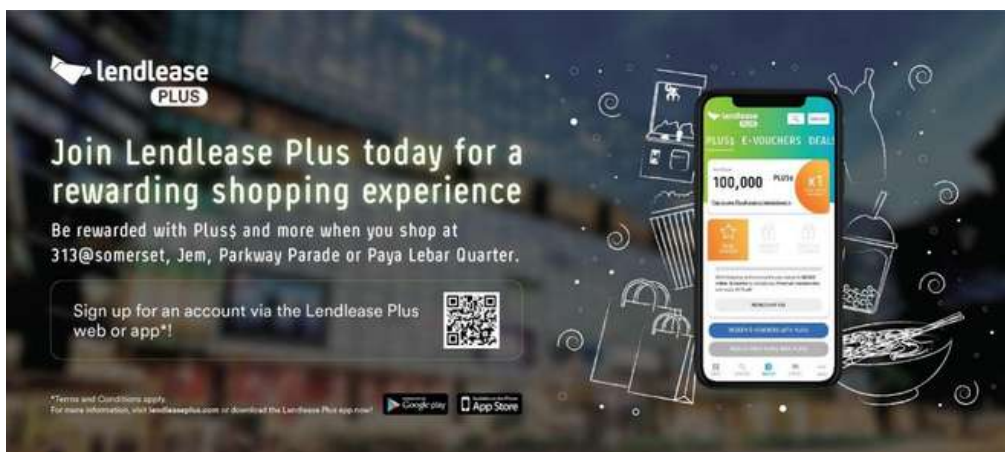
[Lendlease Plus Members Exclusive] Exclusively on Mother's Day, redeem \$5 retailers' E-Vouchers* with only 500 Plus\$ at 12pm! Brands include Clarins, Rive Gauche Patisserie, Triumph and more. Grab them via the Rewards section of your Lendlease Plus mobile app.

*Limited to 3 redemptions per member per E-Voucher type. All E-Vouchers are valid for use till 4 June 2023



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JOB OPPORTUNITIES



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Job Highlights:

- Competitive salary & benefits.
- Vibrant and friendly working environment
- Hybrid working model

The ideal candidate will lead initiatives to identify, develop and build new business opportunities for the company's services in recruitment placement, payroll outsourcing, executive search and HR consultancy. The incumbent will also be required to promote company's services at (but not limited to) networking events, trade and career fairs

Responsibilities:

- Lead to identify strategic business opportunities for the company through cold calling, visitation, trade show or business event.
- Develop and maintain key accounts portfolio from pool of clients and lead business development team to execute initiatives to solicit more businesses from the client.
- Generate leads through market and client research, work closely with recruitment team to support client's needs.
- Lead sales and commercial planning including preparation of monthly, quarterly and yearly report as required.
- Identify new areas for service level improvements and work with stakeholders to execute and improve performance

Requirements

- Degree in any disciplines with minimum 5 years of experience in business development/ sales management.
- Prior experience in recruitment industry is required.
- Demonstrate experience in developing new business, negotiating contracts and pricing and managing higher level client relationships.
- Strong account management and relationship building skills.
- Strong market knowledge.
- Resourceful and possess high initiatives and ability to work with stakeholders across divisions.

REGIONAL IT SPECIALIST, SALES SOLUTION

Responsibilities:

- Work closely with IT systems team to execute projects, enhancement, and production support.
- Involved in the full life cycle of projects - support project teams for project implementation including requirement gathering, architecting, developing, testing, issue/risk management, change control, delivery, documentation, and post-implementation support.
- Responsible for project schedule and deliverables.
- To support Front Office, Sales & Marketing teams' growing demand for digitalization and provide IT solutions to support revenue generation of B2B & B2C.
- To work closely with stakeholders in driving the adoption, optimization, and iteration of the Salesforce/MSD platform, leveraging multiple integrations and technologies.

Requirements

- Working experience in IT and project management.
- Have good communication skill, meticulous and organized; Able to work under tight deadlines.
- Good working knowledge of computer systems, security, network, and databases.
- Proficient in project management tools, Excel, Word
- Able to prepare and interpret flowcharts, user story, use case or similar diagram.

CHRISTOPHER WONG

Alumuni of Curtin University
[LinkedIn](#)



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