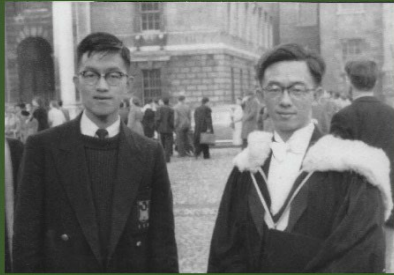


Irish Graduates of Singapore



Four Decades of
The Irish Graduates Association of Singapore

Rosemary Lim

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Having a photograph of two Singaporean Chinese brothers on the cover of a book about graduates of Irish universities may come as a surprise to most people. The brothers, Mr Michael Yeo (left) and Dr David Yeo (right) are the scions of the Yeo family that founded the iconic Singapore beverage company, Yeo Hiap Seng. They graduated from Trinity College Dublin (TCD) in the 1950s. They are founding members of [The Irish Graduates of Association of Singapore](#).

Over the years many Singaporeans and Malaysians have travelled to Ireland for their tertiary education. As for the Irish, the De La Salle Brothers and the CHIJ Sister were all graduates of Irish universities. The Brothers from University College Dublin, and the Sisters at University College Cork, except for Br Joseph McNally who transferred to the National Art College.

The book contains stories and photographs of people and places linking Ireland and Singapore through the graduates of Irish universities and colleges. It focuses on the strong educational links between the island of Ireland and the island of Singapore, the Emerald Isle and the Little Red Dot.

Beginning with the founding of the Trinity College Dublin Association Singapore Branch in the 1930s, the author follows through to the founding of The Irish Graduates Association of Singapore (IGAS) in 1980. Chapters on Dublin, Belfast, Cork and Galway relate the stories of IGAS members, including some who arrived at an Irish boarding school in midwinter.

The book is the culmination of four years' work on The Irish Graduates of Association of Singapore 40th Anniversary Heritage Project. A broad sweep of research included Singapore, the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Malaysia, as well as oral history interviews. The interviews provide unique perspectives of the social, cultural, economic and historical landscapes of Singapore and Ireland as seen through the personal lenses of IGAS members from the 1950s to the present day.

The project received funding from [The Ireland Funds Singapore \(TIFS\)](#). The book will raise funds for TIFS.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rosemary Lim née Wright was born in Portadown, Northern Ireland. She has lived in Singapore since 1990 and is a long-time member and past president of IGAS. She is a graduate of Northern Ireland's two universities, the Queen's University, Belfast, and the University of Ulster. She wrote *An Irish Tour of Singapore*, published in 2008, and contributed the Irish chapter in *50 Years of Singapore Europe Relations* in 2015.

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QUOTES

'The letter arrived one cold February morning in 1967. It was an acknowledgement of my application to study medicine at Trinity College Dublin and to accept me into the first-year medical course ... the start of a more than fifty-year journey in my association with both Trinity College and Ireland.'

Dr Stanley Quek (TCD 1972)

From his Speech upon his election as a Pro-Chancellor to Trinity College Dublin

'I spent some twenty years in Dublin. And I must say this has certainly shaped my life. So I am indeed eternally grateful to University College Dublin and to Ireland for what I have achieved. Without UCD I would never have met my wife, who remains the most important person in my life.'

Dato' Dr Leslie Lam (UCD 1967)

Acceptance Speech on the Conferring of an NUI Honorary Doctor of Medicine

BOOK SPECIFICATIONS

Author: Rosemary Lim

ISBN HB: 978-981-18-5540-5

ISBN PB: 978-981-18-5539-9

Extent: 298 pages

Size: 185 x245mm

Weight: HB 1.1kg; PB 0.8kg

Published: November 2022

Publisher: The Irish Graduates Association of Singapore

Price: Available by Donation to The Ireland Funds Singapore suggested donation \$70 HB, \$35 PB

