



Chinese New Year Steamboat Dinner 2017

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By **Neville Chen**

On 23 January, the NUS Physics Society (PhySoc) organised its annual Chinese New Year celebrations for the Physics community. Held at the area outside LT 27, we had eight piping hot steamboats and an abundance of food to accompany us through the night as different batches of Physics majors shared their stories and experiences with one another. Several of our teaching and laboratory staff, such as Head of Department Professor Sow Chorng Haur, joined us in this celebratory occasion. Indeed, it was a heart-warming scene of reunion as friends and colleagues alike gathered to connect despite the busy schedules and heavy commitments of work.

We had over 60 guests at the dinner, with many streaming in at 6.30pm and anticipatedly moving towards the tables, observing the spread of food they would be indulging in later. As 7.00pm approached, the steamboats were ready and our president Mr. Soh Yong Qi announced the start of the long-awaited dinner with a simple but sincere greeting. Nostalgic Chinese New Year music played in the background while everyone filled their steamboat with the must-have steamboat fare - vegetables, mushrooms and an assortment of fish and chicken balls. We also had prepared fried rice and noodles for the particularly hungry, and bottles of drinks for all to enjoy.



At 8.30pm, we commenced with our *lo hei* as a community. Ms. Joyce Ang led everyone in the recital of well wishes as each ingredient was carefully added to the plate. Following that, we tossed to our aspirations and hopes for the upcoming year. However, this was not the end of the dinner. Everyone returned to their steamboats to resume their conversations over food and drinks, and the area was quickly filled with chatter and laughter again.



As the dinner ended, we could see the smiles on everyone's faces as they took their leave; their bellies filled with food and their hearts filled with joy. We were gratified to know that everyone had thoroughly enjoyed themselves during the dinner. We would like to thank the NUS Physics department and Science Dean's Office for all forms of support given in making this event successful. We would also like to take the opportunity to thank all guests for making the night memorable for everyone present.



