

Eulogy

Bill Gartshore

BABYFACE



2 November 1942 - 31 July 2025



A senior member of SHHH, Babyface joined Seletar on 31 October 1981.

Bill 'Babyface' Gartshore:

Don't be fooled by his kiddy looks. He advertises audaciously for other people's wives, living up to his profession as a managing director of his own advertising firm. He was Joint Master in 1988 & 2010 Catch Babyface at the Singapore Cricket Club bar, if he's not already down on the floor most evenings.

Bill came to Singapore in January 1978 to work for Batey Advertising, established with SIA in 1972 ...

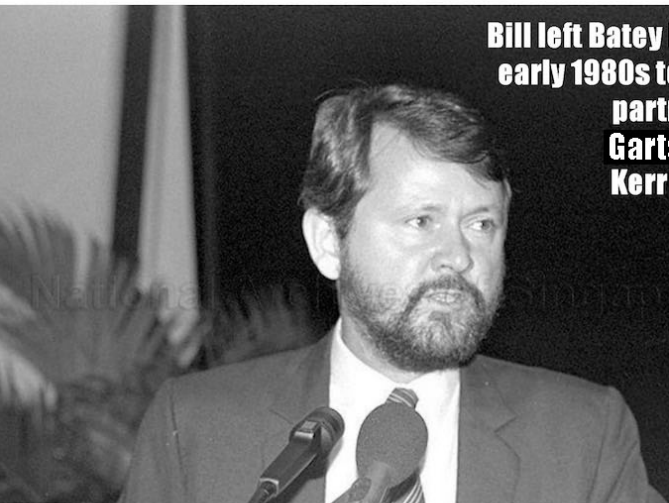


THIS GIRL'S IN LOVE WITH YOU
This girl's in love with you
Or so it seems the way she smiles and cares
Candle houses scene in her winged kebaya serving a banquet in the sky
This girl has got of SIA



... to convince the world that with 'Singapore Girl' ... "A great way to fly". He was an account director

Bill left Batey in the early 1980s to be a partner in Gartshore Kerr & Lim



Michael Lim (Senior Art Director of Gartshore Kerr & Lim) the designer

Dr Yeo Ning Hong admiring the lion head symbol that will be used during National Day celebrations.



Babyface's skills was put to good use the next year ...

He was responsible for Pan Asia advertisements

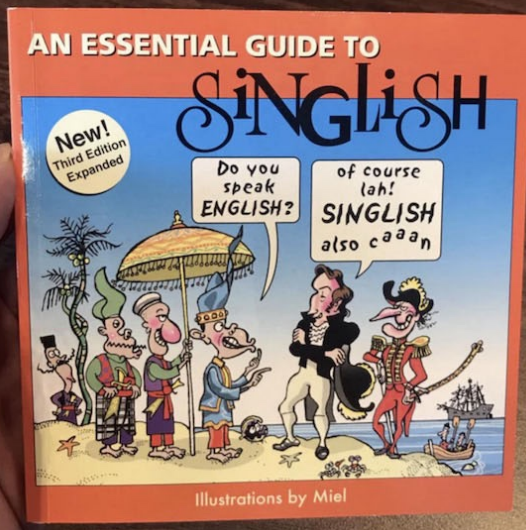


He then started one of the few independent local advertising agencies, Gartshore & Associates. After 30 years in advertising, Bill called it quits in 2018 and for a short while focused on publishing ... including writing the successful "An Essential Guide to Singlish"



Despite knowing Babyface for a short period, he left a strong impression.

After our 35th Anniversary in 2015, he resigned. However, knowing his skills, I requested and he obliged with this great article for our 35th Magazine.





HASH GOSPEL updated according to Prof Bill 'Babyface' Gartshore

Blue Coral

The name of an indigenous venomous snake but now more commonly used to describe a particularly bad or overlong* run e.g. "it was a right blue coral". And there were two. The origin of this new meaning is lost in the mists of MacRitchie forest and its author, Cinderella, has now relocated to Pulau Ubin.

* = About three hours without a torchlight.

Bus Run

Term used to describe an unimaginative run, usually adopted by hares that are incapable of laying a trail which starts and ends at the same place - with an interesting and good length run in between.

Calling

Something you do when on or off-paper (lost). Sometimes, after repeated screams of "ARE YOU?", if you listen very carefully, a faint whisper of "ON-ON" can occasionally be heard in reply. Nowadays, it is understood that being a front-runner absolves one of any need to call or reply to one.

Check

Time to stop for a breather, chit-chat, selfie photos etc. Alas, some members still interpret this as a sign to rush around trying to relocate the trail - although this is fast disappearing on Seletar Hash.

Down Down

A ritual designed to reward a member for a special or notable performance such as ultra short cutting or changing in full view of the fairer sex or buying a new car etc., etc. The ritual is the rapid consumption of a mug of beer although on very special occasions a larger volume piss-pot is used and often performed whilst seated on a block of ice – hence the tendency to perform the ritual at breakneck speed. For advice and training see Champ.

False Trail

The SCB's best friend. So satisfying to hang around and wait for the FRB's returning from some dead end, puffing and sweating...and swearing.

FRB

Term for younger, less experienced members, meaning 'Foolish, Raw Beginners' due to their inability to find short cuts and to hold checks/tendency to get screwed by false trails (see above False Trails). They are usually last to arrive back at the run site and so miss out on some beer. Despite their obvious short-comings, many are befriended by SCB's and some even learn eventually graduate to the elevated level of SCB themselves.



“What do you mean I’m wrong, it’s the gospel truth!”

‘Hash Hush’

When the number of hashmen gabbling away at the Circle after a run dwindles to a mere 50%, generally when under threat from the Hash Whip at the Circle announcements.

Holding a check

No, not delaying payment in U.S. currency - this is an ancient custom whereby front-runners would patiently wait at a check for a spread out pack of back-runners to catch up. Is it common nowadays? When did you last see a Dodo ?

‘Last Beers’

A chilling, dread cry made sometimes mockingly by a cruel Hash Brew advising depletion of the wagon's stock...

And a cue to discuss on-on plans.

LOA

Loophole Obliging Absenteeism. A kind of limbo-land state of membership: not being absent from Singapore per se, not an ex-member yet able to participate now and then – and I should know.

On-On

Useful word due to wide variety of meanings. E.g. - a call by JM to start a run, denoting paper found after a check, term for venue after wagon depleted of beer (sometimes called on-on-on and on occasions on-on-on-on...and so on).

Recce

Another fast diminishing habit which is also closely related to the hash shit award in that; the number of recces are in inverse proportion to the likelihood of achieving the coveted award.

SCB

Term used to refer to the wiser, more experienced hasher meaning in full 'Sensible, Clever Bloke/Bastard' due to innate navigational skills, knowledge of terrain and a generally superior intelligence

Wagon

AKA Beer Wagon. A type of mobile magnet vehicle and much revered holy place. In ancient times the Seletar Hash Wagon would be at the runsite before on-on at 6 p.m. but nowadays it trundles in at about 7 p.m. just to ensure that there is beer left for the pack when it returns around 7:15 p.m.

Whip

A man of great charm, immense wisdom. A veritable Solomon who dishes out punishment for only the most serious crimes, when there really is no alternative...and when killing time waiting for the makan to arrive.

Baby Face... you've got the cutest little baby face



**There's not another one could take your place,
baby face ... My poor heart's jumpin',
you sure have started somethin'**





2/2/2010 19:58



At 40 when he joined Seletar, he stopped running as he approached his 70th birthday ...



... Still did his duty as a hare and fun as usual to be with



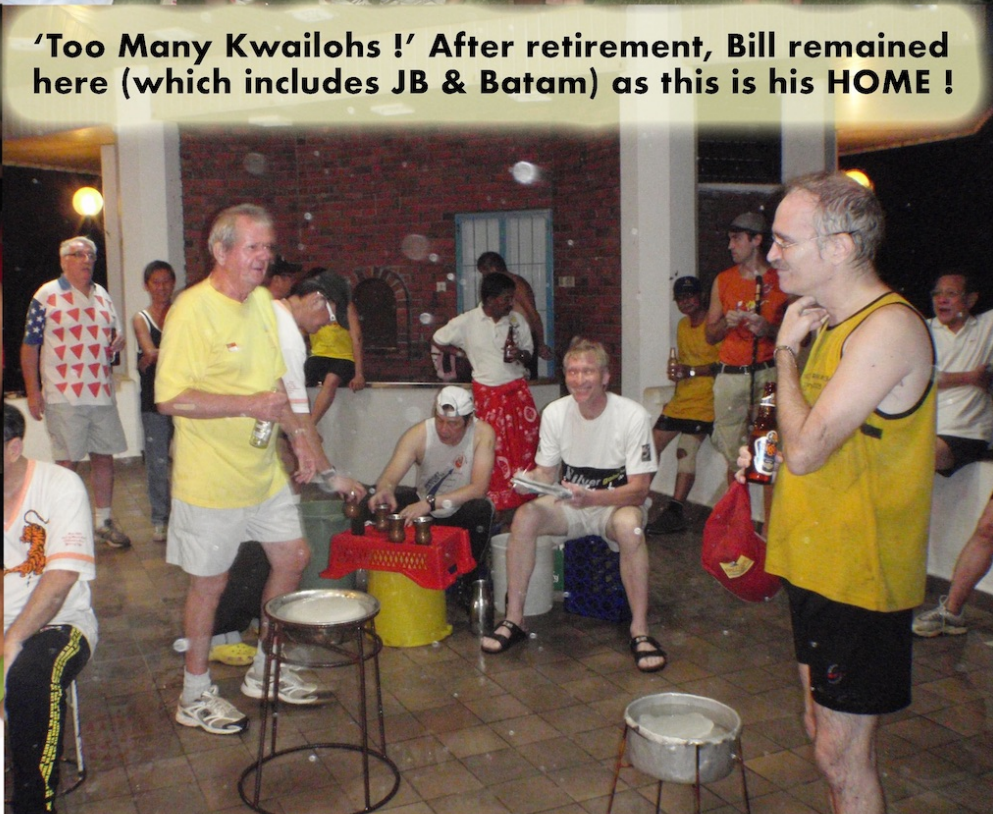
MAJULAH SINGAPURA



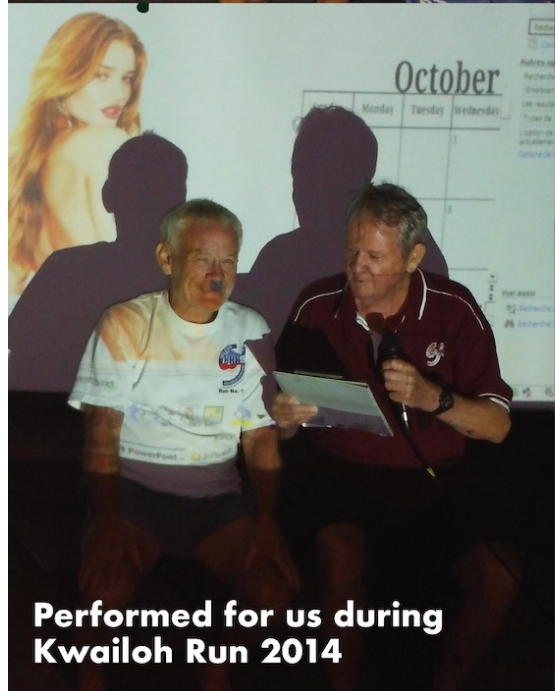
Getting
National
Day
T/Shirts



'Too Many Kwaitohs !' After retirement, Bill remained here (which includes JB & Batam) as this is his HOME !



Guess he has gotten used to local cuisine ... like this spread from Minang



Performed for us during Kwaitoh Run 2014



Unfortunately, after Babyface resigned from Seletar in 2015, we lost touch with him, as he did not joined us for any future activities. For a period, he lived in Johor Bahru and some were fortunately able to visit him. He returned to Singapore and we also remained in communication via the ' Seletar Guzzler ' WhatsApp Group.





Baby Face



In Loving Memory of



Mr William James Gartshore

Age : 82

*Passed away peacefully on Thursday, 31 July 2025
Dearly missed and fondly remembered by loved ones*

FUNERAL DAY

Date : Saturday, 2 August 2025

Casket Arrival Time : 5.30 pm

Cremation Service : 6.00 pm to 6.30 pm
at Mandai Crematorium Service Hall 02,
300 Mandai Rd, Singapore 779393

In Memory of Departed Seletar Hash House Harriers :

SH3 Atomic Rod Neil

Hi everyone, I have just heard the very very sad news that Bill Gartshore aka BabyFace passed away yesterday. May he rest in peace. Bill was a great friend to me, despite being indirectly responsible for me meeting my future wife at the SCC IN 1984 at the squash section "Tarts and Tramps" night. Life moves on unfortunately but he certainly left his mark.

"On Home"

Popeye

William James Gartshore used to sport a beard in his early days of hashing. Somewhere in 1984 or 1985 he came to the run clean shaven thus the hash name Baby face. There was an American bank robber called Baby face Nelson in the 1930s

I knew him from 1982/3 having met him at Lion City and Seletar hash. He was starting his own advertising agency at the time. I knew him as Garfield and was lucky enough to have a beer with him again in 2023 whilst on holiday in Singapore. On on on Garfield to the great hash in the sky.

Nonok

Oh but a time so shortly spent,
he left an impression that cannot bend

