

Photos courtesy of Singapore Sports Council



IT STARTED AS A BIT OF FUN – NOW MYLENE ONG RELISHES THE HONOUR OF COMPETING WITH THE WORLD'S BEST

BY TANG LI

## THE GLORY OF HAVING FUN

**MYLENE ONG HAS** a simple answer to anyone who is looking for the secret of success – to have fun. The 21-year-old student from Auckland University of Technology decided that swimming looked like something fun and so she decided to try it out. That decision to do something has led to a career as a national swimmer that has given her multiple medals in regional competitions as well as a chance to compete on the global stage at the London 2012 Olympics.

Family helped to play an important role in getting her career as a swimmer started. Her sister is also a national swimmer and served as an early source of inspiration. She says, "When I was younger, my parents always brought me along to my older sister's swim training. It always looked like she was having lots of fun in the water so I thought I'd give swimming a try as well. I took up some swimming lessons and I loved it."

She admits that it was initially "frightening" to go up against some of the biggest names in swimming. However, experience at international competition changed that and her focus is on her development as a competitive swimmer. She says, "As long as I hit my personal best time, I feel that it is as good as winning a gold medal."

Mylene will be competing in the final leg of the Fina/Arena Swimming World Cup, which will be held at the Singapore Sports School from November 10 to Nov 11. The event will feature some of the biggest names in international swimming like Christian Sprenger, Jessica Hardy and Inge Dekker.

When asked about how she feels about competing on the same stage as such international stars, Mylene says, "I've been to many international competitions. I've realized that it's not that scary and I'm actually quite honoured to be competing alongside them."

The Fina/Arena event is open to the public, who can

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### LIST OF WATER-VENTURE OUTLETS

For all water sports enthusiasts, if you fancy some dragonboating or wind-surfing here's a list of places you can visit for some fun in the sun.

**Water-Venture (Changi)**  
285 Nicoll Drive (Changi Point) Singapore 498988  
Tel: 6545 1140, Fax: 6545 8897

**Water-Venture (East Coast)**  
1390 East Coast Parkway Singapore 468961  
Tel: 6444 0409, Fax: 6442 7054

**Water-Venture (Kallang)**  
4876 Beach Road Singapore 199587  
Tel: 6296 6683, Fax: 6294 4393

**Water-Venture (Pasir Ris)**  
125 Elias Road Singapore 519926  
Tel: 6582 4796, Fax: 6581 5781

**Water-Venture (Bedok Reservoir)**  
911, Bedok Reservoir Road Singapore 479311  
Tel: 9710 1697, Fax: 6348 1476

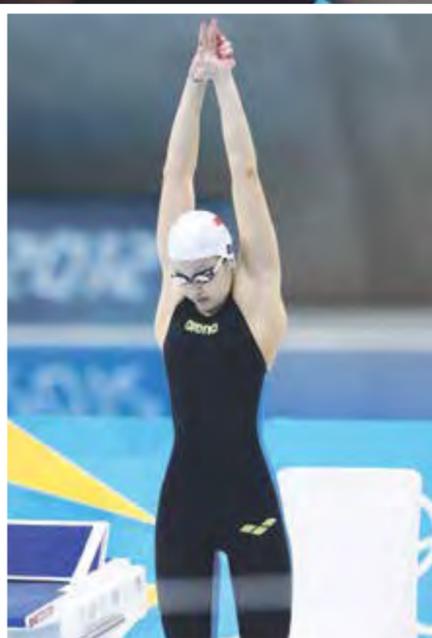
**Water-Venture (Lower Seletar Reservoir)**  
100, Yishun Ave 1 Singapore 769140 (Near fishing jetty at Lower Seletar Park, opposite Yishun Stadium)  
Tel: 9710 1826, Fax: 6348 1476

**Water-Venture (Jurong Lake)**  
1, Chinese Garden Road Singapore 619795 (Near entrance of Chinese Garden main carpark)  
Tel: 6266 4648, Fax: 6266 4703

**Water-Venture (Sembawang)**  
57, Jalan Mempurong Singapore 759057  
Tel: 6755 0225, Fax: 6755 0263

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Outlets are closed on all Mondays and certain public holidays. Please visit [www.water-venture.org.sg](http://www.water-venture.org.sg) for more info.



get tickets at [www.finaworldcup.com.sg](http://www.finaworldcup.com.sg). Tickets are priced at S\$20 for one day and S\$30 for two days. w

LoveThatBag

www.lovethatbag.com.sg

## BAGS GALORE

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS HAVING TOO MANY BAGS. GO WILD WITH SHOPPING AT LOVE THAT BAG

**Founded in 2009** by bag aficionados, husband and wife duo Mr Adrian and Mrs Angeline Yu set up luxury bag event company, Love That Bag.

Love That Bag holds their sales events at prestigious hotels and clubs, where customers can pamper themselves with a new bag while basking in a luxurious environment. They bring in authentic luxury bags from brand names such as Prada and Chanel where they are exhibited in public luxury bag events and ready for sale at up to 75 percent lower than their retail price.

Adrian says, "Our Love That Bag Red Authenticity Tag is the Company's stamp of guarantee, which rules out the possibility of counterfeit goods. All our items are imported directly from the brand names, and this Red Tag guarantees that this bag is bought from our company, and has been authenticated, so customers can buy from us with confidence."

We have heard customers' stories in which they shared with us how they have been cheated before by untrustworthy online sellers, and we assure them the bags they buy from us are authentic with our red tag," he adds.

The first sale they ever had was a nightmarish one as they were unprepared for massive crowds, which amidst the chaos, had stolen 30 bags from the event. "People were pounding on the door, the police and civil defense were called...for a whole month after that event, I woke up in my sleep screaming "Don't steal my bags!". But we



managed to overcome all that to become the company we are today," recounts Angeline.

Since then, Love That Bag has taken many workers into its employ, and the company is making plans to expand into online shopping - under a sister company Luxeholics.

"We see the potential in the online market so we've plans to progress in that direction. So look out for that!" says Adrian excitedly.

LoveThatBag

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