

Headline	Speak Good English with Local "Icons" [Radio Transcript]		
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Speak Good English with Local "Icons"

This year's Speak Good English Movement has adopted 12 local "Good English Icons" to help spread the message.

From media personalities to the man in the street, they include radio presenters, rap group Triple Noize, and a taxi driver.

Through their examples, the Movement hopes to inspire Singaporeans to speak well and be understood.

The movement, now into its fifth year, aims to target especially those who can make an impact on speaking and learning Good English.

But that's not to say Singlish has no place in Singapore.

While getting Singaporeans to speak Standard English is the aim, colloquialism, too, has its place.

Chairperson of the Movement, Professor Koh Tai Ann.

"The movement is not at the expense of the mother tongue nor are we downgrading Singlish but we're recognising that they're different codes and we should be able to switch through different codes. Since Singlish is a tide we can't stamp out, rather we say acquire another skill, make it a part of your other self that you can use standard English when you need to, when you have to."

Wong Lee Jeng, Producer and Deejay for Capital Radio 95.8FM, who is also one of the "Good English Icons" said, "It took time and effort for me to learn to speak English when an education policy change resulted in English becoming the first language during my school years. Now, I'm proud to be effectively bilingual in English and Chinese!"

For details on the programmes lined up, log on to www.goodenglish.org.sg