

COLD CALLING

I count myself as fortunate for being, unlike many expatriates in Singapore, relatively impecunious. Fortunate in that I don't have to endure the sales calls of "financial consultants" – inevitably (for those who are burdened with them) when you least expect them. I had the "honour" of receiving my first last month when a gentleman caught me off guard in the office. "Hello, is this Darren?" Close, but not quite. Several corrections and a lot of small talk later and I was still none the wiser for his call. Having established that I work on Tanyong (sic) Pagar Road and (one could only hope) knowing that I was the editor of a magazine catering to the needs of expatriates, I assumed he was another poor soul attempting to pitch a story for publication. It was only as my patience ran thin and his questioning even more irrelevant that I finally got a handle on what he was talking about. "You don't have any mortgages?" he said with mock aghast. No, I don't. Then the penny dropped. Maybe I have finally landed. Or maybe the current economic situation is driving even the "financial services consultants" to desperation. □



Geraint Price
Editor



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