

"Imagination is more important than knowledge, knowledge is limited, imagination encircles the world."
~ Albert Einstein



architecture
planning
interior design
landscape design
quantity surveying & project management
engineering

Greetings and Happy Earth Hour to all our readers!

In this month's E-news we are delighted to focus on one of our recently completed high profile landscape projects: the **MyTown Shopping Centre @ Ikano**. We are also pleased to feature our recent company trip and study trip to **Bali** and other interesting happenings here at VERITAS.

We hope you enjoy this month's VERITAS e-news! And please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to know more about any of the stories featured here.

MYTOWN SHOPPING CENTRE@IKANO

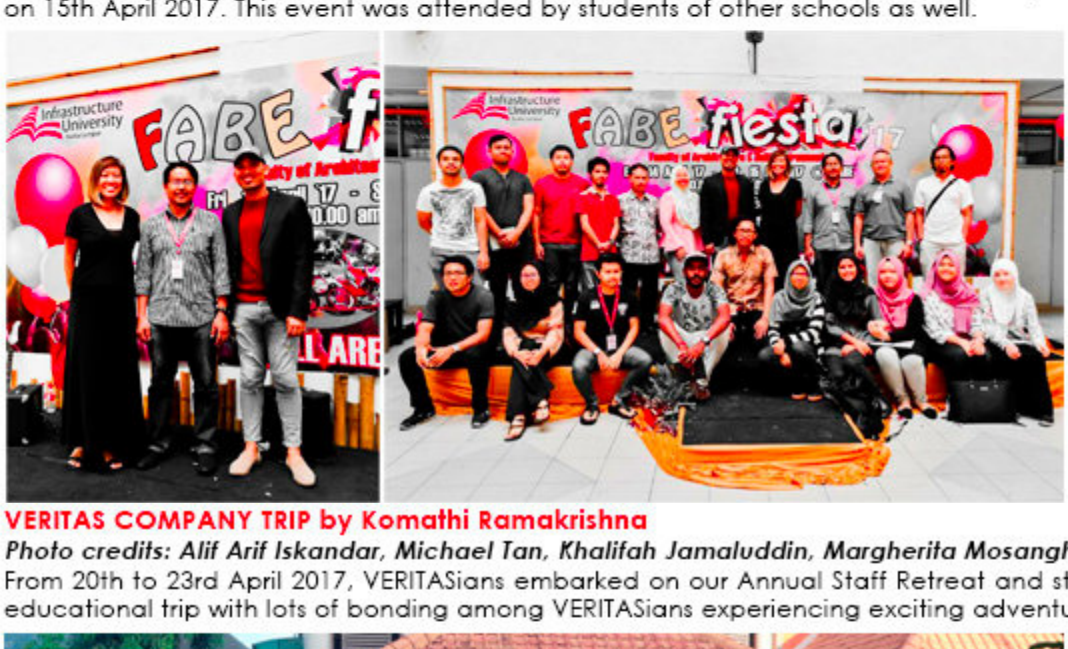
The MyTOWN Shopping Centre, covering some 1.1 million square feet of retail space, officially opened its doors on 16th March 2017. Located on Jalan Cochrane, about 3km southeast of Kuala Lumpur, this five-level shopping center with more than 400 stores is jointly developed by Boustead Holdings Bhd and Ikano Pte Ltd. MyTown offers a **unique lifestyle experience** for the five million people living in the nearby communities to live, work, play and shop!



One of the main features of the MyTOWN Shopping Centre is the size of its landscaped area which is 0.8 hectares in total. This was designed by the VERITAS Landscape team consisting of Idris Pathan, Norsyuhada Ahmad Khaidar, Farid Bakri and Nurul Baiqis. The construction cost for the external landscape area is about RM8 million including the hardscape, softscape, sculpture and the water features which is considered **one of the highest landscape budgets** for a mall in Kuala Lumpur.

The landscape concept for the project was to create the unique experience of a **'Mall in the Garden'**. The external landscape features an external event space, 11m high rain-drop sculpture and a sunken garden with an outdoor performance stage for visitors to enjoy art and cultural activities. The garden path with a skateboard ramp integrated with the seating and water jets provides physical activities to encourage a healthy lifestyle and productive activities for all age groups.

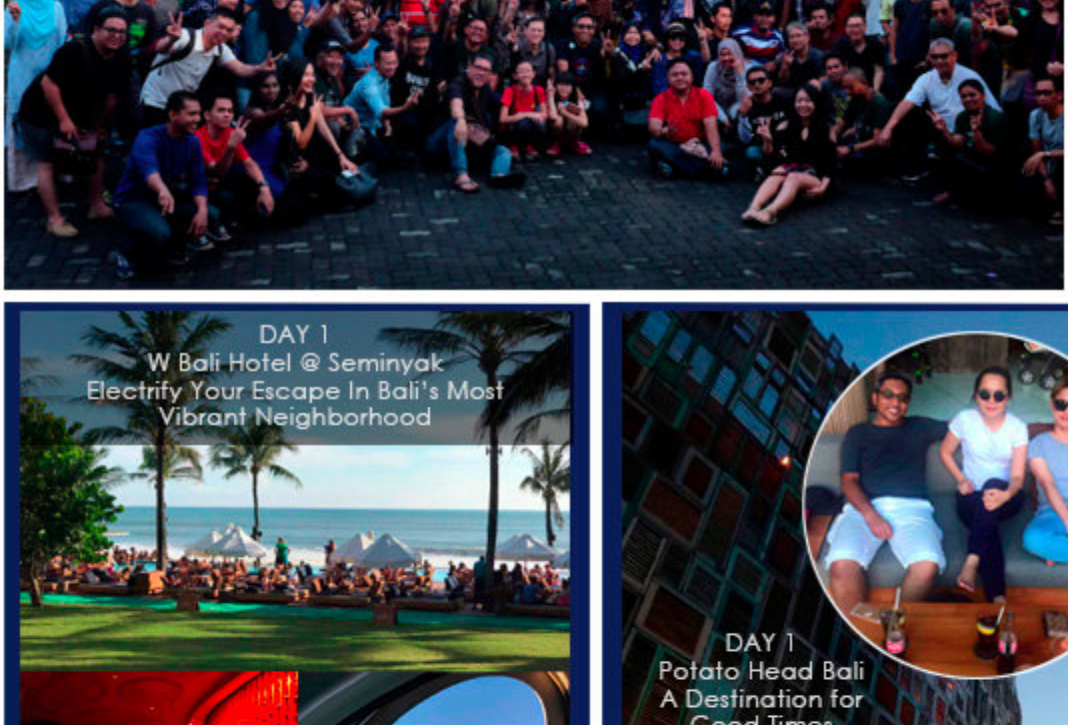
The **high quality** materials selected such as granite pavement in the external event space area, Metalco products from Italy for external loose furniture, Astral Pool water feature products from Spain and the Elmich Green Wall system from Singapore are some of the landscape components used in this prestigious project.



The landscape design of the MyTOWN Mall has been **highly commended and acknowledged** by our Client IKANO Ptd Ltd such that VERITAS Landscape has recently been appointed for the up-coming IKANO project in Johor Bahru.

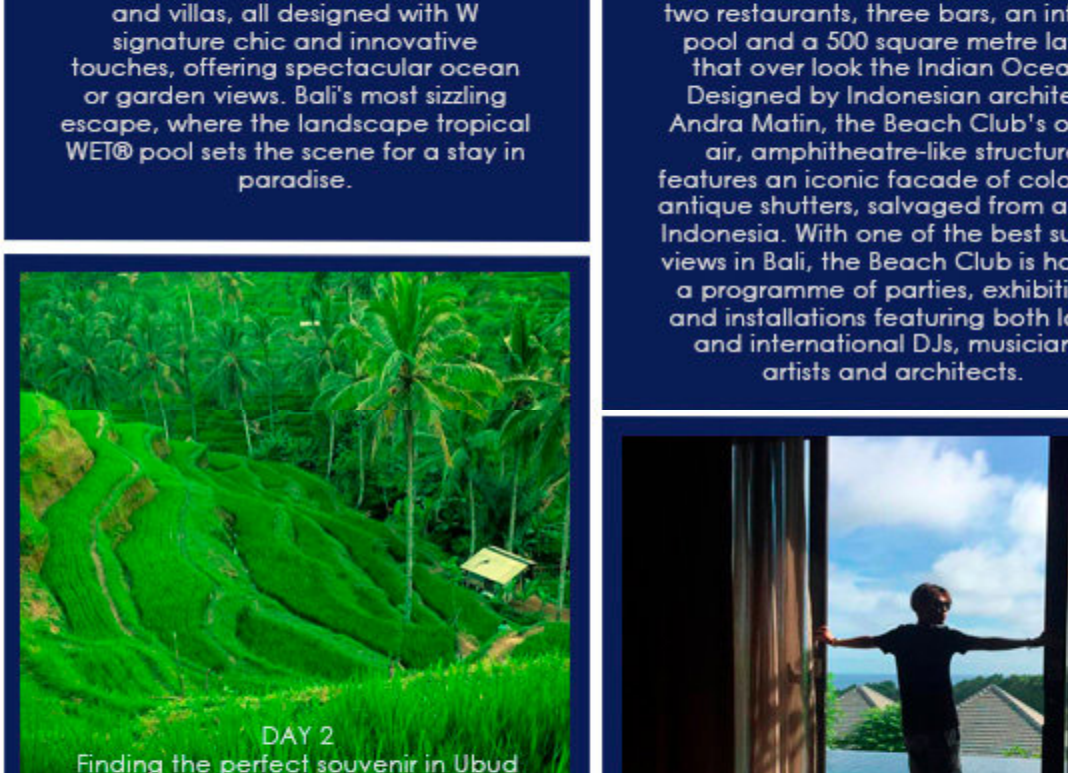
FABE FIESTA

VERITAS Principal Lillian Tay gave a talk on **creative cycles, disruptive systems and visual societies** at the Fabe Fiesta 2017 held at Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur on 15th April 2017. This event was attended by students of other schools as well.

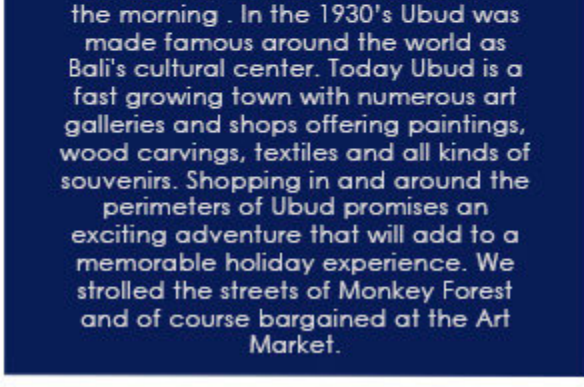


VERITAS COMPANY TRIP by Komathi Ramakrishna

Photo credits: Alif Arif Iskandar, Michael Tan, Khalifah Jamaluddin, Margherita Mosanghini, Miguel Van De Kamp, Chong Wei Li & Qairie Asyraf
From 20th to 23rd April 2017, VERITASians embarked on our Annual Staff Retreat and study trip this year to Bali, Indonesia. It was a fun-filled and educational trip with lots of bonding among VERITASians experiencing exciting adventures across the island.

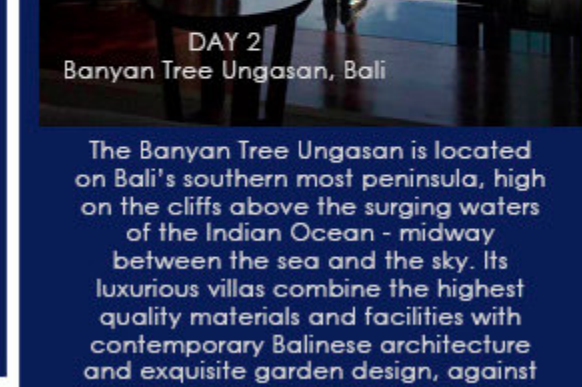


DAY 1
W Bali Hotel @ Seminyak
Electrify Your Escape In Bali's Most Vibrant Neighborhood

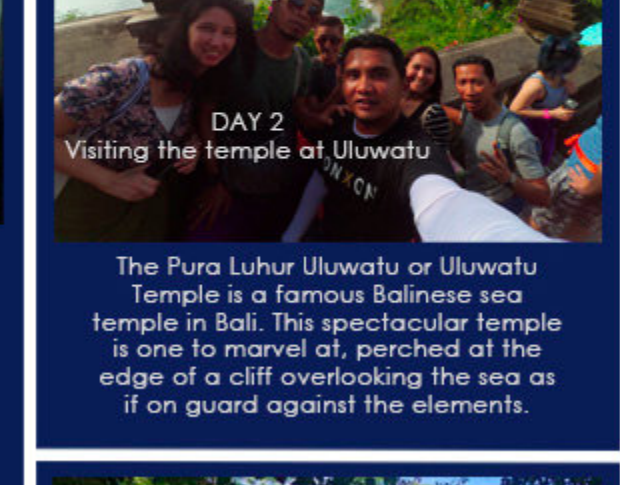


The W Bali consists of 229 rooms, suites, and villas, all designed with W signature chic and innovative touches, offering spectacular ocean or garden views. Bali's most sizzling escape, where the landscape tropical WET@ pool sets the scene for a stay in paradise.

DAY 1
Potato Head Bali
A Destination for Good Times



Potato Head Beach Club is home to two restaurants, three bars, an infinity pool and a 500 square metre lawn that overlook the Indian Ocean. Designed by Indonesian architect Andra Matin, the Beach Club's open air, amphitheatre-like structure features an iconic facade of coloured antique shutters, salvaged from across Indonesia. With one of the best sunset views in Bali, the Beach Club is host to a programme of parties, exhibitions and installations featuring both local and international DJs, musicians, artists and architects.



VERITASians enjoyed the magical sunset while sitting on the beach with their toes in the sand overlooking Jimbaran Bay with colourful fishing boats in the foreground. We enjoyed the freshly grilled seafood dinner which was followed by entertainment from local Balinese dancers at the restaurant.

DAY 2
Finding the perfect souvenir in Ubud



Our journey to Ubud started early in the morning. In the 1930's Ubud was made famous around the world as Bali's cultural center. Today Ubud is a fast growing town with numerous art galleries and shops offering paintings, wood carvings, textiles and all kinds of souvenirs. Shopping in and around the perimeters of Ubud promises an exciting adventure that will add to a memorable holiday experience. We strolled the streets of Monkey Forest and of course bargained at the Art Market.

DAY 2
Banyan Tree Ungasan, Bali



The Banyan Tree Ungasan is located on Bali's southern most peninsula, high on the cliffs above the surging waters of the Indian Ocean - midway between the sea and the sky. Its luxurious villas combine the highest quality materials and facilities with contemporary Balinese architecture and exquisite garden design, against a backdrop of panoramic ocean views.



The Pura Luhur Uluwatu or Uluwatu Temple is a famous Balinese sea temple in Bali. This spectacular temple is one to marvel at, perched at the edge of a cliff overlooking the sea as if on guard against the elements.

DAY 2
Gala Dinner

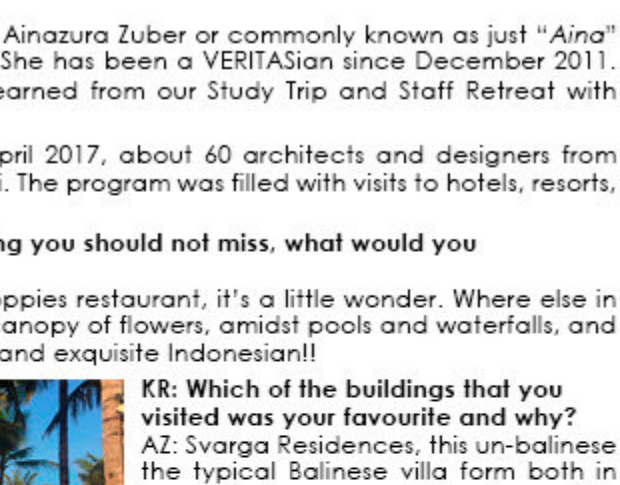


VERITASians were entertained with a Gala Dinner on the 2nd day of the trip. It was held at the White Rose pool side. The theme of the evening was "Floral Night". Over 180 staff from the various VERITAS offices in Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Johor Bharu attended this gala event which went on till the early morning. Staff were greeted with "Kecak Dancers" at the photo booth and were entertained by Kecak performances and followed by lucky draws. Congratulations to all the winners!!!

DAY 3
Soori Bali



This resort prioritizes environmental and cultural sustainability. Crafted primarily from local materials, it maintains a true sense of place. All 48 of Soori Bali's villas feature private pools with sweeping views of the mountain or ocean, with a 1km stretch of volcanic black sand beach.



The villas is located 15 minutes north of Sanur on Pabean Beach which is a highly sought after beachfront residential enclave. Each spacious bedroom enjoys ocean views and sits on 500 to 600 meters of land with private 15-meter infinity lap pools, private parking, rooftop Jacuzzi and sky garden.

Overall, it was an amazing trip wherein our VERITASians were given the opportunity to expand their perspectives. No doubt, the trip was an invaluable and fun experience for all.

WHO'S the STAFF OF THE MONTH? Aina Zuber



Our staff of the month is **Associate Aina Zuber** or commonly known as just "Aina" among her colleagues and friends. She has been a VERITASian since December 2011. Aina Zuber (AZ) shares that she learned from our Study Trip and Staff Retreat with Komathi Ramakrishna (KR)

STUDY TRIP - On 20th April - 23rd April 2017, about 60 architects and designers from VERITAS enjoyed the study trip to Bali. The program was filled with visits to hotels, resorts, temples, restaurants and clubs.

KR: I heard Balinese food is something you should not miss, what would you recommend?
AZ: My favourite restaurant is the Poppies restaurant, it's a little wonder. Where else in the world can you dine beneath a canopy of flowers, amidst pools and waterfalls, and savour the delights of fresh seafood and exquisite Indonesian!!!

KR: Which of the buildings that you visited was your favourite and why?
AZ: Svarga Residences, this un-balinese typical Balinese villa form both in terms of image and function while retaining the intangible essence of the place. The idea was to question notions of the typical home and to un-do conventions in search of a new domestic idiom.

WHO'S celebrating their BIRTHDAY - April?



VERITAS ARCHITECTS JB - Hanif Fikri bin Abd Ghani 26th
VERITAS ARCHITECT PENANG - Nur Hidayah Yezid 6th and Mohd Irwan Shah Mohd Hashim 30th
VERITAS LANDSCAPE - Syaiful Hafiz Ahmad 11th and Mohd Fazrul Zaidi 22th.
VERITAS INTERIOR - Winston Ong 14th
VERITAS PLANNING - Ng Li Ling 24th

Who got Hitched this month?



Congratulations to VERITAS Architects Penang Draughperson Mohd Irwan Shah Mohd Hashim and his wife Najnah Abd. Razak on the arrival of their cute baby girl Aisya Humaira Mohd Irwan Shah born on 3rd April 2017!
Congratulations also to VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur Draughperson Anisah Md Ariffen and her husband Ahmad Akmal Isahak on the arrival of their adorable baby boy Ahmad Affan Amzar Ahmad Akmal born on 9th April 2017.
Congratulation also to VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur Draughperson Nur Zafirah Aziz and her husband Mohd Zulfady on the arrival of their first baby boy Zhafran Alrazz Mohd Zulfady born on 1st April 2017.
It certainly has been a productive month at VERITAS!!