



2019 SEPTEMBER E-NEWSLETTER

VERITAS design group

Hello Everyone! Selamat Hari Malaysia!
 In this month's E-news, we are delighted to feature some of the exciting waterfront projects undertaken by VERITAS!

Waterfront projects offer exciting design challenges! Whether it is a riverfront, lakefront, seafront or even an "in-the-sea" project, VERITAS has experimented with a wide array of solutions for dealing with this project type. We hope that you will agree that the results speak for themselves.



LIGHT COLLECTION, PENANG

Status: Completed 2014

The Light Collection is the residential component of a mixed-use development taking shape on the waterfront south of Georgetown on the island of Penang. The scheme draws inspiration from the idea of having a waterfront at your door step.



VIVO, 9 SEPUTEH, KUALA LUMPUR

Status: Completed 2019

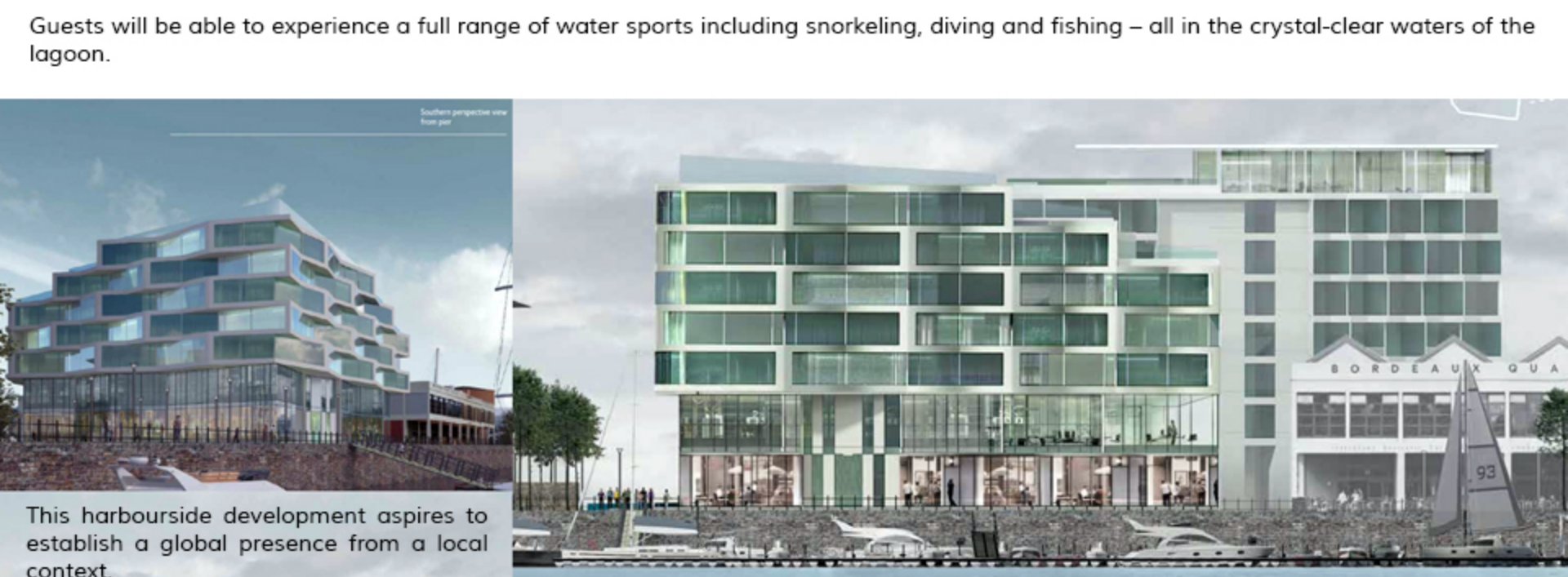
Situated on eight acres of prime land, Vivo is a mixed development combining a loose cluster of 4 serviced apartment towers (the tallest tower at 44 storeys and another three towers at 42 storeys each) premium retail and recreation space, 16 storeys of SOHO, a hypermarket to serve the community and a vast river-front promenade overlooking the Klang River with 5 blocks of double frontage shop office.



TROPIC RESIDENCE, JOHOR

Status: Completed 2015

Being just minutes away from the heart of Kuala Lumpur, the Vivo is a river-front development featuring seamless connectivity and integration between nature and urban living.



FAIRMONT RESORT AND SPA, SIRRU FENI FUSHI, MALDIVES

Status: Completed 2011

The scheme consists of 152 apartment units and 24 double-storey water villas. The layout of the rectilinear apartment units is configured to overlook Penang Bridge and the cityscape of Butterworth. The water villas sit in a man-made lagoon full of tropical coral and fish, which is directly linked to a canal leading to the open sea. The purpose of this is to permit residents to experience the natural marine ecosystem. In this way, each town house also enjoys its own private waterfront.



HARBOURSIDE, BRISTOL, UK

Status: Proposed 2018

Located on a waterfront site in Danga Bay, the design for the Tropic Residences combines the concerns of dealing with a large built-up area and the consequent problems of massing, the need for a diverse range of unit typologies (to cater to a larger residential market cross-section) and quality shared spaces.

As one of the tallest buildings in the vicinity, its 600 units are divided into three 40-storey towers atop a 5-storey podium and orientated to capture panoramic views of the Straits of Johor, Sungai Skudai, Istana Bukit Serene and the Royal Johor Golf Club. Public amenities are located on the garden-deck podium.



FAIRMONT RESORT AND SPA, SIRRU FENI FUSHI, MALDIVES

Status: Completed 2011

The Fairmont Resort and Spa on Sirru Feni Fushi island in the Maldives is a 5-star resort with 100 luxury villas. Designed to surpass the expectations of the most discerning global traveler, the retreat offers a mix of over water villas, beach villas, several dining and entertainment outlets, a fully integrated spa plus diving and water sports center.



HARBOURSIDE, BRISTOL, UK

Status: Proposed 2018

This harbourside development aspires to establish a global presence from a local context.

The design is underpinned by a balance between the rational and the explorative; seeking to create playful, purposeful and inspiring buildings with spaces that uplift the spirits of those who live, work and play within. The ripple-rest concept is introduced based on the understanding that we are all connected. This is further expressed through the interwoven tapestry of the building facades which reflections of water onto the angled glass fascia. The project aspires to become a jewel in the city, creating a distinctive presence through innovative contemporary design. The aim is to create an interactive space for the community through connectivity - a place to relax and interact amongst the users and visitors alike.

WHERE WE ARE FEATURED?

SUSTAINABLE LIGHTING IN REMOTE AREAS

On 2nd September 2019, the Kampungku 2.0 Project organized by the VERITAS Fund for Excellence (VFE) was featured in the New Straits Times Newspaper. In late July 2019, a group of 5 VERITASians joined an expedition to Taman Negara for its renewable energy initiative aimed at bringing artificial lighting to orang asli villages across rural Malaysia which are not linked to the power grid. The NGO co-founder of Kampungku is ECOMY and the project's partners for the second year, VERITAS, Haskell and Lewis & Clark College of USA were part of this special expedition.



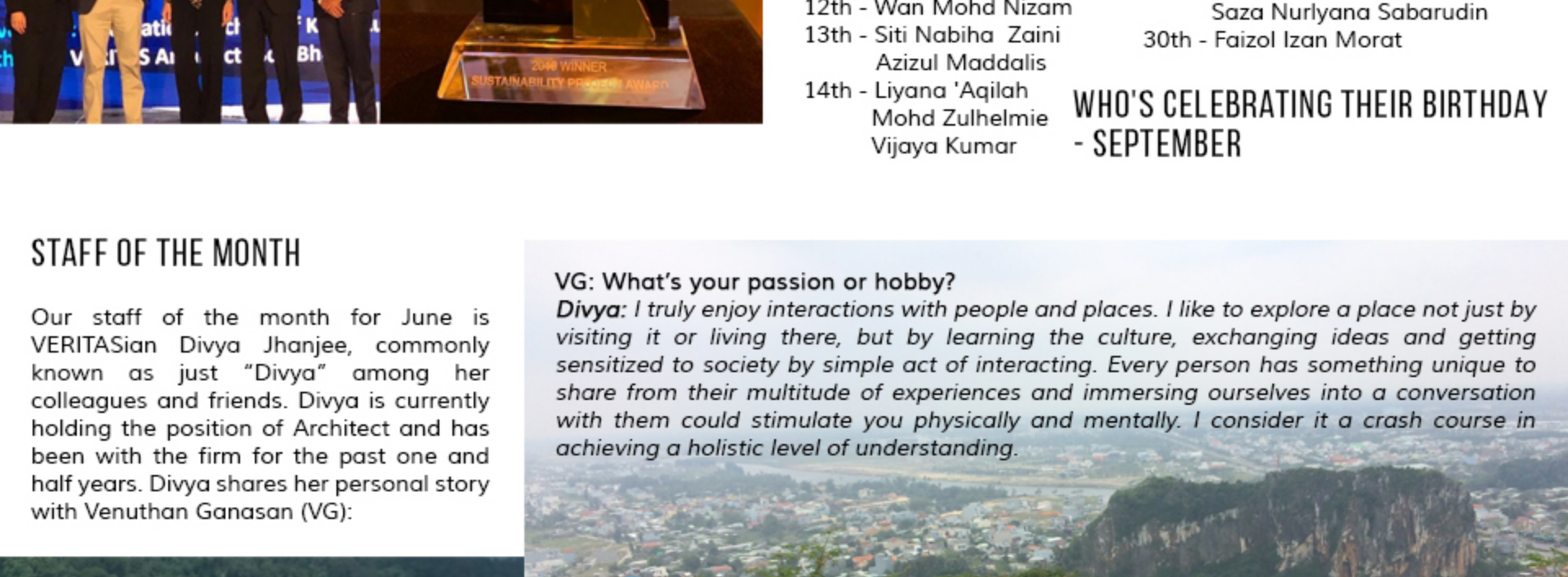
LESSONS IN SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

On 16th September 2019, VERITAS' project the International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL) was featured in the Star Newspaper. The article announced that the building was the first international school in the nation to receive a Green Building Index platinum rating.



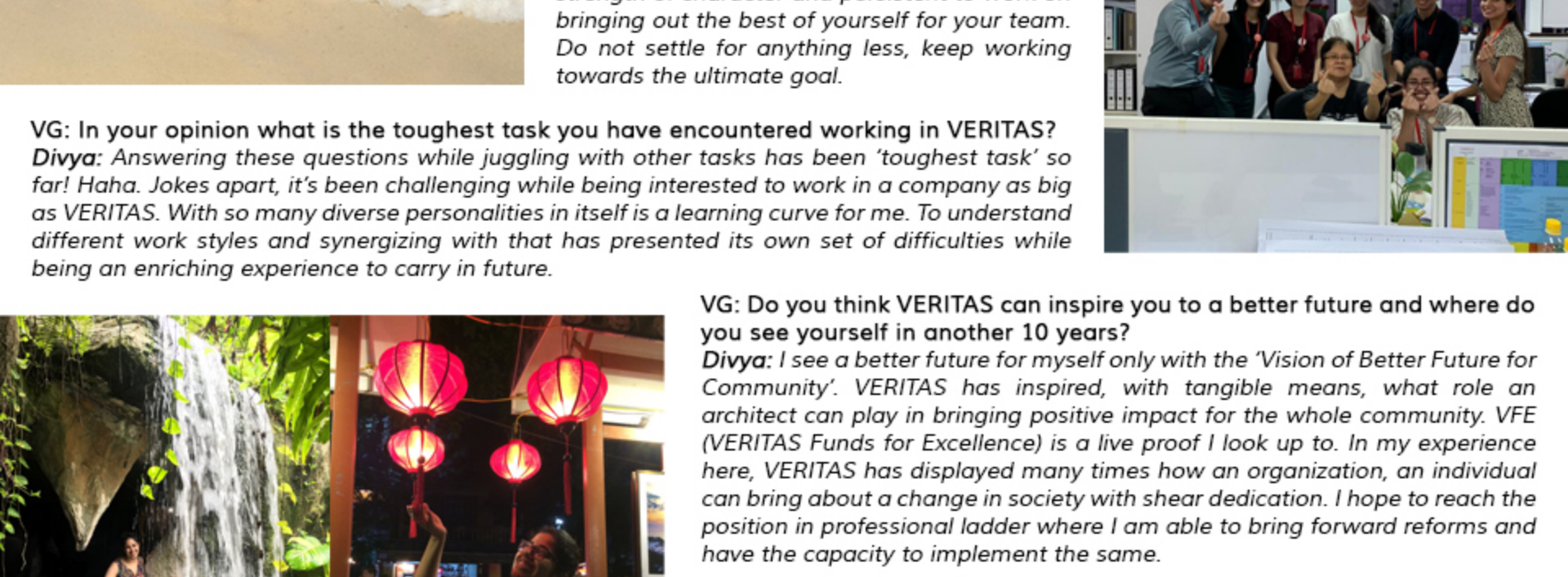
DIFFERENT PERCEPTION OF AFFORDABLE LUXURY

On 19th September 2019, VERITAS Associate Aina Zuber was featured in the Star Newspaper. The article was on the subject of "affordable luxury" and Aina explained that luxury should be defined as an individual choice which varies from generation to generation.



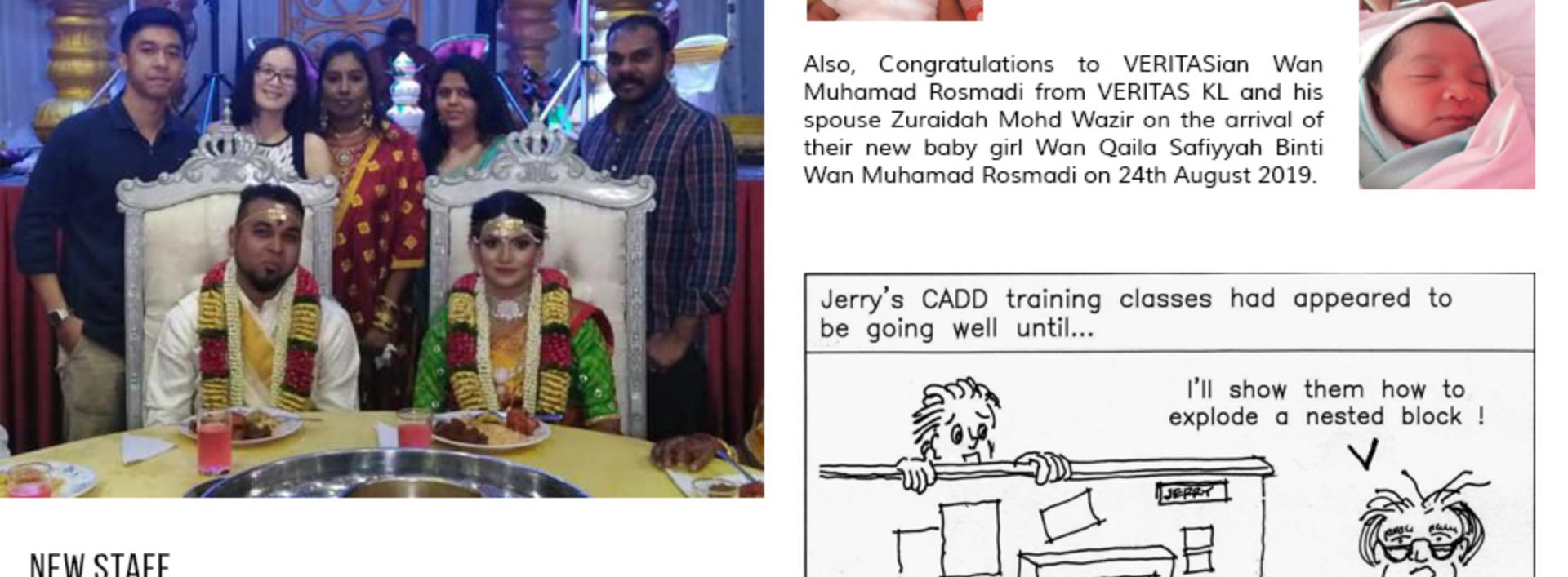
HOUSING 4.0 AWARDS

On 10th September 2019, VERITAS received an Honorary Mention for the Housing 4.0 competition organized by Gamuda Bhd. Ihsan Hassan from VERITAS Architects KL received the award from the Deputy Minister of Housing and Local Government, YBM Dato' Ar. Raja Kamarul Bahrin Shah at The Circle, Publika. Congratulations to the team that worked on this proposal!



HO CHI MINH CITY CONFERENCE TALK

On 23rd September 2019, VERITAS Group President David Hashim gave a talk on "Recent Experiments in Hospitality Design Across Asia" at the Mai House Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The event was held in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Global Hotels and Resorts Conference and gathered about 100 hotel owners, operators and designers across Asia.



KAMPUNG BARU DEVELOPMENT MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER

On 21st September 2019, VERITAS Principal Azril Jaafar, accompanied by Vice President Lillian Tay, attended the new Kampung Baru development masterplan to Prime Minister Tun Mahathir Mohamad at his office in Putrajaya. Presenting the meeting were the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, the Minister of Federal Territories and other officials.



VERITAS VIETNAM 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

On 24th September 2019, VERITAS Vietnam celebrated their 10th year anniversary at the Villa Song, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Group President David Hashim, Principal Azril Jaafar, Principal Kenny Wong from VERITAS and Singapore office Principal Tan Chong Kok attended the celebration with fellow VERITASians, Clients and suppliers. Congratulations to VERITAS Vietnam Principal Kristian Keiner and his team for achieving this milestone!

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KUALA LUMPUR WINS CITYSCAPE AWARD

On 25th September 2019 VERITAS won the Cityscape Award 2019 for the International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL) under the sustainability project category. The award was presented to VERITAS Design Group Principal Ng Yiek Teng at a gala award ceremony held on the same day, at the Intercontinental Festival City, Dubai, UAE. Congratulations to the team!

STAFF OF THE MONTH

Our staff of the month for June is VERITASian Divya Jhanjee, commonly known as just "Divya" among her colleagues and friends. Divya is currently holding the position of Architect and has been with the firm for the past one and half years. Divya shares her personal story with Venuthan Ganasan (VG).

VG: What's your passion or hobby?
 Divya: I truly enjoy interactions with people and places. I like to explore a place not just by visiting it or living there, but by learning the culture, exchanging ideas and getting sensitized to society by simple act of interacting. Every person has something unique to share from their multitude of experiences and immersing ourselves into a conversation can bring about a change in society with sheer dedication. I hope to reach the position in professional ladder where I am able to bring forward reforms and have the capacity to implement the same.

VG: How would describe working in VERITAS in a movie title and why?
 Divya: King Fu Panda, a story of a cowardly kung fu enthusiast panda, who wishes to pursue his dream of learning kung fu. He finds himself in tough situations during his training regime and associates giving up. After receiving encouragement from Grand Master, he endures his training and works up to be a better version of himself. It's a story of self-discovery, undergoing various hardships with the guidance of the masters. I joined VERITAS as a fresh graduate and thus, could relate myself with Po. It has been a journey where you encounter challenges you have never faced but with encouragement from fellow VERITASians and access to correct tools you develop strength of character and persistent to work on bringing out the best of yourself for your team. Do not settle for anything less, keep working towards the ultimate goal.

VG: In your opinion what is the toughest task you have encountered working in VERITAS?
 Divya: Answering these questions while juggling with other tasks has been 'toughest task' so far! HaHa. Jokes apart, it's been challenging while being interested to work in a company as big as VERITAS. With so many diverse personalities in itself is a learning curve for me. To understand different work styles and synergizing with that has presented its own set of difficulties while being an enriching experience to carry in future.

VG: Do you think VERITAS can inspire you to a better future and where do you see yourself in another 10 years?
 Divya: I see a better future for myself only with the 'Vision of Better Future for our community'. VERITAS has inspired, with tangible means, what role an architect can play in bringing positive impact for the whole community. VFE (VERITAS Funds for Excellence) is a live proof! I look up to. In my experience here, VERITAS has displayed many times how an organization, an individual can bring about a change in society with sheer dedication. I hope to reach the position in professional ladder where I am able to bring forward reforms and have the capacity to implement the same.

VG: What are features and design elements from India that you would like to include in your designs?
 Divya: India, being as physically big, culturally diverse and historically rich as it is, has multitude of features, elements and styles to derive inspiration from. Usage of local materials and styles has cultural and social relevance. A simple opening or window can express and project differently to different people. Features like such could be very engaging and celebratory in designs, providing a unique character to it.

NEWLY MARRIED

Congratulations to VERITASian Prema Ramamorthy from VERITAS Planning for tying the knot with Vivekkumar Manimaran on 1st September 2019 at the Mun Yee Chinese School Hall, Setapak.

BUNDLE OF JOY

Congratulations to VERITASian Noor Zaidi Nordin from VERITAS KL and his spouse Siti Fazilah Asni on the arrival of their new baby girl Dya Aryssa Binti Noor Zaidi born on 16th August 2019.

Also, Congratulations to VERITASian Wan Muhammad Rosmadi from VERITAS KL and his spouse Siti Fazilah Asni on the arrival of their new baby girl Wan Muhammad Rosmadi on 24th August 2019.

Jerry's CADD training classes had appeared to be going well until...

NEW STAFF

Charmaine Teh @ Secretary
 Mohd Azizul @ BIM Coordinator
 Ar. Yuslan Md Yusup @ Resident Architect
 Nurul Ameerah @ Project Secretary

Mohd Razif Bin Omar @ Inspector of Works
 Syed Putera Syed Abd Samad @ Inspector of Works
 Z. Rosli Che Hussain @ Inspector of Works
 Said Noridi Said Mohamad @ Inspector of Works

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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.