

HAPPY HANDS

Building An Endearing Home

Not a game of CAT and MOUSE

Veron Lau on engaging diverse stakeholders to create a safe and compassionate environment for cats



Tips for growing nutritious edibles from Community In Bloom Ambassador Ben Thum

Discover a quirky take on our evolving urban landscape by illustrator Lee Xin Li

Get involved in the new Friends of the Parks scheme

Veron Lau
Cat Welfare Advocate

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SHARE A STORY

Share with us a story today! We would love to hear your inspiring stories and personal journeys about volunteering with the MND Family. Whether it is in the form of an article, an illustration or a photograph, we welcome your contributions. Do drop us a note at happyhands@mnd.gov.sg!

FEEDBACK

Tell us how we are doing! Did we meet your expectations? Do you have suggestions that could help us make this newsletter interesting and relevant to you? Let us know via happyhands@mnd.gov.sg!



Chairman of the MND Family Volunteer and Alumni Network, Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs and National Development Mr Desmond Lee, with ITE College East students who assisted in NParks' species recovery efforts on Pulau Ubin by helping build nest boxes for the Blue-throated Bee-eater.

Dear Friends of the MND Family,

We have had a busy first quarter of the year! At the SGfuture dialogues in January, many Singaporeans shared inspiring ideas for co-creating a vibrant and sustainable future. Car-Free Sundays, an ongoing pilot initiative, came about after we received suggestions for more vehicle-free zones to promote community activities and create enjoyable public spaces. Seeing many families and communities enjoying a host of activities around the Civic District, I must say that the monthly event has been a great success so far.

It is amazing what the community can do when we collaborate to come up with creative solutions. For example, the new Ubin Living Lab started as an idea suggested by Friends of Ubin Network (FUN) member Joseph Koh at one of our early sessions. The idea was also echoed in public feedback and taken up by FUN members, who contributed proposals and worked tirelessly with us to make it a reality.

Building on the success of FUN, a new Friends of the Parks community has also been launched. During the SGfuture dialogues, many participants expressed support for park users to play a bigger role in designing, stewarding and initiating programmes for our green and blue spaces. The Friends of the Parks community will be able to do this. Special thanks to our volunteers - Sivasothi, Jok Kwang and Pui San - who have agreed to chair the Chestnut Nature Park, Park Connector Network and Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve communities, respectively.

I hope that more individuals and groups who want to make a difference will step forward, share your ideas and work alongside us. Whether as members of academia or industries, as organisations or individuals, everyone can contribute to making Singapore a better home for all. From what I have seen and experienced, I am very optimistic that we can work together and make it happen. This is our shared aspiration, and I hope you will join us in our quest.

Yours sincerely,

Desmond Lee
Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs and National Development
Chairman of the MND Family Volunteer and Alumni Network

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Not a game of cat and mouse

Cat welfare champion Veron Lau advocates engaging and working effectively with diverse stakeholders to create a safe and compassionate environment for cats.

I have learnt that policy making involves many moving parts that need to be juggled. What really makes a difference is the leadership and maturity that each stakeholder brings to the table.

Veron Lau, Cat Welfare Society



What started as a simple act of compassion led Veron Lau on a journey of saving lives, one sterilisation at a time. Ten years on, the past President of volunteer-run Cat Welfare Society and current executive committee member continues to dedicate herself to advancing the cause of humane management and treatment of cats in Singapore through education and outreach, advocacy and collaborations on programmes such as the Stray Cat Sterilisation Programme.

Tell us about joining the Cat Welfare Society, and what you enjoy most about your work.

Like many of us in the Cat Welfare Society, I started out caring for cats in my community. There was a cat feeder at my block and we always said hi and talked about the cats. Then one day, I saw someone from the Town Council talking to him and found out that he was being told that the cats would be

trapped and taken away. It really hit me that this was what was happening and no one really knew or gave much thought to this issue. I contacted the Cat Welfare Society at that time and learnt about how to become an intermediary between the cats and caregivers in my community, the Town Council and government agencies like the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA). I also learnt about the benefits of sterilisation when it comes to resolving cat issues humanely. That was a good 10 years ago. It has been amazing to watch cat welfare grow since that time and see so many people making a change for their communities.

What are some highlights of your experience as part of the Society's leadership team?

In the time that I have been in the Cat Welfare Society, I have had the chance to work with an amazing group of people who come with their own skillsets. Beyond cat rescue, we believe in a long term vision for cat welfare in Singapore and want to drive programmes that will lead to big changes.



The Cat Welfare Society works closely with agencies like AVA, HDB, NParks and Town Councils on cat welfare promotion programmes.

With the support of various agencies, I am glad to have contributed to putting in place some critical milestones such as the Stray Cat Sterilisation Programme which is co-funded by AVA, the Love Cats pilot programme for cat ownership in Chong Pang, feeding programmes with the National Parks Board (NParks) and joint case-handling protocols with Town Councils.

How has the reception been for the ongoing “Love Cats” cat ownership pilot programme?

It is no big secret that there are many cat owners in Singapore, living in HDB flats or otherwise. The solutions we bring to engage cat owners and promote responsible cat ownership practices have been welcomed by many of the agencies we work with.

More than three out of four cat owners whom we engage are very willing to have their cats registered and be on the programme. Some of the other owners are already being responsible and abiding by the cat ownership guidelines such as sterilising their cats and keeping them indoors. However, they are hesitant about microchipping their cats as the programme is still just a pilot initiative.

Overall, we have had encouraging results and I think it shows that people are ready for full implementation of the cat ownership programme across Singapore - with a proper registration system in place and multi-agency resources available to assist people in the process.

Do you think Singaporeans are more informed and responsible about caring for pets and other animals?

I think we are getting there but much more still needs to be done. It is still far too easy for anyone to breed and sell pets and for people to buy them on a whim. What is heartening to see, especially online, is the maturity of a community of people who love animals and use the knowledge and practices that we have



Veron Lau (third from right) with other Cat Welfare Society volunteers.

been advocating for so many years to educate others. It is not uncommon now for people to promote sterilisation, keeping cats indoors, and following our adoption guidelines.

You were part of a work group that helped develop codes of animal welfare for pet owners and businesses. Was it a challenging process?

Inevitably, there will be differences in perspectives when diverse groups of stakeholders come together. But all parties agreed that good standards of animal welfare in the pet trade, pet ownership and treatment of community animals were necessary to reflect a society's progress and humanity. This is also aligned with the latest findings on animal sentience. Differences were more pronounced in the discussion on how soon we should meet that standard. Industry representatives would ask for more time to prepare businesses for change, but as animal welfare advocates, we see and deal with the suffering of animals every day that change is being delayed.

Your takeaways from the experience?

I have learnt that policy making involves

many moving parts that need to be juggled. What really makes a difference is the leadership and maturity that each stakeholder brings to the table to encourage discussion, support problem-solving and commit to finding mutually agreeable outcomes, always with a long term vision in mind.

Your proudest accomplishment from these collaborations and projects?

People tend to discount cats. But I think now people take the cat person at the table very seriously (laughs).

Any advice for budding advocates about working effectively in diverse stakeholder groups?

Always be prepared to give new ideas. Be bold with your vision and communicate your ideas clearly. Listen to others and focus on problem-solving instead of debating. If you must disagree, do so with reason and not emotion.

Find out more about the Cat Welfare Society [here](#).

Images courtesy of Cat Welfare Society.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Everyone can garden!

NParks Community In Bloom Ambassador Ben Thum would like everyone to grow nutritious edibles in community gardens and at home.



I hope that by introducing gardening techniques based on science, technology and innovation, I can share the excitement of gardening with young people too.

Ben Thum
NParks Community In Bloom Ambassador

An architect and IT professional by training, Ben Thum utilised his skills to set up the multiple award-winning Yishun Sapphire Condominium Community Garden in 2009. Driven by a desire to grow nutrient-rich food efficiently, Ben has championed a method called Square Foot Gardening and developed innovative gardening solutions such as a self-irrigating solar-powered vertical aquaponics system. He conducts gardening talks and participates actively in events such as the Singapore Garden Festival 2012, Gardeners' Cup competition in 2014 and commemorative SG50 Community In Bloom (CIB) Gardens display. In 2014, for his outstanding efforts in promoting gardening, Ben was awarded the CIB Ambassador Award by the National Parks Board (NParks).

How did you first get into community gardening?

Back in 2009, I watched a local documentary on Singapore's food security issues which made me realise that over 90% of our food is imported. Following that, I watched another documentary, "Food, Inc.", which showed that commercially produced food is often

not only low in nutritional value but might be laden with dangerous pesticides. This made me want to learn how to grow my own food, but I had no experience in gardening then. So I contacted NParks for help, and the response was incredible! NParks officers came over to share with a group of us about how to get started setting up our community garden. They invited us to their premises to learn about various gardening options, and followed up with us regularly to check on our progress.

What motivates you to keep trying out new gardening techniques?

I think NParks has been very successful in providing platforms and opportunities for gardeners to share ideas, work together and learn more about an activity we love. But the majority of the population still isn't growing their own nutrition. Reasons given are usually a lack of time or space, which is why I keep experimenting with new ways of growing nutrition fast and using minimal resources.



Community In Bloom Ambassador Ben Thum (centre) started the Yishun Sapphire Condominium Community Garden with a group of other residents.

What are you currently working on?

I started my “Reinventing Gardening” project at the end of 2014 to find new ways of gardening. My three main goals were to use a minimal amount of land, no tap water and reduce the amount of time required to grow nutrient-dense edibles. I successfully achieved these goals early this year. Today, all the plants are grown in self-irrigating planters that have not required a single drop of tap water since January 2015.

Could you share some innovative features you developed for gardening?

I started developing a solar-powered vertical aquaponics system out of necessity - located under the MRT track, our plots did not receive enough rainfall. But there are several points along the track where rain water would collect and flow down during heavy downpours. We started with a big plastic box to collect the water, then added a DC water pump to pump the water up to a raised tank. The tank feeds a gravity-driven drip irrigation system. To power the pump, we used a 12V battery which is charged by photovoltaic modules on a small solar panel. We have since added a self-timer so the entire system runs automatically except for periods of no rainfall, in which case we would supplement with tap water.

There are plenty of new and affordable technologies that can be adopted and readapted for gardening. I really enjoy experimenting with them and finding new ways to grow food.



(Left) Ben explaining the solar-powered vertical aquaponics system in his garden. (Right) Solar panels help to power the system.

Some advice for people who are keen to start gardening?

I would encourage growing nutrient-dense plants like Gotu Kola (“Indian Ginseng”); Purslane, which is the highest vegetable source of Omega 3; and Dandelion, which is the highest vegetable source of Vitamins K and A. These plants are essentially weeds and can grow easily without requiring a lot of effort.

If you have limited space for conventional planters and pots, try using discarded polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic bottles for the smaller self-irrigating plants and fitting them into a simple shoe rack.

Those with no corridor or balcony space at all could try sprouting or growing microgreens indoors. Microgreens

are more nutrient-dense than most vegetables grown in land-based gardens, and they take a much shorter time to grow!

What do you hope to achieve as a CIB Ambassador?

I spend a lot of my free time these days encouraging people to start gardening, such as by organising visits to my garden to show them the possibilities. My main target group is young adults. They may not relate to what seems like an old-fashioned method of tending land-based vegetable plots, but I hope that by introducing gardening techniques based on science, technology and innovation, I can share the excitement of gardening with young people too.

Images courtesy of Ben Thum.

About the Community In Bloom Programme

The National Parks Board’s Community In Bloom nationwide gardening movement aims to foster community spirit and bring together residents through gardening. Find out how you can be a part of the programme [here](#).



PARTNERSHIP (URA)

Singapore Illustrated: Sayang Singapura

Illustrator Lee Xin Li presents his quirky perspective of Singapore's changing urban landscape in his debut showcase at the Singapore City Gallery.



Image: Lee Xin Li

The *Peta Singapura*, an intricate map of Singapore blown up to cover a whole wall and crowded with local sites and scenes, is the centrepiece of the debut exhibition by local illustrator Lee Xin Li (pictured here).

Lee Xin Li, a 28 year old local illustrator, is known for sketching fantastical renditions of local scenes, having drawn iconic buildings in the past such as the Kallang Airport, the National Theatre and the Tanjong Pagar Railway Station. The architecture student has also reimagined local spaces close to our hearts such as Pulau Tekong, legendary food paradise Chong Pang and even the abandoned Neo Tiew housing estate.

In March 2016, he launched the inaugural exhibition of his works, *Sayang Singapura*, at the [URA's Singapore City Gallery](#). In line with the City Gallery's

aim of telling the story of Singapore's transformation throughout the years, the exhibits portray our urban environment through the creative medium of art, adding a quirky dimension to our spaces.

Going Places Singapore caught up with Xin Li to find out more about his exhibition.

What is the theme and inspiration behind your debut exhibition, *Sayang Singapura*?

Sayang, meaning 'love' and also 'a pity', is a recurring theme in many of my illustrations. I thought this would be a suitable theme for this solo retrospective

exhibition. It focuses on how the illustrations are inspired by growing up in a changing Singapore. My drawings are reflective of the love for the home I grew up in as well as an awareness of its ever-changing environment.

What inspired *Peta Singapura*, the centrepiece of your exhibition?

Peta Singapura was made after coming back from a trip to Europe, where I visited cities like Colmar, Innsbruck, and Strasbourg. I made a map of where I had been to and my friend wondered whether I could do the same for Singapore, which is often seen as a 'boring' city. The *Peta*

Singapura piece was a result of that challenge and a rediscovery of the many facets of Singapore, from architecture to nature.

Can you tell us more about how your love for drawing started?

It started since my childhood days. I loved to draw buildings back then, and one of the things I did was to draw a city on A4 paper, which I would attach piece after piece so that the city gets bigger and bigger. At one point of time, it was half the length of my primary school hall.

How have your travels influenced how you see Singapore and its changing landscape?

I had the privilege of travelling to a number of places. Some places that are amazing to explore are Belgrade, Rome, Bangkok and Kyoto. They have a rich and varied architecture, but what I find most fascinating is the 'character' one finds in these places. For example, the crafts, the living culture and so on. The discovery of such character in these places motivates me to seek out similar places in Singapore and re-discover our city at the same time.

On the other hand, it also brought about a poignant realisation of how much Singapore has lost over the years, and how it is crucial to retain the character of our spaces alongside development.

Any reason for deciding to use the Singapore City Gallery as the venue?

I thought the Gallery and the exhibition would be a fascinating juxtaposition of the past, present and future within the same space. In retrospect, I am shaped by this environment and the development in Singapore, essentially growing up in the future that was laid out by the pioneers of the past.

Hopefully, this exhibition could add a human dimension to the Gallery's exhibits as well. It's an opportunity to contemplate what kind of future we intend to pursue in the next 15 to 30 years for Singapore.



In Xin Li's works, French comic cartoon Tin Tin and cartoon characters like Doraemon and Totoro feature alongside local landmarks like HDB flats and People's Park Complex in Chinatown.



An illustration of shophouses along Koon Seng Road.

The City Canvas space in the Singapore City Gallery showcases and shares the amazing visions and expressions inspired by the surrounding cityscape, bringing the art of the city to everyone. If you have works that offer a unique perspective of Singapore and would like to have your works exhibited, do send an email to Jazzy_Lim@ura.gov.sg

This is an abridged version of an article originally published in [Going Places Singapore](#).

For more stories about rediscovering our city [here](#).

PROGRAMME (NPARKS)

Places to call their own

The new Ubin Living Lab facility and Friends of the Parks scheme promote community stewardship of parks and other green spaces.



The first Friends of Ubin Network meeting of 2016, held in one of the refurbished buildings at Ubin Living Lab.

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With the completion of the first phase of the Ubin Living Lab, school groups, researchers, and the nature community will have a space they can call their own to study the rich biodiversity on Ubin and to conduct research, exchange ideas with one another, and actively participate in conservation initiatives.

SMS Desmond Lee at the launch of Phase 1 of Ubin Living Lab on 27 February 2016

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Friends of Ubin Network

For many, visiting Pulau Ubin feels like being transported back in time. The island's welcoming community, rich social heritage, impressive natural heritage and even its abandoned granite quarries - relics of the island's history - offer a picturesque respite from urban living on mainland Singapore.

This distinctive character and authenticity of Ubin is what members of the [Friends of Ubin Network](#) (FUN) hope to capture and sustain. Formed in 2014, FUN brings together a broad network of people passionate about Ubin including biodiversity experts, conservation activists, history buffs, socio-anthropologists, educators, students, volunteers and Ubin community leaders and residents. Members meet to brainstorm, share ideas and implement initiatives to preserve and promote Ubin's natural and cultural heritage.



An outdoor classroom with integrated facilities, the new Ubin Living Lab supports biodiversity research, education and outreach initiatives.

On 27 February 2016, what started as an idea suggested at an early FUN session for a place on Ubin dedicated to biodiversity research and education turned into reality as Phase 1 of the Ubin Living Lab was officially launched by Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs and National Development Mr Desmond Lee.

Located where the former Celestial Resort was, two buildings have been refurbished with facilities to support field studies, research and outreach activities. Helping mark the completion of Phase 1 of Ubin Living Lab were students collaborating with NParks in its species recovery efforts. Republic Polytechnic students presented their bat box prototypes while ITE College East students assisted in building nest boxes for the Blue-throated Bee-eater.

Educators, researchers and community groups who wish to use the Ubin Living Lab may send an e-mail to NParks_Pulau_Ubin@nparks.gov.sg two weeks in advance.

Friends of the Parks

Building on the success of FUN, NParks launched the [Friends of the Parks](#) scheme on 2 April 2016. The scheme will enable communities of park users to take the lead in promoting active and responsible uses of our shared green spaces.

Each community will comprise representatives from different groups of park users. This includes NParks volunteers, hikers, exercise groups, tenants, nature photographers and others. Members will discuss ideas and spearhead ground-led initiatives relating to conservation, horticulture, events and amenities for their respective parks.

Three Friends of the Parks communities have been launched. The Friends of Chestnut Nature Park community will be chaired by long-time volunteer and senior lecturer Mr N. Sivasothi, the Friends of Park Connector Network community will be chaired by avid cyclist and Chief Information Officer of Venture Corporate Ltd Mr Han Jok Kwang, and the Friends of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve community will be chaired by NParks volunteer and artist Mr Tham Pui San. The existing Friends of Ubin Network will come under this scheme though it will continue operating as it has for the past two years.

To find out more or join the Friends of the Parks scheme [here](#).



SMS Desmond Lee (left) and Mayor of South West District Dr Teo Ho Pin (centre) with Friends of Chestnut Nature Park community chair, long-time volunteer Mr N. Sivasothi (right), at the launch of Chestnut Nature Park South on 2 April 2016.



Chestnut Nature Park is Singapore's first nature park with separate designated trails for hiking and mountain biking.

PROGRAMME (BCA)

Let the Green Sparks fly

Eight teams pitted against one another in a battle of creativity and sustainability at the finals of the biennial BCA-CDL Green Sparks Competition.



Image: Building and Construction Authority

Eight finalist teams were shortlisted to pitch their design concepts to a panel of industry experts led by chief judge Er Ng Eng Kiong (third from right), Immediate Past President of the Singapore Green Building Council.

On 8 April 2016, eight teams of students from various tertiary institutions competed in the finals of the BCA-CDL Green Sparks Competition. After two months of preparatory work, the teams presented their design proposals for a sustainable community space at the Sky Park outdoor area of City Square Mall to a panel of judges comprising established industry professionals.

05-ARCHI, a team of architecture students from Singapore Polytechnic, emerged as champions in the competition, receiving the top prize of \$10,000. Their outstanding winning design creatively uses recycled shipping containers and converts the space into an energy-efficient, multi-functional facility for family and community bonding activities.



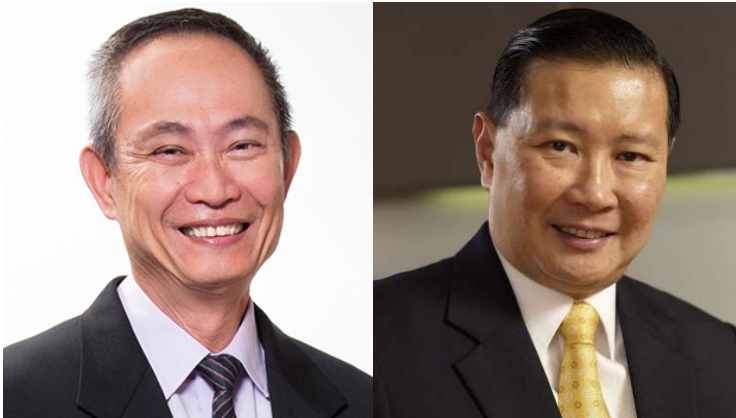
Image: Building and Construction Authority

Winning team "05-ARCHI" from Singapore Polytechnic received the top prize from Guest Of Honour Mr Lee Fook Sun, Chairman of BCA (third from left); Dr John Keung, CEO of BCA (fourth from left); and Ms Esther An, Chief Sustainability Officer of CDL (fourth from right).

"When we first started designing, we were concerned with several technical aspects of the design as steelwork and container construction were new to us. We needed to do a lot of research on the re-adaptive uses of shipping containers, which formed the main structure of the pavilion," shared Brandon Hong, team leader of 05-ARCHI.

Asked about a key challenge in the team's design process, Brandon added that "one of the main challenges was to ensure that our design is sustainable yet comfortable for its users. The interior of the shipping containers can be stifling and humid as everything is made of metal. To counter that, we proposed a series of bi-fold sliding windows and doors, thus promoting cross ventilation to cool the interior spaces. The bi-fold sliding doors allow flexibility in the usage of space within the building and also provide an ever-changing façade".

IN THE NEWS



New AVA Chairman Mr Lim Neo Chian (left) and new BCA Chairman Mr Lee Fook Sun (right) commenced their terms on 1 April 2016.

New Chairmen of AVA and BCA Boards

The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) and Building and Construction Authority (BCA) recently appointed new Chairmen to their Boards. Mr Lim Neo Chian, Chairman of Ascendas Hospitality Trust Management and previously Deputy Chairman of AVA, succeeded Immediate Past Chairman Mr Koh Soo Keong. Mr Koh stepped down after serving on the AVA Board for 14 years and as Chairman since 2008. Mr Lee Fook Sun, President of ST Electronics and previously Deputy Chairman of BCA, took over Mr Quek See Tiat as Chairman of BCA. Mr Quek had served on the BCA Board for 15 years and as Chairman since 2007. Read the full press releases [here](#).



Climb the 10 metre tall [Raptor Tower](#) for a bird's eye view of Kranji Marshes.

Oasis of tranquillity at Kranji Marshes

Away from the hustle and bustle of city life is a 56.8-hectare freshwater marshland that is home to over 170 species of birds, 54 species of butterflies and 33 species of dragonflies. In February 2016, NParks launched monthly guided walks conducted by NParks volunteers in Kranji Marshes called "Evening Chorus at Kranji Marshes". It offers visitors access through the core conservation area which is not usually opened to the public due to its ecological sensitivity. Visitors will get to learn about the unique biodiversity of this area and diverse flora and fauna in the marsh, woodland and grass habitats. The walks are free of charge and open to the public. Sign up at NParks_KMguidedwalk@nparks.gov.sg or visit [this website](#) for more details.



Image: Urban Redevelopment Authority

The Civic District is transformed into a vibrant car-free zone on Car-Free Sundays, held every last Sunday of the month for a trial period till July 2016.

On the road to a car-lite Singapore

Every last Sunday of the month for a trial period till July 2016, Car-Free Sundays will see about 5 km of roads in the heart of the Civic District and parts of the Central Business District temporarily closed to vehicular traffic and transformed into car-free zones for everyone to enjoy. Since its launch on 28 February 2016, thousands of cyclists, skaters, joggers and pedestrians have participated in the various editions of Car-Free Sundays. Activities organised in support of Car-Free Sundays include bike rentals, group work-outs, gardening and craft sessions, food trucks and many more. Car-Free Sundays are part of an overall drive for a car-lite Singapore. Find out more information and updates on activities [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS & CONTESTS

Challenge for the Built Environment Exhibition

26 April – 27 May 2016 (except Sundays and PHs)

8.30am – 7.00pm

Singapore City Gallery, The URA Centre

Admission is free

Calling all budding planners, architects and urban designers!

View entries from the seventh edition of the annual [Challenge for the Built Environment](#) (CUBE) workshop and competition, organised by the Urban Redevelopment Authority from 17 to 20 November 2015.

Over 146 students from 15 junior colleges and polytechnics delved into the intricacies of planning and urban design for Singapore and gained first-hand experience as urban planners as they planned for a site in Paya Lebar Central.



HDB Community Week 2016

20 – 29 May 2016

9am – 9pm

Bedok Central

Join us at [HDB Community Week 2016](#), our annual celebration of the community spirit in the heartlands!



Get inspired by the creative neighbourliness initiatives mooted under the Good Neighbours Project. Be captivated by the winning entries of HDB's 'Celebrating LIFE in the Heartlands' Photography Competition. You can also vote for your favourite ideas from Build-a-thon participants, who brainstormed ways to make Bedok a lively place.

Take this opportunity to explore the new town plaza in Bedok and rethink the possibilities of what you can do as a part of the community!

Image: Housing & Development Board

Ubin Day 2016

4 June 2016, 9am – 4pm
 Pulau Ubin Assembly Area
 Admission is free*

The annual celebration of everyone's favourite local getaway is here, and it's bigger than ever!

From 14 May to 12 June 2016, celebrate the culture, nature and wildlife of Pulau Ubin by joining in an exciting line-up of activities organised by Ubin enthusiasts.

Find out more information and sign up for activities [here](#).



Ubin Day 2015
 Image: National Parks Board



* The bumboat ride from Changi Point Ferry Terminal costs \$3.00/person each way.

Win a 'My Green Space: Indoor Gardening Made Simple' book!



Image: National Parks Board

Everyone can garden! Indoor gardening, in particular, is a simple way to incorporate greenery into our daily lives.

Whether you want to create a lush green wall to help purify the air, or make a terrarium garden to decorate your home, the possibilities of indoor gardening are endless.

'My Green Space: Indoor Gardening Made Simple' provides step-by-step instructions and gardening basics to green up your living space and reap the joys of indoor gardening.

Stand to win a copy of this book by answering two simple questions in [My Green Space](#), a quarterly newsletter from NParks.

For more MND Family News:



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