

Thehill









contents

- 1 The President Speaks
- 2 Community Capsules
- 4 My BT
- 14 Living
- 17 Useful Contact Numbers





GUEST EDITOR Karen Hoh • PRODUCTION Sasya Ahmad Sebi • PRINT AND DESIGN Adat Saga Sdn Bhd ADVERTISING btra.loth.ads@gmail.com · FREQUENCY Twice a year



The President Speaks

hat an exhausting two years we've endured. I think we've all been put through the wringer – especially this year – but I hope we have emerged mostly intact and stronger. Thankfully many of us managed to keep busy in our own ways. Our resident bird photographer, tian hooi, continued to delight us almost daily sharing her photos of our avian friends on the Members chat group. We can see the considerable variety of birds that are either permanent residents of our forests or transitory visitors gracing us with their finery. Whatever the case, it is worth preserving. Which brings me to my next point...

...The seemingly increasing presence and frequency of bird trappers in our suburbs. I know that on occasion members have encountered these trappers during their walks or driving home. To approach these trappers individually may be risky. The BTRA Environment sub-committee has taken the lead on this issue and is working with the relevant authorities for guidance on remedial action. It will not be easy, but it is worth the effort

Members who are on the BTRA chat group will have seen that the dominant issues are related to unruly motorists, whether it's indiscriminate parking on Langgak Tunku, or highly anti-social and, frankly, illegal behaviour by "car rempits" on Jalan Bukit Tunku. People living on Jalan Bukit Tunku leading to Langgak Tunku, as well as along Langgak Tunku leading to Jalan Duta, have a front-row seat of their modified engines and resultant sound effects. Such is the volume that people living in Jalan Girdle, Dalaman Tunku, Jalan Lembah Tunku and Lorong Lembah Tunku, and possibly further up the hill, also suffer such rogue-ish antics.

While our BTRA Security Patrol officers, and even Sentul District Police officers, have helped to clear

that scenic area opposite Kenny Hills Grande on occasion, this is merely a temporary fix. There have been several suggestions to stop this menace, such as installing hoardings to block the view, converting Bukit Tunku to a gated community, adding speed bumps on that stretch, and placing bollards on the road shoulder. The Committee is considering all these options, and more. The final decision will need approval from DBKL as these are public streets and certain rules apply. Rest assured that there are earnest discussions taking place, and hopefully by the time you are reading this, we will have made concrete progress to reduce this nightly assault on our senses.

Meanwhile, the parking situation along Langgak Tunku outside The Stories is untenable. The Committee has met officers from the relevant DBKL department several times in the last few months and impressed upon them that the stretch of road is highly dangerous – not only for regular motorists, but also for emergency responders coming into Bukit Tunku. Again, there is no easy solution as The Stories of Taman Tunku is flourishing, a victim of its own success, The reality is that the number of parking bays at The Stories remains finite, while the number of retailers has increased after its refurbishment. DBKL is considering several solutions and once the Committee receives news, members will be updated

With Covid almost endemic, we can return to our regular routines. Please stay safe and continue to comply with SOPs – we certainly don't need or want a repeat of 2020 and 2021. And with that, I wish one and all good tidings of the season and all the best for 2022.

Muthanna Abdullah

Feedback? Suggestions? Comments?



If you have feedback or comments on Living On The Hill, or would like to suggest topics for future issues, or wish to contribute an article, please don't hesitate to email bukit.tunku.residents@gmail.com. Please enter "Living on the Hill" in the subject line for easy reference. We'd love to hear from you!

(Contributions and correspondence may be edited for space and clarity). Living On The Hill is available at www.btra.com.my/newsletter.





BTRA Membership Categories

BTRA is a community-centric association and is governed by an elected Committee comprising resident-members who volunteer their time to run BTRA matters. Its purpose is to preserve the environment and lifestyle, and foster neighbourly relations, among residents of these two suburbs. The Committee encourages residents of Bukit Tunku and Taman Duta to join the association. Your membership helps to increase our voice and influence with City Government authorities and general Public Services Agencies serving our communities.

BTRA offers three categories of membership:

Category	Eligibility	
Ordinary Member	Owner of one, or more than one, property in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta. Non-owner Occupier of property in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta.	
	Ordinary Members are entitled to attend AGMs; and to one vote. Annual Membership fees: RM300.00, payable in April.	
Corporate Member	A Corporation owning one, or more than one, property in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta.	
	A representative of a Corporate Member is entitled to attend AGMs, and to one vote. Annual Membership fees: RM300.00, payable in April.	
Associate Member	Any other resident, including condominium residents, in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta.	
	Associate Members are entitled to attend AGMs, but do not have voting rights. Annual Membership fees: RM50.00, payable in April	
	Condominium Residents are eligible for Associate Membership only.	

Membership forms are downloadable at the <u>BTRA website</u> or email <u>bukit.tunku.residents@gmail.com.</u>







Issues Du Jour

The lively BTRA chat group has surfaced several key issues across our suburbs, with increasing volume. Among them:

- Jalan Bukit Tunku / Kenny Hills Grande scenic vista "visitors"
- Langgak Tunku street parking outside The Stories
- Roads that are in need of repair in Taman Duta and Bukit Tunku
- Bird trapping

These issues have been raised with the relevant public service agencies with a view to resolving them.

An all-too-common sight of street parking on Langgak Tunku outside The Stories on any given day.

"It's an accident waiting to happen" said everyone...

On Friday 5th November, the "accident waiting to happen" happened. The part-time gardener of a BTRA Member was travelling towards Tijani on his motorcycle to attend to another house. As usual, there were cars parked along both sides of Langgak Tunku outside The Stories. He was approaching the exit gate, where a large black car was parked on the corner of the kerb, thus impeding the vision of motorists exiting the crescent. A grey Honda exiting the gate could not see him approaching, and by the time the Honda driver saw the motorcycle, it was too late, resulting in a collision.

An ambulance was called, and paramedics attended to the injured person. The Honda driver told a resident that "a big black car" blocked his vision of the road and on-coming traffic. It seems that the driver of the big black car was aware of what happened, but left the scene. The concerned Honda driver stayed until the ambulance left with the patient.

It was later shared on the BTRA Members chat group that the 74-year-old accident victim sustained a dislocated hip and a fractured hip socket, and that surgery was required.







Shades of Slytherin: Daniel Tan and the Python of BT

ne fine day in September, a python was spotted sunning and snoozing on a grass shoulder on Persiaran Bukit Tunku. The first photo, shared by Dennis Tan on the BTRA Members chat group, started a running commentary on how to rescue the sleepy serpent from the dangers posed by humans.

Within minutes, Natalie Tan (no relation to Dennis) updated chat group members that the python was no longer on the grassy knoll. What happened? The situation seemed to be magically resolved – did Harry Potter apparate in Bukit Tunku?

It transpired that Natalie's intrepid father, Daniel, had interrupted his personal training exercise to deal with the slithery forest resident. Screenshots from Natalie's video show how Daniel bravely and

skilfully rescued the sleeping chap. Using a stick to gently hold it in place, Daniel was able to pick up the python and let it coil itself around his arm.

Undoubtedly holding our collective breath while watching the rescue take place, we saw Daniel's firm but gentle grip keep the snake still while averting any danger to both it and himself.

The Wildlife Department was called. All's well that ends well. Thanks to Daniel Tan, now known as the Snake Wrangler of BT. And thanks, too, to Natalie who recorded the rescue and dared to get close enough for those head shots.

No humans or snakes were harmed in the making of this vignette. It is unknown if Daniel speaks Parseltongue.













"A forest bird never wants a cage"

Henrik Ibsen

Photographs by tian hooi, Bukit Tunku resident.





Clockwise from top: Common Flameback Woodpecker, female Common Flameback Woodpecker, male Crested Goshawk, male Crested Goshawk, female







Clockwise from top: Barred Eagle Owl, Banded Woodpecker, Rufous Woodpecker, Oriole



REVITALISING A TIRED POOL

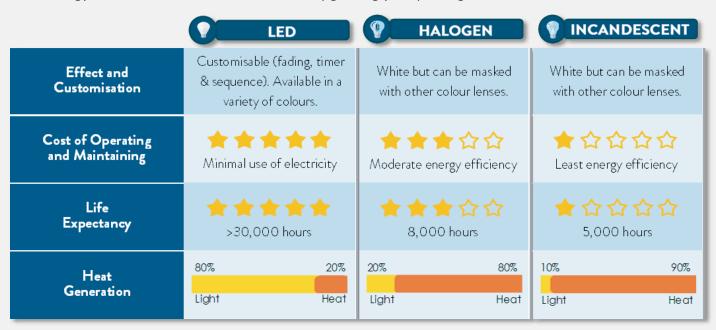
Effective Ways to Rejuvenate Your Pool



Thinking of how to give your pool a makeover without breaking the bank? After a few wonderful years of fun-filled use, a swimming pool can start to become a little tired – it may lose a little of the lustre that kept you and your family entertained for hours or they may have just gotten bored with its familiarity over the years. Fortunately, it's not time-consuming and surprisingly easy to give your pool a new lease on life by changing your pool's lights or sanitisation system.

Light Up Your (Pool) Life!

Gone are the days when your pool was dark and uninviting once the sun had set; with the right kind of lighting, your pool can be the most appealing place in your home to be after dark! In addition to setting the ambience and mood around the pool area, pool lights are also responsible for general safety and visibility. With more options now available and significant progress made in the development of pool light technology, it's never a bad time to consider upgrading your pool lights!



LED bulbs are the latest technology in pool lights, proving themselves to be more efficient, effective, and longer-lasting than their halogen and incandescent alternatives. With a wider range of colour effects available (with even multicoloured disco-light options), LEDs are fast becoming the most popular option on the market.

New Water, New Experience!

Whilst all pool sanitisation systems keep your water hygienic and safe to use, which system you choose for your pool will determine what kind of water you and your family will be swimming in. The three main options accessible to the general public are granular chlorine, salt, and ozone – each has its own unique characteristics which could completely change the swimming experience of your pool!







By improving the aesthetic and comfort level of the pool, this new look and feel can revitalise your pool! Our friendly team will be happy to assist and advise you whether it relates to upgrading your equipment or sprucing your pool up to give it a new look so you and your family can MAKE A SPLASH!

Let us help give you that new-pool feeling again! You may find us at:



ASIAPOOLS (M) SDN BHD

No. 10, Jalan Murai Dua, Batu Complex, 4km Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur Email: inquiry@asiapools.com.my | Website: www.asiapools.com.my
Tel: 03-6251 7788 | Fax: 03-6257 3896





SALTWATER POOLS ARE NOT CHLORINE-FREE!

Saltwater pools use a salt chlorinator and the process of electrolysis to convert salt into chlorine ions for disinfection and sterilisation to keep your pool clean and healthy.



CHEMICALS MAY AFFECT EQUIPMENT DIFFERENTLY

It is important to employ end-toservice providers that are experienced and familiar with the type of pool equipment and chemicals used.



Halloween Tradition Scares Up Some Treats in Taman Duta Streets

t was a dark but not stormy Halloween weekend for a group of children and their families living in our two suburbs. Dressed as ghouls, witches and other scary types, eight children aged three to 13 and their chaperones went a-tricking-and-a-treating along Persiaran Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin, as well as on Lorong Duta 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Residents of these streets sportingly agreed to join in the fun by distributing goodies to the youngsters. This traditional Halloween activity could well be the first fully resident-driven social initiative since BTRA was established. Congrats to the organisers Van Vu Piette, Valerie Didier and Gerhana Anita!









BEGONE, Foul Bird Trappers!

ird trapping is commonplace in our neighbourhood, given the many large green spaces that birds come to roost, rest and feed.

One Thursday in August, two trappers were spotted at the large open green field at the foot of Jalan Tunku Putra. A few BTRA Committee Members converged on the area to explain to the trappers that this practice is prohibited and asked them to stop their activity.

The Wildlife Conservation Act 2010, (www.mybis.gov.my) sets criteria and regulations with regard to wildlife activity, including trapping, keeping and selling. Licences are required for certain types of wildlife activity, and in some cases, additional special permits. The Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 further states:

26 Laws of Malaysia ACT 716

(c) the person has never been previously convicted of an offence under this Act or any of its subsidiary legislation or any other written law related to cruelty to animals.

Prohibition of possessing, etc., snares

- **29.** (1) No person shall-
 - (a) possess or keep any snare; or
 - (b) set, place or use any snare for the purpose of hunting any wildlife.
 - (2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and shall, on conviction-
 - (a) in relation to an offence under paragraph (a). be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to both; and
 - (b) in relation to an offence under paragraph (b), be liable to a fine of not less than fifty thousand ringgit and not more than one hundred thousand ringgit and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

Offspring of totally protected wildlife be deemed protected wildlife

30. An offspring of a totally protected wildlife which is bred in captivity for commercial purposes shall be deemed a protected wildlife and shall be subject to a licence or permit as the case may be.

Residents of Bukit Tunku and Taman Duta enjoy diverse wildlife, whether it's on our balconies and gardens or perched up in the trees. In pre-Covid Lockdown times, groups of two or three trappers would set traps to lure lucrative songbirds from open green pastures and secondary forests. In recent times, it may be a lone trapper, or two at the most, and on occasion, some "buddies" who guard against interruptions or interventions, even audaciously telling passers-by that they have a licence for bird-trapping.

Such occurrences have been reported to the Department of Wildlife and National Parks, Peninsular Malaysia (*Perhilitan*, for short). The Enforcement Division of *Perhilitan* is giving guidance to the BTRA Environment Sub-Committee on appropriate signage that can be placed in known bird-trapping areas with a view to deterring this foul activity.

The BTRA Committee would like to encourage members who walk along these tree-lined streets to take photos of any such wildlife trapping activity that they may see. Share the photos with location (street name) on the BTRA Members WhatsApp chat group, or email bukit.tunku.residents@gmail.com. Please ensure no danger or threat to yourselves, first, of course.





A common fowler's snare used to trap and transport the birds





Spotted Neck Dove, a favourite of trappers

A resident spied this Spotted Neck Dove struggling among the branches while on an evening walk. Trying to free the bird, a shout from nearby asked that it not be disturbed. It turned out that construction site workers, whose work had been halted during the lockdown, had taken to trapping these birds as pets. The contractor or site foreman has since been spoken to, requesting him to ask his workers not to engage in such activity.

Zebra Dove, another commonly trapped bird





Is There Such A Thing as "Zero Waste"?

n January 2016, two intrepid and passionate environment and sustainability advocates, Aurora Tin and Sue Yee Khor, started a Facebook page focusing on helping people change their mindset and habits to lead a more eco-friendly lifestyle. Such was the interest and success of the Facebook page that in 2018, Zero Waste Malaysia was registered as a non-profit organisation under the Registrar of Societies of Malaysia. Its purpose is to drive awareness and actions that help ordinary citizens minimise their general waste footprint and enhance the circular economy. The organisation has a network of almost 30,000 individuals who lead various activities to spread the word on how a minor change in lifestyle habits can contribute to a greener world.

Recognising that an absolute "zero waste" lifestyle is unrealistic – there will always be an element of waste – Zero Waste Malaysia aims to help people reduce waste generation and shift from the current general "make and dispose" mindset to one in which sustainability and environmental responsibility is a priority. Its website is rich in content – learning resources, a map of related service providers, community-based activities, links to other groups, videos, podcasts, interviews, annual reports and publications – downloadable for public use.

Already active on the ground organising talks and community-driven campaigns, as well as working with like-minded organisations across the Klang Valley, Zero Waste Malaysia has published a handbook, called My Zero Waste Life - Summarized that uses real-life experiences gathered from the Zero Waste Malaysia community. Easy-to-follow infographics, facts and useful tips focus on everyday living - recycling and upcycling; food choices and consumption; reusables; shopping, for example - break down how even the most minor change can make a difference. The handbook is published in four languages.

Scan to view Handbook My Zero Waste Life - Summarised

#bringyourown #zerowastemalaysia

BYO

TODAY, I AM GONNA BRING MY OWN

I try to avoid using straws. But if I do need one, I ensure I always have a clean, reusable one with me! I like the silicone ones which are bendable and safe for my kids. For myself, I have 2 metal straws once used, I rinse them and put them back in my small straw bag. I give them a thorough clean at home with the little straw cleaners.

"Note: paper straws aren't exactly the best substitute as they still have a plastic lining which makes it hard to recycle and decompose them. I keep reusable bags in my bag & car. I mainly use them during my trip to the grocers - lighter/mesh bags for packing and weighing loose items and firmer bags to pack all my purchases. BUT, if I forgot and have to use plastic bags, I will save them and reuse on my next grocery run!

Aside from grocers, I'm not shy to use my own bags when I shop elsewhere as well - just make sure you pay first before putting items in your bags! :D





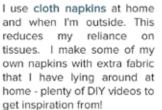


STRAW

I bring containers or tiffins when I eat at a restaurant for takeaways (tapau). Steel or glass containers are good to pack hot food and drinks. I opt for my own utensils as well, like forks and spoons, when getting a takeaway meal or food delivery.

CONTAINER













FACT

Malaysia is Asia's worst ocean polluter as Malaysians are the biggest individual consumers of plastic packaging.

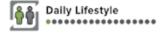
Zero

Plastic products can take 1000 years to break down in a landfill, but shorter period of time when exposed to infinite sunlight in water bodies. The disintegrated plastic materials in the water pollute our ocean and seafood.

Non-plastic products may not be the best substitutes either if they are not properly disposed of for recycling or composting.

TL;DR

Utilizing items that you already own and reducing your usage of disposable items which will be thrown away after one use!



I bring my own water bottles when I leave the house to avoid buying water that come in single-use plastic bottles. I can refill my bottles at refillable water stations (check out Refill My Bottle!) or request eateries to refill.



MY Zero Waste Life - Summarized

#reducefoodwaste #zerowastemalaysia

I WANT TO BE A GREEN FOODIE

EATING IN

Pre: Planning

I plan my meals and grocery purchase carefully so I don't waste ingredients.

Tips: Cook items that are more perishable, and save the ones that last longer for the end of the week (e.g. cook leafy vegetables first, and then root vegetables).



Mon Breakfast : oatmeal, ... Lunch: salmon, ... Dinner: potato salad, ...

EATING OUTSIDE

I order only what I can eat!

IF I cannot finish the meal, I have a container to 'tapau' for my next meal.

Post: Compost

I compost my food residues and scraps *For more tips, see the section on Learn Composting (pg22)

Preparation

I extend the life of my perishables with some of these tips, e.g.:



Wrap leafy veggles in a damp towel



Dip banana stems into a small bowl of water.



Submerge certain veges like asparagus and celery bottoms down in water



Dry or freeze chapped up herbs (in olive oil or melted butter)

Cooking

I practice consuming all parts of the ingredient e.g.: vegetables, I find my inspiration here:)

Cooking Scrappy: 100 Recipes that



Tips: One of my personal favourite ways is to make broth with leftover bones or vegetable scraps (mushroom stem, onion skin, peeled carrot skin, etc.)

More tips: watch Zero Waste Fridge with Elena [[53]



According to Malaysia's Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing Corporation (SWCorp),



16,688 tonnes of

that can easily feed = 2.2 million people 3 meals



total amount of food waste can fill up 16 of the twin towers

household sector Me, You, Us



Food waste is among the highest waste approximately 31% to 45% of the total volume waste/day.

When food goes to the landfill and rots, it produces methane-a greenhouse gas 28 times more potent than carbon dioxide. About 11% of all the greenhouse gas emissions that come from the food system could be reduced if we stop wasting food.



Learning tips and tricks to extend the lifespan of food and not





Tze Ni

MY Zero Waste Life - Summarized waste any ! Be a foodie, not a food-waster !







USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

DEWAN BANDARAYA KUALA LUMPUR (DBKL)

All matters / complaints - need only to call: DBKL Hotline (24 hours) www.dbkl.gov.my

1.800.88.3255

ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR DBKL

Public Health (Bukit Tunku-Damansara Zone)

General Line 2027.5300

- · Abandoned houses / land / swimming pools
- $\cdot \ \mathsf{Breeding} \ \mathsf{mosquitoes}, \mathsf{festering} \ \mathsf{rodents}, \mathsf{snakes}$
- · Fogging of public drains

Enforcement 24 hours – Emergency	4024.4424	
Maintenance of drains, broken drains, structural problems	General Line 2617.9392	
Maintenance of monsoon drains	2617.9453	
Tree trimming / overhanging branches	General Line 2693.4132	
Stray cats and dogs	4021.1682	
Snakes / beehives (24 hours)	9284.3434	

OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES

ALAM FLORA www.alamflora.com.my Garbage collection, clea drains, sweeping of roads recycling		AIR SELANGOR (water) www.airselangor.com	15300
POLICE Sentul Station Bukit Aman KL Traffic Police	4048.2222 2266.2222 2071.9999	INDAH WATER KONSORTIUM www.iwk.com.my Service / Operations Enquiries Email: care@iwk.com.my	2284.7828
TNB (electricity) www.tnb.com.my Breakdown, power failure	15454 e, streetlights	DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT Open Burning – 24 hours	1.800.88.2727
TELEKOM MALAYSIA www.tm.com.my Dropped telephone cabl		AMBULANCE SERVICE	999







EXCLUSIVE OFFER



THE DIVA COMBO RM199

Manicure + Nail Polish + 500g Premium Cake



POSHNAILSPA.MY



The Stories
G1 & G1-1, Taman Tunku,
Bukit Tunku, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.

AMBONBOENDA.COM