

Living On TheHILL

June 2023

A Publication of BTRA

www.btra.com.my

Japanese Red Cedar, left; Japanese Maple, right



www.btra.com.my



Sanzen-in Temple, Kyoto, November 2022. 📷 : Karen H.



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Enquiries btra.loth.ads@gmail.com • FREQUENCY **Twice a year**

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The President Speaks

As BTRA begins another fiscal year, I'd like to take stock of the previous 12 months. It was an eventful year for the BTRA Committee. We continued to ask, remind, cajole and lobby the authorities on a number of neighbourhood issues.

The first was the situation plaguing residents near the Jalan Bukit Tunku Viewpoint, as the spot had become known on *Google Maps*. The troubles were going on nigh three years, and escalating in the number of people, quantity of litter, volume of rowdiness, and propensity for recklessness. Our own BTRA Security Patrol team, with the help of Sentul District Police, were at pains trying to quell the rabble, but Jalan Bukit Tunku is a public road and their powers were limited.

Long story short, after that parcel of land was purchased, BTRA's lobbying turned to fast-tracking DBKL's approval for installation of hoardings. One may even say "no view, ergo withdrew." Approval was given in a matter of months – quite a feat for DBKL. Hoardings promptly went up, generating a spate of comments on social media. Thanks to members who dug their heels in and made it happen. Relative quiet has returned to that stretch, although one can still hear racers along Langgak Tunku at night, despite the speed bumps.

The second was the unruly street parking along Langgak Tunku outside The Stories. The parking nightmare continued up on Laman Tunku and Dataran Tunku. Needless to say, frustrations flowed in full force. Regrettably, there was one serious accident involving a motorcyclist and a vehicle due to the obstructed view

of traffic flow on the main road when existing Gate B of The Stories.

Working with DBKL resulted in higher pavements and installation of bollards to stop people parking along Langgak Tunku. But nothing is 100% fool-proof; there are still people squeezing their vehicles in tight spots without bollards.

Which leads me to the third situation – the property opposite Gate A being used as a car park service. Running commercial enterprises from residential homes in this area is illegal; Bukit Tunku and Taman Duta are zoned Residential. Continued liaison with DBKL Enforcement Division finally resulted in the closure of the business earlier this year.

Net-net, a year with positive outcomes for our neighbourhoods. We still face the usual potholes, uneven road surfaces, unkempt trees and shrubs on road shoulders, public drain problems, among other things. BTRA submitted a letter to the Datuk Bandar highlighting the many issues that need attention (see article inside). A new mayor has since been appointed, so we aim to meet him in due course to re-emphasise expectations of rate-payers.

As always, all this, and more, would not have been possible without a dedicated and determined Committee, and I wish to thank my comrades for staying the course over the last 12 months.

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 email btra.loth.ads@gmail.com. Please enter "Living on the Hill" in the subject line. We'd love to hear from you.

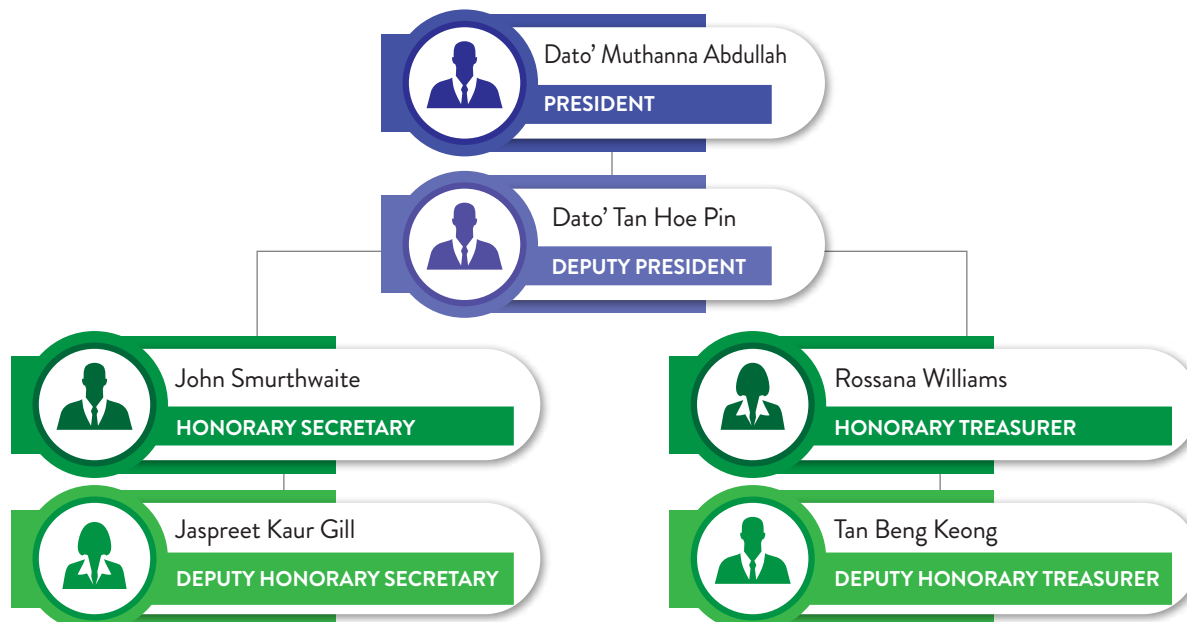
(Contributions and correspondence may be edited for space and clarity).
Living On The Hill is available at www.btra.com.my/newsletter.



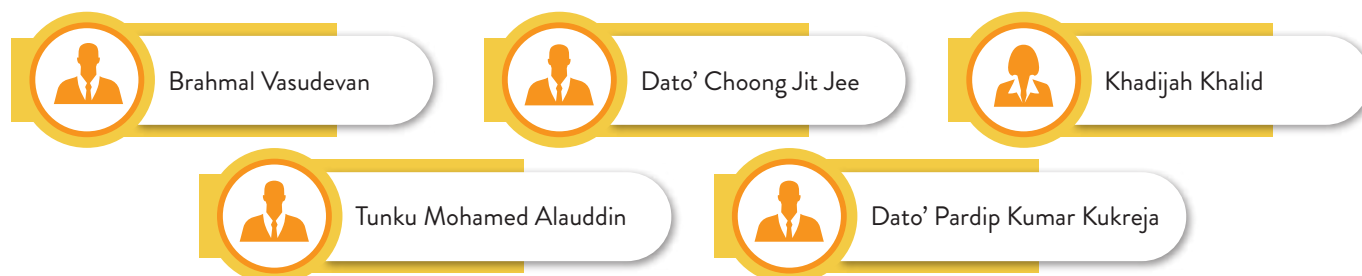
BTRA Committee 2023 to 2024

The annual election of BTRA Committee members was held at the AGM on Saturday 6 May 2023.

Office Bearers



Committee Members



Sub-Committees (appointed members)



Updated List of Useful Contacts

The updated list of Useful Contacts is printed on the inside back cover of this issue and future issues. Among the changes and additions are:

Operational times of the
DBKL General Line 1.800.88.3255.

Numbers for: **Perhilitan; My Bee Savior; Trap, Neuter, Release, Manage** (stray dogs and cats).

Reporting

For DBKL streetlights: call **4010.6273**.
For TNB streetlights: call **15454**.
To report faulty or non-functioning streetlamps to TNB, call **15454** and provide lamp post reference number.

KLCares

a mobile app by DBKL, is available from the Apple Store or Google Play. It is a convenient way to report issues, such as potholes, clogged drains, DBKL streetlights, and fallen trees. Photos and images can be sent through this app.



KLCares

Utilities

Designed for iPad

GET

AGE
4+
Years Old

CATEGORY
 Utilities

DEVELOPER
 Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur

LANGUAGE
EN
English

SIZE
81.2
MB





APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBER

- ☐ **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
Entitled to one vote regardless of the number of properties owned in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta
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
Entitled to one vote regardless of the number of properties owned in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta
Annual Membership Fees: RM300.00 payable in April
- ☐ **Associate Member:** Any other resident (including condominium residents) in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta
Entitled to attend meetings of BTRA but no voting rights
Annual Membership Fees: RM50.00 per Associate Member payable in April

Salutation and Name			
Contact No.	Primary Mobile		Second Mobile (optional)
Email			
This is my primary address for correspondence If this is not your primary correspondence address, please enter 2nd address		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
1st Address (in Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta)			
		Postcode	
Home Contact No. (Landline)			
This is my primary address for correspondence		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
2nd Address (outside Bukit Tunku or Taman Duta)			
		Postcode	
Home Contact No. (Landline)			
Property Ownership	<input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Owner Occupier <input type="checkbox"/> Company-owned*		
*Name of Company			
Signature of Applicant		Payment Options	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct online transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque payment*
		*Cheque Number	
Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	/	/	Pay to: Bukit Tunku Residents' Association CIMB Bank, Account 80-0135550-7 Email payment receipt to bukit.tunku.residents@gmail.com or Send hard copy receipt to 15 Dalaman Tunku, 50480 Kuala Lumpur





To learn more about Perhilitan, see story in Living on *The Hill* December 2022 issue.



It was Perhilitan to the rescue in the case of this python, who slithered its way into the home of a resident on Langgak Tunku. It was just hanging out and snoozing...

The Wildlife Department, or Perhilitan, is the go-to agency for wildlife rescue and relocation. The hotline is open; the officers are responsive and prompt, and handle the animals with care.



This sizeable fellow was spotted at Tijani by an intrepid resident. After discussion on the BTRA Members chat group, the decision was to leave it to its own devices rather than call Perhilitan. Thanks to said intrepid resident for the photos and videos.

And who can forget our own Snake Wrangler of Bukit Tunku – Daniel Tan – who gently caught this serpent basking in the sunshine outside his house in Bukit Tunku. Perhilitan was called and the snake was relocated to a place away from humans.

For the full story of Daniel and The Python, see Living on *The Hill* December 2021 issue.



Refiller Mobile Comes to Bukit Tunku

On a very sunny Sunday morning (7 May), a few BTRA members got together to support a young entrepreneur plying her green trade. Oh Sok Peng runs her *Refiller Mobile* business out of a customised van, bringing personal care and household products to neighbourhoods with the aim of reducing single-use plastic waste. Sok Peng's wares are sourced from sustainable suppliers who share the same mindset to minimise one's carbon footprint by producing eco-friendly products that are without SLS, SLES, parabens and other harmful additives. She encourages customers to reuse their own containers to refill: laundry detergent; softener; household cleansers; soaps; and dried food for humans and pets. Also available are non-food items, such as menstrual cups and upcycling bags.

Sok Peng started her social enterprise business in June 2022, after deciding that she wanted a change from corporate life in the creative media industry. She volunteered at *Zero Waste Malaysia* for a stint, which planted the seed of a mobile zero-waste business. "I needed a new challenge and wanted to find purpose," she said. The "need to find purpose" is often coupled with doing something "to minimise plastic waste" and seems to be a common refrain among many, which is a good thing. "This is my first visit to the Bukit Tunku neighbourhood, and I hope to come back in due course," added Sok Peng.

BTRA Member Tunku Sara, who organised the visit, waits while Sok Peng (in her van) starts filling her order.





An array of household products fills the interior of the customised van. Laundry detergent, fabric softener, floor cleaner, grease remover and others are sourced from suppliers who share the zero-waste objectives of this social enterprise.

This visit was organised by BTRA Member Tunku Sara Ahmad, who was first on the scene ready with her many containers. Refiller Mobile goes to residential communities, commercial office buildings, school and university campuses in the suburbs of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor. To schedule a neighbourhood visit, contact Sok Peng at **017.312.9851**.

Find Refiller Mobile

- Instagram: @refillermobile
- Facebook: Refiller Mobile
- Gmail: refillermobile@gmail.com

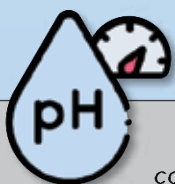


Pool Servicing

Swimming pools are a personal enjoyment for most of us but do we know what kind of maintenance work goes on to keep your pool water safe and hygienic?

REGULAR POOL SERVICING

Regular cleaning and treatment using the correct chemical products will keep your swimming pool and equipment running efficiently and effectively for your peace of mind.



WATER CHEMISTRY MANAGEMENT

Managing water chemistry in a swimming pool is both an art and a science, and if not done correctly, risks irritation to the pool users' comfort and health, as well as the effectiveness of the overall system and equipment. A key component of regular pool servicing is water testing and chemical balancing to ensure pH, Chlorine and Total Alkalinity levels are within acceptable ranges to ensure an enjoyable pool.



EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Regular pool servicing helps to protect the longevity of the equipment in your pool system, with regular maintenance ensuring equipment is efficient and effectively operating. This sort of preventive maintenance also helps equipment breakdown which could lead to pricey repairs and unnecessary replacement costs.



GENERAL UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE

A swimming pool is not a small investment and is usually intended to be a long-term fixture to the property. Keeping the pool looking presentable and pool system working effectively through regular pool servicing is the best way to protect that investment and make sure the pool can be enjoyed over the years and decades to come.



Bleaching Powder Was The First Pool Sterilizing Agent

In the 1890s, chemical producers began producing "Bleaching Powder" to help keep public swimming pools clean (private swimming pools were nearly unheard of at that time). This powder was made by forcing chlorine gas to react with lime. Thank goodness today we don't have to spend our pool time splashing around in "bleaching powder."



HOW TO SERVICE A SWIMMING POOL?

POOL SERVICING STEP BY STEP

- Skim the water surface
- Brush the pool wall
- Vacuum the pool floor
- Water testing and chemical dosing
- Equipment check and maintenance



SKIM THE WATER SURFACE

Scooping the debris and foliage that falls into the pool through skimming the water's surface helps the pool look neat and presentable whilst removing sources of bacteria, contaminants and blockages



BRUSH THE POOL WALL

Algae and small bits of debris can gather and stick on the walls of your pool, as well as pool fixtures like ladders and slides. Brushing the pool walls and fixtures each week will dislodge the dirt and algae, allowing it to be caught by the pool system.



VACUUM THE POOL FLOOR

Once the algae and sediment have been brushed from the walls, they can be vacuumed up, along with any other debris that has settled on the bottom of the pool.



WATER TESTING AND CHEMICAL DOSING

The chemicals added to your pool deteriorate over time & need to be regularly topped up to ensure effective disinfection of the pool water to be safe & hygienic for use. As the rate of deterioration of these chemicals vary unpredictably depending on weather conditions & pool usage, water testing before chemical dosing is essential for ensuring the water chemistry is balanced and safe.



EQUIPMENT CHECK AND MAINTENANCE

Regularly check pump room equipment and remove debris from the skimmer, pump baskets and strainers. Backwash pool filters rinse the filter media.

The maintenance will keep your pool system running effectively for longer.

Our friendly team will be happy to assist and advise you whether it relates to servicing, upgrading your pool system or sprucing your pool up to give it a new look so you and your family can **MAKE A SPLASH !**

If you need more information about these little pool hacks, you may find us at :



ASIAPOOOLS (M) SDN BHD

No. 10, Jalan Murai Dua, Batu Complex, 4km Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur

Email : hello@asiapools.com.my | Website : www.asiapools.com.my

Tel : 03-6251 7788 | Fax : 03-6257 3896



Bukit Tunku Youth participants at Trivia Night

Bukit Tunku Youth – Back in Action

Feiras Muthanna, Skye Smurthwaite, David Tan

Hello again, *Bukit Tunku residents*! Bukit Tunku Youth is back with an update.

BTY is a community of youthful adults who live in the heavenly jungle of Bukit Tunku and Taman Tunku. We formed this group in August 2022 to connect the youth, build friendships, and create change within our home. If you are between the ages of 18 and 40 and live in the area, you're in! Since the last missive here, we've grown by 20 members, bringing the total to 50 incredible and youthful individuals!

We held our inaugural event in November 2022, where the first initiates of our club got the chance to meet each other. Since then, we've had a few trivia nights! Skye was a Quiz Master in Melbourne so he is no stranger to curating interesting and entertaining trivia.

In April, we held Trivia Night at Cork & Cleaver at The Stories, where we booked out the upstairs lounge. C&C organised food so we could all *buka puasa* together and start the show when tummies were full. Once the winners enjoyed their prize, we moved to Alibi to continue the fun. We're grateful that we were able to partner with C&C for our event. We're sad to see them leave The Stories and wish them well on their next venture.

This June, BTY will hold a grand party where we plan on getting every single member in one place. Most events have had 15 to 20 people attend, with new people showing up every time. We feel it's finally time where all 50 members should meet.

While we hope to expand in number and host more social events, we also intend to have a positive impact

for the entire neighbourhood. We're working on launching two initiatives: **'Keep It Clean'**, where we'll go around BT and pick up trash on the regular; and **'From Trash 2 Treasure'** where we'll host a garage sale every few months, selling some of our belongings and those of our families and donating all funds to charity. These initiatives will be a great way to improve our homes and helping those in need at the same time.

If you would like to get involved, follow @bukittunkuyouth on Instagram and we'll bring you into our chat group. You can also find more fun memories of all our past events!

We hope more of you come into our family! We'll be waiting with open arms. See you then!

Meet the Gang!

Feiras, Skye and David were the spotlight in our inaugural article. This time, we would love you to meet more of the crew so you can get to know more about them and BTY!

Introducing...

Dharnyy

Hi, I'm Dharnyy – a waste engineer by day and a farmer by night. I was born and raised in KL. However, my family and I moved to Bukit Tunku only four years ago. The community here has been so welcoming, and this extends to the BTY founders and members. The BTY events have just been fun and wholesome, and I look forward to seeing the community grow.



Max and Arissa

As a couple, we have been living in Bukit Tunku for five years now, and we absolutely love it. The quiet and natural surroundings are what drew us to this area, but we also appreciate the proximity to the city. During our free time, we enjoy playing tennis at Duta or taking long walks with our dog, Rocco. Bukit Tunku has been a great place to call home, and we feel grateful to have found such a wonderful community to be a part of. BTY is a fantastic forum to meet new people from the neighbourhood and we really enjoyed the events so far.



Tidan

Hey there! I'm Tidan. I moved to Bukit Tunku last year after coming back from London. Prior to this, I was living across various places in the Middle East and elsewhere in Asia. It's been great meeting so many people through BTY, and the community here has been so welcoming! Looking forward to getting to know ya, if we haven't met already!



BTRA raises neighbourhood issues with DBKL, again

A meeting with the now former Datuk Bandar (Mayor) was a long time coming, literally. It took place in the last days of December 2022.

That said, BTRA President Dato' Muthanna Abdullah and some Committee Members were able to present a comprehensive letter to the Datuk Bandar and his officers highlighting the many and various neighbourhood matters that members are all too aware of and often speak about on the BTRA Members chat group. This letter places our issues on record, again.

At the top of the list, unsurprisingly, was the nightly congregation of Rogue Revellers at the viewpoint on Jalan Bukit Tunku. Although the BTRA Security Patrol and Sentul District Police were called on frequently and regularly to manage the situation, it needed a viable solution. The request to DBKL was to approve the installation of hoardings at the site, which would immediately deprive these loud and loutish visitors of this particular asset – the view of the KL skyline. Gratefully, approval was given, and the hoardings are now up.

Other highlighted issues were:

- ◆ Unruly parking outside The Stories, on Langgak Tunku, Laman Tunku and Dataran Tunku nearby
- ◆ The illegal car park business at the house opposite The Stories Gate A
- ◆ Some residential houses serving as commercial entities
- ◆ The dire state of road surfaces and presence of potholes that endanger motorists
- ◆ Land and soil erosion; fallen trees that are not cleared for days or weeks
- ◆ Broken and clogged drains
- ◆ Unkempt trees and plants in public areas, such as road shoulders
- ◆ Telephone polls that are precariously balanced or leaning on cables

Unpruned foliage obstructs the view of the street sign of Jalan 1/63.

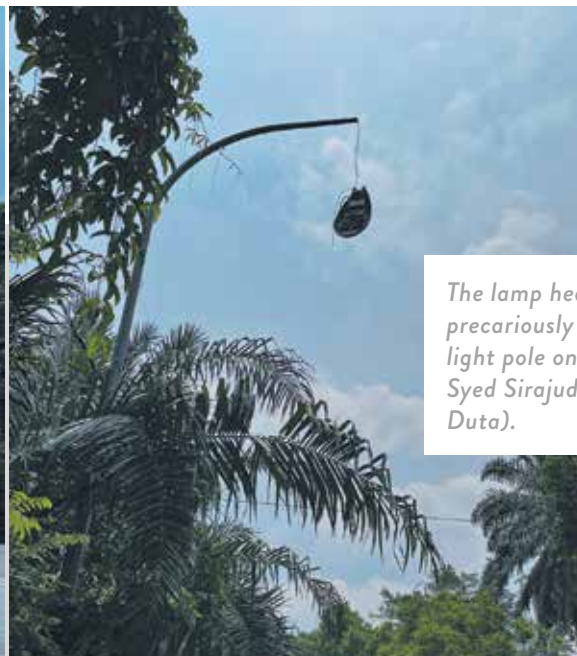


These issues are pretty much par for the course in most suburban areas of a thriving city. A new mayor, Kamarulzaman Mat Salleh, was appointed on 17th April. Kamarulzaman brings 32 years' experience of city management and policy planning at DBKL. BTRA wishes the new mayor all the best in his new role, and aims to meet him in due course – sooner rather than later – to re-present and highlight these issues to him.

Residents will be familiar with uncleared tree debris, potholes, damaged road surfaces, unpruned foliage obstructing view of traffic flow, faulty streetlights, and more.



Uncollected debris obstructs the dead-end at Lorong Duta 5 where drivers can do U-turns safely. The debris is likely to break off and clog public drains, or worse.



The lamp head hangs precariously by a wire on this light pole on Persiaran Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin (Persiaran Duta).



Potholes and badly damaged roads on many streets in Bukit Tunku and Taman Duta pose a danger to motorists.

Tree Management and Maintenance part 2

Following the FRIM Arborist Tree Assessment report (see Living on The Hill December 2022 issue), BTRA has moved to the next phase of acquiring quotations from qualified tree management firms to undertake the massive clean-up and clear-up job of the dense foliage on our streets.

FRIM arborists identified five streets that require the first round of attention:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 Dalaman Tunku | 4 Pinggiran Tunku |
| 2 Laman Tunku | 5 Simpangan Tunku |
| 3 Jalan Girdle | |

One cannot under-estimate the scale of the task on these streets, which includes (but is not limited to): crown cleaning; corrective pruning; clearance of undergrowth and dead fronds; removal of parasitic plants on trees; canopy management; and the removal of whole trees, where appropriate.

As the FRIM assessment report shows, many trees are being suffocated and strangled by parasitic plants or dense undergrowth. Unpruned and top-heavy trees are at risk of toppling, and branches are entangled with cables. Trees damaged by topping may be diseased and unstable, posing a threat to motorists and road users.

Much work is needed, and it will take many months to de-clutter our greenery, but it will be worth it.





“Separation At Source” — One Year Later

Nestlé Malaysia and Alam Flora Environmental Services introduced its *Separation At Source* programme in 2021 to Selangor, gradually expanding to Kuala Lumpur suburbs of Damansara Heights; Sri Hartamas; Bangsar; Lucky Gardens; and Bukit Tunku (including Taman Duta) in early 2022. Approximately 90 suburbs and neighbourhoods are covered across Kuala Lumpur, Petaling Jaya, Shah Alam, Subang Jaya and Klang to date.

In February 2023, the organisers announced a survey, encouraging residents of participating suburbs to provide constructive feedback.

There was a response from most suburbs, although the numbers were low considering the expansive territory. That said, some feedback is better than none, and provides a useful starting point for improvement.

Fifteen (15) respondents in Bukit Tunku and Taman Duta sent feedback that showed a strong motivation

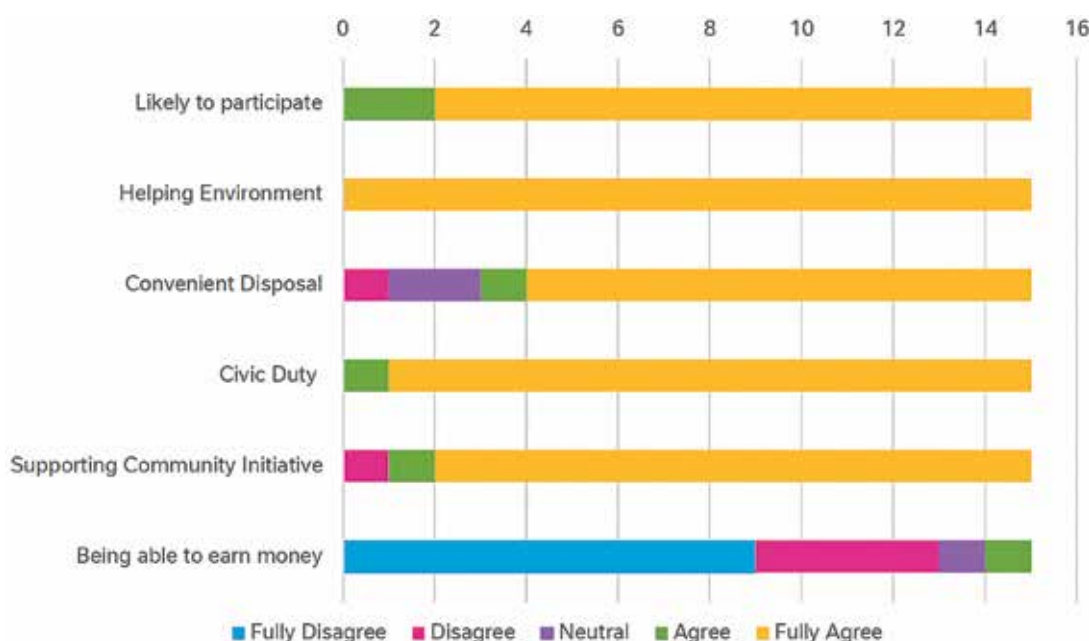
to help the environment, as well as a sense of civic duty.

Specific comments, unsurprisingly, were related to: size of bin (could be larger); type of bin (bins with covers preferred); and consistency of collection. Some comments suggested using eco-friendly bags instead of bins. These comments reflect feedback from BTRA Members shared on the chat group.

Nestlé Malaysia and Alam Flora Environmental Services will determine next steps with a view to practicality while meeting the broad objectives of this on-going initiative. Consistency of collection is key and will be a top priority. The programme is still “young” and is a work in progress. Considering the wide coverage area, adjustments will be rolled out in stages.

Thanks to BTRA Committee Members John Smurthwaite and Tan Beng Keong for bringing the programme to Bukit Tunku and Taman Duta.

Participation and Motivation





USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Sources: Respective Websites or Social Media pages (Updated April 2023)

DEWAN BANDARAYA KUALA LUMPUR (DBKL)

www.dbkl.gov.my

Mondays to Fridays: 08:00 to 21:00; Saturdays, Sundays, and Public Holidays: 08:00 to 17:00

1.800.88.3255

All matters/
complaints

MAIN

Jabatan Kesihatan dan Alam Sekitar
(Dept of Health & Environment)

03.9284.3434
011.6539.9004
(WhatsApp)

Jabatan Kembangan Landskap dan Rekreasi
(Dept of Landscape Development and Recreation)
• Unit Pokok / Trees

03.2693.4132

Jabatan Penguatkuasaan
(Dept of Enforcement)

03.4010.6273

• Bilik Radio / Radio Room

Jabatan Kejuruteraan Awam dan Saliran
(Dept of Civil Engineering and Drainage)

03.2617.9392
03.2617.9382

OTHER SERVICES

Police

• Sentul Police Station
• Bukit Aman
• KL Traffic Police

03.4048.2222
03.2266.2222
03.2071.9999

Malaysia Emergency Response Services

999

www.malaysia.gov.my/portal/content/30602

• Royal Malaysian Police
• Fire and Rescue
• Ambulance Services

Alam Flora

1.800.88.7472

www.alamflora.com.my

• Waste Management
• Garbage Collection; Recycling

TNB

15454

www.tnb.com.my

• Electricity
• Power Failure; Street Lights

Telekom Malaysia

100

www.tm.com.my

• Dropped Telephone Cables

Indah Water Konsortium

03.2284.7828

www.iwk.com.my

• De-Sludging Services; Leaks; Overflows;
Pipe Damage

Air Selangor

15300

www.airselangor.com

• Water Supply Disruption

Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsular Malaysia / Perhilitan

1.800.88.5151

www.wildlife.gov.my

• Wildlife Reporting and Re-Location

Department of Environment

1.800.88.2727

www.doe.gov.my

• Pollution; Open Burning

Mondays to Sundays, including
Public Holidays: 08:00 to 18:00

My Bee Savior, Mr John Chan

016.356.9169

mybeesavior.org/en/lets-save-the-bees

www.facebook.com/penyelamatlebah

• Bees Rescue and Re-location, Klang Valley

Trap — Neuter — Release — Manage (Not-for-profit animal welfare NGO)

012.656.4232
(WhatsApp)

www.facebook.com/tnrmmalaysia

• Stray Dogs and Cats; neutering only,
no long-term boarding
• Costs apply



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Inaugural Winner at the 2022 BrandLaureate Property Awards.



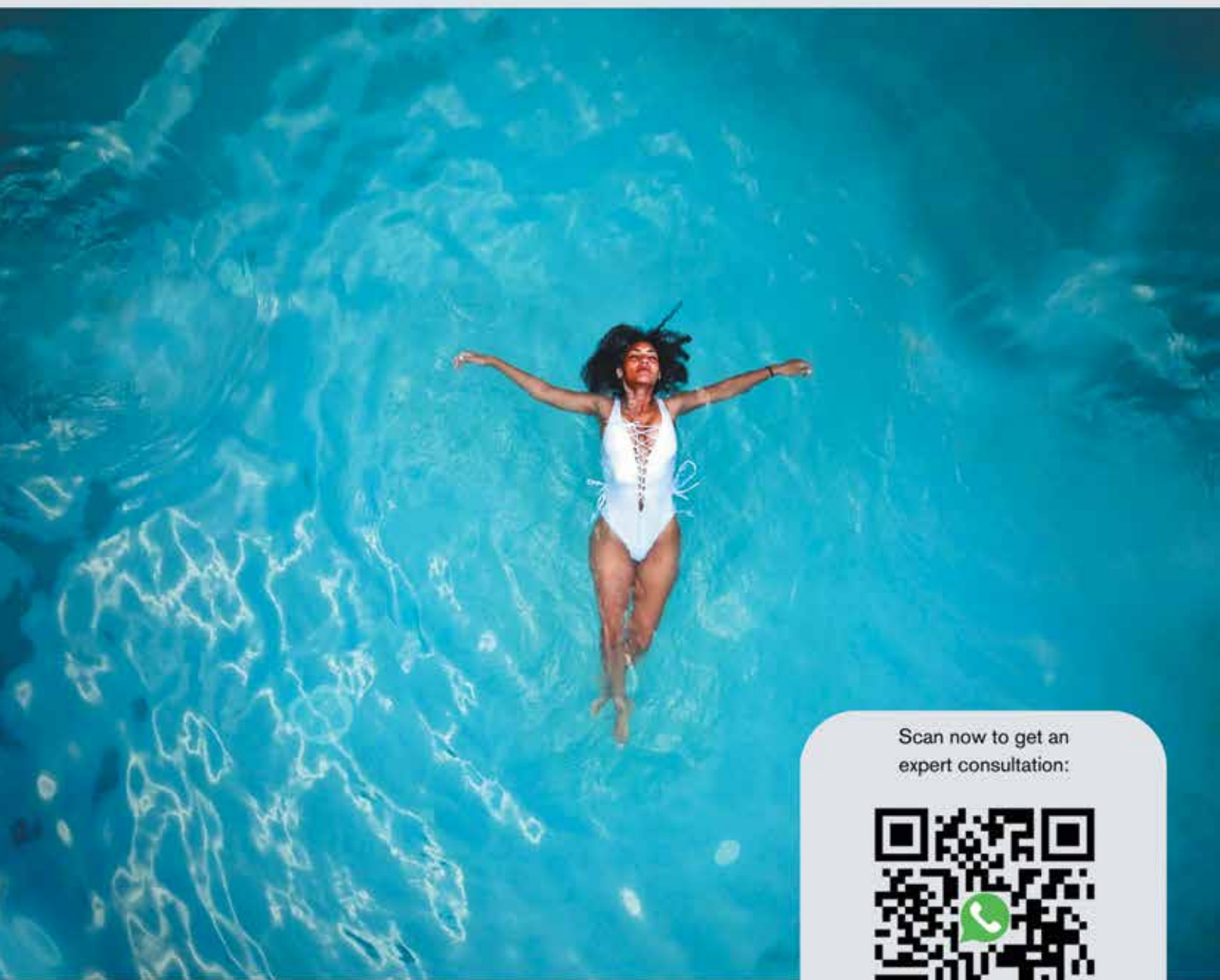
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