



PAM
Pertubuhan Akitek
Malaysia
Sarawak Chapter

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INTERSECTION

2/2016-2017 Oct

PPK469/01/2017(034673)

Early morning start - construction workers building new houses in Bakun (1997)

Chairman's Report



A significant milestone was recently achieved in the history of PAM. The new PAM Centre at Jalan Tanduk in Bangsar was completed and has served as PAM's new home since 1 September 2016. A committee has been set up to organise the official opening ceremony of this building.

I hope PAMSC members will support our new home by donating to the building fund, to prevent having to dip into our reserves. Your support is greatly appreciated, and will be worthwhile as this building was designed by one of PAM's own member who won the competition to design the new Centre.

The competition above highlights the importance of choice in achieving the best outcome. In light of this, PAMSC has raised with the Sarawak State Government the possibility of procuring the design of significant public buildings via a design competition. This shift towards transparency and meritocracy has been utilised with great success in many cities throughout the world. Furthermore, since this competition has already been implemented in West Malaysia, PAMSC hopes to convince government to follow suit.

By incorporating a public-oriented component in the competition, PAMSC also hopes to encourage greater community participation in the development of our city. Promoting active participation of professionals and the community, especially the younger generation, in the development of a city is crucial for its eventual success.

An example is Bandung, whose elected mayor is an architect and recently spoke at the KL Architecture Festival. Mr. Ridwan Kamil employed his expertise to transform the city into a centre for creativity, focusing on the development of arts and culture via public engagement.

On the topic of development, it is undeniable that architects play a vital role in a city's growth. Thus, I feel that we should start asking ourselves what social responsibilities we bear as our city expands. More specifically, what is our role in promoting good design to ensure that our city develops to be a better place to live for our future generations.

PAMSC has been actively promoting good design by organising the annual Sarawak Design Forum, which focuses on sustainable design. Furthermore, we have also organised lectures and workshops for schools, colleges, universities and the public to promote good design. The latest event will be the second installment of PAMSC's Public Design Lecture series, and the World Architecture Day Design Workshop (WAD 6.0) held in September 2016. Throughout the remainder of our term, we will continue to organise more events of this nature.

Lastly, on behalf of PAMSC, I would like to extend our gratitude to our committees who have worked independently in organising activities for our members. Additionally, the Intersection committee deserves applause for their wonderful work, having worked tirelessly in keeping our newsletter going and setting a high benchmark for others to emulate.

Ar. Mike Boon

PAMSC Chairman 2016 - 17

Editor's Letter

It is October...

We are well and truly into the autumnal half of 2016 - "...so much to do and so little time.."

PAMSC started the year with a long list of events and tasks on our calendar, and we have been slowly but surely ticking them off our to-do list.

Chief among them was the launching of our BTS 2017 by the Organising Chairman, Ar. Bong Joon Hin in July. This event will take place at the end of March next year; it aims to bring together the products and services of our industry partners under one roof. The culmination of the BTS 2017 is the PAMSC Gala Dinner which is being coordinated by Ar. Ivy Jong and her team. We will report this in detail, together with the activities of the other subcommittees.

This time last year, we featured an article about a local non profit housing scheme for 14 families, and how some of our members have been involved. In this issue, we re-visit the theme of:

building communities

and met with several architects and one builder - who put their minds and hands to the task of building for the community. From local practitioners such as Ar. Wong Siew Ling building for the Penans in Pa'adang, Sarawak to Ar. Teoh Chee Keong and his community buildings in Kuala Sepetang near Taiping. Further afield, we met Professor Tan Beng Khiang from National University of Singapore (NUS) who, with her students immersed themselves in the community to analyse, devise and build solutions in Cambodia. We feature Milinda Pathiraja's school library built by Sri Lankan soldiers, and visit with Craig Pilcher who has spent the last 11 years building a community in Kalimantan. When I asked Craig how he obtained funding for the projects, he replied "Faith".

Different approaches with common feature - they finished what they started. Their buildings are now occupied by the very people whom they were designed and built for. And within these stories, lessons for all of us.

It is October, which also means it's time for World Architecture Day celebrations (first Monday of every October). In conjunction with this, we held our WAD 6.0 which comprised the 2nd instalment of our Public Lecture Series and a 24-hour Design Workshop for 80 architecture students held at the MBKS Auditorium, and China House respectively. We foresee a continuation of these types of activities where our profession is able to engage with the general public on a more personal level. It is one of PAMSC's ways of "building communities".

Hope you enjoy this issue,
Min
with HJ, PS, IJ and SY

Meanwhile.....



Members of PAMSC collected RM 6000 for the children of the late Illias Hassan (DBKU Building Section). Ar. Noraini Narodden seen here handing over the the collection to Illias's brother, Muhammad Hassan and his wife. Thank you all for your kind contributions



Nora and Azfar tie the knot!
"There are no Blueprints for marriage. You can draft precise Plans, but there will always be Non-compliances. Keep work and family in Sections, love and keep each other in Perspective. Looking forward to new Prototypes.."



New design prototype!
Ar. Wee Liang Cheng and Cathleen Chong are new parents to baby, Cayden Wee who arrived on the 7th of September 2016.

Congratulations!



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Nama Penerbit:
Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia Sarawak Chapter
Lot 7915, 2nd Floor, Queen's Court, Jalan Wan Alwi,
93350 Kuching, Sarawak.
Tel: 082-457182 Fax: 082-451180

Nama Pencetak:
Wisma Printing Sdn Bhd
Lot 1949, Section 66, KTLD, Jalan Tekad, Pending Industrial Estate,
93450 Kuching, Sarawak.
Tel: 082-338131 Fax: 082-333002

There are those of us who believe that good architecture and design are not reserved for those who can afford it, neither is it reserved for special occasions. It should be affordable for everyone, and for everyday. One might even argue that it is the poor who will benefit most from good design in their lives. It is with this mind-set that PAMSC chooses to celebrate World Architecture Day (WAD) with the general public, first with our WAD Student Installations (for the past 5 years). And recently, by conducting a Public Design Lecture Series - the first was held late last year when Luca Garofaro gave a talk at Kuching South City Council (MBKS).

The second of the public lecture series was held on Malaysia Day. About 200 people braved the rain to attend the lecture at the MBKS auditorium. The event was sponsored by UGI-EcoSteel with the support of MBKS, in providing the venue. The audience comprised members of the general public as well as the architecture fraternity, including the hundred or so students from UCTS, Kolej Laila and Limkokwing. The lectures lasted about two hours with a Q & A session at the end. The 3 speakers' work share a common bond; one of genuine interest and concern for the end-users, and the community. MNSC Architects shared their experiences and projects as a husband and wife team. Lau Ming Ng and Thang Suh Chee talked how the milestones in their life intertwined with those in their practice. While Wong Siew Ling worked with volunteers to build community buildings in the highlands - often travelling for days to arrive at the site. He feels that the bond of working and building together as a community outweighs the physical building itself.

Invited speakers from West Malaysia; Tetawowe Atelier talked about their interest in architectural activism. Often challenging the client's brief to include aspects which benefit community life. Tey Tat Sing and Wong Wei Ping shared their ideas about office culture and work with their neighbours in 'planting' ideas and a community garden. Their work and MNSC's can be found on-line in their websites or on Facebook. The public lecture series is part of our social initiative to heighten awareness about the value of good design, especially in students, which is why PAMSC celebrates World Architecture Day each year with student projects.



Many of the students travelled by bus from Sibu to attend the public lecture.



Husband and wife team - MNSC Architects



Ar. Wong Siew Ling.



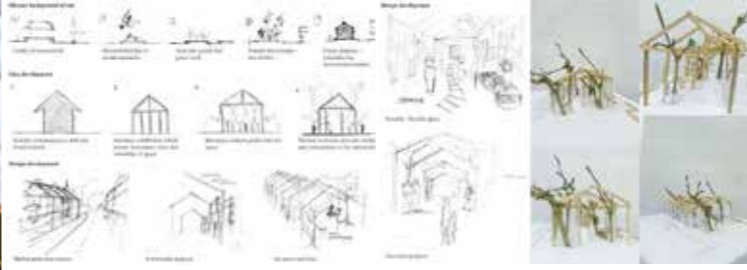
Wong Wei Ping of Tetawowe



Day 2 - Students presenting their schemes to the jury.



1st Prize - Urban Tributary.



2nd Prize - Revival of Gambier Street.



3rd Prize - Pb @ Carpenter Street.

At 9 a.m. on Sunday, 24 hours after they were briefed, the groups presented their schemes to a jury comprising Chapter Chairman, Mike Boon with Ivy Jong, Wee Hii Min and Si Yong, Professor Azizah Salim from UCTS, Wong Wei Ping and Tey tat Sing of Tetawowe.



1ST PRIZE
Urban Tributary @ Kai Joo Lane (Group 10)
Leader: Tan Sher Lin
Team Members: Mabel Tang, Liaw Aik Boon, Charles Erang Augustine, Wong Wei Wei, Wendy Wong Yi Ting



2ND PRIZE
Revival of Gambier Street (Group 5)
Leader: Goh Tze Hui
Team Members: Ngu Swan, Tham Yuk Sieng, Paul Wong Sie Ling, Eddy Wong Khang Soon, Mohd. Qhairuxy Shyakirinh b. Ghadlie



3RD PRIZE
Pb @ Carpenter Street (Group 14)
Leader: Sean Wong
Team Members: Yii Kiew Hong, Huang Siew Feng, Tan Tze Yih, Vincent Chin, Chiu Seng Wuong



Workshop leaders discuss strategies with Coordinator Wee Hii Min.

This year, a 24-hour Design Workshop was conducted for 80 students from the 3 design schools. The workshop was held at the old Courthouse, now revamped as "ChinaHouse" - the students were divided into teams of 5 and given 24 hours to arrive at potential solutions. They were then required to find sites within a 1.0 km radius that would benefit from an urban intervention. An urban intervention being described as "typically less concerned with representing political issues than with intervening in urban spaces so as to question, refunction and contest prevailing norms and ideologies, and to create new meanings, experiences, understandings, relationships and situations.."

8 young graduates were chosen as the workshop leaders; selected with the aim of grooming the "third" generation of our Chapter.

- They are:
1. Jabez Balan
 2. Vincent Wee
 3. Goh Tze Hui
 4. Christie Tan
 5. Tan Sher Lin
 6. Sharifah Sarah Yasmin binti Wan Mohammad
 7. Sean Wong
 8. Kong Yean Wei

Si Yong and Min acted as overall workshop coordinators: ensuring quality, answering questions and occasionally cracking the whip.

The WAD organising chairman is Ar. Chai Si Yong, he believes that this experience is good for the students - they learn to arrive at solutions quickly, to work effectively with their peers and experience dealing with practitioners".

The workshop benefited from support by MAPEI and ChinaHouse.



24-hour workshop - students working through the night.

Exhibition @ 'Teripun' - Kelabit Community Museum & Cultural Centre, Bario



YB Datuk John Sikie Tayai and YB Datuk Fatimah Abdullah touring the exhibition briefed by Datin Nikki Lugun.



Last year's WAD exhibition panels depicting the life and achievements of Tom Harrison has taken on a second lease of life - this time at the Kelabit Community Museum in Bario. PAMSC donated the panels to Datin Nikki Lugun who coordinated their transport and display.

Meh...

..my response when a friend texted me in the middle of the KLAFF Datum Conference.

That one syllable sums up my impression of this year's DATUM. Two months on, I struggle to recall one of the 8-9 lectures that struck a chord with me. Perhaps the Thai speaker - because she spoke to the theme and showed us the physical results of her research and how her projects would benefit "future communities". Which was the theme of the conference.

While I appreciate the organisers' intention to include a more diverse range of speakers; educators, policy makers, researchers and reduce the number of "show and tell" exponents - there's too much untested (read unbuilt) research. A majority of the audience are seasoned practitioners. Many of us believe that while research is an essential part of a project's life, it needs testing through the process of building. After which, it is further tested through its usage. The proof is ultimately in the eating.

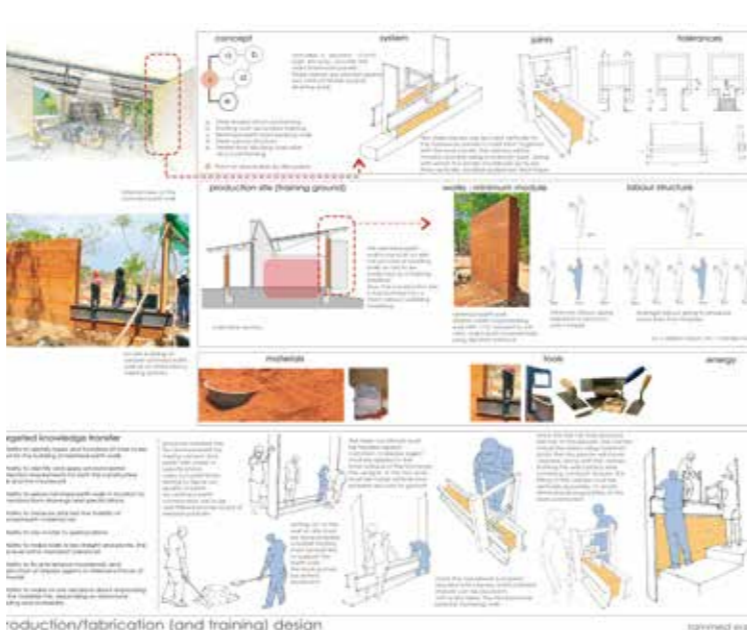
As a meal, this one lacks the sustenance we need. Especially if we have flown to attend this conference. Many of the speakers did not speak to the theme, though I understand that it is difficult to control the content. But I do resent being shown a portfolio of projects shot through clever camera angles. No floor plans. No sections. Little explanation. If we had wanted that, we could have stayed home in Kuching and looked at a coffee table book of architecture.

Enough complaining here, I should have said my piece during the Q&A. Perhaps I will do that next year. But wait, maybe I won't go to DATUM next year. The organisers will be to do a lot better to entice me and other Sarawakian architects fly for 10 CPD points.

I can cycle to 24 CPD points right here in Kuching.



(Top & bottom) Despite the heat and hard work, the volunteers worked buoyed by the children's high spirits.



(2 above) Kaktao46 is now a popular stopover for local children, on the way home from school.

- Some materials were extracted from :
- Lecture notes prepared by Associate Professor Cheah Kok Ming, Department of Architecture at NUS
 - The Holcim Lafarge Foundation
 - The National University of Singapore Website

Shortly after Datum, I was invited to the 2nd Architectural Educator Forum at NUS (Singapore National University). One day of lectures by 6 architects, some were practitioners, some were educators, several were both. The theme was "ENGAGE" aimed at examining the ideas in which real-life issues and learning opportunities are created from the collaboration between educators and practitioners. Admission was free, so was the lunch. Of the 6 speakers, I found 3 of them particularly inspiring:

The first was Dr. Milinda Prathiraja, who is a Sri Lankan architect and a senior lecturer at Moratuwa University. His community library at Ambepussa inspired by his University of Melbourne doctorate thesis won the Holcim Global Silver Award for Sustainable Construction in 2015. He spoke about his ideas of a hands-on, collaborative and interdisciplinary mode of education - something which he puts to practice in his library building. Made from rammed-earth walls and recycled materials, the building slender building with a footprint of 1,400 sq.m. was constructed with the support of the army, teaching young soldiers building techniques and skills through its construction process. And through this process, help to re-integrate ex-soldiers into post-war Sri Lankan community.

Dr. Tan Beng Kiang is an architect with over a decade of experiences designing public building and spaces. She received her doctorate from Harvard GSD and is a Senior Lecturer at NUS. She shares her pedagogical strategies in organizing service learning* design studios working with communities in Southeast Asia and in Singapore. This learning process has empowered her students to be enthusiastic design activists. She used her students' playground in a SMILE Village as a case study - in which the young designers were 'immersed' in the community, to understand the end-users' brief and to fully appreciate the design construction challenges.

Mr. Teoh Chee Keong received his architectural education from Chung Yuan Christian University, Taiwan. He is an assistant professor teaching in the School of Architecture & Built Environment, UCSI University, Malaysia. Chee Keong spoke about on his 'Kaktao46' collaborative learning initiative that involved students from Taiwan and Malaysia to convert a timber building into a community amenity at Kuala Sepetang, a remote fishing village in Malaysia.

* Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.



Dr. Milinda Prathiraja and wife. Teoh Chee Keong.



Dr. Tan Beng Kiang (middle).

Future Communities
Re-emergence of Social Urbanism

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(This column) Milinda's Robust Architecture Workshop employs a skill ladder to re-train decommissioned soldiers to build this community library.

By hand, with heart - building for the less privileged

For the past year, Wong Siew Ling has been building a community with his friends, here is the story in his own words:

At the beginning of last year, I joined a volunteer group to work on a church for an orang asli community.

This village was located at a very remote area. To reach it, we had to travel 5 hours by car on a logging road, followed by another 3 hours on a small dirt track; crossing 2 small rivers. After which, we left our cars, crossed the final wider river on foot and continued walking for another 45 mins. Only then did we arrive.

The community had an existing church, but as the village grew, they aspired for a new one. It would be their regional community centre for about 200 people. Our group of volunteers were made up of people of all ages, from all walks of life with different skill sets. My group was tasked to design the church. We did not want to design from the office, instead we wanted to engage the locals in the design process, and to involve them in the site selection, sourcing of materials, logistics and so forth. In return, they would learn about construction through the design and building process - they do not have a tradition in construction. This way of consultative collaboration opened doors to solutions and relationships that would be hidden from us in a "normal" design process. The biggest challenge was that we had to build the church in our 2 trips to the village, totaling 15 days. We had 40 volunteers for the build, but only 5 had building experience. We used simple construction methods and detailing that could be built and sustained by the community.

With modular construction, with locals and volunteers inspired by the architecture process, with teamwork, and with God's help, we managed to complete the building on time.



"Our focus was not solely on the building, but on the experience shared during the process of building."



The church building was completed after 15 days.



A greater sense of pride from having built their own homes.

Since the completion of the church, we have continued to work in the same way to build houses in the community. The community has a greater sense of pride and ownership in these buildings, having built them with their own hands.

These are photos are from a recent trip. It is my hope that my story will inspire other architects to think about they can help the 90% of our community who cannot afford the services of an architect.

Mount Hope, Kalimantan

I met Craig Pilcher one afternoon over lunch. He had travelled across the border to buy supplies and to look for an architect for a school he was building for a village in West Kalimantan. He needed someone to draw up plans so that his team of locals and volunteers can extend the primary school in the village. The people here are mostly Dayaks.

Craig is from New Zealand and has spent the last 11 years in this village. He is part of the Mount Hope organisation which had adopted this village to help build meaningful lives through education, training and nurturing. Mount Hope is a ten-minute walk from Balai Karang, which is a 2-hour drive from Kuching. The village boasts the best school (kindergarten, primary, junior high) results in the area, and the school now has a long waiting list. Hence the need to expand the school facilities. Their work is carried out in part by employed staff, volunteers and the locals themselves. It was founded by Sam and Carol Soukotta in 1998.

I asked him how he manages to get funding for the school, the houses, the fish farm, the vegetable garden and livestock sheds. He said "Faith - I wake up each morning and just do what I am meant to do, and know that everything else will take care of itself".



As architects, we often think that buildings will solve all the problems. That's inherently untrue. Ours is simply the hardware, we need the software - people like Craig to make the programme run successfully.

In November, group of local architects and their friends will travel to Mount Hope as volunteers to measure and record the existing school building, and hopefully learn how to be better "software".

Interested persons can contact us at intersection.editorial@gmail.com

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Malaysian Academy of Han Studies (MAHS), is the education centre in Malacca designed based on the village atmosphere of the ancient Tulou clusters in Southern China.

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Aerial view of Masjid Darul Hana, Kuching

The main prayer hall has unobstructed 360° view within the 24m by 24m space. It is column free and comes with dome shape ceiling while maintaining the 4 window openings for natural lighting. This is made possible by IMETAL engineering collaboration with VR Consultant to design and build mild steel superstructures. IMETAL 3D rendering and detailing ensure all the levels and joints were studied before fabrication.

The spacious and open hallway before the main prayer hall serves as an important hangout area before and after prayers for worshippers. It is covered with low E glass to provide natural lighting during the daytime and without having to worry about downpours. The motif underneath creates shadow to lower the brightness and provide better comfort. This encourages worshippers to hang around and interact. The motif was plasma cut and powder coated by IMETAL.

The mosque also has its own library, “akad nikah” or solemnization room, “ruang jenazah” or wake room and pots and pans at lower ground for “kenduri”. With these amenities and space, Masjid Darul Hana serves a more holistic function both as a place of worship and a communal place.

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Architectural Screen



SRW Masjid Bahagian Sarawak, 1929.

From Concept to Reality

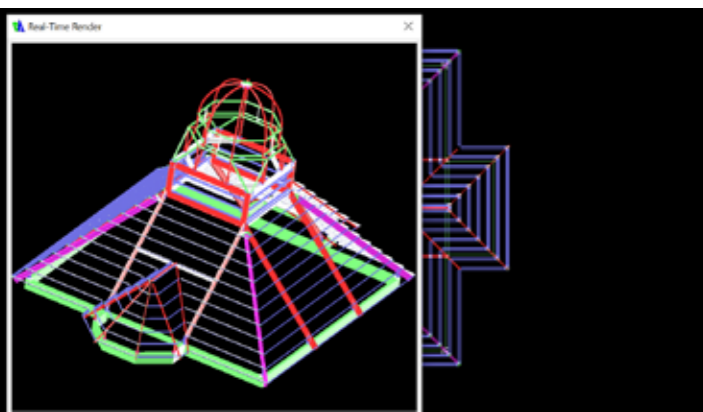
Masjid Darul Hana is located at the centre of Darul Hana development. Being the first development in this area, it serves as a catalyst and central to the whole masterplan. Darul Hana development mastersplan will rejuvenate the current sleepy village to become part of the vibrant Kuching city. The mosque can cater up to approximately 3,000 worshippers at any point of time. The fully air conditioned main prayer hall can cater 1,500 worshippers while the hallway can cater another 1,500 people.

The architect drew inspiration from the old State Mosque that was last renovated in 1930 to have a dome on top of the roof. The unique 4 angled facade with 4 window openings for natural lighting were key features for this dome. The old State Mosque stood its time until it was demolished in 1967. A new colour “Royal Gold” for the dome was selected to reflect the prosperity of the state. The old roof made of durable “belian” shingles were replaced with metal “Euroshingle” from IMETAL. The striking colour “Turquoise Blue” for shingle was selected. The metal shingle reflects its evolution to modernity while maintaining its classic feature.

The mosque design also contained elements of village house on stilts, typical of many old Malay’s houses currently scattered at the fringe of Sungai Sarawak. It serves as a reminder to the future generations on old designs and past living.



Euroshingle in Masjid Darul Hana, Kuching



IMETAL 3D rendering and detailing.

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Architects on the Move (Round 2/4)



I run for exercise, to stay healthy, to stay in shape, to avoid spending too much time on the couch and most importantly to relax my mind. I just run.

Lo Horng Rong
Akipraktis Architect



I run because I still can.

Sia Peh Swee
Atelier Timur



Annie Narodden
Noraini Narodden Architect

Why i enjoy doing this: interpret design & looking at possible design approaches from a different view point. learn to understand more about nature to broaden my design thinking.

Wong Jeh Tat
Seksan Design



To me, badminton is a sport that requires partner(s); and so, it is a good way for me to meet new friends and to improve the social skills.

Lin Sze Wong
University College of Technology, Sibul



Yo-yoing enhances your hand and eye coordination... CAD drawings too.

Mohamet Firzada Abdul Ghafur
Ministry of Resource Planning & Environment

Urban Sketchers Kuching



Peggy Wong, Azie Morni & Jee are key members of USK.

Urban Sketchers (USK) Kuching's fourth anniversary exhibition offers an opportunity to look at the world through the eyes of local sketch artists who record what they see around them, especially the places they live in and travel to.

The month-long exhibition, located at ChinaHouse at the Old Courthouse (Art Space 1), starts today and is open daily from noon until 5pm.

It is their second major exhibition, said USK Kuching co-founder Peggy Wong.

With over 20 artists, and over 70 prints, the artworks are divided into five categories – Cityscapes, Buildings and Scenes, People and Activities, Details and Close-ups, and Travel Sketches. While most art exhibitions ask people to submit to a theme, but USK Kuching decided to see what types of submissions came in before curating the exhibition accordingly. This is to encourage sketchers of different experience & skill level to share their through urbansketching.

USK is a global movement that began in Seattle in 2007 when journalist and illustrator Gabriel Campanario created an online forum 'for all sketchers out there who love to draw the cities where they live and visit, from the window of their homes, from a cafe, at a park, standing by a street corner... always on location, not from photos or memory.'

To date, there are 156 regional chapters worldwide with 81,517 members, and growing still.

In Malaysia, there are five registered chapters, with USK Kuching being the second one as registered on Sept 18, 2012.

USK Kuching meets on the first Sunday of each month, with a regular turnout of 12 to 15 members at each outing. Their Facebook group has over 800 members.

Apart from their regular outings, they also hold workshops and exhibitions as part of public awareness and education.

The strength of USK Kuching gave them the confidence to join forces with Sarawak Convention Bureau (SCB) to make a bid for the International Urban Sketchers Symposium 2017 to be held in Kuching.

The symposium carries the core mission of USK to foster and celebrate the practice of on-location sketching, and is hosted by a different city and country every year.

Wong, who travelled to this year's symposium in Manchester, England, said that Kuching lost out to Chicago because the symposium was looking to travel back west after holding last year's event in Singapore.

"We did not win the bid because they were just in South East Asia. We believe that Kuching has a very unique experience to offer to sketchers, which is why we set up a chapter here. One day, we hope to invite them here to experience it."

Meanwhile, local urban sketchers continue to roam with their sketchbooks and drawing pens in the spirit of 'sharing the world, one drawing at a time'. It's a throwback to simpler times before digital devices.

"When you travel, you sit there and absorb the scene. You slow down when you sketch, experiencing the space as you record it. Like reporters who write, we draw," said Wong.

The exhibition ends on Oct 2, with "Meet the Sketchers" closing party.

For more information, email them at uskkuching@gmail.com or drop by their Facebook group at fb.com/groups/USKkuching.



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Reported by **Georgette Tan**
Photos by **Jee Photography**

TRIA Training and Industrial Program is the brainchild of the Tabung Ekonomi Gagasan Anak Sarawak (TEGAS), under the Workforce Development Unit of Chief Minister's Department. The workshop and seminars were held on the 27th and 28th of August 2016, at University College of Technology Sarawak (UCTS) Campus, Sibiu.

The 3-Day program gathers 100 chosen secondary school students (Form 5 from 11 Districts) from urban and rural areas in Central Zone of Sarawak. The program aims to give exposure and awareness on technical and vocational courses in relation to Architecture.

Day 1 (Sunday) - Ar. Adrianta Aziz and Ar. Chai Si Yong gave talks on what is architecture and attributes required to become an architect. In the afternoon, the students were divided into 10 groups for a workshop with the architects and UCTS lecturers as facilitators.

Day 2 (Monday) - The architectural workshop focuses on teamwork and problem solving. The students presented their works after each workshop to the architects from PAMKL & PAMSC.

PAM involvement was by invitation from Dr. Ar. Azizah Salim, Dean of School of Built Environment UCTS. This is good collaborative exercise between architecture schools and practitioners to generate interest and exposure in our profession.

Photos by: Ise Razak



LAM Part III Professional Exam: Discussion on March 2016 Examination Papers

Ar. Noraini Narodden has been actively organising lectures and revision sessions for the LAM Part III Professional Exam Candidates. On the 27th August 2016, GEB Committee organised a revision session facilitated by recent passers (March 2016); Ar. Kushahrin Kushairy, Ar. Wong Ming Ming, Ar. Peggy Wong, Ar. Wee Liang Cheng and Ar. Mitchell Moss. This session was conducted in the spirit of 'paying-it-forward' culture where the recent passing candidates would mentor the ones sitting for the upcoming exams.

15 graduate members including 8 exam candidates for September participated in the discussion for Paper 1 and Paper 2. The participants are required to try and answer the exam questions before attending. The answer were discussed during the session, where the facilitators would comment and advise on the answering technique.

Some notes:

1. Practice by answering past years questions. This will help to familiarize with questions format and answering technique.
2. Read the questions, strategize and answer accordingly and professionally.
3. Bomba questions have been and will always be the 'hot' topic for exam questions.
4. Refer to the marks for each question to gauge the number of points required.

The recent passing candidates were interviewed for their advice in passing the exams. These are their tips with some unique ones for those aiming to sit for the LAM Part 3 exams soon.

- 1) organise study groups of at least two other candidates, and study together consistently as a group until the week before the exams.
- 2) Structure a study timetable and stick to it, making sure it is realistic, keeping in mind other commitments such as office work & family.
- 3) Be an active learner; read, and understand the challenges that you are about to face. Prepare early to know the syllabus.
- 4) Attend and make full use of PAMSC's seminars/workshops/facilities.
- 5) During the exams, structure your thoughts and answers in a manner that is easily comprehensible to the examiner; concise & precise.

"Think & Act like a qualified Architect when answering the questions and only answer what you are asked to." - **Kusharin**

"Remember to read every word and understand what the question is asking for you. Use a highlighter to pick out keywords of the question. Use a highlighter (again) to pick out keywords to show the answers amidst the text, so the answers pop out at the examiner."

- **Peggy**



From left: Ar. Peggy Wong, Ar. Wong Ming Ming, Ar. Wee Liang Cheng, Ar. Mitchell Moss & Ar. Kushahrin Kushairy

Reported by **Ar. Noraini Narodden**

Professional Practice Talk 2016 on Strata Title Act 1985 (Act 318) Amendments and the Strata Management Act 2013 (13th August 2016, 9.00am-5.00pm)



The GEB & CPD Committee jointly conducted Professional Practice Talk 2016 with invited speakers; Ar Adrianta Aziz and Ar Ahmad Ridha bin Abdul Razak.

The talk involved the following topics:

- Strata Title Act 1985 (Act 318) Amendments

An overview and discussion on the salient points of Strata Title Act 1985 (Act 318) amendments and its current process which is currently applied in Peninsular Malaysia. The Act is as equally important as the secondary Act to the National Land Code in addressing issue of Titles and ownership of multi storey buildings and land parcels.

- An overview of the new Strata Management Act 2013
- Issues Dealing with Construction Permit in respect of new amended Strata Title Act.

The event was attended by 68 PAMSC members including students and from other related profession such as quantity surveyors.

CPD Seminars

Importance of Material Specification Roofing/Wall Cladding

Date: 2 July 2016
Venue: Imperial Hotel Kuching
Speaker: Mr. Jack Chum



Practical Acoustics for Architects

Date: 30 July 2016
Venue: Century Hotel, Kuching
Speaker: Ir. Joseph Tai



Waterproofing Solution for Building Structure by MAPEI

Date: 6 Aug 2016
Venue: PAMSC Centre
Speaker: Mr Wong Wai Kit



Professional Indemnity-Crisis of Liability

Date: 10 Sept 2016
Venue: PAMSC Centre
Speaker: Ar. Ezumi Harzani Ismail



Maximise Roofing Thermal Performance Through Proper Selection and Installation of Radiant Barrier and Reflective Insulation Products

Date: 24 Sept 2016
Venue: PAMSC Centre
Speaker: Mr Tan Teck Soon & Mr Teh Khar San



Professional Practice Talk 2016: Preparing for LAM Part III Professional Exam

As a continuation of the previous grooming session in March 2016 by Ar. Adrianta Aziz and Ar. Ahmad Ridha bin Abdul Razak resumes the session on the 14th of August 2016 by looking at exam questions and answers.

26 participants were divided into 5 groups to come up with answers collectively and individually. The answers later were put up for sharing and comments.

Recent passing candidates, Ar. Mitchell Moss and Ar. Peggy Wong were present to assist and shared their journey in preparing and taking the exam. The session ended at 7pm (later than scheduled at 5pm). High commitment shown by speakers, participants and Ms. Lee of PAMSC is admirable.

The LAM Part III Professional Exam is scheduled on 26th September 2016.





Launching Of Building Trade Show (BTS) 2017 & PAMSC Members' Night

Designerscollection

Since its inception in 2003, our BTS has been held once every two years, becoming the biggest and most successful platform in Sarawak for building industry players to showcase their products and services. It is also an arena where professionals in the building industry can keep updated in the latest innovations and technologies.

On the 15th of July (Friday) 2016, the **PAMSC BUILDING TRADE SHOW (BTS) 2017** was launched at the Brazzo Green House, in conjunction with our Members' Night. The event was launched by the BTS 2017 Organising Chairman, Ar. Bong Joon Hin, attended by PAMSC members and our partners from the building industry.

The BTS 2017 will be held at the Borneo Convention Centre (BCKK) from the 24th - 26th March, 2017, with the support of the Construction Industry Development Board Malaysia (CIDB).

Reported by Ar. Chai Si Yong



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UNITED G.I. PRODUCTS SDN. BHD.
Lot 835, Block 7, Jalan Demak Laut 3, Demak Laut Industrial Park, 93050.
PO Box 472, 93710 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.
T +6 082 439 257 F +6 082 439 259 E info@ugi.com.my

Melissa Chong 012-8869811



Anna Wong 012-8088113

I grew up in a Sibü that was going through a gentrification process with pocket parks and shady streetscape in the town centre in an effort to make it more pedestrian friendly.

More significant to me was the Sibü Lake Park, with man-made terraces with boulders and trees scattered through the landscape. Children climbed the terraces to slide down the 'giant' concrete slide, the water cascaded down to a pebble pond and from here, it went through a meandering pebble washed stream to reach an hidden overflow. It was a glorious family destination where children could play safely. Sadly all these nice designs have been neglected now with no proper maintenance. Many parts have been removed, more have been vandalized and the toilets are locked up. I guess the people & the local authorities were not ready for it.

I started to see the importance of design and developed an interest in design, which led me to study Architecture in USM (Universiti Sains Malaysia). It is then I found out more about the designer who master-planned the 'new' Sibü Town - Ng Seksan.

I decided to learn more about landscape architecture and joined Seksan Design after I graduated in 2013. Personally, I feel that GBI has been hijacked for commercial benefits. One has to understand trees and nature in order to design green.

I wanted to learn how landscape can enhance design and social value through design, to learn how to master plan from the perspective of the landscape, to relate architecture to the landscape and its flora and fauna.

The project scale in West Malaysia is much larger compared to those in Sarawak - more space and budget to work with. I learnt how to work in a tight time frame, how to handle people, especially pushy clients. Being Sarawakian does not affect my thinking nor working attitude, but it has re-ignited my love for the outdoors.

Sometimes, I get to involved in Seksan's side projects; ones which are related to the local community with social impact. I am still new to life in KL, still trying to understand the city - these projects are a good way for me to learn more about this 'place'. An example is the Flood resistant housing in Dabong, Kelantan (early 2015) working and building with IMARET & EPIC Homes.

Background story about the Dabong Project

The voluntary job in Dabong is initiated by IMARET (IMAM Response & Relief Team) during 2015 Kelantan flood, they focus mainly in providing medical help to the affected kampongs. They approached Seksan & EPIC Homes for help; our research shows that the flood survivors are no short of food and clothing. They simply wanted to return to living in a house, not in temporary camps.

The prototype of the flood-resistant house is designed with a concrete façade facing the water. This serves as a protective barrier in the event of a flood, allowing the family time to escape.

During the build, we had volunteers from Seksan, EPIC Homes, Biji-Biji Initiatives and Wild Asia Sustainable Building Initiative. Every team manages a different part of the house, with experienced seniors guiding the rookies.

Most of the material was sourced locally, we even tried to source material mainly from the site - mud-balls, dry leaves, split bamboos to infill the gabion cage we folded on site from BRC mesh. The total build took 4-5 days. IMARET & EPIC home have made quite an effort to work with the home owners, explaining the design intent and final outcome. Learning from the first house, IMARET & EPIC Homes continue to develop further prototypes to help the other shortlisted families.



After the flood.



Volunteers building the flood resistant prototype.



Toilet design with gabion cages infilled with material sourced on site.

Window design on the porous wall.



Rebuilding - flood resistant housing module in Dabong Kelantan.



Wong Jeh Tat, 29. Works at Seksan Design.



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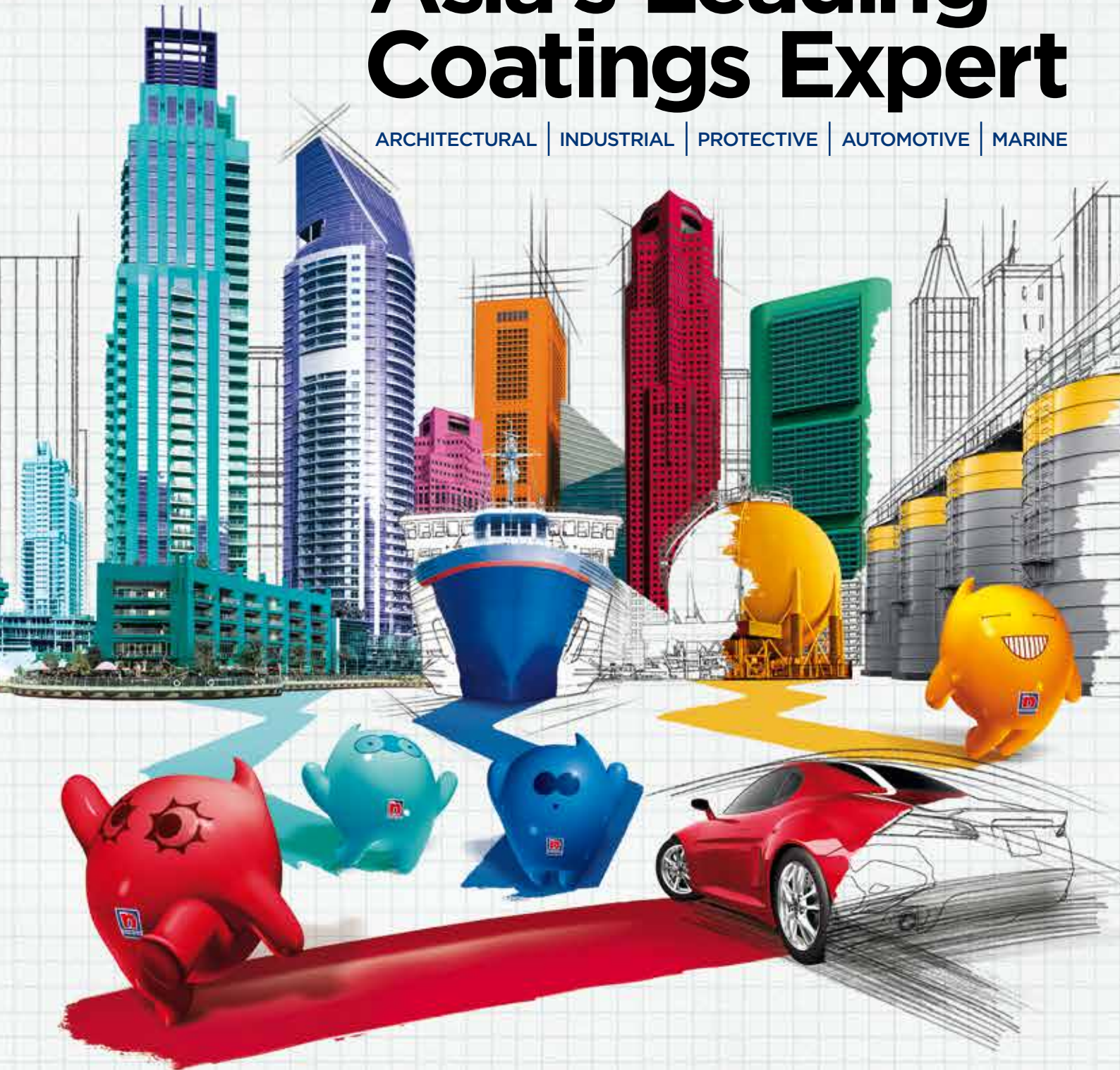
138 Block 15, MTLD, Jln Kuching Ranger Depot, Sg Tapang off BT 7, 93250 Kuching, Sarawak. Email: service@dml.com.my Website: www.dml.com.my
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