



# Vibe

e-newsletter 2019

Issue 3, 2019





Editor's Pick

The Clear  
Choice

Our  
Extraordinary  
People

Our DNA.  
Our People.

Did You Know?



# Editor's Pick

This section brings you highlights of interesting events and latest happenings in and around the Firm. It features KPMG Way initiatives and fresh new topics with every issue.



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# ASPAC Partners' Conference 2019

**Grand Hyatt Kuala Lumpur  
22 – 24 October 2019**

KPMG in Malaysia was proud to host our biennial **Asia Pacific Partners' Conference (APC) 2019**. The event was attended by over 300 leaders from member firms in the region including ASPAC Chairman, Honson To.

We also welcomed members of the Global Management office, led by the Global Chairman of KPMG International himself, Bill Thomas!



**Right:** Honson To, KPMG ASPAC Chairman, providing his insights into KPMG's ASPAC collective strategy.



**Top:** Bill Thomas, KPMG's Global Chairman, giving his presentations to the delegates during the conference.



**Bottom:** YB Dr Ong Kian Ming, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI) of Malaysia, giving his keynote address during the ASPAC Partners Conference.





## Gala Dinner raises funds for an Epic cause

On 23 October 2019, a Gala Dinner was organized with a charity element incorporated where Partners pledge their personal funds towards a worthy cause.

The chosen beneficiary this year is Epic Homes, a non-profit organization that aims to build relationships between the urban and rural divide through the act of building homes for underprivileged communities, currently focusing on the Orang Asli of Peninsular Malaysia.

Thanks to the generosity of the Partners and management leaders from KPMG member firms in Asia Pacific and the Global Management office; the funds raised amounted to almost RM300,000! With such an enormous sum accumulated in just a single night, this demonstrates how we can empower change when we come together. This is truly 'ASPAC Stronger Together' in action!

Kudos to all the KPMGians who rallied together to make this conference an amazing showcase of Malaysian hospitality!



*Chan Siew Mei, KPMG Head of Advisory in Malaysia (left) skipping rope in an attempt to raise funds for Epic Homes during the conference's Gala Dinner.*

## ASPAC Stronger Together!

Did you know that Asia Pacific is the fastest growing region within the global KPMG network? With more than 43,000 KPMGians and over 2,000 partners in this region, we are part of a big family of Extraordinary People who are empowered to build public trust!

A key message that resonated from the conference is achieving bold and impactful results by being more connected, accountable and consistent. In essence, ASPAC is stronger together. To achieve real results, we must act as a multi-disciplinary firm, collaborate seamlessly to establish KPMG as The Clear Choice to our clients and community at large.



Watch our Senior Partners and leaders across ASPAC share their views about what **#ASPACStrongerTogether** means.



*Image: The leaders of KPMG in Malaysia with Bill Thomas, KPMG Global Chairman (centre).*

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# At the Summit

Our annual Tax and Business Summit returned this year on 30 October 2019 at Avanté Hotel, PJ providing delegates with insights in line with new and progressive national policies and equipping them with crucial knowledge and tools to help them navigate in this increasingly competitive business landscape.

Tai Lai Kok, KPMG's Head of Tax in Malaysia, commenced the Summit by welcoming over 300 delegates. Neoh Beng Guan, Executive Director of Corporate Tax then took to the stage with an in-depth presentation of the Budget 2020 Proposals. This continued with a panel of discussion comprising Tai Lai Kok, Neoh Beng Guan, Ong Guan Heng, and Nicholas Crist, Executive Directors Corporate Tax;

covering topics on Malaysian Tax Incentive Regime, Tax Changes for Labuan Entities and the Tax Appeal Tribunal.

This year, we were privileged to have a special dialogue with Johan Mahmood Merican, Director of the National Budget Office in the Ministry of Finance, providing insights behind the Budget 2020 Proposals and its implications to businesses. Johan's Q&A session, moderated by our very own Managing Partner Datuk Johan Idris, was well-received; answering many crucial questions from the floor that benefited companies and businesses, be it small or large.



**■** Tai Lai Kok, Head of Tax, delivering his welcome remarks at the Tax and Business Summit 2019.



**■** Soh Lian Seng, Head of Tax Dispute Resolution, presented on Tax Audits and Legal Implications with Saravana Kumar, Tax, SST & Customs Practice Partner at Lee Hishammuddin Allen & Gledhill.



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Eric Ong, Head of Data & Analytics, and Au Soon Yong, Director for Data & Analytics, concluded the morning session with an intrinsic demonstration on Technology as an Enabler of Growth. The afternoon session provided delegates with practical and strategic insights into SST and Tax Audits, which were presented by Ng Sue Lynn, Head of Indirect Tax; Soh Lian Seng, Head of Tax Dispute Resolution, and Saravana Kumar, a Partner with the Tax, SST & Customs Practice at Lee, Hishammuddin, Allen & Gledhill.

This year, delegates got to explore key business issues in Tax, Malaysian Business Reporting System (MBRS), Cyber Security, Robotic Process Automation (RPA) and Data & Analytic spaces via personal consultations at the exhibition islands set up at the Summit.



[View more pictures in this album. ▶](#)



■ *Ong Guan Heng, Executive Director of Corporate Tax; Tai Lai Kok, Head of Tax; Nicholas Crist, Executive Director of Corporate Tax; and Neoh Beng Guan, Executive Director of Corporate Tax at the Budget 2020 panel discussion.*



*SST Updates presented by Ng Sue Lynn, Head of Indirect Tax.*



■ *Datuk Johan Idris, Managing Partner moderating the Q&A session with Johan Mahmood Merican, National Budget Office Director.*



# Alumni Fireside Chat

## with Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar

KPMG's Alumni Fireside Chat is an initiative that brings KPMGians and alumni members together. In October, we were honored to welcome Tan Sri Dato' Abdul Wahid Omar as the special guest in our second fireside session of the year. Over 50 alumnus had the opportunity to get up close and personal with this prominent corporate figure, as he shared his experiences and thoughts alongside Datuk Johan Idris in an intimate session.

Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar is a renowned corporate leader having held senior positions in various conglomerates including being Group Chairman of Permodalan National Berhad (PNB), Malaysia's largest fund management company; Group CEO of Telekom Malaysia; and CEO of Maybank. He had also served as a Minister in the Prime Minister's Office leading the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), which is responsible for driving the nation's economic growth.

Tan Sri Wahid has been a proud alumnus of KPMG; at the fireside chat, he reminisced about his early days with the firm when the office was located at Wisma Perdana! At the time, the firm was named Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co.

It's inspiring to see our alumnus thrive in the corporate world and come "home" to share their adventures. At KPMG, we're motivated to continue providing this platform where KPMGians and alumni members can strengthen bonds.

If you know of any KPMG Alumni members who want to keep up-to-date with the Firm, please direct them to our LinkedIn group [KPMG in Malaysia Alumni](#) or visit [www.kpmg.com.my/alumni](http://www.kpmg.com.my/alumni) to update their contact details.



**Left:** Tan Sri sharing his experiences and thoughts alongside Datuk Johan Idris in an intimate session.

**Right:** Tan Sri Dato' Abdul Wahid holding our Alumni's rapt attention.



**Image:** Audit Partner Kevin Foo, who is also Head of Alumni program in Malaysia, with Tan Sri Dato' Abdul Wahid and Datuk Johan Idris.

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# Global Cyber Day

For the third year running, KPMG offices worldwide held Global Cyber Day initiatives in schools around the world. This community initiative held annually in conjunction with Cyber Security Awareness Month (October) is an effort to raise awareness on the importance of cyber security and online safety for students as part of KPMG's corporate citizenship focus on Quality Education and Lifelong Learning.

Here in Malaysia, we organized a series of cyber literacy sessions involving over 1,800 students in primary and secondary schools within the Klang Valley. The program kicked off with educational activities held in six schools throughout the month of October, namely SK Methodist Petaling Jaya, SK Damansara Jaya 1, SMK Danau Kota, SJKC Shin Cheng (Harcroft), Erudite Academy and SMK Kepong.



Our Head of ITET, Alvin Gan, leading a session at SK Methodist Petaling Jaya.

Sessions led by our Emerging Technology Risk & Cyber (ETRC) team with strong support from People, Performance and Culture (PPC), provided students with guidelines on protecting personal data as well as how to safely use smartphones and social media. Practical tips on safeguarding oneself from being targets in the cyber space and dealing with cyber bullying were also a vital part of the program; ensuring





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## Global Cyber Day (cont')

students would be more mindful and cautious not to fall victim in the cyber space.

"With the increasing proliferation of technology, there is no denying that our children in this day and age may be technologically savvy, but this also makes them vulnerable to cyberattacks or being targets of cyber grooming. Today, bullies have moved from the corner of the playground to the world wide web, making it imperative that our next generations are well-equipped to deal with threats that could be lurking on the internet. We want to cultivate a good cyber security mindset within the future generations in this digitally-enabled world," explained Alvin Gan, Head of IT-enabled Transformation practice in Malaysia.



*Students of SJKC Shin Cheng (Harcroft) were guided with practical ways to safeguard themselves in the cyber space by our ETRC team.*



*At special request, our ETRC team also visited TARUC to teach the students there how to stay safe online.*



*Students at SMK Danau Kota getting some insights into cyberbullying.*



## KPMG Global Cyber Day 2019 smashes records

This year's Global Cyber Day has been a phenomenal success worldwide.

51 countries

127,000 students participated

870 sessions

This compares to 80,000 students across 45 countries in Cyber Day 2018.

This is proof that when we all come together and make our voices heard across the globe, it is one step forward in making our communities safer.

Well done to everyone who worked hard in making this initiative a roaring success!



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# The Clear Choice

This section brings into focus initiatives and achievements that make us stand out. As part of the KPMG Way initiative, this section looks at how we can deliver exceptional client experience.



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# KPMG scores 3 Major Wins with Jabatan Audit Negara

Congratulations to our Audit team for winning not just one, but THREE audit engagements by Jabatan Audit Negara, namely with Bank Simpanan Nasional ("BSN"), Kumpulan Wang Persaraan ("KWAP") and Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial ("PERKESO").

Both KWAP and PERKESO are statutory bodies that manage the pension and social security schemes for Malaysia's public employees respectively. BSN – a key client of KPMG in Malaysia, is a renowned player in the country's banking scene. Incorporated in 1974, the company has grown to have more than 7 million customers spread across the nation.

This pursuit was led by our Managing Partner, Datuk Johan Idris; Head of Audit, Foong Mun Kong; and Audit Partners: Muhammad Azman bin Che Ani, Kevin Foo and Ameenuddin Khalikasman, with the support of Audit

Director, Shahrizal Suhainy, Audit Managers, Nabeel Ghazi, Anwaruddin Mat Haril, Muadz Abdul Jalil, Afiq Izdiyah Ibrahim, Ayreen Mohdrafflee and Muhamad Danial Mohd Ismail.

**The Clear Choice**  
Our clients see a difference in us





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# So much win in 2019!

Beyond our engagement wins, KPMG has scored big in 2019 as we have garnered numerous accolades in various categories:



**Gradmalaysia  
Most Popular Graduate  
Employer of the Year**  
Accounting & Professional  
Services



**Graduate Choice  
Award (GCA)**  
Accounting & Professional  
Services



**Gradmalaysia  
Malaysia's 100 Leading Graduate  
Employers**



**Corporate America Today  
Annual Awards 2019**  
Malaysia Private Equity Advisory  
Firm of the Year



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**2019 CSR Malaysia Awards - Company Of The Year Award**  
(Professional Services)



**Employer Branding Awards**  
Malaysia Best Employer Brand Awards



**Gradmalaysia**  
**Most Popular Graduate Employer of the Year**  
(Consulting)



**Graduate Choice Award (GCA)**  
(Consulting)



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# Our Extraordinary People

The continued efforts and commitment of our teams continues to move us forward on executing key strategic programs with passion and energy. Our Extraordinary People recognizes the various Account and Project Wins across the Firm and the team members invaluable focus towards capitalizing on significant opportunities and translating them into wins.



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# All hail our defending Champions!

**O**n 3 August at the Putrajaya Water Sports Complex, the KPMG Vikings braved the morning heat and afternoon downpour to emerge as defending champion at the biennial Skrine Regatta 2019. Furthermore, they recorded the best time!

The competition was tight this year as we competed against the likes of PwC Hydra, Mike's Crew (Maybank), RB WaHoo, Teach for Malaysia, Pendekar P.S. The Children and Skrine Dragons.

This year, our Vikings participated in two categories: Big Boat Crew and Small Boat Crew.

In the First Heats round, our Big Boat Crew was up against formidable opponents, PwC Hydra and Teach For Malaysia. We clocked in our best time to date at 1:09 minute in the 250m

paddle course, advancing us to the Grand Finals against PwC Hydra and Mike's Crew. Though we were initially behind, with iron will and determination, our team managed to dig deep to beat the First Runner-up by less than 80 second lead to retain the championship trophy. Awesome work, KPMG Vikings!

Meanwhile, our Small Boat Crew had a tough challenge against Mike's Crew and the defending champions, Skrine Dragons. Our paddlers did a superb job in paddling hard to the finish line and securing third place. Kudos as the Small Boat Crew only had one training session before the race.



**Top:** Our KPMGians are ready to set sail, but looks like they're missing a boat.

**Background:** Like their namesake, our KPMG Vikings are ready to conquer the seas (or at least Putrajaya Water Sports Complex).





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## All hail our defending Champions! (con't)

Forty of our committed colleagues went through rigorous training sessions over two months without letting rain or shine stop them, all for the spirit of sportsmanship and charity! Thanks also to all our supporters for being there to cheer on our fellow Vikings:

**Abdul Muhamin**  
(IARCS)

**Adrian Hong**  
(CRR)

**Ahmad Fauzan**  
(G&S)

**Ang Chee Jian**  
(Audit M)

**Arielle Yen**  
(PPC)

**Chew Hsien Loong**  
(CRR)

**Darran Navin**  
(ITeT)

**Eugene Khoo Wei Jie**  
(CRR)

**Goh Pei Xuan**  
(TS)

**Jason Lee Liang Wai**  
(Audit P)

**Kesavan Sunthera Sagaran**  
(ITeT)

**Lau Wee Zia**  
(Audit M)

**Lee Pin Yeong**  
(Audit M)

**Wan Fatin Irina**  
(PPC)

**Leong Hon You**  
(PPC)

**Lim Eu Zheng**  
(FRS)

**Lim Fang Ngee**  
(DPP)

**Lim Jit Cheng**  
(CRR)

**Lim Zhiying**  
(Audit M)

**Muhammad Baqir Hakim**  
(ETRC)

**Muhammad Haikal Akbar**  
(ITP)

**Muhammad Nazreen**  
(ITeT)

**Muhammad Riaz Harris**  
(Audit K)

**Muhammad Shukri**  
(Audit K)

**Nadhirah Binti Mohd Zaini**  
(ACT)

**Nhavamalar Gunaseelan**  
(Audit M)

**Ong Sim May**  
(AAS)

**Shaik Mikhail Bin Ameer**  
(ITeT)

**Siow Chen Hou**  
(Audit M)

**Su Li Yan**  
(FRS)

**Su Wen Yi**  
(MIS)

**Tan Jenn Woei Justin**  
(CF)

**Tan Yi Jing**  
(IRM)

**Tay Wei Chen**  
(FRS)

**Theresa Wee**  
(PPC)

**Tiong Cher Ninn**  
(Audit G)

**Wafiy Sotimin**  
(TP)

**Wong Pui Yee**  
(PPC)

**Yasiery Kumar**  
(CPTX)

**Yen-Ling Looi**  
(FRS)



*Our Head of Corporate Citizenship,  
Adrian Hong, holding our hard  
fought trophy up high.*

### But the Dragon Boat Fever wasn't over yet!

The KPMG Vikings also took part in the Putrajaya Oxygenation Boat Race held on 5 October. This time, they paddled in a 350m race in the Open Category competing against 38 other corporate contenders including Putrajaya Holdings Sdn Bhd, Standard Chartered Bank, Malaysia Airlines Berhad, MRT Corp, CIMB Bank, PLUS Malaysia Berhad, ARCADIS and Air Asia Berhad.

In our first ever corporate race in dragon boating, our KPMG Vikings made it to the podium as second runners-up. Well done KPMG Vikings!



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# A valiant showing at the IAFG 2019

This year's Inter-Accounting Firm Games (IAFG) commenced on 19 August and lasted for 12 weeks. Our KPMGians battled long and hard, pitting our wills and strength against the competition, but ultimately surrendered the overall Champion title to EY by 5 points during the closing stages of the games.





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Yes, we finished Second overall this year and it is an achievement worthy of cheers! The commitment and dedication shown by our athletes were exemplary and we should all be proud. Our sportsmen and sportswomen could not have thrived without the support from KPMGians who cheered and uplifted them throughout all 21 games.

Kudos to all our athletes who displayed their great fighting spirit and gave it their all. The KPMG spirit of working together, supporting each other and commitment to lay everything out on the field was evident throughout the games. Bravo!





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# KPMG ASEAN Scholarship 2019

Every year, KPMG firms select outstanding students in their respective countries to participate in our regional ASEAN Scholarship Program. The selected students not only receive a scholarship grant, but also gain the opportunity to be mentored by Partners of the Firm, prospects of internships abroad in member firms, as well as a definite placement in KPMG upon graduation.

The program this year was supported by five member firms in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia. After a rigorous selection process, five exceptional undergraduates were awarded this chance of a lifetime, namely:

- ★ **Arenna Loke** (Monash University)
- .....
- ★ **Gayathiri Ravindran** (Universiti Sains Malaysia)
- .....
- ★ **Mohammad Uqail** (University of Nottingham Malaysia)
- .....
- ★ **Nur Adila** (University of Nottingham Malaysia)
- .....
- ★ **Sandra Chang** (University of Nottingham Malaysia)

We celebrated their achievement along with their family members and our Partners during an awards ceremony that took place on 24 September. Our heartiest congratulations to all our scholars and welcome to the KPMG family in advance!

If you know of any students who are interested in applying for the KPMG ASEAN Scholarship program, please direct them to [www.kpmg.com.my/aseanscholarship](http://www.kpmg.com.my/aseanscholarship) for more information.





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# Annual Dinner 2019



▲ Managing Partner, Datuk Johan Idris, made an incredible entrance to start of the night to the tune of Led Zeppelin's 'Immigrant Song'.



▲ Our emcee for the night, Nadia Heng, was dressed to impress as Wonder Woman.

## A gathering of inspirational heroes in PJ

Almost 1,400 KPMGians from the Petaling Jaya office congregated in One World Hotel for a night of heroics as we celebrated the end of another memorable year for the Firm. Themed 'League of Heroes', this year's annual dinner transported our Extraordinary People into a superhero setting with Wonder Woman (former Miss World Malaysia, Nadia Heng) acting as emcee for the night. Kicking off the night was Managing Partner, Datuk Johan Idris, who made a spirited entry wielding Mjölnir (Thor's trusty weapon).

In his speech, Datuk Johan celebrated the extraordinary wins the Firm has achieved together within the past year. The evening also saw the recognition of eight extraordinary people as long-service award recipients, namely: Azlina Binti Abu Bakar (Business Transformation); Janet Chua Siaw Yen (Global Mobility Services); Lee Yuan Sin (Global Mobility Services); Noor Hayati Binti Abdul Rashid (Indirect Tax Practice); Patricia Jeow Mui Chien (Corporate Tax); Redzuan Bin Mohammad (Admin); Wan Yan Yoong (Corporate Tax); and Yeo Ai Lee (Corporate Restructuring).

Adding to the night of wins was the awards for KPMG IAFG Sportsman and Sportswoman of 2019, which recognized two outstanding athletes, Joe Kek Soon Chiun and Audrey Chin, which was preceded by a video celebrating our KPMG Vikings and IAFG athletes.

► There was certainly something 'strange' on stage as our very own Dr. Strange, RMD Partner Alex Khaw, introduced the Lip-Sync Battle.





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But the high point of the night was when three teams, 3rd Harmony (Audit G); The Heroes (Audit M); and Teh Ping (Corporate Tax), battled it out live on stage in KPMG's first ever Lip-Sync Battle competition. Team 3rd Harmony, who raised the stakes with their rendition of 'Work from home' by Fifth Harmony and 'Single ladies' by Beyoncé, took home the title of Lip-Sync Battle Champions as well as a generous cash prize of RM5,000!

We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and went home with some fond memories of the night. Look forward for another exciting Annual Dinner in 2020!

**Watch the full Lip-Sync battle [here!](#)**



Our Lip-Sync Battle Champions, team '3rd Harmony' receiving their prize from COO, Siew Chin Kiang.



Team 'The Heroes' are seen here performing to '4 minutes' by Madonna and Justin Timberlake.



Team 'Tehping' proved they got the moves as they performed to 'Kill this love' by Black Pink.



Azlina bt Abu Bakar has been with KPMG since March 1994.



Janet Chua from Global Mobility Services joined in January 1994.

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Our Extraordinary People surely came dressed to impress as their 'inspirational heroes'



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Spot your childhood favourite in our very own 'Chai Tiam Ma'.



Cranes are a symbol of good fortune and longevity in Japanese, Chinese and Korean culture, and KPMGians in Penang had lovingly folded 1000 origami cranes as a blessing.

## A night of nostalgia for the Penang Office

Up north, KPMGians in Penang held their Annual Dinner at G Hotel Gurney on 15 November 2019. Themed a 'Nostalgic Night', the dinner was attended by 141 KPMGians who dressed in their vintage best. The organizing committee, with the help of everyone at the KPMG Penang office, hand-made the decor for the night to create a major throwback to the 80s with an exquisite "Chai Tian Ma" (hawker stall) complete with toy capsule vending machines, and even an eye-catching photo booth made up of childhood photos of our KPMGians!



Guests had to try and match KPMGians to their respective baby photos.



# KPMG Annual Dinner

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KELUAR



A performance by the organizing committee started the night off on a high note.

The evening kicked off with an energetic dance by the organizing committee, which was followed by heart-warming speeches by the Organizing Chair, Sarah Low, Partner-in-charge of the Penang office, Dato' Ooi Kok Seng, and Managing Partner for KPMG in Malaysia, Datuk Johan Idris.

Guests were entertained by a 'KPMG's Got Talent' show which featured dazzling singing, drama and dance performances. But the most meaningful part of the night was a video dedicated to Finance Manager, Chan Lai Seong, in support of her journey as a cancer warrior. KPMGians also crafted 1,000 origami cranes as a blessing to her.

It was definitely a glorious night to remember and thank you to all who attended and made the night a truly memorable one!



Some 'party animals' performing in our very own 'KPMG's Got Talent'.

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# Our DNA. Our People.

Our people represent KPMG's DNA and builds upon our fundamental value-based, purpose-driven culture. The culture of giving back to society and the communities at large provides joy and fulfillment to our people as we contribute our effort and time towards corporate social responsibility activities.

# Coffee Sessions 2019

Coffee Sessions are a way to bring KPMGians closer together through casual conversations over a warm cuppa. To kick off 2019, the first Coffee Session of the year was hosted by Datuk Johan Idris that focused on the Firm's vision and mission as well other plans throughout the year. The session gave us a chance to get a clearer picture of what's in store for the Firm in the year ahead and also ask questions directly to the leadership – after all, who better to answer them than the Managing Partner himself?

Our second session took place around the time of the Hari Raya celebrations, with KPMGians invited to sample some festive cookies aside from chatting with the hosts, Datuk Johan and Thong Foo Vung, our Head of Markets.

In a third Coffee Session hosted by Datuk Johan and Alex Khaw, the partner in charge of Risk Management and Ethics & Development; Alex enthusiastically shared some of the highlights and memorable events throughout his years of working at KPMG and answered some ethics-related queries by curious KPMGians who attended the session.

To wrap up 2019, our fourth Coffee Session was enthusiastically hosted by Datuk Johan and Partner-in-Charge of KPMG's Sports Club, Ameenuddin Khali Kasman. Along with everyone in attendance, they shared thoughts on how the firm can improve its strategies and inner-workings for next year's Inter-Department Games (IDG) and Inter-Accounting Firm Games (IAFG).

We look forward to organizing more of these get-togethers in the years to come. Here's to forging better bonds through casual conversations!



*Our fourth and final 2019 Coffee Session with Datuk Johan and Ameenuddin, Partner-in-Charge of KPMG Sports Club.*



*A chatty third Coffee Session with Datuk Johan and Alex Khaw, RMD partner.*



*First Coffee Session with Datuk Johan as its main host.*



*An enthusiastic second Coffee Session with Datuk Johan and Thong Foo Vung, Head of Markets.*



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# SEATRU Program 2019 @ Chagar Hutang, Pulau Redang

**20 – 27 July | 17 – 24 August 2019**

Fourteen KPMGians and two ASEAN Scholars embarked on an amazing opportunity to contribute to the conservation of exotic sea turtles and help preserve our beautiful tropical island in Chagar Hutang, a secluded part of Redang Island. This back-to-nature program saw our volunteers take part in activities over the course of 8 days and 7 nights from beach clean-ups and patrols to protecting turtle nests from predators such as fire ants and monitor lizards.

The first batch of volunteers were made up of six KPMGians and ASEAN Scholars: Syafiyah Nabilah (IRM), Shameer Nijar (ITeT), Swee Ying (Audit M), Amelia Teh (Audit M), Desmond Ang (Audit M), Juliana Khoo (IRM), Wong Wei Qi (ASEAN Scholar) and Jia Hui (ASEAN Scholar).

Making up the second batch of volunteers were Mike Tan (TP), Afifah Hisham (PPC), Pauline Dass (PPC), Revathy Seevam (ITS), Adila Husna (FRM), Joan Seen (GMS), Darshiniy (Audit K) and Chew Swee Peng (GCMS).

*Here's what they had to share from their adventure:*

“

One week on the remote side of Redang Island, a conserved area without network connection, limited electricity and bare minimum facilities and food stock, we are exposed to the beauty of nature – a sky full of stars, sensational cooling sea breeze, witnessing turtles lay eggs, the list goes on. Throughout the program, we were mentored by Research Assistants to help wild turtles with the process of laying eggs and perform nest checks.”

– Wong Wei Qi, ASEAN Scholar



*It has been six amazing years under our belts working alongside University Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) for the SEATRU Program.*



*Our KPMGians having the rare opportunity to get up close and personal with a sea turtle.*



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“

Seeing hatchlings excitedly leave their nests and head to the open sea gives a whole new meaning and appreciation to the lives of turtles, knowing that only 1 in 1000 of these hatchlings will survive into adulthood. This was a great program to allow anyone to learn more about the conservation efforts that are being done for turtles, as well as learning about turtles in general. This program is also a great channel for self-growth and discovery.”

– **Afifah Hisham, PPC**

*On average, sea turtles lay 110 eggs in a nest, and average between 2 to 8 nests a season. However, thousands of eggs and animals are lost each year to turtle hunters and predators.*

“

Little did I know, I managed to learn so much in such a short period of time, such as patience, perseverance, teamwork, “surviving in the wild” without any connection and most of all how turtle sanctuaries and hatcheries help to revive and grow, albeit slowly, the dwindling sea turtles’ population in the country.”

– **Joan Seen, GMS**

“

It was an enlightening experience having stayed for a week at Chagar Hutang, where there is no mobile network coverage, no internet and minimal electricity. The highlight of the trip for me (besides helping sea turtles) was the night sky. We could see an infinite number of stars and a shooting star every few minutes or so. Best of all, we had a breathtaking view of the Milky Way – something I never expected to see locally. I’m grateful of KPMG’s Corporate Citizenship programmes for providing me with this wonderful opportunity – I will definitely volunteer for SEATRU again in the future!”

– **Pauline Dass, PPC**

*Our first batch of volunteers showcasing that KPMGians will scale any heights to continue protecting our environment and promote a sustainable ecosystem.*

# Improving life under water

29 August – 2 September 2019



Sighted now, but some of these weird and wonderful organisms might not be around in the future. The UNEP estimates that about 25-50% of the world's coral reefs have been destroyed and another 60% are under threat.

Since its inception in 2007, almost 100 avid divers have taken part in the Eco Diver Certification, enabling them to perform underwater surveys to assess the health of coral reefs at KPMG's adopted sites in Tioman Island: Soyak and Renggis.

Year after year, we work with Reef Check Malaysia (RCM) to collate results which are measured to determine the current state and health of Malaysian reefs and decide on the extent of preventive measures needed subsequently.

Championed once again by Restructuring's Lim Jit Cheng, this year he led our team of thirteen divers: New We-Jian (BT), Ling Xi Gene (CF), Gee Ann Nee (ITeT), Amber Jeongyo Kim (TDR), June Long (Audit M), Chloe Chew (Audit K), Lee Chee Hern (Audit M), James How (TDR), Fadi Alzawadi (Audit G), Justin Tan (CF), Ong Tzong Meng (CF) and Laavanya Venkatramanan (Audit M) to take on the grueling task of counting and recording marine life.

Through KPMG's Eco Dive program, we contribute to save the world's oceans in support of United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal SDG-14 Life Under Water. The SDGs aim to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal biodiversity from pollution, as well as address the impacts of depleted fisheries.

Learn more about our Signature Eco Dive program [here](#).

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Our hardworking KPMGians assessing the reef at our adopted sites.



13 KPMGians helping us to continue upholding our pledge towards conserving our marine ecosystem!

## First-hand experiences from our divers:

**Ling Xi Gene (CF)** – "I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in KPMG's 13th year of Eco Dive program. Through the program, I got to understand better the various threats faced by coral reefs and the marine ecosystem including climate change and pollution, and how I can do my part in the coral reef conservation by participating in reef check surveys."

**Amber Kim (TDR)** – "I come from South Korea, a typically non-tropical country where crystal clear seas are rarely seen. Having lived in Malaysia for 10 years, I started my diving journey 4 years ago. During the program, I had the chance of revisiting some of the dive spots, but it was heartbreaking to see that some spots were no longer in healthy condition. As an EcoDiver, I am glad that I am now trained to monitor, identify and collect data as it gives us visibility on the current ocean health and for us to plan the intervention strategy."

**New We-Jian (BT)** – "Going into the Eco Dive Program was a real eye opener and a great experience. From attending the theoretical classes to conducting the actual survey, it was a great learning experience. Not only did we learn techniques to identify specific sea life to determine the health of the reef, but it made us realize the devastating impacts of pollution on different aspects of the sea which would inevitably impact the entire ecosystem. Before joining the program, diving for me was just for leisure purposes; enjoying the beauty of the underwater world. But after being educated, you start seeing the real picture and the true story behind it."

# Medical Supplies for Kechara Soup

From 22 July to 2 August 2019, the PJ Office provided aid to our stronghold partner, Kechara Soup Kitchen by running our first ever Medical Drive for the Homeless.

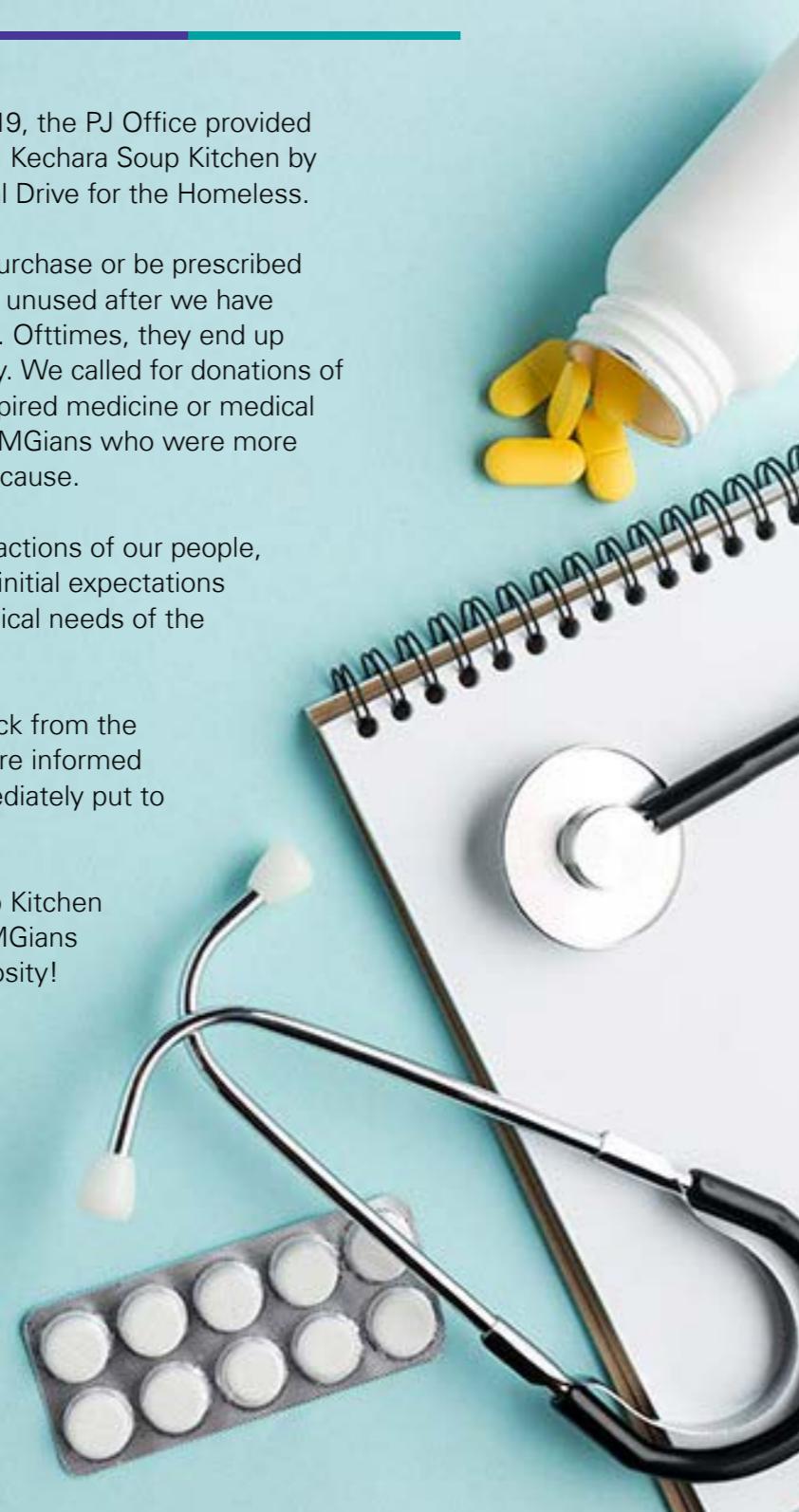
In many cases, we tend to purchase or be prescribed plenty of medicine that goes unused after we have recovered from our illnesses. Ofttimes, they end up expiring and are thrown away. We called for donations of unused, unopened and unexpired medicine or medical supplies from passionate KPMGians who were more than willing to donate to the cause.

Thanks to the truly inspiring actions of our people, the donations exceeded our initial expectations and helped alleviate the medical needs of the homeless.

We received positive feedback from the Kechara Medic team and were informed that the collection was immediately put to good use.

We, as well as Kechara Soup Kitchen (KSK), say **THANK YOU** KPMGians for your kindness and generosity!

**Improve communities**  
#KPMGvalues



*Partners Alex Khaw, Teresa Chong, Ng Sue Lynn and Kevin Foo, taking time out of their busy schedules to join the Firm's annual movie night.*

## KPMG at the movies

This year's annual KPMG Movie Night for PJ Office had us watching the intense thriller *Joker* during its premier week at TGV cinema! We booked a whopping four halls exclusively for almost 800 KPMGians, who also got to enjoy complimentary hot dogs and drinks.

The Firm sponsors our annual Movie Night to give our people the opportunity to bond and get to know each other while taking some time off from work. KPMGians took the time to mingle and played games at TGV's promotional booths while waiting for the movie to start.

At KPMG, we care about our people's wellbeing and encourage them to maintain a healthy work-life balance. We look forward to seeing more KPMGians at future events.

Stay tuned for more events coming your way!



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# MIND Your Health

Work stress is incredibly common – ask any colleague, boss or friend, and they'll be able to provide a few instances of stressful situations at work! However, if prolonged feelings of stress are left untreated this can lead to burnouts, severe mental health concerns, loss of productivity, higher rate of medical leaves taken and other physical symptoms.

As World Mental Health Day is observed on 10 October every year, 'with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health' (according to the *World Health Organization*), we highlighted the occasion by running a series of events at the PJ office tied closely to mental health management/wellness.



Our KPMGians took the time to develop a new skill for the sake of better mental health!



## Going with the Flow

It's widely known and proven that exercise is one of the best methods to reduce stress and release endorphins. Yoga is a great alternative to jogging or hitting the gym as the practice promotes controlled breathing, improving flexibility and allowing short periods of meditation and reflection to ease the mind. Though slower, it'll still definitely make you break a sweat!

To provide our KPMGians with a relaxing mid-week session, seasoned yoga instructor Zafirah Azizan from Nafas Yoga led a one-hour gentle flow session. Twenty-nine KPMGians rolled out their mats on 9 October for some hip-opening sequences, deep breathing exercises and a short relaxation session to wind down at the end. Our participants left the session feeling refreshed, recharged and ready to conquer the rest of the week.

Our KPMGians sure proved they know how to go with the flow as they 'flowed' into different yoga poses.

## 'Introduction to Brush Lettering' Calligraphy Workshop

Sometimes we just need to take time-out for ourselves to relax and focus on a hobby or creative work. Calligraphy is a written art form that has been around for a very long time, but in recent years it has seen a spike in popularity. Apparently, KPMGians are amongst the many keen to learn this new skill, as our 'Introduction to Brush Lettering' workshop received overwhelming response!

Our participants spent their lunch break on 8 October to learn the basics of writing in cursive script. The process was harder than anticipated as the practice requires steady hands, an artistic eye and plenty of patience. We started off learning how to write and draw basic lines and shapes, alternating the thickness of our lines using a brush pen. Within less than two hours, our eager learners progressed to writing all letters of the alphabet, then words and sentences. Judging by the progress made during the session, our people are artistic and quick learners – the proof is in the pictures!

# Tips to be stress-free

To relieve stress, we encourage on-the-job learning, which is a “better buffer against stress” compared to facing a stressful task head on or taking a break through relaxation according to *Harvard Health Review*.

The next time you’re feeling burnt out, remember the following tips suggested by health insurance company AIA:

- Prioritize yourself and your health first – it is recommended that you take time to exercise throughout the week, even if it’s a 20-minute walk
- Reach out to others (and talk to health professionals)
- Get organized and make clear ‘To-do’ lists and reminders
- Unplug, give yourselves digital detoxes and get some rest whenever you can (whether a quick snooze at your desk during lunch or a full eight hours at night)



We invited a specialist to teach our KPMGians how to better navigate stress.



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## 'Stress-Free, Really?'

On 10 October, we invited Lucy Chan-McFadyen, Certified Mindfulness Trainer and Learning & Development Director of The Golden Space Malaysia, to guide us through an informative session on how to navigate stress even in the most daunting of times.

Activities practiced during the session included ten-minute breathing and visualizing sessions, as well as a ‘Life-Check Activity’. According to Lucy, the ‘Energy Formula of Life’ is made up of  $E^{\text{emotions}} + E^{\text{thoughts}} + E^{\text{actions}} = E^{\text{outcome}}$ .

For each ‘life check’, i.e. home/relationships, work, health and so on, our participants were tasked to define the situation as well as emotions, thoughts, and actions that came along with it. They were then asked to illustrate the outcome and try to find a solution or different approach to their situations in order to make the experience a more positive one.

She also taught participants to ‘diffuse their own time-bomb’, a short meditation practice where participants were asked to be fully present, take deep breaths, connect with their bodies, remember triggering thoughts and emotions, allow them to feel the discomfort, and then exhale it out.

## #FeelGood Sales

We also invited our people to indulge in a little retail therapy with some fantastic products on offer: artisanal jewelry brand Wanderlust + Co (with 20% of proceeds going to a good cause, the Shelter Home for Children), snacks and desserts from Pocky, Pretz and Haagen-Dazs, and soothing candles and natural essential oils curated by Dorothy Scents.

We encourage our people to explore various ways to relieve stress and anxiety, and if you are feeling any severe symptoms of anxiety, depression or other mental health concerns, please make sure to put yourself first, take a break when you can, and ask for help.



Plenty of KPMGians took the chance to treat themselves to some retail therapy.



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◀ The Breast Cancer Welfare Association provided much needed valuable tips on how to perform self-checkups!

# Staying abreast @ KPMG

Breast cancer is the most common cancer afflicting women globally, and it is imperative that we continue to raise awareness of this disease and its symptoms. On 18 October, KPMGians at the PJ office took the time to celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month and educated themselves.

KPMGians took part in a scavenger hunt that required them to 'hunt' down 3 or more facts about breast cancer which were distributed throughout the office. After taking pictures of said facts, they were rewarded with cupcakes decorated with a pink ribbon (edible, of course!).

Besides the sweet treats, we also invited Malaysia's Breast Cancer Welfare Association to educate fellow KPMGians about breast cancer and teach our female colleagues to perform self-checks. Our well-prepared guests brought surveys, pamphlets, and even models of 'breasts' that our colleagues could touch to familiarize themselves to identify unusual lumps or fibrocystic tissue to be more mindful.

In helping KPMGians assure their positive wellbeing, we also partnered with Columbia Asia Hospital (PJ)

to offer exclusive discounts on mammogram and ultrasound screenings throughout the month of October and provide easier access to much-needed medical check-ups.

Our health should always remain a top priority, and here at KPMG we hope to continuously foster a culture that puts our overall wellbeing first.

KPMGians walking away with cupcakes and more knowledge on breast cancer.



▲ Lovely cupcakes which were rewarded to those who took part in the Scavenger Hunt.



▲ Female KPMGians educating themselves on Breast Cancer from the Breast Cancer Welfare Association.





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# Appreciating the men in our lives



MD is celebrated globally each year on 19 November to recognize the positive value men bring to the world and to the lives of everyone they know. The occasion is also to raise awareness of men's overall wellbeing – physical, emotional, and mental – as well as highlight positive male role models. As our PJ office's staff force consists of more women than men, we thought it'd be apt to show some appreciation to all the men who have made contributions (big or small) to the firm.

We kicked off our celebrations on 18 November, by partnering with Baristar to offer free coffee for the men in the Firm. On the very same day, we hosted an in-house sales event catered specially for the men featuring brands like Storming Gravity, The Elektrik Chair, The Gentlemen's Lab, Starbucks, and Jabra. The Elektrik Chair hosted two wet shaving sessions for any KPMGian who wanted to have a quick shave done the traditional way. There was also a board game session held during lunchtime hosted by Vivaee Board Game Café. KPMGians who came had fun strategizing against each other in friendly competition.



◆ Talk about a close shave, our KPMGians also had the opportunity to experience a traditional, wet shaving session.

◆ We brought in Baristar to supply KPMGians with their coffee fix, and as a treat the men were entitled to a free cup.

◆ KPMG Partners officiating the IMD launch event. (L-R) Ivan Goh, Chan Chee Keong, Sia Chin Hoe, Kasturi Nathan (Head of I&D), and Chang Mei Seen.



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*Big smiles from all KPMGians who attended the IMD launch, together with our guest speaker, JJ Fernandez.*



*Audit Partner, Abdullah Abu Samah; Managing Partner, Datuk Johan Idris; Head of PPC, Adrian Lee; and Head of Risk Management, Alex Khaw are just a few of the inspirational men in KPMG who came to support the event!*

The fun continued on 19 November with the official IMD launch event at Espressolab. KPMGians filled up the café in support of the occasion and Kasturi Nathan, Head of Inclusion and Diversity, officiated the joyous event alongside Partners Sia Chin Hoe, Ivan Goh, Chang Mei Seen, and Chan Chee Keong.

Our guest speaker for the day was former radio personality JJ Fernandez, who took to the stage and gave an inspiring talk about breaking the traditional male stereotypes of today. His talk included a short demo on how simply saying 'trying' or 'doing' can make a difference to our mindset. His enthusiastic and amusing personality kept our colleagues engaged from beginning to end, proving his well-known ability to capture people's attention since his radio days.

To wrap up the day, KPMGians had the opportunity to try free drink samples courtesy of Ribena, while they contemplate Sunway Lagoon's tempting promotion of their Ultimate Passes and Student & Youth Fares.

Though it was the first time we celebrated IMD at such a scale, we hope to keep changing things up in subsequent IMD celebrations!



Thank you to all KPMGians for your support!

# KPMG Tower Run 2019



Runners from all ages were welcome to join in our annual Tower Run!



Did you know our bright-eyed volunteers were up from 3am to get everything ready for our runners? Kudos to their hard work and dedication!

On 2 November, the fourth cycle of the KPMG Tower Run saw a sea of blue runners kicking off the charity run! This year, our KPMGians ran in support of Fugee School, which seeks to provide all refugee children with equitable access to education with the key focus on Empowering Youth Through Sport.

Thankfully, the weather was on our side throughout the morning as KPMGians, together with their family and friends, showed up before the crack of dawn (the earliest participant came at 5.15am!) to attend the run. The runners, including a few students from Fugee School, did a warm-up with Celebrity Fitness before the flag off.

Datuk Johan Idris, our Managing Partner; and Adrian Hong, our Head of Corporate Citizenship, flagged off the 10km and 5km mark respectively with all runners completing the course within an hour and a half. Amazing!

After the run, Datuk Johan gave an appreciation speech, followed by the presentation of prizes to the winners from each category as well as many sensational lucky draw prizes!

Through our generous KPMGians, we managed to exceed our target of **RM 30,000**, with all proceeds going towards Fugee School's 2020 Sports & Marital Arts Program. The representative from Fugee School, Fatima Qureshi, accepted the donations on their behalf.

The run was a rousing success, and this wouldn't have been made possible without our dedicated runners, volunteers, fellow committee members, and fantastic sponsors. On this note, we would like to express a very grateful '**Thank You**' to everyone involved who made this happen.

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## Work Hard, @ KPMG Kuching



*The KPMG Basketball team fresh-faced from their recent win.*



*KPMGians in Kuching pushed themselves harder than ever and left feeling satisfied and (optimistically) 1,000 calories lighter.*

# Play Harder

KPMGians in Kuching have proven themselves extraordinarily fit! On 5 October, the Kuching office organized an indoor cycling class, also known as spinning, which was an intense 60 minutes session of awesome tunes and sweat.

On that same day itself, KPMGians turned up at Megalanes Adventure World to support their teammates who were bowling for the MIA Inter Professional Games (IPG) which was held from 14 September to 6 October. The team bagged fifth place in bowling, while KPMG Kuching's very own bowling star, team captain Jocelyna Judith, snagged the title of Best Female Player.

Aside from that, our people also participated in the futsal and darts' games, and participated in a basketball game on 6 October, with two KPMGians earning the titles of Best Player (Josephine Wong) and Best Assist (Narrissa Tay – Team Captain).

*Well done KPMGians!*



*This isn't the first time Jocelyna has proven her bowling prowess as she has previously represented Sarawak in the Sukma Games.*



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**KPMG Johor Annual Trip 2019  
@ Adeline's Villa, Gopeng**

On 1 November, KPMGians from the Johor office set off for their annual trip to Adeline's Villa, Gopeng with much anticipation. For four days and three nights, they took part in team building games, caving, white water rafting, jungle trekking and waterfall abseiling. Not only were they physically challenged and faced with plenty of phobias, they also suffered from every city dweller's worst nightmare – the loss of cellular data.

**GUA TEMPURUNG**

**Background:** Adventure time! KPMGians in Johor are ready for their annual trip.



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**Background:** Our daring colleagues showing that they have no problem going against the current!

However, they didn't let that stop them. Throughout the activities, the more physically experienced KPMGians shared their know-how and helped others in times of need while everyone showed a high level of team spirit. This high extended beyond the activities as the lack of internet connectivity encouraged everyone to bond together by playing boardgames or just chatting the night away.

On the last night, the staff had a sharing session with the villa's owner, the energetic and enthusiastic Adeline. She gave a vivacious speech on how she pursued her passion of running a villa in a dense jungle and transformed it into a beautiful hunting ground. Her talk of being agile, daring, passionate about one's work and be determined in pursuing one's dream was truly inspiring. Apart from that, our Johor partners, directors and staff also shared their own extraordinary stories.

This annual trip created a team-centered environment where everyone could build great memories together.



The Annual Trip gave our KPMGians the opportunity to build trust and great memories.



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# Did You Know?

This section brings you interesting fun facts, information and data that you may know or think you know. Check it out!

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# Get Digital Now!

KPMG Digital Now is our global approach to up-skilling our people's digital capabilities in keeping pace with the changing business landscape as we "Anticipate Tomorrow. Deliver today."

In developing a Workforce of the future, the Firm aims to hone our talents so that they can ably identify and solve today's complex problems, lead quality conversations with clients and teams and foster greater innovation.

KPMG Digital Now provides the knowledge and resources across the spectrum of emerging technologies such as:

**Cybersecurity****Internet of Things****Blockchain****Data & Analytics****Artificial Intelligence**

Visit the [KPMG Digital Now portal](#) for more information.

**Let's get Digital Now!**



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# KPMG's Digital BEE Tool

Officially introduced in August 2019, the **Digital Board Effectiveness Evaluation (BEE) Tool** is powered by analytics and aims to iron out wrinkles that may be present in a conventional board evaluation exercise.

The release of this digital tool comes at an opportune time as there is a growing appreciation amongst directors for a valuable platform to undertake introspection, challenging them to raise their game in a marketplace that is changing at a dizzying pace.

The tool will be customized in consultation to match the needs of our clients and goes hand in hand with KPMG's board evaluation advisory services.

## Key Features of the Digital BEE Tool



User-friendly Interface



Data Analytics



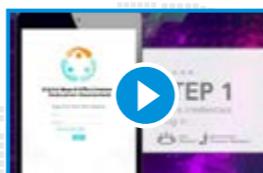
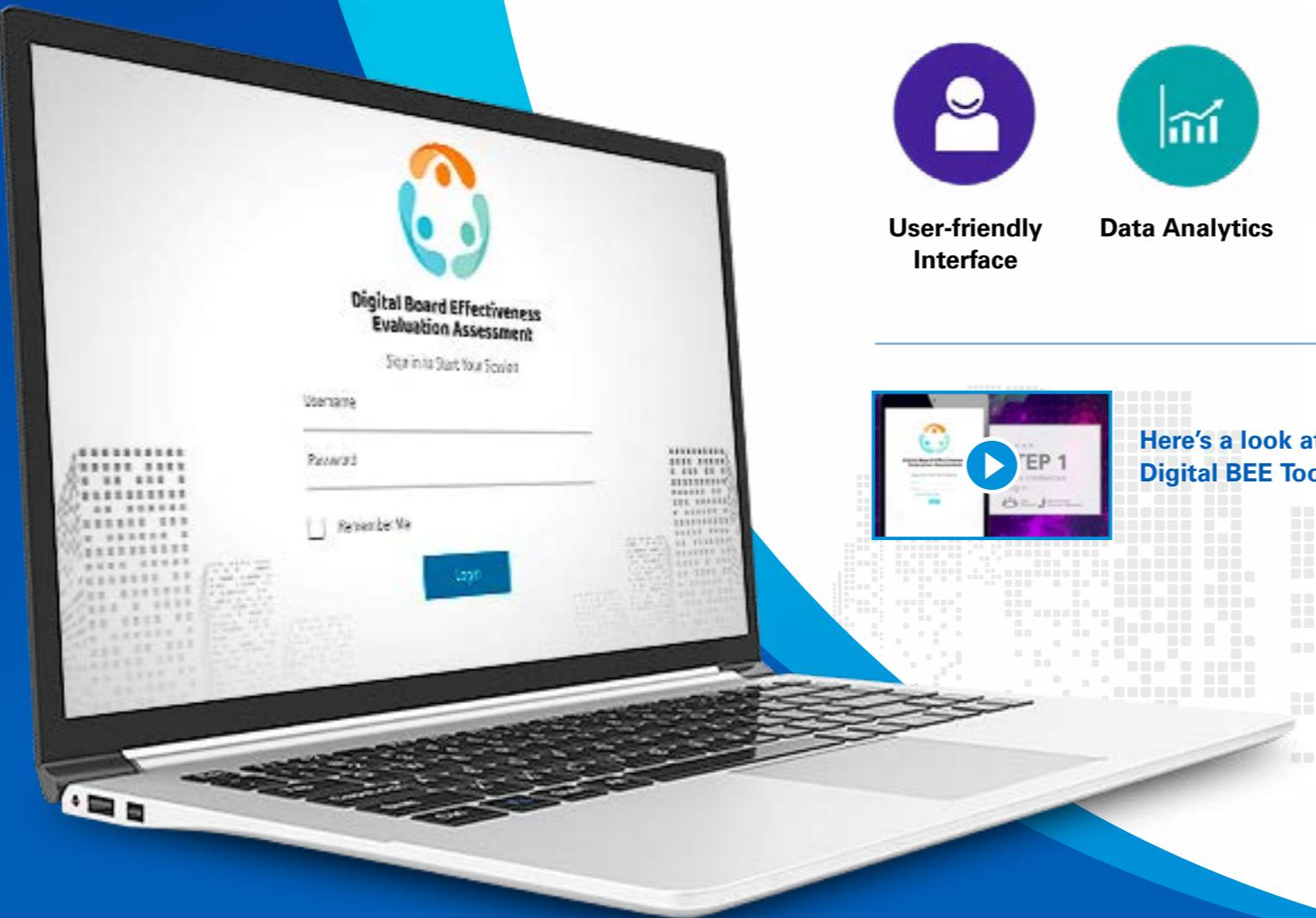
Customized Automated Reporting



Customized Questionnaires



Built-in Checks



Here's a look at the Digital BEE Tool in action.

A special demo can be conducted for your clients upon request. Please contact **Krishman Varges** (ext. 7775) or visit [www.kpmg.com.my/BEE](http://www.kpmg.com.my/BEE) for more details.





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