

KAMPONG GLAM STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholders have been active in bringing vibrancy to the Kampong Glam conservation area.

Since May last year, Haji Lane has been closed to vehicular traffic every Friday evening, and weekends from noon to midnight. This car-free initiative was initiated by the owners of businesses along Haji Lane, who have played a key role in managing and creating events for the road closures.

To aid and organise such efforts, precinct association One Kampong Gelam was formed in June this year. It aims to bring together stakeholders to benefit the life of the historic district.

“The history of Kampong Gelam has many aspects, from being the seat of the old Malay aristocracy to its varied vibrant traders that made the area an important area for business, to the strong links that the Sultan Mosque had to the area that shaped its character,” said One Kampong Gelam’s treasurer and founding member Johari Kazura.

“The challenge is to maintain the heritage and feel of the place while keeping pace with modern realities. The aim is to make a place that is welcoming to business, residents and visitors.

“Kampong Gelam should not be an attraction but rather a living neighbourhood. One Kampong Gelam hopes to be a part of the process.”

SCHOOLS’ VIDEO DOCUMENTARY PROJECTS

Students from the School of the Arts (SOTA) have produced a video documentary on last year’s award winner, the Lorong 24A Shophouse Series.

The video documents the architecture, as well as the social histories of the buildings and their surrounding areas, through images, narration and interviews with the owners and architects.

These video projects, produced in collaboration with the URA for the second year running, aim to tap the skills and interests of young people to capture the stories behind our conserved buildings and, in the process, allow them to learn more about their built heritage. The videos will then be a means to spread the message of conservation to the wider public.