



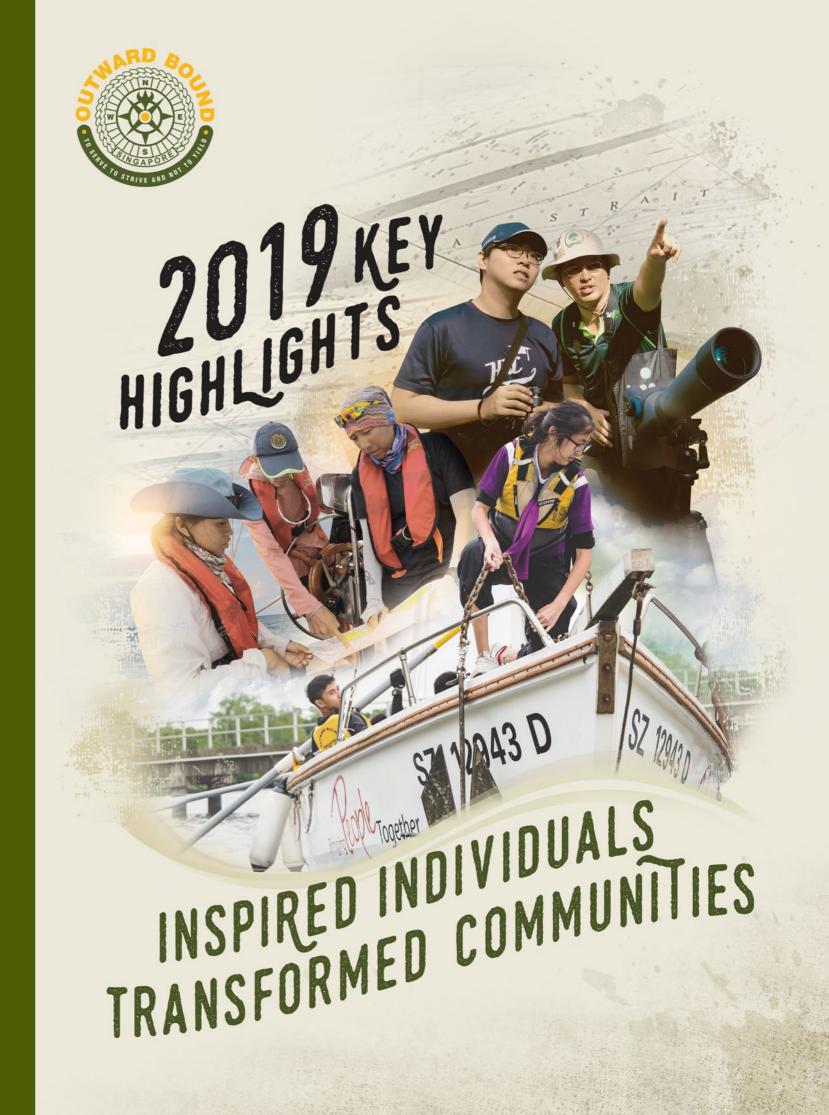
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@outwardboundsingapore



@outwardboundsg



Overall, in conducting about 120 adventure learning and outdoor leadership development programmes, our courses benefitted more than 22,000 youths comprising students to working

adults.

.....66......

This year, we implemented key strategic initiatives to support our growth. We deployed a customised incident management & communications suite in our Operations Centre thereby enhancing our capabilities in risk management and incident response for local and overseas programmes. Staff are encouraged to leverage on new digital skills & collaborative tools to share knowledge and be more effective in their roles. I'm also heartened to see capable staff stepping up to new leadership roles and mentoring their juniors as part

019 has been, in many ways, a milestone year for Outward

Bound Singapore. We have

expanded opportunities for

youths to attend the MOE-OBS

Challenge Programme as part of

the National Outdoor Adventure

Education Masterplan with 29 new

schools on-board this year. Overall,

in conducting about 120 adventure

22,000 youths comprising students

learning and outdoor leadership

development programmes, our

courses benefitted more than

to working adults.

To realise our Mission, we collaborated with industry partners for our staff training & youth Adventure, we achieved another historical milestone - a 286 nautical

of our staff development plan.

miles sail training expedition crossing the Equator at Pulau Lingga, in the Riau Archipelago. Working with Loola Adventure, we introduced their Safe Water Garden community project as a meaningful service-learning initiative in some of our programmes benefiting rural villagers in Bintan Island.

This year we deepened our collaboration with regional Outward Bound partners through overseas youth programmes. These partners have also strongly supported our Outdoor Adventure Education Conference. Additionally, we have expanded our staff training to overseas Outward Bound schools, and introduced more opportunities for crosssharing of knowledge and expertise.

Our staff have more varied experiences than ever before, and it brings me great satisfaction to know that they continue to bring their sense of passion to inspire young Singaporeans. These are the people who will continue to shape the next generation of Singaporeans; who'll continue 'to strive, to serve and not to yield'.

Nicholas Conceicao





2019 AT A GLANCE

OBS programmes conducted



Total OBS youth outreach ranging from schooling to working adults



OBS partners impacted

FEEDBACK ON OBS EXPERIENCE IN 2019





Course Instructor

Provided me with a positive course experience overall 4.82 / 5

98.71% Rated 4 and above

83.7% Rated 5



Overall

4.62/5

97.99% Rated 4 and above

64.17% Rated 5



Satisfaction

I am satisfied with my course experience

4.65/5

96.85% Rated 4 and above

68.27% Rated 5

"I've learned that even though we are leaders, there are times where our followers are the ones who teach us and help us to grow and progress as a team. There are also many ways that we can take to lead and this course was an opportunity to experiment."

Otaki Minami

Republic Polytechnic

"It is a journey into the unknown. Testing yourself to get the best out of it and also knowing yourself to the limit to achieve a goal. It is a once in a life time experience to gain knowledge about yourself and what you are willing to do."

Gurjeevaan Singh

OBS Leadership and Service Award Recipient

The most memorable activity for me was during the solo night. The solo night left me with a lot of time deeply. Leaving to push one's mind 1 to self-reflect and also look back at myself. It gave me the opportunity to see where I could improve myself and also perform better in certain areas."

Ahmad Asyraf Bin Khalil

Singapore Police Force

RITE OF PASSAGE ~~~~~

MOE-OBS CHALLENGE

2017-2019 OVERVIEW

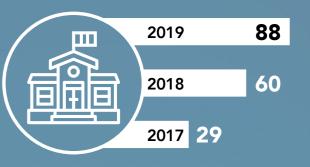
No of pax year on year

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6,093

Total no of schools year on year



2019 LEARNING OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES Out of a scale of 5



Build friendships with people from diverse socio-cultural backgrounds to achieve team goals in an inclusive manner.



CONFIDENT PERSON

Be able to deal with challenges positively through self-directed learning and making right choices to influence their circumstances.



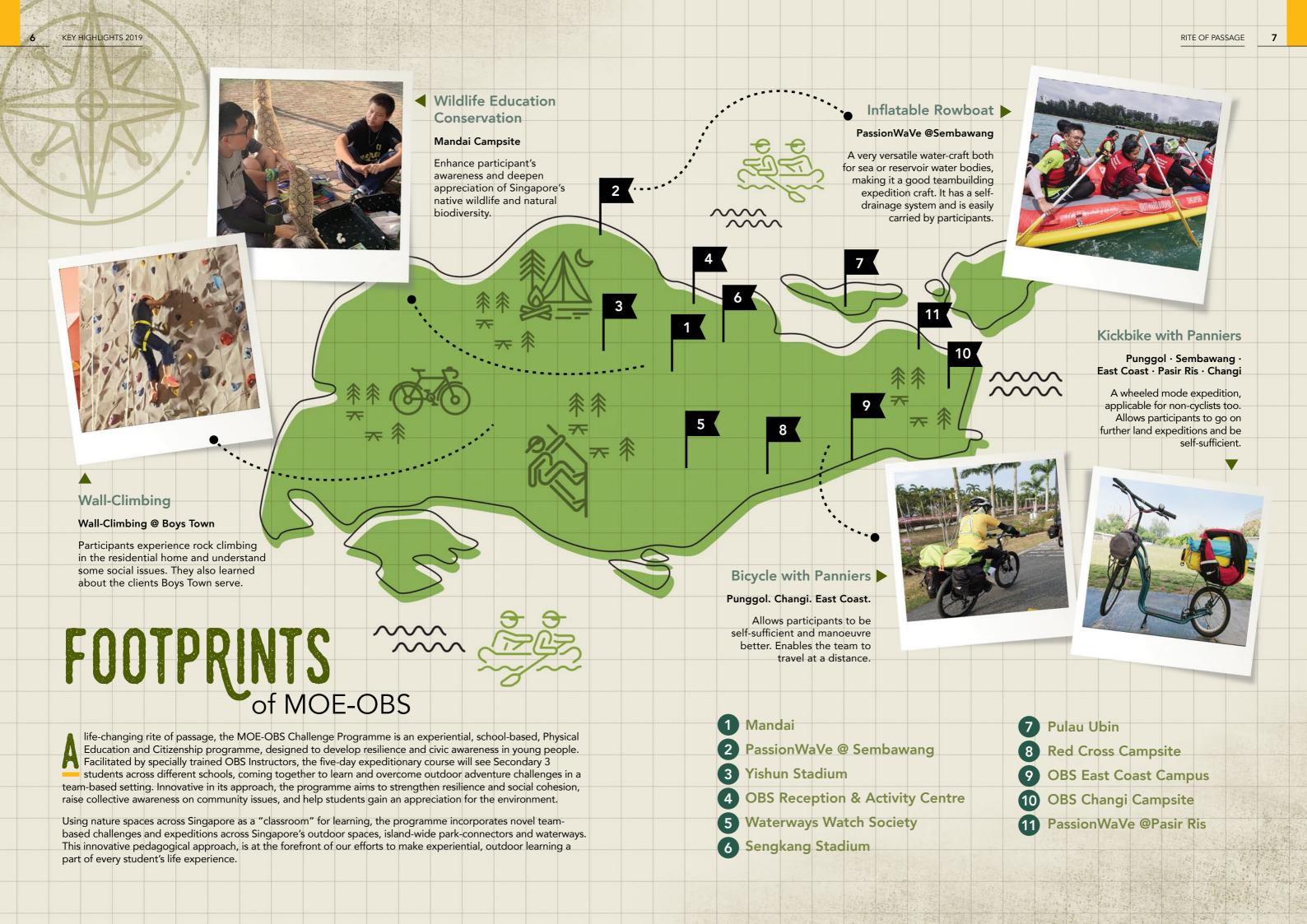
RESILIENCE



29 CONCERNED CITIZEN

Commit to play an active role to improve the environment and community.





OUR PEOPLE INVESTING AND BUILDING CAPABILITY



PEOPLE STATES



From Chef to OBS Instructor....

I was a Chef for about 5 years, working on diverse cuisines from Japanese to Western fine dining. While it was satisfying to watch my customers enjoy my lovingly prepared culinary creations, I felt that I should be doing more to help others, and make a difference in their lives.

My current and previous roles are vastly different. In F&B, our food and the sensory feel of a good meal impacts customer satisfaction. In OBS, the focus is on our participants. Helping them understand how their actions impact others including themselves is vital. The situational skills I learnt as a chef are especially useful — teamwork, sizing up resource limitations, and being prepared — all of it can be applied to my work with OBS.

On work and inspiration....

My colleagues are my biggest motivators. It is an amazing feeling to come to work every day and know that your colleagues have your back. That we are one team working together to make participants' OBS experience a memorable one.

Memorable moments in OBS....

During my 3rd course, I had two participants who were particularly uninterested in the program. With the help of my peers, we turned the situation around through encouragement and giving them opportunities to lead. This in turn allowed them to be more receptive, and they even stepped up to lead the entire watch in our expeditions.

Lessons from my OBS journey so far....

"Seek first to understand, then to be understood." Taking reference from Stephen Covey, I believe it's important to hear each other out, align and regroup before we move forward. Understanding this has taught me to handle situations on the ground well, both with colleagues and students.

On the role of outdoor education

I feel outdoor education gives young people a chance to step out of their comfort zones. Living in a modern city as we do, sometimes we miss out on what the outdoors can teach us. Grit, tenacity, teamwork, social cohesion — the MOE-OBS outdoor adventure education masterplan is a great platform to help young people gain an experience of a lifetime.



Sometimes we miss out on what the outdoors can teach us. Grit, tenacity, teamwork, social cohesion.

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Creating an inclusive environment that invests in people pivots an organisation forward. At OBS, we take a holistic approach to nurture our people for growth and learning. In turn, this helps us facilitate meaningful learning experiences for all participants who walk through our doors. Supporting our core work is a team of dedicated staff from diverse backgrounds, playing different roles from Partnership Manager to Team Manager, and Instructors.



There is something special in everyone and you can learn something from them.



started out with OBS soon after graduation. While my peers entered the corporate world, I realised this was not for me. My interest in working with young people grew from coaching my junior varsity basketball team. Coaching my juniors gave me a sense of satisfaction, especially when I saw them get better in their game. A close friend who knew me well felt that that OBS could be a good fit and suggested I give it a shot. And that's how I got started on my journey with OBS.

Being an OBS Instructor, I get to pick up new skills such as abseiling and group facilitation. Each week is unique, with a new batch of students from diverse backgrounds and different schools. No two days are ever the same, so what more could I ask for!

On work and inspiration....

There is a saying in OBS on "Paying it forward". Becoming an OBS Instructor has allowed me to pay forward the help and kindness I received on my journey. Seeing participants learn things about themselves on their OBS journey is a reward in itself.

Memorable moments in OBS....

This incident occurred during a land expedition. A participant

unknowingly stepped on a thorny leaf, resulting in a bad splinter in his foot. I had to call a halt on the activity and treat his injury. While removing the splinter, I casually remarked, "Why do bad things happen to good people?". Known for his cheery nature, the participant replied, "So that it prepares them for a greater future". His reply made me realise that even a mishap can be a teachable moment.

Lessons from my OBS journey

This is something I learnt from my time in OBS, that there is something special in everyone and that you can learn something from them.

On the role of outdoor education in Singapore

I think it is a great idea to be inclusive. Getting students from different walks of life together gives them a common, shared experience. Outdoor education is a chance to level the playing field, and enables students to gain a better understanding of one another. Working together in an unfamiliar environment, learning through mistakes, is an enriching experience that will remain long in their collective memories.



First joined OBS in 2017

Xing Kai opted out of

Instructor soon after

a corporate career,

joining OBS as an

2 years in Service

Current role:

graduation.

Instructor

......**66**

Outdoor education is especially important now, to teach students essential life-skills that they would otherwise not learn in a classroom environment.

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orking outdoors in all-weather On work and inspiration.... conditions as an Instructor taught me that adaptability is a vital skill to manage unforeseen situations. This ability to adapt and manage different stakeholders is critical to my role as a Partnership Manager.

On career progression in OBS....

I started out my career in 2015 as an Instructor, teaching life skills to OBS participants and being outdoors. While it has been immensely satisfying, the role was not without challenges. Being an Instructor places a huge demand on time. As I wanted to start a family, I applied for a noninstructional role within OBS.

Thankfully, the stars aligned and I was offered an opening for Partnership Manager position. As a non-instructional role, it meant that working hours were officebased, and I could go home on weeknights! It was a perfect was fit for me, allowing me to combine skills I learnt as an Instructor and those I gained in the healthcare sector prior to my career with OBS.

Memorable moments in OBS....

The peer feedback session on my first MOE-OBS Challenge programme was especially memorable. While reading his peers' feedback about him, a student broke down quietly beside me. Sharing that he was in fact a school bully, the positive comments and encouraging words by his watchmates changed his perception of himself. Five days surrounded by peers from different background taught him that he was capable of doing good and had the potential to do more. It further affirmed my belief that the MOE-OBS Challenge Programme made a positive difference.

It is the people and the environment that drives me to come to work every day. The friendly-family culture in OBS with my colleagues, the security guards, our third-party vendors, and even our friendly quardhouse dog! Everyone greets you with a smile. I cannot think of any other workplace that has such a warm friendly vibe. Not forgetting, the outdoors! The scent of the sea, the coconut trees rustling and the hornbills flying by – these are what motivates me to come to work every day.

Being a Partnership Manager....

I have never had a dull moment in my role as a Partnership Manager. I work closely with key stakeholders, among them MOE and parents. This makes it important for me to strengthen my working relationships with them, as we welcome more youth on board the MOE-OBS Challenge programme.

On the role of outdoor education in Singapore

The OBS course was considered prestigious when I was in secondary school. I was one of the lucky few selected for the 5-day OBS leadership course. I remember leaving OBS with a sense of purpose, confidence and satisfaction.

I was pleased when the MOE-OBS Challenge programme was introduced in 2016. With the over-use and reliance on technology, outdoor education is especially important now, to teach students essential life-skills that they would otherwise not learn in a classroom environment.

🖍 ince we scaled our operations, 🔝 I know I have a supportive group OBS has seen an increase in the participant outreach over the years. With more students coming on board, this requires a larger pool of trained instructional staff. In my current role as a Team Manager, I look after a team of Instructors, managing their personal growth, and also conduct regular coaching sessions to ensure Instructors maintain the highest standards of quality, and safety in the courses we conduct.

On career progression in OBS....

My journey in OBS started in October 2013. After four years of honing my skills as an Instructor, in 2018, with the encouragement of my colleagues, I stepped up to take on a leadership role, to challenge myself professionally, and I have been a Team Manager since then.

Memorable moments in OBS....

I attended a month-long training program with Outward Bound (OB) Romania in May 2018. It was a privilege to represent OBS, and an opportunity to learn from our OB Romanian colleagues. I was out of my comfort zone, having to lead a group of trainers who were culturally different and were way more advanced than I was in river canoeing. It was a humbling experience, as I had to adapt and learn new skills on-the-go. I also learnt to rely on the good faith of my teammates, and to inspire a shared vision among them so we could complete the expedition successfully.

On work and inspiration....

Dynamic and different — no two days are alike in OBS. There are opportunities for learning and selfdevelopment, and more than that,

of colleagues who are always ready and eager to help me out or lend a listening ear.

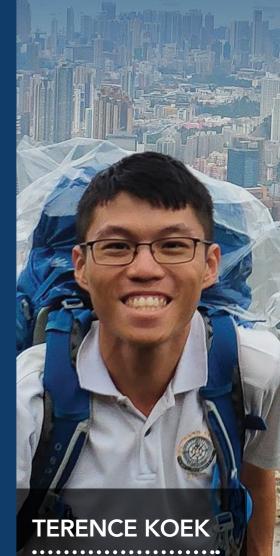
Being an OBS Instructor....

As OBS Instructors, we see ourselves as facilitators, encouraging students to realise their perceived self-limitations, not short-change themselves for the simple fear of trying out. My interactions with participants have helped me develop a keener sense of empathy for others, something I admittedly found difficult to do before my career with OBS. In turn, this has helped me become a better Team Manager, to understand the needs of my staff, and challenge them positively to go beyond their limitations.

On the role of outdoor education in Singapore

I believe that outdoor education has tremendous impact on our youth and society. Characterbuilding and self-discovery are among the key outcomes central to the meta-development of a digitally savvy generation.

Before the MOE-OBS Challenge Programme, I used to think that every Singaporean youth should be gifted the learning opportunity to new and unfamiliar physical and social environments. While that statement still holds true, I do realise a 'one size fits all' policy is not for everyone. For MOE-OBS Challenge Programme to be relevant, we need to continually evolve, be inclusive and responsive to the changing needs of our students and community.



6 years in Service First joined OBS in 2013

Current role: Team Manager

After three years as an Instructor, Terence stepped up to take on a leadership role as Team Manager.



We need to continually evolve, be inclusive and responsive to the changing needs of our students and community.

SINGA-

he inaugural Singa-Lumut Keelboat expedition marked our close ties with Outward Bound Malaysia (Lumut) on their 65th anniversary. Collaborating with Focus Adventure (FA), we sailed the Maybritt - a full-keeled, staysail ketch to Lumut.

A handpicked crew of 4 rookie Instructors, 2 OBS alumni and 5 other members led the first leg of the expedition from Raffles Marina. As the skipper, I had to ensure we were ready to sail from Lumut (Telok Muroh) to Singapore (Raffles Marina) - 3 days over 285 nautical miles.

The highlight of this expedition – team camaraderie and the chance to skipper our first keelboat expedition in recent years. Rough seas notwithstanding, we managed to sail home safely. From this, I learnt that opportunities to train as a team is a must.

Arfan Farudi, Lead Training Consultant | Skipper





Tan Shi Yi, OBS Alumni



"Learning on-the-go was my biggest takeaway. From understanding latitude/longitude, to getting clarity on plotting landmarks we aimed to pass, and working on bowline knots, the outdoor life hacks I learnt were especially useful to me and I could not be thankful enough for that." **Lishanth Thangavelu,** OBS Alumni

'I also learnt the true meaning of

"to strive and not yield". Despite

rough conditions at sea, running on

19 hours of continuous night sailing

clock 313 nautical miles on average.

Harsh conditions notwithstanding,

the expedition brought a whole new

meaning to tenacity – as the whole

crew got activated to hoist different

sails in bad weather."

with little sleep, we managed to



Anbu Agana, OBS Alumni



"Facing the elements at sea, there were moments I wondered if I could even helm our keelboat at night. I learnt that sometimes you just have to take a leap of faith and trust that everything works out. It has been a humbling experience and I am truly grateful for this opportunity and proud that I did it. I would do it again – even the seasickness, because it too, was a part of my learning journey."

JOURNEY COUNTY Singapore to Riau, Indonesia

n line with OBS's expanded sailing programmes via keelboats, the annual staff training expedition is an integral part of our Instructors' professional practice to enhance their sailing competencies. With this expansion, there is a need to build capability and certify a core team of Instructors with relevant skipper

certification. The journey to the equator – Singapore to Pulau Lingga (Riau Archipelago), Indonesia was identified as a launch point for this training.

Supported by Focus Adventure, the inaugural OBS keelboat staff training expedition to the equator was

Supported by Focus Adventure, the inaugural OBS keelboat staff training expedition to the equator was planned for 19th May to 26th May 2019. As with past expeditions, our principal consideration for this was to ensure self-sufficiency - charting our passage manually and navigating by night.

The 6-day staff training expedition was conducted as a self-sufficient keelboat expedition. The aim being, to build technical competencies for senior trainers, and achieving skipper certification internationally. The expedition involved 11 senior staff from several OBS units.

Although moments of uncertainty cropped up, the crew's extraordinary efforts had us crossing the equator in 6 days, covering a total of 286 nautical miles, with one overnight passage. More than anything, our journey to the equator was a revelation. It not only sharpened our technical competency in sailing, but also opened up opportunities for possible sea routes and campsites to build on future sailing programmes.



06 Days

28 Nautica Miles

Overnight passage

24th May NPM to One°15 Marina

150m

ROUTE MAP

22nd-23rd May P. Blanding to NPM (Crossing of Equator + overnight sailing)

Day

25th May Nongsa Point Marina (NPM) to P. Riau

Day

25th May P. Blanding to NPM (Crossing of Equator + overnight sailing)

25th May P. Riau to P. Benar

P. Blanding

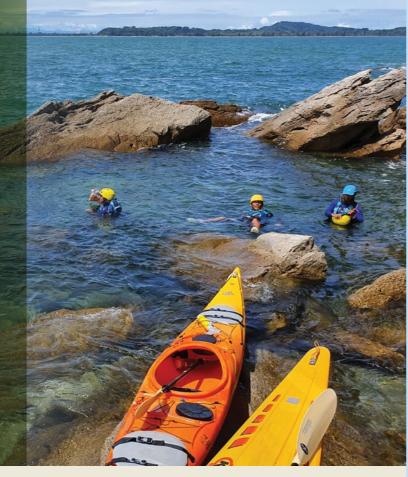
31m

Kayak 4-Star collaboration with OBBD

OBS is constantly seeking ways to advance kayaking skills among our Instructors. The Kayak 4-Star started out in 2018 as a joint Instructor training collaboration with OBS Brunei Darussalam. Covering both theory and seamanship practice, the 5-day training programme helps Instructors deepen their skills in challenging open water conditions.

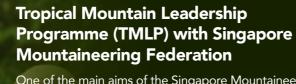
This in-house programme enhances Instructors' technical skills — from safely managing expedition fleets offshore to navigating and managing sea and wind conditions. Brunei was deemed an ideal training site as wave conditions were conducive for sea kayaking, and sea conditions were less susceptible to unpredictable monsoon winds.

Since the inception of both programmes, a total of 43 staff have undergone the Kayaking 4-Star programme, and 46 have gone through the Tropical Mountain Leader Proficiency (TMLP) programme respectively. In addition, for the first time, both programmes are now jointly conducted onsite at OBS Brunei Darussalam. With this partnership, OBS is able to provide training and facilitation outreach to the region, allowing staff from our sister campuses to join in the programme.



SE ADVANCED TRAINING

BS is continuously exploring ways to enhance and build our capabilities. 2019 had us collaborating with our partners, to develop new programmes that allow young people to broaden their world views. A meaningful experience is life changing. It fosters a community of confident young people with a deeper understanding on their role as citizens of the world.





owards a more inclusive society, is the aim for this collaboration between OBS and MOE Special Education Branch (SEB). The Inclusive Sailing Programme aims to grow social-awareness of young people with disabilities among mainstream school youth.

Using sailing as a means for interaction, the programme gives special education school youth a unique outdoor adventure experience that may otherwise be inaccessible. More than that, it brings young people together, fostering empathy and an understanding of special needs.

53 students from mainstream and special education schools participated in the 5-day Inclusive Sailing programme. Participants took part in experiential and expeditionary outdoor activities to build team initiative, water confidence, and cutter sailing skills.

Divided into phases - Day 1 and 2 were held at OBS Camp 1, and started out with ice-breakers followed by a communication session led by SPED staff. Participants were taught the appropriate ways in which to interact with people with intellectual disabilities. Participants with special needs were familiarised with the campus, with all coming together for team-building and kayak capsize drills.

Day 3 to 4 was a cause for excitement for everyone. OBS Instructors led participants on an introduction to the Cutter sailboat, its parts and logistics. Participants also learnt to tie knots and the fundamentals of sailing. All of this, to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to sail. Debrief and reflections were held on the final day, with participants sharing their experiences and learning from the programme.



WHAT THEY SAY

"I feel happy that I have learnt something I didn't know from the SPED students. They are amazing people who are trying so hard to live a normal life like us but one thing for sure is that they are very unique."

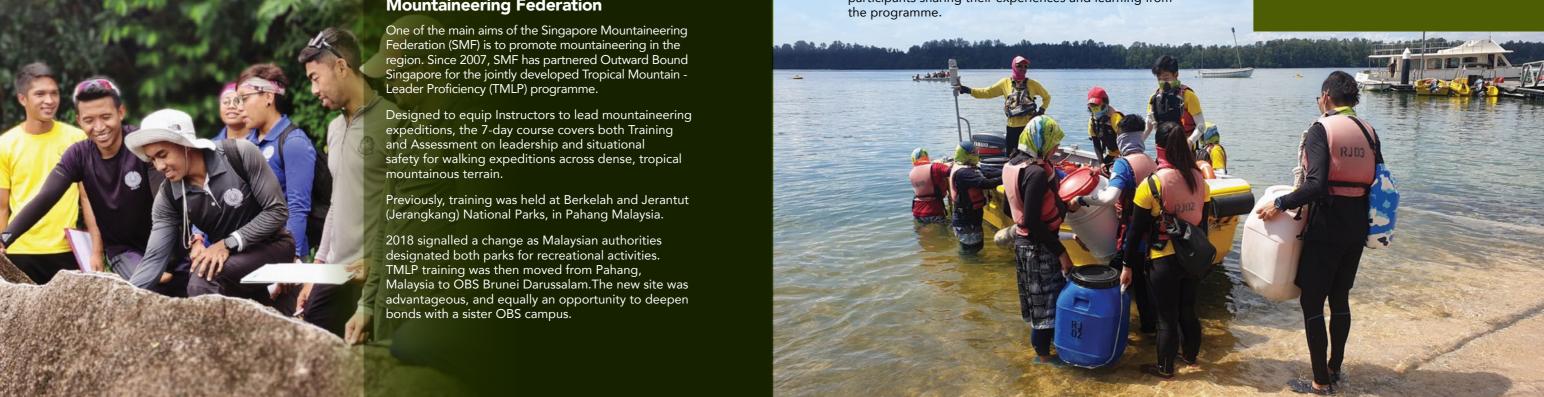
Bukit Merah participant

"The most challenging moment was being the helmsmen. It was really difficult and stressful because I was responsible for the whole crew. I overcame it by being patient even after making countless mistakes and not giving up easily."

Ngee Ann Secondary participant

"Getting everyone in a happy mood everyday even in harsh weather, like when the storm kicked in and we were all struggling and the sun making us stressed, but we took a moment, paused and overcame it together, cheering each other on."

Bukit Merah participant



KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2019 OUR OBS ALUMNI – SERVE, GROW, INSPIRE

OUR OBS ALUMNI SERVE GROW INSPIRE ∼∼

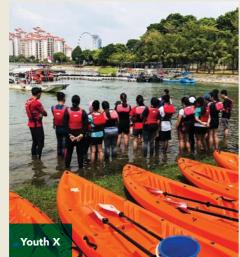
ALUMNI STORIES

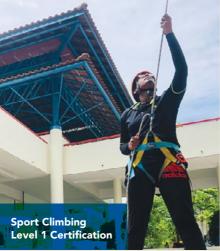
he OBS Alumni exemplify the meaning of others before self. A close-knit community of individuals, our alumni are motivated to serve, bringing positive change with a simple helping hand.

Bridging communities through their work, our alumni are big-hearted, capable young people inspired by their OBS experience to make a difference to others.

Youth X 3 – 4 August

OBS alumni got a chance to share with 150 participants on coastalclean activities as part of the Youth X initiative. They spoke with Minister of Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) Mr Masagos Zulkifli on the purpose of making citrus enzyme detergent and the process behind Bokashi and Vermicomposting. A total of 106 participants were involved in the Enzyme Detergent-making session and 159 participants took part in the OBS Kayak Clean-up.









Project IsLand-A-Hand (PIAH)

PIAH is an annual conservation effort led by OBS alumni. Launched in 2015, the event is OBS' largest environmental service to the community, bringing together 300 participants and volunteer leaders from all walks of life to conserve and appreciate our natural environment. The 6th edition of this annual event was led by 28 LSA and OBS alumni, with 9 members of the public, joining hands to make a difference.



96.7%

were impacted by PIAH to be more environmentally friendly and responsible











Leadership and Service Award (LSA) Assistant Mentor — Post-course **Service Projects** January – March, April – June, August - October

Under the guidance and mentorship of 6 OBS Staff, 10 LSA Assistant Mentors were attached to a total of 5 LSA Post-course Service Projects.

Leadership and Service Award (LSA) Alumni Gathering 2019 21 – 22 September The annual LSA Alumni Gathering is

designed to foster bonding and further leadership potential across different batches of LSA alumni. Beginning with a self-discovery and DISC profiling module, LSA Alumni learnt about the impact of their values on their individual leadership styles.

"The most memorable moment for me was the lesson on DISC which gave me a better understanding of myself and also others. Because learning more about DISC allows me to understand others better, and it will benefit a lot when I have group projects."

> Sarah Ng An Shu, LSA 1218

#OUTWARDBOUNDSG



estimonials

Each year, when the Secondary 3s return to the School after their 9-day pinnacle Camp from OBM Lumut, staff and I bear witness to an unbelievable school spirit that no other programme can create. This is the true value and magic of the camps offered by OBS.

Mr Tan Teck Hock Principal of Sports school

It's an eye opening experience for me. I had lots of fun. And it's surprising to see how a group of parents turn into kids themselves during the open house. And I have learnt to always be brave to take the first step in order to move forward for greater things.

Parent from Peirce Secondary School





A challenging and enriching course, filled with both fun and learning that really stretched my potential and humbled me as an individual.

Tan Rui Zhi Singapore Police Force



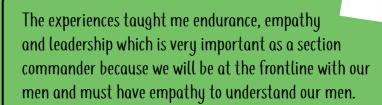


I have learnt that I have to speak up more and communicate with others more. I have learnt to respect everyone's decisions, have resilience when I do things, have integrity in the things I do and say, teamwork makes the dream work and that caring for one another is very important.

Ong Kah Min Nanyang Polytechnic

I have learnt that being a leader is not a fixed formula: there are many styles of leadership that should be appropriately used based on the person we are leading. Personally, I have also learnt that leadership is not just about leading the people, but also caring for them.

May Yi Public Service Commission



Muhammad Aiman Singapore Civil Defence Force

Outward Bound is really a place that creates new and unique memories every time. These fond memories will help us to pull through tough times in our future teaching career.

Ow Yeong Yook Kit Ministry of Education







