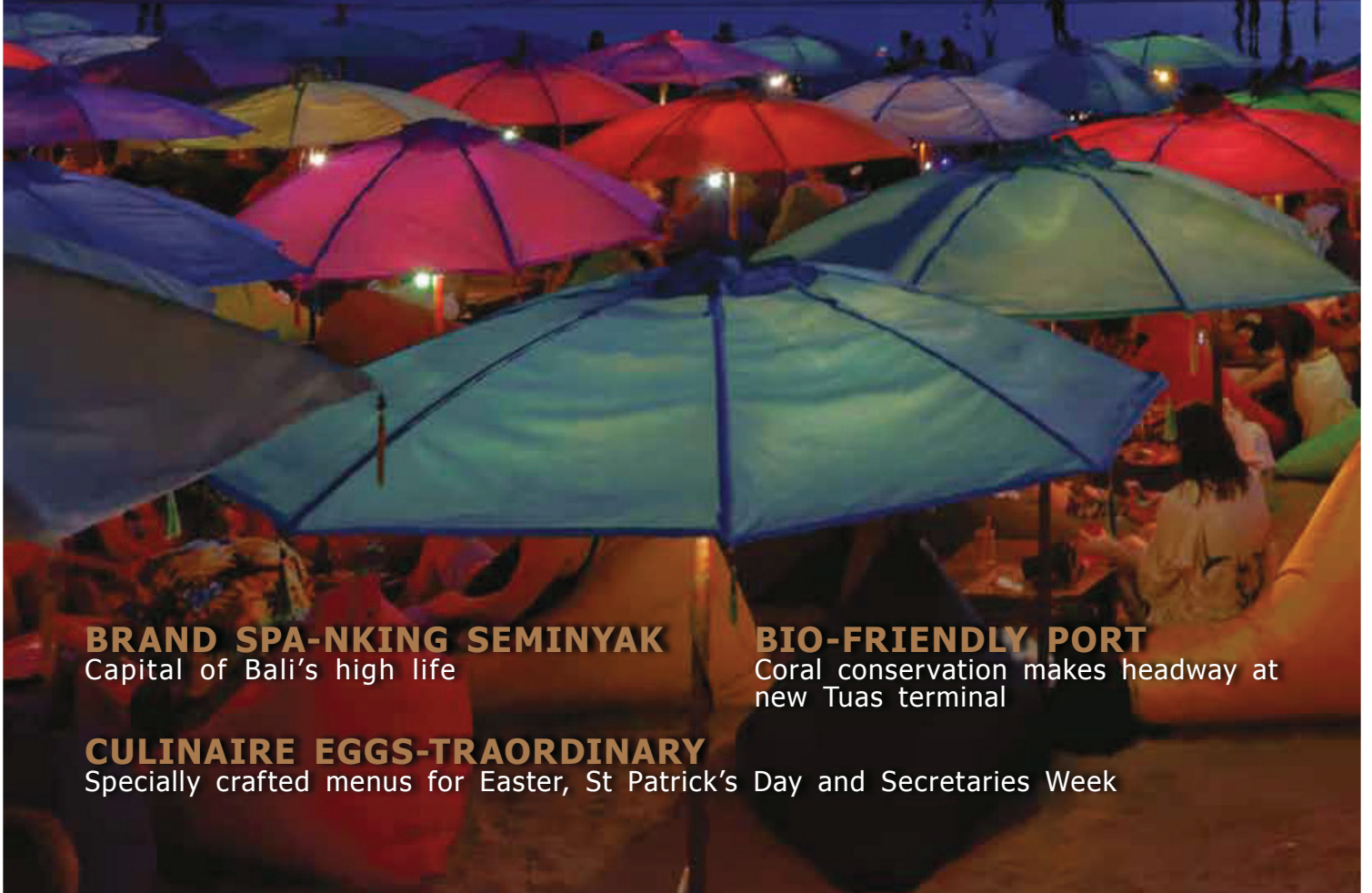


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Mar/Apr 2016



BRAND SPA-NKING SEMINYAK

Capital of Bali's high life

BIO-FRIENDLY PORT

Coral conservation makes headway at new Tuas terminal

CULINAIRE EGGS-TRAORDINARY

Specially crafted menus for Easter, St Patrick's Day and Secretaries Week



A Heartfelt Thank You!

A student from PCRF's International Biosphere Stewardship Programme 2015 expresses her gratitude for an enriching, empowering and inspiring experience.



This summer, Biosphere Foundation (BF) hosted its fourth International Biosphere Stewardship programme in NW Bali. Kimheang Chham, a student from Cambodia, studying at UWCSEA, was kindly sponsored by Yves De Leeneer, director of BF Singapore. The following is an extract from her thank you letter to Yves that beautifully tells the story of this year's programme.

"I would like to share with you a little bit about what I've learned through this programme. I've had great interest in environmental issues for the past few years, but never had the opportunity to spend time working on them. Through this stewardship programme, I've learned to appreciate and value the natural world.

While schooling in Singapore, due to the crazy schedule, I sometimes lose some commitment and interest in this field. But being able to spend 10 days, non-stop with people who are passionate in this work and learning from such experienced people about these issues such as Sally, I've been super fortunate and honored to have had this amazing opportunity.

The programme woke me up and reminded me of how much I love nature, and how much I want to help it, in terms of action and not just thoughts. Now I not only see the problems, but I also know how to search for solutions and where to ask for help. I realised more about the beauty of nature and am able to share all I've learned with my community back in Cambodia and in UWCSEA, Singapore.

I made friends from other countries who joined the programme. One in particular became my close friend. She is a talented and lovely individual but she does not have the supportive environment around her that I do. I tried hard to support her and let her know how amazing she is and how valuable our lives are.

So what I'm trying to say is that it was more than an environmental summer camp where you meet other teenagers; it was a life-changing experience for many people. We had the chance to learn so much about the environment and how we can help it. We also learned a great deal from people whom we met and gave each other support through our sharing.

I learned a lot about Balinese culture, and got to meet amazing Balinese friends. Despite the language barrier, we managed to figure out ways to communicate and succeeded in creating great friendships that would last forever.

These are some of the things that I had the opportunity to acquire, and I would like to thank you so very much for giving a young person like me a chance to do so every year. Your gift hasn't been wasted, it has been used to buy water that in turn has helped a young seed to grow and thrive into a big rainforest; which in turn is helping a young person learn and do more about what they're passionate about, and create a great impact on their communities and the world. The impact doesn't stop here, it will continue to grow bigger and bigger everyday, by sharing from one to another. Once again, thank you very much!"

Please follow our progress at www.biospherefoundation.org and on Biosphere Foundation Facebook.