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STAR gardens

By ANNA VIVIENNE

The garden is well kept. The flowers bloom brightly among dark green leaves. The plants are kept nicely trimmed along meandering paths, bordered by round stones and shiny little pebbles. As you walk in you will feel like you are entering a secret garden and if the shadows are deep enough, you can almost feel the presence of garden elves flitting around the shrubs. Well, that may be a bit too fanciful but during my visit there, I felt the tranquillity so keenly that I almost felt like sitting down among the bushes, read a good book and doze.

Actually, doing that may just be frowned upon as the garden in question is located on a roof of a store room (!) at the Shangri-la's Tanjung Aru Resort (STAR).

STAR General Manager Ulf Bremer shares that what actually happened was that they needed a store room for their utensils. So they built one at one side of the resort. The roof however just reached the balcony of the ground floor part of the hotel.

"So we thought; why don't we use the space, actually the roof, for something else instead of it just being a roof. And we came up with the idea to make it into a garden...The planning was like three months but the implementation was very fast and we managed to complete the garden in less than a month," he shares.

As for the plants adorning the flat concrete roof, making it into a beautiful garden, he shares that they did not have any problem getting them as they have their own nursery and



See page II and III



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26.06.2007

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