PARK ELEVEN: A DESIGNER HOME IN SHANGHAI
Lower Earnings for UOL Due to Absence of One-Time Gain

At its full year results briefing to the media and analysts held on 26 February 2016 at Pan Pacific Singapore, the Group reported a fall of 43% in net attributable profit to $391.4 million for the financial year ended 31 December 2015 (FY15), due mainly to lower fair value gains for the Group’s investment properties and the absence of a large one-time profit made from the sale of Jalan Conlay land in Malaysia in 2014.

The core business of the Group continued to perform well despite the depressed conditions in its key market, Singapore. Excluding the one-time sales of $220.1 million from Jalan Conlay, Group revenue was up 12% to $1.28 billion in FY15. Revenue from property development of $557.5 million, up 27%, came mainly from Singapore projects – Katong Regency, Seventy Saint Patrick’s, Riverbank@Fernvale and Botanique at Bartley. Revenue from property investments rose 11% to $219.4 million from OneKM mall which opened in the last quarter of 2014. The Group’s hotel business, the second largest revenue generator after property development, slipped 4% to $419.4 million.

Attributable fair value and other gains/losses (including fair value gains of associated companies) were $41.0 million against $288.3 million in the year before.

UOL Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer Liam Wee Sin said: “Singapore residential market remained challenging in 2015 amid an economic slowdown and the dampening effects of the government’s cooling measures. Despite this, our property development and investment business performed creditably. We sold over $900 million worth of new apartments in Singapore. We expect market conditions to remain subdued in 2016 and will continue to build recurrent income from rentals of offices and shopping malls, and from our hospitality business.”

Directors have proposed a first and final dividend of $0.15 per ordinary share.

Plant a Seed, Warm a Heart

The weather was hot, but it got hotter as some 30 seniors warmed up to 19 UOL volunteers who joined them in a farming activity at a unique find – a vegetable and fruit farm tucked away at the top of Bukit Panjang Hill in the midst of our concrete jungle, on 18 March 2016.

This was the third year that UOL volunteers bring warmth and concern to the elderly residents of AWWA’s Senior Community Home. At the farm, they learnt how chilli padi, strawberries, herbs and vegetables are grown. They were also introduced to vertical farming of microgreens such as sunflower sprouts, pea shoots and mustard. They even got down to potting kang kong which they brought home, so that they could continue to reap and taste the vegetables that they had personally grown.

Ms Karen Choong, Programme Cum Operations Executive from AWWA Senior Community Home, said: “This is really an enjoyable experience for the seniors. They were extremely excited to learn about the different farming techniques, and the types of plants that they are able to grow back in AWWA’s Community Garden.”
Green efforts recognised

Up against seven companies from Asia, UOL was the only Singapore company that was a finalist in the Asia’s Best Environmental Reporting category at the Asia Sustainability Reporting Awards 2015 held on 28 January 2016 at the residence of the British High Commissioner in Singapore. The British High Commissioner His Excellency Mr Scott Wightman was the guest of honour.

The inaugural awards were launched by Singapore-based sustainability advisory firm, CSRWorks International, and supported by the Global Compact Network Singapore and British High Commission Singapore, among others. Singapore companies that were shortlisted in the other categories included Singtel and Starhub.

UOL partners its vendors and tenants for its sustainability journey. One of them is Certification International, the certification body for its compliance with ISO 14001:2004 standards. Ms Maria Lea Sarabia, Environmental Lead Auditor, said: “The Management and staff showed extraordinary commitment to implement environmental sustainable activities and continually develop it.”
APPRECIATING ART UNDER THE STARS

On the evening of 22 January 2016, Gillman Barracks held a public art event – Singapore Arts Club x Art After Dark – which featured works by emerging local artists. The highlight of the event was an exhibition of 12 architectural models of what Gillman Barracks could be, presented by second-year architecture students from the National University of Singapore (NUS).

The NUS project was supported by UOL. Ms Sarah Ng, Senior Corporate Communications Manager, said: “UOL has always been committed to using art, especially works of local artists, to engage the community and enrich lives. We are happy to support this group of architecture students who are using their creativity to bring art closer to Singaporeans.”

The art event was held in conjunction with the Singapore Art Week 2016, which was supported by the National Arts Council, Singapore Economic Development Board and Singapore Tourism Board.

FIRST-TIME SHOPPER WINS A MERCEDES!

Lim Shi Wei’s first visit to OneKM was made a memorable one when his purchase at the mall made him the lucky draw winner of a luxurious Mercedes Benz CLA-180 Coupe!

Last May, United Square, Velocity@Novena Square and OneKM collectively celebrated Singapore’s Golden Jubilee with a bang by holding a Festive Celebration Draw with the luxury car as the grand prize. For eight months, the malls had given out other attractive prizes such as a 55” LG webOS TV and shopping vouchers to those with a minimum spend of $50 at any of UOL’s malls.

Mr Lim, 35, who spent about $400 at OneKM, said: “I am elated to win the top prize! I will continue to shop at UOL’s malls.”

Envious? The Festive Celebration Draw is back, this time with an Audi A1 Sportback 1.0 as the grand prize for shoppers who spend at least $50. Shop at any of the malls from now till 27 January 2017.

PPHG WINS ESTEEMED TRAVEL AWARDS

Travellers worldwide unanimously gave a thumbs up to the impeccable service and stay experience that they received from the collection of hotels under Pan Pacific Hotels Group Limited (PPHG), the hospitality arm of UOL.

At the 14th TripAdvisor Travellers’ Choice Awards 2016, Pan Pacific Orchard, Pan Pacific Singapore, Pan Pacific Serviced Suites Orchard, Pan Pacific Serviced Suites Beach Road and PARKROYAL on Pickering, all in Singapore, as well as PARKROYAL Serviced Suites Kuala Lumpur, won a record total of 15 awards. The six properties earned their ranks within the coveted Top 25 Hotels, Top 25 Hotels for Service and Top 25 Luxury Hotels listings in their respective countries. The TripAdvisor’s awards recognise 7,000 properties across 97 countries in eight regions around the world, with reviews and opinions garnered from TripAdvisor travellers worldwide.

In addition, at the highly-acclaimed Forbes Travel Guide Global Star Ratings, Pan Pacific Vancouver and Pan Pacific Seattle received the prestigious Four-Star rating, while Pan Pacific Singapore was awarded the Recommended rating for the second year.

These travel awards reflect the brand recognition and loyalty that “Pan Pacific” and PARKROYAL are gaining worldwide.