



Major loss: Workers showing the dead fish at a kelong off Pasir Ris beach. — The Straits Times / Asia News Network

New generation of young drinkers raising concern

KIDS are starting to drink alcohol earlier than before and it's worrying, experts say.

Ben had his first drink of whiskey and cola when he was 13 and in Secondary One. It was with a group of friends, after school at a staircase near his Redhill home.

It was not a big deal, Ben, (not his real name), now 18, insisted. "My older brother was already drinking and my father drank at home all the time," he said.

He is part of a new generation of teenagers who are beginning to drink younger, say social workers concerned about a trend they start-

ed noticing about four years ago.

"In the past, most teenagers would start drinking at 15 or 16, but now we are seeing 12- or 13-year-olds," said Dr Carol Balhetchet, senior director for youth services at the Singapore Children's Society.

One of the main reasons is a growing tolerance for social drinking. "Nowadays, it's not uncommon for adults to drink socially in front of children," said Dr Balhetchet.

Figures for alcohol abuse among youth are mostly anecdotal, with VWOs saying they deal with between five and 10 cases each year. — The Straits Times / Asia News Network

Thousands of fish die overnight

Mass deaths take farmers in farms off Changi by surprise

THOUSANDS of fish have died in coastal farms off Changi, in a repeat of last year's nightmare for farmers.

Farmers woke up yesterday morning to the sight of their fish floating belly up — the mass deaths had occurred through the night, so they had no opportunity to try to save their fish.

Dead fish were also seen along the Pasir Ris shoreline.

The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) attributed the deaths to gill damage caused by plankton.

Lab tests conducted so far did not detect biological toxins in the fish, and fish from local farms remains safe to eat, an AVA spokesman said.

At around the same period last year, 160 tonnes of fish died suddenly, also after being poisoned by plankton, and the 39 affected fish farms lost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Yesterday, some despairing

farmers said that they hope to get more support and training in modern farming methods that can minimise pollution and bacteria growth, particularly since the authorities are encouraging the trade to help boost self-sufficiency in food production.

AVA had advised farmers to take precautions since Feb 16, when there were elevated plankton levels detected in the East Johor Strait.

But the overnight deaths took most by surprise.

"I thought I was prepared this year. I even had aerated tanks to save the fish if a few started dying.

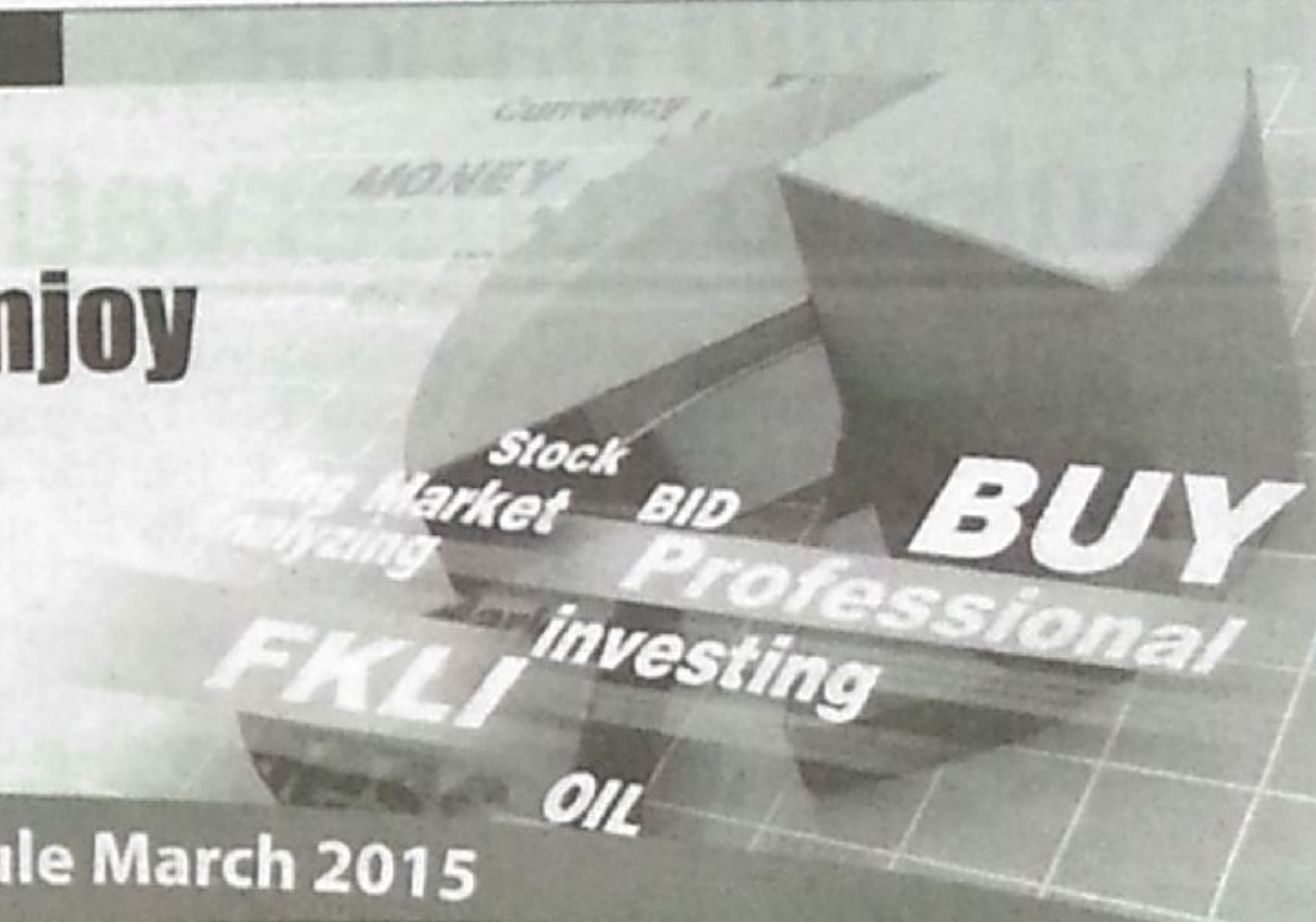
"But it was too late," said fish farmer Timothy Hromatka, 42, who lost most of his fish.

The former president of the Singapore Marine Aquaculture Cooperative estimates that almost 50 farms were affected this time round. — The Straits Times / Asia News Network

Trade with Phillip Futures and enjoy

- ◆ Zero Platform Charges
- ◆ Negotiable Online Rates

Contact us now!



Phillip Futures Seminar Schedule March 2015

Date	Time	Venue	Topic	Session
06/03/2015 (Friday)	7.30PM-9.30PM	Phillip Investor Centre, Melaka	Introduction to Futures	English
13/03/2015 (Friday)	7.30PM-9.30PM	Phillip Futures, Penang	Crude Palm Oil Outlook 2015	English
20/03/2015 (Friday)	7.30PM-9.30PM	Phillip Futures, Taman Sutera, Johor	是否石油价已到底? 如何在石油短期交易中获利	Mandarin
20/03/2015 (Friday)	7.30PM-9.30PM	Phillip Futures, Kuching	Trading Essentials: Trade Management & Psychology	English
26/03/2015 (Thursday)	7.30PM-9.30PM	Phillip Futures, Penang	Trading Platform Guide & Coaching	English
27/03/2015 (Friday)	7.30PM-9.30PM	Phillip Futures, Taman Molek, Johor	探索中国投资与投机潜能 - A50	Mandarin
27/03/2015 (Friday)	7.30PM-9.30PM	Phillip Futures, Kuching	Introduction to Futures	BM
28/03/2015 (Saturday)	9AM-1PM	Bursa Malaysia Conference Room, Ground Floor	Spread Essentials Every Trader Needs to Know by professional trader, Fred Ozo from Singapore *	English

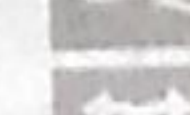
*Pre-registration required

Access Global Markets with FREE MOBILE and desktop platform

Stay on top of your trades via Phillip Mobile



Access more than 10 Futures Exchanges including Local & Foreign at your fingertips



User friendly interface to



Check your orders and monitor with just a