

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY HONG KONG

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NEWSLETTER

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May 2018



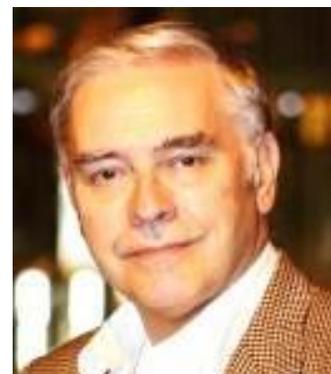
Journey to the North – Shaoguan & Danxiashan, Guangdong

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President's Message

Another year has passed for the RASHK and this was marked by our 58th Annual General Meeting which was held at the Hong Kong Club on Wednesday, 25th April 2018. This was my last AGM as your President and it was gratifying to see so many members, both resident and overseas, taking the time to attend and show their support for the Society. No less important were the many apologies and messages which members, who could not be present, sent. Of course, the evening was not without its controversy and the refusal to allow some members admission to the premises, on the grounds of inappropriate attire, was both regrettable and embarrassing. Although an advisory notice regarding the dress code, based on the Club's notice, was issued it seems that recently there has been a more stricter interpretation applied. Nevertheless, I would like to apologise to those members who were affected for the inconvenience they suffered.



As I noted in my report the Society has five hundred members, three fifths of whom are locally resident. If we are to continue as a viable society it is vital that we continue to expand our membership. We can all play an active part in recruiting new members by introducing a friend or a colleague to an event or encourage them to join the Society. This will greatly help to increase membership. One point I would like to mention, regarding membership, is the interest shown in the Society recently by a small but significant number of local Chinese university students. I very much welcome this and hope that our new members will form a nucleus for future development. No less important are our overseas members, numbering nearly two hundred. One of the things that has given me the greatest pleasure over the past six years has been the contact we continue to have with branches of the RAS overseas and more particularly the 'Friends of the RASHK' in the United Kingdom. I was particularly pleased that two of our overseas members, Alan and Mary Painter were able to attend the AGM this year.

If I had any regrets about retiring this year it would have to be that I was not able to hand over to a successor. This I feel is unfortunate and underlines the need for more members to get involved with running the Society and for Council to have a viable succession plan in place. Having been President for over six years and Hon Activities Co-ordinator for eight years I hope I can say these have been good times for the Society. It has certainly been an honour to hold the office, but it has undoubtedly been a burden too, which I see no signs of diminishing! Six years ago, the Society faced a rather uncertain future, but I think we have come a long way since then and I hope I am leaving it in better shape than when I started my term. Of course, this would not have been made possible but for the time and effort of many members and non-members. My final word of thanks goes to all those who have or are currently serving on Council, the Activities Committee, the Editorial Board and the Trustees of the Sir Lindsay and Lady Ride Memorial Trust Fund.

May I wish you all and the Society good fortune in the future

Best Wishes

Michael Broom
Immediate Past President



Front cover: Danxiashan, Guangdong (Photo courtesy: Michael Broom)

Future Activities

LECTURE

France's Colony in China and Modern Zhanjiang: Events, Memories, and Research

《法國在華租借地的昔與今：廣東湛江的歷史、記憶及研究》



The Former Main Administrative Building of Kwang Chow Wan

120 years ago, in April 1898, French naval troops occupied Canton Bay (Kwang-chow-wan or Guangzhouwan) after French diplomats had secured from China the lease of the territory for 99 years. France's new acquisition which was only 338 kilometres south-west of Hong Kong prompted Britain's response to seek the lease of the New Territories. The initial idea of making Kwang-chow-wan a starting-point or centre of a French sphere-of-influence in South China was not realised resulting in an appreciable but rather modest economic and social development compared to the New Territories. Nevertheless, the French permitted local self-government to a certain extent, invested in urban projects and created modern facilities which were unknown in this part of China. After its return to China (1945), the territory was renamed Zhanjiang and developed quickly. In today's Zhanjiang (湛江), P.R.C., strong efforts are made to foster cultural conservation and also to promote international academic research into the history of Kwang-chow-wan. The talk will introduce Zhanjiang's history and present, with an emphasis on presenting historical architecture and relics of the French period.

Future Activities

The Speakers

Dr Bert Becker is associate professor in modern European history at the University of Hong Kong, Department of History. His research interests include the maritime and business histories of Europe, Hong Kong, and China (19th/ 20th centuries), and modern Prussian-German History. He is currently working on the history of the French-Indochinese shipping company Marty et d'Abbadie and its transnational encounters in the Greater Gulf of Tonkin region encompassing the early phase of Kwang-chow-wan up to the end of World War One.



Born in Zhanjiang, Bowman Wu (吳子祺) is particularly interested in the colonial past of his hometown. Being involved in cultural conservation since 2014, he became an active member of a historical society, which is dedicated to exploring the history of the “forgotten” French leased territory in South China. Now he is studying colonial and cultural history in The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Programme

Speakers: Dr Bert Becker and Mr Bowman Ziqi Wu (吳子祺)
Date: Fri, 11 May 2018
Time: Reception opens 6:30 pm, talk starts 7:00 pm
Venue: Centre for Visual Arts (CVA), 7A, Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

LECTURE

Charting the Life of Alexander Dalrymple (1737-1808) Hydrographer to the East India Company and the Admiralty

Alexander Dalrymple (1737-1808) was a prolific and zealous compiler, editor and publisher of marine charts, and his major contributions to cartography include over 1100 charts and views of Asia, India, Australia, Africa and the Pacific, as well as numerous sailing directions, books, monographs and letters. Between 1759 and 1764 Dalrymple made three visits on the *Cuddalore* and the *London* to the southern coasts of China, Indochina, the Philippines and Borneo, and his charts and views of these coasts include the first chart to show and name Hong Kong Island (as “Fanchin Chow”) and the first view of the Peak. In his long career Dalrymple was appointed Provisional Deputy Governor of Manila; proposed the establishment of a British trading emporium on the island of Balambangan; served the British East India Company (EIC) as its Hydrographer for over 40 years; supported the “counterpoise” theory of the Great Southern Continent (disproved by James Cook); actively cooperated with the great French cartographer J.B.N.D. d’Après de Manneville; and (in 1795) was appointed as the first Hydrographer to the British Admiralty until, following a bitter quarrel with the newly-appointed Chart Committee, he was dismissed and died in 1808. Before Dalrymple, British charts were inferior to those of the French and the Dutch, whereas by the time of his death Britain led the world in the science of marine cartography.



The Speaker



Peter Geldart has an M.A. degree in Law from Cambridge University, and qualified as a barrister-at-law with Gray’s Inn. He worked in banking, finance and insurance for 42 years in London, Hong Kong and Singapore. Mr Geldart, who is semi-retired, now resides partly in Hong Kong (where he has lived since 1980) and partly in Manila. As a keen collector of antique maps, he is a director of the Philippine Map Collectors Society (PHIMCOS) and a member of the International Map Collectors Society (IMCOS). In 2017 he curated and wrote the catalogue for *Mapping the Philippine Seas*, an exhibition of charts of the Philippines from the 16th to the 19th centuries, which was sponsored by PHIMCOS and held at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila. He is also the editor of the PHIMCOS journal, *The Murillo Bulletin*, and recently assisted the Hong Kong Maritime Museum in cataloguing the Gordian Gaeta Map Collection.

Programme

Speaker: Mr Peter Geldart
Date: Fri, 18 May 2018
Time: Reception opens 6:30 pm, talk starts 7:00 pm
Venue: Centre for Visual Arts (CVA), 7A, Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

RAS Quiz Night

Please join RAS members and their guests at Café 8, above the HK Maritime Museum at Pier 8 in Central for an evening with David Bellis of Gwulo.com as Quiz Master

If you think that you and your friends/ family know Hong Kong well, please come and put your knowledge to the test whilst at the same time being entertained and challenged.

Questions will include details from old Hong Kong photos and knowledge of some familiar street objects - with prizes to be won, including copies of David's recent publication.



Bookings from prearranged teams (4-6 people) are welcome, but smaller groups and individuals are also most welcome. They can be teamed with other participants on a table.

Numbers will be limited by Cafe 8's capacity, so please book before the deadline on **Wednesday, 23 May 2018 (1 pm)**.

In the event of high demand, RAS members will be given priority.

Looking forward to seeing you there on 25 May.

The Moderator

David Bellis runs the popular local-history website, Gwulo.com. It hosts over 20,000 pages about old Hong Kong, including over 10,000 photos. In 2014 he received the SCMP Spirit of Hong Kong Award for Heritage Preservation. David has lived in and around Kennedy Town for over twenty years and enjoys discovering and sharing its hidden history.



Programme

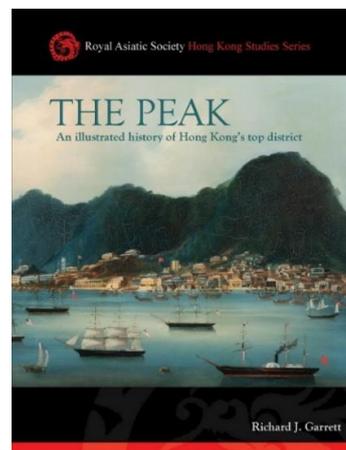
Moderator: Mr David Bellis
Date: Fri, 25 May 2018
Time: Reception opens 6:30 pm, quiz starts 7:00 pm
Venue: Café 8, Hong Kong Maritime Museum, Central
Admission: RAS Members \$150; Non-Members/ Guests \$200 (incl. canapes & 1 drink each - **please advise us of any special diet needs**)
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

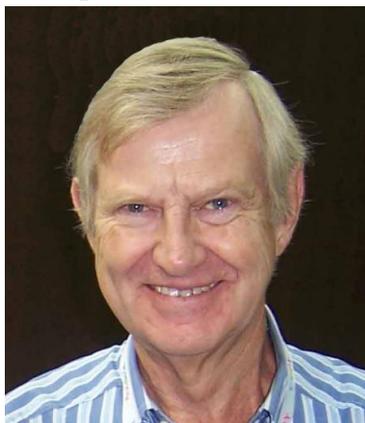
LECTURE

The Peak – Hong Kong’s Top District

The Peak is one of the most exclusive areas in Hong Kong. Here the affluent enjoy an idyllic lifestyle in mansions sited amongst the tropical vegetation which has grown up around them. It was not always like this and when the British took over Hong Kong the Peak was just one section of a “barren rock”. No one bothered with it and it took some years before a few pioneers found out that living in the Hill District had advantages, particularly in the summer. Gradually, development expanded, and more people ventured up the steep paths. The opening of the Peak Tram in 1888 spurred more development and people began to live there year-round. A community developed including a Church, a Club, hospitals and Hotels and much more. Richard Garrett has researched the progress and his talk provides an introduction to what the Peak is all about. Copies of his book will be available at the talk.



The Speaker



Richard Garrett graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge and moved on to a career in Civil Engineering. He came to Hong Kong in 1973 to set up a design office for the firm of Maunsell Consultants Asia Ltd. He was responsible for major construction projects throughout Hong Kong and got to know much of the Territory. After retiring he started writing about the history of the area. His book *The Defences of Macau* was published in 2010 and he writes a regular column for *CityLife Magazine* under the banner of *History Matters*. He has lived on the Peak for over 40 years and has often walked the paths and roads that criss-cross the area.

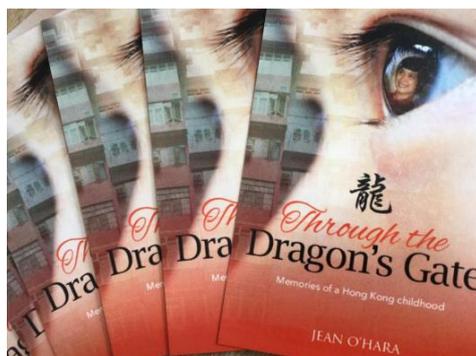
Programme

Speaker: Mr Richard Garrett
Date: Fri, 1 Jun 2018
Time: Reception opens 6:30 pm, talk starts 7:00 pm
Venue: Centre for Visual Arts (CVA), 7A, Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

LECTURE

Through the Dragon's Gate: Memories of a Hong Kong Childhood



'Through the Dragon's Gate' is a fascinating autobiographical account of a childhood in Hong Kong through to the years of medical training in London. Sensitive, multidimensional and culturally poignant, it is a personal story seen as much through the author's eyes as through the eyes of her grandmother, a central figure of quiet strength, wisdom and traditional Chinese values. Going through the dragon's gate symbolises the achievement of one's potential and is testament to the perseverance and sacrifices to get there. The author will share key moments and influences from her unique journey across cultures.

The Speaker



Jean O'Hara grew up in colonial Hong Kong in the 1960s, the daughter of an Anglo-Burmese librarian (later a senior civil servant) and his Chinese wife. Her childhood was a simple one, sleeping on a straw mat in an overcrowded one bedroom flat with basic sanitation. She left in 1978 to study medicine in the UK, against the advice of her headmaster and the government education department. Jean is now a prominent psychiatrist in London, and England's national clinical director for learning disabilities. This book is her account of a childhood steeped in Chinese culture and first steps in medicine.

Programme

Speaker: Dr Jean O'Hara
Date: Mon, 4 Jun 2018
Time: Reception opens 6:30 pm, talk starts 7:00 pm
Venue: Centre for Visual Arts (CVA), 7A, Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

LECTURE

Members' Visit to the RASHK Special Collection at the Hong Kong Central Library

《參觀香港中央圖書館》



RASHK Rare Book Collection

Consisting of a Main Collection, a Rare Book Collection and the Carl Smith Collection, the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong (RASHK) Special Collection is located on 7th floor of the Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL) at Causeway. The Main Collection comprises post-1900 materials and the Rare Book Collection includes pre-1900 publications.

Library Tour



Carl Smith Collection

The visit will take the form of a guided library tour, offered by the Hong Kong Central Library team in both English and Cantonese. Members will find out about the background of the RASHK Special Collection and how it found its current home at the HKCL; what services and facilities are available to Members including the designated study area for Members and a unique opportunity to look at selected rare books.

As advised by the HKCL, numbers will be restricted to 12 people maximum owing to their limited tour capacity. Early registration is recommended to secure a place.

Programme

Speaker: Hong Kong Central Library Team

Date: Sat, 23 Jun 2018

Time: 10 am-11:30 am. RAS Group gathers at 10:00 am at the Main Entrance; guided tour starts 10:15 am

Venue: Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Quota: Numbers will be limited so early registration is advised. Priority will be given to RAS members.

Admission: Free for RAS Members

Booking: Please email membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk in advance to reserve your place.

Recent Activities

Sporting Men & Women: Chinese Athletes in the late Qing & Republican Era

Written by Dr Helen Tinsley



For those of us who were fortunate to hear Roy Delbyck talk a couple of years ago about his passion for collecting and then have a chance to view some of his treasures in visits arranged over 2016, this talk was a chance to appreciate some special aspects of his wide-ranging collection. For a well-attended, diverse and appreciative audience, Roy drew on his collection of memorabilia to support the perception that athletes are often at the forefront of societal change. This was undoubtedly true for the two eras of Chinese history under review. Tracking the impact of the 'True Life' and YMCA movement during a period of significant social change and reform in China, with its emphasis on healthy minds in healthy bodies, Roy used newspaper articles and pamphlets

of the day, family histories and Chinese team contributions to early pre-war Olympic meets, in order to demonstrate the roles of Chinese athletes both at home and internationally.

He tracked for us the career of Wei Wing Lok, son of a famous Hong Kong father Wei Yuk, who played tennis at Wimbledon in 1920s, carefully recorded in a scrap book, cartoons, poems, news and membership cards. He was educated in UK and USA where he played tennis (and billiards) at Varsity and Club level. He represented China in the Davis Cup, Olympics and the Far Eastern Asian Olympic Games in 1920s.

Chinese teams' participation in the pre-World War 2 Olympic movement were also tracked. There were stories of Hong Kong's South China soccer team's contribution to 1936 Berlin Olympics (followed by a friendly game at Crystal Palace in London), as well as that of a lone female swimmer. There were records of long ago teams of Chinese athletes, both male and female at home and abroad, competing in baseball, wrestling, fencing and other sports. Going back to the 19th century, the role of sport for Chinese Educational Mission students when in USA was brought vividly to life for us with a photo of Chung Mun Yew at the helm of the 1880 Yale Rowing team. Such images help us understand China's ongoing development and international links through sport to a level now when -- who can forget China's triumphant staging of the 2008 Olympics in Beijing?



Recent Activities

Visit to Swire Archives

Written by Dr Helen Tinsley

The Swire archives are located near One Island East in Quarry Bay. A fitting location as they are positioned between what was once the Taikoo Dockyard and the Taikoo Sugar Refinery. And just across Victoria Harbour is the site of the old Kai Tak Airport, the original home of Cathay Pacific. All of these enterprises are the foundation of many of Swire's activities today, and helped to advance engineering, industrial, and commercial accomplishments that took place in Hong Kong since 1870 when Swire set up a base in the colony.

Head office in London has been maintaining the archives of John Swire and Sons at SOAS, The University of London since the 1970s. However, in the run-up to the company's 200th anniversary in 2016, it was realized that there was little, if any formal keeping of records for archive purposes amongst Swire's operating companies. In 2011, the Hong Kong Archive Service was established to work together with Swire's operating companies in Hong Kong and Asia to build and professionally manage their historical archives.



For an archive that only started a few years ago, the collection now consists of over 3,000 boxes of records, over 49,000 photographs, and 900 films. The collection also includes minute books, legal documents, reports, financial ledgers, staff registers, correspondence; newsletters, press releases, advertisements; photographs, and even uniforms. These materials were and continue to be obtained from past and present staff and their families and are available to be viewed by the public on request.

Archivist Matthew Edmondson and Archive Manager Bonnie Sze showed us just a small portion of these materials; photographs and artefacts from Cathay Pacific and Tai Koo Sugar figured rather prominently. It was interesting to note that it cost over \$2,000 Hong Kong dollars to fly to Sydney, a journey of at least four refueling stops, and that Tai Koo sugar cubes seemed to be a staple in most homes!



Recent Activities

Everyday is International Women's Day in Mosuoland

Written by Dr Helen Tinsley

The 8th of March has been designated as 'International Women's Day' for some time, so it seemed a fitting day for RAS members to come together in the convivial surroundings of Café 8 to listen to Choo Wai Hong talk about her recently published award-winning book "The Kingdom of Women".

Previously working as a corporate lawyer in Singapore, Wai Hong spent years living with the small, little known Musuo community of about 30,000 and one of the last matrilineal and matriarchal societies in the world, certainly in China. She was the first outsider to do so and be accepted as such.

This community lives in a small cluster of villages in a remote Yunnan valley close to the China – Tibet border.

Here power lies in the hands of women and all decisions relating to money, property, land and children born to them rest with Musuo women, who live independent of any husbands or fathers and where grandmother is the head of each family. The bloodline follows the female children of daughters and is strictly observed. The birth of a female child is a cause for celebration. Here women choose their male partners from men within the tribe but are not beholden to them. Partnerships can be life- long or 'temporary'. Male offspring 'belong' to the grandmother and help with the agricultural labouring.



Wai Hong in her talk emphasised the vibrancy, enjoyment of life (such as drinking together) and general harmony of the community, also the femininity of the women as shown in many of the brightly coloured pictures she showed us. She also touched on the tribe's concept of 'love' and how a woman's choice of male partner can be as temporary lover or longer term, but with little associated responsibilities for the man.

With modernization, tourism and wider access to communication for this group outside their local communities, some of their centuries' old traditions are beginning to change. Some of the younger women have recently chosen to 'marry' their male partner or expressed a wish to do so—and there is fear that over the next 2-3 generations much of this traditional way of life may be lost.

There were many questions for Wai Hong from members of our audience at the end of her talk – fortunately for those who wanted to dig deeper into facts about this fascinating community, copies of her book were available as well as the chance to thank her for so carefully portraying this tale of the Mosuo women and their community.

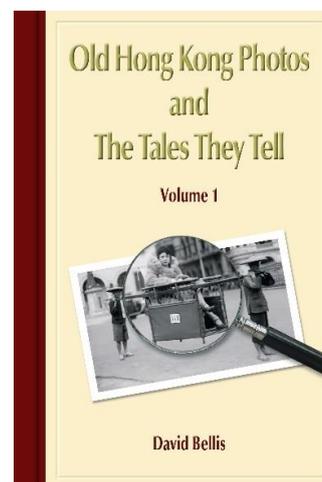
Recent Activities

Kennedy Town & Mt. Davis Walk

Written by Mr Michael Broom

RASHK member David Bellis' guided tour on Saturday, 17th March was fully subscribed as soon as it was published! This was not surprising as David has built up an enviable reputation through his previous walks and talks and is well known for his local history website Gwulo.com which has thousands of photographs of old Hong Kong.

Having lived in the area for over twenty years, and spent many hours exploring it, David was the ideal man to lead us on this occasion. The group assembled outside the MTR in Smithfield, which was formerly a cattle market and derived its name from London's former meat market. In 1906 a devastating typhoon struck Hong Kong and Kennedy Town not only suffered hundreds of deaths but considerable property destruction. This included the destruction of Jebsen's feather factory in Smithfield which David showed us a photograph from his collection.



Our walk continued to a series of quiet shady residential terraces, with only pedestrian access. In Tai Pak Terrace we found examples of Chinese residential buildings dating back to the 1920, together with street names carved in the granite stone retaining walls. David drew our attention to the height of the terraces, which in former times would have been light and afforded fine views of the harbour. In Ching Lin Terrace our attention was drawn to a former secondary school which has now been converted into hostel accommodation for HKU students. Of particular note was the ornate Chinese temple dating to 1884 to worship the deity Lu Pan who is worshipped by carpenters and builders.

Making our way along Pokfield Road to Pokfulam Road more hidden views and artefacts were revealed, such as the small granite obelisk, dated 1903, which was one of the boundary stones marking the City of Victoria. David also showed us another photograph taken in the 1920's of Sulphur Channel and the Western entrance to Victoria Harbour. Our route now took us to Mount Davis Road where we stopped to view the Chiu Yuen cemetery in the valley. David explained that this cemetery was unusual in that it was not distinguished by one religion but was the final resting place for many prominent Eurasians. Stopping under the summit of Mount Davis David spent time explaining the military importance of the area which included the building, in 1912 of a battery of five 9.2" naval guns. Once again this was illustrated with an excellent photo dating from the 1930's.



Recent Activities



Descending back into Kennedy Town we stopped in a small rest garden to admire the façade and foundation stone laid in 1910 by the Governor Sir Henry Blake to commemorate the opening of the Tung Wah Smallpox Hospital. We ended our walk close to where we started and most of the group then headed off to one of Kennedy Town's burgeoning craft breweries for some well-deserved refreshment. David concluded his talk by informing us that he has now published a book 'Old Hong Kong Photos and the Tales They Tell Vol. 1' which is available in bookshops.



Recent Activities

Rhymes of Shui Hau

《水口婆婆的山歌》

Written by Dr Veronica Pearson

PRESENTERS: Dr Chloe Lai, Mink Chan and Freddie Chan Ho-lun

Dr. Lai is part of an NGO, Urban Diary, whose goal it is to collect and preserve the everyday stories of Hong Kong. Some RAS members will remember her previous film and talk - *The Wright Chronicles* - outlining the life and contribution of Michael Wright known now as *The Father of Public Housing in Hong Kong*. This time her focus was rather different; a film about the folk songs and lives of elderly women in Shau Hau village in South Lantau. The material was garnered from three informants one well into her 80s and another who was over 90.



Shau Hau was a traditional coastal farming village with three lineages: Chan, Fung and Chi. Their land has a long history of human occupation with artefacts found that date back to Neolithic times. It was mentioned in the 1819 Qing Emperor's Gazette for Xi'nan County. However, its character has changed significantly in the last 50 years. The building of the South Lantau Road and the Shek Pik reservoir brought major changes to the village, making life considerably easier but bringing the inevitability of change to what until then had been a life of hard physical labour and traditional mores. Many non-indigenous villagers now live there and the old gate finds itself in the middle of the village as so many 'small houses' have been built and agricultural land sold for development.



Unsurprisingly the folk songs reflect the experiences of the world in which the singers live. Men also had their songs but none of the elderly men in the village were willing to co-operate with the project. Extracting information from the three grannies, we were told, was often hard work. Data collection was not helped by the destruction of all written records of the songs. Thus, the information relies entirely on the oral tradition and the memories of the three grannies who freely confessed that they did not always understand the meaning of the lyrics! Mink Chan (daughter of one of the informants had to take dictation as the songs were sung (in

the local 'dialect' Wai Tau) and then translate them into Cantonese; a laborious process. One song involved describing the 12 months of the year using the names of birds to represent each month. Not even diligent effort by members of the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society could identify some of the birds. Other content was more poignant; the song that compared the relative ease of being a daughter as opposed to the harsh life of a daughter-in-law. As a daughter there was oil to create a 'shiny bun' (a means of beautifying the hair)

Recent Activities

but once married the oil had to be washed out and used for cooking. ‘My torn shirt bares my shoulders but who cares to mend my holes’. Men were said to have a song that fantasised about having eight wives; four to undertake the hard-labour growing rice and the other four to measure and cut clothes, to thread the needle and sew.

Those involved in this project are deeply committed to creating as comprehensive and accurate account of these sung lives as possible. By using both film (including wonderful footage of the land around the village taken by a drone) and ensuring a written record they have created a data base of a culture and way of life that is now rapidly being lost to us.



Recent Activities

Visit to Shaoguan, Guangdong Province

《暢遊廣東韶關》

Written by Michael Broom

A large group of twenty-four RASHK members led by Rocky Dang and Peter Stuckey set out for a 5-day/4-night visit to Northern Guangdong in mid-April. The object of the trip was to explore the UNESCO World Heritage, Danxia Geopark situated in Renhua County, Guangdong Province. In addition to the spectacular scenery the group visited several fascinating heritage sites e.g.: Shitang Hakka village, the Qing dynasty Shuang Feng fort, Dong Hu Ping Hakka village, Mei Guan ancient post road and the Tang dynasty Zhujixiang.

Once again this was a very well organised visit with great scenery, great food and best of all great company! A full report with more photographs will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter.



Recent Activities

2018 Annual General Meeting & Cocktail Party

The 58th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong was held at The Hongkong Club on Wednesday, 25th April, 2018. Below is a selection of photographs taken at the meeting and the cocktail party which followed.



Of General Interest

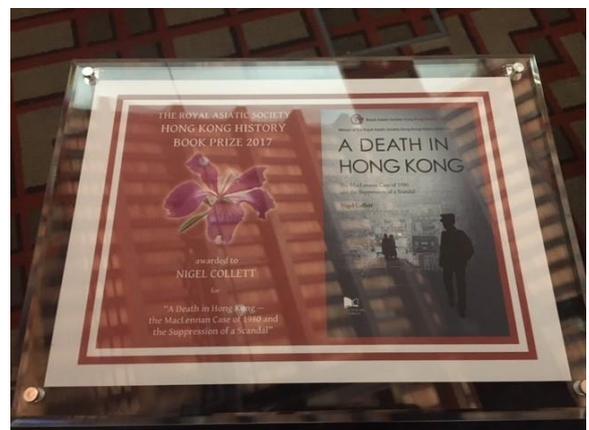
RAS History Prize 2017

The Sir Lindsay and Lady Ride Memorial Trust Fund has since 2003 provided limited financial assistance to independent authors for research and publication of serious works on Hong Kong which fall within the Society's range of interests.

In 2017 the Trust offered a prize for a work on Hong Kong history. The winner of the prize was Nigel Collett for his book *'A Death in Hong Kong - The MacLennan Case of 1980 and the Suppression of Scandal'*. A presentation ceremony was held at the Asia Society on 12 March 2018.



Michael Broom, RASHK President presents the Award to winning author, Mr Nigel Collett.



Address by Mr John Strickland, Chairman of the Ride Fund

Of General Interest

St John's Cathedral Shop

Arrangements have been made with St John's Cathedral Bookshop for copies of RASHK journals Vols. 55 - 57 and the book 'Hong Kong Going, Gone' to be sold through the shop. It is hoped that Members will actively support this facility and encourage others to purchase Society publications from the Bookshop. Their email address is: <bookstor@stjohnscathedral.org.hk>



2018 Membership Renewal

Members are reminded that renewals are due on 1st January 2018. If you currently pay by cheque and would prefer the convenience of paying by Direct Debit, please contact the Administrator for a Direct Debit Authorisation form on <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk>. Those of you who pay by Standing Order are requested to please ensure that the Order is for the appropriate amount.

Annual

Hong Kong Resident - Individual / Institutional	HK\$750
Hong Kong Resident - Joint / Family	HK\$1,100
Hong Kong Resident – Student*	HK\$50

* in full time education – please enclose a photocopy of your student ID.

Life

Life – Single	HK\$10,500
Life – Joint	HK\$15,400

Overseas

Overseas - Annual	HK\$450
Overseas - Life	HK\$6,300

Publications

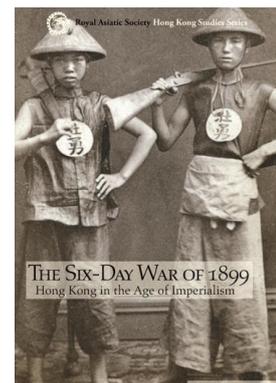
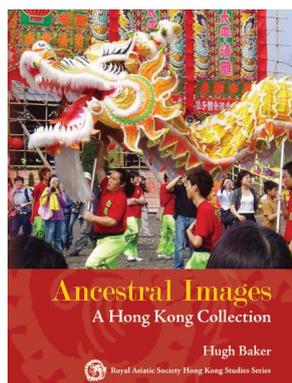
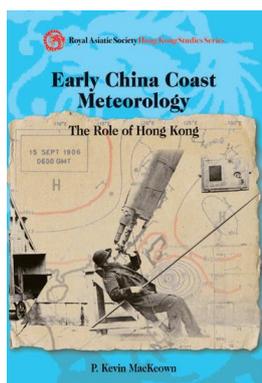
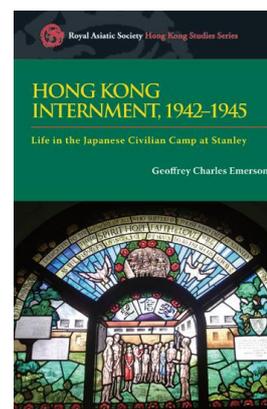
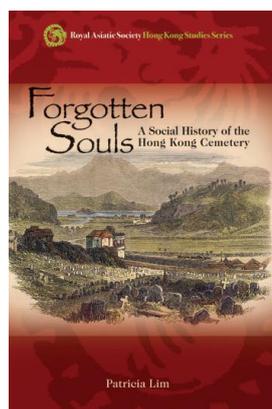
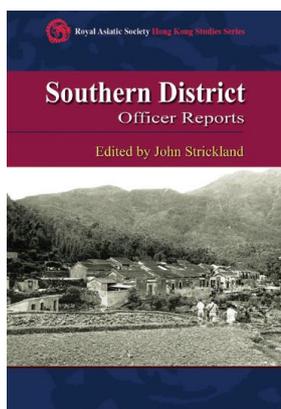
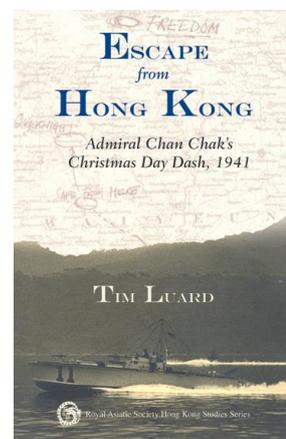
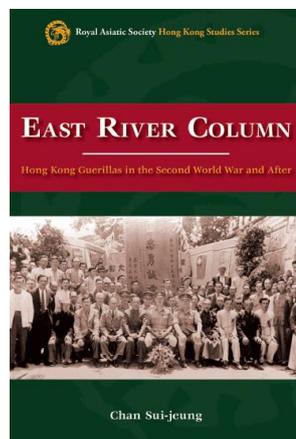
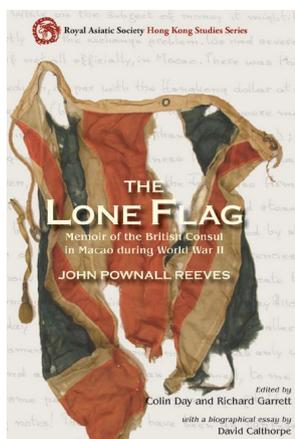
PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

<u>Journals</u>	<u>Price HK\$</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Order</u>
Vols. 1 – 52	\$50.00 each	_____	_____
Vols. 53 – 57	\$200.00 each	_____	_____
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A Sense of Place: Hong Kong West of Pottinger Street	\$300.00	_____	_____
<u>P&P</u>	<u>within HK</u>	<u>Overseas (surface/registered)</u>	
A Sense of Place: Hong Kong West of Pottinger Street	\$55.00	\$130.00	_____
Full set of Journals	\$260.00	price on request	_____
All other volumes (per volume)	\$25.00	\$65.00	_____
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Please send the order & cheque, payable to Royal Asiatic Society, Hong Kong Branch, to RASHKB, G.P.O. Box 3864, Hong Kong. **We accept US\$ or GBP cheques at exchange rates of US\$1=HK\$8 / GBP1=HK\$11, but please also add US\$15/ GBO10.50 per cheque to cover bank charges incurred in clearing your cheque.**

Publications

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY HONG KONG STUDIES SERIES



There are now twenty-six titles in the Hong Kong Studies Series. The above is a small selection of the titles available. For full details, please see the website www.royalasiaticsociety.org.hk and Ride Subsidy Fund and click on the link.

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