

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

HONG KONG BRANCH

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G.P.O. Box 3864, Hong Kong



NEWSLETTER

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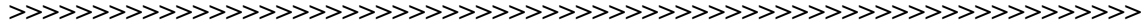
20th August, 2001

Council members

Dr. Patrick Hase, President	Mr. Robert Nield, Hon. Treasurer & Vice President
Dr. Elizabeth Sinn, Vice President	Rev. Carl Smith, Hon. Vice President
Dr. Peter Barker, Hon. Secretary	Miss Julia Chan, Hon. Librarian
Mrs. Valery Garrett, Hon. Activities Co-ordinator	Dr. Peter Halliday, Hon. Editor of Journals
Mrs. May Holdsworth, Member	Mr. Timothy Ko, Member
Dr. Janet Lee Scott, Member	Mr. Peter Stuckey, Member
Dr. Joseph Ting, Member	Mr. Jason Wordie, Member
Mr. Robert Horsnell, Co-opted Member	Dr. Michael Lau, Co-opted Member
Dr. Dan Waters, Immediate Past President	

On Friday, 1st June, Drs. Gillian and Verner Bickley spoke to a large audience at City Hall on Gillian's new book, *Hong Kong Invaded! A '97 Nightmare*, published by Hong Kong University Press. They warmly acknowledged assistance from RAS council members Tim Ko, Bob Horsnell and other members, the RAS Volunteers, and Tim Ko and Jason Wordie's book, *Ruins of War*. The Bickleys' talk was lavishly illustrated from *Hong Kong Invaded!*, including the well-researched, witty and well-appreciated drawings by fellow RAS member, Arthur Hacker, previously unpublished photographs of the Hong Kong Volunteers, the Hong Kong Regiment and the Prince of Wales Own West Yorkshire Regiment, as well as several old defence maps. The Bickleys explained how the book centres on a historical Hong Kong work, *The Back Door*, first published in *The China Mail* in 1897, in an attempt to pressure the authorities to improve Hong Kong's defence. They also explained that this anonymous 1897 narrative of the fictional fall of Hong Kong, defeated by the combined forces of France and Russia, is Hong Kong's sole contribution to date to future war fiction, a literary genre which encompasses Erskine Childers' *Riddle of the Sands* and the cinematic epic *Star Wars*.

Introduced by Peter Stuckey, the Bickleys' talk was, as always, well-received. "What will the next one be on?" one member was heard to ask Gillian at the end.



City Hall Lecture

Friday, 31st August

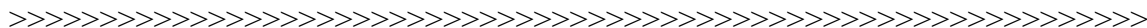
Images of China – Imagination and Reality as seen in William Alexander’s drawings

- Speaker:** William Shang
- Time:** 6:15 p.m.
- Venue:** Extension Activities Room, 8th Floor, City Hall High Block, Edinburgh Place, Central
- Cost:** The lecture is free and is open to the public.
- Booking:** No booking is required

China trade painting flourished in the 19th century when the coastal ports were opened to western traders. Both Chinese and western artists produced works of art for sale to a ready market in the west. But China in the 18th century was largely a closed world until the drawings of William Alexander were published. Alexander was the official draughtsman attached to the 1792-4 embassy of Lord Macartney to the Emperor Qianlong, to persuade him to open more ports in China to trade with the west. The record of Alexander’s impressions preserved in watercolours and prints provides an essential document for understanding pre-modern China.

China trade painting scholar William Shang will talk about aspects of East-West cultural relations as seen in Alexander's drawings. Many of his drawings known today are the finished watercolours, yet Shang believes his major contribution to science or visual records of late 18th century China can be seen in his unfinished or draught/studies of drawings. These, together with some finished watercolours, are what Shang considers "real", that is to say, works spiced with some degree of “imagination”. Yet Alexander's finished drawings are still very faithful depictions in his opinion. Shang will discuss this "real" versus "imagination" factor as well as tie it in with works by his contemporaries, William and Thomas Daniell and other China trade painters.

William Shang attended the University of LaVerne (BA, International Studies and History), Columbia University (International Affairs), Peking University (International Relations) and University of Tokyo (Area Studies, MA). As a researcher, he worked for twelve years at Toyo Bunko Research Department (Morrison Collection) compiling prints/drawings/watercolours and old photos to update their catalogue first published in 1924. The result of this work is being published by the Toyo Bunko Library Department, with illustrations, from 1999 through 2002. He is currently an associate professor in the Department of International Sociology, Kibi International University in Okayama prefecture, Japan.



Local Visit

Saturday 15th September

Visit and guided tour of the new Central Library in Causeway Bay

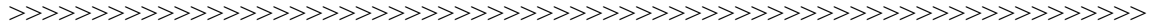
We will be given a guided tour of the superb new Central Library in Causeway Bay, to include the valuable RAS collection in the Special Collections section of the library. In addition, our President Dr. Patrick Hase will talk to us about books found in villages in Hong Kong, such as the Hoi Pa collection.

Meeting Place : Beside the gift shop, on the first floor of the library.

Time : There will have to be a maximum number of 20 members due to space restrictions, but if there is sufficient demand there will be two sessions, one starting at 2:30 pm and one at 4:00 pm. Please note on the booking form which time you would prefer.

Cost : \$50 (members only) to include light refreshments.

Questions : Julia Chan on 2859 8056.



Local Visit

Saturday, 22nd September

A Private View - Chinese Textiles

Another in an occasional series of visits to meet Hong Kong collectors and to view their collections. This time it is the turn of Valery Garrett and Chris Hall, who between them have probably some of the best examples of traditional Chinese dress and textiles in Hong Kong.

Valery Garrett is a long time resident of Hong Kong and Life Member of the RAS. An acknowledged expert on Chinese dress, she has served as consultant for museums and collections in Hong Kong and around the world. A large part of her personal collection has been acquired by museums both here and overseas, including the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. She has had six books published on Chinese dress, including *Chinese Clothing: an Illustrated Guide*, Oxford University Press. An Honorary Research Fellow at the Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong, she is also Hon. Activities Coordinator and a Council Member of the RAS.

Chris Hall, another long time Hong Kong resident and RAS Life member, has been collecting Chinese textiles for over ten years. During that time he has acquired a collection which is the envy of museums around the world. A major part of the exhibition *Heavens Embroidered Cloths* at the Hong Kong Museum of Art in 1995 was from his personal collection.

Numbers are limited, and restricted to members of RAS only. Successful applicants will be sent details of the meeting place, easily accessible by public transport.

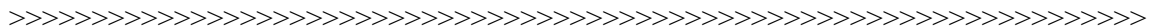
Meeting Place : To be advised to successful applicants.

Time : 2:30 p.m. sharp

Cost : \$80 (members only)

Numbers will be limited to twenty, members only.

Questions : May Holdsworth 2818 8425 or Valery Garrett 2849 8164



Overseas Visit

28th September – 3rd October

Visit to Korean Palaces

There will be a visit to Korea from September 28th to October 3rd inclusive, the main aim of which will be to see the relics of the former Palaces and other royal institutions there, to be led by Dr Patrick H. Hase. The total cost will be HK\$6,800 for Members, HK\$7,450 for Non-Members (including Non-Member spouses), plus HK\$800 Single Supplement as required. This figure includes airfares, breakfasts, lunches (except on 3rd October), and all costs within Korea for entry-fees, guides, and local transport, but not dinner, except for Saturday September 29th.

This tour will give Members a good view of Korean art and architecture, and should provide a fascinating insight into a variant of the sinitic styles we all know so well. A must for all interested in the Far East! See proposed itinerary given below.

We only have a few places left for this trip, so if you are interested please send your cheques with the booking slip at the end of this newsletter, **immediately**. For further information, phone Dr. Patrick Hase until August 30th on +44-1243-862-387, after 30th August on 2658 6529 or by E-mail to <mailto:phhase@hkusua.hku.hk> at any date.

Proposed Itinerary for Korea Visit

The tour will leave Hong Kong Friday 28th September by Cathay flight CX 416, dep. 1605, arrive Seoul 2040. The party will meet at Chek Lap Kok at 1330. Arrive Hotel (4- Star: details to be agreed). Saturday 29th, visit the Grand Palace (Kyongbokkung), the main palace of the Choson (Yi) Dynasty (1390s to 1910). Outstanding within it are the Great Throne-Hall (Kunjongjon), the Grand Banqueting Hall (Kyonghoeru), standing on an artificial island in the centre of a lake, and the gardens of the Hwangwon-jong. Within the grounds stands the National Museum, which will also be visited. Then the tour will go on to the Yi Clan Grand Ancestral Hall (Royal Shrine, Chongmyo). This spectacular shrine, containing the two longest wooden sinitic-style buildings anywhere, each with an austere cloistered courtyard, set amid rolling, wooded parkland, and with subsidiary buildings for housing the sacrificial vessels, is a must for anyone! In the afternoon, the tour will visit the Changdokkung (Secret Garden) Palace, one of the Seoul Detached Palaces. The palace is set in a huge park of wooded hills, streams, ponds, and gardens, dotted with exquisite buildings, including a throne-hall, residences, summer-houses, poetry studios, and so forth. It was used as the private residence of the later Yi kings, and has, at its heart, the royal family's private garden. This palace is probably the most beautiful sinitic style complex anywhere. These palaces and royal institutions are sinitic in style, but very different in feeling and detail to the palaces in Peking. No-one who has visited the palaces in Peking should miss this opportunity of seeing another version of the sinitic palace! In the evening of Saturday 29th, there will be a grand Korean dinner for the tour, at which we hope officers of the Korea Branch of the RAS will be present.

On Sunday 30th, the tour will leave the hotel mid-morning, and visit the Hwaesong Fortress, Suwon (this is an eighteenth century Yi dynasty fortified city, and under consideration as a World Heritage Site). After lunch, the tour will go on to the Korea Folk Village, Suwon. Here large numbers of traditional houses and workshops from all over Korea have been re-assembled, to form a large, very tasteful and instructive Open-Air Museum. Well worth a visit!

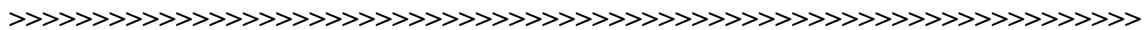
Monday 1st October, depart Seoul by rail to Kyongju (this will be an early start). The train takes 4 hours, and gives a superb view of rural Korea. Arrive Kyongju for lunch at Hotel (details to be decided). In afternoon, visit Pulguksa Monastery. This superb complex is probably the finest Buddhist complex in the Far East, "the crowning glory of Shilla architecture ... [for] the excellence of its carpentry, the incredible skill of its painters, and the subtlety of its landscapes ..". The monastery dates from the 6th century, restored in the 8th, and then again in recent decades.

This talk discusses the similarity of the façade of the Jesuit Church of Madre de Deus, Macao (better known to tourists as the Ruins of St. Paul), to a type of Mannerist and Baroque structure which modern art-historians have given the name of “retable-façade”. These kinds of façades appeared in Spain and Portugal during the above mentioned periods. Their modern term reflects the fact that they bear a striking resemblance to contemporary altarpieces or retables.

Partly adapted from his carefully researched thesis on the subject, César Guillen-Nuñez further brings out the uniqueness of the St. Paul’s façade by comparing its shape and iconographic programme to a classic structure of this kind in Galicia, Spain. He carries his arguments further by a stylistic comparison to contemporary façades in Velha Goa and other settlements in India where the Portuguese built religious and other architecture. Such a novel interpretation of the façade of Madre de Deus would further explain why the participation of local Chinese and Japanese artists became so important for the Jesuits’ proselytising methods in seventeenth-century Macao. The talk will be illustrated with colour slides.

César Guillen-Nuñez, is an art historian who has for many years studied the phenomenon of the retable-façade in Portugal, Spain and Latin America, with leading world scholars on the subject. He studied the Colonial Baroque Art of Latin America and Portugal at the University of Pennsylvania in 1973, where he was awarded an MA in art history. He more recently completed his M.Phil. thesis, also in the history of art, at University College London.

He arrived in Hong Kong in the 1970s. After a spell as a teacher of Western art history at the Art & Design courses of the University of Hong Kong (Extra-Mural Department), he joined the Hong Kong Museum of Art. In 1980 he moved to the Luís de Camões Museum of Macao. In both museums he was responsible for the China Trade and Contemporary Art collections and exhibitions. In 1995 he became guest curator of art exhibitions for the Government of Macao and is currently an independent scholar and author of books and articles on art and culture.



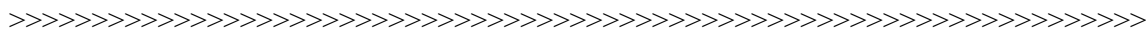
Overseas Visit

8th – 14th February, 2002 (approx.)

Tour to Bhutan

The Society is hoping to arrange a visit to the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan led by Dr Brian Shaw, a long-time member of the Society and frequent visitor to the kingdom, over the Lunar New Year break next year. The public holidays are Tuesday 12 - Thursday 14 February 2002, and the visit is tentatively scheduled to depart Hong Kong for Bangkok and directly to Paro on Friday 8 February, returning from Paro to Bangkok and thence directly to Hong Kong on Thursday 14 February. The proposed visit will be relatively expensive (probably about HK\$20,000) but please bear in mind that, while the return airfares alone are around \$9,000, a February visit attracts an "off-season" all-in rate (accommodation, food, transportation, guide services) of US\$145 a night (against the "regular" rate of \$200 a night). Members would visit major sites of interest in Paro, Thimphu, Punakha, Wangdi Phoedrang, and also (if time allows) Trongsa and Bumthang in central Bhutan. Weather "should be" cold but sunny.

If you are interested in joining this trip, please contact Dr. Shaw now to express your interest. His telephone number is 2987 6564 and his Email address is bcjshaw@hkucc.hku.hk. Further details will appear in the next Newsletter.



RAS BUSINESS

Farewell to Sarah Parnell

Past Assistant Secretary and member of our Activities Committee, Sarah Parnell, will be leaving Hong Kong soon to move temporarily to Tokyo with her husband and family. Happily, she will be coming back to Hong Kong at regular intervals, so we look forward to seeing her at future RAS activities. The RASHKB owes a debt of gratitude to Sarah for her hard work during her time as Assistant Secretary and we wish her and her family well in their new abode. Perhaps we should start planning an RAS visit to Tokyo soon?

Request for photographs of past activities from members

If you have checked out our web site recently, you will have noticed we have several photographs taken on past RAS visits in our photo gallery. However, our web designer Moody Tang would like some more photographs of past activities to add to it. Photographs and scanned images of RAS visits or activities within the last ten years with a short description would be much appreciated. If anyone has any old photographs that would be suitable, these would be very welcome. These will, of course, be returned in due course. If you have any contributions, please post them to Moody Tang, P.O. Box 506, Shatin Central Post Office or send the scanned images through E-mail to moody_tang@i-cable.com. Moody will acknowledge your contribution on the web site. Any member sending photographs or scanned images will be deemed to have given consent for us to use them on the web site or for other RAS publications. Many thanks.

N.B. Please note Moody's P.O. Box number has changed since our June newsletter.

RAS Member Anita Wilson

We were delighted to hear that Anita is now working on the Royal archives at Buckingham Palace. It is the sort of job us lesser mortals can only dream about! Anita Wilson came on to our Council soon after coming to Hong Kong in 1987, when she worked at the Public Records Office and looked after archives in Central Government Offices. She served as Honorary Secretary for a number of years and was the first person to produce our Newsletter. If there was work to be done Anita was always one of the first to step forward. We are happy for you, Anita, and wish you all the best in your new post.

News of the RAS Volunteers

An update from RAS member Bill Greaves on Volunteers' recent activities. He writes:

The Volunteers last month made a reconnoitre of a possible Military Heritage Trail, on behalf of Hong Kong Tourist Board. The trail comprises various W.W.II sites around Wong Nei Chung Gap, and we were joined by some enthusiasts from the Royal Geographical Society. Many constructive comments were received from the team, (such as "why are we doing this in the middle of summer? "you didn't warn us about the mosquitoes!" etc.) and these have been passed on to HKTB who, we understand, are now "proceeding actively with the proposal". A final recce of a now slightly modified trail (Mark II version) will be arranged next month – anyone who missed the first trek is most welcome to come along and give their valued opinion.

On the historic building scene, Antiquities & Monuments Office are seeking a historian to research No. 45 Stubbs Road (the fine old Chinese-style house with the beautiful garden, opposite

Bradbury School). Full expenses have been promised for the work, which should be completed before end September. Research is to include history of (a) the site, (b) the building and (c) the family. AMO are also looking for a historian to research Wanchai Police Station, with a view to gauging its historic value for possible preservation. This one is not so urgent but expenses are also payable.

Stalwart Volunteer and RAS member Patricia Lim is in Hong Kong for a couple of months and is wisely spending her time completing an archive of the civilian burials in the Happy Valley Protestant Cemetery – if anyone has anything of interest or wants to help, please let her know (via the RAS Assistant Secretary on 2813 7500 please).

If you are interested in helping the Volunteers, please contact Bill Greaves on 9802 8240 or E-mail to: greaves@asiaonline.net.

Researcher in the U.K.

RAS Life member, Gillian Bickley, writes: Members might like to know of a valuable resource person who will undertake research in UK libraries. This is Terry Barringer, who, some years ago, accompanied the Royal Commonwealth Society Library when it was transferred to Cambridge University. Ms Barringer specialises in Commonwealth (and African) history but will attempt most topics in the humanities/social science range. Her fees are modest and negotiable. My personal experience is that she works quickly and (as acknowledged in *Hong Kong Invaded! A '97 Nightmare*) her large knowledge and experience can come up with very pleasing results. Her email address is TABarringe@aol.com.

Enquiry from RAS members

We have had an enquiry from one of our overseas members regarding a person named Malcolm A. A. Crawford. This gentleman, a Cantonese language scholar, retired to Hong Kong years ago and his last known address (in 1994) was the Kowloon Home for the Aged in Cumberland Road, Kowloon Tong. Does anyone remember him or know of his whereabouts perhaps? Our member John Gaffney would be interested in talking to anyone who knew him or remembered him. Please contact johngaffney@yahoo.com or telephone Mary Painter on 2813 7500 for his contact address.

We have received another enquiry from Mr. Charles Muirhead who wants to know if any of our members are interested in General Joe Stilwell, with a view to retracing his steps out of China. Interested parties please contact Mr. Muirhead on camuirhead@yahoo.com.

News from our “Friends” in the U.K.

For members who are about to return to the UK to live, there are details about the U. K. “Friends of the RASHKB” on our web site www.royalasiaticsociety.org.hk. Our President Dr. Patrick Hase gave a talk entitled “Traditional South China Agriculture and the Pitt-Rivers Collection” at the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum on 4th August which was very well received by everyone who attended. Members enjoyed a tour of Salisbury Cathedral in the morning, followed by an excellent Chinese lunch.

For further information please contact Paul Bolding on E-mail pbolding@bigfoot.com or telephone 020 7684 5811. Our Assistant Secretary has application forms.

OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

The Hong Kong Film Archive

We can thoroughly recommend a visit to the fascinating Hong Kong Film Archive at Sai Wan Ho. Dedicated to the preservation of Hong Kong's film heritage, it collects and conserves films and artifacts, provides public access facilities and conducts a wide variety of activities that promote Hong Kong's film culture and facilitate research on the history of local cinema. The splendid new building, opened last year, houses a cinema, exhibition hall and a resource center as well as specially controlled storage for their collection of original films, dating back to 1898. Enquiries : Hong Kong Film Archive, 50 Lei King Road, Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong. Tel : 2739 2139. Email : hkfa@lcsd.gov.hk.

Orders and Medals Research Society, Hong Kong Branch

The Hong Kong Branch of the Orders & Medals Research Society is holding an exhibition of orders, decorations and medals relating to Hong Kong and China, at the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence. The exhibition opened on 1st July and is scheduled to run for about four months. The exhibition focuses on the First and Second China Wars, the Boxer Rebellion, gunboats on the rivers of China, the Second World War, awards to Hong Kong's disciplined services and the Hong Kong Volunteers, orders of the Chinese Republic, and so on.

The University Museum and Art Gallery, The University of Hong Kong

An exhibition celebrating 28 years of the Hong Kong Visual Arts Society will take place from August 22 to September 30, 2001.

Another special event will be an exhibition of paintings by the Chinese artist Hu Zhenyu. Unlike many artists in China, Hu has devoted his energies to the development of oil painting in China. As a professor at the China Academy of Fine Arts (formerly the Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts) Hu has also been influential in teaching the techniques and philosophies of Western oil painting in China. The exhibition will include his landscapes of Europe and China, portraits of ordinary everyday folk as well as atmospheric genre scenes. From 15th September to 21st October, 2001.

A rare exhibition, entitled "The Musical Arts of Ancient China", which explores the musical cultures of ancient China, will be presented by the University Museum and Art Gallery and the Department of Music, Hong Kong University. It will feature 123 musical instruments dating from the Neolithic period to the 20th century, borrowed from the Collection of the Music Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Arts in Beijing. On view will be ancient wind, stringed and percussion instruments as well as those used in ritual performances of the Bronze Age, such as bells. In addition, there will be other items associated with music-making in ancient China, such as manuscripts. The exhibits include archaeologically-excavated and historical relics as well as objects passed down from generation to generation. From 26th September to 8th January, 2002.

The Museum's opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 9:30 am to 6:00 pm, and Sunday 1:30 to 5:30 pm. Closed on public holidays. Admission is free. Please call the Museum on 2241-5513 for further information about any of the Museum's activities.

The University of Hong Kong Museum Society invite RASHKB members to attend an important seminar on Saturday, 29th September led by Jane Portal on "Korean Art and

Archaeology Surveyed". The recent opening of a permanent Korean art gallery at the British Museum created the impetus for this seminar. The study of Korean art has been overshadowed by the vast amount of scholarship devoted to China and Japan. In fact, Korea acted as a cultural bridge between China and Japan, as well as an independent source of inspiration for Japanese art from the Bronze Age to the 7th century. Jane Portal is the curator in the British Museum's Department of Oriental Antiquities and author of "Korea : Art and Archaeology", the first book on the subject in English. The all-day seminar featuring ceramics, lacquer, metalwork, painting, sculpture and architecture, will take place at the Ladies Recreation Club in Old Peak Road, Mid-Levels, from 9:15 to 5:00 p.m. Cost : HK\$1,000 non-members. Enquiries : Janet Ho 2241 5513 or Duyi Metcalf 2849 2772. Numbers will be limited, so apply early.

Asia Society Central Asian Film Series

Screening of *Djomeh* by Hassan Yektapanah, Iran, 2000, 94 minutes, in Farsi with English subtitles

Date : Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Hong Kong Space Museum, Lecture Hall, G/F, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

Film starts at 7:30 p.m., Close at 9:00 p.m. (Doors open at 7:15 p.m., Free Seating)

HK\$100 Asia Society members, HK\$120 Non-members

Winner of the Cannes Film Festival's Camera d'Or prize, *Djomeh* has been called "the jewel in the crown of the new Iranian cinema". This first feature from a former assistant to Abbas Kiarostami is a gentle film that touches on racism and the difficulty of foreigners living in Iran. Djomeh is a young Afghan refugee who works on a small dairy farm in a remote mountain region in Iran. He falls in love with the daughter of the local shopkeeper, but strict Iranian customs do not allow for an open courtship and he faces barely veiled racism from the villagers. Desperate, Djomeh turns to his boss, a kindly but older and more conservative man, to act as a chaperone. A simple, naturalistic style and beautiful location photography combine to create a highly of satisfying tale of love and human relationships.

For booking and information please call 2103 9508 or Email hongkong@asiasoc.org.

The Hong Kong Natural History Society

Membership of the Hong Kong Natural History Society is open to anyone with an interest in the Hong Kong countryside. The Society organises monthly outings, which consist of hikes in the winter months and boat trips to the remoter islands during the summer months. In August members enjoyed a junk trip to High Island, Sai Kung and look forward to trips to Ping Chau and Kat O Chau in September and October. Most outings take place on a Sunday and have leaders who will guide the party and point out items of interest. Memoirs are published from time to time, which are available to members, and there is a small library of natural history books that members can access. Membership is only \$100 for a year for an individual or \$150 for a couple. Further details may be obtained by writing to the Hon. Secretary, The Hong Kong Natural History Society, GPO Box 4369, Hong Kong.

The Oriental Ceramic Society of Hong Kong

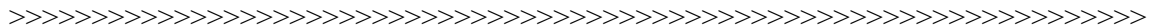
OCS are holding their AGM on 3rd September, with guest speaker Rita Tan talking on "Ming Blue and White Wares found in the Philippines : Reflections on China's trade patterns with the Philippines in the 15th and 16th centuries". For more information about the society, please write to GPO Box 6202, Hong Kong or telephone 2523 2630 or Email ocshk@hotmail.com.

Royal Over-Seas League

Our friends at the Hong Kong branch of the Royal Over-Seas League have kindly invited RAS members to their forthcoming events:

Sir Colin Imray, London-based International Chairman of the Royal Over-seas League, will visit Hong Kong in September prior to traveling to Brisbane for the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in October. He will give a talk on Thursday 27th September at the Hong Kong Club, entitled “The Commonwealth, A Personal Perspective”, in which he will take stock of the present situation of the Commonwealth. Sir Colin is a former British High Commissioner in Bangladesh. Following on from this, on Friday 26th October, Mr. Bill Tweddell will give a lunchtime talk entitled “The Future of the Commonwealth”, briefing guests on the decisions taken in Brisbane. Mr. Tweddell is the outgoing Australian Consul-General in Hong Kong. For further information please contact Mr. Rajeev Shah on 2865 0601 or email mailto:treasurer@rosl.org.hk.

The English Speaking Members’ Department of the Y.W.C.A. in Macdonnell Road have arranged their usual interesting and varied programme of events for the coming autumn term. RAS Council member Jason Wordie is taking a course called An Introduction to Hong Kong History as well as leading several visits to places of historical interest in Hong Kong. Jack Edwards, long-time crusader for the war widows and ex-Servicemen in Hong Kong, will give a talk on the lessons he learned from survival as a Japanese prisoner-of-war. There is a talk on Cantonese Opera scheduled, including a visit to a performance and a visit backstage afterwards, and a guided tour of two special exhibitions held at the Art Museum, Chinese University of Hong Kong. For more information call 2522 4291 or Email : esmdywca@hk.super.net or go to www.esmdywca.com



Announcement of two exciting new publications and special offer for RAS members

We have been offered a generous 20% discount on the normal selling price of these two new publications, for a bulk order (see our June newsletter for full details of book contents):

“An Annotated Bibliography of Hong Kong History”

Compiled by Dr. Lee Pui-tak of the Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong

Special RAS price (including 20% discount): HK\$96.00

See booking form at end of newsletter. All orders to be sent to RASHKB by 1st September latest. This book must be collected by members with our receipt from Joint Publishing stores in Hong Kong – you will be sent a receipt after all orders are received in early September.

“Hong Kong Reintegrating With China : Political, Cultural and Social Dimensions”

Edited by Dr. Lee Pui-tak, Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong

Special RAS price including 20% discount and postage direct to member’s home: HK\$158.00. Booking form at end of newsletter. Orders must be received by 1st September for dispatch in mid September.

Order Form

I am a member of the Royal Asiatic Society, Hong Kong Branch.

*I would like to order.....copies of **In the Heart of the Metropolis: Yaumatei and Its People** at the special members' price of HK\$275.00 per copy plus HKD40.00 postage per volume.*

*I would like to order.....copies of **Beyond the Metropolis: Villages in Hong Kong** at HK\$320.00 plus HK\$40.00 postage per volume.*

*I would like to order..... **two-volume sets** of the above books at HK\$575.00 plus HK\$70.00 postage.*

RAS Journals

Vols 1-23	\$100 each
Vols 24-28	\$150 each
Vols 29-39	\$200 each
Index to Vols 1-10	\$ 50 each
Index to Vols 11-20	\$ 50 each
Set of Journals in print, 1-39, including indexes	\$5,250 per set

Hong Kong, Going and Gone	\$120.00
Some Traditional Chinese Ideas and Conceptions in Hong Kong Social Life Today	\$ 70.00
The Changing Face of Hong Kong (Symposium)	\$ 75.00
The Vegetation of Hong Kong – Structure & Change (Symposium) 1970	\$100.00
The Fauna of Hong Kong (Symposium) 1976	\$100.00
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