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**20<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2006**

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### FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> August	Local Visit	<b>Crown Wine Cellars, Shouson Hill</b>
Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup> August	City Hall Lecture	<b>Down Memory Lane – Rickshaw Days in Hong Kong and Canton</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> August	Overseas Visit	<b>Study Tour to Mongolia</b>
Saturday, 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Local Visit	<b>Visit to the Min Chiu Society in Mid-levels</b>
Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	City Hall Lecture	<b>China's Cosmopolitan Age between Empire and Communism</b>
Saturday, 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Local Visit	<b>Visit to the Conservation Department at the Hong Kong Museum of History</b>
Saturday, 28 <sup>th</sup> October	RASHKB Event	<b>Quiz Night</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> February, 2007	Overseas Visit	<b>Proposed Study Tour to Bhutan</b>

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#### Local Visit

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> August**

#### **Crown Wine Cellars, Shouson Hill – Visit and Lunch**

Located in a historically significant former military site (indeed, the last position to fall to the Japanese in December 1941), Crown Wine Cellars was initiated in 2001 by Jim Thompson, Chairman of the Crown Worldwide Group, and Gregory De'eb, a former career diplomat, when they decided to create the first professional wine storage facility with a private clubhouse in Asia. While searching for the ideal location, they discovered the Deep Water Bay Drive Bunkers. Originally known as the Central Ordinance (Munitions) Depot, construction including 12 pairs of bunkers, a depot HQ, a sentry box and a guardhouse was completed in 1937. The Military ceased its use of the site in 1977. In 1999, the Hong Kong Government approached the private sector with an initiative to guarantee the survival of the site. The result is Crown Wine Cellars with six underground cellars, a private members' clubhouse in two underground bunkers and a newly constructed conservatory, all in a beautiful park-like setting.

Our host and guide will be Gregory De'eb, and following a tour we will enjoy a 2-course set lunch. Drinks will be additional on a consumption basis. Transportation will be provided from Queen's Pier, City Hall, to and from Shouson Hill. There is parking for those who prefer to drive. The address is: 18 Deep Water Bay Drive, Shouson Hill.

**Time:** 9:30am  
**Meeting Place:** Queen's Pier, City Hall, Hong Kong  
**Cost:** Members: \$290. Guests: \$340  
**Dress:** Smart casual and participants are advised to wear rubber-soled shoes  
**Booking:** Please return the booking form on page 10 to Geoffrey Emerson  
**Enquiries:** Phone Geoffrey at 2550 4374 or email: [emerson@netvigator.com](mailto:emerson@netvigator.com)

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**City Hall Lecture**

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> August**

### **Down Memory Lane – Rickshaw Days in Hong Kong and Canton**

Fung Chi Ming will talk about his book, *Reluctant Heroes: Rickshaw Pullers in Hong Kong and Canton, 1874-1954*, the first publication in the Hong Kong Studies Series of the Royal Asiatic Society (Hong Kong Branch), issued by Hong Kong University Press. The book is based on his Ph.D. thesis. It provides a rich portrait of how the rickshaw pullers were spurred into collective protests against encroachments on their livelihood and how they became reluctantly embroiled in partisan and revolutionary politics. The rickshaw pullers sometimes suffered great losses in political storms, when they would have preferred to lead quiet, anonymous lives. Through the history of rickshaw pullers, the book opens up new details on many aspects of urban life in two contrasting yet interrelated cities in South China.

Fung Chi Ming obtained his B.A. (1989) and Ph.D. (1996) from the University of Hong Kong. He joined the Hong Kong Museum of History in 1998 as an Assistant Curator (Oral History). In 2001, he was posted to the Antiquities and Monuments Office, where he has worked until now. In 2002, he obtained his Graduate Diploma in Museum Studies at the University of Sydney, with distinctions in all six modules. In 2005, he obtained his Master of Science in Conservation with distinction at the University of Hong Kong. His previous books on Hong Kong's history and heritage include *Yuen Long Historical Relics and Monuments* (1996, reprinted 2003) and *A History of Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong, 1937-1997* (1997).

**Speaker:** Dr. Fung Chi Ming  
**Time:** 6:15pm  
**Venue:** Extension Activities Room, 8/F, City Hall High Block, Central  
**Cost:** The lecture is free and open to the public  
**Booking:** No booking is required

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**Overseas Visit**

**18<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> August**

### **Study Tour to Mongolia**

The Society has arranged a Study Tour to Mongolia in this the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the coronation of Genghis Khan – arguably the founder of the Mongolian nation and empire, and declared by the Washington Post to be “the most important man of the last thousand years”. Twenty members have signed up for the tour and will set off on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> August (a day later than originally planned due to new flight schedules), arriving in Ulaan Baatar at 0.35 the following morning. A fascinating and varied itinerary has been planned for the next nine days, travelling through wild and varied landscapes with full exposure to Mongolian culture and history. The group arrive back in Hong Kong late on the 28<sup>th</sup> August with no doubt many stories to tell and plenty of stunning photos for the website.

**Local Visit**

**Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> September**

**Visit to the Min Chiu Society in Mid-levels**

We are delighted to be able to visit the premises of this prestigious society, at the kind invitation of Mr. Humphrey Hui, well known collector of snuff bottles and a speaker at the Royal Asiatic Society.

The Min Chiu Society was founded by a small group of like-minded Chinese antiquities collectors in 1960 and acquired the present premises in Mid-levels in 1978. In 1966 their first exhibition was jointly presented with the Museum of Art, formerly known as the City Museum and Art Gallery. From then on, the Society has staged a joint exhibition every five years. They celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year with an exhibition entitled 'Auspicious Emblems, Chinese Cultural Treasures' which was on display at the Hong Kong Museum of Art until mid-July.

We will visit their premises for a tour of the current exhibition from the Min Chiu Society members' collections, and view their well-stocked library of all aspects of Chinese art. A buffet lunch will follow at the premises to which Mr. Hui and ex-President of the Society Mr. Andrew Lee will join us to answer any more questions we may have.

**Time:** 12.00pm – 2.30pm approx

**Meeting place:** All applicants **must** include an email address so that details of the venue, which is easily accessible by public transport, can be sent to successful applicants

**Cost:** \$200 for members, \$250 for non-members (includes buffet lunch)

**Booking:** Please return the booking form on page 10 with your cheque to Geoffrey Emerson (tel 2550 4374). As usual, first come, first served

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**City Hall Lecture**

**Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**China's Cosmopolitan Age between Empire and Communism**

In 1919, over 350,000 foreigners resided in China. Traders from Turkestan, Mongolia, Siberia, Tibet and India could even be met in the streets of the remote provincial capital of Lanzhou, far away from the hustle and bustle of cosmopolitan metropolises like Shanghai and Tianjin. By the end of the twentieth century, on the other hand, a mere 300,000 foreigners lived among a population accounting for a quarter of humanity, less than the number of refugees from Bosnia taken in by Germany in 2000.

This striking contrast points to a very simple truth: after the fall of the Ching Dynasty in 1911, China was open in a way it had never been before, offering a window of opportunity which passed with the advent of communism in 1949 and the subsequent closure of borders and minds. People, things and ideas moved in and out of republican China, as global flows fostered an unprecedented degree of diversity which has yet to be fully recognised and appreciated.

This talk proposes to challenge the traditional vision of modern China as a period marred by 'warlords', 'involution', 'imperialism' or 'disintegration', and show instead how it was a 'golden age' of openness in such fields as politics, law, education, religion, culture and the economy. Frank Dikötter specialises in the modern history of China and has published several books on the republican era, from *The Discourse of Race in Modern China* (Stanford, 1992) to *Crime, Punishment and the Prison in Modern China* (Columbia, 2002). Born in the Netherlands and educated in Switzerland, his undergraduate degree is from the University of Geneva and his PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He is now Chair Professor of Humanities at the University of Hong Kong. A keen scuba-diver, he travels extensively through Southeast Asia.

**Speaker:** Frank Dikötter

**Time:** 6:15pm

**Venue:** Extension Activities Room, 8/F, City Hall High Block Central

**Cost:** The lecture is free and open to the public

**Booking:** No booking is required

**Visit to the Conservation Department at the Hong Kong Museum of History**

We are pleased to be invited to visit the Conservation Department at the Hong Kong Museum of History. There we can view the metal laboratory, the paper laboratory and the textile conservation taking place on a Manchu military uniform. We will also see the conservators working on the collection of items for the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Museum due to open towards the end of the year.

There will be an optional self-paying yum cha lunch afterwards at a restaurant nearby for those who wish to stay on.

<b>Time:</b>	10.30am – 12 noon
<b>Meeting place:</b>	First floor lobby of the Hong Kong Museum of History, Tsim Sha Tsui
<b>Cost:</b>	\$70 for members, \$100 for non members
<b>Booking:</b>	Please return the booking form on page 11 with your cheque to Valery Garrett (tel 2849 8164 during office hours)

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**More Future Events**

Here is advance notice of some more planned activities later in the year. Full write-ups and venue information will be in the September newsletter:

Saturday, 28 <sup>th</sup> October:	The Second RASHKB Quiz Night
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> November:	Lecture by Stephen Davies - "Capt. Daniel Ross, FRS, Indian Navy: the Man who put Hong Kong and Singapore on the (British) map"
Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> November:	Lecture by James Hayes – "The New Territories? Please Remind me!"

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**Study Tour in 2007****Visit to Bhutan****18<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2007**

The Society is hoping to arrange a study tour to Bhutan from Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2007 to visit Paro and Thimphu, as well as the lovely Phobjikha valley. A main focus of the visit will be to attend the major features of the Punakha domchhoe, an important and colourful annual celebration over several days of ritual ceremonies introduced by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel as an expression of gratitude to all forms of protecting deities guarding Bhutan against enemies and invasions. Further details will be given in the September Newsletter. Anyone with enquiries should contact Dr. Brian Shaw at [bcjshaw@hkucc.hku.hk](mailto:bcjshaw@hkucc.hku.hk).

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**RECENT ACTIVITIES****AGM and Annual Dinner**

This year's AGM at the Hong Kong Club was an outstanding success and we are only too sorry that not all the members who signed up for the dinner were able to come, due to space constraint. All 80 places were reserved a week before the event and there was a waiting list of 15 for the dinner.

On arrival, members saw Tony Hedley's stunning photographs of Bhutan, taken on the RAS trip in 2004, displayed around the walls and a PowerPoint display of images from Ed Stokes' book "Hedda Morrison's Hong Kong, 1946-47" which ran until the meeting began. Peter Stuckey also displayed photos taken in Mongolia, as a taste of what is to come on the trip he is organising this coming August. A book display showcased the talents of many of our members (although not all, inevitably there were omissions for which we apologise – maybe next year?) and also the Society's own publications. A number of books were sold and thanks go to those who contributed a percentage of sales to the Society.

Robert Nield, the mastermind of the New Look AGM, gave his President's Report for the Year in which he pointed out that while our membership numbers remain steady, we really need them to grow to improve revenue. He also outlined what the Society has achieved in the last year, including the publication of *Reluctant Heroes*, the first in our Hong Kong Studies Series, and the establishment of a new Editorial Board to govern the production of our Journal and - what he will be aiming to achieve in the coming year - hopefully more publications and maybe even an updated Index to our Journals.

As dessert drew to a close during dinner, Dr. Hugh Baker stood up to give what he claimed was his tenth talk to the Society over many years. His talk, titled "Thinking the Undinkable" was a very witty exposition of the joys, mysteries and pains of learning Cantonese, beginning with an early romanisation system that would have us write Hong Kong as "Xheonq Gorng" and including some priceless pieces of Pidgin English from early days on the China Coast. Hugh also claimed that this talk would be his last, but we were all left with a feeling that maybe there was "talkee namba oilyfan" waiting up his sleeve for us for the not too distant future. We certainly hope so.

**(Note: Annual Reports from the President, Librarian, the Volunteers and the Friends of RASHKB in UK may be found on the website.)**

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### **The Shaping of Hong Kong's Central Business District**

There was a full house on Friday, 26th May to hear Nick Sallnow-Smith's talk, The Shaping of Hong Kong's Central Business District. Mr. Sallnow-Smith is the Chief Executive of Hongkong Land Holdings Ltd. This role has enabled him to nurture his keen interest in the history of Hong Kong, in particular the development of Central over the last 165 years.

He started by making clear that he was not about to deliver a talk on the history of Hong Kong as such, but after a while one was left wondering what else there could possibly have been if one were to take away the phenomenal rise of the business community in the 19th century, and its vital importance to the development of Hong Kong as a whole. With the use of very clear graphics and many beautiful photographs and contemporary sketches, the story of the growth of Central was illustrated so as to give a visual depth to the talk. One theme that became clear was the surprising role of the Royal Navy in ensuring that Central developed into what is now the most efficient central business district of any of the world's major cities. Given that the navy had staked their claim to what is now the Tamar site, just to the east of Central (and the army continued inland the military stranglehold in this direction) and that the tip of Hong Kong Island was not far to the west, all development had to be concentrated in the small area that was becoming Central. And when this area was not enough, the only direction to go was out to sea with reclamation after reclamation. Had there been free access to further development to the east, perhaps we would not have the high level of efficiency of access and communication that we enjoy today.

Due credit was given to the key role played by Sir Catchick Paul Chater in pressing for the major reclamations in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and to the founding of the company that is still the biggest landlord in Central - Hongkong Land. One of Sir Paul's descendants, Liz Chater, was present in the audience. Clearly, Mr. Sallnow-Smith has a passion for the subject. His talk was peppered with a number of little-known gems, such as the architect of the old Supreme Court Building (now the LegCo Building) being the same as that of the facade of Buckingham Palace. A 1932 photograph of a first-floor restaurant with a terrace overlooking Pedder Street prompted the speaker to announce that later this year there will be a new restaurant, complete with terrace, opening in the same location, now The Landmark. In the face of all that has changed so dramatically in the development of our beloved city, it was most interesting to note that the soon to be demolished Central Market is the only site to have had continuous use for the same purpose since 1841. The Royal Asiatic Society should ensure that this fact is marked when the present building is done away with.

After the talk, on the way to an excellent dinner in the Ningpo Restaurant, we stopped to inspect the plaque on the wall of The Landmark that reads, "The original waterfront in 1841, before the Praya Reclamation, stood near this point."

### **Visit to Mid-levels Synagogue**

On Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, some 25 members and guests gathered on Robinson Road for a visit to the beautifully restored Ohel Leah Synagogue, kindly organized by Society member Judy Green and led by Howard Elias, President of the Jewish Historical Society, and Glenn Frommer, an engineer with the MTR and one of the persons involved in the extensive renovations and preservation of the synagogue a few years ago. Following an interesting historical outline of the building and site, together with detailed explanations of the many problems encountered in the restoration, participants were able to explore the building. The problem of the location on the steep slope below Robinson Road became meaningful when the difference in the glass panes of the main door was pointed out; the panes were not aligned, as one would expect, but one side was slightly higher than the other. Participants were also able to carefully examine the several Torahs, admiring the painstaking writing as well as the beautifully ornate cases.

After the tour of the synagogue building, which we learned is not equivalent to the word “church” but rather is a “meeting place or community centre”, participants moved on to the new Jewish Community Centre to see the extensive library with an introduction given by the Librarian, Brenda Yi. A look at the King David Room included a number of interesting contemporary photographs. Finally, an excellent buffet lunch was enjoyed by all, and afterwards long-time Society member S.J. Chan spoke about the history of Jews in China.

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### **The Sinking of the Lisbon Maru**

Tony Banham last spoke to the Society in May 2003, about his book *Not the Slightest Chance: The Defence of Hong Kong, 1941*, and captivated his audience with the story of the battle and his research and fascinating experiences in tracing those who participated in the Battle of Hong Kong and their descendants. Again, on 23<sup>rd</sup> June this year, Tony spoke to a spellbound audience about his new book *The Sinking of the Lisbon Maru: Britain's Forgotten Wartime Tragedy*. Some 60 members of our Society together with members of the Helena May, where the talk took place, attended this event.

The story of the ill-fated ship with some 1800 British POWs from Hong Kong on board, which was sunk in October 1942 by an American submarine off the coast near Shanghai with more than 800 deaths, was brought vividly to life by an excellent presentation. Tony included interesting stories of his research experiences with some of the families involved and a number of very moving photographs, including some from the families, from the Mainichi newspaper archive and even a 2005 photo taken by Tony himself as he flew over the islands near where the ship sank. We were pleased to learn Tony is already hard at work on another book about World War II in Asia, and we look forward to his third talk one day soon.

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### **China's Political Movements Since 1949**

As a society we are fortunate to have heard many learned scholars speak on the development of China over the past sixty years, but we rarely have been privileged to have a speaker who can give a first-hand account of life in China during those turbulent times. Professor Frances Wong was born in Hong Kong in 1923, attended the Diocesan Girl's School and the University of Hong Kong, and in 1949 went into the mainland with her husband, against the flow, to help to build a new China.

Professor Wong devoted her talk on 30<sup>th</sup> June to two phases of political turmoil in China during her years there. In each case she spoke of the general experience of life during those difficult times and with admirable understatement touched on her own personal experiences. In the Anti-Rightist Movement of 1956-57 she described the trap into which intellectuals fell of being invited to express criticisms and then being branded as Rightists for so doing. Her husband was branded a Rightist and by association she too was guilty. She spoke a little of her rustication and of her worries for her children during that period.

In the Cultural Revolution she spoke more forcefully about the victims she knew personally, and about the continual pressure to conform and to accuse. Of her own experiences, she mainly spoke of how she and two colleagues sought protection by creating a Study Group and not a Combat Team, as was conventional.

At the end of a moving and quite powerful talk, and before answering many questions, she concluded by reciting 'The Psalm of Life' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The audience was left in some awe of this small, elegant and softly spoken lady, her style, and her remarkable resilience.

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## **OTHER LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST**

### **Enlightening Pursuits Scholars' Objects from the Mengdiexuan Collection**

Between the seventh to nineteenth centuries, Chinese society was dominated by a class of scholars whose tastes influenced the development of Chinese art. These intellectuals favoured fine decorative objects that required a high degree of cultural expertise to appreciate. The University Museum and Art Gallery at the University of Hong Kong is currently holding an exhibition of over 150 Chinese scholar objects selected from the Mengdiexuan collection, dating from the Tan dynasty (618-907) to the early twentieth century.

As well as the traditional "Four Treasures of the Studio", the writing brush, ink stick, ink slab and paper, there are also such decorative items as censers, trays, tables, eccentric boulders and rockworks and precious wooden boxes. These are not only objects for use but have been the source of inspiration for the Chinese literati for centuries and have become highly regarded representations of Chinese cultural heritage.

The University Museum and Art Gallery is open from 9.30am to 6.00pm, Monday to Saturday, and 1.300pm to 5.30pm on Sundays and admission is free. For enquiries please call 2241 5512.

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### **Books and Their Stories Gems from the University of Hong Kong Libraries Collection**

Also at the University Museum and Art Gallery, and to celebrate the Libraries' one millionth e-book, the exhibit *Books and Their Stories; Gems from the University of Hong Kong Libraries Collection* highlights some of the exceptional books the library has acquired over the years. Included are a beautifully produced 1798 edition of George Staunton's authentic *Account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain of China*, and a rare copy of the *Si ku quan shu* (a collection of reference works up to the eighteenth century) which is believed to have originated in the collection of the Wen Yuan Pavilion at the Old summer Palace.

This exhibit runs through until 30<sup>th</sup> July and venue details are as in the above notice.

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### **International Conference on the History and Culture of the British Concession in China During the Late Qing Dynasty 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> October**

Dr. Joseph Ting, recent Council Member and Director of the Hong Kong Museum of History, and member of the Organizing Committee of this Conference, has sent the following announcement to the Society:

"I am delighted to inform you that the "International Conference on the History and Culture of the British Concession in China during the Late Qing Dynasty" will be jointly organized by the Weihai Municipal Archives Shandong Province, the Shandong University at Weihai and the Hong Kong Museum of History from 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2006 at the Heqing Hotel in Weihai, Shandong Province. This is an invaluable opportunity for the leading experts and scholars in both Mainland China and Hong Kong to discuss the subject and share their latest research findings or views.

“The Royal Asiatic Society, Hong Kong Branch, is well known for its excellent research on topics relating to the history and culture of Hong Kong, China and Asia. Members of your Society are cordially invited to attend the conference and present a paper on the subject.

“The Conference will be conducted in both Putonghua and English. If your members are interested in attending, please forward the completed reply slip by post or fax to Mr. Zhang Zhichao, Law School of Shandong University at Weihai.

“If you have any enquiries concerning the conference, please kindly contact Mrs. Rebecca Lui, Assistant Curator I (Extension Services) at 2724 9024. We look forward to your favourable reply and participation in the conference.”

At least one RAS member, Past President Dr. Patrick Hase, will be giving a paper, and President Robert Nield will be attending as an observer. All members interested are encouraged to attend. The reply slip referred to is part of a three-page pdf file that also contains the official invitation and full details of the conference, but which will not easily transmit into this newsletter. At present there is no website information available so anyone interested in further details should contact Jenny Day ([info@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:info@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)), who will forward all relevant information.

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## THE JOURNAL

Members will be only too aware of the truly monumental contribution that Peter Halliday has made as Hon Editor of the Journal over (by next year) a decade and a half. Peter has been doing single-handedly everything required to produce the Journal, short of actually printing it himself.

Council has decided that the time is long overdue for the Hon. Editor to be underpinned, if you will, to share the load. Accordingly, an Editorial Board was formed recently comprising Peter as chairman, three assistant editors, and four additional members. The last seven of these will also be well known to members. The assistant editors comprise Colin Day, responsible for seeking Journal material and advising generally on its suitability; Geoffrey Bonsall (assisted by May Holdsworth), responsible for Journal layout and production; and Tony Sweeting, responsible for book reviews and additional responsibilities to be decided. The four additional members are Jason Wordie, Micheline Stockton, Geoffrey Emerson (currently also the Activities Coordinator) and myself.

The Board has started its work with Volume 44 of the Journal which should be coming off the presses in a month or two. As members will see, it has a new look and feel about it; the size and colour will be retained but the layout, style and so forth have been brought more in line with the Journal of the mother Society in London. I am confident that members will appreciate this subtle “rebranding.” I will not divulge its contents at this writing – a little suspense will do no harm – other than to say that it contains a varied selection of contributions of both high academic and general interest levels.

Volume 45 is now in the process of compilation and should be out by the end of the year. Again, the contents will be, we hope, fascinating. The intention is to move annual Journal publication back – and nearer – to the preceding AGM to which the Journal relates.

Exciting times for the Journal, and my thanks to all members of the newly formed Board for their agreement to serve, and the contribution they have already made.

**Robert Nield, President**

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## OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

### **The Second World War Experience Centre, Leeds, England**

When I was invited to speak to the RASHKB about my wartime experiences I was uncertain whether it was the right thing to do. Eventually my talk, *We were Soldiers Once and Young*, took place on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004, at City Hall. I believe I dare say it was well received.

Most Britons of my generation served King and Country. The present Queen, God bless her, joined the army as a teenager, became a driver and learned to get her hands dirty doing maintenance and changing tyres.

But after most of us had returned to civilian life we, who had seen action, spent a great deal of our time trying to forget the horrors of our own war. Then, as the years rolled by, we began to realise that war is a part of our history and cannot just be blotted out.

With this in mind I have recently become a life member of **The Second World War Experience Centre**. Many of our RASHKB members are military history buffs and have written on the subject, although most have never served in the armed forces let alone seen action.

If any of you are interested in joining the Second World War Experience Centre or interested in learning about some of the activities the Centre is engaged in, then may I suggest you tune in to the following web site: [www.war-experience.org](http://www.war-experience.org)

You will see it is a well-organised, respectable institution with many important personages at the helm. It is also building up an impressive collection of artefacts and literature.

**Dr. Dan Waters, Past President**

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### **Book Recommendations**

I stopped over in Xiamen last month, somewhere I haven't been for 17 years, and I was delighted to find a couple of books written by Dr. Bill Brown, a lecturer at Xiamen University. One was all about Amoy (Xiamen), and especially Quanzhou where Richard, my husband, and I went for the day. The other was a terrific guide to all the western mansions on the island of Gulangyu. The books were well illustrated, around 350 pages, and cost an amazing RMB25 each in Xiamen (a little more expensive on the internet). All profits go to a good cause, and Bill Brown has a website [www.amovmagic.com](http://www.amovmagic.com) where the books can be purchased. They are light hearted but full of good stuff. Anyone planning to visit those parts is definitely recommended to buy them.

**Valery Garrett**

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### **LIBRARY DONATIONS**

Our two Past Presidents have contributed generously to the RAS Library during the past few weeks. Donations received total 61 books, 2 journal issues and 6 videotapes. A great number of these books are in Chinese and a full list can found on the website. Thank you, Dan and Patrick.

#### **From Dan Waters**

- Davies, Shann. *Macau Miscellany*. Hong Kong, Derwent Communications Ltd., 1992.
- Waters, Dan. *One Couple Two Cultures*. Hong Kong, MCCM Creations, 2005.
- *Revista de Cultura*. International edition 16, October 2005. [Journal]

#### **From Patrick Hase**

- *Acta Orientalia : Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae*, Vol.54, No.4, 2001. [Journal]
- *Education in Hong Kong: Past and Present*. Hong Kong, Urban Council, 1993.
- The Macao Ricci Institute (Editor). *Religion and Culture: Past Approaches, Present Globalization, Future Challenges*. International symposium organized by the Macao Ricci Institute and the Instituto do Oriente (Lisbon), Macao, November 28th-29th 2002.
- Pasternak, Burton. *Kinship & Community in two Chinese Villages*. Stanford, California, Stanford University Press, c1972.
- Tillman, Hoyt Cleveland. *Ch'en Liang on Public Interest and the Law*. Hawaii, University of Hawaii Press, c1994