

# ROYAL ASIATIC

皇家亞洲學會香港分會  
G.P.O. Box 3864, Hong Kong



# SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

## HONG KONG

### November 2023

**E-mail: [membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)**

**GPO Box 3864, Hong Kong**

**[www.royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](http://www.royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)**

**<http://www.facebook.com/RoyalAsiaticSocietyHongKong>**



One of 2 groups who enjoyed our recent October visit to Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

*Picture Credit Vonnie Fung*

## **Message from your President, Helen Tinsley**

Welcome to our November/ December 2023 RASHK Newsletter.

We had a busy couple of months for our summer RASHK activities, which continued in September and October with some more interesting events. Highlights included talks by Prof. Alan Smart based on his recent book, which charted the background to the history and successful removal of most hillside squatter dwellings in Hong Kong, a few of which still remain. A team from the Hong Kong History Centre (formerly the Hong Kong History Project) based at the UK's Bristol University was recently in Hong Kong, led by Centre Co-Director, Prof. Robert Bickers, with its focus mainly on the fostering of research and collaboration.

We took the opportunity to invite Centre Co-Director, Dr. Vivian Kong to present her work on the 1910-1945 history of Multiracial Britishness in Hong Kong at an in-person talk at Café 8. Those who attended enjoyed a lively follow-up Q&A session. I have ordered a copy of her soon-to-be published book for our RASHK Library if you'd like to know more. Further information on the Hong Kong History Centre can be found at <https://www.hkhistory.net/>. Another of their team members, Dr. Thomas Larkin, will also be talking to us at RASHK in November on the history of the Heard family in China and Hong Kong.

Despite concerns about the weather, many of our members thoroughly enjoyed a fascinating and relatively rain-free tour of the work of Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden. A report on our visit is available later in this Newsletter. At the time of writing, we can still look forward to Prof. Lai's 30<sup>th</sup> October talk on Daoism and his comprehensive documentation of Hong Kong stele monuments.

Please also take a look at our programme of events planned for November and December 2023 and I will look forward to meeting some of you then. As always, your feedback on events and ideas for future activities are welcome. One small point to note is that our previously planned November visit to a Hakka village house in Pak Sha O has been deferred.

One final news of importance is the recent decision by our RASHK Council to award the RASHK Honorary Fellowship to Dr. Colin Day in recognition of his very significant contribution to the RASHK related work of the Sir Lindsay and Lady May Ride Memorial Fund, in support of the Hong Kong Studies Series of books (now more than 35 publications). In the recent past, RASHK Honorary Fellowships have also been awarded to John Strickland and Stephen Davies in grateful recognition of their important contributions to our Society and its work. Congratulations to them all.

Finally, best wishes, wherever you are, for the coming festive season.

Helen Tinsley, President RASHK,  
October, 2023

# Contents

|   |                     |   |
|---|---------------------|---|
| <b>MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT</b>  |                     | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>FUTURE ACTIVITIES</b>  |                     |   |
| Thu, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 2023   | Local Visit         | <b>Walking in North Point: Exploring British Colonial Influences and Its Blend of Unique Cultures</b> 5   |
| Tue, 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023   | Online Virtual Tour | <b>Chinese Canadian Museum: To Elevate, Enrich and Engage across Communities with Dr Melissa Lee</b> 8  |
| Thu, 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023  | Online Talk         | <b>A global-microhistory of Augustine Heard &amp; Company in the 19th Century with Dr Thomas M. Larkin</b> 10   |
| Wed, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 2023  | In-person Talk      | <b>Village Scholars in the New Territories and Their Book Collections by Dr Patrick Hase, with a tribute to our past President, Dr James Hayes</b> 12 |
| Tue, 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2023   | Online Talk         | <b>George Forrest, a Scottish plant collector in China with Leonie Paterson</b> 14  |
| <i>TBC</i>  | <i>TBC</i>          | <b>More Future Activities</b> 16  |
| <b>RECENT ACTIVITIES</b>  |                     |   |
| Wed, 20 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2023  | In-person Talk      | <b>Multiracial Britishness: Global Networks in Hong Kong, 1910-45 with Dr Vivian Kong</b> 17  |
| Thu, 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2023  | Online Talk         | <b>Hong Kong Public and Squatter Housing: Geopolitics and Informality, 1963–1985 with Prof Alan Smart</b> 18  |
| Thu, 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2023  | Local Visit         | <b>Nature Discovery in Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden</b> 19  |
| <b>OF GENERAL INTEREST</b>  |                     |   |
| <b>The Proverse Autumn Reception 2023</b>   |                     | <b>22</b>   |
| <b>The Grand Gathering of the Century: Zodiac Heads from the Yuanmingyuan and Important Treasures Phase 2</b> |                     | <b>23</b>   |
| <b>The Bristol University’s Hong Kong History Centre</b>  |                     | <b>24</b>   |
| <b>Hong Kong Society Upcoming events</b>  |                     | <b>25</b>   |
| <b>Former RASHK Seminar Documents and Monographs</b>  |                     | <b>26</b>   |
| <b>2024 Membership Renewal and Update Membership Information</b>  |                     | <b>27</b>   |
| <b>PUBLICATIONS</b>   |                     | <b>28</b>   |
| <b>LIST OF PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN THE HK STUDIES SERIES</b>                                       |                     | <b>31</b>   |
| <b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>  |                     | <b>33</b>   |
| <b>DONATION FORM</b>  |                     | <b>34</b>   |

# Future Activities

## NOTE FOR ONLINE TALKS

The RASHK hosts online talks over the Zoom application, downloadable on computer at <https://zoom.us/> or smartphone from any app store.

Zoom links to access the online talk will be sent to members (who have registered) prior to the event.

If you would like to attend an online talk, please email [membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk) so that we can send you the zoom link for access.

\*\*\*\*\*

## LOCAL VISIT

# **Walking in North Point Exploring British Colonial Influences and Its Blend of Unique Cultures**

**Thursday • 2 November 2023**



The State Theatre, a Grade 1 historical site at North Point, opened in 1952, which is full of architectural, historical and cultural values that marked the cinematic world of Hong Kong.

*Photo Credit: Facebook of Paul C.Y. Chan*

### **Details**

North Point presents a unique world of its own, offering an intriguing blend of history and culture. Strolling along King's Road, one immediately observes the absence of British colonial influences, except for the road name, while embracing the distinctive social character that defines the area.

Historically, North Point has served as a refuge for those fleeing war and unrest, with numerous "temporary" halfway houses established during the mid-20th century evolving into permanent residences for immigrants from Shanghai, Fujian, as well as overseas Chinese hailing from the Philippines and Indonesia. Over time, these diverse groups have shaped the captivating cultural mosaic that now defines this northernmost enclave of Hong Kong Island.

It is easy to overlook North Point's past as a vibrant entertainment hub and a pivotal industrial center in the city, as the forces of modernization led to the gradual decline of these pillars of local life, starting in the 1980s. Furthermore, some of the dilapidated structures in the area played significant roles in the tumultuous clashes between the British colonial government and leftist factions during the 1967 riots. Despite its unassuming layout, North Point is brimming with compelling stories and distinctive urban vistas that vividly illustrate the complex dynamics and often paradoxical underpinnings of this metropolis.

Our tour will also encompass an overview of the iconic State Theatre, the oldest surviving standalone theater in Hong Kong Island. This historic venue now stands as a vital and captivating conservation project, and we will gladly share our experiences from our involvement in its conservation advocacy.



## The Speakers

**Paul C.Y. Chan** holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree and a Postgraduate Certificate in Laws from the University of Hong Kong, a Master of Philosophy from the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), and a Master of Science Degree in Comparative Politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

He was once a part-time lecturer at the Department of Government and Public Administration at CUHK, Political Assistant to Secretary for Food and Health, HKSAR Government (2008 to 2012) and a presenter and commentator at Radio Television Hong Kong.

Paul is also a founding member of the Roundtable group and Co-founder & CEO of Walk In Hong Kong, a cultural enterprise that curates immersive and memorable experiences. He is also involved in the conservation campaign of the State Theatre in North Point, Former Service Reservoir in Bishop Hill, and recently 190 Nathan Road in Tsim Sha Tsui.

## PROGRAMME

**Speaker / Guide:** Paul C.Y. Chan

**Date:** Thursday, 2 November 2023

**Time:** Group meets at 2:45 pm, Sunbeam Theatre, North Point  
The tour starts at 3:00 pm for 2 hours without a break.

**Itinerary:** Start at Sunbeam Theatre > Kiu Kwan Mansion > Chun Yeung Street > Ching Wah Street > State Theatre (overlooking in the opposite street) > End at Oil Street Art Space  
(10 mins interactive talk about the history of the State Theatre)

**Time:** 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Admission:** \$260 for members, \$320 for guests /non-members

**Registration:** Please email <[membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)> in advance to register your attendance.

**The tour has a capped capacity and requires pre-registration and confirmation upon receipt of payment.**

**The details of the payment methods will be emailed to those members who email us for booking.**

**Registration will be closed at 12:00 noon 19 Oct. No walk-in guests allowed.**

This tour is operated by Walk In Hong Kong, a licensed cultural enterprise with a strong social mission.

Participants are reminded tour details as follows:

- What to wear/bring:  
Comfortable clothing and shoes for the walk. Bring an umbrella, a bottle of water and some snacks just in case.
- Bad Weather Policy:  
The walk will be cancelled if the Red/ Black Rainstorm warning or Typhoon no. 8 signal or above is hoisted 3 hours before the walk. Cancellation will be decided no later than 2.5 hours before the tour. You will be fully refunded in this case.
- Wireless receivers:  
It will be used to conduct the tour. Please feel free to bring your own earphone with 3.5mm jack. The guide will provide spare earphones.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ONLINE VIRTUAL TOUR

### **Chinese Canadian Museum: To Elevate, Enrich and Engage across Communities**

**Tuesday • 7 November 2023**



#### **Details**

Learn about the Chinese Canadian Museum in Vancouver Canada from Dr Melissa Karmen Lee, inaugural CEO of the museum. In 2017, the Province of B.C. announced its commitment to establishing a museum dedicated to celebrate the Chinese Canadian community.

In 2020, these community consultations resulted in the founding of the Chinese Canadian Museum Society of BC. The aspiration was to build a public museum honouring the history, contributions, and heritage of Chinese Canadians. Since its founding, the society has launched temporary exhibitions, secured a permanent museum site, and procured funders and donors to support the development of the Chinese Canadian Museum.



## The Speaker



**Dr. Melissa Karmen Lee (Ph.D) 李林嘉敏** was born in Vancouver, Canada. She currently holds the appointment of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at the Chinese Canadian Museum, in British Columbia, Vancouver. From 2019 to 2022, she was the Director of Education and Public Programs at the Vancouver Art Gallery. From 2016 to 2019, she was on the founding team to open Tai Kwun Centre for Heritage and Art, Hong Kong, serving as the Education and Public Programs Curator.

## PROGRAMME

- Speaker:** Dr Melisa Karmen Lee
- Date & Time** Tuesday, 7 November 2023, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm, Hong Kong Time  
(Monday, 6 November 2023, 9:00 pm – 10:00 pm, Vancouver, Canada Time)
- Venue:** Online event by Zoom
- Admission:** Zoom links are free for members of RASHK and sister societies only.  
Non-members are welcome depending on availability.
- Registration:** Please email <[membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)> and provide your membership number, if applicable, at the time of registration.  
Registration will be closed at 12 noon on 6 November 2023.  
Zoom links will be sent before or by 6 November 2023.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ONLINE TALK**

**A global-microhistory of Augustine Heard & Company  
in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

**Thursday • 16 November 2023**



*The Four Heard Brothers, Courtesy of the Ipswich Museum*

**Details**

In the nineteenth century, Augustine Heard & Co. became the most influential among those American firms involved in trade with China.

Founded in 1840 following a rift between partners of Russell & Co., Augustine Heard & Co. rapidly became the second largest American trading firm in China. The firm expanded operations throughout China's treaty ports, its partners witnessing first-hand many of the defining moments of Sino-Western contact during the nineteenth century. But by 1876 the firm had failed, the Heard brothers retreating from China to pursue new interests in Europe in the United States. Still, in the course of their enterprise, the brothers generated a massive amount of material describing life and commerce on the China coast.

Applying an innovative global-microhistorical approach to the history of the firm's partners, Dr Thomas Larkin's research uses the case study of this company to explore the ways American merchants were shaped by their experiences living and trading within both the British and Qing empires. It in turn explores the various ways these merchants were active participants in Britain's imperial project in China.

## The Speaker



**Dr. Thomas M. Larkin** is the Hong Kong History Centre Fellow at the University of Bristol, Department of History. His research interests include nineteenth-century Anglo-American and Sino-American social and cultural interactions in China, and the critical application of global-microhistorical, transimperial, and digital methodologies.

Dr. Larkin's forthcoming monograph, *The China Firm: American Elites and the Making of British Colonial Society*, will be published by Columbia University Press in Spring 2024. *The China Firm* traces the rise and fall of the American firm Augustine Heard & Co. to disentangle the symbiotic relationship between American elites and the British imperial/colonial project in China. The book considers the negotiated processes whereby Americans adapted to or rejected British colonial culture as they sought to carve out a place amongst the foreign elite living and trading along the China coast. He recently completed the British-Academy funded 'Mapping Sino-Foreign Networks and Mobility in China' digital project, and his work has been published in *Cultural and Social History*, the *Historical Journal*, *Gender and History*, and the *Pacific Historical Review*.

## PROGRAMME

- Speaker:** **Dr Thomas Larkin**  
**Hong Kong History Centre Fellow, University of Bristol, Department of History (Historical Studies)**
- Date:** **Thursday, 16 November 2023**
- Time:** **7 pm – 8 pm, Hong Kong Time**
- Venue:** **Online event by Zoom**
- Admission:** **Zoom links are free for members of RASHK and sister societies only. Non-members are welcome depending on availability.**
- Registration:** **Please email <[membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)> and provide your membership number, if applicable, at the time of registration. Registration will be closed at 12 noon on 15 November 2023. Zoom links will be sent before or by 15 November 2023.**

\*\*\*\*\*

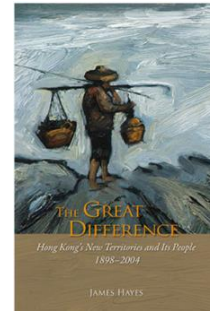
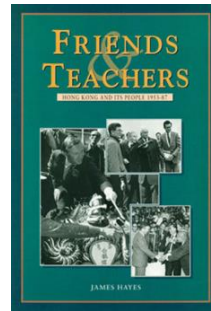
IN-PERSON TALK

**Village Scholars in the New Territories and Their Book Collections  
by Dr. Patrick Hase**

Wednesday • 22 November 2023



*Photo Credit of Dr. James W. Hayes: SCMP*



Dr. Patrick H. Hase is a part-time lecturer at Lingnan University, Hong Kong. He is also the past President and Honorary Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society, Hong Kong Branch; Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London; Honorary Advisor to the Museums Service, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Government of Hong Kong; Honorary Advisor to the People's Government of Shenzhen (Zhongying Street History Museum) China; Honorary Advisor to the People's Government, Kaiping Municipality, China; and Chairman of the History Department Advisory Board, Lingnan University, Hong Kong. He is a prominent scholar in his field and the author of *The Six-Day War of 1899: Hong Kong in the Age of Imperialism* (2008); *Custom Land and Livelihood in Rural South China: The Traditional Land Law of Hong Kong's New Territories, 1750–1950* (2013); and *Forgotten Heroes: San On County and its Magistrates in the Late Ming and Early Qing* (2017). [Source: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/upress/settlement-life-politics>]

Dr. Patrick Hase will deliver a talk based on his recent study and article published in Volume 63 of our RASHK Journal.

He will also take this opportunity to pay tribute on the recent passing of Dr. James W. Hayes (1930-2023), former RASHK President (1983-1990) and scholar who, over a several decades, contributed many books and journals to our knowledge of life in rural Hong Kong. His obituary is included in JRASK Volume 63. James Hayes was a wide-ranging scholar, exceling in recording numerous aspects of Hong Kong history, culture and society. He worked in Hong Kong's New Territories for almost half of his thirty-two years of government service and was Regional Secretary in charge of district administration there in 1985–87.

James Hayes' bibliography includes:

1. *The Hong Kong Region, 1850-1911: Institutions and Leadership in Town and Countryside with a New Introduction, reprints by Echoes*, 2012 (His first book published in 1977)
2. *The Great Difference, Hong Kong's New Territories and Its People 1898–2004*, Hong Kong University Press, 2006
3. *South China Village Culture*, Oxford University Press, 2001
4. *Friends & Teachers: Hong Kong and Its People, 1953-87*, Hong Kong University Press, 1996
5. *Tsuen Wan: Growth of a 'New Town' and its People*, Oxford University Press, 1994
6. *The Rural Communities of Hong Kong: Studies and Themes (East Asian Social Science Monographs)*, Oxford University Press, 1985

### PROGRAMME

- Speaker:** Dr Patrick H. Hase  
Past President, Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong
- Date:** Wednesday, 22 November 2023
- Time:** 7 pm – 8 pm, Hong Kong Time  
(Reception starts at 6:30 pm)
- Venue:** Café 8, Roof, Hong Kong Maritime Museum, Pier 8, Central
- Admission:** In Person at \$160 for members, \$200 for guests /non-members  
(Light refreshments are included in the admission fee)  
Walk-in guests are welcome depending on availability.  
Cash payment will be collected at the Reception Desk.  
Please prepare the exact payment.
- Registration:** Please email <[membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)> and provide your membership number, if applicable, at the time of registration.

\*\*\*\*\*

ONLINE TALK

**George Forrest, a Scottish plant collector in China**

Tuesday • 5 December 2023



George Forrest and chief collector Zhao Chengzhang

**Details**

Leonie Paterson, Archivist at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) will be speaking about George Forrest (1873 – 1932), a Scottish botanist, who became one of the first western explorers to the remote southwestern province of Yunnan, generally regarded as the most biodiverse province in China.

Forrest made seven botanical collecting expeditions to Yunnan in southwest China between 1904 and his death there in 1932, collecting samples and seeds for study and for avid collectors willing to pay for species new to the U.K. to add to their collections. During his career he added over 31,000 pressed and dried plant specimens to the RBGE herbarium and would also send seeds of the most desirable so they could be introduced to British gardens including primulas, rhododendrons, gentians, pieris and iris, many of them named after him using the epithet *forrestii*. Forrest's botanical specimens are also held at herbaria around the world, most notably at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the Royal Horticultural Society, London, the Beijing and Kunming Institutes of Botany and the Hong Kong Herbarium.

How did he manage to collect such a vast range of plants? And what parts of his story do we often not get to hear?



## The Speaker



**Leonie Paterson**, Archivist at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE), who has been working in the Archives at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh for over 23 years. Not being a botanist, she finds herself drawn more to the stories of the individuals who created the records she looks after, in particular those of the plant collector George Forrest and his mentor, the Regius Keeper or Director of the RBGE at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour. Reading Forrest's

letters are, to her, as if she's receiving emails from him today – his voice comes through clearly and has opened up a fascinating new world of travel, experiences, risk and intrigue. She's currently in the process of cataloguing the Forrest archives in order to make them more accessible.

## PROGRAMME

**Speaker:** Leonie Paterson, Archivist at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

**Date:** Tuesday, 5 December 2023

**Time:** 7 pm - 8 pm, Hong Kong Time  
(11:00 am – 12:00 noon London Time)

**Venue:** Online event by Zoom

**Admission:** Zoom links are free for members of RASHK and sister societies, and members of The Hong Kong Gardening Society only. Non-members are welcome and required to make registration in advance.

**Registration:** Please email <[membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)> and provide your membership number, if applicable, at the time of registration.

Registration will be closed at 12 noon HK Time on 5 December 2023.

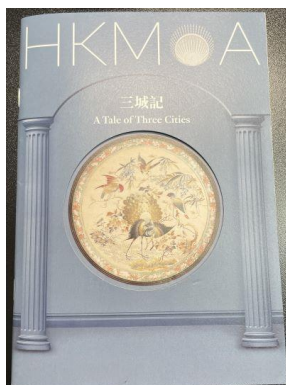
Zoom links will be sent before or by 4 December 2023.

\*\*\*\*\*

## More Future Activities

In the coming few months we have some interesting events planned and under the process of application, liaison and confirmation for details. Stay tuned with the release of our e-flyers via the campaign system, MailChimp.

Below is a checklist for you to have an overview:



### Local Visit: A Tale of Three Cities: Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Export of Silk Products in the Ming and Qing

Date: Saturdays on 2<sup>nd</sup> December or 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Time: 11:00 – 12:00 pm

Venue: Hong Kong Museum of Art, Tsim Sha Tsui

### Local Visit: Ex-Sham Shui Po Service Reservoir Guided Tour



Date: Thursdays in December 2023 or  
January 2024

Time: 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Venue: Ex-Sham Shui Po Service Reservoir

### Local Visit: Guided tour to the Palace Museum in West Kowloon District



Date: Thursdays or Saturdays in January 2024

Time: TBC

Venue: The Palace Museum

West Kowloon Cultural District, 8 Museum Drive, Kowloon

\*\*\*\*\*

## Recent Activities

**Note: Audio only recordings of online talks are available upon request to the RASHK Administrator Email address.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### IN-PERSON TALK

## Multiracial Britishness: Global Networks in Hong Kong, 1910-45

**Dr Vivian Kong**

**Wednesday • 20 September 2023**



Picture Credit Helen Tinsley and Vonnie Fung

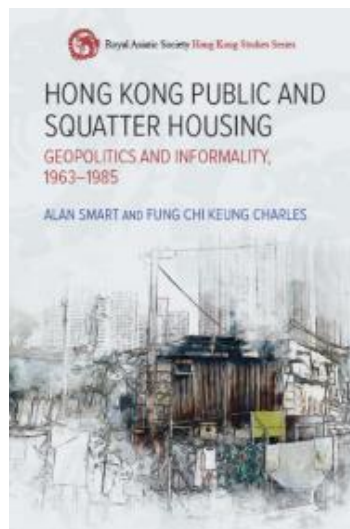
\*\*\*\*\*

**ONLINE TALK**

**Hong Kong Public and Squatter Housing:  
Geopolitics and Informality, 1963–1985**

**Prof Alan Smart**

**Thursday • 12 October 2023**



\*\*\*\*\*

## LOCAL VISIT

### Nature Discovery in Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

Thursday • 19 October 2023

Our group left Pier 9, Central at 12.45 pm in an almost full 27-seater minibus. The weather was warm and overcast as we left, with a hint of rain (or hopefully, just drizzle). The traffic was in our favour at this time of day and the journey on virtually empty roads took scarcely 30 minutes. Leaving our bus at the KFBG drop off point, we walked up a flight of steep steps to Reception, then on to the podium level beyond, where our two-hour tour of the lower area of the farm began at 2 pm. Divided into two groups, led by our most accomplished and charming volunteer guides (docents) Lucia and Ruby, we ascended the site by steep paths and steeper flights of steps, turning off to one side or the other as we reached the various animal and bird enclosures.

**Our first stop was by a young incense tree in the centre of the podium.** Incense trees were once abundant in Hong Kong, but the natural stock is constantly under threat of illegal poaching by organised crime gangs, even within KFBG's remote forest areas. Several levels of protection are in place at the farm, including building steel cages around the trees and, for the podium tree, CCTV.

[For more information on this, see

[https://www.kfbg.org/en/KFBG-blog/post/Can-Hong-Kongs-iconic-Incense-Tree-survive-and-thrive](https://www.kfbg.org/en/KFBG-blog/post/Can-Hong-Kongs-<u>iconic-Incense-Tree-survive-and-thrive</u>)]



Leaving the podium, we passed by a statue of the farm's founder Sir Horace Kadoorie, resting comfortably on a park bench, as we walked up to and along a path taking us past the **Farm Museum and Shop** and a row of pig sties. When the farm was founded in 1956, principal focus was on helping poor farmers in the New Territories. Pig breeding and livestock improvement were a major part of the work until 1995. The farm still has a few chubby Da Hua Bai pigs in the pig sties in memory of those days, but these fat pigs, bred in the past for local taste, are for viewing, not eating.

We walked down through the **Eco-garden**, a self-contained organic garden where it is shown how the elements needed for successful gardening can be achieved naturally. This garden is also used as a



demonstration site for people who are starting local community gardens. Notices posted by the various plots dispense hints for new gardeners. (The leafy green veggies looked tasty.)



From here we moved on to various enclosures housing animals and birds which have been rescued as infants, arrived injured or were saved from the food and pet trade. In the **Piers Jacobs Wildlife Sanctuary** we saw muntjac (barking deer), and fruit bats roosting hidden under palm leaf shelters they had built. The two little female deer were rescued when their mother died and, having been raised by humans, they lack the survival skills they would need to be released back to the wild.

Walking along past the **Raptor Roost**, we saw large birds of prey that were rehabilitated after injury. Even behind firm netting, the eagles towering above us on their branches looked large and alarming.

In the **Amphibian and Reptile House** we admired a splendid green tree python, coiled neatly around a thick branch front top right of its enclosure. We could not see its head, as it had coiled itself to face away from passersby, but a later online image search revealed that the pythons position their heads centrally, with their coils neatly arranged either side.



[Green tree pythons are big as specialist pets in the USA, and many enthusiastic videos by green tree python keepers may be browsed online, for example, see [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_ZIVFsRTftU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ZIVFsRTftU)]

Then it was on to the **Insect House**. While lacking the dramatic visual appeal of animals and birds, insects are important components in the balance of nature, performing many vital functions. Displays included working bee and termite nests illustrating the well-ordered lives of these social little creatures.

Parrots are popular as pets but are long-lived and require a great deal of care. Many parrots end up abandoned by their owners. In the past KFBG has received abandoned and stray parrots and these are now cared for at the **Parrot Sanctuary**. The separately housed sulphur-crested cockatoos put on an excited and very noisy display for our visit. Two large, brightly coloured macaws in a separate enclosure across the way looked on silently.



We continued on down past the **Wildlife Walkthrough**, pausing to admire some brightly coloured American flamingos, survivors of a flock gifted from South America over 25 years ago and now approaching their senior years (life expectancy in captivity is around 40). Tiring, we decided against a detour to see the monkeys, instead continuing on to the **Farm Shop and Museum** for a quick inspection and some purchases before finishing our tour at the **Sun Garden Animal Exhibit**, which displays animals rescued from the wild animal trade (including cute marmosets).



There was time for a refuelling stop at the adjacent **Eat Well Café**, where items enthusiastically consumed by our group included Masala ginger tea, chickpea quinoa salad, and raw, nutty energy balls.

Then we were on our way back to town in our trusty minibus, after a splendidly informative, interesting and energetic countryside outing.

Text and photos by Felicity Shaw

\*\*\*\*\*

# Of General Interest

## The Proverse Autumn Reception 2023

Members and friends of the RASHK are cordially invited to the Proverse Autumn Reception where launching authors present (including remotely) will introduce their books, three of which will be of particular interest to members and friends of the Society (details at the link shown). These books are available for pre-order at the time of registration for the event.

Dr Verner Bickley, MBE, Life Member of the RASHK will announce and award the Proverse Prizes for unpublished fiction, non-fiction or poetry 2022. Dr Bickley will also announce the Proverse Prize semi-finalists for 2023 and Winners in the Proverse Poetry Prize 2023.

Dr Gillian Bickley, one-time RASHK Vice-President and also a Life Member, will be the MC.

Register soon since numbers are limited by the venue.

A literary event in English with a particular and varied China focus on this occasion

Date: Tuesday, 21 November 2023

Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 / 9:30 pm

Venue: Helena May, 35 Garden Road

Price: HKD250 / USD35 includes entry and complimentary canapés. There will be a cash bar.

### **Prior registration essential**

Full details, registration and book orders from:

<https://proversepublishing.com/2023-proverse-autumn-reception/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## Of General Interest

**“The Grand Gathering of the Century: Zodiac Heads  
from the Yuanmingyuan and Important Treasures” Phase 2**  
**City University of Hong Kong, Indra and Harry Banga Gallery**



Date: From now to Thursday, 30 November 2023

Time: 10 am - 7pm (Tuesday-Sunday), Closed on Mondays  
10:00 - 19:00, and requires pre-registration of one session  
via the registration system.  
Each session is One hour, starting from 10 am

Venue: 18/F, Lau Ming Wai Academic Building, City University of Hong Kong,  
Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong

Admission: Free

Registration: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/bg/visit/book-a-visit>

Official site: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/bg/exhibitions/zodiac-heads/home>

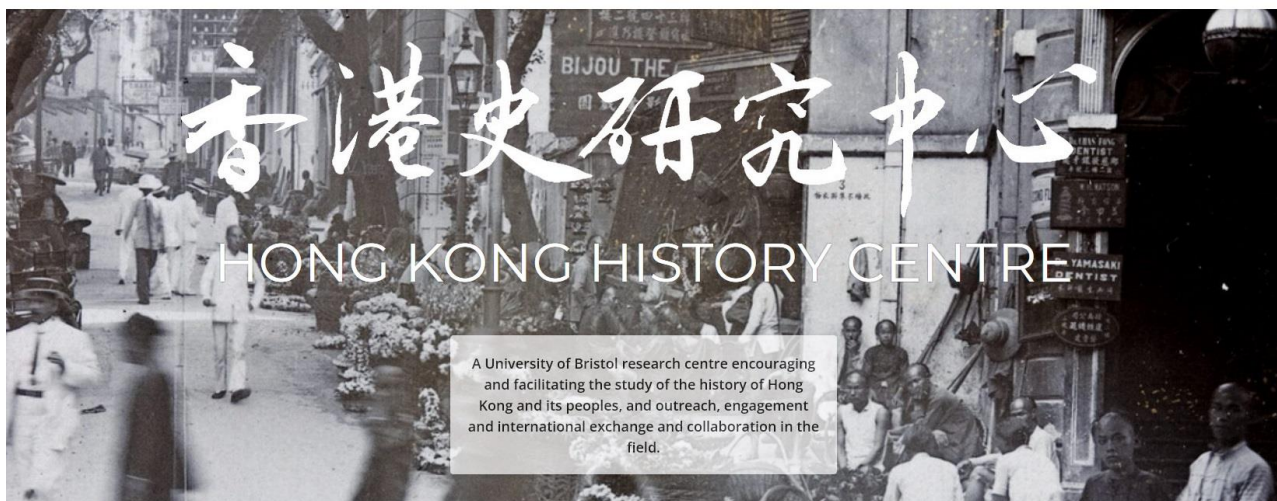
More details: <https://mailchi.mp/7ca42c40bd65/rasbeijing-online-talk-dec-1-2021-wednesday-6248850>

\*\*\*\*\*

## Of General Interest

### The University of Bristol Launches The Hong Kong History Centre

HONG KONG HISTORY CENTRE PEOPLE PARTNERS ALUMNI RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS EARLY CAREER SCHOLARS NETWORK EVENTS NEWS & BLOGPOSTS  
OPPORTUNITIES ARCHIVE 2015-2022



The Centre will be launching a Hong Kong Historical Archives initiative, actively building a visual and textual archival collection, which will include an online public platform hosting photographic and other material relating to the history of the city. For further details: <https://www.hkhistory.net/>

\*\*\*\*\*

# Of General Interest

## Hong Kong Society Upcoming Events

More details: [www.hkas.org.uk](http://www.hkas.org.uk)

Explore our range of forthcoming events for members of the Hong Kong Association, Hong Kong Business Network and Hong Kong Society.

Hong Kong Association

Hong Kong Business Network

Hong Kong Society



### HK Society Annual Dinner 2023

We are pleased to announce that the Society's Annual Dinner will be held on Tuesday 28th November and even better news is that our Former Chairman Nigel Johnson-Hill has agreed to be the guest speaker for the evening.


[View Event →](#)

Hong Kong Society

\*\*\*\*\*

# Of General Interest

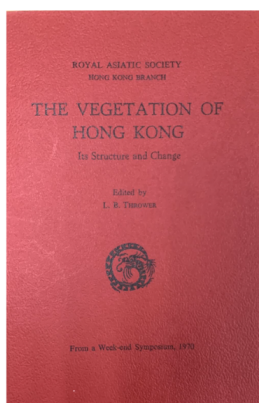
## Former RASHK Seminar Documents and Monographs



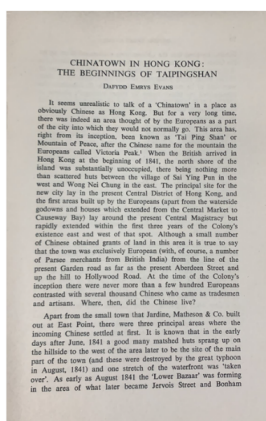
**ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY  
HONG KONG**

**PREVIOUS SEMINARS & LECTURES**

RASHK retains some copies of previous seminar and lectures available as either Booklets or Monographs



- *Tung Kwo Island: The Type Site of Hong Kong's Older Pre-historic Culture*
- *Chinese Street Cries in Hong Kong*
- *Hong Kong - The interaction of tradition and life in the towns*
- *The Fauna of Hong Kong*
- *A Notice of the Sanon District*
- *The Vegetation of Hong Kong*
- *Sessional papers for Hong Kong - 1879 - 1982*
- *Fan Lau and its Fort, An Historical Perspective*
- *Expansion and Extension in Hakka Society*
- *Militia Market and Lineage: Chinese resistance to the occupation of Hong Kong's New Territories in 1989*
- *Further notes for the Sung Wong Toi*
- *The changing face of Hong Kong: Weekend Seminar*
- *Aspects of social organization in the New Territories*
- *Some traditional Chinese ideas and conceptions in Hong Kong Social life today (Symposium 1960)*
- *The New Territories and its Future*
- *The San On Map of Mgr. Valanteri*
- *Plover Cover Village to Tai Po Market: A study in forced migration*



- *Debate on national Salvation: Ho Kai vs Tseng Chi Tse*
- *Chinatown in Hong Kong: The beginnings of Tai Ping Shan*
- *A historical review of Housing conditions in Hong Kong*
- *Letters from China 1835-1836*
- *A brief report on Sung type pottery finds in Hong Kong*
- *The origins of Hong Kong's Central Market and the Tarrant Affair*
- *Old British Kowloon*
- *A Reconnaissance of Ma Wan & Lantau Islands in 1794*
- *Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter Hong Kong 1903-1915*
- *The Chan Family of Tseung Kwan O*
- *Hong Kong's First Government House*
- *Jardine Matheson First Site in Hong Kong*
- *Hong Kong Cadet's 1862-1941*
- *The District Watch Committee: The Chinese Executive Council of Hong Kong*
- *The Emergence of a Chinese Elite in Hong Kong*
- *Peng Chau - 1798-1899*
- *Early Steamships in China*
- *Notes on Chinese Temples in Hong Kong*
- *Hong Kong before the British*

The above are available to purchase directly through RASHK membership for 100HKD, subject to availability

**\$100**

If you are interested in purchasing any of these, which are held in our RASHK office, please email [membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk) for further arrangement.



# Membership Renewal

## 2024 Membership Renewal

Members are reminded that membership renewals for 2024 were due on 1 January 2024. If you currently pay by cheque and would prefer the convenience of paying by Direct Debit, please contact the Administrator for a Direct Debit Authorization form on <[membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)> or click [here](#). 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 |

\*\*\*\*\*



## Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Branch Membership Application Form 2024

Membership Application Form for 2024, please click [here](#).

Direct Debit Authorisation Form, please click [here](#).

## Update Membership Information

If any member's personal or corresponding information needs to be updated, please email the details to [membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk). Updated membership information will help us to deliver new messages and notices accurately to members. Thank you for your cooperation.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Publications

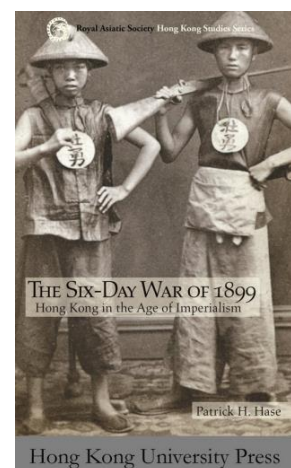
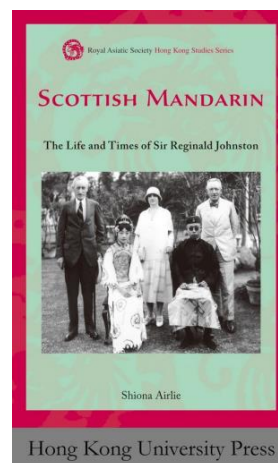
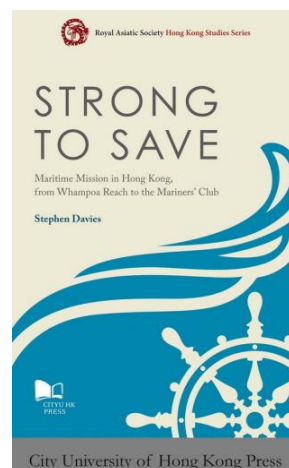
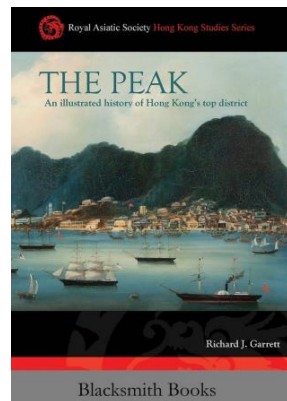
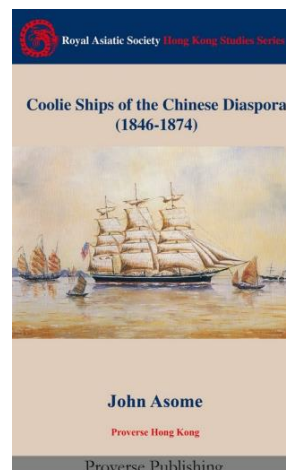
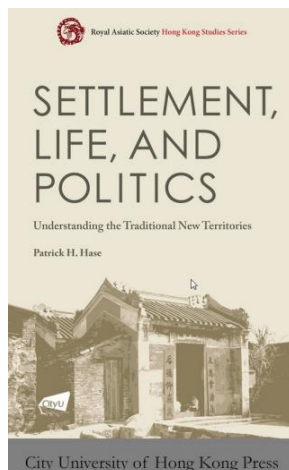
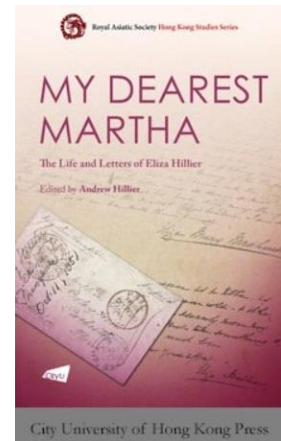
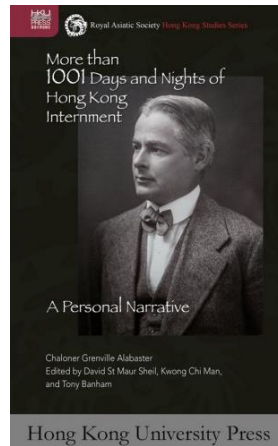
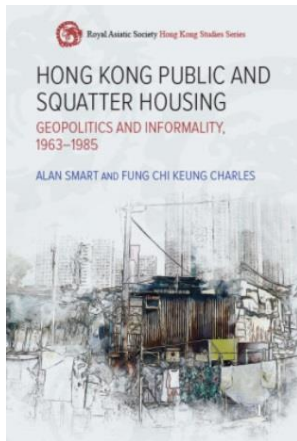
### PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

| <u>Journals</u>                | <u>Price HK\$</u> | <u>Qty</u>                           | <u>Order</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Vols. 1 - 55                   | \$50.00 each      | _____                                | _____        |
| Vols. 56 - 63                  | \$200.00 each     | _____                                | _____        |
| <br>                           |                   |                                      |              |
| <u>Books</u>                   |                   |                                      |              |
| 'Hong Kong Going and Gone'     | \$120.00          | _____                                | _____        |
|                                | _____             | _____                                |              |
| <br>                           |                   |                                      |              |
| <u>Postage &amp; Packaging</u> | <u>within HK</u>  | <u>Overseas (surface/registered)</u> |              |
| Hong Kong Going and Gone       | price on request  | price on request                     |              |
| Full set of Journals           | \$260.00          | price on request                     | _____        |
| All other volumes (per volume) | \$25.00           | \$65.00                              | _____        |
| <br><b>TOTAL</b>               |                   | HK\$ _____                           |              |

\*\*\*\*\*

# Publications

## ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY HONG KONG STUDIES SERIES



There are now more than thirty-five titles in the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Studies Series. The above is a small selection of the titles available from various publishers. A full list follows in the table below. More about the books can be found at <https://www.royalasiaticsociety.org.hk/hong-kong-studies-series>. On that page there are also links to the different publishers' web pages where full information about each title can be found and books can be purchased.

Both HKU Press and City University Press offer a 20% discount to RASHK Members for Series books. For HKUP simply enter the promo code "20HKRAS" in the shopping cart when you check out. For City University Press ask for the discount when ordering from the Press.

Publication of *1001 Days and Nights* was partially supported by RASHK members to honour Michael Broom. In recognition of this HKUP gives a 30% discount to members for this book.

**List of titles in the Hong Kong Studies Series**

| <b>Title</b>   | <b>Author/editor</b>   | <b>Publisher</b>                        | <b>Price (HKD)</b> |
|--|--|---|--------------------|
| A Death in Hong Kong: The MacLennan Case of 1980 and the Suppression of a Scandal.   | Nigel Collett  | City University Press                   | HK\$278            |
| A Faithful Record of the Lisbon Maru Incident  | Major (Ret'd) Brian Finch, MCIL  | Proverse HK and CUHK Press              | HK\$310            |
| A Pattern of Life.   | Hugh Baker   | City University Press                   | HK\$238            |
| A Stormy Petrel: The Life and Times of John Pope Hennessy.                           | P. Kevin MacKeown.   | City University Press                   | HK\$238            |
| Ancestral Images   | Essays by James Hayes, edited and introduced by Hugh Baker                                 | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$350            |
| Cantonese Society in Hong Kong and Singapore   | Essays by Marjorie Topley. Edited and introduced by Jean DeBernardi                        | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$350            |
| Coolle Ships of the Chinese Diaspora (1846-1874)                                     | John Asome   | Proverse HK (distributed by CUHK Press) | HK\$320            |
| Custom, Land and Livelihood in Rural South China                                     | Patrick H. Hase  | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$350            |
| Early China Coast Meteorology  | P. Kevin MacKeown  | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$295            |
| East River Column  | Chan Sui-jeung   | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$180            |
| Escape from Hong Kong  | Tim Luard  | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$195            |
| Forgotten Heroes: San On County and Its Magistrates in the Late Ming and Early Qing. | Patrick H. Hase  | City University Press                   | HK\$238            |
| Forgotten Souls  | Patricia Lim   | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$420            |
| Governors, Politics and the Colonial Office  | Gavin Ure  | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$295            |
| Grounded at Kai Tak: Chinese Aircraft Impounded in Hong Kong, 1949 – 1952            | Michael Merry  | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$420            |
| Hong Kong Internment, 1942 – 1945  | Geoffrey Charles Emerson   | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$175            |
| Hongkongers in the British Armed Forces, 1860-1997                                   | Kwong Chi Man  | Oxford University Press                 | US\$85             |
| Hong Kong Public and Squatter Housing: Geopolitics and Informality, 1963 - 1985      | Alan Smart and Fung Chi Keung Charles  | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$300            |
| More than 1001 Days and Nights of Hong Kong Internment: A Personal Narrative         | Chaloner Grenville Alabaster, edited by David St Maur Shiel, Kwong Chi Man and Tony Banham | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$450            |
| My Dearest Martha: The Life and Letters of Eliza Hillier                             | Edited by Andrew Hillier   | City University Press                   | HK\$278            |
| Policing Hong Kong – An Irish History  | Patricia O'Sullivan  | Blacksmith Books                        | HK\$148            |
| Portugal, China and the Macau Negotiations, 1886 – 1999                              | Carmen Amado Mendes  | Hong Kong University Press              | HK\$275            |

|  |  |                            |         |
|--|--|----------------------------|---------|
| Public Success, Private Sorrow   | Isidore Cyril Cannon   | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$250 |
| Reluctant Heroes   | Fung Chi Ming  | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$250 |
| Resist to the End  | Charles Barman, edited by Ray Barman                         | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$250 |
| Scottish Mandarin  | Shiona Airlie  | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$295 |
| Settlement, Life and Politics: Understanding the Traditional New Territories.              | Patrick H. Hase  | City University Press      | HK\$278 |
| Southern District Officer Reports  | Edited by John Strickland                                    | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$275 |
| Strong to Save: Maritime Mission in Hong Kong from Whampoa Reach to the Mariners' Club     | Stephen Davies   | City University Press      | HK\$278 |
| The Dragon and the Crown   | Stanley S. K. Kwan with Nicole Kwan                          | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$160 |
| The Lone Flag  | John Pownall Reeves, edited by Colin Day and Richard Garrett | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$320 |
| The Peak: An Illustrated History of Hong Kong's Top District                               | Richard Garrett  | Blacksmith Books           | HK\$188 |
| The Six-Day War of 1899  | Patrick H. Hase  | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$195 |
| War and Revolution in South China: The Story of a Transnational Biracial Family, 1936-1951 | Edward J.M. Rhoads   | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$490 |
| Watching Over Hong Kong  | Sheilah E. Hamilton  | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$195 |
| 東江縱隊 (East River Column)   | 陳瑞璋  | Hong Kong University Press | HK\$150 |

**The following is a list of Titles that are not in the HKSS, but the RASHK was involved in their publishing**

| Title   | Author/editor                                     | Publisher                         | Price (HKD) |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Hong Kong: Going and Gone; Western Victoria             |   | Joint Publishing HK               | HK\$100     |
| Chinese Christians, Elites, Middlemen and the Church    | Carl T. Smith                                     | Hong Kong University Press        | HK\$195     |
| The Turning of the Tide; Religion in China Today        | Julian F. Pas (Ed.) (not available)               | RASHK and Oxford University Press |             |
| Beyond the Metropolis; Villages in Hong Kong            | Patrick H. Hase and Elizabeth Sinn                | Joint Publishing HK               | HK\$310     |
| In the Heart of the Metropolis: Yaumatei and Its People | Patrick H. Hase and Elizabeth Sinn                | Joint Publishing HK               | HK\$260     |
| A Sense of Place; Hong Kong West of Pottinger Street    | Veronica Pearson and Ko Tim-Keung (not available) | Joint Publishing HK               | HK\$380     |



# Contact Details

## COUNCIL MEMBERS 2022-2023

| <b>Position</b>                  | <b>Name</b>                  | <b>Phone</b> | <b>Fax</b> | <b>E-mail</b>  |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------|--|
| President                        | Dr Helen <u>Tinsley</u>      | 9034 2241    |            | <a href="mailto:fulttins@netvigator.com">fulttins@netvigator.com</a>                   |
| Vice-President                   | <i>vacant</i>                |              |            |  |
| Past President                   | Dr Patrick <u>Hase</u>       | 2658 6529    | 2658 5400  | <a href="mailto:patrickhase@gmail.com">patrickhase@gmail.com</a>                       |
| Hon. Secretary                   | Mr David <u>McKellar</u>     | 2843 2493    | 2103 5996  | <a href="mailto:mckellar@graduate.hku.hk">mckellar@graduate.hku.hk</a>                 |
| Hon. Treasurer                   | Mrs Connie <u>Carmichael</u> | 2994 2488    |            | <a href="mailto:connie.carmichael@gmail.com">connie.carmichael@gmail.com</a>           |
| Hon. Librarian                   | Ms Vivian <u>So</u>          | 2859 7011    | 2857 2048  | <a href="mailto:vivianso@cuhk.edu.hk">vivianso@cuhk.edu.hk</a>                         |
| Hon. Editor                      | Dr. Tony <u>Banham</u>       | 9035 1534    |            | <a href="mailto:mailto:tony@hongkongwardiary.com">mailto:tony@hongkongwardiary.com</a> |
| Hon. Activities<br>Coordinator   | Dr Helen <u>Tinsley</u>      | 9034 2241    |            | <a href="mailto:fulttins@netvigator.com">fulttins@netvigator.com</a>                   |
| Hon. Archivist                   | Mr <u>Yip</u> Chun Man       |              |            | <a href="mailto:cmoldyip@gmail.com">cmoldyip@gmail.com</a>                             |
| Council Member<br>– Social Media | Mr Robert <u>Bunker</u>      | 9037 6407    |            | <a href="mailto:rbunker@netvigator.com">rbunker@netvigator.com</a>                     |
| Council Member                   | Mr Roy <u>Delbyck</u>        | 2810 5777    |            | <a href="mailto:roydelbyck@delbycklawoffices.com">roydelbyck@delbycklawoffices.com</a> |
| Council Member                   | Mr Donald <u>Gasper</u>      | 9187 8144    |            | <a href="mailto:don_gasper@outlook.com">don_gasper@outlook.com</a>                     |
| Council Member                   | Dr <u>Kwong</u> Chi Man      | 6078 1951    |            | <a href="mailto:cmkwong@hkbu.edu.hk">cmkwong@hkbu.edu.hk</a>                           |
| Council Member -<br>Website      | Ms Davina <u>Lee</u>         | 9196 5934    |            | <a href="mailto:dioramaprojects@gmail.com">dioramaprojects@gmail.com</a>               |

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACT

| <b>Position</b>              | <b>Name</b>                | <b>Phone</b> | <b>E-mail</b>  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--|
| Administrator<br>(Part-time) | Vonnie Fung /<br>Sally Lui |              | <a href="mailto:membership@rovalasiaticsociety.org.hk">membership@rovalasiaticsociety.org.hk</a> |

\*\*\*\*\*

## **DONATION**

**Date:**

### **ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY – Hong Kong Branch**

**Name:**

**Membership No.:**

---

I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I require a receipt to be sent to my email address which is: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment arrangements

1. I attach a cheque payable to: “Royal Asiatic Society HK Branch” or E-transfer or telegraphic transfer (TT) – details below.

Please pay by:

1. **Cheque** – Please make cheque payable to ‘**Royal Asiatic Society HK Branch**’ and send it to the **Administrator, Royal Asiatic Society, G.P.O. Box 3864, Hong Kong.**

2. **Direct deposit or transfer to RAS bank account at HSBC** - Account no.: **002 241297 001**. Name of Account: **Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Branch**. Swift Code: **HSBCHKHHHKH**. Please quote your membership no. and full name in the reference when paying. Please provide us with a copy of your receipt or deposit slip for our reference – this should be sent by email to [membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk](mailto:membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk)