

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY HONG KONG

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NEWSLETTER

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November 2019



Photo Courtesy: Ivy Ho

**‘Flying & Dancing Golden Dragon’ Lantern at Victoria Park
during the Mid-Autumn Festival**
中秋節於維園內的「金龍飛舞翻騰」傳統花燈

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Message from your Vice President, Helen Tinsley

Welcome to our November 2019 RASHK Newsletter.

Regretfully for those of us who live here, Hong Kong remains a troubled place. Many of the protests are localised, such that with some early warning through local and social media as well as advance planning, most of us continue with our daily lives and activities as far as possible. Transport services have been hit periodically and our local hospitality/retail industries has been particularly affected following a significant drop in tourist visitors. Despite some concessions made by our government, however sentiment remains strong and the endgame remains unclear. One of our members has been keeping an archive of English language official print media reporting of the protests since June 2019.

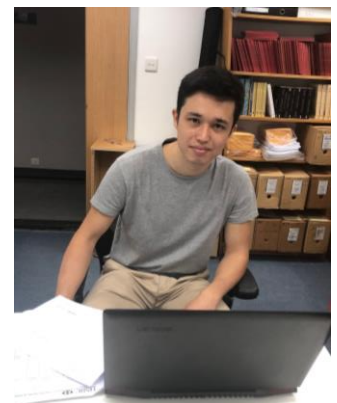
Many organisations and societies have cut back on their activities. However, with the support of our Council and Activities Committee members, we continue to organise and plan for a range of events over the past few months and into the future. We have cancelled only one event so far because of failure to meet the host organization's minimum booking number, a weekday visit to 'The Mills' exhibition in Tsuen Wan. Ironically a few RAS members, some of whom had not booked, did attend on that day and were kindly given a brief whistle stop tour, but with the attendees who showed up on that day, we could have reached the magic booking number for all to attend a full tour. We will try and arrange another date for a visit early next year. Other September and October events have proceeded as planned with some wonderful talks, by Stephen Davies at Café 8 on Interpreting Admiralty Chart 1696 (one of the earliest images of Hong Kong Island), by Sally Bunker and Prof Richard Saunders on the 'Trees of Hong Kong' at the Peninsula Hotel (a stunning and fitting venue, thanks to the hotel's generosity), and by Philip Bowring who introduced us to his new book 'Empire of the Winds- the Global Role of Asia's Great Archipelago'. There was also a recent well-attended visit to the Po Leung Kuk Museum, hosted by their Senior Curator, the charity's strong history of caring for our local vulnerable women and children mirroring the history and development of Hong Kong. Please also take time to take a look at the activities we have planned up to the end of the year, including a trip across the border in early December. As always if any of you have contacts or ideas which you think would contribute to a talk / visit please let us know.

The end of October also brings us to a couple of farewells, firstly to Robert Nield and his wife who are departing Hong Kong for Canada. As many of you know, Robert was RAS Treasurer 1988-2005, 2011-12, Vice President 2001-2004, President 2005-2011 and continued to provide wise counsel as a Past President Council member. We should also not forget his talks to RAS when he shared some of the research on Treaty ports and China's Foreign Places, the subject of 2 books. There was a small farewell dinner in September to thank him for all his contributions and support to RAS over many years and to wish him and his wife well in future.



Our second farewell is to Ivy Ho, our part time RASHK Administrator who has been serving our Society and its members for the past 4 years. She is moving on in her career to pursue other interests, we thank her sincerely for all her support and contributions to RASHK and wish her the best in the future. The past 4 years have been a period of change for the Society – in Council and Committee membership, office, technology, as well as expectations from our membership. As a temporary measure from 1st November onwards, Ieuan Harding will be providing us with administrative support over the next 2-3 months whilst we recruit a more

permanent replacement for Ivy. He has already been helping us over the past few months with our database IT upgrade, so has knowledge of the Society's work and activities. Our office services will continue as usual. Please welcome Ieuan and give him your support.



Best wishes to you all and we look forward to seeing many of you at our planned events.

Helen Tinsley
VP, RASHK and Activities Committee Coordinator
October 2019

Future Activities

LECTURE

George Chinnery - Friends, Fictions and Finances

Fri • 8 Nov 2019



*Chinnery self-portrait sketch, c.1830. Credit: private collection.
(Photo courtesy Martyn Gregory Gallery, London)*

Was George Chinnery - that talented and sought-out artist of India and the China coast – hopelessly in debt for most of his long career? What were his relations with the thriving school of Cantonese ‘export’ painters? And did he embellish his autobiography in ways that have deceived biographers (and novelists) ever since?

The Speaker

Formerly Keeper of Fine Art at the Royal Pavilion, Art Gallery and Museums, Brighton, Dr Patrick Conner is Director of the Martyn Gregory Gallery, London, specialists in historical paintings related to the China Trade. He is a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society and has curated a number of loan exhibitions in England and Hong Kong. His books include *George Chinnery 1774-1852, artist of India and the China coast*, and *The Hongs of Canton - Western Merchants in South China 1700-1900*. He is the presenter of the film ‘In the Footsteps of George Chinnery - an English artist in Macau’ (2017).



Programme

- Speaker:** Patrick Conner
Date: Fri, 8 Nov 2019
Time: Reception desk opens at 6:30 p.m.; talk starts 7:00 p.m.
Venue: LT4, Centre for Visual Arts, 7A Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door.

Future Activities

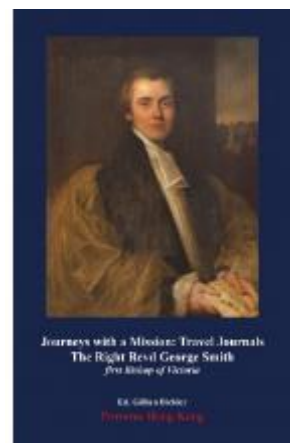
LECTURE

Meet the First Bishop and hear about his Journeys with a Mission! (*Illustrated talk*)

Thu • 14 Nov 2019

In this 170th anniversary year for the Anglican church in Hong Kong, Dr Gillian Bickley's illustrated talk will give a personal view of the pioneering first bishop and his wife -- he "a tall, thin pale-looking man" and she "most amiable," "a perfect lady".

You will hear some of the experiences and events the bishop encountered during his missionary travels – mainly in China during a period of turmoil, and in India just a few years ahead of the Indian Mutiny. An independent-minded, highly-educated, dedicated, and enthusiastic person, Bishop Smith had many wide-ranging connections. In his travel journals, he provides first-hand information about China's internal, consular and diplomatic events.



The Speakers



Gillian Bickley, PhD, FRSA, was up to recently a Council member and Vice-President of the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong. She is a retired Associate Professor at Hong Kong Baptist University, and is known for her work in Hong Kong's 19th century history. She has been researching the life and writings of the missionary bishop, The Right Revd George Smith, first Anglican Bishop of Victoria, for many years and contributed the biographical entry on the bishop in both the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* and the *Dictionary of Hong Kong Biography*.

Dr Verner Bickley, MBE, FRSA, formerly an Assistant Director of Education in Hong Kong and Chairman Emeritus of the English-Speaking Union (Hong Kong) will join his wife to give brief readings from the first uncensored edition of the Bishop's travels, recently published as *Journeys with a Mission; Travel Journals of The Right Revd George Smith (1815 - 1871), first Bishop of Victoria, Hong Kong (1849-1865)*.



Programme

Speaker: Dr Gillian Bickley
Date: Thu, 14 Nov 2019
Time: Reception opens 6:30 p.m.; lectures starts at 7:00 p.m.
Venue: Li Hall, St John's Cathedral, 4-8 Garden Road, Central
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

LECTURE/ LOCAL VISIT

City of Darkness: The Walled City of Kowloon

Sat • 16 Nov 2019



*'Kowloon Walled City Night View from SW Corner by Greg Girard
(Photo Courtesy: Blue Lotus Gallery)*

Blue Lotus Gallery is proud to present 'City of Darkness': an exhibition exploring the old and long gone. Walled City of Kowloon as photographed by Greg Girard and Ian Lambot. This influential body of work, which to date sold over 25,000 book copies, will be on view in a gallery setting for the first time since it was first published.

For nearly 50 years, the extraordinary community of Kowloon Walled City cut a dark presence in the heart of Hong Kong. Yet without legislation and with little regard for basic services, planning and regulations or building standards, the city not only survived, it positively thrived.

But how could such a place exist in a modern metropolis without administrative oversight, 'triplely neglected' by the British, Chinese and Hong Kong governments? Who would choose to live there? And why?

Ian Lambot and Greg Girard set about photographing the Walled City shortly before its demolition due to a deep fascination and because "for all its horrible shortcomings, its builders and residents succeeded in creating what modern architects, with all their resources of money and expertise, have failed to achieve: the city as 'organic megastructure', not set rigidly for a lifetime but continually responsive to the changing requirements of its users, fulfilling every need from water supply to religion, yet providing also the warmth and intimacy of a single huge household ..."

Future Activities

Nearly thirty years on from the Walled City's demolition, this project offers a unique insight into the remarkable community that was the Kowloon Walled City, home to 35,000 people at its peak and by far the most densely populated neighbourhood the world had ever known.

In the years since its 1994 demolition, the Walled City has attained a kind of punk immortality. It possesses a visual aesthetic showing a modernist dystopia mixing filth, darkness, and haphazard concrete construction and overcrowding into a single unsettling yet irresistible brew. This aesthetic is often used in movies, video games or described in books to evoke what only this place managed to organically create.

The photographs and the memories of the people who lived there keep this place alive in our minds, in all its glory and ill repute. 'City of Darkness' will be showcasing prints, books and other memorabilia related to the Walled City. Ian Lambot will be present to give a talk about their experience and to take interviews.

The Speaker



Ian Lambot from Britain is trained as an architect, working for the Richard Rogers Partnership. He arrived in Hong Kong in 1979, where he lived for the next 18 years, and soon becoming fascinated by the Kowloon Walled City. After stints running an architectural model-making studio, he worked at Foster and Partners on the early stages of the Hongkong Bank building. He then set up Watermark Publications, publishing in the years since numerous books on architecture and engineering, including four volumes on the work of Norman Foster including the construction of the Hongkong Bank building and his *City of Darkness: Life in Kowloon Walled City*. Mr Lambot now resides in the UK, where he designs and publishes books, travelling regularly to Hong Kong and the Far East.

Programme

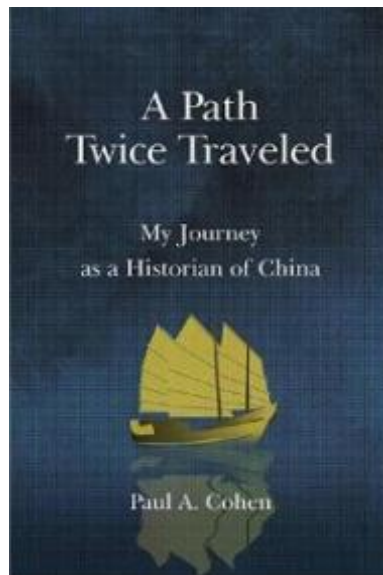
Speaker: Ian Lambot
Date: Sat, 16 Nov 2019
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Venue: Blue Lotus Gallery, G/F 28 Pound Lane, Sheung Wan
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

LECTURE

A Path Twice Travelled: My Journey as a Historian of China

Mon • 18 Nov 2019

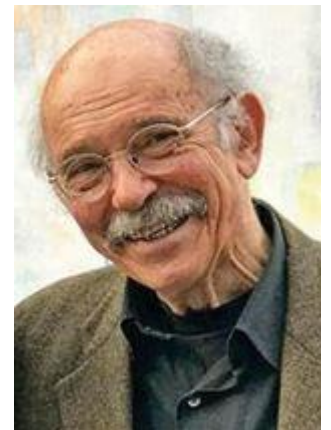


*Book Cover 'A Path Twice Traveled: My Journey as a Historian of China'
Fairbank Centre for Chinese Studies, Harvard University
(Photo Courtesy: Paul A. Cohen)*

In this memoir Paul A. Cohen, one of the West's preeminent historians of China, traces the development of his work from its inception in the early 1960s to the present, offering fresh perspectives that consistently challenge us to think more deeply about China and the historical craft in general. The book's title reflects the crucially important disparity between the past as originally experienced and the past as later reconstructed historically, by which point the historian and the world in which he or she lives have both undergone extensive change. This distinction is very much on Cohen's mind throughout the book.

The Speaker

Paul A. Cohen began his teaching career at the University of Michigan and Amherst College. He then taught for thirty-five years at Wellesley College, where he is Edith Stix Wasserman Professor of Asian Studies and History, Emeritus. He is also a long-time Associate of the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University. Cohen's books include *Discovering History in China: American Historical Writing on the Recent Chinese Past* (1984); *History in Three Keys: The Boxers as Event, Experience, and Myth* (1997); *Speaking to History: The Story of King Goujian in Twentieth-Century China* (2009); and *History and Popular Memory: The Power of Story in Moments of Crisis* (2014). *History in Three Keys* was the winner of the 1997 New England Historical Association Book Award and the American Historical Association's 1997 John K. Fairbank Prize in East Asian History. Cohen's work has been translated into Chinese, Japanese, and Korean.



Future Activities

Programme

Speaker: Prof. Paul A. Cohen
Date: Mon, 18 Nov 2019
Time: Reception desk opens 6:30 p.m.; talk starts at 7:00 p.m.
Venue: Café 8 at Pier 8, Hong Kong Maritime Museum, Central
Admission: RAS Members \$150; Non-members \$200 including snacks and a complimentary drink - please advise of any special dietary needs
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

LECTURE

Photographic Exhibition: The Way We Were

Sat • 30 Nov 2019



'Shanghai Street' by Keith Macgregor, Hong Kong 1980,

(Photo Courtesy of Blue Lotus Gallery)

'The Way We Were' is a photographic journey down memory lane through the vast collection of work by the iconic Keith Macgregor that throws you back to Hong Kong during its prime: namely the 70s and 80's. The talk bursts with nostalgic street scenes steeped in colonial and local culture, city panoramas and images of life on the sea in full colour and black & white. In fact, Macgregor's own life story exemplifies the era in question, full of playful ambition, entrepreneurial spirit, chance encounters and good old hard work. 'The Way We Were' expresses a city abound in colour, diversity and optimism, a documentation and flashback to a time where the 'Hong Kong Dream' was forged and people went 'all in' on the game of life.

Future Activities

The Speaker



The Speaker Keith Macgregor has been photographing Hong Kong for nearly 50 years. He comes from a family with long term connections to Hong Kong and China, his great grandfather having arrived in Shanghai in the late 1850s where set up Caldbeck Macgregor Ltd, a wine & spirits importing business which eventually opened offices all over Asia, China & Hong Kong (1884).

Keith was educated in England from 1954, finishing up at Oxford University in 1964. In 1970 he returned to Hong Kong to set up as a portrait and later a commercial photographer which led to the creation of his publishing business, Cameraman Limited. The books, calendars and postcards published were very successful. “An Eye on Hong Kong”, first published in 1997, sold out 6 editions. His 2nd book: “Neon City, Hong Kong, at Night” also sold out and became a collector’s item. A “50th Anniversary of photographing Hong Kong” edition is in the pipeline, as well as a book of his Panoramic images. Despite having lived in London for the past 26 years he returns frequently to take photographs of Hong Kong's ever-changing landscape.

Programme

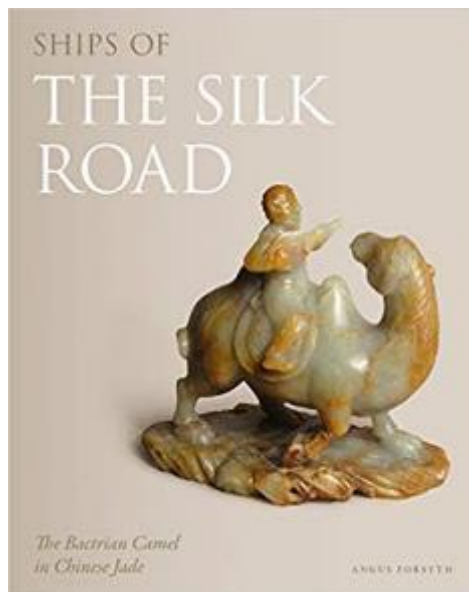
Speaker: Keith Macgregor
Date: Sat, 30 Nov 2019
Time: RAS Group gathers at 10:30 am; talk starts 11:00 am
Venue: Blue Lotus Gallery, G/F 28 Pound Lane, Sheung Wan
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

LECTURE

Ships of the Silk Road

Wed • 4 Dec 2019



*Book Cover 'Ships of the Silk Road: The Bactrian Camel in Chinese Jade'
(Photo Courtesy: Angus Forsyth)*

For hundreds of years the Bactrian camel ploughed a lonely furrow across the vast wilderness of Asia. This bizarre-looking, temperamental yet hardy creature here came into its own as the core goods vehicle, resolutely and reliably transporting to China - over huge and unforgiving distances - fine things from the West while taking treasures out of the Middle Kingdom in return. Where the chariot, wagon and other wheeled conveyances proved useless amidst the shifting desert dunes, the surefooted progress of the camel - archetypal 'ship of the Silk Road' - now reigned supreme. The Bactrian camel was a subject that appealed particularly to Chinese artists because of its association with the exotic trade to mysterious Western lands. In his lavishly illustrated volume, Angus Forsyth explores diverse jade pieces depicting this iconic beast of burden. Almost one hundred separate objects are included, many of which have not been seen in print before. At the same time the author offers the full historical background to his subject. The book will have a strong appeal to collectors and art historians alike.

Future Activities

The Speaker



Angus Forsyth commenced work in private practice as a solicitor in 1971. In 1972 he joined the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Branch and has been a life member for many years. He began a jade collection in 1973 focussing only on nephrite jade worked in China from Neolithic Times up to the Qing Dynasty.

He was a founder member of the Oriental Ceramic Society of Hong Kong in 1974 and was its President in the two-year period from 1984 to 1986. In 1975 he acquired his first jade Bactrian Camel of a Tang Dynasty date. This was an introduction to the mystique surrounding this remarkable animal as the unique beast of burden which carried all manner of goods from East and West on an exclusive role of trade linking China in the East with Rome in the West. From the 2nd to the 8th Century A.D. the principal traffic control and management providing Bactrian Camel transport on the Silk Road was operated by the Soghdians, an Iranian tribe from the Northeast Altai Mountains who followed the Zoroastrian fire worship religion.

In 1990 Angus Forsyth contributed an article on his study of the development of human sculptural form in Hong Shan Neolithic jade working which was published in Orientations Magazine and remains a leading article on the subject. In 1991 he contributed two chapters on Early Chinese jade to a large book on jade featuring the jade of all producer countries worldwide. In 1994 he wrote the first half on early jades of a joint publication with Brian McElney forming the catalogue of a major exhibition of both their collections at the Museum of Far Eastern Art in Bath, England.

Programme

- Speaker:** Angus Forsyth
Date: Wed, 4 Dec 2019
Time: Reception desk opens at 6:30 p.m.; talk starts 7:00 p.m.
Venue: LT4, Centre for Visual Arts, 7A Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door.

Future Activities

CROSS-BORDER PRC TRIP

Tangkou Community Project, Jiangmen, Guangdong

Kaiping “diaolou” (defensive watchtowers),

The Nanhai No.1 Boat at Hailing Island, Yangjiang (阳江)

Fri • 6 - Mon • 9 Dec 2019



A lot has been happening in the region of Kaiping and Yangjiang since the previous tour arranged to this area specially for the RASHK in January 2017:

The Hong Kong to Zhuhai bridge has been opened.

The High-Speed railway now connects West Kowloon to Guangzhou, Kaiping and Yangjiang.

The Maritime Silk Road Museum housing the famous Southern Song Dynasty shipwreck of the Nanhai No.1 boat has been fully revamped and re-opened with far superior displays and viewing opportunities.

At Tangkou, the revitalization of two factories into an Inn, hostel, open restaurant, library, cycling centre and community centre is now open and thriving. Tangkou, in Kaiping, is home to 500 “diaolou” or fortified watchtowers, five granaries constructed at the time of the Great Leap Forward, and some delightful villages set among rice paddy and the natural beauty that characterizes the area.



On the morning of 6th December we shall cross the HK- Zhuhai bridge and be met by private transport to Tangkou. After two days exploring this area and its culture including its temples, diaolou, mansions, farming, paintings and architecture we shall travel to Hailing Island to stay in a comfortable hotel on the “Ten-mile Silver Beach” beside the Maritime Silk Road Museum.

Future Activities

The Nanhai No. 1 boat was a wooden merchant ship, 30 m long and 10 m wide, from the Southern Song dynasty. It sank and was rediscovered by an English diving company during their search for another wreck. It was raised in 2007 and is now housed in this huge purpose - built museum. Together with its cargo of some 60,000 items of ceramics, silver and gold, it is now conserved and displayed in this unusual museum. We can see conservation work in progress. After visiting the museum we shall return to Kowloon West by High Speed train, arriving at around 9pm on 9th December.



This visit follows up on the lecture given by RASHK Members Rocky Dang, the Founder of the Tangkou Community Project, and Peter Stuckey on Kaiping, Diaolou and the Tangkou Community Project (see the March and May 2019 Newsletters). We realise some Members may be more familiar with the subject matter than others and that some will have visited the Kaiping area and its UNESCO recognized diaolou villages before. This trip is deliberately kept as flexible as possible, to best suit the Members who come on the trip and are introducing some lesser known sites, opening some doors that were previously off-limits.

Appropriate documentation enabling travel to visit Mainland China is required.



Photo Courtesy: Peter Stuckey

Future Activities

Estimated cost: HK\$3,800 per pax. on a twin share basis.

Single supplement HK\$800.

Non-members surcharge: HK\$300.

Numbers are limited. First come, first served.

Tour price includes transport, accommodation, all meals, entrance fees.

Tour price does not include for visa, travel insurance or beverages. It is a requirement of the RASHK that all Participants must have their own travel insurance.

For bookings and enquiries please contact

Rocky Dang at rockydang@yahoo.com or tel. 9182 3483

or Peter Stuckey at peterstuckey@yahoo.com.hk or tel. 9232 4284

Future Activities

LECTURE/ LOCAL VISIT

HONG KONG The Way It Was: F11 Foto Museum Guided Tour

Sat • 7 Dec 2019



Celebrating its 5th birthday, F11 Foto Museum is proud to present “HONG KONG the way it was”, an exhibition of over 130 beautiful photos taken in 1959 -1960 by Ed van der Elsken (1925 – 1990), one of the most influential Dutch photographers in the 20th century. This will be the first time the HONG KONG series is shown in its entirety.

In this collection, van der Elsken shows his great warmth and hope for old Hong Kong, which he described as the “prettiest of harbour cities” during his 13-month round-the-world trip. While staying in Hong Kong for three weeks, he was able to capture the essence of cityscapes, town views and people of the city at that time. There is a touch of familiarity in these prints, yet there are also many fascinating “new” objects, practices and building structures that are long gone. Through van der Elsken’s eyes, visitors can reminisce and discover the disappeared Hong Kong of times past.

A 45-min English guided tour, conducted by Museum staff, will begin at 10:30 am and the whole visit will end at 12:00pm.

Programme

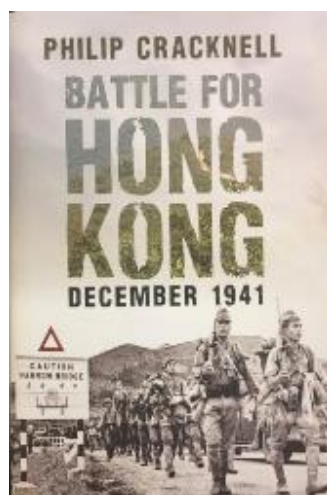
Date: Sat, 7 Dec 2019
Time: RAS Group gathers at 10:20 a.m.; guided tour starts 10:30 a.m.
Venue: F11 Foto Museum, 11 Yuk Sau Street, Happy Valley
Admission: RAS Members/ Guests \$100
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door

Future Activities

LECTURE

Battle for Hong Kong - December 1941

Wed • 11 Dec 2019



Cover Page: Battle for Hong Kong - December 1941 (Photo Courtesy Philip Cracknell)

The author of a newly published book on the Battle for Hong Kong, will talk about the battle and his book to coincide with the 78th anniversary of the battle. The book focuses on the fighting which took place between 8 and 25 December. It addresses what happened and where during the brief but brutal battle.

The Speaker

Philip Cracknell is a former banker who moved from London to Hong Kong in 1985. After retiring from the banking industry, he followed his interest in researching and writing about WW2 in Hong Kong. He is the author of a popular blog on military history. His book on the Battle for Hong Kong was published in July 2019. He conducts guided battlefield walks for Hong Kong Club and the Royal Asiatic Society.



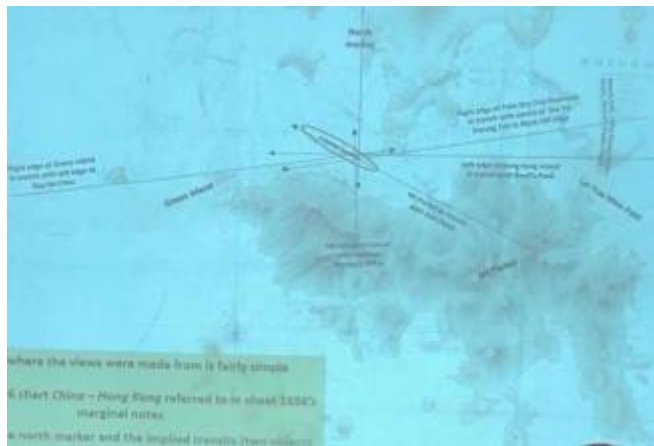
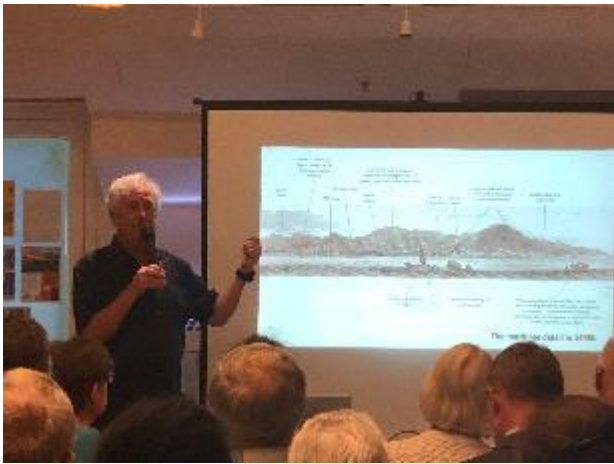
Programme

Speaker: Philip Cracknell
Date: Wed, 11 Dec 2019
Time: Reception desk opens at 6:30 p.m.; talk starts 7:00 p.m.
Venue: LT4, Centre for Visual Arts, 7A Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels
Admission: RAS Members \$100; Non-Members / Guests \$150
Booking: Please email <membership@royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> in advance to reserve your place and pay at the door.

Recent Activities

Interpreting Chart 1696, Views – Hong Kong Island & Vicinity, 1847: Lt Leopold George Heath RN of HMS Iris, March 1846

Speaker: Stephen Davies
Date: Tue, 10 Sep 2019
Venue: Café 8, Hong Kong Maritime Museum, Central



Photos courtesy RASHK

Recent Activities

Trees of Hong Kong – the Art & the Science

Docent: Sally Bunker and Prof Richard Saunders
Date: Tue, 24 Sep 2019
Venue: Garden Suite, The Peninsula Hong Kong, Salisbury Road, Kowloon



Photos courtesy RASHK

Recent Activities

Austronesian Asia - Hub of Global Commerce

Speaker: Philip Bowring
Date: Wed, 9 Oct 2019
Venue: LT4, Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre, Mid-Levels



Photos courtesy RASHK

Recent Activities

Po Leung Kuk Museum Guided Tour

Speaker: Jayson Leung, Senior Curator, Po Leung Kuk Museum
 Date: Sat, 26 Oct 2019
 Venue: Po Leung Kuk Museum, 66 Leighton Road, Causeway Bay
 Prepared by: Helen Tinsley, Oct 2019



Despite several months of protests in Hong Kong which has affected many aspects of our life here, more than 30 members and their guests took the opportunity to visit the Po Leung Kuk Museum. The Po Leung Kuk site in Causeway Bay is one of the few sites there which remains immediately recognizable from many years ago. The museum is located very close to the main archway entrance. We were met and warmly welcomed by Jayson Leung, Senior Curatorial Officer who guided us through the rooms of the museum where various exhibits demonstrated the charity's rich history and development since it was founded in 1848, with a focus on the care and protection of vulnerable local women and children. In many ways the charity's development has mirrored that of Hong Kong, is deeply rooted in the local Hong Kong Chinese community, and is now one of the leaders in the provision of social, education services, advocacy and fundraising activities. There were many questions and queries for Jayson whose knowledge, enthusiasm and expertise were obvious to all and took our tour well over the predicted time.

The walls are adorned with many porcelain portraits of former Board members. One exhibit from 1930s recognized the contribution the charity had made to the wellbeing of some local Japanese women, which resulted in Po Leung Kuk remaining relatively protected during the Japanese occupation of World War 2. The charity was one of the first to use annual flag days or paper flower sales to bolster fundraising from our local Hong Kong population. An emphasis on education services has become of increasing importance, as well as its historical and well-known social services. Our visit concluded with a tour of the magnificent hall in which the Directors' meetings are held- with bronze busts, porcelain pictures and portraits of notable previous Directors and donors.



One special connection was made by one of our group whose grandfather and aunt had worked at Po Leung Kuk in the past. He shared some of these relevant old photos with us- in fact one of his aunt in a room which is now part of the museum. So through our member's sharing, in a small way, our RAS visit may be able to make a contribution to the archives of Po Leung Kuk.

Recent Activities

Po Leung Kuk Museum Guided Tour



Photos courtesy Helen Tinsley & Connie Carmichael

Of General Interest

CUHK Legal Lecture Series



Female Legal Leaders Seminar on Monday, 4 November, 5-6:30pm, at the CUHK Graduate Law Centre:

<http://www.law.cuhk.edu.hk/en/event-page/20191104.php>

The remaining Greater China Legal History Seminars, all at 12.30pm at the CUHK Graduate Law Centre on these following Fridays:

22 November - Ryan Mitchell: “The PRC’s Engagement with Public International Law in its Historical Context.”

10 January 2020- Stuart M. McManus: “Law and Slavery in the South Sea”

28 February- Sala Sihombing: “From Matriarch to Mediator: The Roots of Hong Kong Mediation Practice”

20 March- Albert Chen: “The Origins of Hong Kong’s Basic Law”

<http://www.law.cuhk.edu.hk/en/event-page/20191122.php>



Of General Interest



INVITATION TO THE PROVERSE AUTUMN RECEPTION 2019

http://www.proversepublishing.com/21_november_2019_event_register

Proverse Autumn Reception

Thursday, 21 November, 7.00-9.00pm. Central Hong Kong.

HKD190 includes entry and complimentary canapés. There will be a cash bar.

Prior registration essential.

Venue, full details and registration from: http://www.proversepublishing.com/21_november_2019_event_register

Members and friends of the RASHK are cordially invited to the Proverse Autumn Reception where launching authors will introduce and sign their books, three of which have Hong Kong and China content: Philip Chatting, *As Leaves Blow* (novel set in Hong Kong); Ahmed Elbeshlawy, *Savage Charm* (poetry collection); DJ Hamilton, *The Hummingbird Sometimes Flies Backwards* (poetry collection); Peter Humphreys, *Hong Kong Rocks* (novel set in Hong Kong); Sheng-Wei Wang, *The Last Journey of the San Bao Eunuch, Admiral Zheng He* (alternative history).

Dr Verner Bickley, MBE, a Life Member of the Society, will announce and award the Proverse Prizes for unpublished fiction, non-fiction or poetry 2018. Dr Bickley will also announce the Proverse Prize semi-finalists for 2019 and Winners in the Proverse Poetry Prize 2019.

The event will be MCd by Dr Gillian Bickley, former Council member and Vice-President of the Society.

Numbers are limited by the constraints of this heritage venue, so early registration is advised.

Of General Interest

St John's Cathedral Shop

Arrangements have been made with St John's Cathedral Bookshop for copies of RASHK journals Vols. 55 - 59 and the book 'Hong Kong Going, Gone' to be sold through the shop. It is hoped that Members will actively support this facility and encourage others to purchase Society publications from the Bookshop. Their email address is:

<bookstor@stjohnscathedral.org.hk>.



2020 Membership Renewal

Members are reminded that membership renewals are due on 1 January 2020. 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>. 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

Membership Renewal



Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Branch Membership Application Form 2020

Membership Application Form for 2020, please click [here](#).

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

Publications

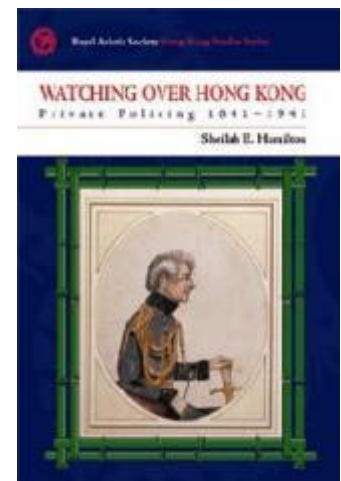
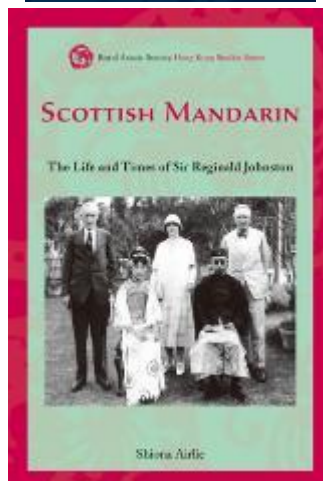
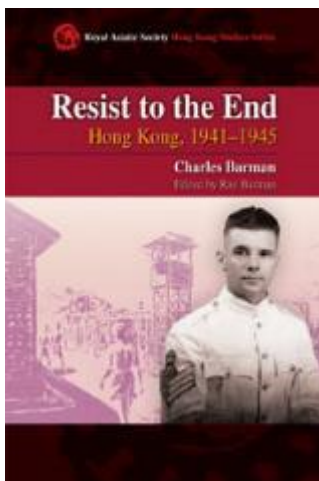
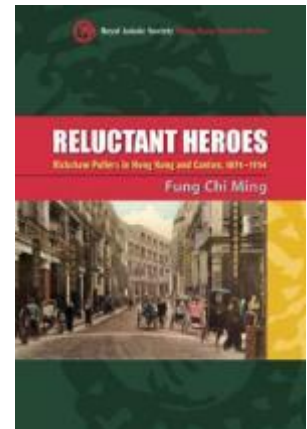
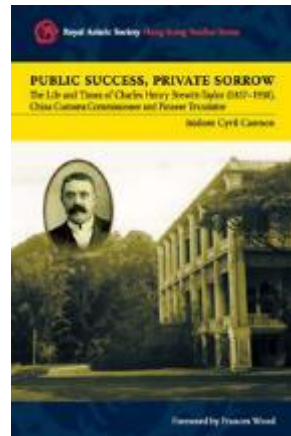
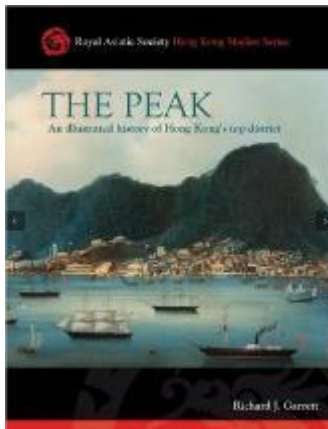
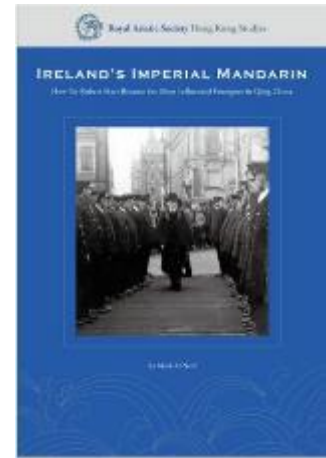
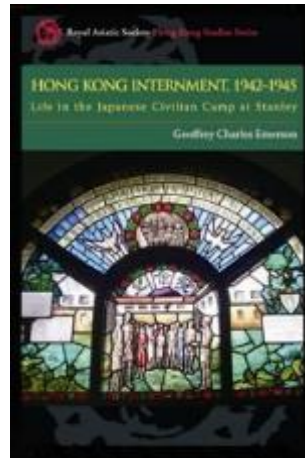
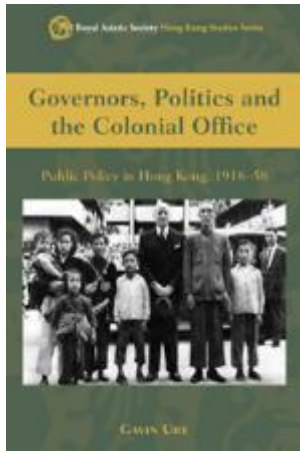
PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

<u>Journals</u>	<u>Price HK\$</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Order</u>
Vols. 1 - 54	\$50.00 each	_____	_____
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Full set of Journals	\$260.00	price on request	_____
All other volumes (per volume)	\$25.00	\$65.00	_____
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Please send the order & cheque, payable to Royal Asiatic Society, Hong Kong Branch, to RASHKB, G.P.O. Box 3864, Hong Kong. **We accept US\$ or GBP cheques at exchange rates of US\$1=HK\$8 / GBP1=HK\$11, but please also add US\$15/ GBP10.50 per cheque to cover bank charges incurred in clearing your cheque.**

Publications

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY HONG KONG STUDIES SERIES



There are now twenty-six titles in the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Studies Series. The above is a small selection of the titles available. For full details, please go to our website <www.royalasiaticsociety.org.hk> and click on Ride Fund.

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