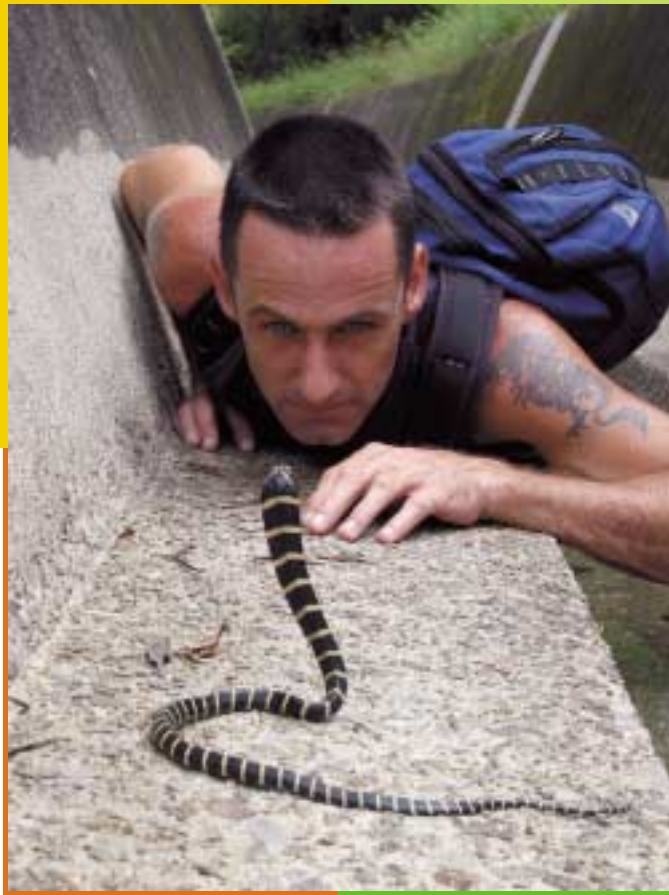


DSAI KUNG DISTRICT LINK

ISSUE NO.56

June-August 2005



David Willot having a stare-down with a baby King Cobra.



FREE
OF
CHARGE



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For the Working Group on Liaison with Persons of all Races, HCCAC

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The Link is sponsored by the SKDC as a means of providing persons of all races with news of developments within the area. The views expressed within the Link are not necessarily those of the SKDC. www.travelinsaikung.org.hk

EDITORIAL

It's amazing sometimes, how much Sai Kung changes from week to week or even from one issue to another! New restaurants and businesses open or move to new premises, while Sai Kung continues to undergo a major face-lift. We could almost produce a new directory but instead, we have noted some of the changes and corrections to the March issue directory which you will find listed under Notebook.

The March issue had a few mistakes and we apologize for any inconvenience caused. We particularly want to acknowledge **Firenze** and **Extreme**, both of whom were omitted from the list of contributors to our annual Charity Quiz at Hebe Haven in December 2004.

The long anticipated new square at the heart of Sai Kung town has finally been revealed! There was much talk about what was going on behind the hoardings especially the two tall structures that looked like they could be gallows or a guillotine (for public executions?) or was it going to be the shortest cable ride in the world? They are, in fact, supports for traditional Chinese bells that will be rung at major festivals.

The District Link is now under the Healthy City & Community Affairs Committee of the SKDC and we are pleased to announce the appointment of convenor for this group, Mr. Raymond Ho. Mr. Ho would like to invite other organizations and non-governmental groups the opportunity to promote their activities in Sai Kung through the District Link, or any interesting information they wish to share with our readers. An event is being organized for sometime later this year entitled "Uniting the Community".

We would like to remind readers the deadline for the September issue is mid-August. In the meantime, have a great summer!

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Follow-up Discussions during 1st SKDC Meeting for 2005-6

Clearwater Bay Peninsula

Members opposed the plan put forward saying residents of the district were not consulted. The delineation of village boundaries has harmed the interests of the indigenous residents and SKDC failed to provide ancillary facilities to tourist spots in Clearwater Bay Peninsula.

Tseung Kwan O Town Centre (TKO)

Members agreed the 1,200 residential flats proposed were too many but agreed to add a hotel to the project and keep the commercial buildings to provide more work opportunities in the area. MTRC should consult SKDC first before submitting the project to the Town Planning Board for approval and should refer to the "Further Development of Tseung Kwan O Feasibility Study" before formulating development plans.

Major Works Projects (2005-06) Progress Report

A representative from the Civil Engineering & Development Department briefed the meeting. Members were dissatisfied that only the most recent development projects were submitted and suggested that the previous practice of submitting proposals should be followed allowing a fuller picture.

Laundry Drying in TKO Public Places

SKDC briefed members that joint actions by all departments concerned would be taken to clear unsightly laundry drying in public places. Some members thought that the area for laundry drying should be assigned while others felt the problem was due to lack of consideration by some residents. All agreed the problem originated from a design fault in the laundry facilities. An education campaign is being planned.

Re-instating parking area for goods vehicles in TKO

As construction of area 44 would not commence before 2011, it was proposed to re-plan and re-instate the parking area for goods vehicles. A representative from the Transport Department said they would identify an appropriate place. SKDC TTC to follow-up.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Temporary Bus Depots (TKO)

SKDC Traffic & Transport Committee to follow up request to re-locate temporary bus depots into permanent ones.

Po Hong Road (TKO)

Civil Engineering & Development Department to follow up repair or repaving of pavement outside Beverly Garden.

Flagstuffs in Po Tsui Park (TKO)

A request for additional permanent flagstuffs has been approved and is scheduled to commence in December 2005.

Culture, Recreation and Sports Committee

Working Group on Organizing Sai Kung District Festive Celebrations

Activities organized in Sai Kung for 2004-05 were as follows: 2004 Variety Show Celebrating the Reunification of Hong Kong with China; Bobai, Guangzi Acrobatic Show and National Day Bunting Design Competition Celebrating the 55th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China; 2005 Spring Reception; and Cantonese Opera Performance for the Spring Festival.

Developing Areas 44b and 44c, (TKO) into a Temporary Park

LCSD proposed a temporary "Community Garden Programme" in Area 44b and designate Area 44c as an open space. As the government planned to construct a complex in the areas, members proposed the design of local open space and the complex should complement each other. SKDC to follow-up.

Proposed Recreational Facilities in Area 45, TKO

LCSD hoped construction works on proposed sports ground be completed by the 2009 East Asian Games. Tendering for the Ice Sports Centre, Bowling Centre and Town Park in Area 45 north postponed to mid-2005. LCSD to follow-up.

Construction of Rest Garden in Area 56

LCSD suggested developing the rest garden into a park with passive facilities. It was suggested to build a footbridge that connects Sheung Tak Estate, the rest garden and the MTR TKO for residents going to and from the station.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Ho Chung Hard Surface Soccer Pitch

LCSD, SKDC Lands Office and Agriculture, Fisheries & Conservation Department visited the site and agreed the land near the soccer pitch was too small to extend into a standard seven-a-side pitch without affecting the mangroves and the high tidal limit. The plan has been postponed.

Pak Kong Soccer Pitch

The improvement project was not included under the 2004-05 Minor Works Programme. The LCSD and the Architectural Services Department were considering whether phased implementation was possible.

Kiu Tsui Beach

The Civil Engineering Department (currently known as the Civil Engineering & Development Department) is to investigate loss of sand and soil on the beach.

Silverstrand Beach

LCSD to take actions to stop the improper soliciting of beach parasols.

Provision of Study / Reading Centres in TKO

Members proposed that the government should provide additional study / reading centres in TKO to meet residents' demand.

Mobile Library Service

Members requested LCSD provide additional mobile library stops in the vicinity of Kin Ming Estate and Choi Ming Court in TKO south and suggested relocating the mobile library stop in King Lam Estate (near the TKO public library) to Kin Ming Estate.

Proposed Provision of Pilot Cultural Office in Sai Kung

Members suggested the LCSD should make Sai Kung a trial spot in setting up cultural offices in all 18 districts throughout the territory to strengthen communication and liaison with local communities, organizations and district councils. Members hoped the LCSD would be able to hold more cultural & recreational activities suited to the District. LCSD responded that this would involve additional manpower and expenses. Currently, the New Territories East Cultural Office maintain close contact with the SKDC to promote cultural activities in the area.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Housing and Development

Drain Pipes for TKO Air-conditioners in Public Housing Estates

Members requested the HD to allocate resources for priority installation of drain pipes for air-conditioners in TKO PHEs. HD considering request in its "Home Care Project".

Paving Sidewalks in TKO with Reusable Bricks

The Highways Department (HyD) would consider giving priority to travel areas or commercial areas for surfacing work but did not plan to pave the TKO sidewalks yet. Members requested a master plan for TKO Town Centre. Letters to the electricity, telecom and gas companies will follow requesting repaving with reusable bricks after completion of underground works.

Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) to Uphold Tenants' Rights

Members suggested the Owners' Corporation of Verbena Heights and the HKHS should maintain close contact to resolve the problem of tenants rights to use Estate facilities.

Vacant Shops in Commercial Centres of the HD

Members are concerned with the escalating problem of vacant shops in commercial centres and suggested changing the traders according to market needs.

HD to Undertake Responsibilities and Fulfill Performance Pledges

Members requested the HD to follow up latent defects in housing estates. The newly adopted initiative was that maintenance works would be carried out in defective housing estates first and action for the contractors' responsibilities would follow. It is hoped that the HD would promote the new initiative among residents.

Working Group on Housing Affairs

Mr. HO Man-kit appointed convenor for this year. Working group to follow up: Quality Housing Management Competition; HKHS to conduct drainage pipe conversion works for Blocks 1 to 6 of Verbena Heights; Building problems in Yu Ming Court (bulging wall tiles in Yu Cheong House and broken latches on windows in lift lobbies on all floors of Yu Wing House and Yu Cheong House); Building problems in Kwong Ming Court (falling mosaic tiles from external walls on ground floor of Kwong Lung House; damaged planters at entrance of Kwong Ning House).

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Right-of-Way Access Study

Mr. Ling Man-hoi is this year's convenor. Members expressed concern with management and repair of right-of-way access to O King Road and Pung Loi Road, as well as the waterfront promenade outside Oscar by the Sea. Representatives from various departments stated the owner was responsible for the management and repair of the access.

Traffic and Transport Committee

Proposed Footpath Connecting Tiu Keng Leng MTR Station and Chinese Permanent Cemetery

The footpath would extend along the seawall from the Tiu Keng Leng MTR Station to the TKO Chinese Permanent Cemetery and would be constructed as far away from O King Road and Ocean Shores as possible. TTC is to provide a vehicle access road linking the Cemetery and Western Coast Road to allow access to public transport at the tunnel exit on Western Coast Road.

Flyover near Cheng Chek Chee Secondary School

Members proposed anti-skid road surfacing, more road signs and extending the "no overtaking" lane on the flyover near the school.

Bus Stand Outside the Old Tung Yuen Restaurant at Yi Chun Street, Sai Kung

TTC requested begin construction of a shelter as soon as possible.

Improvement of Traffic Measures at Hiram's Highway near Man Kei Toi

Members to tender a request to the TD for the immediate removal of the "right-turn" directional sign and restore a straight road.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Provision of Bicycle Parking Spaces in TKO

Members proposed to extend the bicycle track in TKO, provide more bicycle parking areas, replace the railings along the pavements with concrete or metal bollards and put warning signs on signboards erected at illegal parking sites. There was also concern about the ineffective monitoring of cycling on pavements.

2004-2005 Bus Route Development in Sai Kung District

Citybus E22A to be re-routed from Hong Sing Garden & Tsui Lam to and from Tung Chung and Chek Lap Kok. It is hoped the bus route will be diverted to Kwun Tong Bypass after leaving TKO to save time.

TKO Bus No. 98C

Request to install air-conditioning for entire fleet of Route No.98C and to implement fare-reduction as soon as possible.

Independent Overnight Transport Services in TKO South

A motion was passed to write to the Commissioner for Transport expressing disappointment for not providing overnight public transport services in TKO.

Follow-up of Public Transport Services in Sai Kung

TTC expressed dissatisfaction about mid-night public transport services in TKO despite repeated requests to introduce a minibus service.

Double Yellow Lines at the Car Park Entrance of Tsui Lam Estate, TKO

Illegal parking during the day has improved but still remains a problem at night. TTC requested that the Police step-up enforcement.

Temporary Traffic Control Measures

Members concerned about road safety following the conversion of one-way traffic to two-way traffic at Sheung Ning and Pui Shing Roads.

Improvement to Crossing Facility at Tsui Lam Road

The TD felt that because of the sharp bend on a steep road and the speed of traffic it was not safe to provide a pedestrian crossing at this location. However, warning signs for pedestrians crossing have been put in place.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Taxi Drop-off Point outside Beverly Garden at Tong Tak Street into Taxi Stand and Designation of Prohibited Zone in its Vicinity

TD agreed to designate the roundabout at Tong Tak Street as a prohibited zone from 7am to 7pm. TD suggested that the taxi drop-off point outside Beverly Garden be extended and opened for use by other vehicles.

Public Transport Interchange at Sai Kung Town North

TTC supported the construction of a public transport interchange at Sai Kung Town North but felt residents would have more options if Road L3 was opened at the same time. TTC regarded Stage 2 of the public transport interchange be extended.

Pedestrian Scheme in Sai Kung Town North

TTC proposed to delay scheme until completion of the temporary public car park and public transport interchange.

Re-organisation of Bus Routes in TKO South

It was suggested to remove the central divider at the section of King Ling Road at the access of the public transport interchange at the Tiu Keng Leng MTR Station to allow traffic to turn left on to King Ling Road and then turn right directly from King Ling Road to the interchange on Choi Ming Street. The TD had reservations over the proposal as it might cause traffic congestion.

Parking Spaces in Po Toi O Chuen

The arrangement of parking spaces, relocating the mini-bus stand and erecting a sign for the mini-bus terminal has been completed. It was suggested that additional spaces be provided in front of existing parking spaces.

Cautionary Crossing at Hiram's Highway near Sun On Village

TD to provide railings as well as low speed signs and markings along the road bend.

Clearwater Bay Road at Fei Ngo Shan

Traffic improvement at the junction of Clearwater Bay Road and Fei Ngo Shan was completed in February 2005.

Improving Pedestrian Facilities from Tsui Lam Road Section near Tsui Lam Indoor Recreation Centre

The Housing Department (HD) to liaise with various departments to discuss ways to improve pedestrian facilities.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Extending Service Hours of GMB Route No. 16 to 11:00 pm and Providing Sectional Fare Concessions for that Route

If GMB Route NO.16 is unable to meet residents' requests, members hope that GMB Route NO. 103 running between Clearwater Bay and Kwun Tong could go through East Point City, TKO, for picking up passengers to and from Po Toi O.

Follow-up of Dualling of Hang Hau Road

Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) would supply specific data regarding population, traffic and noise. TD to explore short-term measures for improving traffic at Hang Hau Road providing bus bays for the two bus stops.

Follow-up for the Road in Area 86 North, TKO (Formerly Known as Road D10)

As population and traffic would remain at low levels when the road in Area 86 North is open in 2008, it is unnecessary to construct noise barriers, but space will be reserved if barriers are required.

Follow-up on Traffic Black Spots at Hiram's Highway & Ho Chung Road

The TD will consider adjusting the signal timing, providing more safety islands and enhancing lighting in that area.

Traffic Lights at the Junction of Chap Fuk Road and Ying Yip Road

The TD felt traffic flow at this junction did not warrant additional traffic lights. The Police would maintain traffic flow during peak hours only.

Replacing Metal Railings along Pavements in TKO with Plants

Concerns included whether pavements would be too narrow and create blind spots for pedestrians and drivers.

Crash Barriers along Pavement next to the Subway in Tseng Lan Shue Village

The TD believe crash barriers will inhibit wheelchairs and cart access. TD to conduct a site visit to explore other options.

Zebra-crossing at the Junction of Mau Tai Road and Mau Yip Road

TD to consider adding a zebra-crossing and widening the safety island.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Healthy City and Community Affairs Committee

Supply of Helicopters for Dental Service

The Department of Health will cease the use of helicopters for dental service in Tai Long, Sai Wan and Yung Shue O.

Reforming Academic Structure for Senior Secondary & Higher Education

The representative of the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) introduced the new academic structure. The Committee requested the EMB to carefully consider whether the new curriculum was feasible.

"My Home Tseung Kwan O": A Community Health Inclusion Scheme

The scheme received an allocation of \$2m from the "Community Investment and Inclusion Fund" to hold fund raising activities for a period of 3 years (from December 2004 to December 2007). A series of community activities would be launched in TKO and it was hoped that through the joint efforts of the residents, the government and corporations, community capital could be accumulated.

"Go and Reach the Goal" Award Scheme

This scheme was warmly received by local residents and organizations. A presentation was held in February 2005 at the TKO Stadium to award prizes to participants and organizations with outstanding performance.

Provision of Rehabilitation Facilities in Sheung Mei House & Sheung Tak Estate, TKO

The rehabilitation centre is expected to be ready in the second half of 2005.

Integrated Family Service Centres by Social Welfare Department (IFSC)

The SWD plan to set up centres in both Sai Kung and TKO. Members commented on the locations and nature of IFSC services.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Constructing a Direct Subsidy School in Area 50, TKO

The EMB consulted members on the construction of a direct subsidy school in Area 50. Members enquired about the teaching methodology, and design of the premises.

Introduction to the 'Seeds of Hope' Service of Harmony House

A representative from Harmony House introduced the service followed by a discussion with members.

Termination of Travelling Dispensary Service by Hospital Authority

The HA terminated the travelling dispensary service in Sai Kung District.

Proposed Welfare Services in Area 73A, Tseung Kwan O

Services would include the provision of the TKO (South) Integrated Family Service Centre, Integrated Home Care Service Teams and the Direction Association for the Handicapped.

Working Group on Women Services

Ms. KAM Mi-hing was elected convenor for the year. A seminar on the "Education and Learning Needs of Women" was successfully held in January 2005. Ms KAO Ching-chi, JP, member of the Women* Commission, was guest speaker.

Working Group on Youth Affairs & Rehabilitation Services

Mr. LAM Cheung-chi was elected convenor for the year. The Working Group jointly organized a "Variety Show on Rehabilitation" with Caritas Lok Him Day Activity Centre and Caritas Lok King Hostel. They aim to continue co-operation with local organizations in uniting the physically handicapped and the able-bodied.

Working Group on Occupational Safety and Health

Mr. CHAN Kwok-on was elected convenor for the year. A carnival/first aid competition with the "TKO-Healthy City" Project Office was held in February 2005 to promote first aid and free medical examinations.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Working Group on Liaison with Persons of All Races (District Link)

Mr. Raymond HO elected as convenor for the year. Members agreed to continue publication of the "District Link". It was suggested that two working groups be formed; one for the publication of the District Link and one responsible for organizing district community activities.

Working Groups for Elderly Services

Co-ordinating groups include the Data Bank of Elderly in TKO, the Out-Reach & Support Services of Pharmacists, Outstanding Caretakers Commendation Scheme, Survey and Study of Elderly Mental Health and a group to organize a mental health day camp for the Elderly.

Working Group on Community Networking

Ms. MOK So-fung was elected convenor for the year. A "Let's Exercise" campaign in early 2005 to encourage physical activities.

Food and Environmental Committee

Funding Applications for Minor Environmental Improvement (MEI) Projects

19 MEI projects for the year 2004/05 included: Grass cutting projects in Sai Kung, Hang Hau, Pak Sha Wan and TKO areas; Warning signs for unauthorized parked bicycles in TKO; Street signs for Wan Poon Path in Hang Hau; Improvement work at the rest garden at Kap Bin Long; Provision of benches and sidewalk improvement works at the firemen married quarters in Yau Yue Wan, Hang Hau; Improvement to the Pavilion near Hang Hau Village; Repair of arbours in front of Tsz Tong in Yu Uk Village, Mang Kung Uk and Shelter for letter boxes at Ming Oi Sun Tsuen, Hang Hau. Total funds applied for: HK\$1,289,000.

Environmental Pollution

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is monitoring the effluent discharged from the laundry of Pik Uk Prison and the Sai Kung Sewage Treatment Works.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Illegal Food Hawkers

The Food & Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and management companies of Sheung Tak Estate, Po Ming and Kwong Ming Court conducted joint operations to curb hawking activities.

Bicycle Problem in TKO Area

A total of 1,542 abandoned bicycles were removed in TKO between April 2004 and February 2005.

Construction of TKO Trail

The section of TKO Trail from Ap Chai Wan to Clearwater Bay Road has been completed.

Stray Dogs in TKO

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department carried out 820 dog-catching operations in TKO between April 2004 and February 2005. The number of dogs captured was 317.

Extension of Sai Kung Pier

SKDC and the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) decided that berths for passengers to board and alight from vessels should be added to ease congestion. Members also expressed the need for repair.

Economic Development Committee

"Sai Kung Teen Talent Show" (Previously Known as the "Youth Talent Fair in Sai Kung 2004")

To avoid effecting businesses, participants were prohibited from setting up retail booths in the shopping arcade. They could only conduct talent shows such as band performance, vocal mimicry, kung fu, juggling, unicorn dance, magic shows, etc. The EDC supported this project and agreed to set up a task force under Tourism Development in Sai Kung.

Promotion of Employment in Sai Kung District

The Labor Department (LD) invited businesses operating in Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O (including tenants of TKO Industrial Estate) to participate in a large-scale recruitment forum. Response was lukewarm which showed that there were not many job vacancies in the District to warrant the organization of a large-scale job exhibition.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Second-Hand Market in Sai Kung District

The EDC supported the proposal of a second-hand market as it felt this would comply with environmental principles and highlight the District thereby attracting more visitors. Further study has to be conducted as to venue, operation and professional knowledge.

High-speed Ferry Route between Sai Kung & Hong Kong Island or Tsim Sha Tsui

The proposed route might pass through areas where the current is strong causing technical difficulties in launching a high-speed ferry service. EDC to study the possibility of launching the Sai Kung cruise with the First Ferry.

Development of Environmental Industry in TKO Industrial Estate and Feasibility Study on Setting up a Hong Kong Movie Town in the Estate

The terms of tenancy of the TKO Industrial Estate stipulates that only companies which contribute to technological development in Hong Kong would be allowed to operate in the estate.

Property Development above MTR Station in Area 56, TKO

The MTR Corporation with the Territory Development Department are doing a studying of population distribution in TKO.

Setting up an Employment Centre in TKO

Members proposed to organize a Career Expo in Sai Kung and allow small enterprises to set up booths for recruitment exercises. The project had been referred to the working group on Promotion of Employment in District for follow-up. Concern on the lack of LD sub-offices, employment centres and inadequate facilities for searching job vacancies in TKO was expressed. EDC wrote to the LD requesting additional terminals in the Enquiry Service Centre (ESC) at the Sai Kung District Office in TKO for job vacancies posted on the LD website.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Hong Kong Young Ambassador Scheme

The "Hong Kong Young Ambassador scheme" is a joint operation with the Tourism Commission and The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups. Following a training program, Young Ambassadors are stationed at various tourist spots on weekends and public holidays between 10am and 5pm. Members felt that if this territory-wide tourism program could be turned into a district-based project, more students could be encouraged to participate.

Use of the Community Centre in the Sai Kung District

Members requested two sites in Sai Kung Town Centre be reserved for development of educational facilities.

Courses Provided by the Vocational Training Council

The new secondary school established by the Vocational Training Council (VTC) would be ready in the new school year. Besides subjects in technology and design, the new school would provide courses related to tourism. EDC suggested that the VTC provide training courses on environmental protection, cookery and tourism to tie in with tourism development in Sai Kung.

Recreational Pond Fishing Site Evaluation Report

EDC recommended a pond located at Sam Mun Tsai (northeast Kau Sai Chau) be selected as the pilot site. An application to the Finance & Administration Committee (FAC) has been submitted to reserve provision of boats to conduct site visits.

"My Home TKO"-Community Health Inclusion Scheme

EDC suggested that the Haven of Hope Christian Service could contact individual businesses and be responsible for details and follow up of the scheme and its implementing the scheme.

Display of Shop Signs and Decorative Lighting in Sai Kung Hoi Pong Square

The EDC proposed that the Sai Kung District Management Committee (SKDMC) should set up a working group to follow up the display of shop signs and lighting in Sai Kung Hoi Pong Square. It was proposed that the Electrical & Mechanical Services Department be responsible for testing and monitoring safety regulations on existing unauthorized lighting along the waterfront.

Jockey Club's Kau Sai Chau Public Golf Course

Kau Sai Chau Public Golf Course Company is to build a third 18-hole golf course next to the existing south and north courses. After the completion of the new course in 2007, the Jockey Club would fund training for outstanding golfers to represent Hong Kong internationally and provide vocational training opportunities (eg, turf management).

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Enhancement of Streets in Sai Kung Old Market

The EDC hope that the rural ambience of Sai Kung Old Market could be preserved along with the enhancement of the streets. Members suggested that the project should be referred to the SKDMC and the Rural Public Works steering committee for follow-up action.

Housing Department (HD) and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) to Provide Banking Services at Choi Ming Shopping Centre

HD contacted banks in the area inviting them to provide banking services at Choi Ming Shopping Centre. Only the Standard Chartered Bank expressed an interest in providing an automated teller machine. EDC sent letters to the HKMA and the Hong Kong Association of Banks asking for assistance in encouraging all the banks to provide services in TKO.

Wild Boars at Jockey Club Kau Sai Chau Public Golf Course

Damage caused by wild boars had been significantly reduced by the employment of two security guards. The Golf Course has since installed electric fencing.

Promote Characteristics of Sai Kung

A joint meeting was held in January 2005 by the EDC with working groups from Publicity and Editing, Tourism Development in Sai Kung and organizers of Sai Kung District Festive Celebrations. It was agreed that a steering group would be set up to co-ordinate tourism in Sai Kung. Members suggested that major activities should be organized on a bi-monthly or quarterly basis instead of the present monthly basis. The idea of a theme was suggested. For example, if the theme "Healthy City" was selected, activities such as family kite flying, hiking and healthy food festival could be promoted.

Tourism Development in Sai Kung

Three island sites were proposed for consideration for tourist development; Cascade Bay, Pak Sha Chau and Lok Mon Wu.

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Working Group on Publicity

The "Travel in Sai Kung" website has been updated and is now complete. It provides a simplified Chinese version, an electronic card and wallpaper download services. Scenic photos of High Island Reservoir, Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park, Tai Long Wan, Po Toi O and the Kau Sai Chau Public Golf were used for the 2005 calendar including locations mentioned in the "Natural Wonders of Sai Kung" publication. Sign posts for tourist areas in Sai Kung District were completed in March 2005.

To promote Sai Kung characteristics, it was suggested to publish pamphlets on fishing, ecological tourism, cultural trips and gourmet trips. Souvenirs such as badges, pens, scarves and resin stands around dragon boats could be produced and a large fiber glass dragon boat could be put on display in a public area for visitors.

Students from primary and secondary schools in the district would be invited to attend meetings of the SKDC and its committees in 2005-06 to enhance their knowledge of Sai Kung.

Working Group on Promotion of Employment in District

The working group visited St. James' Settlement "IEAP Shop", a second-hand goods shop in Sai Ying Pun, to study the second-hand market project. Since the project involves issues such as venues, funds and human resources, assistance should be sought from the Social Welfare Department and local community organizations if a similar project is to be carried out.

An exhibition on upgrading skills with the VTC and a "Summer Virtual Enterprise Training Program" with the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education is being discussed. Interest was expressed on developing an environmental protection industry in TKO Industrial estates with the HKUST. The proposal would be submitted to relevant departments for consideration. It was also suggested to apply for funding from FAC to hire local, unemployed people for household cleaning services for the elderly and the disabled (as practiced by the Sham Shui Po District Council).

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Finance and Administration Committee (2004-05)

Disbursement of SKDC Funds (2004-05)

The total amount of funds granted for 2004-05 was \$9,140,000.00.

Review of the Guidelines & Procedures of Sai Kung District Council Funds for Community Involvement Projects (CIPs), District Festivals Subsidy Scheme (DFSS) and District Cultural Project Grants Scheme (DCPGS)

Members proposed some amendments to the Guidelines & Procedures for Sai Kung District Council Funds to CIPs, DFSS and DCPGS.

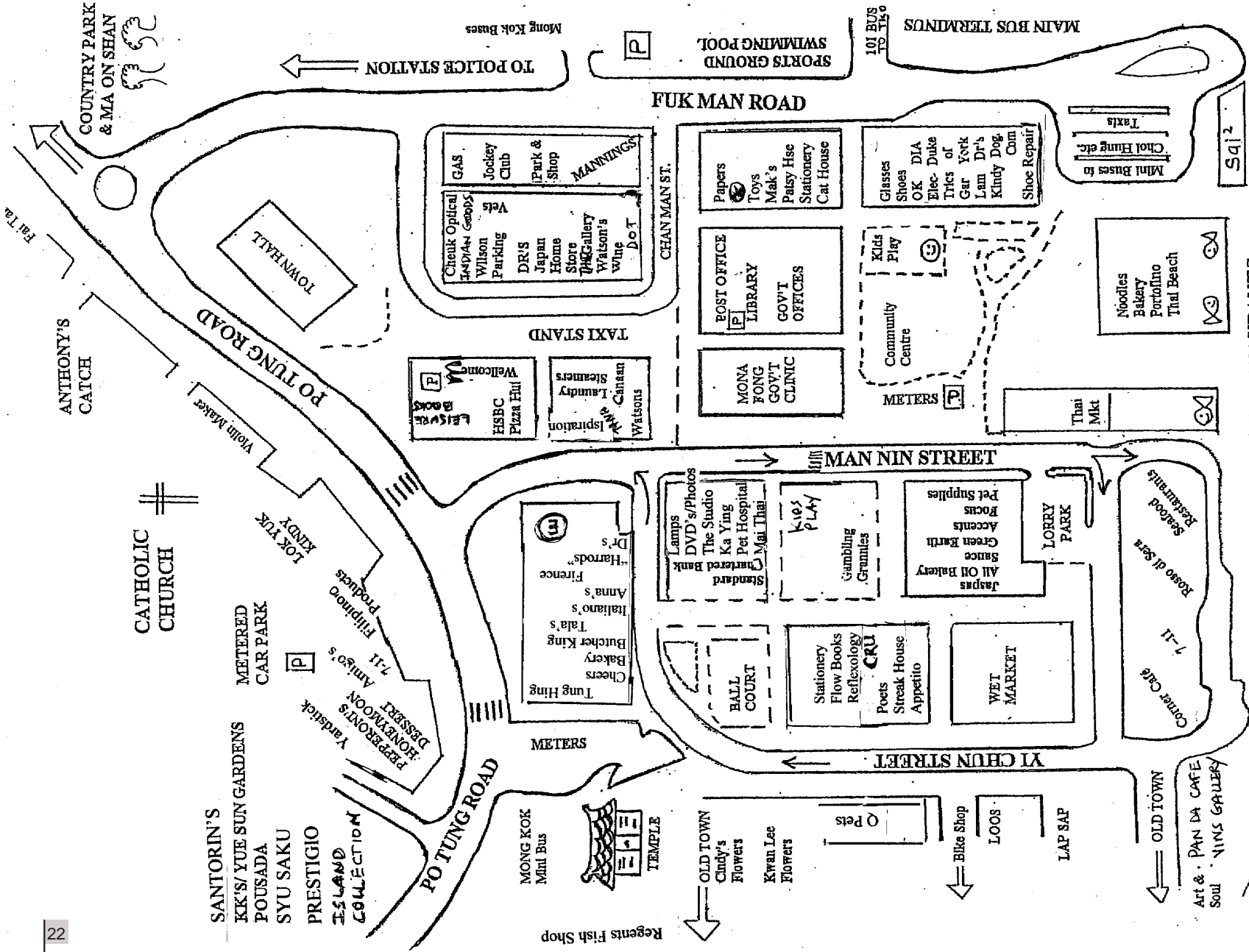
Applications for DC Funds

There were a total of 459 applications during 2004-05. Details are as follows:

Activities	No. of Applications Received	No. of Applications Approved	No. of Applications Rejected	No. of Applications Withdrawn after Approval	Funds Approved (\$)
1. Cultural, Recreation and Sports	232	206	26	7	2,322,719.3
2. Festive Celebrations	12	12	0	0	1,226,060.0
3. Summer Youth Programme	13	13	0	0	98,498.0
4. Community Affairs (Earmarked Fund)					
(a) Elderly Festival	1	1	0	0	429,620.0
(b) Healthy City	19	19	0	0	1,274,499.0
(c) Area Committee	8	8	0	0	280,335.0
(d) Fight Crime	18	18	0	1	209,873.5

DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

Activities	No. of Applications Received	No. of Applications Approved	No. of Applications Rejected	No. of Applications Withdrawn after Approval	Funds Approved (\$)
(e) Civic Education	9	9	0	0	97,158.0
(f) District Corruption Fighting	1	1	0	0	50,000.0
(g) Road Safety	2	2	0	0	70,000.0
(h) Fire Safety Campaigns	11	11	0	0	159,776.0
(i) Assisting New Arrivals	0	0	0	0	0.0
(j) WGs of HC&CAC	7	7	0	2	229,686.0
(k) Joint Community Involvement Projects	4	4	0	0	46,850.0
5. Other Community Affairs	101	100	1	3	1,698,101.1
6. Publicity and Miscellaneous	21	20	1	4	1,167,690.0
Total	459	431	28	17	9,360,865.9



SEAFRONT PROMENADE & RESTAURANTS









GAI DOs TO TRIO BEACH & SHARP ISLAND

FERRY TO KAU SAI CHAU PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

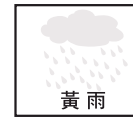
TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNINGS



Meaning of Tropical Cyclone Warning Signals and what you should do :

- | | |
|---|---|
|  | T1 This is a stand-by signal, indicating that a tropical cyclone is centered within 800 km of Hong Kong and may later affect the territory. If you are planning an outing, remember that there is a tropical cyclone near Hong Kong which may affect your plans. |
|  | T3 Strong winds are expected or blowing in Victoria Harbour, with a sustained speed of 41-62 km/h. Gusts may exceed 110 km/h. Secure all loose objects, particularly those on balconies and rooftops. Drains should be cleared to avoid blockage and overflows. |
|  | T8 Gale or storm force winds are expected or blowing in Victoria Harbour, with a sustained wind speed of 63-117 km/h from the quarter indicated. Gusts may exceed 180 km/h. Lock all windows and doors. Fit bars into positions and insert reinforced shutters and gates if available. Adhesive tape fixed to large window panes in exposed positions will reduce damage by broken glass. Now is the time to decide which rooms you will use to shelter if the windows on the exposed side of your home become broken. |
|  | |
|  | T9 Gale or storm force winds are increasing or expected to increase significantly in strength. Stay indoors. Stay away from exposed windows and doors to avoid flying debris. Close all interior doors and make sure children are confined to the least exposed part of your home. Do not touch electrical cables that have been blown loose. You should fix broken windows and doors only when there is no danger in doing so. |
|  | |
|  | |
|  | T10 Hurricane force winds are expected or blowing. Sustained wind speeds are reaching upwards from 118 km/h. Gusts may exceed 220 km/h. The same precautions as above apply. Remember that if the eye of the typhoon passes directly over Hong Kong, there may be a temporary lull lasting a few minutes to several hours. Do not relax your guard, as there will be a sudden resumption of violent winds from a different direction. Remain where you are if protected and be prepared for destructive winds. |
- If you are away from home, find a safe place and remain there until the danger is over.**

TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNINGS



AMBER RAINSTORM SIGNAL – Heavy rain has fallen or is expected to fall generally over Hong Kong, exceeding 30 millimetres in an hour. Parents, students, school authorities and school-bus drivers should listen to radio or television announcements on the weather, road and traffic conditions.



RED RAINSTORM SIGNAL – Heavy rain has fallen or is expected to fall generally over Hong Kong, exceeding 50 millimetres in an hour, and is likely to continue. Employees working outdoors in areas exposed to rain should suspend outdoor duties if weather conditions in those areas so warrant. People who have to travel should carefully consider weather and road conditions.



BLACK RAINSTORM SIGNAL – Very heavy rain has fallen or is expected to fall generally over Hong Kong, exceeding 70 millimetres in an hour, and is likely to continue. Stay indoors or take shelter in a safe place until the heavy rain has passed. Employers are advised not to require their employees to go to work unless prior agreement on work arrangements during rainstorms has been made. People who are already at work should stay where they are unless it is dangerous to do so. Students should stay home or, if already at school, should remain there until the end of school hours and conditions are safe for them to return home.

www.hko.gov.hk/contente.htm





Dragon Boat Festival


The Dragon Boat Festival is a lunar holiday, occurring on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month. This festival has a long history and is a significant holiday celebrated in China. Officially it is known as the Upright Sun Festival but foreigners in China referred to it as the Dragon Boat Festival, notably for the dragon boat races held, especially in the southern provinces where there are many rivers and lakes.

This regatta commemorates the death of Qu Yuan, a poet and minister who is said to have committed suicide by drowning himself in 277 B.C. Qu Yuan was an honest and loyal minister who was held in high esteem in the Kingdom of Chu (situated in the present day Hunan and Hubei provinces). When a corrupt prince vilified Qu Yuan, he was disgraced and dismissed from his office. Realizing the kingdom was now in the hands of evil and corrupt officials, Qu Yuan jumped into a river. Nearby fishermen tried to save him and were unable to recover the body.

Mourning the death of the poet, the people threw cooked rice so the fish would eat the rice rather than their hero. The spirit of Qu Yuan appeared in the river and said that a huge reptile had stolen the rice offering and suggested that they wrap the rice in silk and bind it with threads before throwing it in the river. This later turned into the custom of eating "tzungtzu" (boiled glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo leaves) and rice dumplings to symbolize offerings to Qu Yuan. The dragon boat races represent the attempts to rescue and recover the body of Qu Yuan.

The Chinese Dragon Boat Festival is also a time for protection from evil and disease for the rest of the year. It is done so by different practices such as hanging healthy herbs on the front door, drinking nutritious concoctions and displaying portraits of evil's nemesis, Chung Kuei. And if one manages to stand an egg on its end at exactly 12.00 noon, the following year will be a lucky one!

The Dragon Boat races will be held from 8am on Saturday 11th June in Sai Kung harbour.



DISTRICT NOTEBOOK



Anna's Thai Massage for full body Chinese or Thai massage for 2hrs at \$300 and foot massages for 45min at \$110. Located on 1/F 14 Yi Chun Street between Italiano's and "Harrods". Tel: 2792 3172 / 9354 7606

Cindy Florist: She now has a wholesale license which means that her flowers are fresher and cheaper than the flower market. Cindy also offers FTD service around the world. Free delivery across Hong Kong (minimum purchase applies). Bouquet prices start at \$50. Tel: 2792 9889, Fax: 2792 9555 Mobile: 9365 0624

Dot Gallery has moved location to the "Living Space" site, across from the Post Office. Tel: 9302 5671. (You can still find items from "Living Space" at Island Collection on Po Tung Road).

Helpers Holidays: Saturday June 11 (Dragon Boat Festival)

Home Décor for kitchens and interior design has set up next to Pepperoni's. Visit or call 2792 6818 or email home_decor3@yahoo.com.hk

Hong Kong Bikes.com has closed but motor bikes can still be bought through European Motors on Po Tung Street. Ring Paul Gross on: 2641 8098

Equilibrium at Silverstrand Shopping Centre has new opening hours on Tuesday to Friday 10am-6pm (closed for lunch 1-2pm depending on appointments) and Saturday 10am-3pm. Massage, Facial treatments and Energy healing treatments are performed by Marita Betts. Marita is also offering a unique (and new in Hong Kong) Colour Puncture Facial Mask, a relaxing, non-evasive treatment. For more information on this and other treatments please call 2719 6043 or email equilib@biznetvigator.com

Farfalla of Switzerland are a Clearwater Bay based company selling a wide range of products from certified organic essential oils, skin & hair care, bath & shower, natural perfumes and aftershave to room fresheners. Their whole range can be found at Tala's Hair & Beauty Centre and Equilibrium at Silverstrand Shopping Center or online at: www.swiftkg.com



DISTRICT NOTEBOOK

Life Coaching. Is there something in your life that you think or feel you should be doing but can't seem to get there? What has been holding you back? Barbara Clegg can help guide you in achieving your goal. Call 2791 7281, 9867 1544 or email barbaraclegg@netvigator.com.

The Meat Club has a new email address, info@saikungmc.com. Email for latest price list or call 94716341.

Pet Problems? Rosemarie Tang is a certified dog trainer & behavior counselor, trained through the SPCA in San Francisco. She is available for private or group lessons at your home or place of choice. Call 9046 2604 or email: rosethedogtrainer@yahoo.com

Pro Wave Salon has moved to No.19 Sai Kung Main Street in the old town. Tel: Tracy on 2791 1804.

Sad about the closure of the Blue Aquarium fish shop? Well, we have found a new shop in old Sai Kung town. From the temple car park follow the pathway to a T-junction and you'll find **Regent Aquarium & Pets** (budgies, hamsters) at # 7 Sai Kung Main Street. Mickey is the owner and speaks fairly good English. Tel: 9757 9571. There is also a little kiosk selling fish and supplies opposite the wet market (next to the new Q Pets location).

Royal Dry Cleaning & Laundry in Clearwater Bay PnS complex has a free pick up and delivery service. Opened Mon to Weds and Fri to Sat 10am to 6.30pm. Tel: 2705 9328

Sabai Day Spa has opened its door to pamper Sai Kung residents. The Spa offers a range of body treatments including facials, massages, manicures, pedicures and waxing. Located on the 2/f at 10, Po Tung Road, Sai Kung. Call Linda Sharp on 2791 2259 for an appointment.

The Sai Kung Reflexology & Massage Centre are pleased to announce a new member of their team, Sam Fitchett, who will be offering Aromatherapy Massage treatments as well as Thai Massage, Hot Stone Therapy, Lymphatic Drainage and currently is completing Bowen Therapy. Cost is \$280 for 1hr+15 minutes consultation.



DISTRICT NOTEBOOK

Other packages on offer are Foot Reflexology, Acupressure Treatments and a De-Stress package which includes foot and acupressure treatments. Call 2792 2743 to book an appointment.

The SPCA clinic in Sai Kung has new opening hours as follows: 8.45am to 6pm Mon-Fri, 8.45am to 1pm Saturdays and 8.45 to 5pm on Sundays by appointment only.

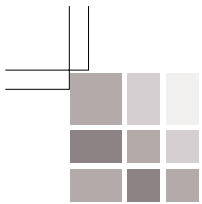
The SPCA clinic in Hang Hau village (near Lardos Steak House) is now able to provide surgical services as well as general consultations to members and has extended its hours from Tuesday to Fridays 8.45am-6pm (closed 1-2pm) and Saturdays 8.45am to 1pm (last appointment 12.15pm). Call 2243 0080 for an appointment.

Tala's Hair & Beauty Centre has added 2 new hair-stylists to their team: Jimmy, trained by Toni & Guy and Beate, European trained hairdresser from Holland, available on Wednesdays only. Now you can book **Tala's** for private parties with 10% off all services for you and your friends! Invitations, wine, snacks or dinner, waiter and clean-up can be arranged or you can opt to do it yourself. Give Moj a call on 2335-1694 or Fax: 2335 1014 and the rest will be taken care of!

The Women Business Owners Club is a non-profit organization to promote interests of business owners. They hold monthly seminars on business-related topics, with speakers from all fields of business. Non-members (including men) are welcome. For more information, visit www.hkwbc.org

There is no shortage of language teachers in Sai Kung. **Catherine Man** (6441-1227) is offering Cantonese lessons and **Jay Liu** (3156-5624) teaches Mandarin .

Do you feel stressed? Often tired? Is your diet supplying you with the nutrition you need? How and to what extent is modern food production depleting the nutrition in what we eat? Should you be taking extra vitamins and minerals? How do you sort out the good quality vitamins from the bad? For more information please contact: **Sue Jackson** Tel 2264 0626 or 9860 2481 email ianjackson@netvigator.com.



RESTAURANT NEWS AND REVIEWS

Syu Saku: Good news for sushi lovers! The owners of the "Top Grade" butcher, once situated next to MacDonald's, have resurfaced and opened a delightful little sushi restaurant on Po Tung Road, where Osteria No. 1 used to be.

"Syu Saku", meaning "beautiful and delicate food", offers a wide range of sushi and sashimi, and also a selection of popular cooked Japanese dishes. And while the freshness and quality match the best sushi in Tokyo, the prices don't! A party of four can have a meal of sushi and tempura for around \$350! Syu Saku offers a set lunch menu, which includes a salad, pickles and soup with your main course. Prices vary from \$30 - \$68. There is also a take-away service. A selection of 30 pieces of sushi (prawns, salmon, tuna, salmon roe & California maki) will cost you around \$335, and if you don't want to spend that much, you can pick up a whole roasted chicken for \$80!! The restaurant is simply decorated in black and chrome, with a sushi counter and a private room further into the restaurant. The service is prompt and the staff cheerful and friendly. Open 11am to 3pm and 6pm to 10.30pm. Closed Wednesday. Tel: 2792 0876. Reservation & Take Away Service Hotline: 2792 0887.

CRU: A French term for a classification of champagne; a vineyard or group of vineyards or; the Aussie spelling for the gang manning a boat. Whatever it means CRU is the new alternative to Jaspas. The décor is modern and though the menu may seem familiar there are slight variations. There is also a private function room up stairs. Expect the same good quality food and friendly service. Tel: 2791 1792.

INSAI: On the Sai Kung waterfront, Sai Square restaurant has opened a new wine bar. Megan Inglis-Davis is involved with promoting the wine bar and Kevin Sinclair, a well known resident in Sai Kung, has selected the wine list. Live jazz sessions every Friday night and Happy Hour discounts on all their New World wines Monday to Friday from 4-7pm. Tel: 2792 8900.

AND, to add to their services, junk hire is available too. The Pizza Party is popular with all-you-can-eat pizza and drinks (house wine & beers) for just \$320. They also have special packages for kids at \$200. Tel: 2488 0611, Fax: 2792 8991 or email info@saisquare.com.



RESTAURANT NEWS AND REVIEWS

Amigo's: Located on Po Tung Road (next to the 7ELEVEN). There was some excitement when the news of a Mexican restaurant was opening in Sai Kung so being from California where Mexican food is practically a staple meal, I gathered a few friends and went to see what goodies they had to offer. The menu has far more Italian dishes than Mexican and The Mexican dip platter was a mixture of Mexican and Middle-Eastern dips. We wanted to share a Tortilla Pizza but unfortunately none were available. The food we did order was fresh and nicely presented but feel this restaurant will appeal more to the local market. Tel: 2792 9337.

Fancy a kebab on the way home after being in the pub? **KebaBBq** sell lamb doner kebabs or chicken shawarmas among other take-away items. You can find them off Fuk Man Road down the alleyway across from the G.11 Café. Opening hours are Tues-Thurs 12noon to 11.30pm, Fri-Sat 12noon to 12.30am and Suns. 12noon to 9.30pm. Closed Mondays.

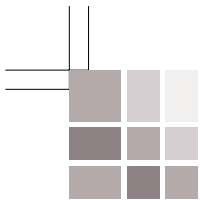
May's Sawaddee Thailand Restaurant has expanded her little outlet from noodle alley and moved into the old Shanghai restaurant site across from Watson's. Tel: 6076 2884.

Prestigio Cake Shop: This little cake shop moved from the PnS complex in Clearwater Bay and is now one of the shops along the old Osteria 1 site on Po Tung Road. Open Weds to Mon from 11.30am to 10.30pm. Tel: 6100 8201.

Sampan Café Corner at the old Sampan site at Pak Sha Wan, is a traditional Hong Kong style Chinese café offering rice & noodles and other light snacks. There is also a selection of cheese cakes. Thai food will be introduced at a later date.

The Duke of York has brought back their Quiz which is held fortnightly on Tuesdays. Tel: 2792 8435.

Suzanna's Diner has closed - the chef has gone to Steamers - and **The Hungry Pelican** has also closed.



LINK DIRECTORY AMENDMENTS

PLEASE NOTE the following corrections below to the last Link Directory (March 2005 Issue No.55).

Cars/Car Repair: Sunshine Motors is actually called Sunrise Motors

Children's Entertainers: IDM Mobile Disco has been hired in the past by CWBSchool to do discos for the older classes but generally work for clubs or private parties. **Please do not call for children's birthday parties.**

Property Agents: Sunbird Properties: Julie King's contact numbers are 9805 3711 or 9849 5518. Prumerica Homefront Ltd is now called Pricoa Relocation Hong Kong Ltd. No change on location or contact information.

Restaurants: Firenze telephone number is: 2792 0898

Sailing Clubs: CWB Children's Sailing Club should be Pak Sha Wan Children's Sailing Association (PSWCSA), located at Pak Sha Wan. The number listed for the Shelter Cove Yacht club is a private number. **Please do not call.**

Sports Activities: Kai Tak Tigers changed their name (a year ago!) to DeA Tigers RFC. New contact details are: Tel: 9815 9644 (Mike Robertshaw). Email: minis@deatigersrfc.com or [website www.deatigersrfc.com](http://www.deatigersrfc.com)

Sometimes our information is incorrect, so please help keep us informed. Thank you.

FYI, the following can be deleted from the Directory.

Artists: Zimbabwe Stone Sculptures

Gift Shops: Living Space

Music Lessons: Peter Slater

Pet Products: Blue Planet Aquarium

Removable Companies: Atlas Logistics

Restaurants: Hungry Pelican & Susanna's Diner

Sailing Clubs: Shelter Cove Yacht Club



Kids' Stuff - What's on for Summer



Wondering what to do with the kids over the long summer break. Here are some of the interesting and fun activities on offer.

Summer Camps

Goal Asia Program: G.O.A.L. (Growth through Outdoor Adventure Learning) is an outdoor adventure skills program designed for children from 7-16 years. It offers tailor-made programs to boost confidence and provide life strategies for the unique children of Asia who grow up as third culture kids.

Scuba Diving Camps: Children will camp at the Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club and dive in Sai Kung waters. They will aim to achieve their PADI open water and Junior Water Scuba Diving certificate that will allow them to dive anywhere. Evening Dive 30 June (10 - 18yrs) Camp 1- 3 July (10 - 18yrs). Camps run by PADI and Splash.

Hong Kong Junior Adventure Course 18 - 10 July (10 - 18yrs) Cost \$2900.

Hong Kong Adventure Course 8 - 12 August (10 - 18yrs) Cost \$6900.

Camps are held in the Sai Kung Country Park and include outdoor activities such as abseiling, climbing, high ropes, kayaking and team building.

Day Camp United Services Recreation Centre (USRC)

1 Gasgoine Road, Jordan, 18 July - 28 August (Mon to Friday 10 - 4pm).

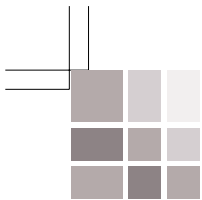
A full day of fun including sports, games, crafts, drama and trips outdoors. Cost: \$2000 for members or \$2400 for non-members.

For details contact: Premier Sport & Leisure 9278 2774,

www.premiersport.biz or www.goalasia.org.

Sailing

The Pak Sha Wan Children's Sailing Association (PSWCSA) is a nonprofit organisation run by dedicated parents who want to pass on sailing skills to children. There are no formal lessons, instead children are given instructions and allowed to learn through fun, at their own pace. First timers, can watch from the rescue boat until they are confident to go in a dinghy with an experienced sailor. Every Saturday at 2pm, leave from Hebe Haven Yacht Club. Suitable for children over 5yrs. Yearly membership fees \$1500, one child, Family \$2000 (\$500/\$750 joining fee). For details call Carol 98711553 / 64116352 or Shane 62910767 or www.hebe-hoosligans.org.



Kids' Stuff - What's on for Summer

The Hebe Haven Yacht Club offers a sailing training program for children aged (6-16 yrs). The course runs on Saturdays from 2 July - 27 August.

Race practice & supervised sailing from 10am -1pm. Junior start sailing from 2 -7pm. Cost: members \$100 and non-member \$120 per session.

For details contact: Ale Shek, Racing & Sailing Coordinator, Hebe Haven Yacht Club 2719 9682 www.hhyc.org.hk/sailing/Courses/c20050708.doc, www.hhyc.org.hk/sailing/Courses/c20050910.doc.

Motor Cross Racing

For something different this summer, give the kids and you a taste of motor cross racing. The Hong Kong MX Club, operating since 1996, focuses on promoting the technical and fun aspects of motor cross racing. Located at Tong Kung Leng Village, in the New Territories, the Club has its own circuit, and is open 7 days from 10am - 6pm. Club Operator, Angus Lai teaches and guides new riders. Bikes and gear are available for hire for young and old. For details and bookings contact: Angus Lai on 268 0948/ 9711 8003, www.mxclub.com.hk.

Combat Games

G/f 52 Yung Shue O, (Sai Sha Road) Sai Kung

Tucked away in the paddy fields of Sai Kung is an adventure playground where children can play soldiers and learn the subtle strategies involved in conducting a military mission. Not for the faint hearted, these games are a test of mind, body and soul but most of all fun. Children and adults have a great day creeping through the jungles, searching for snipers, dodging projectiles and developing military strategy. The children are given protected clothing, face masks, hat, gloves, gun and 2000 rounds of BBs (6mm plastic balls). They are taught how to use realistic weapons that fire at a rate of up to 15 rounds of BBs per second. Participants are divided into teams and given objectives to achieve their mission. Each group is accompanied by a Game Master who provides instructions on military strategies and techniques to ensure the event is safe yet challenging and enjoyable.

- Suitable for children over 10yrs. Younger children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the games
- Minimum group 10 people
- Cost: - \$220 per person including equipment for a full day.
- Barbecue and picnic facilities.

For details contact: Director Jessie Huang, Combat Games 2792 6033, info@combatgames.com or www.combatgames.com.



Kids' Stuff - What's on for Summer



Paint & Play

Leapfrog Playgroup

No 11 Pat Tam Chung, Sai Kung, 2791 1540 leapfrog@netvigator.com

11 July -19 August, Mon. Wed. & Fridays, 9.30 - 11.30am

Summer play in large outdoor playground, including covered sandpit, climbing frames, water activity station and ride-on toys, as well as arts and craft in air-conditioned classrooms. Suitable for children up to 7 years. All children must be accompanied by a parent or helper. No booking required. Cost \$70 per child, per session or \$120 per family.

New Song Christian Kindergarten

Floral Villas Commercial Area, 18 Tso Wo Road, Sai Kung

2791 2472 , newsong@netvigator.com

4 - 8 July & 11-15 July, Monday-Friday 9am -12pm

Supervised educational program encompassing arts and craft, stories, music and dance, dress-up, cooking, indoor play gym and bikes. Suitable for children 2 yrs and 8 mths to 6 yrs, who are capable of being left at the Kindergarten without a parent or helper. Booking required. Cost \$300 p.w.

Sai Kung Pre-School Group

159 Che Keng Tuk Road, Sai Kung, 2791 7354 skppa@netvigator.com

11 July - 26 August. Monday to Friday 9.30 -11.30am

A program of free play through arts and craft. Designed for or children aged between 1-5 yrs. Child must be accompanied by a parent/helper.

Cost \$80 per session.

Inspiration Learning Centre

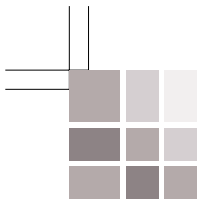
1/Fir, 11 Man Nin St, Sai Kung, 2792 5888 email: info@cheekyinspiration.com

Inspire your children to get creative this summer through a range of fun and educational activities on offer at Inspiration.

Summer Playgroup

11 July - 26 August Mon-Fri 11.30am - 1pm (17mths to 3yrs)

Cost: \$2000 (July 15 sessions) \$2500 (August 12 sessions) daily charges. Children can develop their social skills and independently learn while participating in a structured program using music and movement, arts and crafts, games, stories and drama. Children can be left unaccompanied.



Kids' Stuff - What's on for Summer

Arts & Craft

11 July - 26 August Mon, Wed & Fri 2.00 - 3.30pm (5-10 yrs)

Cost: \$1500 (July 9 sessions) \$2000 (August 12 sessions)

Tues & Thurs 2- 3pm (2-4yrs) Cost: \$870 (July 6 sessions) \$1100 (August 8 sessions)

Children can create their own designs in sketch books and then produce a piece of work, using different techniques; including papier mache, paper crafts, drawing, printing, painting with poster paints & watercolours.

Summer Fun with English

9 July - 27 August, Every Saturday 11.15am - 12.30pm (3-5 yrs)

Cost: \$700 per mth 12.45 - 2.00pm (6-8yrs) Cost: \$750 per mth

In Fun with English, classes are based on different themes linked to summer, with the main focus on phonics and the development of vocabulary. The program aims to help children whose first language is not English.

Art & Soul

July thru August Fridays only. 2 Classes: 10.30am to 12noon and 1.30 to 3pm.

Cost: \$200 per session. Call Betty at 2338 2338 or Ada on 2338 3568

Children (and adults) learn to paint various techniques using acrylic paints. Price includes all materials and canvas.

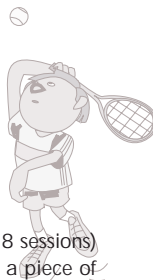
Ballet

Tina's Dance Studio's is holding a summer dance program including ballet-based activity lessons combining movement, stories, mime, and body awareness. For children aged 3 to 6yrs. 11-22 July Six lessons, Mon. Wed. & Fri - cost: \$600. For registration contact Tina on 2791 0511 / 2328 2250 or email tlcrodrigues@netvigator.com.

Summer Entertainment

Rachael's Fun House has special summer party packages for August. Barbie, Cinderella, Snowwhite and many more fun characters are available to perform magic, puppets, games, and disco parties, plus balloons and facepainting are on offer for a great discounted price for Sai Kung/ Clearwaterbay residents. Call Rachael on 2792 1124 rachael@funhousehk.com www.funhousehk.com.

Bouncing Castles Playdates: Why wait for a birthday party to have a bouncing castle. Playdates are so much more fun when the kids are entertaining themselves. Join together with a group of friends to share the cost. For information on bouncing castles contact: Kieron at Jumpin'4 Joy on 9467 4545 or www.jumpin-4-joy.com.



Kids' Stuff - What's on for Summer

Tennis

Racket Head are holding tennis clinics over the summer break at Marina Cove.

25 - 29 July & 1 - 19 August. 5 x 2hrly lessons @\$1,320 per week for non members & \$1,200 per week for members. Suitable for 5 - 18 yrs. Call Andy Gamo 9040 9207.

Soccer

The HK Football Academy is running weekly soccer camps during the summer break. From 11 July - 19 August. Suitable for ages 5 - 15yrs.

Cost: \$1600 p.w full day camp Time: 9am - 3pm

Cost: \$1100 p.w half day camp Time: 9am - 12 noon

Venue: King George V School (2 Tin Kwong Road, Homantin, Kowloon)

For registration contact no: 2866 7931

Brazilian Soccer has started SOCATOTS at the Sai Kung Town Hall on Weds for children aged 2 & 4yrs old. Classes are 2 - 3pm and 3 - 4pm and will run until August. It is sponsored by LEGO and is a fun introduction to ball skills (nothing too serious). Parking available at the town hall. For more information contact Gemma Hocken at 2385 9033 or email ghoken@socatots.com/hongkong.

Swimming

Blue Sky Swimming Club is offering group and private lessons for children aged from 4 yrs. Instructor Bryan Ng who has many years experience teaches children at the Sai Kung Public Swimming Pool.

3 - 28 June (Tues & Fri) From 3 - 6.15pm (45min class).

5 - 28 July (Tues & Fri) From 9am to 6.15pm (45min class)

2 - 30 August (Tues & Fr) From 9am to 6.15pm (45min class)

Cost \$680 (8 lessons per mth - Instructor to student ratio 1:4 - 6)

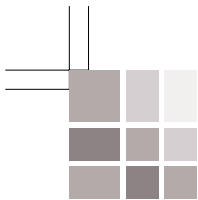
For details: 2792 4938 or www.bluesky-sc.com

Nicole Arnulphy, of Premier Sport and Leisure Ltd, offers private swimming lessons in your own pool, or at the Sai Kung swimming pool, for more information contact: **9278 2774** or coaching@premiersport.biz or www.premiersport.biz

Swimming Pools

If you can't get to the beach, then the pool is the next best thing. Hong Kong has many government-run swimming pools that generally operate in the same way:-





Kids' Stuff - What's on for Summer

- Open 6-days a week (Mon-Sun) and public holidays.
- Closed 1-day for cleaning. Open for evening sessions (Check venues for times)
- Opening times from 6.30am - 10pm
- Sessions break: 12 - 1pm & 6.30 - 7.30pm
- Cost: Adults \$17 weekdays Sat & Sun & holidays \$20
Children \$8 weekdays Sat & Sun & holidays \$9
bring in line with adults.



For more details on pools: www.lcsd.gov.hk/beach/en/swim-intro.php

Sai Kung Swimming Pool	Wai Man Road Sai Kung 2792 7285/2792 4149 Closed Wednesday	Main pool, Teaching pool, Fun pool/Leisure pool with slides and fountains, changing rooms & showers, canteen.
Ma On Shan Swimming Pool	33 On Chun Street, Ma On Shan 2641 0776/2634 0126 Closed Tuesday	Main pool, Training pool, Teaching pool (2), Fun pool/Leisure pool (3)
Tseung Kwan O Swimming Pool	Wan Lung Road, Tseung Kwan O 2706 7646/ 2706 6767 Closed Monday	Main pool, Training pool, Teaching pool (2), Diving pool, Fun pool/Leisure pool (3), Family changing room & showers

Chong Hing Water Sports Centre

West Sea Cofferdam, High Island Reservoir, Sai Kung 2792 6810
www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/ls_watersport-nt.php

Little known to most Sai Kung residents, is the Chong Hing Water Sports Centre situated at the West Sea Cofferdam of the High Island Reservoir. The man-made lagoon provides an excellent playground for children and adults to learn and enjoy a variety of water sports including sailing, windsurfing, sampan paddling, canoeing and boat rowing. Crafts can be hired by individuals or as a group. Training courses are also offered in kayaking, windsurfing and sailing. Courses are available for children over 8 yrs who are confident swimmers. The Centre has land-based activity such as archery, kite-flying, and ball games, making it a great day out for the family.



Kids' Stuff - What's on for Summer

Operates: 9am to 4.30pm, Fri to Wed (closed on Thursday)

Bookings: For individuals or family, enquiries can be made by telephone at short notice. For training courses, or groups you need to book. Your request will be subject to a ballot system.

The hiring of sailing, windsurfing, and kayaking are restricted to holders of relevant certificates.

Cost: Hire of crafts from \$30 p/h on weekends and public holidays, plus additional cost for training courses.

Amenities: Drink vending machines and Barbeque/ Picnic areas are provided; bring your own food. Lockers and toilets provided.

Access: Free transportation is provided by the Centre at scheduled times to take participants to and from Sai Kung Tang Siu King Sports Ground. Alternatively, take a taxi or bus no. 94 or mini-bus no. 9 from Sai Kung town to Pak Tam Chung and then walk 75mins along Man Yi Road. Or hire a kaito from Sai Kung pier to reach the Centre by sea. No private cars allowed.

Other facilities

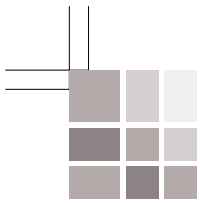
Jockey Club Wong Shek Water Sports Centre

Wong Shek Pier, Sai Kung, 23282311 (closed Tuesday).

Tai Mei Tuk Water Sports Centre

Main Dam, Plover Cover Reservoir,
Tai Mei Tuk, Tai Po, 2660 7910
(closed Wednesday).





Beaches in Sai Kung

A day out to one of Sai Kung's white sandy beaches could be comparable to being on a tropical beach holiday almost anywhere in the world.

Sai Kung and Clear Water Bay have six designated government beaches with lifeguard facilities during the summer months from April to Oct between 8am - 4:30pm daily. They all have shark prevention nets and floating pontoons. There are toilet, shower facilities, food and drink kiosks and BBQ picnic areas.

The three beaches in Sai Kung are:

Trio Beach :- 40 mins on foot starting along the path from HK Marina at Shelter Cove. This is a very clean, white sandy beach.

Hap Mun Bay Beach and Kiu Tsui Beach are both on the Island called Kiu Tsui Chau or Sharp Island. Hap Mun is the better of the two beaches.

All three beaches can be reached by sampan from the Pak Sha Wan public pier at Hebe Haven. Costs are \$10 - 30 per trip by different sampan operators. To ensure your return, check schedule, note the colour of flag on roof of the sampan and take drivers mobile number. Pay only on the way back.

The three beaches along Clear Water Bay Road are **Silverstrand**, and **Clear Water Bay 1st and 2nd beaches**.

These beaches are accessible by road. Bus no. 91 reaches **CWB Beaches** from Choi Hung. From Sai Kung take the 101 mini bus and change to no 91 at Tai Po Tsai Village.

Silverstrand Beach is not recommended (unless the government upgrades and modernizes). This is also where shark attacks and sightings took place many years before.

There are plenty of non-designated beaches further away and are normally visited by pleasure boats and junks. The beaches at **Snakes Bay** around the High Island area of **Leung Sheung Wan** are generally very clean.

Other beaches that are accessible by boat or by foot are **Pak Lap, Long Keng, Sai Wan, Tai Long Wan**. They are all on the Mirs Bay side of High Island Reservoir. These are long stretches of white sandy beaches with surf most of the year. They do not have lifeguards or nets.



Beaches in Sai Kung

Sai Wan and Tai Long Wan beaches have restaurants and cafes serving noodles, sandwiches, fried noodles or rice, ice cream and sweets. There is also a shop that sells beach toys.

Fishing is a popular past-time as evident by the photos in the local cafes. The whales and giant turtles that have been washed up on the shore show how rich the sea life is here.

Camping is also popular amongst locals, but watch out, young campers do not sleep early so find a quieter spot if you want a peaceful night.

Toilet facilities are not favorable, but the local villagers have set up shower rooms and toilets for \$5 - \$10 a use. Camper dormitories are also available for very low rates for basic facilities. Take lots of bug spray.

Check website www.lcsd.gov.hk for beach map locations.

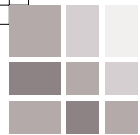
Boat or junk hire are plentiful around the Sai Kung seafront area for visiting these beaches. See Link Directory (issue 55) or www.yauleyseafood.com.hk for ideas on boats and costs.

Seafood Restaurants

Two very good seafood restaurants out towards High Island are **Yau Ley** (Tel: 2791 1822) and **Wing Lee** (Tel: 2792 4058) offering a wide selection of seafood. They both are located at Leung Shuen Wan, Sha Kiu fishing Village. Both have piers to land your small boat at or you can anchor further out and a "mosquito craft" taxi service will come pick you up.

Ala Carte Menu is available but the set lunch menu is the best value for a large group. Booking is not necessary as extra tables can always be set up if the restaurant is full. There are beaches on both sides of the restaurants, allowing children to play during your lunch visit.

Yau Ley has a very informative website for first time visitors. It is in both Chinese & English (click on the Chinese icons to change to English) and explains how to get to Leung Shuen Wan, how long it will take and costs. You can also read about other activities available and sites to visit like the Tin Hau Temple or the smallest school in HK that only has 10 students to this day!! www.yauleyseafood.com.hk.



SNAKES

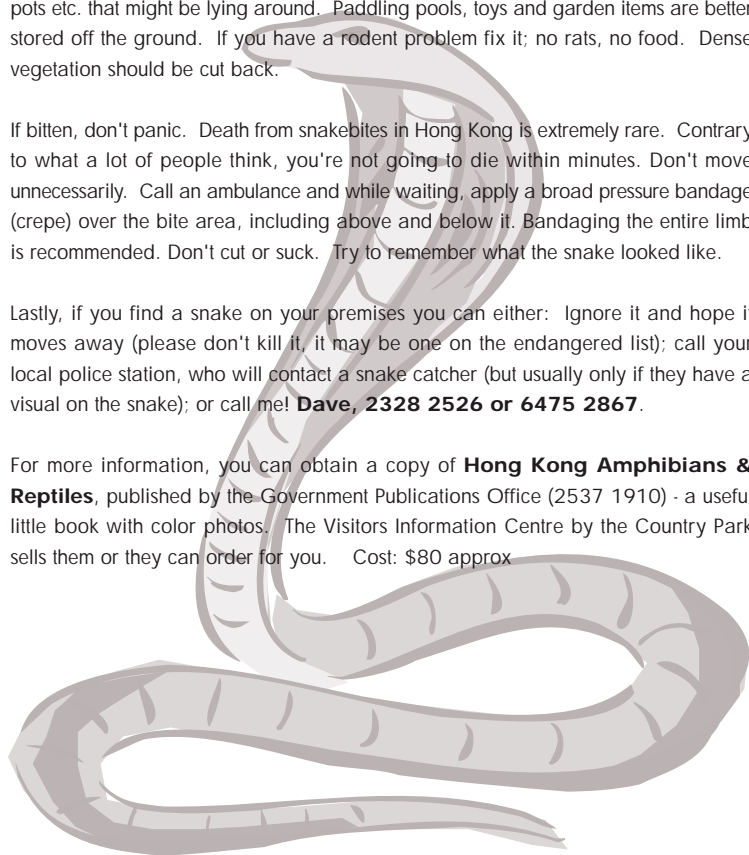
Summer is here and so are the snakes. If you live in an area that has a suitable habitat, chances are you're going to encounter one sooner or later. As a snake catcher, the most frequently asked questions are: What should I do if I see a snake? How can I deter them from entering my garden/house? What should I do if bitten?

First, there is no foolproof way to stop snakes from visiting your garden, but you can take some measures to dissuade them from staying. Snakes need food and shelter, remove these and you'll reduce the chances of an encounter. Remove any boards/empty pots etc. that might be lying around. Paddling pools, toys and garden items are better stored off the ground. If you have a rodent problem fix it; no rats, no food. Dense vegetation should be cut back.

If bitten, don't panic. Death from snakebites in Hong Kong is extremely rare. Contrary to what a lot of people think, you're not going to die within minutes. Don't move unnecessarily. Call an ambulance and while waiting, apply a broad pressure bandage (crepe) over the bite area, including above and below it. Bandaging the entire limb is recommended. Don't cut or suck. Try to remember what the snake looked like.

Lastly, if you find a snake on your premises you can either: Ignore it and hope it moves away (please don't kill it, it may be one on the endangered list); call your local police station, who will contact a snake catcher (but usually only if they have a visual on the snake); or call me! **Dave, 2328 2526 or 6475 2867.**

For more information, you can obtain a copy of **Hong Kong Amphibians & Reptiles**, published by the Government Publications Office (2537 1910) - a useful little book with color photos. The Visitors Information Centre by the Country Park sells them or they can order for you. Cost: \$80 approx



USEFUL NUMBERS



Emergency services

Ambulance	2792-1553
Fire Services	2792-1553
Police	2792-8600
Marine Police	2792-1050

Government Departments & Services

Sai Kung District Office	2163-9415
Lands Office	2791-7019
Drainage	2301-2637
Education Dept	2792-4079
Environmental Protection	2835-1018
Electrical Services	2197-0608
Highways Dept	2926-4222
ICAC	2927-4300
Marine	2792-1212
Food & Environmental Hygiene	2792-3680
Social Welfare	2322-9254
Transport Dept	2399-2532
Leisure and Cultural Department	2792-4149
Library	2792-4149

Utilities Fault/Emergency Numbers

CLP Sai Kung	2798-8333
Water Dept	2824-5000
Telephone	109

Hospitals

Mona Fong Clinic	Sai Kung	2792-2601
Prince of Wales	Shatin	2632-2211
United Christian Hospital	Tseung Kwan O	2379-4000
Tseung Kwan O Hospital	A & E 2208-0306 / Main	2208-0111

Emergency Help

Samaritans (24hrs)	2896-0000
SPCA (24hrs)	2711 1000

Information Service

Directory Enquiries	1081
Community Advice Bureau	2815-5444