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#### The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

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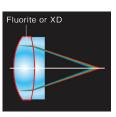
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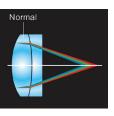
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# In memoriam

# - Dr NG Cho-nam, Vice-chairman of HKBWS

Reiterate the importance of Long Valley in a press conference, June 2000

We feel deep sorrow that Dr NG Cho-nam our Vice-chairman has left us, he was admitted to hospital for a few days after a stroke and passed away on 13th December, 2019.

Dr NG's passing is a cause of great sorrow. This is not just a great loss for the HKBWS, but a loss for Hong Kong's conservation community in general. The Society is thankful to him for his years of dedication and devoted contribution to Hong Kong conservation.

We express our sincere condolences to his family. We hope they can take some comfort from his achievements.

Dr NG Cho-nam studied abroad in the 1980s then came back to teaching at City University of Hong Kong. Encouraged and inspired by Mr LAM Chiu-ying to start bird watching, he grew to love birds and a desire to protect birds and their habitats led to a role in conservation.

Dr NG became a HKBWS Committee Member in 1994. From then on, he was responsible for pursuing HKBWS objectives with the aim of protecting birds and their habitats in Hong Kong and other parts of Asia. Dr NG served on the Society's Nature Conservation Committee from its set up in 1997. Starting in 2004 he became a Birdwatching Society Vice-chairman.



Bird Watching Competition, April 2012

**Bulletin September 1997** Conversation Committee was formed

### **BULLETIN NO. 149**

# SEPTEMBER 1993

### **Society News**

#### **Curry Lunch**

The Curry Lunch will be held on Sunday December 5th after the annual Hok Tau outing at the New Territories Depot, Fanling. Payment can be made on the day. A cash bar will be available. Send off the booking form at the end of the Bulletin to reserve your place.

#### Membership List

A full list of members and telephone numbers is included with this Bulletin. Any changes in address or telephone number should be notified

### Conservation Officer

The constitution was amended at the 1992 AGM to include, as one of the aims of the Society the promotion of "...the conservation of birds and their habitats in Hong Kong and Asia". The Committee has been searching for a suitable member to take up the task of promoting conservation, and Ng Cho-nam has agreed to be the Society's Conservation Officer. He is an active birdwatcher, and has many contacts both in Hong Kong and China. Ng Cho-nam has been co-opted onto the Committee, and should members have any comments or queries about conservation matters, please contact him on

The committee members are listed below. The next committee meeting will be in early October. If **Bulletin September 1993** any member wishes a matter raised, please contact one of the committee members.

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Liz Leven

Li Wai-ki

Chairman Secretary Mike Chalmers Recorder

**Bulletin Editor** (English) Librarian Hide Project

Janet Stott David Melville M M Chan

Geoff Carey Ng Cho-nam Treasurer WWF Liason **Bulletin Editor** (Chinese) Annual Report Conservation

lan Tyzzer



Protest the Lok Ma Chau spur line in Hung Hom railway terminal, June 2000



Site visit to Long Valley with BirdLife International experts, October 2000



Chat with Mr Yeung, our partner farmer in Long Valley, March 2006

In 1999, Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (KCR) proposed a Lok Ma Chau spur line viaduct through the middle of the freshwater wetland of Long Valley. Dr NG responded wholeheartedly to this threat to a unique habitat. Being also the Chairman of the Conservancy Association at that time, he encouraged more conservation NGOs to join the Long Valley campaign. More and more HK citizens and green groups were inspired to oppose the KCR project. Eventually, a Court ruled that KCR had not done the Environment Impact Assessment properly. The spur line route went underground instead, while above it, Long Valley became the site of a first Management Agreement project in 2005.



Harvest Chinese Arrowhead in the Harvesting Festival, February 2008

When the Conservancy Association and the Society started wetland management in Long Valley, Dr NG's planning and participation was whole-hearted. His field research suggestions and practical proposals encouraged the participation of local farmers and led to fruitful conservation and educational promotion results from the site.

Conservation management in Long Valley has become a model example of good environmental practice in Hong Kong, all due to Dr NG's contribution.





Records 2004, (Bird Watching Competition) Jan 31-Feb 01-2004

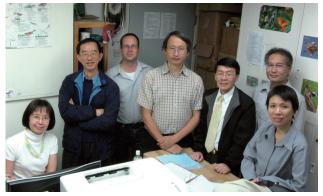
Beginning in 2012, Dr NG directed efforts to promote the HKBWS's Hong Kong Fishpond Conservation Scheme, contributing to the conservation of 600 hectares of fishponds in the Deep Bay area. Due to his unrelenting enthusiasm he was able to engage the participation of stakeholders such as fish pond operators and Tai Sang Wai villagers, as well as Government Departments to gain approval and funding. His strong influence has made this local fish pond project a continuous success up to the present.



The first NT Fishpond Festival, with our partner the fishpond operators, December 2014



Working with BirdLife International to set up the China Programme, June 2002



At previous HKBWS office in Tsimshatsui with other exco members, 31st March, 2008



60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reception, 2017



New Idea to cook the Grey Mullet, December 2016

Dr NG Cho-nam was deeply devoted to the ecological systems and the beautiful environments in the mainland. From early birdwatching trips on the mainland with experienced birders, he became especially fond of remoter parts of Yunnan and Guizhou Provinces. In 2005 he used his enthusiasm and influence to assist BirdLife International to set up the BirdLife International HKBWS China Programme, which had a great impact in promoting bird conservation in the mainland.

Dr NG's conservation dreams never ceased. In recent years, he regularly led university students to do research in the ecologically-rich mountains and rivers of Yunnan province.



55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, September 2012



Last printed bulletin stuffing, Jan 2019

Despite our deep sorrow we will continue Dr NG's pioneering work in the same spirit in Hong Kong and further afield.









#### SOCIETY NEWS AND PROJECTS



#### "Hong Kong Wildtracks" website

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS), together with The College of International Education (CIE) and the University Library of Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) announce the launching of the "Hong Kong Wildtracks" website. Being the first interactive audio map developed in Hong Kong, the "Hong Kong Wildtracks" website integrates geographic information, ecology and scientific research. It includes the data from Hong Kong Bird Atlas project and Hong Kong biodiversity sound map project. There are over 60,000 entries of local ecological data, including the sounds of wildlife and soundscapes, the bird distribution, the species diversity and abundance, providing a better understanding of the wildlife of Hong Kong to the education sector and the general public.

"Hong Kong Wildtracks" is developed to promote Hong Kong's biodiversity and support nature conservation. Although research and education on biodiversity usually relies on vision, senses other than sight are also useful in exploring and studying nature. The website adopts nature sounds along with information from bird research which makes it an interactive audio map incorporating an avifauna database.

Ms. Christina Chan, Assistant Manager (Education, Art development and Communications) stated: "The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society was set up for over 60 years by British birdwatchers. From that time, they recorded what kind of birds they saw, their distribution and abundance in HK, but most of the records are only in paper format and restricted to members. Today, the "Hong Kong Wildtracks" website converts this data into digital format and is open for public access. The theme of website adopts natural sounds as people often hear birds in nature but don't know which they are. Now the general public can identify and recognise birds through the website. The sound of each bird is unique. Some songbirds like warblers can only be identified by their singing melodies. Some birds will only sing during the breeding season and will call during the rest of the year, so birdwatchers or scientists will know when they are ready to breed."

The press conference to launch "Hong Kong Wildtracks" website was held at HKBU on 6 November 2019. Members are welcome to visit the website to know more about the data of Hong Kong Bird Atlas conducted in 1993-1996, 2001-2005 and 2016-2019, and also the nature sound database in Hong Kong.

#### "Hong Kong Wildtracks" website

https://digital.lib.hkbu.edu.hk/hkwildtracks/index.php



Dr. Karen Woo (Lecturer and Course Coordinator of Geography and Resources Management, CIE, HKBU), Mr. Kendall Crilly (University Librarian, HKBU), Ms. Rebekah Wong (Head of Digital and Multimedia Services Section, University Library, HKBU) and Ms. Christina Chan (Assistant Manager of Education, Art Development and Communications, HKBWS) officiated the opening ceremony of the "Hong Kong Wildtracks" website.







#### Farmland bird conservation and education scheme

Hong Kong Bird Watching Society is funded by a charity foundation to launch a "Farmland bird conservation and education scheme" for a period of two years.

Through various education programmes, this project aims to raise public understanding and awareness on farmland protection, farmland birds and their importance to sustainable development globally. It will also strengthen the linkage between Asian countries to formulate international conservation policies for the protection of endangered bird species as well as to implement education work on farmland and endangered bird protection.

This project will involve "Eco-art education" which integrates art and conservation. We hope that the message of nature conservation



can be promoted to the community and reach out to a different audience. The following programme will be organised during this project period including volunteer training, farmland experiential activities, a monitoring station for Yellow-breasted Bunting in Long Valley, an art exhibition, a short video, a board game and related promotional activities.

All activities will be launched soon. Announcements will be made on the HKBWS website and Facebook Page.

# Government policy shaking the Wetland Buffer Area and threatening breeding egrets and herons

The study on the Ecological Value of Fish Ponds in the Deep Bay Area in 1997 confirmed fishponds are of important ecological value. As fishponds have strong ecological connections with the Mai Po Marshes, we should conserve the continuous fishponds and wetlands in the Deep Bay area including those at Fung Lok Wai, Nam Sang Wai, Lut Chau, San Tin, Ma Tso Lung, etc., in order to maintain the ecological integrity of the Deep Bay wetland ecosystem. The report also mentioned the egretries in the Deep Bay area. The breeding egrets would head to the Deep Bay wetlands for foraging, but they

tended to avoid land with open storage uses (commonly called brownfields), residential areas and construction sites during their flight. So to protect these egrets, there needs to be adequate protection to their nesting location, foraging ground and flight path. Finally, the Government established the "Wetland Conservation Area" (WCA) and "Wetland Buffer Area" (WBA) in 1999.

In the past decade, the Government's policy direction is often being used by developers for profit. Consider the piece of land south of Nam Sang Wai near Ho Chau Road as an example. It is located within the WBA, but the

### SOCIETY NEWS AND PROJECTS

developer has been successful in applying for increases in development intensity and building height, so as to match with the Government's policy adjustments. Back in 2013, the developer already submitted residential development of 65 three-storey houses at this location to the Town Planning Board (TPB) and it was approved in 2014 (A/ YL-NSW/224). In the same year, the developer submitted another application (A/YL-NSW/233) to increase the building height up to 12 storeys, claiming to be in line with the Government's policy of increasing land and housing supply. TPB eventually approved the application with conditions for residential blocks up to 10 storeys high. Recently, the developer Sun Hung Kai (SHK) submitted yet another development application of eight 6- to 29-storey residential blocks at the same location (A/YL-NSW/274), claiming to provide "cross-generation co-living housing" to match with the Government's policy of "ageing-in-place". It seems that the Government's policy has relaxed the development restrictions in ecologically sensitive areas.

In addition, the consultancy report provided by the developer in 2014 stated about 70% of the flight lines from the Tung Shing Lei egretry heads towards the north,

which would in fact pass through the current application site and other nearby proposed residential developments (planning application no.: Y/YL-NSW/4, Y/YL-NSW/3, A/YL-NSW/242, A/YL-NSW/267 and A/YL-NSW/241). The approval of the current application would set an undesirable precedent for high-rise development with increased intensity in the area, which may form a barrier that obstructs breeding egrets to access the Deep Bay wetlands for foraging, and builds up the development pressure in the Nam Sang Wai area and the WBA. We consider that any developments within the Deep Bay area should strictly follow the planning regulations of the WCA and WBA, such that the integrity of the Deep Bay wetland ecosystem can be protected.

Gist of the planning application: https://bit.ly/2PevzYg



HKBWS's submission: https://bit.ly/2pb2rq1



Read more at "Deep Bay in a minute": https://bit.ly/34tltYe





#### Long Valley Autumn Bird Ringing program

The LV Autumn Bird Ringing program began in mid-October this year. It seems to be a fruitful season for buntings all around Hong Kong. Besides Yellow-breasted Bunting, sightings of Rustic Bunting and Yellow-browed Bunting have obviously increased. Asian countries are now closely communicating with each other on collection of bunting records. We urgently need your help to reporting observations of all bunting species, not limited to Long Valley but all over Hong Kong. If you are lucky to meet them in Asian countries, please do record them down and send us your records! Please download and fill the record sheet from the QR code below, and email to yvicky@hkbws.org.hk. We will collect and compile all the data with range countries. We will share with you once we have further results.

#### SOCIETY NEWS AND PROJECTS





# "Art Festival - Eating from Fishpond"

We cooperated with Art Together again to organise "Art Festival - Eating from Fishpond". Artists used "Eat" as their inspiration of creation. Their creation connected the city, village, people and things in fishponds. Participants could "taste" their creations. Crisp air of autumn in October was a good season for fish farmers to drain-down their fishponds. They sterilised the organic matter on bottom of fishpond by sunshine. Mr. Yiu Chun Wa, one of the artists of art festival, organised a ceramic art workshop. More than 20 participants joined the workshop. They collected pond mud from a dry fishpond and built a small kiln on the pond bund. Then their works were heated in the kiln. Some children and their parents made small ceramic discs and chopstick holders. Participants learned more about fishpond operation and the environment during the processs.



#### Mammal survey in Mai Po Nature Reserve

In order to understand more about mammal occurrence in Mai Po Nature Reserve, infrared cameras have been set up throughout the Reserve since 2015. Leopard Cat is one of the few species in the Reserve that can be identified individually from its body pattern. At least 18 individuals have been identified from the photos taken by our camera traps in the past 4 years. Two individuals have been recorded every year. Among those that have been photo-captured repeatedly, records show that an individual may cross the border fence and use both the Reserve and the boardwalk. So far, the most photocaptured Leopard Cat is the one that has used the northern boardwalk frequently for almost 2 years, suggesting individuals may exhibit area preference.



▲ A Leopard Cat photographed by infra-red camera

#### Using a "Rototiller" for vegetation management



▲ The rototiller is parked on the island

Shallow open water areas are one of the most important habitats in Mai Po Nature Reserve. Such areas provide both feeding and roosting grounds for migratory birds. Vegetation has to be controlled in the open water areas to ensure that it is not invaded by emergent aquatic plants.

Back-packed grass-cutting machines have been used to control grasses and sedges for many years, but it is very labour intensive. In view of this, we have purchased an agricultural rototiller and started a trial to use it to control grasses/ sedges at the edge of islands in gei wai #16/17 in mid October. To minimise the disturbance to water birds, the rototiller will be operated when the tide level is below 1.6m (at Tsim Bei Tsui). It will be parked on one island when not in use.

#### Major Habitat Restoration work – Summer 2019

The major habitat restoration work in gei wai #8b, #23b and Pond #24f/g has been successfully completed. It is hoped that the restoration work will provide more suitable habitat for waterbirds.

#### Hong Kong Bird News

Text: Richard Lewthwaite

#### July-September 2019

#### July

- An unrelentingly hot month in a hot, typhoon-free summer saw a record count of 245 **Collared Crows** at a preroost gathering at Mai Po on 14<sup>th</sup> (JAA), a large increase over the previous highest count of 173 at Mai Po on 9 July 2014, whilst earlier the same day a total of 541 **Greater Sand Plovers** were counted in front of the boardwalk (JAA), probably a record number for the time of year.
- Among other reports in the month were a **Brown Shrike** of the subspecies *lucionensis* at Sha Tau Kok on 6th (JAA), a new earliest autumn record by 19 days, single **Malayan Night Herons** at Tai Tong on 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and Ho Pui Reservoir on 20<sup>th</sup> (KPC, JC), four **Plain Flowerpeckers** at Tai Tong on 6<sup>th</sup> (KPC), a **Speckled Piculet** at Kowloon Reservoir on 8<sup>th</sup> (TL), a **Lesser Cuckoo** at Tai Po Kau on 13<sup>th</sup> (LS), a **Brown Fish Owl** at Cheung Chau on 18<sup>th</sup> (MDW), with a **Himalayan Swiftlet** there the next day (MDW), and 10 **Great Barbets** at Tai Po Kau Headland on 21<sup>st</sup> (RB).

#### **August**

- ▶ Rarest birds found in a hot and rainy month were a **Green-backed Flycatcher** at Ho Man Tin on 23<sup>rd</sup> (per KPC), a potential 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> record and the earliest in autumn by almost two months, and a **Collared Kingfisher** at Sha Tin on 28<sup>th</sup> (per SY), only the 5<sup>th</sup> for HK and the first since 2005.
- Three other species were reported on earliest autumn dates a **Barred Buttonquail** at Ping Yeung on 10<sup>th</sup> (JAA), two **Mandarin Ducks** at Mai Po on 12<sup>th</sup> (IT), and a **Yellow-breasted Bunting** at San Tin on 25<sup>th</sup> (EMSK), the earliest by 43, 45 and 3 days, respectively. It is unclear whether the Mandarin Ducks were regarded as being wild or of excaptive origins.
- Passage of landbirds was noted from mid-month, with first reports of the autumn for **Amur Paradise Flycatcher** at Ho Man Tin on 16<sup>th</sup> (KPC), **Forest Wagtail** at Lung Fu Shan on 17<sup>th</sup> (AH), **Eastern Crowned Warbler** at Tai Lam CP on 17<sup>th</sup> (JC), **Red Turtle Dove** at Tsim Bei Tsui on 21<sup>st</sup> (JAA), **Yellow-rumped Flycatcher** at Po Toi on 22<sup>nd</sup> (LS), **Oriental Reed Warbler** and **Stejneger's Stonechat** at San Tin on 24<sup>th</sup> (EMSK), **Arctic Warbler** at Ho Man Tin on 26<sup>th</sup> (KPC), **Black-naped Oriole** at Po Toi on 29<sup>th</sup> (M&PW) and **Asian Brown Flycatcher** at Ho Man Tin on 30<sup>th</sup> (KPC).
- Reports of waterbirds included up to six **Common Terns** at San Tin and Mai Po on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> (EMSK, MK), a **Long-billed Dowitcher** and two **Little Terns** at Mai Po on 11<sup>th</sup> (JAA) and two **Whimbrel** at Lam Tsuen on 24<sup>th</sup> (JAA), the latter an unusual locality for the species.
- Among rarer residents or summer visitors were three **Brown-breasted Flycatchers** at Tai Lam CP on 17<sup>th</sup> (JC), three **Bay Woodpeckers** at Tai Po Kau on 23<sup>rd</sup> (PH) and a **Malayan Night Heron** at Tai Tong on 25<sup>th</sup> (KPC), whilst a **Himalayan Swiftlet** was at Lam Tsuen on 3<sup>rd</sup> (JAA), continuing the recent run of late summer records, and a **Chestnut-winged Cuckoo** (rare after July) was at Mai Po on 11<sup>th</sup> (JAA).

#### **September**

A hot, sunny and dry month brought a wide variety of migrants to Hong Kong. Rarest birds were a **Red-footed Booby**, sadly with a damaged wing, at Ma Wan on 8<sup>th</sup> (per JC), a **Green-backed Flycatcher** at Fanling Golf Course on 12<sup>th</sup> (PJL), the second of the autumn, and a **Red-backed Shrike** at Long Valley on 28<sup>th</sup> (JAA), the 8th for Hong Kong. Both **Tiger Shrike** and **Siberian Blue Robin** were commoner than usual, with the former found at Ho Ma Tin and Fanling Golf Course on at least five dates between 4<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> (KPC, PJL), and the latter reported from at least six sites between 6<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> (JC, KPC, CM, DT).

#### Hong Kong Bird News

- Coverage was very good through the month, with San Tin, Tai Lam CP, Ho Man Tin, Po Toi and southwest Lantau all especially productive sites, leading to a series of new high counts and earliest/latest autumn dates being reported.
- Counts of 28 **Dollarbirds** at Tai Tong on 15<sup>th</sup> (KPC), four **Siberian Blue Robins** at Ho Man Tin on 19<sup>th</sup> (KPC), nine **Ashy Drongos** from Fan Lau to Yi O in southwest Lantau on 22<sup>nd</sup> (JAA) and 14 **Lesser Shortwings** at Tai Lam CP on 28<sup>th</sup> (JC) are all the highest on record.
- Earliest autumn dates were set for six species **Black-naped Monarch** at Ho Man Tin on 8<sup>th</sup> (KPC), **Eurasian Woodcock** and **Common Rosefinch** in southwest Lantau on 22<sup>nd</sup> (JAA), **Manchurian Bush Warbler** at Tai Lam CP on 25<sup>th</sup> (JC), **Red-backed Shrike** at Long Valley on 28<sup>th</sup> (JAA), and **Asian Stubtail** at Tai Lam CP on 30<sup>th</sup> (JC), the earliest by 9, 6, 5, 1, 2, and 2 days, respectively. In addition, a **White's Thrush** on The Peak on 30<sup>th</sup> (AH) equalled the previous earliest autumn date.
- One species was reported on a new latest autumn date **Indian Cuckoo** at Po Toi on 24<sup>th</sup> (PH), the latest by 45 days.
- Besides these, other landbird species reported for the first time in the autumn were as follows: **Dollarbird** at Po Toi on 3<sup>rd</sup> (PH), **Japanese Paradise Flycatcher** at Mai Po on 3<sup>rd</sup> (JAA), **Pale-legged Leaf Warbler** at Ho Man Tin on 4<sup>th</sup> (KPC), **Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher** at Fanling Golf Course on 12<sup>th</sup> (PJL), **Styan's Grasshopper Warbler** at Lok Ma Chau on 13<sup>th</sup> (PJL), **Dark-sided Flycatcher** at Tai Lam CP on 13<sup>th</sup> (JC), **Yellow-browed Warbler** on Hong Kong Island on 13<sup>th</sup> (MT), **Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler** at Mai Po on 14<sup>th</sup> (CM), **Bright-capped Cisticola** at Tsim Bei Tsui on 14<sup>th</sup> (MK), **Black-winged Cuckooshrike** at Tai Lam CP on 14<sup>th</sup> (JC), **Dusky Warbler** at Mai Po on 15<sup>th</sup> (RWL), **Blue-and-white Flycatcher** and **Red-throated Flycatcher** at Po Toi on 15<sup>th</sup> (AK), **Verditer Flycatcher** at Ho Man Tin on 16<sup>th</sup> (KPC), **Ashy Minivet** and **Blue Rock Thrush** at Po Toi on 17<sup>th</sup> (PH), **Grey-streaked Flycatcher** at Po Toi on 19<sup>th</sup> (JGH, RM), **Japanese Sparrowhawk**, **Chinese Sparrowhawk** and **Olive-backed Pipit** in southwest Lantau on 22<sup>nd</sup> (JAA), **Manchurian Reed Warbler** and **Daurian Starling** at San Tin on 22<sup>nd</sup> (EMSK), **Yellow-legged Buttonquail** at Ho Man Tin on 24<sup>th</sup> (KPC), **Eurasian Wryneck** and **Lanceolated Warbler** at Lok Ma Chau on 25<sup>th</sup> (PJL), **Fairy Pitta** and **Two-barred Warbler** at Po Toi on 26<sup>th</sup> (PH), **Red-breasted Flycatcher** on The Peak on 28<sup>th</sup> (AH), **Little Bunting** at San Tin on 29<sup>th</sup> (EMSK), and **Sakhalin Leaf Warbler** at Nam Sang Wai on 30<sup>th</sup> (PJL).
- Among very few reports of waterbirds and seabirds were 50 **Common Terns** and 30 **Whiskered Terns** at San Tin on 3<sup>rd</sup> (JGH), five **Aleutian**, 75 **Black-naped** and 30 **Bridled Terns** from the Po Toi ferry on 3<sup>rd</sup> (PH), small numbers of **Eurasian Teal** and **Garganey** at San Tin on 14<sup>th</sup> (EMSK), a **Long-billed Dowitcher** at Mai Po on 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> (RWL, DAD), and a **Baillon's Crake** at Long Valley on 28<sup>th</sup> (JAA).

#### List of observers & initials 2019

Initials of observers whose reports/messages/photographs helped in preparation of HK Bird News for the period are as follows:

John Allcock (JAA), Ruy Barretto (RB), John Chow (KPC), John Clough (JC), David Diskin (DAD), Andrew Hardacre (AH), Peter Ho (PH), John Holmes (JGH), Mike Kilburn (EMSK), Ashkat Khirwal (AK), Matthew Kwan (MK), Paul Leader (PJL), Richard Lewthwaite (RWL), Carrie Ma (CM), Roger Muscroft (RM), Leo Sit (LS), Dylan Thomas (DT), Ivan Tse (IT), Mike Turnbull (MT), Martin Williams (MDW), Sherman Yeung (SY).

Weather notes from HK Observatory website: https://www.hko.gov.hk

### BIRD WATCHING OUTINGS | January to March 2020 |

OUTINGS					
Date	Duration	Site, Meeting Time & Place	Fee(HK\$) & Registration	Difficulties (1<2<3)	Target species
4/1/2020 (Sat)	0800 - 1300	Shing Mun (Crested Bulbul Club Activity) (08:00 Kiosk at Pineapple Dam, Shing Mun Reservoir)	Free Registration NOT required	**	Forest birds
12/1/2020 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Shek Kong (08:00 Exit C, Kam Sheung Road West Rail Station)	Member: free	**	Forest & farmland birds
19/1/2020 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Lui Kung Tin (08:00 Entrance to Lui Kung Tin (#72 Green mini bus terminus))	(Aged <18yrs: \$10) Registration NOT required	**	Farmland & water birds
1/2/2020 (Sat)	0800 - 1200	Tai Po Kau (08:00 Tai Po Kau Carpark)	Free Registration NOT required	***	Forest birds
9/2/2020 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Nam Chung and Luk Keng (08:00 Pavilion at junction of Nam Chung Rd & Luk Keng Rd)	Member: free	**	Farmland & water birds
16/2/2020 (Sun)	0800 - 1300	Po Toi Island (08:00 Aberdeen Pier - Public Ferry Pier to Po Toi Island) Note: The group will take the 08:15 ferry to Poi To & returning time is open. Participants have to take care of their own ferry tickets.	Non-member: \$30 (Aged <18yrs: \$10) Registration NOT required	**	Migrants
22/2/2020 (Sat)	0800 - 1600	Mai Po Nature Reserve (12yrs old & above only) (08:00 Kowloon Tong MTR Station (Kent Road Exit F), OR 09:00 Mai Po Carpark, ends 15:00 Mai Po, 16:00 Kowloon Tong)	Member meeting at Mai Po: \$40 Kln Tong: \$80 Non-member: \$200 Registration Required	**	Waterbirds
29/2/2020 (Sun)	TBC	Wild Card Day (Details will be announced online on Feb 27 on HKBWS Forum)	Member: free Non-member: \$30 (Aged <18yrs: \$10) Registration NOT required	TBC	TBC
7/3/2020 (Sat)	0900 - 1300	Lui Kung Tin (Crested Bulbul Club Activity) (09:00 Entrance to Lui Kung Tin (#72 Green mini bus terminus))  Free Registration NC		**	Forest birds
14/3/2020 (Sat)	0800 - 1600	Mai Po Nature Reserve (12yrs old & above only) (08:00 Kowloon Tong MTR Station (Kent Road Exit F), OR 09:00 Mai Po Carpark, ends 15:00 Mai Po, 16:00 Kowloon Tong)	Member meeting at Mai Po: \$40 Kln Tong: \$80 Non-member: \$200 <b>Registration Required</b>	<del>ል</del> ል	Waterbirds
22/3/2020 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Tai Po Kau (08:00 Tai Po Kau Carpark)		**	Forest birds
29/3/2020 (Sun)	0800 - 1300	Po Toi Island (08:00 Aberdeen Pier - Public Ferry Pier to Po Toi Island) Note: The group will take the 08:15 ferry to Poi To & returning time is open. Participants have to take care of their own ferry tickets.	Member: free Non-member: \$30 (Aged <18yrs: \$10) Registration NOT required	<del>ል</del> ል	Migrants

# THE HONG KONG BIRD WATCHING SOCIETY OUTING BOOKING SLIP

I would like to register the following HKBWS outings:

\*\* HKBWS will re-confirm with contact person of their attendance 2 weeks before the outing by email or by phone. Once confirmed, no refund will be made no matter they can attend the outing or not. Refund will be made only if the outing is cancelled officially due to inclement weather or special reason.

#### **Information of Participant(s)**

		Outing (First one will be considered contact person) Membership Mobile Phone Outing Fee	Momborohin			Required information for Mai Po Outing only	
Date	Outing		Outing Fee*	Meeting Point (KIn Tong/MP)	Age Group (√where appropriate)		
							☐ 12 yrs & above☐ Below 12 yrs
							☐ 12 yrs & above ☐ Below 12 yrs
							☐ 12 yrs & above ☐ Below 12 yrs
							☐ 12 yrs & above ☐ Below 12 yrs
							☐ 12 yrs & above ☐ Below 12 yrs
							☐ 12 yrs & above ☐ Below 12 yrs

Enclosed please find a Cheque of	f HK\$ Co	ontact person's email :	
(Payable to The Hong Kong Bird	d Watching Society)		
Applicant:	Date :	Signature :	
Discours of the order of the control of		0 V 0 - B - 1-11	17

Please send this slip together with a crossed cheque to: 7C, V Ga Building, 532 Castle Peak Road, Lai Chi Kok, Kowloon.

#### Notes for Mai Po Outing:

- Participants below age of 12 yrs will not be accepted for Mai Po Outing visiting floating boardwalks.
- According to the requirement of the Hong Kong Police and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, participants entering Mai Po should provide their full name and Hong Kong ID Number (passport number for oversea visitors) that day in order to access to the Frontier Closed Area and Mai Po Marshes.

Mai Po Outing Fee	Meeting Point at Mai Po	Meeting Point at Kowloon Tong	
Member	HK\$ 40-	HK\$ 80-	
Student Member	HK\$ 20-	HK\$ 40-	
Non-Member	HK\$	200-	

#### Other Notes:

- HKBWS members have a high priority to join four weeks before the activity. Thereafter, registration will be made on first come first serve basis.
- Any changes of the activities will be announced on our Discussion Forum: http://www.hkbws.org.hk/BBS
- Arrangement during bad weather: When Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No.3 or above or Rainstorm Warnings Amber,
  Red or Black are hoisted by the Hong Kong Observatory at 7:00am on the event day, the activity will be cancelled. If
  Thunderstorm Warning is announced during the activity, Team Leader will decide whether the activity should be continued
  or cancelled. You can contact the outing leader at 9457 3196 during the event day if you have any query about the
  weather.

#### Disclaimer

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society ("the HKBWS") assumes no responsibility, liability or obligations, whether financial or otherwise, for losses, injuries, death, damages, whether to the person or property, arising or occurring in the course or as a result from the activities, outings or training courses ("the Activities") organized by the HKBWS. Persons who participate in the Activities must ensure that they are medically fit to do so. If in doubt, they should consult qualified medical practitioners before participating. Participants are recommended to purchase relevant insurance for their own protection. By participating in the Activities, the participants impliedly agree that they will not hold the HKBWS, its Executive Committee members, other committee members, its officers, employees, volunteers, agents or subcontractors responsible or liable for any losses, injuries, death damages arising or occurring in the course or as a result from the Activities.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Activity payment are processed individually. Please use separate cheques for different outings.

