

Watch out there's a thief about!

In the modern era of crime, there is increasing focus on internet fraud and identity theft, with sophisticated computer programmes and encryption to protect internet users from on-line crime. In fact, the focus has become so heavily weighted towards internet crime that we are in danger of forgetting another, lo-tech, menace - the simple purse-snatchers of yester-year. These professional criminals continue to ply their trade on the streets and in the shops, silently relieving us of our possessions.



As in other "professions", pickpockets and purse snatchers have had to move with the times and update their skills to continue to profit from their nefarious activities. They have found new success in the gyms and clubs of Hong Kong; and what better place to strike, than a private club or gym, or an up market hotel or restaurant, where we feel reasonably relaxed about our personal security?

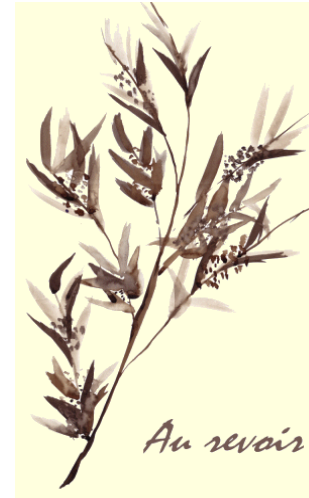
However, they don't just take our wallets and our purses – that would be too obvious – the clever ones remove just one or two credit cards and any personal information, such as a business card, returning the wallet to its original position. The victim may not be aware for some time that anything is missing; enough time, in fact, for a thief to call the victim and pose as a bank official, solicit the PIN number(s) for the stolen card(s) and dash off to the nearest ATM machine to withdraw as much cash as the machine will allow – not to mention have a fun time using the credit card to make high-end purchases that can then be sold on, or "fenced".

There are, however, a few things we can do to protect our property and thwart these thieves. The following guidelines will help:

- Do not leave your belongings unattended (seems obvious, but how many unattended bags have you seen on chairs at hotel buffets, and how many unattended lockers at gyms sit there with keys a-dangling?)
- Never keep your PIN numbers near your cards.
- Report any loss of cards immediately.
- Never give out your PIN number to anyone – bank staff members do not need this information to do their jobs.

We hope this is useful to you and that you will not make the mistake of thinking, "It won't happen to me" – far better to think, "I won't let it happen to me" and take the necessary preventive measures.

Farewell, Au revoir and A bientôt



Campus News would like to bid a fond farewell to two long-standing members of our community, Professor David Johns and Mrs. Jennifer Johns. As David has worked tirelessly in the field of sports science to promote the value of sports education and physical fitness to the Hong Kong community, Jennifer has worked quietly to help others, both inside the campus, through the Chinese University Women's Organization and the Campus Community News and off-campus through her voluntary work within the Chinese community.

As they retire to beautiful Canada, we would like to thank them for all they have given us, and wish them both well for the future.

The directory – companies recommended by our readers

If you know of a company providing excellent service, hard-to-find goods, great prices or a combination of the three, please share with our other readers. To start the ball rolling, Campus News has two recommendations.

1. **The Best Transportation and Service Co. Call Mark S. Chan on 9131 7906.** This removal company is flexible and well priced, and offers a reliable, friendly and helpful service.
2. **Wali Well Company. Mr. Mustafa. Tel: 2524 2786 / 9809 3266 or e-mail waliwell@hotmail.com** This company specialises in quality carpets and rugs from Afghanistan, Caucasia, Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey at competitive prices. They are also happy to bring their products to your home to view at your convenience.

Now it's your turn. Just send your recommendations to CCN (address on the back last page) including your contact details for verification, though not necessarily for publication. **Please note** – these must be genuine recommendations, not company ads.



An Appreciation Of What Makes A Good Wine.

A couple of weeks ago, I was fortunate enough to win a free dinner for four at an exclusive restaurant. Apart from the marvellous food, we were treated to expensive Champagne and two great red and white wines – or, at least, that's what my more knowledgeable guests told me.

My knowledge of the subject would fit neatly on the bottom of the Champagne cork with room to spare. My interest was therefore piqued when a friend told me about the International Wine Centre (IWC) in Central.

The IWC offers a selection of courses, from beginners to advanced learners and there are places available for the next one, starting in June - an introductory wine course, **"Wine Appreciation 1"**, in 4 sessions. All you need (apart from the course fee) is a passion for wine. The course will examine the origins of the main tastes and styles in wine and how we can recognize them. At the end of the course, in addition to a thorough grounding in the subject, students will receive a certificate and those who wish to take it further can move on to, "Wine Appreciation II".

Sessions will cover the Aroma and taste elements in wine, Wine Quality, Tasting of international red and white varieties and tasting of international sparkling wine and Champagne. If you are interested, contact information is listed below. The course will also be repeated in August.

The June/July course will run on

**Mondays, from 6.30pm-8.00pm – June 5, 12,
26 and July 3rd, 2006**

**Course fee HK\$2,500 (includes course notes,
tuition and 8 wines to taste per session)**

Venue: 20C, Right Emperor Commercial Building
122-126 Wellington Street,
Central

Enquiries – e-mail - admin@iwinecentre.com

Telephone - 2549 0181 Fax - 2549 0081

Website: <http://www.iwinecentre.com>



International Wine Centre



Children's Hikes (1) by Suki Mito (Recommended for energetic 4 year olds and up) Luk Keng and Nam Chung

Although the weather is now hot, a walk, or even better, a hike, is always good for the whole family. There are many easy walks under a 5 km distance in the New Territories. None of them are steep or cross difficult terrain but you will need to take along hats, sunscreen, plenty of water and a picnic to keep young walkers interested and full of pep. Don't forget a magnifying glass, a book of HK birds and something to collect treasure in. During the summer, almost the best place to follow a forest track is either the Red walk (3kms), or the Blue Walk (4.5 kms) in Tai Po Kau, because it is shaded, and has lots of water and streams. But this time I would like to suggest another walk slightly farther out, which takes in some local village interest and the fish ponds of Luk Keng and Nam Chung.

Luk Keng and Nam Chung are off the Sha Tau Kok road. Approach either from the Tolo Highway and turn off at the Fanling and Sha Tau Kok exit, or travel the scenic route via Bride's Pool. The public car park at Luk Keng is located near an outside village restaurant on a sharp bend in the road, and holds about 20 car parking spaces.

Enter the village of Luk Keng at the point of the village eatery and drinks outlets and walk through the village. Don't be put off by the sometimes fierce looking village dogs. In my experience, even the toughest dogs dissolve away as you approach, but if in doubt pick up a nearby stick for comfort rather than for use, and head your young team through the village. The village itself is interesting, both the houses and alleyways, as well as the sight of food drying. Look out for the armchair shaped alter to the Earth God. At the end of the village road, you will come to a T-junction. Take the right turn up a concrete path, which passes a public toilet on your right, and follow the road uphill, where ruined village cottages are visible through the brush on either side of the path.

Towards the top of the short hill, you will see a small concrete path which winds up into the Pat Sing Leng hills. It is about one hour's steady but easy climb to the Sir Edward Youde Memorial Pavilion. with good views of the Sha Tau Kok Sea. There is plenty of interest on either side of the path. Looking right is the village of Nam Chung and the fish ponds. To the left are the larger, better patronized fish ponds of Luk Keng with their brightly coloured umbrellas up to signal that they are open for business. Towards the foothills are some grazing cows.

Be aware of the signpost, signalling a right turn off the path to the Sir Edward Youde Pavilion. If you miss it, you may head up towards Bride's Pool, which is a much longer walk. The pavilion is an excellent place for a picnic: beautiful views after a none too strenuous climb.

After visiting the Pavilion, there are a few alternative routes down. The best for young children is back the way you came and I recommend this for inexperienced walkers or young children. (There are other tracks continuing past the Pavilion but don't be tempted by apparent short cuts, as they fizzle out, and I have had to bushwhack my way back to a path before which wasn't really the stuff of small child hikes).

If morale is high and your children are game to do *a lot* more walking, most of it downhill, and taking in Nam Chung and its mangroves, try following signs for the last gentle part of the Wilson Trail. The track will start heading down and take you over a bridge to a tarmac road which you will follow all the way down to Nam Chung. Be warned. This involves a lot more walking and to my knowledge, is not on the minibus route.

Once back on the main road near Nam Chung, cross over to the tree lined shrine to Tin Hau and Kwannon, overlooking a large heron colony and small estuary where many egrets are fishing in the shallows. It is a perfect place for a rest. Look out for the bright blue feathers of the kingfishers.

Back another 1.2 kms along the road for an uninspiring finish to the car park at Luk Keng. If travelling with small children, either pick up a taxi from the Nam Chung shrine area, or get someone to go ahead and bring the car up to the shrine area.

Timing for the walk will depend very much upon your hiking members, but I would allow about 3 hours for the Red route, going at a very leisurely pace, and about 3.5 hours for more energetic walkers on the Blue route. I hope you enjoy it!



Entertainment and education at the



I recently joined the YWCA of Hong Kong, having been a member of the TST YMCA for many years, which also offers great adult and children's courses but, due to most of their activities now being in Chinese, is of less value to English speakers. So, I've transferred my allegiance to the English speaking members department of the YWCA, at 3/F, 1, McDonald Road, Hong Kong Island. To get there, I just hop on the number 1A minibus from the Star Ferry pier – the journey takes about 5 minutes and drops off right outside the building.

They run a vibrant and varied programme, including courses and seminars on health and fitness, music, art and crafts, cooking, language skills, Chinese culture and customs, business and finance, leisure activities and literature and a special programme to help new arrivals. Their children's programme is fully comprehensive and includes all the sports, games, arts and other activities a child could need or want. Finally, domestic helpers can take part in courses on different types of cooking, child-care, household management and personal development.

As well as their activities and courses, the YWCA also offers baby-equipment hire at \$50 a week – great if you have visitors with young children – which includes strollers, portable cots, car seats, high chairs and playpens.

Finally, in keeping with its ethos of service to the community, the YWCA's 6th floor café, the Garden View Lounge, serving light refreshments and lunches, offers training in catering services and food preparation for young people with mild developmental disabilities, from the Hong Chi Pinehill Vocational Training Centre,. The café offers attentive and professional service, good food at a reasonable price and a very pleasant atmosphere. For more information, contact the YWCA on 3476 1340 or visit <http://esmd.ywca.org.hk>

Arts Calendar by Charlotte Weiss

As you can see from the following incomplete list, June is another culture-filled month in Hong Kong. Highlights include the Hong Kong Dance Festival 2006 (www.hkdanceall.org) which features many dance performances from around the world and a special Hong Kong presentation, *Dance Trinity: Hong Kong Ballet (Turandot)*, *City Contemporary Dance Co. (Rainy Days & Mondays)* and *Hong Kong Dance Company (Red Poppies)* at Kwai Tsing Theatre on 8 June with tickets available from Urbtix.



June brings the annual *Faust Festival* too, which is presented by the Faust International Youth Theatre and has more than 600 local child performers and other international actors in its many productions. Most of the plays take place at the Hong Kong Arts Centre in Wan Chai so check their website www.hkac.org.hk (under "Performing Arts/Programme Diary") for details or get tickets at HK Ticketing 31-288-288 or www.hkticketing.com. Finally here are a few more events from Le French May (www.frenchmay.com) which continues into June!

•4 June
Le Roi David (King David), The Hong Kong Bach Choir at City Hall Concert Hall

•19-21 June
French Colours: A touring festival of French Chamber music, 19-20 June, at the APA Drama Theatre and the 21st at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (tickets from HK Ticketing Outlets including Tom Lee Music)

NOTE: the 21st of June, summer solstice, is "La Fete de la Musique" (Music Party) in France and other countries and cities, including Hong Kong. Look out for details of free music happenings all over town that day.

Also don't miss a major exhibition, *Engraving the World: The Chalcography of the Louvre Museum*, at the University of Hong Kong's Museum and Art Gallery. This features many works engraved on copper plates from as early as the 17th century and runs from 15 June to 17 July.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS:

(tickets available for the following LCSD events at Urbtix outlets or by advance reservation at 2734-9009 unless otherwise noted)

IN SHATIN:

•2 June

In Suspension by Stephen Mottram's *Animata (UK)* (a very special puppet show) at Cultural Activities Hall

•2 June
Wen Wai plays Sibelius, Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra, at Town Hall

•23-24 June
Asian People's Theatre Festival Society: Embracing Life Trilogy, at Cultural Activities Hall (in Cantonese)

AT OTHER VENUES:

•2-3 June
Symphonic Dances, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall
(NOTE: this is an exciting program with dancers as well as an oboe concerto that features Diana Doherty playing the oboe and dancing through the orchestra –sound intriguing?)

•7 June
Jazz Up: Eugene Pao Special Quintet (Hong Kong's own celebrated jazz guitarist with a dynamo quintet), at City Hall Concert Hall

•8 June
Happy Together, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra and Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra in a joint concert at Cultural Centre Concert Hall



•9-11 June
Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg, in 2 different programs: *Russian Hamlet (9-10)* and *Don Juan & Moliere (11)* at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre

•14 June
Appassionata: A Gala Evening with Pinchas Zukerman, Hong Kong Sinfonietta at Cultural Centre Concert Hall
(NOTE: an attractive Mozart and Brahms programme featuring this world-renowned violinist and Amanda Forsyth, cellist)

•16-17 June
Mozart in the City: The Last Three Symphonies, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at City Hall Concert Hall

•18 June
Cinema Amore Mio! – a night of Italian film music, City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong, at APA Concert Hall (HK Ticketing 31-288-288 or www.hkticketing.com)

•20 June

Anne-Sophie Mutter: Violin Recital with Lambert Orkis, Piano, at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

(NOTE: yet another chance to hear an all-Mozart programme by this celebrated violinist)

•23-24 June

Simply Classic: Edo de Waart Meets Li Chuanyun, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

•23-25 June

Kids Gallery Co. Ltd. presents "The Wizard of Oz", at Cultural Centre Studio Theatre (in English)

•25 June

Drama Masters' Master Pieces II, Beethoven meets Puccini, Hong Kong Chorus Society at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

•2 July

Encore Series: Krystian Zimerman, Piano Recital, at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (NOTE: book in advance for this one, another world-class performer)

Zimerman



For Father's Day

Personal glimpse - An appreciation of fathers



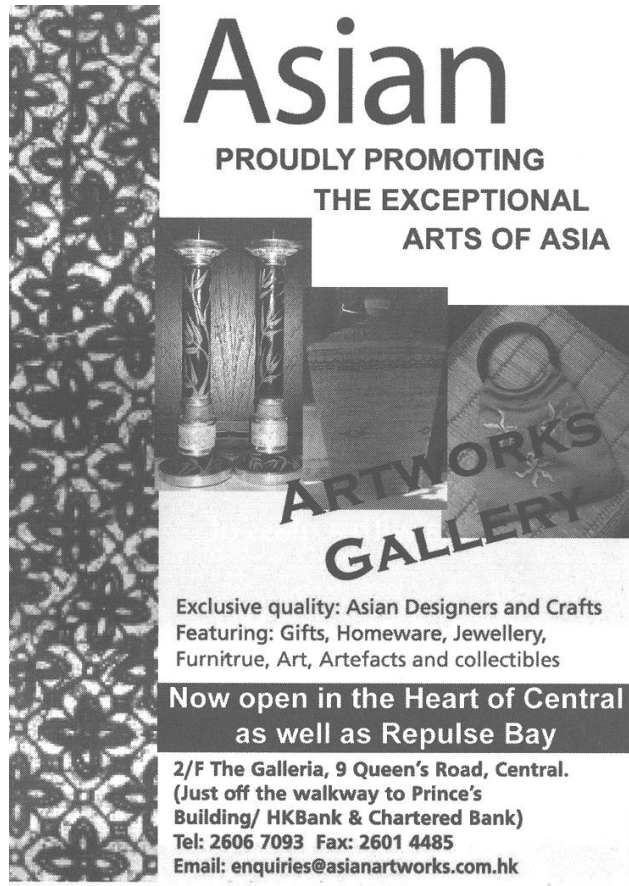
Father's are a mystery. Take mine, for example – an unambitious man, he had fought a war and killed other men, been through horrors I cannot ever begin to imagine and returned home to work in a hot, filthy foundry to provide for his family. At home, he was the kind, quiet dad who sat in his chair, liked his cricket and devoted his free time to keeping his wife and kids happy. If not invisible, he was certainly very often overlooked. He seemed to want nothing more – with the exception of a HK\$5 flutter on the horses and a pint of beer once a week. This was the man I knew, the rock I would cling to and, of course, abuse soundly during my teenage years.

But as I grew into adulthood, I saw glimpses of the other man, the one his friends saw – the life and soul of the group, the Cheeky Charlie who would share a dirty joke with his mates (but never at home). Still, it was not until he passed away that I became truly aware of the man I never knew. He did not have a "secret life" as such – no soap-opera revelations here - just a different one – a life where he was his own man, where he was led more by his own personality than the dictates of family and responsibility. I met friends he had rarely mentioned; and there were so many of them – far more than his at-home persona would suggest. They all talked of a wise-cracking, fun-loving, gregarious man who brought laughter into a room and who only ever got serious when the talk turned to war (which, we all knew he hated).

I loved the father I knew, but wish I had known him better, this other man who hid in plain sight – he was an open book but I had only read half the story. But he was always just my dad, always there, always the rock. It doesn't matter how old you are, it is never too late to get to know your father. Of course, he may prefer to keep a part of himself back – we all have our private selves, but he may have new treasures to share. Father's day is a day to show our appreciation of the men who are our first guides in life. It can also be a day to begin to see them as more than just dads.

We celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, June 18th.

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CCN Team: Editor: Gillian Kew; Team: Stella Hazlett; Narissa Ngan; Frances Storey and Charlotte Weiss. Please send letters, articles and event information, (with contact details, for verification purposes only) **by e-mail** to the Editor, at gilliankew@yahoo.com or **by mail** to Frances Storey, Residence 14, Flat 12A, CUHK, Shatin.



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