

# Campus Community News



Nov 2008

## Editorial

The Campus Community News (CCN) has been serving the campus community, free and unfettered for over twenty years. As campus stalwarts will acknowledge, it is a simple publication with simple goals – to provide useful information, stimulating argument and interesting articles and to offer a link between the campus residents and the various administrative departments of the university. The balance between these goals varies over time.

Since the summer, our function as a conduit has become much more manifest as campus residents have used this publication to air their views about the loss of the Mobile Post Office and the changes at the East Gate. This month, we add residents' concerns about campus security and feature an article about the Organic Farm at United College.

As the editor of CCN, I would like to thank all those who have taken the time to write and would encourage others to do so. We have received much positive feedback from the departments involved. To affect positive change in any community it is necessary, first, to acknowledge that change is needed. We hope that you will continue to use CCN for that purpose in addition to enjoying our regular features and special articles. We also invite any of you to send in articles, letters, reviews and anything you feel may interest and benefit our community.

### The Editor

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## Letters to the Editor

*Dear Editor,*

Thanks for the article in CCN about the East Gate problem. I thought I would add a few more comments, as I hope this issue will continue to be pushed as far as necessary to achieve a satisfactory conclusion. Mr Lim's response so far is entirely unsatisfactory. The new exit is not "a few meters north." From the campus map published by the university, the total diversion is well over 500m – that is, the extra distance driven is nearly 600m compared to the previous situation. This has several consequences:

Firstly, the financial cost to individuals, whether driving themselves or coming by taxi. For each person driving, the additional 500m means an extra return trip of 1km. One trip per week day is about 200km per year. With today's petrol prices, that's of the order of HK\$400. To have given us all this extra cost without consultation is unacceptable.

Secondly, the cost to the environment: If 500 entry tickets are given at the East Gate each day, then even if we don't include those who don't need entry tickets (i.e., A label holders), that's 1000 trips each day (500 in, 500 out). That's 500km extra car-use EVERY DAY. Add in those with A labels, and we could be looking at 1000km of extra driving EVERY DAY or **36,5000km** per year. That is a HUGE amount of utterly unnecessary pollution. This is also unacceptable.

Thirdly, the cost to safety on campus: Mr Lim seems to think that safety is the prime concern. Has he considered the knock-on effect, that it is now a longer distance from the Staff Residences to Shatin via the East Gate than via the Chung Chi exit? Before the change, it was a few hundred metres shorter overall to leave campus via the East Gate. It is now a few hundred metres shorter to drive along the campus circuit road and leave through Chung Chi. I have already started using that route rather than the longer, windier, absurd new East Gate route. And many drivers wanting the shortest route will do the same – which suggests more traffic through Chung Chi, which means a higher risk of accidents in view of the many pedestrians there.

Again, Mr Lim's decision to go ahead with his road lengthening plan is unacceptable. He needs urgently to rethink, and also to consider that in future he should consult with those his decisions might affect.

It is unfortunate that he stated his position so categorically, as there were at least two alternative solutions. Firstly, if he is concerned about the position of the ticket booth, then there is no reason that the current set-up could not be a temporary measure while the area at the old East Gate is redesigned to position a ticket booth in the middle of the entry road. Secondly, if he is really concerned about the safety of guards having to leave their booth, perhaps he should have considered an automated system such as we have at the Prince of Wales hospital. Certainly the amount of money wasted with the new road system would have more than paid for three automated ticket machines.

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## Letters to the Editor (cont.)

There are also another couple of points which Mr Lim needs to clarify, about pedestrian / cycle access: Is the intention to keep the old East Gate open for pedestrians and bikes? If not, why on earth not? The extra > 500m walk / cycle would be even more unpleasantly significant for walkers and cyclists. And if not, then has he considered the impact of cyclists choosing instead to go through the train station route, therefore increasing congestion and risk to pedestrians there?

On the other hand, if the old gate is to be kept open for pedestrian / cycle access (as it still is), then will the route be opened properly? i.e., not having to cycle on a footpath, up and down kerbs? But most importantly, how are pedestrians meant to cross the road at the bottom, now that the traffic lights are no longer operational? It's now a death-trap for pedestrians. Yet again, the law of unintended consequences demonstrates that Mr Lim's unilateral plan has far more unsatisfactory and hazardous consequences than he ever thought to think through beforehand.

*Giles Cattermole*

### **Dear Editor,**

I thank CCN for bringing up this matter [of the east Gate]. Having read the matters raised in the October issue of CCN, here are my comments. The purpose of relocating the gate: Safety reasons (Guard Booth). I have used the East Gate for 10 years and have never seen any damage to the guard booth by a vehicle. In fact, the new position of the booth, direct in line with incoming and outgoing traffic, makes it unsafe for the guards.

Isn't it ironic that safety reasons are brought up when the new route contains two blind corners, and the exit to the Science Park road is directly into oncoming traffic, which is extremely dangerous? With massive construction going on for the new Colleges, heavy trucks use the route day and night, making it even more dangerous. The new route is also more than half a kilometre longer than the previous one. Shouldn't the University have consulted the Civil Engineering Department about relocating the traffic lights \*before\* they moved the gate? And how much has all this cost?

*George Braine*

### **Dear Editor,**

I would like to echo the letter from Mrs. R. Haines on the last issue regarding the "East Gate" and elaborate on this subject further. If you are frequent users (Residents) who have children in school (Shatin College) or simply go to Shatin to shop, you will find the journey unexpectedly long and unexpectedly inconvenient. I have given up using it because of the risk of driving the steep bends and the confusion caused by turning so many corners.

In the good old days although the old gate was closed during Sundays and the users had to enter into the Campus via Hong Kong Jockey Club, we found this acceptable as

## Letters to the Editor (cont.)

the need to go via there was only once a week. The advantages had clearly outweighed the disadvantages.

At the moment, if you are not working for the Institute of Biotechnology, you are still forced to take a long tour around the Building regardless. Furthermore, I honestly think the issue of safety of the guards has not been targeted/solved singularly. This gate certainly triggers more risks for both Campus users and the guards than the old gate. I am sure that the majority of the residents will agree with us.

*Another concerned and confused resident*

### **Dear Editor**

It was very nice of the CDO to give speedy response on enquiries regarding the relocation of the East Gate. The response enabled us to learn that the main purpose of the relocation was the safety concerns of the security guards. We agree that safety is an uncompromising issue therefore we hope the decision makers can show consistent consideration to safety of everybody.

Our experience of using the new East Gate exit has not been pleasant, as every time we drove out from the exit we felt nervous. We have to admit that the traffic outside the gate is usually quiet. However, when there are cars driving through Science Park Road, very often they are driven at speed. The cars are always very close to the exit by the time they are distinguishable to the drivers waiting there. Equally disturbing are the big coaches parked by the road side on the right of the exit. The coaches significantly block the drivers' visibility.

We are not sure if the security guards of the campus can control the traffic outside the East Gate exit. Installation of a traffic light should be able to improve the situation.

*CUWO Executive Committee*

### **CLOSE BOTH DOORS WHEN NOT IN USE” (請出入關門)**

#### **Dear Editor,**

If you have noticed the sign shown above at Residences 16 and 17, you will probably be one of the few who do close the doors. From the day I moved in (which is about 10 years ago) to the present, the doors have been left open regularly. The Campus Quarters have had a number of burglaries during the past years. I only cite two cases which were closer to us: (1) at Residence 10 - when it was under renovation work. A worker slipped into the flat with the help of the scaffolding; (2) a burglar slipped into Residence 17 at mid-night via the ground floor window. We should be worried about the security/safety of the Campus Residents for the following reasons:

1. The University adopts an 24-hour open-door policy to the public and there are tours by students/other tourists on weekends;
2. Security guards are mainly stationed near the entrances and there is no security

## Letters to the Editor (cont.)

- camera installed inside the lifts; Moving trucks frequently come in and movers just enter the buildings without using the intercom to gain permission from the residents
- Straight on from Residence Road (before turning into Residence Buildings), there is a small hidden path to “Chik Lai Ping 赤泥坪” and people can get in and out of the University without passing the main entrances;
- There is enough cover for hiding i.e. open areas, fields and bushes for the burglars;
- Busy residents may enter and leave the buildings, hoping to come back quickly and, but then find themselves delayed, having left the double doors wide open and their cars parked outside.
- It's good when everyone thinks that University is a safe place to live in and therefore leave the doors open at all times. Let's hope we don't need an unfortunate event to give us a wake-up call.

*A concerned resident*

### Dear Editor

The main entry door of the Residence 17 remains unfixed, with the electricity line cut, allowing unknown people to come in and out freely. However the EMO seems still not to have taken any action, I would like to implore the CCN to put pressure on EMO. Meanwhile, this unlocked door is causing problems. I discovered recently that my mail items frequently disappear. It is unacceptable inside a university. I wonder why we have no video recorder or other security devices in our staff quarters. I have reported this to EMO officers but they gave no satisfactory answer. I implored EMO about my mails because they don't have a security guard at every residence but just an EMO officer for residences 16 and 17.

In any case, I hope that CCN can report this problem because an EMO officer suggested that some children may be taking the mail out as a game (???). If that is the case the parents should be aware.

*Anonymous*

**Letters to the editor are always welcome. Please send, with your contact details (for verification purposes) to: The Editor [gilliankew@yahoo.com](mailto:gilliankew@yahoo.com) or by mail to Mrs. Storey, Residence 14 Flat 12A. Letters may be edited as necessary. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Campus Community News**

## Notices



**Recruiting for movie comprehension experiment** - We are carrying out experiments to investigate how irrelevant sounds affect your comprehension of movies while you watching a silent movie with subtitles. When you are watching, you will wear a wet helmet to record your brain activities. The study aims to compare comprehension performance by different language speakers.

**Payment:** Includes 3 parts: (a) HKD25 for 30 minute pre-test; (b) HKD75 for formal test; (c) extra performance bonus

**Eligibility:** International speakers (Indian-European language, e.g. English, French, Spanish, German, Swedish, etc.) age 18 to 35 years. To learn more email

[hyzheng@ee.cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:hyzheng@ee.cuhk.edu.hk) or visit:

<http://www.ee.cuhk.edu.hk/~kitwong/BWG/Home.html>

### Short Story Contest for young writers ages 12 to 18



Theme - “Feast”; Length - **1000 to 2000 words**;  
Age range – **12 to 18 years** Entry Fee **\$25**;  
Prizes -**1st Prize** HK\$ 1,000 Dymocks coupon  
and a 1 year subscription to Culture Hong Kong; **2nd Prize** HK\$ 600  
Dymocks coupon and a 1 year subscription to Culture Hong Kong; **3rd  
Prize** HK\$ 400 Dymocks coupon and a 1 year subscription to Culture Hong  
Kong

**Closing date** 6:00pm 28 November 2008; **Results** 19 December 2008

For more details contact Christine Bruce, Student Short Story Coordinator,  
[shortstory@hkwijs.org](mailto:shortstory@hkwijs.org)

Stories must be submitted printed on paper; single sided with a completed  
application form, a copy of I.D. and sent to and received by **6:00 PM on 28  
November 2008**, at the office of Culture Hong Kong, Room 901, 9/F, 168

### November Coffee Morning

**Date:** November 7, 2008 (Friday)

**Time:** 10:30 AM to 12 Noon

**Place:** Residence 14, Recreation  
Room, CUHK Campus



Take a break during your morning and come join us for tea and coffee, and a fun time. Newcomers can pick up a copy of our publication, *Settling In and Finding Out*. As always, drop by to say hello to old friends and make some new ones!

**Upcoming Date: December** Coffee Morning: December 5, 2008 (Friday) Feature: We will decorate the Christmas tree!

## Arts Calendar - Charlotte Weiss

November brings the finale of the *New Vision Arts Festival* which ends on 23 November; I have indicated some of the remaining events listed below with an \* (see last month's CCN for general details). Beyond this, LCSD has as usual put together a great line-up of concerts from world-renowned stars to local artists. Please check out some of these local "finds" since I often find this type of performance more enjoyable and better value for money than the big names.

ON CAMPUS: (all concerts at Lee Hysan Hall)

•20 November (8:00pm)

*Recital: Kay Zavislak, piano*

•25 November (7:30pm)

*Concert: Wuji Ensemble*

•27 November (8:00pm)

*Concert: Naanhua University Yayue Ensemble*



(tickets available for following events at URBTIX outlets or by advance reservation at 2734-9009 - tickets must be picked up within 3 days of booking)

In Shatin Town Hall:

•1 November

*Musicorama: Chinese Symphonic Concert* by Hong Kong Sinfonietta

At Other Venues:

•3 November

*A Night of Oboe with Huang Zheng* at City Hall Theatre

•4 November

*Barbara Gisler-Haase, Sara Bryans and Chin Hing-sang, woodwind trio* at City Hall Theatre

•5 November

*Encore Series: Leif Ove Andsnes, Piano Recital* at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

(Note: one of my favourite pianists of all time)

•5-28 November (7:30pm plus matinees at 2:30pm on the weekends)

*Lea Salonga in Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*, presented by Broadway Asia Entertainment at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre

•6 November

*Ksenia Nosikova Piano Recital, Great Pianist Series* at City Hall Theatre

•9 November

*Fabio Biondi with Europa Galante* at City Hall Concert Hall

(Note: a renowned Baroque orchestra playing Baroque hits)

•15 November

*Bel Canto – Sumi Jo in Hong Kong*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

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•15 November

*Martin Grubinger, Percussion Fantastic*, Hong Kong Sinfonietta at City Hall Concert Hall ----->

(Note: "This guy is rhythmic dynamite!" is how the *Wiener Zeitung* describes Grubinger)

•16 November

\**Fragile Beauty*, ("a mesmerizing crossover of Vietnamese and French Music") at City Hall Concert Hall

•21-22 November

\**About Khon*, (traditional Thai dance with French influences) at Cultural Centre Studio Theatre

•23 November

*Majestic Drums XI, with the Li Biao Percussion Group*, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

(Note: a blockbuster concert featuring an extraordinary drumming group who can play up to 100 percussion instruments in a concert!)

•26 November

*Jazz Up: Sadao Watanabe Group (Japan)* at City Hall Concert Hall

(Note: a truly wonderful jazz legend who's been on the world jazz scene for decades and is a legend in Japan)

•28-29 November

*Peak Performance with Colleen Lee*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra in collaboration with the HK Academy for Performing Arts Symphony Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

(Note: don't miss this collaborative event for Strauss's "An Alpine Symphony" as well as Hong Kong's own piano genius, Colleen Lee, performing Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto #2)

•28-29 November

*The Pirate Party*, Hong Kong Sinfonietta at City Hall Concert Hall

(Note: a pirate theme runs throughout this concert with everything from Mendelssohn to "Pirates of the Caribbean" – the whole evening is presented by a "pirate", Alasdair Malloy)

•28-30 November (matinees on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>)

*Giselle*, Hong Kong Ballet at APA's Lyric Theatre

(Note: tickets available at HK Ticketing outlets)

NOTE: Advance bookings for the Hong Kong Arts Festival will run until 28 November. Don't forget to book those "must-see" performances before the counter booking begins in December (no discounts for counter bookings).





Gazing at the lush growth of weeds around the field, we knew organic farming would not just be fun, it would entail effort and determination. The shovel ran up and down as we ploughed every inch to dig up the dry clay soil which was afterwards spread with organic fertilizer. Beads of sweat evaporated in the late summer sun. It is hard to imagine how quickly we became amateur farmers. Our hearts were set on our goal: edging those weeds out of this

wild field, building our dream-land! So the digging inexorably continued, as we ploughed on towards our distant horizon.

Labouring in the midst of the wild plots of land around, with much irritation towards our honest working partners –the mosquitoes, we planted some small fruit trees; papaya, lemon and lime, but just a short moment later, we were informed that there are some restrictions in growing trees. The trees could not be allowed to grow over six feet tall – any excess would be cut. Oh, dear fruit trees, your fate is so lamentable. As caring mothers, we are prepared to watch their height closely.

CUWO's organic farm was set up amid the burning issue of Melamine-laden foods. Originally, we had an aesthetic horticultural design about the farm by bringing in all species of flowers, herbs and fruit trees without much favour given to vegetables. Being frightened by the news of tainted products, our desire for beauty switched to practicality – our new vision is to grow vegetables to self-supply for our daily needs as much as possible. There is a strong feeling looming over us, why can't Hong Kong people actively promote buying local organic food, on one hand to ensure the standard of our daily food, and on the other to support Hong Kong's mini organic business? Imported organic foods are far too expensive for the average wage earner. As statistics show, locally farmed foods are much more affordable.

With this new insight, we planted some young tomato plants as a start. The baby plants grew up steadily day by day being able to resist the recent blast of typhoon. A little bit of luck on our side! We added in more vegetable seeds to keep the tomato plants company. In about a week's time, the new friends began to dance in the autumn wind. Rows of young vegetable plants waved in the twilight to soothe the hearts of the green farmers.

Being green in organic farming, we have to grab knowledge of this area from all sources including research in books, websites, and interviews with veterans. We walk the organic way!

**Further information:** United College, 2/F, Tsang Shiu Tim Building, United College, CUHK. Tel: 2609 7575; Fax: 2603 5412; Email: [unitedcollege@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:unitedcollege@cuhk.edu.hk)



**GOOD FOOD GOOD TIME GREAT COMPANY**

## ***Christmas Dinner 2008***

**December 18, 2008, Thursday**

**Double Haven I, The Hong Kong Jockey Club Sha Tin Clubhouse**

Jointly organized by

Staff Common Room Club • Chung Chi College Staff Club • New Asia College Staff Association

Shaw College Staff Association • United College Staff Association • CU Staff Association

CU Teachers' Association • CU Women's Organization

**Pre-dinner cocktails at 6:30pm**

**Dinner served at 7:30pm**

**Dance floor opens from 9:30pm onwards**

**Come in black tie, lounge suit or ethnic clothing!**

***HK\$400 per person***

\* Programme Highlights \*

### ***Laces and Ruffles Fashion Show***

Modern Oriental designer clothing by famous local designer Mr. Edmund Wong and modeled by well-known faces on campus!

### **Popular Operatic Songs**

Returned appearance of Katusha Tsui Fraser (徐慧) of the Academy for the Performing Arts

### **Golden Oldies**

Take a walk down memory lane with CU's singing sensation Prof. Cheung Yuet Wah

### **Dancing demonstration**

Be swept away by Dr. and Mrs Bernard So

**Reservation deadline: 30 November, 2008**



## Classified Advertisements

### **FOR SALE**

#### 萬事達 Mazda 2000 Demio

#### 5-門轎車出售 5-dr hatchback for sale

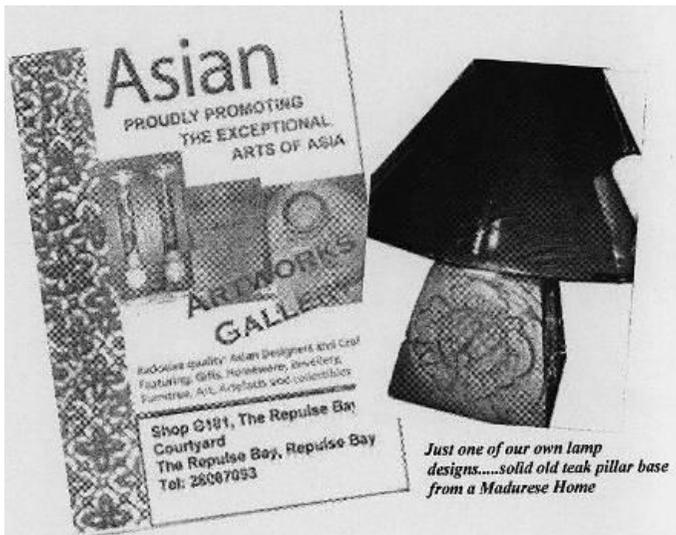
只有 77,200 公里 (主要來往沙田馬鞍山), only 77,200 mainly highway km  
車身機件完美 (excellent body and mechanics). 引擎 1500 cc engine  
自動波 · 深綠色 automatic trans.,

### **MOVING SALE**

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 12 noon to 4 pm  
Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2 pm to 4 pm  
**WHERE:** CUHK, Residence 4, Flat 7B  
**WHAT:** Household items, new small Canon printer, telephone,  
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Two CARS: Both running well  
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## Classified Advertisements

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**CCN committee:** Gillian Kew (Editor); Charlotte Weiss (Arts Editor); Anita Chan; Sonia McConville; Nerissa Ngan; Frances Storey; Joan Tsui;

**Please send submissions** and advertisements (\$50 for business ads – other ads free), to **Mrs. Storey, Residence 14, Flat 12A**, or by email to [gilliankew@yahoo.com](mailto:gilliankew@yahoo.com), no later than Nov 20<sup>th</sup> for placement in the December edition. For back issues and links, visit <http://www.gilliankew.org/newsletter.shtml> (note that file size is large and the newsletter will take some minutes to download).

# 7th Annual Textile Bazaar

**Saturday  
November 8, 2008**

10:30am to 5:00pm

The Fringe Club  
2 Lower Albert Road  
Central  
2521 7251

Textiles from various Asian  
countries from ancient to modern,  
folk to court.  
Textile-related books and supplies.  
Weaving demonstrations.

For info contact: 9194 6830  
info@textilesocietyofhk.org

www.textilesocietyofhk.org



## Kassia Choirs Appeal

Dear All,

Hello! It's that time of the year when Kassia Choirs support **Feed the Children Hong Kong** in their drive to provide warm jackets and clothes to children at a school in Sichuan Province.

We have worked with this charity for the past 4 years, providing funds that have gone towards shoes, jackets, hats, gloves and blankets for children who attend a very poorly equipped school.

### How You Can Help:

**HK\$100** is enough to buy **1 high-quality warm jacket** that will be distributed by the charity in Sichuan on 2nd December.

We are collecting **cheques** (made payable to **Feed the Children Hong Kong**) in the office (address below) - to arrive by Wednesday 12th November.

Love  
Bethan xx  
Director, Katterwall  
[www.katterwall.com](http://www.katterwall.com)

Tel: +852 2575 3931  
Fax: +852 2542 2442  
Studio: Room 805, Arion Commercial Centre  
2-12 Queen's Road West, Sheung Wan

