

May 2009

Bicycle Accident on Campus

Last month we drew attention to the dangerous practice of walking on the roads at CU, rather than the pavements. This month we highlight another safety issue - bicycle riding on campus. CCN recently learned of a serious accident involving two Chinese University students. They were riding a bike together (with one as the pillion passenger) down the road to Shaw College, when they hit a speed bump and were both thrown off. The pillion passenger sustained head injuries and remains in serious

condition in hospital.

This accident might not have happened if the students had been going slower or applied the brakes when they saw the speed bump. More importantly, the serious injuries sustained could have been avoided if protective headgear had been worn. Helmets are inexpensive and widely available and were invented for a reason – to protect our fragile brains. In 2006 the Prince of Wales Hospital saw 698 bicycle related injuries. Only 3 of the injured wore helmets and none of these were seriously hurt. 67 riders

had head injuries. Two died. It doesn't take a genius to work it out – helmets reduce brain injuries and save lives. Pass this message on to everyone you know who rides a bike. And if that person is someone you care about, make sure they wear a helmet.

(Data obtained from: J.H.H. Yeung et al. / Injury, Int. J. Care Injured 40 (2009) 555–559)

Inside this issue:

Page

- 1 Letters to the Editor
- 2 Easter Colouring competition: results and pictures
- 2 **CCN Flea-Market**
- 3-4 Arts Calendar Note: *there will be no calendar in June but some special events may be posted*
- 4 Memie Kwok in Antarctica (2nd of 3 parts)
- "The Boat Message 4 Ads and info.4

Letter to the editor

Welcome Strangers – The door is wide open 請再出入關門

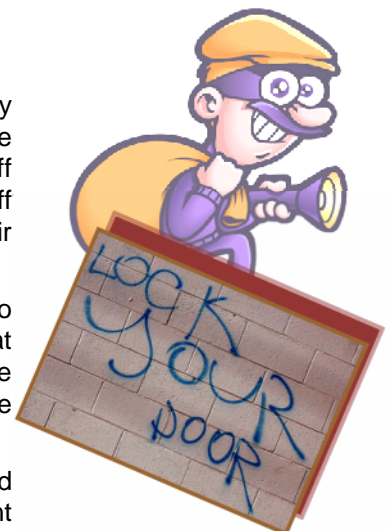
I was on my annual vacation during the Easter holidays. I saw two visitors close the door on our behalf on their way out. I slipped a note into every letter box in Residence 17 to remind the forever absent-minded or busy

residents that they have every duty to close the door. Obviously, the important message fell on deaf ears. In fact the door is opened wide every morning. The Chinese University occupants have fewer tendencies to take note of this serious issue than any other government housing, low-cost housing or

private tenants. They see the Chinese University Staff Quarters as merely staff quarters and not their home.

I now have to come to terms with the fact that the entrance door of the Residences will not be shut all the time.

A Disappointed
Resident



Easter Colouring Competition

Easter Colouring Competition Winners

As always, our little artists' Easter pictures were bright and imaginative, with added butterflies, flowers, chicks and eggs. The pictures will be displayed on the website and in Bookworms library. The winners are listed below. To collect your prizes, call Mrs Ngan on 2603 7603.

Grand Prize

Hsiao Lie Yeh Age 8

Runners up

Josh Yeh Age 6

Charlene Choi Age 8

Joey Yeh Age 9



Campus News Flea-Market 2009!

The **Campus News Chinese New Year Flea-Market** will be held on **Saturday June 6th** from 10am to 1pm in the **Basement Recreation Room, Residence 14, CUHK.**

Tables are just \$50 for general stalls or \$100 for commercial stalls. Call Joan on 9353 1944 or e-mail Gillian at gilliankew@yahoo.com to book a table or make enquiries.

Great Bargains

Homemade goods

Hot and cold drinks

Children's Books

New goods

2nd hand books

Used goods

And More...

**Come along and
Grab some bargains**



Do you have unwanted goods you would like to donate? Can you spare a little time to bake a cake or make some cookies? All contributions gratefully received! You can drop them at the door before the fair starts or bring them along on the day. **Just call Frances on 2693 0435 or Gillian on 9231 1724** so they can be put safely inside the room.

*Proceeds to go towards funding
CCN for another year!*



Arts Calendar – by Charlotte Weiss

Count on me to always be in Hong Kong this time of the year for **Le French May**. You have probably guessed by now that I would put this at the top of my list of cultural festivals in Hong Kong for its breadth, variety and quality. This collaboration between the French Government and Hong Kong's Leisure and Cultural Services Department has become one of the local arts scene's highlights each year and the 17th edition includes film, dance, music, art exhibitions and food. Sponsored by L'Alliance Française, the Consul-General of France in Hong Kong, and the LCSD with funding by both French and Hong Kong companies, a complete catalogue of events is available at URBTIX locations with more information at www.frenchmay.com. This year's version begins on the 24th of April and will continue until the 13th of June so you'll have almost two months to take advantage of its many offerings. Here are some highlights of *Le French May* but it's always difficult to limit my choices among the vast offerings:

FILM:

•6-27 May - (see screening schedule at www.cinema.com.hk and phone ticketing at 2388-3188) **Serious Playtime: The Modern World of Jacques Tati** at Cinematheque (Tati can be described as a cross between Charlie Chaplin and Mr. Bean – I love his films which represent modern life at its zaniest. This retrospective includes such classics as *Mon Oncle* (My Uncle) and *Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot* (Mr. Hulot's Holiday)



MUSIC:

•19 May - **Jean-Efflam Bavouzet: Piano Journey**, at City Hall Concert Hall (a young "Choc de l'année, 2008", translated as a new and "hot" discovery by *Le Monde* in a programme of Beethoven and Debussy)

•22-23 May - **The Organ Symphony**, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (a double-header featuring Vincent Dubois, organ, in Saint-Saens' *Symphony No. 3* along with renowned Dutch pianist, Ronald Brautigam in Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 24*)

•23 May - **Michel Dalberto, piano concert**, at City Hall Concert Hall (features a multiple prize-winning pianist in an all-French programme)

•26 May - **Glass Music, City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong** (at long last! here's a chance to hear that fascinating instrument, the glass harmonica in a very interesting programme with Thomas Bloch, who has given over 2500 concerts around the world on the instrument and has performed with everyone from the classical and pop world. City Chamber's fantastic French Chief Conductor will lead the orchestra too)

(tickets for all events at the APA are available at HK Ticketing and at 31-288-288)

•31 May & 2 June - **Pablo Casals Chamber Music Festival of Prades** at APA Concert Hall (two outstanding chamber music concerts with performers imported from this renowned music festival)

•1 June - **Thibault Cauvin and His Guitar**, at APA Concert Hall

CHORAL SPECTACULAR:

•10 May - **Berlioz's Messe Solennelle and, Debussy's Printemps**, by Hong Bach Choir & Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

DANCE THEATRE/CIRCUS:

•15-16 May - **Les Sept Planches de la Ruse (The Seven Boards of Skill)**, conceived and directed by Aurelien Bory with dancers/acrobats from the Dalian School of Opera at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre (Wow! "A journey to unknown and magical lands" is the description of this innovative work inspired by 7 boards and a poem with 7 metaphors based on the tangram game. The 14 dancers, martial arts experts, singers, etc., will offer a "breathtaking performance" with a French touch from Aurelien Bory)

DANCE:

•9-10 June - **Little Stories.com – Hip Hop by ACCRORAP Dance Company** at the APA's Drama Theatre (a hugely successful and prize-winning dance performance that breaks down cultural barriers and has taken this urban street dance to new heights)

EXHIBITION:

•22 May – 9 August - **Louis Vuitton: A Passion for Creation** at Hong Kong Museum of Art in the Cultural Centre complex

•30 May – 28 September - **The Golden Age of Couture: Paris and London 1947-1957** at Hong Kong Heritage Museum (NOT TO BE MISSED *fashionistas* but don't forget, the Heritage Museum is closed on Tuesdays and the Museum of Art on Thursdays. See the catalogue for complete information on these 2 exciting exhibitions)

ADDITIONAL EVENTS (not part of *Le French May*):

ON CAMPUS: (Lee Hysan Concert Hall – 7:30pm)

•22 May - **Concert:**

Electronic Music by student composers

•29 May - **Recital:** Student Ensembles



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

SHATIN TOWN HALL:

•9 May - **Zheng Virtuosi in concert**, Hong Kong Zheng Orchestra and four zheng masters

•10 May - **Acapella Series: Chanticleer (USA)** (Grammy-award winning Chanticleer will delight you with American classics from Broadway to blues)

•19 June (ALSO ON 20 JUNE at City Hall Concert Hall) - **Acapella Series: Ladysmith Black Mambazo (South Africa)** (a 3-time Grammy-award winning legendary group who have been singing for 40 years all over the world, not only as a group but with many famous pop/rock/jazz artists. I can't wait for this one!)

AT OTHER VENUES:

•5-6 May - **Mozart in the City—Classical/Neo-Classical**, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at City Hall Concert Hall

•8-9 May - **Mother's Day Concert**, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

•15 May - **My New World: Perry So, Conductor**, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

(Perry So's debut as the new HKPO's Assistant Conductor—he's the 1st-prize winner of the International Prokofiev Conducting Competition)

•22 May - *Pinchas Zukerman, conductor/violin*, Hong Kong Sinfonietta at City Hall Concert Hall (an "exquisite" programme featuring yet another renowned violinist who will conduct all the works and play 2 concertos)

•22-23 May (7:30pm) & 24 May (2:30pm) - *GALAXY International Ballet Gala*, Hong Kong Ballet at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre (celebrating their 30th anniversary, HK Ballet is bringing ballerinas and danseurs from international companies for some "greatest hits" dancing. Tan Yuan Yuan, the company's Guest Principle Dancer also returns for the gala)

•29-30 May - *The Brave New World of Huqin*, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra at City Hall Concert Hall

•29-30 May - *De Waart conducts the Pastoral Symphony*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (features Olivier Latry, organist of Notre-Dame de Paris in Jongen's *Symphonie-concertante* as well as Beethoven's 6th Symphony)

A FEW HIGHLIGHTS IN JUNE:

•5-6 June - *Concert on the Improved Huqin*, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra at Cultural Centre Studio Theatre

•13-14 June = *Petrushka with Lu Jia, conductor and Dan Zhu, violin*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

•19-20 June - *Nights in the Gardens of Spain, Lu Jia, conductor and Javier Perianes, piano*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (I highly recommend this all-Spanish programme)

•21 June - *Verdi's Messa da Requiem*, Hong Kong Sinfonietta at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (a huge work that features Opera Hong Kong Chorus and prize-winning operatic Italian singers along with the Sinfonietta)

•26-27 June - *Mozart in the City—Concerto and Partita, Isabelle Faust, violin*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at City Hall Concert Hall

•26-27 June - *Masters and Masterworks*, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall



•3-4 July - *Mullova plays Brahms, Viktoria Mullova, violin*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (HKPO's *grande finale* with one of my favourite violinists who just gets better and better)

SPECIAL EVENT(s): (NOTE: tickets available at HK Ticketing outlets including Tom Lee Music Stores in Shatin and at 31-288-288)

•15 May – 14 June (with various performances times) - *Cats, the Musical, presented by Lunchbox Theatrical Productions* at APA Lyric Theatre

•25-28 June (tickets at URBIX) - *The 1st Annual Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival, Trey Lee, Festival Director – sponsored by Premiere Performances of HK Ltd.,* at City Hall Theatre

(this is a first-class festival so see all the details at www.pphk.org)

Filling the mind with good things in the Antarctica - Special feature by Dr. Memie Kwok (Part 2)

The Antarctic Quest expedition lasted 18 days as we travelled through the Falklands, South Georgia, South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula. making Zodiac landings whenever the weather permitted. Sea sickness was foremost on everybody's mind but we were blessed with amazing good weather and reasonably calm seas, which made my problem even more absurd. Due to the faulty design and mal-alignment of my bed in the boat, I kept being thrown off, even in moderate waves. So I took the strap from my suitcase, wrapped it round the mattress and strapped myself in every night like a piece of luggage. The rolling of the ship was still bad but at least I didn't end up on the floor.

When asked by friends after I got home what Antarctica is like, my first word is always a resounding "COLD!" I generally don't do very well in a cold climate. Cold wind makes my skin break and I had the worst windburn on my face ever while on this trip. I was so envious of the men their moustaches and beards! After an agonising icy-wind episode at Right Whale Bay I took to wearing 5 pairs of trousers (including one pair of down) every time we went onshore. But my fingers and toes were still cold even with double gloves and triple socks, painful when they froze and when they thawed. We were advised always to carry extra clothes in our backpacks. The weather could change very quickly in Antarctica, and with

little warning the waves could become too dangerous for the Zodiac-transfer back to the boat. "What's the longest time people have been stranded on the beach in your experience?" We asked Dr John Davies, the ship's doctor. "13 hours" came the chilling reply!

Most of the landings involved some walking, occasionally against gusty winds and on icy ground. I couldn't keep up with the pace and I kept slipping on the rocks. I was in worse physical shape than I'd been in any other trip to date, with torn ligaments in my ankles, as I explained to the expedition leaders lest they think I'm naturally clumsy. "Like the penguins I'm better in water than on land"

The 'Boat' message (from a joint exhibition by the Quartet, New Asia College)

- By Anita Chan

5

I was cordially invited to an Art exhibition organized by the Art students of New Asia College around mid to end of March, 2009. Being very feverishly impressed by the 'Boat' idea initiated by Dennis Lam, I would like to share this idea with all of you.

The exhibition was the so-called 'Installation Art' (photo record) and was entitled 'Paper Boats' which expressed the feeling of the artist being quite trapped in the hostel as a resident because of the heavy workload, resulting in the lack of opportunity to go home for a month. The artist folded a paper boat for each of the 1,165 residents in the New Asia College, hoping that those boats could sail out to the sea.

Looking through my window, a mirage of boats spills out into the Tolo Harbour. Do those boats belong to New Asia students? The message of love to their parents will be efficiently sent by the Goddess of the Sea. Being trapped is definitely a distressing weight on the heart; the haunting mind creates an uneasy feeling, a conflict within. The sensation of yearning for the sight of their parents intertwines with the reality that they are over burdened with school work.

Artist, as you said, the pool water connects to the Tolo Harbour, so the water on the pool has become one with the sea, where the boats are as free as birds flying yonder, back and forth, free. Open your heart, you will see your parents' encouraging smiles, signalling you to continue your own voyage into the wider horizon and not restrict yourself to the pond. It is absolutely not their wish to see you trapped in frustration and dilemma. Bless all of you, students, release yourselves! One line, from the pond to the sea!



Poem: The 'Boat' message - By Anita Chan

Pond Horizon

A huddle of boats on the pond hovered,
The calm water shoved and cowered.
Mother Pond gently gestured to the punts,
'Move forward for a treasure hunt!'

A shadow of reflections on the pond lingered,
The quiet water though fidgeting was eager.
Mother Pond softly endorsed with a hugging song,
'Move forward for an unbound horizon!'

A plethora of rays on the pond sizzled,
The balmy water groaned and whistled.
Mother Pond patiently comforted the souls,
'Move forward for an elastic mode!'

A multitude of fantasies on the pond lodged,
The mild water emerged dazzlingly clogged.
Mother Pond priestly decoded the borderline,
'Move forward for that unending line!'



Advertisements and Information

Asian Artworks Special Notice

We are **temporarily** closed for refurbishment until the beginning of July. If you have any enquiries, please visit our website (below) where you can ask questions and post comments. We will let you know as soon as we are back



<http://asianartworks.wordpress.com/>

Bookworms library needs volunteers!

Can you spare a couple of hours once a month on a Saturday morning?

Support this useful facility for our children. Bookworms Library has books in English for children from toddler to middle school. There are books for beginner readers (3 levels), and book cassette tape sets.

There are also CDs, and a few books in Chinese. To volunteer or learn more email Judy on ijmmluk@hotmail.com

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, no later than May 20th 2009 for placement in the June 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)

Say Your Piece

The English Speaking Union (Hong Kong) (Web: www.esuhk.org) is delighted to announce a new home for its programme,

Say Your Piece! A SERIES OF INTERACTIVE OCCASIONS

BOOK-LOVERS may comment on a book they have read.

POETS AND WRITERS may read or talk about their own work.

PARTICIPANTS may ask questions and hear answers.

EVERYONE may bring a favourite piece to talk about.

ANYONE may ask help with interpreting a passage. Anyone from 12 years old to 200 is welcome.

The first occasion will be held on Tuesday, 12 May, 7.00-9.00pm at G/F or 2nd floor, The Hong Kong Arts Centre, Harbour Road, Wanchai.

The first session will be led by: Gillian Bickley (non-fiction and short-story writer, poet, playwright, university professor). She will introduce and read briefly from her published poetry books, "For the Record", "Moving House", "Sightings", and bring a new poem for your feedback. You may bring any book you would like to introduce to the group and seek opinions from group-members about any literary question you may have.

Come for the whole time or just drop in for a while!

All are welcome! The only rule is, "Please speak in English!"

Please register by emailing esuhk@netvigator.com; or phoning the ESU Administrator (Tel: 2186-8449 (M/F mornings only)) If you have suggestions of books to be discussed

or writers of books in English to be invited, please email esuhk@netvigator.com with the subject line, "Say Your Piece!"

And Finally....

*A Very
HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY
TO ALL
THE MUMS OUT THERE!*