

Once again, a warm welcome to the newsletter. We have included the regular 'Contacts' and Where Are They Now?' Sections; you will recall that lack of space prevented their inclusion in No. 13.

At last, Kay and I are moving into the 21st Century and we now have an e-mail address at:

m.k.roberts@cwgsv.net

This address is repeated on the back page and will be shown there in all future editions of the newsletter.

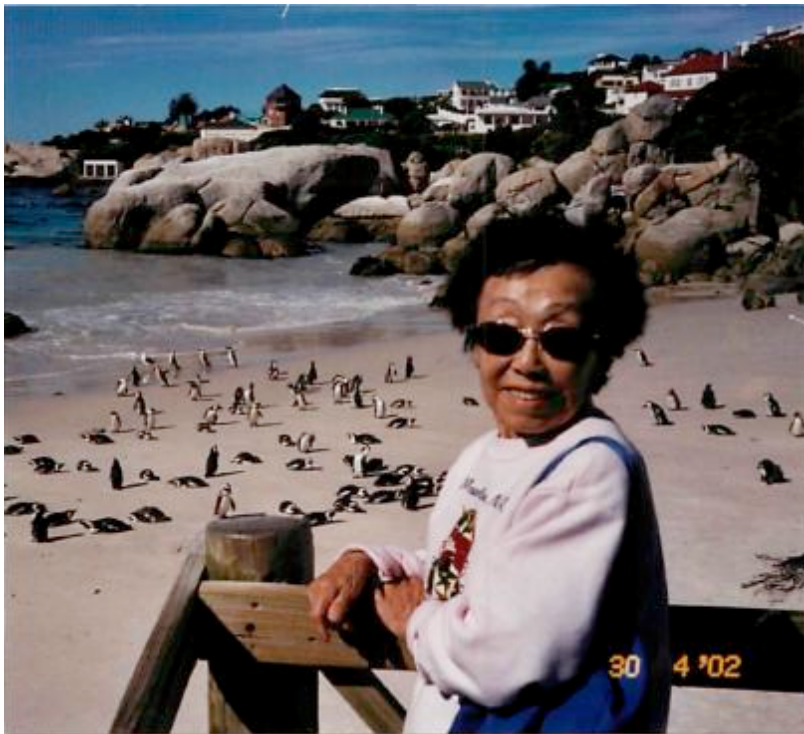
Finally, two pleas. Please let us know if you change your address. Postal charges are now quite high and we seek to reduce returned newsletters to a minimum. Please also let us know if the newsletter no longer interests you; we will delete you from the mailing list if you no longer wish to receive it.

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND

NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

NEWS OF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan [Mrs. Zhong] [Staff] has not been too well since she returned from South Africa to her home in Idaho. After a stay in hospital for a type of allergy, she developed ear and eye trouble and having been fitted with a hearing aid, was scheduled to undergo cataract surgery on her left eye during the summer. She still enjoys walking and swimming and during her stay in Cape Town visited Penguin Beach.



With undiminished zest for travel, Mrs. Zhong will be cruising around Australia and New Zealand in December.

Jim CHILTON [FAO mid 80s] can claim to be the first on our newsletter mailing list to contact us by e-mail. Jim and Sue have recently become grandparents. They are still living and working in Missouri, but are investigating the possibility of moving to Florida.

Brian FINCH (Mandarin late 60s) visited Guernsey recently with wife Gillian and it was a pleasure to see them in this island. Now retired from government service, Brian is living in London where he is running a consultancy service for companies wishing to set up businesses in China. If you wish to contact him he can be found at bjh@eba.uk.co, or visit www.eba.uk.co for the website of his company, East Bridge (东桥) Associates. Our picture shows Brian (left) with Frank LE MAITRE (Cantonese late 60s) (right) and your unworthy editor when they came for supper at our home during Brian's visit.



Mr. Ho **Pui Kei** (Staff) has sent two delightful bilingual books. One is an edition of "The Three Character Classic" (三字經) published in Singapore in the 1940s and the other is "Gems of Chinese Li 古文觀止 () published in Hong Kong in the late 1950s. We print an extract in our centre pages. We thank Mr. Ho for these.

Dave KITCHING [Cantonese late 60s and Mandarin late 80s] is now living in Spain, having moved there from Hong Kong with Joanne earlier this year. During the summer they were visited by Kay and your unworthy editor, when Dave handed over the Uncle Sam poster presented by FA01 to MODCLS in 1985 (signed by Jeff BABB, Steve BOLLENS, Jim CHILTON and Greg MAN). Our picture shows the handover ceremony. (Dave on right).



Before leaving Hong Kong, Dave visited the Museum of Coastal Defence, part of the former Lyemun Barracks area; a feature on this Museum can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Cliff ROSE (Cantonese late 70s and Mandarin early 80s) worked at the Defence School of Languages (DSL) in UK for some time after retiring from the Army, but has recently taken on a new job as an inspector in the Adult Learning Inspectorate, with specific responsibility for languages, in particular Chinese and German. His elder daughter recently spent a month in China doing a postgraduate study into acupuncture, including three weeks clinical practice in Tianjin. Before leaving DSL, Cliff noted with some sadness the passing of MODCLS; his comments include the following remarks concerning Chinese language students of the British Army:

"Just before I finished at DSL we had two trainees outsourced at different establishments around the country (UK) and although I am obviously biased I could not help but be disappointed with the training they received and the standard they achieved. None of the Chinese posts now call for anything higher than SLP3333 (roughly equivalent to the old 'Linguist' level) and most students fail to achieve that."

We believe that this is further testimony (if any is needed) to the sound teaching methods at MODCLS and to the dedication and excellence of our teaching staff. Those were the days.

David SYME [Mandarin late 80s] is still serving in the Specialist Linguist Unit of the UK Territorial Army, but this year managed to find time for a trip to China and Mongolia with his family, during the summer.

Cyril THOMAS [Cantonese early 70s] and Gabrielle are currently in China, where they now spend much of their time. Since leaving the Army over 20 years ago, Cyril and Gabrielle have been developing an organisation, based on Christian values, in China. The three branches are academic, childcare and medical, with about 100 people from overseas and 200 Chinese personnel currently working or studying in 8 provinces. The organisation has 3 centres for abandoned children, of whom a number are handicapped. Cyril says that all this work is made possible by very good co-operation from Chinese officials at all levels; (no doubt the language skills he acquired at MODCLS also come into play here - Ed). If you wish to help this work, or find out more about it, visit the website at http://www.tfc_cfcc.org or contact Cyril by e-mail at cyrilandgabrielle@compuserve.com if you prefer.

Ian WELFARE [FCO early 80s] retired from government service in 2001 and is now living in Scotland. Ian says that he misses China (having spent 14 years there, including his time in Hong Kong) and sends good wishes to all former staff and students who remember him.

James WONG Kwok Wei [Staff] has been in much pain this year with severe back problems caused by spinal stenosis and diffuse disc bulges in neck and spine. Apparently there is no cure and so we can only pray that some treatment is possible to relieve the pain. In spite of these medical problems, James planned a trip, with a companion, to Shanghai and Hong Kong in October and November 2002 and we hope that this was successfully accomplished.

OTHER NEWS

Although not in all cases concerning past members of the school, we have received the following items of information during the year which may be of interest to you:

Crispin ALCOCK, an officer in the Royal Corps of Transport with one of the Hong Kong Military Service Corps (HKMSC)-manned transport squadrons in Hong Kong completed a Colloquial Cantonese course at MODCLS during the 1980s. His whereabouts now are being sought by a former colleague currently resident in Guernsey.

Former British Army students who may have been connected at one time with HQ 48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade in Sek Kong will be saddened to hear of the death of **WOI 'Ginger' COCKCROFT**, Royal Corps of Signals, at one time well known as Garrison Sergeant Major (GSM) in Sek Kong. Ginger's son is currently in hotel management in Guernsey and says that his father died in August 2002, having retired from the Army some years ago in the rank of Major.

Frank LE MAITRE [Cantonese late 60s] left the Army in the 1980s and is currently working in Guernsey with an international bank.

Claire MILNES, the widow of Tim MILNES [Cantonese late 60s] is now on the newsletter mailing list and we will be pleased to pass on details to anyone wishing to get in touch with her.

Finally, **Jumbo PARTRIDGE**, The Administration Officer with the British Trade Commission in Hong Kong who will be remembered by many FCO students of the 80s, is also now on our mailing list. Should you wish to contact him, we will be pleased to pass on details of his address in Australia.



古文觀止

HOME AGAIN

HOMEWARDS I bend my steps. My fields, my gardens, are choked with weeds: should I not go? My soul has led a bondsman's life: why should I remain to pine? But I will waste no grief upon the past: I will devote my energies to the future. I have not wandered far astray. I feel that I am on the right track once again.

Lightly, lightly, speeds my boat along, my garments fluttering to the gentle breeze. I enquire my route as I go. I grudge the slowness of the dawning day. From afar I descry my old home, and joyfully press onwards in my haste. The servants rush forth to meet me: my children cluster at the gate. The place appears to have become desolate; but there are the old pine-tree and my chrysanthemums. I take the little ones by the hand, and pass in. Wine is brought in: full bottles, and I pour out in brimming cups. I gaze out at my favourite branches. I loll against the window in my new-found freedom. I content myself with my humble home.

And now I take my pleasure in my garden. There is a gate, but it is rarely opened. I lean on my staff as I wander about or sit down to rest. I raise my head and contemplate the lovely scene. Clouds rise, unwilling, from the precipices of the hills: the weary bird seeks its nest again. Shadows vanish, but still I linger round my lonely pine. Home once more! I'll have no acquaintances to distract me hence. The times are out of joint for me; and what have I to seek from men? In the pure enjoyment of the family circle I will pass my days, cheering my idle hours with lute and books. My husbandmen will tell me when spring-time is nigh, and when there will be work in the furrowed fields. Thither I shall repair by cart or by boat, through the deep gorge over the dizzy cliff, trees bursting merrily into leaf, the streamlet swelling from its tiny source. Glad am I at this Nature's renewal of life in due season: but for myself, I cannot but feel that the end of my journey is drawing near. Ah, how short a time it is that we are here! Why then not set our hearts at rest, ceasing

歸去來辭

陶淵明

歸去來兮。田園將蕪。胡不歸。既自以心爲
 形役。奚惆悵而獨悲。悟已往之不諫。知來
 者之可追。實迷途其未遠。覺今是而昨非。
 舟搖搖以輕颺。風飄飄而吹衣。問征夫以前
 路。恨晨光之熹微。乃瞻衡宇。載欣載奔。
 僮僕歡迎。稚子候門。三徑就荒。松菊猶存。
 攜幼入室。有酒盈樽。引壺觴以自酌。眄
 庭柯以怡顏。倚南窗以寄傲。審容膝之易安。
 園日涉以成趣。門雖設而常關。密客之易安。
 流憩。時矯首而遐觀。雲無心以出岫。鳥倦
 飛而知還。景翳翳以將入。撫孤松而盤桓。
 歸去來兮。請息交以絕遊。世與我而相遺。
 復駕言兮焉求。悅親戚之情話。樂琴書以消
 憂。農人告余以春及。將有事於西疇。或命
 巾車。或棹孤舟。既窈窕以尋壑。亦崎嶇而
 經邱。木欣欣以向榮。泉涓涓而始流。羨萬
 物之得時。感吾生之行休。已矣乎。寓形宇
 內復幾時。曷不委心任去留。胡爲遑遑欲何
 之。富貴非吾願。帝鄉不可期。懷良辰以孤
 往。或植杖而耘耔。登東皋以舒嘯。臨清流
 而賦詩。聊乘化以歸盡。樂夫天命復奚疑。

to trouble whether we remain or go? What boots it to wear out the soul with anxious thoughts? I want not wealth, I want not power. Then let me stroll through the bright hours as they pass, in my garden among my flowers; or I will mount the hill and sing my song, or weave my verse beside the limpid brook. Thus will I work out my allotted span, content with the appointments of Fate, my spirit free from care.

THE PEACH-BLOSSOM FOUNTAIN

During the reign of Tai-Yuan of Tsin Dynasty, a certain fisherman of Wu-ling, who had followed up one of the river branches without taking note whither he was going, came suddenly upon a grove of peach-trees in full bloom, extending some distance on each bank, with not a tree of any other kind in sight. The beauty of the scene and the exquisite perfume of

the flowers filled the heart of the fisherman with surprise, as he proceeded onwards, anxious to reach the limit of this lovely grove. He found that the peach trees ended where the water began, at the foot of a hill; and there he espied what seemed to be a cave with light issuing from it. So he made fast his boat, and crept in through a narrow entrance, which shortly ushered him into a new world of level country, of fine houses, of rich fields, of fine pools, and of luxuriance of mulberry and bamboo. Highways of traffic ran north and south; sounds of crowing cocks and barking dogs were heard around; the dress of the people who passed along or were at work in the fields was of a strange cut; while young and old alike appeared to be

桃花源記 陶淵明

晉太原中。武陵人。捕魚爲業。緣溪行。忘
 路之遠近。忽逢桃花林。夾岸數百步。中無
 雜樹。芳草鮮美。落英繽紛。漁人甚異之。
 復前行。欲窮其林。林盡水源。便得一山。
 山有小口。竊窺其光。有光。捨船從口入。初極
 狹。纔通人。復行數十步。豁然開朗。土地極
 平曠。屋舍儼然。有良田。美池。桑竹之屬。阡
 陌交通。雞犬相聞。其中往來種作。男女衣
 著。悉如外人。黃髮垂髫。並怡然自樂。見
 漁人。乃大驚。問所從來。具答之。便要還
 家。設酒殺雞作食。村中聞有此人。咸來問
 訊。自云。先世避秦時亂。率妻子邑人。來此
 絕境。乃不知有漢。無論魏晉。此人一一爲具
 言。所聞皆歎惋。餘人各復延至其家。皆出
 酒食。停數日。辭去。此中人語云。不足爲外
 人道也。既出。得其船。便扶向路。處處誌
 之。及郡下。詣太守。說如此。太守即遣人
 隨其往。尋向所誌。遂迷不復得路。南陽劉
 子驥。高士也。聞之。欣然親往。未果。劉
 尋病終。後遂無問津者。

contented and happy.

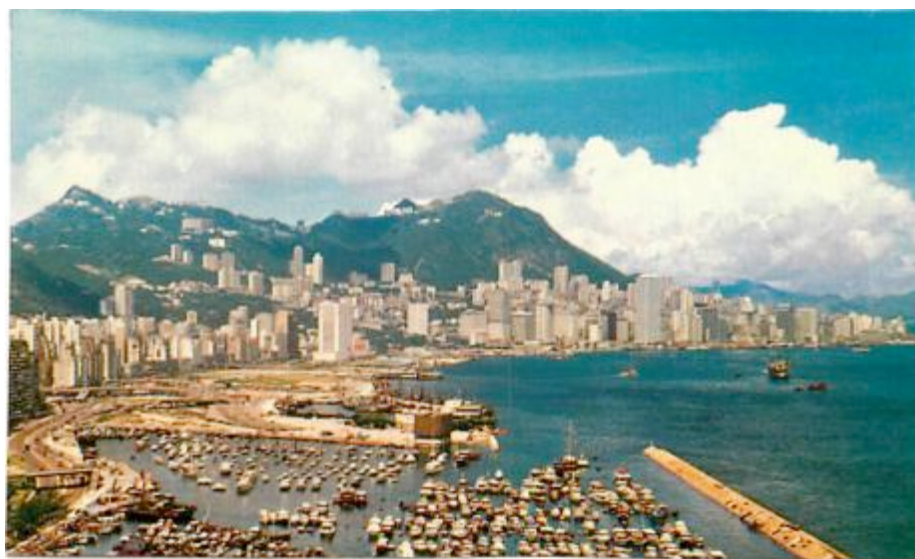
One of the inhabitants, catching sight of the fisherman, was greatly astonished; but, after learning whence he came, insisted on carrying him home, and killed a chicken and placed some

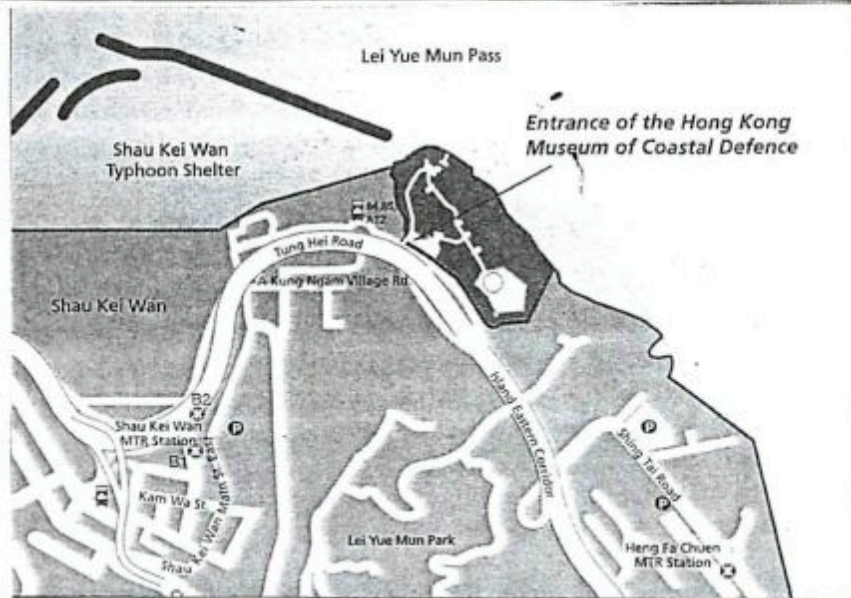
wine before him. Before long, all the people of the place had turned out to see the visitor, and they informed him that their ancestors had sought refuge here, with their wives and families, from the troublous times of the house of Chin, adding that they had thus become finally cut off from the rest of the human race. They then enquired about the politics of the day, ignorant of the establishment of Han dynasty, and of course of the later dynasties which had succeeded it. And when the fisherman told them the story, they grieved over the vicissitudes of human affair

Each in turn invited the fisherman to his home and entertained him hospitably, until at length the latter prepared to take his leave. "It will not be worth while to talk about what you have seen to the outside world," said the people of the place to the fisherman, as he bade them farewell and returned to his boat, making mental notes of his route as he proceeded on his homeward voyage.

When he reached home, he at once went and reported what he had seen to the Governor of the district, and the Governor sent off men with him to seek, by the aid of the fisherman's notes, to discover this unknown region. But he was never able to find it again. Subsequently, another attempt to pierce the mystery was planned by a famous scholar named Liu Tse-kee, but the plan was not carried out. Liu soon died, and from that time on no further attempts to locate the place were made.

These were two stories by Tao Yuan Ming in 'Gems of Chinese Literature' kindly sent in by Mr. Ho Pui Kei. As space allows, we shall try to include further stories in future editions.





The Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence occupies the lower part of what was the Lyemun Barracks area. These extracts from the brochure kindly provided by Dave Kitching will give you the flavour.

B03 Upper Galleries

Galleries

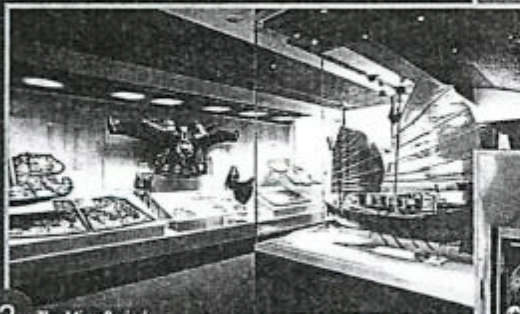
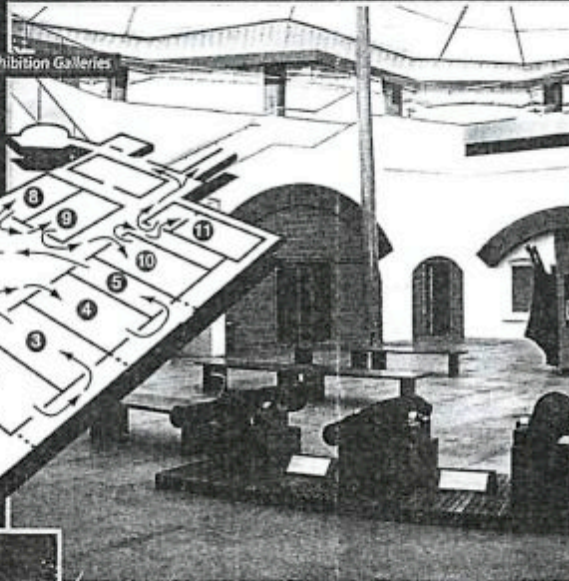
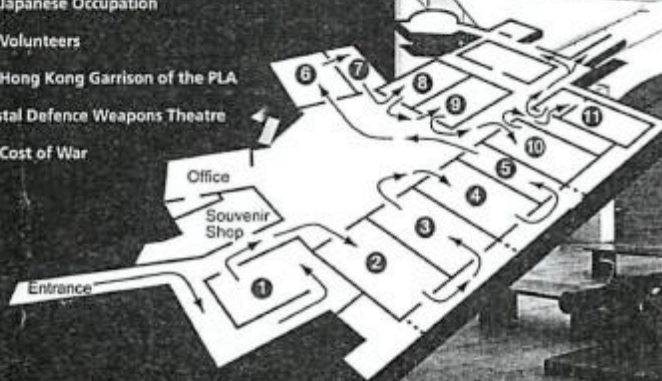
- 1 Orientation
- 2 The Ming Period
- 3 The Qing Period
- 4 The First Opium War
- 5 The British Period
- 6 The British Period
- 7 The British Period
- 8 The Battle for Hong Kong
- 9 The Japanese Occupation
- 10 The Volunteers
- 11 The Hong Kong Garrison of the PLA
- 12 Coastal Defence Weapons Theatre
- 13 The Cost of War



Coastal Defence Weapons



B02 Exhibition Galleries



2 The Ming Period



6 The British Period