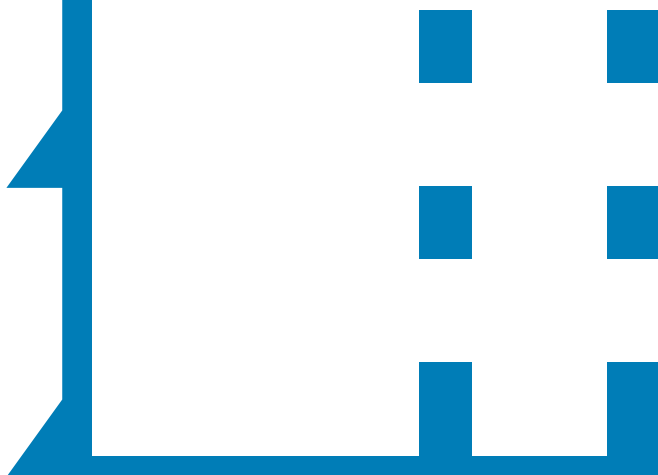


# POST 41



TUNG CHAU STREET

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四十一報

# 前言

## 2 FEATURE 專題

深水埗是無家者的「家」？  
IS SHAM SHUI PO  
A "HOME" OF THE HOMELESS?

## 14 STREET INTERVIEW 街訪

## 16 SHAM SHUI PO TOUR 深度遊

深水埗房屋建築漫遊  
ROAMING TOUR OF HOUSING ARCHITECTURAL  
FEATURES IN SHAM SHUI PO

## 20 INSIDER SECRETS OF MEI HO HOUSE 不說不知的 美荷樓二三事

## 21 REGULAR SERVICE 美荷樓生活館 服務

HERITAGE OF MEI HO HOUSE  
美荷樓生活館

乍寒還暖，四季轉了一輪，一年終將至尾聲。

回望這年，在無數的聚與散裏，很多人重新詮釋了「家」的定義。有人留於城內，棲身百呎窩居，盼圓上車夢；有人扶老攜幼遠去，在他方覓新家園。家，因此有着說不盡的情愫。六十八年前的一場大火，令數萬人一夜失去家園，徙置大廈的出現，成為了露宿街頭的災民安身立命之所。而美荷樓自此為「家」，見證深水埗及整個香港半世紀的變遷。改版後的《四十一報》進入第二期，繼續走進深水埗，關注這個獨特社區的每條街道，包括這期的主題——通州街。

現世艱辛，城市中人來人往，誰也不願稍作停留。在步伐急促的另一隅，有群無家者在公園或街角、路旁的方寸之地，築起他們簡陋的「家」，露宿風餐，沒日沒夜藏身於此。作為社區的一分子，他們常被大眾遺忘，或被側目、厭棄，在社會的邊緣仿若悄然無聲。然而，總有些人願意在困頓中默默同行，傾聽無家者的所想所需，撫慰彼此的無力感，因眾生靈值得有更多被溫柔與善意對待的權利。

未來的《四十一報》將繼續走訪深水埗的大街小巷，記錄這個社區的點滴轉變，與讀者一起深入了解自己的家。同時，亦在此預告，美荷樓生活館將於2022年上半年閉館進行更新及改善工程，並預計於年中以全新面貌的展覽與大家再聚，繼續訴說着舊日社區的生活情景、昔日街坊情，以及這地的蛻變，敬請期待！

在年末年始間，祝願大家一切安好，健康。

2021年12月

# PROLOGUE

The seasons have completed their cycle, and the year is drawing to a close.

Looking back this year, between gathering and departing, many people have reinterpreted the definition of "home". Some stayed in the city and lived in a hundred-square-foot subdivided apartment, dreaming of one day purchasing their first property. Some departed, taking the elderly and children in search of a new home. There are an infinite number of emotions associated with home. Sixty-eight years ago, a fire displaced tens of thousands of people overnight. The establishment of resettlement buildings has provided a place of refuge for victims who were sleeping on the streets. Mei Ho House has become "home" over the last half-century, witnessing the transformation of Sham Shui Po and the rest of Hong Kong. In this second issue following the revision of *Post 41*, we continue our walk through Sham Shui Po, paying attention to every street in this unique neighborhood, including this issue's theme, Tung Chau Street.

Nowadays, life is a struggle. On the street, people come and go in a hurry, and no one wants to stay for an extended period of time. In another unhurried corner, groups of homeless people construct their frail "homes" in parks, street corners, and along roadsides. They sleep and reside there throughout the day and night. As a member of the community, they are frequently overlooked, glanced at, or seen as objects of disgust by the public. They appear to remain silent on the periphery of society. However, in trying circumstances, there are always groups of people willing to walk alongside one another. They listen to the needs of the homeless and console one another's feelings of powerlessness because all beings deserve to be treated with greater sensitivity and kindness.

In the coming issues of *Post 41*, we will continue to explore the streets and lanes of Sham Shui Po, capturing the pace of change in the community and being more familiar with our home. Moreover, we would like to take this time to announce that the Heritage of Mei Ho House will be closed for renovation and improvement works in the first half of 2022. The brand new exhibition, forecasted to be launched in mid-2022, will take everyone back to the past again, which will further engage the visitors to make them feel as if they were living in an old community through a highly immersive design. The past affection of neighborhoods and the transformation of this place will be vividly demonstrated right in front of the visitors.

We wish everyone the best of luck and health during this time of transition between the years.

December 2021



## 深水埗是無家者的「家」？

## IS SHAM SHUI PO A "HOME" OF THE HOMELESS?



深水埗區是香港其中一個歷史悠久的地區，隨着多年來的發展，來自五湖四海的人都在此落腳，包括一群經常被社會遺忘的無家者。

通州街公園是無家者選擇為「家」的地方之一，他們有的會以簡單材料搭建「房屋」；有的以自製板車安放私人物品，再隨意找個位置休息。政府曾將此處的無家者驅趕，並自行處理他們的物品。無家者為此對簿公堂，爭取公義和捍衛自己的權益。今年年初，香港電影《濁水漂流》就以此事件為主軸，訴說着這群人的生存狀況及面對的困難。

無家者被驅趕離開通州街公園，是否代表無家者的問題已經解決？另一方面，無家者在通州街公園露宿，會否影響到附近的街坊呢？

為了細聽社會上不同持分者的觀點與角度，這次我們訪問了曾是無家者的KK、基督教關懷無家者協會的社工Nick和在通州街附近工作或居住的街坊，讓我們一同了解大家的想法。

← 曾經有無家者集居於此西九龍走廊底空地，現時被鐵絲網圍起，不可內進。  
Homeless people once gathered under the West Kowloon Corridor where now is enclosed by a wire fence with no entry.

Sham Shui Po has been developing for many years and is one of the oldest districts in Hong Kong. Many people have chosen to stay here for a variety of reasons, including a group of homeless people who are always being forgotten by society.

Tung Chau Street Park is one of the most popular places for the homeless to choose as their "home". Some of them use simple materials to build their "houses" while others use a wooden cart to store their personal belongings and find a place to rest. They were evicted from this area and their personal belongings were disposed of by the government. They fought for justice and defended their right to take the government to the court. Earlier this year, a Hong Kong movie called *Drifting* was based on this true story and reveals the situation and challenges faced by the homeless.

Although the homeless were evicted from the Tung Chau Street Park, does this mean that the problems of the homeless are being solved? On the other hand, if homeless people live in the park, would this affect the neighbourhood?

In order to listen to the point of views and perspectives from different stakeholders, we have interviewed KK, who is a former homeless person; Nick, a social worker from the Christian Concern for the Homeless Association, and the neighbours who are living or working nearby.



通州街公園

通州街公園位於九龍深水埗通州街，部分西九龍走廊架空於其之上，天橋底下有通州街臨時街市。街市外圍起鐵絲網，並貼上「請勿非法霸佔政府土地」等字句。鄰近有公共屋邨南昌邨，以及私人屋苑港灣豪庭。隨着市區重建，愈來愈多私人屋苑落成，讓無家者的生存空間變得更少。深水埗這個社區在變天的同時，是否可以繼續讓不同階層的人共存呢？

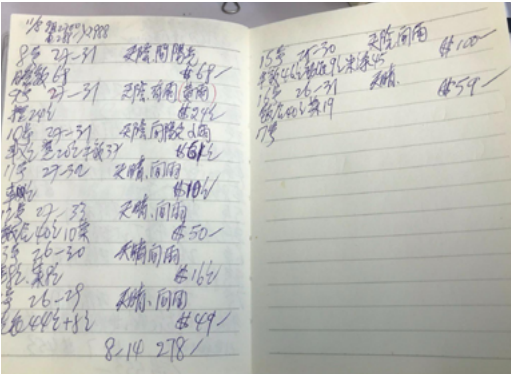
KK人生的上半場

上世紀四十至七十年代，大量難民從大陸來港。曾經是無家者的KK，和大部分上一代香港人的背景差不多。在1960年代來港，小學畢業後，15歲便開始工作。數年後結婚，婚後兩、三年便跟着外父做小生意，售賣生果，兩個孩子亦相繼出世。「雖然工作辛苦勞累，但我為人節儉，靠着儲蓄成功『上車』購買房子，總算捱出一個小康之家。」KK感嘆。

好景不常，隨着後來婚姻失敗和投資失利，當時約50歲的KK人生開始變得不穩定。微薄的工作收入只能勉強維持兩餐和繳付房租，積蓄所剩無幾，如此這般，他努力撐過十多年「月光族」的生活。至最近兩年，因社會運動和疫情的影響，KK的生活更加艱難，在長期失業的情況下只好無奈地將房間退租。2020年冬天的某日，他展開了約一個多月的露宿生涯。

無家者的「選擇」？

香港社區組織協會（下稱：社協）在2021年10月發表了「全港無家者人口統計調查2021」報告，顯示2021年全港無家者人數為1,532人，兩年間增長了18.1%<sup>1</sup>。從調查結果可見，過去兩年疫情令更多人迫於無奈「選擇」成為無家者。調查亦發現過半數（51.2%）無家者是首次露宿<sup>2</sup>。報告同時指出有47.2%的被訪無家者「選擇」露宿的原因，是租金太貴；有27.2%的被訪無家者是因為失業，無法負擔住所<sup>3</sup>。由此可見，疫情的影響，以及香港的房屋和就業問題仍然嚴重。



↑ 慳儉的KK有簿記錄每日支出，規劃用錢。  
KK has a journal to record his spending.

KK正因為上述的原因，加上個性較強悍，不欲找朋友幫忙或尋求政府援助。他抱着信念：「雖然未知是哪天會找到工作，但自己『有手有腳』，總會有找到的一天。」所以，他便「選擇」無家的生活。



→ 深水埗無家者集居的其中一個地方——通州街公園。  
The place where Sham Shui Po homeless people gather, Tung Chau Street Park.

Tung Chau Street Park

Tung Chau Street Park is located at Tung Chau Street, Sham Shui Po. Part of the West Kowloon Corridor is elevated above it and the Tung Chau Street Temporary Market is located underneath the flyover. The market is blocked by a wire fence with some notices saying "No illegal occupation of government land is allowed". A public housing "Nam Cheong Estate" and a private housing "Metro Harbour View" are nearby. During the urban redevelopment of Sham Shui Po, more and more private housing estates are being completed and the homeless have less room to survive. Is it possible to still allow all people to live together in this community while the area undergoes urban renewal?

The First Half of KK's Life

During the 1940s to 1970s, a large number of refugees came to Hong Kong from the mainland. KK, who used to be homeless, came to Hong Kong in the 1960s with a similar background to most of the previous generation of Hong Kong people. After graduating from primary school, he started working at the age of 15. A few years later he got married, and two to three years after the marriage, he worked with his father-in-law selling fruit and later two children were born. "Although it was hard work, I lived frugally and managed to buy a house. I was able to have a middle-class family," KK said.

Time was not always good and with the failure of his marriage and investments, KK's life became unstable at the age of about 50. He was barely able to afford food and rent with a meagre income from his job, trying to make ends meet and running low on savings. He became homeless one day in the winter of 2020, and his situation remained this way for more than a month.

註1: 香港社區組織協會：「全港無家者人口統計調查2021研究」(Chi Only)，香港社區組織協會網頁，2021年10月26日，<https://sccc.org.hk/rp20211026/>，2021年11月30日讀取。

註2: 同上註 Ibid.

註3: 同上註 Ibid.



## 無家者的一天

KK早上會在街上閒逛，或到連鎖咖啡店消磨時間。到晚上，他的第一個落腳地是尖沙咀公園，因為環境比較乾淨，而且長凳中間沒有扶手，可以稍為睡上一覺。在露宿的初期，他因為不知道哪裏有公共浴室，故此不能每天洗澡，到後來才得知，原來有部分公厕有限度開放洗澡設施。至於如何解決三餐，KK憶述：「從朋友口中得知，或者經過看到有人排隊，知道有機構和食肆提供免費餐。」

問及他關於通州街公園部分設施，例如沒有頂的涼亭、「石春路」等等，都是被視為對無家者不友善的設

施。KK認為通州街公園某些位置都算「有瓦遮頭」，例如：行人通道的兩側，可以遮風擋雨。反而，他難以理解長凳中間加有扶手的設計，讓人不能平躺休息。

社協在2019年2月發表的另一份報告——「2019年香港『廿四小時快餐店 無家者』研究報告」顯示，留宿廿四小時快餐店的無家者由2013年的57人大幅上升至2015年的256人，增幅為3.5倍。調查亦指出此情況有明顯的上升趨勢<sup>4</sup>。KK也有類似的經驗，在露宿街頭一段時間後，他認識到一些同路人，因天氣寒冷，便跟隨他們到麥當勞睡覺。雖然有些麥當勞的品流較複雜，不能太熟睡，但有感比露宿街頭要好。

↓ 無家者於公園內「有瓦遮頭」的行人通道下搭建容身之所。  
The homeless people can take shelters from the covered pedestrian underpass in the park.



註4: 香港社區組織協會：「2019年香港『廿四小時快餐店 無家者』研究報告」(Chi Only) · 香港社區組織協會網頁 · 2019年2月24日 · <https://soco.org.hk/rp20211026/> · 2021年11月30日讀取。

## "Choices" of the Homeless?

In October 2021, the Society for Community Organization (SOCO) released the "Hong Kong Homeless Population Survey 2021" report, which showed that the number of homeless people in Hong Kong in 2021 was 1,532, an increase of 18.1% over the past two years<sup>1</sup>. The results of the survey showed that the pandemic has forced more people to "choose" to become homeless in the past two years. The survey also found that more than half (51.2%) of the homeless were sleeping on the street for the first time<sup>2</sup>. The report also pointed out that 47.2% of the homeless respondents "choose" to sleep on the street mainly because the rent was too expensive, while 27.2% of the homeless respondents were unemployed and could not afford accommodation<sup>3</sup>. This shows that the impact of the pandemic, as well as the housing and employment problems in Hong Kong, are still serious.

As the report revealed, KK also has the same reasons to be become a homeless. With his stronger personality, KK does not want to ask friends for help or seek government assistance. He said with conviction, "I don't know when I'll find a job, but I'll find one someday."

## A Day in the Life of a Homeless Person

KK spent his mornings wandering in the streets or going to coffee shops to kill time. In the evenings, his first place to settle down was in Tsim Sha Tsui Park, because the environment was cleaner and there were no handrails in the middle of the benches, so he could take a nap. In the early stage of homelessness, he didn't know where the public bathrooms were, so he couldn't take a shower every day. Eventually, he found out that some public toilets had limited bathing facilities. As for how to get meals, KK said, "I heard about it from my friends, or I saw people lining up and knew that there were organizations and restaurants providing free meals."

Some of the facilities in Tung Chau Street Park, such as the roofless pavilion and the "pebble walking trail", are considered unfriendly to the homeless. KK said that certain locations in Tung Chau Street Park are considered fine, such as the two sides of the pedestrian underpass where its shelter can keep out from the wind and rain. On the other hand, he finds it is difficult to understand the design of the benches with handrails in the middle, which people cannot lie down on and rest.

Another report released by the SOCO in February 2019, the "Hong Kong '24-Hour Fast Food Shop Homeless' Study Report 2019", showed that the number of homeless staying in 24-hour fast food stores increased significantly from 57 in 2013 to 256 in 2015, an increase of 3.5 times. The survey also pointed out an upward trend in this situation<sup>4</sup>. KK also had similar experience when, after sleeping on the street for a period of time, he met some fellow homeless to go to McDonald's to sleep during the cold weather. There were all sorts of people coming in and out the McDonald's and it was hard to sleep comfortably. However, he felt better compared to sleeping on the street.

## 接受幫助還是拒絕？

露宿個多月後，面對沒有工作和收入、積蓄耗盡和缺乏家人照顧的情況，KK雖然不太願意，但仍無可奈何地接受社協的幫助，選擇依靠政府援助，以尋求改善困境的辦法。

社協首先幫KK申請東華三院的食物援助和及時雨基金的應急錢。兩餐就到仁愛之家換領飯盒，以解決溫飽問題。住屋方面，在社協的幫忙下，他在汝州街租住了一間有窗和冷氣的板間房，二千七元月租不包水電，已覺得很滿意。同時，社協在一個月內幫助他成功申請綜援，KK說：「在疫情下他們的行動快速，可以解決燃眉之急。」

## 此處是吾「家」？

作為深水埗區的街坊，KK認為這區有很多特色店舖和景點，可以吸引各地遊客和本地市民前來參觀和購物。縱然深水埗區人口稠密，亦有癮君子和精神病患者，龍蛇混雜，但大部分人都很自律，鮮有大事發生，所以尚算安全。即使街坊的言語不通、種族不同也不會產生衝突。

作為無家者的過來人，KK對於在通州街公園「居住」的無家者的感想是「因人而定」，他認為有些人習慣某種生活模式是很難改變。正因為他的經歷，明白到香港有很多貧困者或露宿者需要幫助，希望政府在這方面可以提供多一些支援，儘早解決房屋問題，讓大家可以安居樂業，繼續共存在這個「家」。

「始終覺得有個安定的住所會比較好。」KK說道。

## 社會援助

作為每天與無家者接觸的社工Nick，是甚麼原因促使他投身於無家者協會，當中有何難忘的經歷，對於支援無家者又有甚麼看法及盼望？

曾在勵行會難民服務中心實習，現職於基督教關懷無家者協會的Nick目睹邊緣群體的困境，令他下定決心，盡自己所能去幫助有需要的人。「很多難民都無法成功取得他們可獲取的資源，他們得到的關注度不高，我希望透過自己有的時間與能力，回應一些邊緣群體的需要。」問及他加入無家者協會的原因時，他娓娓道來。



KK不贊同長凳中間增設扶手，認為會阻礙無家者躺於其上。

KK opposes installing handrails on the benches which obstructs the homeless people from lying on them.

## To Accept or to Refuse Help?

After more than a month of being homeless, KK had to face the reality of no job, income, savings and family members to take care of him. KK reluctantly accepted the help of the SOCO and chose to rely on government assistance to find a way to improve his situation.

SOCO first helped KK apply for a food assistance service from the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals and emergency money from the Rainbow Fund. He went to the Missionaries of Charity-Home of Love and Mercy to get his lunch boxes to solve the problem. From the aspect of housing, with the help of SOCO, he rented a subdivided flat with windows and air conditioning on Yu Chau Street for HK\$2,700 per month, not including the electricity and water fee. In the meantime, SOCO helped him apply for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) within a month, and KK said, "They acted fast to solve the urgent problem under the pandemic."

## Is This Place My "Home"?

As one of the Sham Shui Po residents, KK believes that this district has many unique stores and attractions that encourage tourists and local people to visit and shop. Although Sham Shui Po is a densely populated district with its share of social issues, most people are just normal residents getting on with their lives and, as such, there are rarely any major incidents, so it is still safe. Even if there are language barriers or racial differences among the residents, there are no conflicts.

As a former homeless person, what is KK's view on the homeless people living in Tung Chau Street Park? He thinks "it depends on the person". He believes that some people are used to a certain lifestyle and it is hard to change it. Due to his experience, he understands that there are many poor people or homeless in Hong Kong who need help. He hopes that the government can provide more support and solve the housing problem as soon as possible, so that everyone can enjoy a happy and prosperous life and continue to live in this "home" together.

"I still think it would be better to have a stable place to live." KK said.



→ 無家者露宿的通州街公園旁邊，是高聳的私人住宅樓宇。  
Near the shelters of the Homeless in the Tung Chau Street Park are the lofty private residential buildings.



## 救濟中感無力 順應環境見招拆招

最初加入協會時，Nick負責在活動中心提供後援工作，接待無家者，安排膳食、小組社交活動及興趣班等等。初出茅廬的他，總感到無奈與唏噓：「他們有既定的群體與生活習慣，或許有些原因讓他們停留在該區域和群體中，我們需要花時間去了解，無法強迫他們接受救濟，因為最終決定權在他們手上。」在聆聽無家者的故事時，由於個人經驗淺薄，Nick感慨自己可做的事並不多，只能多傾聽與陪伴。隨着與更多無家者接觸而積累起經驗，這股無力感未有得到緩解，因為無家者的困境源於香港長久以來的社會結構問題。

持續進行的市區重建，整個深水埗社區生態每日都在演變，士紳化的洗禮、形形色色的劏房及板間房陸續出現，最直接受影響的還是基層朋友的生活。面對社會無可避免的蛻變，Nick表達內心的想法：「我們很被動，無家者在當中首當其衝。他們不是業主，只能順應環境，『見招拆招』。」近期，雖然情況稍有好轉，多了過渡性房屋及良心業主的出現，能幫助無家者的渠道增加。然而，一些政府援助計劃的程序及條件較嚴謹，申請費時，難以讓有需要人士應付迫在眉睫的生活。「審批福利需要時間，在等待期間他們依然生活在水深火熱之中。」他慨嘆。

## Social Assistance

Turning now to the interview with Nick, who is currently a social worker for the Christian Concern for the Homeless Association, assisting the homeless people with their needs. We are going to look at the reasons that drove him to join the association, the indelible memories in his career path, and his views and wishes on the relief work for the homeless people nowadays and in the future.

Once working as an intern at the Refugee Service Center of Christian Action Training Services, Nick has witnessed the plight of marginalized groups. After graduation, he joined the Christian Homeless Association and applied himself to the relief work for those in need. "Many refugees are unable to successfully obtain the resources provided to those in need. The attention they receive is rather low. I want to respond to those marginalized groups." When asked why he joined the Association, he whispered.

## No "ESCAPE" from the Plight

When he first joined the Association, Nick was responsible for providing back-up support at the center, receiving the homeless people, arranging the meals, organizing social activities and interest classes, etc. "The homeless have their own living pattern and their own reasons to keep themselves remaining there. They have the last word as to accept us or not." As a fledgling, Nick felt frustrated. When listening to the stories of the homeless, he felt helpless to do anything about the situation due to the lack of experience. What he could do is to listen and to keep them company. Although Nick gained more experience by being in contact with the homeless over the years, the sense of powerlessness has not been alleviated. He found that the long-standing social structure problems in Hong Kong is the fundamental reason for the plight of the homeless.

Under the ongoing urban renewal policy, the Sham Shui Po community is changing every day. The rise of gentrification and the appearance of various sub-divided flats directly affect the lives of grassroots people. "The unstoppable social evolution eventually put the homeless into a passive position. They are not the owner and resigned to accept it. What they can do is to adjust themselves to the changing circumstances." Recently, the situation has been improved due to the launch of Transitional Housing Projects and the growing number of conscientious owners. Ways to support the relief work of the homeless increased. Nevertheless, the application process of Government subsidized programs took a long period of time due to the strict requirements and approval. It was difficult to cope with the imminent needs of the homeless. "It takes time to get approval. The homeless are still living in dire straits during the process." Nick sighed.



## 貢獻中培養成就感 展現所長融入社區

為無家者服務的數年間，Nick跟其他社工都認同讓無家者得到全人發展是救濟工作中十分重要的一環：

「透過救濟的方式，能解決基本需要固然重要，但提供機會讓他們重拾工作節奏與社交群體生活，欣賞自己的能力，從貢獻的過程中獲得滿足感，才能使他們的發展階梯得以完整。」故此，他們積極推動導賞團服務，讓無家者擔當導賞員，帶參加者了解他們的日常生活及分享其背後的故事。從此，不只是單向的救濟工作，無家者亦得到一個發揮個人能力和經驗的平台，對社區作出貢獻。

在貢獻的同時，無家者亦把握每個學習機會，他們曾將出團所得的收入用作到台灣交流的經費，增值自己。當中一名無家者回港後不幸地發現患上癌症。然而，艱苦的治療過程沒有影響他對生命的熱愛，反而頑強地抵抗大大小小的手術。康復後的他依然熱衷於參與各種活動，在不同的崗位上散發自身獨特的影響力，為社區出一分力。Nick憶述：「只要無家者能力所及，他們都會願意貢獻。」



## 訴說生命軌跡 欣賞每一個人的生命

無家者的貢獻及對生命的毅力，不單感動了Nick，亦為導賞團的參加者帶來或深或淺的啟發。透過聆聽他們的人生經歷，參加者了解到無家者的實際需要外，對他們亦有更深的認識。與常人無異，過往的各種遭遇如成長背景、家庭關係、工作際遇、身體變化等等，都影響無家者的生命軌跡，帶他們來到此時此刻，以這個身份與大家分享自己的過去。「我們無需帶着一種特別的標籤、眼光，而是需要花時間去了解每一個人的故事。」Nick相信，在了解過後，大家會對無家者多一份正面的了解，欣賞他們生命的韌性，更立體地認識他們。

協會的工作延續至今，Nick與其他社工認為導賞團不是唯一的方式讓無家者獲取滿足感，他們亦可透過其他途徑重投社會，例如由專業維修師傅培訓他們，讓他們成為維修員，幫街坊進行簡單的家居維修工程，發揮才能。接下來，他們仍會致力為無家者提供各式各樣進修學習的機會，從中發揮所長，讓他們融入社區。

「無家者朋友應該有機會去發揮他們以往的經驗及才能，去回饋社區，他們不只是一個受助者。」Nick如此說道。

← Nick (右) 跟KK (左) 於導賞團時常合作，建立起親厚的關係。  
Nick (Right) and KK (Left) work together regularly on guided tours and have developed a close relationship.

## Cultivate the Sense of Achievement by Contributing to Society

In the past few years of assisting the homeless, Nick and his colleagues have agreed that the whole-person development of the homeless is a very important part of relief work. "There is no doubt that we need to provide their basic needs through relief. However, it is more important to provide opportunities for them. By picking up the pace of work and social life, being appreciated on their abilities, and getting satisfaction from the process of contribution, they can complete their whole-person development." Therefore, they actively promote the service of guided tours. The homeless become guides, sharing their daily lives and back stories to the participants. Since then, not only is there the one-way relief work provided by the social workers, the homeless also obtain an opportunity to show their talent and experience, making contributions to the community.

While contributing to the community, the homeless also seize every learning opportunity. The income from the guided tours was used for the funding on an exchange to Taiwan, so that they could explore more and learn from the others. One of the homeless people was unfortunately found to have cancer after returning to Hong Kong. However, his passion towards life was not affected by the arduous recovery process. He tenaciously received numerous therapy treatments and surgeries. After recovering, he is still keen to participate in various activities, put himself into different positions contributing to the community. Nick reminisced, "The homeless are willing to contribute as long as they could."

## Everyone Is Worthy of Appreciation

The contribution of the homeless and their perseverance to life not only moved Nick, but also brought inspiration to the participants of the guided tour. Besides the actual needs of the homeless, participants could get a deep understanding of the homeless by listening to their life experiences. Just like everyone, the life trajectory of the homeless was influenced by various incidents, such as their growth background, family relationship, work experience, physical changes, etc. All these turned them into the people that are standing here sharing their past. "We should lay down prejudice and take time to understand each individual's story." Nick believes that after the tour, people would have a positive understanding of the homeless and start appreciating their resilience in life. People could get to know them concretely.

Nick and his colleagues believe that guided tours are not the only way to fulfill the sense of satisfaction of the homeless. They could reintegrate into the community through different means, like receiving training by professional repairmen so that they could help the residents to carry out simple home repair works. In future, Nick will continue to provide various learning opportunities to the homeless in order to develop their skills and integrate them into the community.

"Homeless should be given the opportunity to make use of their previous experience and talents to contribute to the community. They are not just recipients." Nick said.



## Q? 那麼，深水埗的街坊對於通州街的看法如何？我們親身來到通州街公園一帶進行了街頭訪問，一同來看看附近街坊的意見！

小朋友亦不會好奇問，因為覺得無家者的存在是生活的一部分，有時候在涼亭附近玩亦有可能一起聊天……

「他們很常隨地解決生理需要，或者用水樽解決，造成很嚴重的衛生問題，他們不只有一個人，而是『一車』，甚至幾車家當，經過日曬雨淋後味道很大。在此工作數十年，我們親身接觸後，都覺得衛生及雜物阻塞行人通道的問題真的很大。可以為無家者規劃一個小區，讓他們在裏面生活，而不是驅趕，覺得只要好好規劃，就可以讓大家更好地共存。但同時，亦考慮到這對政府來說也很有難度，因為彷彿在認同他們到處流連，反而有可能會鼓勵這個風氣。家長不會因為附近有無家者而投訴，因為都是住在這區的街坊，知道這裏的環境，所以不會介意。小朋友不會好奇問，因為覺得無家者的存在是生活的一部分，有時候在涼亭附近玩亦有可能一起聊天。無家者不會主動去騷擾小孩子，反而是癮君子吸食毒品後控制不了自己的行為，可能會撞到小朋友，無家者則是自己過自己的活。」

(深水埗德善幼稚園 胡校長及王主任)

已經習慣了他們在這裏，而且生活在這裏很久了，他們應該也有感情……

「有時候會看到他們在排隊，可能是在等派飯。他們不怎麼洗澡，都到公園水龍頭隨便沖沖，感覺很可憐。我會盡量避開他們聚集的區域，因為部分無家者吸食毒品，會讓人害怕，也會讓小朋友盡量避

開那些地方。我住在深水埗幾年了，平常出入都常見到，已經習慣了他們在這裏，而且生活在這裏很久了，他們應該也有感情。」

(媽媽 Helen)

希望無家者們可以儘快找到屬於他們的家……

「看電視或平時路經時，都會看到無家者。考慮到安全問題，我都會儘量避免路經無家者聚集的地方，衛生問題也是另一個考慮點，但家人不會怎麼阻止我走這些區域。希望無家者們可以儘快找到屬於他們的家，政府可以給予他們援助，提供他們一個家。」

(中學生 豪爺哥)

可以劃分一個專屬區域安置他們，不一定投放很多資源，讓他們集中在一起……

「我不是生長在深水埗區，初時來這裏上班，也會感到害怕，因為附近看到有人派飯券，店外亦常有固定幾位無家者徘徊，很多人會害怕他們影響衛生，而且有時候也留意到有嚇到街坊的情況。但後來發現他們沒有惡意，只是在這裏散步，想想他們也只是為了找個地方休息。我覺得可以為無家者劃分一個專屬區域，不一定投放很多資源，讓他們集中在一起，其他反感的人自行選擇避開。」

(店員 Cindy)

## So, what do the neighborhoods in Sham Shui Po think of Tung Chau Street? We came to the Tung Chau Street Park area for a street visit, so let's take a look at the opinions of nearby neighborhood inhabitants!

## A!

Children are not curious, because they feel that the existence of the homeless is a part of life, and sometimes they chat together when playing near the pavilion...

"The homeless often solve their physiological needs wherever they can, or use water bottles to solve them, causing serious hygiene problems. They are not only one person, but often have a cart, or even several, containing belongings which can smell after being exposed to the sun and rain. After working here for decades, we all feel that the problems of hygiene and blocking the crosswalk are really serious. The government could plan a part of the town for the homeless, to let them live in it, rather than drive them away. Good planning fosters better coexistence. But we also understand that this is a very difficult case for the government, because it appears to encourage homeless people to linger. Parents do not complain about the homeless people near the school. All the parents live in Sham Shui Po and know about the situation here, so they don't mind. Children are not curious because they feel that the existence of the homeless is a part of life, and sometimes they chat together when playing near the pavilion. The homeless do not harass the children. On the contrary, the drug addicts cannot control their behavior and bump into the children sometimes. The homeless people live their own lives."

(By Sham Shui Po Tak Shin Kindergarten, Principal Wu & Miss Wong)

I am used to it. They have lived here for a long time. They should also feel a sense of belonging...

"Sometimes you will see them waiting in line, maybe waiting for a meal. They don't take baths, and they just simply clean themselves by using the faucet in the park. They are pitiful. I will try to avoid the areas where they gather, because some

homeless people take drugs and it scares me. I will also ask my children to avoid approaching those places if possible. I have lived in Sham Shui Po for a few years. I often see them when I take a walk. I am used to it. They have lived here for a long time. They should also feel a sense of belonging."

(By Mother, Helen)

I hope that the homeless could find their home as soon as possible...

"I see the homeless people on TV or when I take a walk. Considering safety as a point, I will avoid passing by places where homeless people gather. Hygiene problems are another consideration, but my family will not prevent me from walking around these areas. I hope that the homeless could find their home as soon as possible. The government could offer them assistance and provide them with a home."

(By A High School Student, Brother Hao Yeh)

I think it is possible to plan an exclusive area for the homeless. It is not necessary to invest a lot of resources. The purpose is just gathering them...

I didn't grow up in Sham Shui Po. When I first came here to work, I felt scared. I saw people distributing meal coupons nearby and there were often a few homeless people lingering outside the store. Many people were afraid due to the hygiene problem caused by the homeless. But later I found that the homeless people were not malicious. They were just walking here and finding a place to rest. I think it is possible to plan an exclusive area for the homeless. It is not necessary to invest a lot of resources. The purpose is just gathering them. Other people who feel disgusted could choose to avoid the area.

(By Shopkeeper, Cindy)

## 深水埗房屋建築漫遊

### 漫遊景點 Highlights →

- ① YHA美荷樓青年旅舍  
YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel
- ② 石硤尾邨21座及42座美山樓  
Block 21 and Block 42 Mei Shan House in  
Shek Kip Mei Estate
- ③ 南昌街組合社會房屋  
Modular Social Housing on Nam Cheong Street
- ④ 美柏樓及美禧樓  
Mei Pak House and Mei Hei House
- ⑤ 石硤尾街斜面樓  
Dwellings with sloping facade  
on Shek Kip Mei Street
- ⑥ 南昌街117、119、121、123及125號  
Nos. 117, 119, 121, 123 and 125 of  
Nam Cheong Street
- ⑦ 北河街58號  
No. 58 of Pei Ho Street
- ⑧ 雷生春  
Lui Seng Chun

### 景觀 Landscape →

★★★★☆

### 難度 Difficulty →

★☆☆☆☆

### 建議起點 Suggested Starting Point →

YHA美荷樓青年旅舍  
YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel

### 路程 Distance →

2公里 km

### 需時 Estimated Time →

約45至60分鐘 minutes

無家者流落街頭，除了因不順境的個人際遇外，房屋供應不足，未獲分配上樓也是原因之一。這同時亦是香港長久以來的居住問題。不同時代的住屋需求反映於房屋的建築設計，讓我們一起漫遊深水埗，認識香港不同時代的房屋建築特色。

**The homeless live rough on the streets not only because of his or her personal adversity, but also because of having no allocation of flat due to the lack of public housing supply. This has long been a housing problem in Hong Kong. Housing needs are reflected in the architectural design of residential buildings. Let's roam around Sham Shui Po and discover the architectural features of dwellings in different eras in Hong Kong.**

## ROAMING TOUR OF HOUSING ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES IN SHAM SHUI PO





## No.1

第一站YHA美荷樓青年旅舍，於1953年石硤尾大火後一年建成，是第一代六層高的「H」型徙置大廈，安置受大火影響的災民。中座連接兩邊翼廈，同時區隔前後地堂。為增加居住空間，在七十年代改建時，將落成時的長方形迴廊拆去向街的一面，改成立屋的露台，只保留了現時面向前後地堂的走廊。

The first stop, YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel, which was built a year after the Shek Kip Mei Fire happened in 1953, is the first generation, six-storey H-shaped resettlement block to house the victims of the fire. The central block connects the two wings of the dwelling and separates the front and the back courtyards. In order to provide more living space, the encircling corridor with the side facing the street was removed and converted into balcony of each units during the 1970s, leaving only the current corridor facing the front and the back courtyards.



## No.2

從美荷樓出發，沿巴域街向前行，途經石硤尾邨21座及42座美山樓，是七十年代石硤尾邨進行改建及重建而成，以增加單位供應，應付當時急速上升的人口增長。狹長的走廊設於長型大廈每層中間，分隔兩邊對門單位。從外面看，大廈兩端及中間的樓梯和電梯大堂都有通風的通花磚牆。



Move from Mei Ho House and proceed along Berwick Street. You can see Block 21 and Block 42 Mei Shan House in Shek Kip Mei Estate on the left side. They were remodeled and reconstructed during the 1970s and 1980s to increase the housing supply in the district to cope with rapid population growth. A narrow corridor is located in the middle of each floors of the slab block, separating opposite flats on two sides. The staircases at both ends, and the lift and staircase lobby in the middle of the block are framed with ventilated brick walls.

## No.4

沿巴域街繼續向前行，到達下一個街口，左邊有兩座嶄新和高聳的公屋大廈——美柏樓及美禧樓，於2019年落成，是政府推行「整體重建計劃」時，把邨內舊式公屋大廈拆除重建而成。大廈不規則的外型，是採用了非標準型設計，因地制宜，務求靈活善用有限的土地空間。Continue walk along Berwick Street to the next block. Two new, high-rise dwellings can be seen on the left side – Mei Pak House and Mei Hei House, both completed in 2019. Under the Comprehensive Redevelopment Programme, the older stock in the district was demolished and redeveloped into these new dwellings. Non-standard design is adopted which allows flexible use of limited land resource and results in the irregular shape of the buildings.



## No.3

轉身望向美山樓的斜對面，南昌街有一組彩色、外型像貨櫃的組合屋，為「組合社會房屋計劃」首個項目，於2020年8月入伙，提供暫住居所予有過渡性住屋需要的基層市民。組合屋主要以鋼材和混凝土石屎板建造，先組裝一個個箱體單位，然後搬到此處合成現時四層高的房屋。同時，箱體可以分離拆卸，以便遷至別處重置。



Diagonally across the street from Mei Shan House, there is colorful, container-like modular housing on Nam Cheong Street. It is the first project of the "Modular Social Housing Scheme", which has been ready for occupation since August 2020. Constructed mainly from steel and concrete slabs, the modular units were firstly made into boxes, and then transported to the current site and assembled into a four-storey dwelling. At the same time, the boxes can be disassembled for relocation to other sites.

## No.5

從石硤尾街往深水埗方向行，沿途可見一些二十層以下的樓宇，最高幾層一層層收窄，形成斜面。這類斜面樓的建築源於上世紀，當時政府立法限制樓宇高度，及樓宇之間需保持闊寬距離，以確保街道日照充足及空氣流通。地產商為了盡用建築面積，便設計了斜面樓。

Walk along Shek Kip Mei Street towards Sham Shui Po and you can see dwellings of less than 20 storeys, with the top storeys narrowing one by one forming a sloping facade. In the last century, the former government legislated to restrict the height of buildings and demanded to maintain wide distances between buildings to ensure adequate sunlight and air circulation on streets. In order to make the maximum use of the building areas, dwellings with sloping facade were created.



## No.7

沿南昌街行至大南街，然後轉右到達北河街58號，可以看見另一棟戰前的三層高騎樓式唐樓，地下是半世紀老舖「大金龍參茸藥材海味公司」。頂層露台延伸至側牆，是一個矮鐵欄圍着的窄長露台，天台也設有石屎矮牆作護欄。北河街58號是其中一棟香港僅存的直角轉角唐樓。

Walk along Nam Cheong Street to Tai Nan Street, then turn right and reach No. 58 of Pei Ho Street, where stands a three-storey arcade building. It is also a pre-war tenement house, and its ground floor is home to a half-century-old store, Dai Kam Lung Co. The terrace on the top floor extends to the side wall forming a long and narrow balcony enclosed by a short iron fence. The rooftop is also encircled by a parapet wall. No. 58 of Pei Ho Street is one of the few right-angle corner tenement houses in Hong Kong.



## No.6

轉到南昌街繼續向前行，會看到左邊並排五棟騎樓式唐樓，分別是南昌街117、119、121、123及125號，是戰前唐樓，現為三級歷史建築群。唐樓的騎樓建築特色是有兩條支柱豎立於地下行人路外圍，一樓以上延伸至行人路上方的建築結構可以「騎」於支柱上作支撐，使地下形成迴廊，供行人遮蔭避雨。而昔日「上居下舖」的設計仍保留至今。

Turn onto Nam Cheong Street and go forward. Here you can see five adjacent arcade buildings – Nos. 117, 119, 121, 123 and 125 of Nam Cheong Street. They are pre-war tenement houses and a group of Grade 3 Historic Buildings. Two storefront pillars are erected on the edge of the pavement allowing the building structures overhanging the pavement to "ride" on the pillars. An arcade is formed on the ground floor for pedestrians to take shelter from the rain. Also, the shophouse setting has been retained to this days.



## No.8

離開北河街，沿荔枝角道向太子方向行，至塘尾道交界，便會到達這次漫遊的終點站——雷生春，是香港極少數的戰前弧形轉角唐樓，活化成為香港浸會大學中醫藥學院。保留下來的方形支柱及甕型扶欄，為建築添加了典雅氣息。活化前一樓至三樓沒有玻璃外牆，而是相通的露天弧形外廊，突顯騎樓的連貫和寬闊。

Turn onto Lai Chi Kok Road and walk towards Prince Edward. At the junction with Tong Mi Road, you will get to the final stop of this tour - Lui Seng Chun, the preserved pre-war curved corner tenement house in Hong Kong. It is revitalized into the campus of the Hong Kong Baptist University School of Chinese Medicine. The conserved square pillars and urn-shaped balustrade add an elegant look to building. The glass curtain walls on the first floor to the third floor were installed during the revitalization. There were open-air curved corridors before, showing the coherence and roominess of the building.



大家或會留意到，無家者常以紙皮和牀褥為墊，躺臥在上面。想來可能因為這兩件物件易於搬動，冬天還可以用紙皮擋風，以牀褥阻隔地面的寒氣。其實，以前徙置大廈居民的睡牀同樣簡陋。

美荷樓生活館展出了不少徙置大廈居民的家中舊物，以重置五十及七十年代美荷樓的單位格局，其中睡牀是必不可少的。五十年代，由於徙置大廈單位空間狹窄，人多的家庭除搭木板牀和閣樓外，亦會添置帆布牀，又稱馬扎牀或行軍牀。朝桁晚拆，以騰出更多走動空間。用數條可拆卸的木條撐起帆布，便可躺睡在上面。炎夏時，他們會把帆布牀放在門口、樓梯轉角和走廊等地方睡覺，乘風納涼。亦有舊街坊分享，當時的大人會拆了帆布牀的木條，來體罰頑皮的小朋友。至七十年代，尼龍牀開始盛行，由於材質比帆布輕，又較易摺疊，便漸漸取代了帆布牀，成為居家良品。



五十年代使用的帆布牀 Antique Canvas beds in the 1950s

You might have seen that the homeless would make use of cardboard and mattresses as mats for lying down. It is probably because they are easy to carry. In wintertime, the homeless can also use cardboard to keep out the wind, and mattresses to shield themselves from the chilly ground. Actually, the beds of the former residents in the resettlement blocks used to be the same shabbiness as those of the homeless.

Heritage of Mei Ho House has exhibited plenty of old household items to re-showcase the unit design of Mei Ho House in the 1950s and 1970s, and beds are one of those household necessities. In the 1950s, due to the cramped space of the units in the resettlement blocks, families with more members would not just set up wooden beds and attics inside the units, but they would also get their own canvas beds, which were known as folding beds or camp beds. Placed at night and folded in the morning, the former residents tapped into the canvas beds for larger walking areas. It only took several detachable wooden sticks to hold firm the canvas bed for sleeping. In the hot summer, they would place those canvas beds at the unit doors, the corners of the staircases, the corridors and such like so as to enjoy the cool wind. At that time, as shared by some of the former residents, parents would detach the wooden sticks from the canvas beds for beating their naughty children. Until 1970s, the nylon beds took over canvas beds becoming the nice-to-have household items because of its lightness and the ease to fold and pack.



七十年代盛行的尼龍牀 Popular Nylon beds in the 1970s



## 美荷樓生活館閉館 進行改善及升級工程

## HERITAGE OF MEI HO HOUSE CLOSING FOR RENOVATION WORKS

美荷樓生活館將於2022年1月3日起閉館，進行改善及升級工程，預計於年中重新開放。新展覽將加入更多互動元素及打卡點，不但帶您認識美荷樓的前世今生，更從多角度了解昔日街坊生活，期望為大家帶來嶄新的參觀體驗。

如欲了解最新消息，請參閱網頁：[www.yha.org.hk/hmhh](http://www.yha.org.hk/hmhh)

Beginning from 3 January, 2022, Heritage of Mei Ho House will be closed for renovation works and is tentatively scheduled to reopen in mid-2022. In the new exhibition, there will be more interactive features and check-in points, bringing the audience through the past and present of Mei Ho House and looking into the lives of the former residents from multiple angles. With this, we hope to bring you a brand new visiting experience.

For the latest news, please visit our website: [www.yha.org.hk/hmhh](http://www.yha.org.hk/hmhh)



## 美荷樓舊居民網絡及義工團隊 MEI HO HOUSE ALUMNI NETWORK & VOLUNTEER GROUP

導賞活動 | 口述歷史 | 資料搜集 | 故事分享 | 文化活動  
Guided Tours | Oral History | Research | Story Sharing | Cultural Activities  
\*活動以廣東話為主 Activities are mainly conducted in Cantonese

歡迎加入我們！You're welcome to join us!

詳情及登記 Details and Registration  
<http://www.yha.org.hk/hmhh>





# INTRO

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