



POST 41

四十一報



美荷樓
HERITAGE OF MEI HO HOUSE
生活館

ISSUE
Nº8
JAN-APR 2019

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IPOST41
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序

踏入2019年，農曆新年臨近，大家準備好為新年置新裝嗎？美荷樓生活館在這一年初，正要跟大家說關於衣食住行之首「衣」的故事。在六十年代，深水埗是香港製衣業「重鎮」之一，山寨製衣廠林立外，衣車行、疋頭行、鈕扣廠、針織業等成行成市。然這期的重點不放在成衣，而是衣成之前的幕後功臣。

當時，家家戶戶都有部「傍身」，是人們的謀生工具，更有不少家庭以此為嫁妝——它就是「衣車」。而香港曾有一代女性，在工廠也好，在家中也好，晝夜踩著這些「腳踏車」。她們分分秒秒以衣車為伴，為香港製衣業以至整個經濟發展貢獻良多，可謂用手、用腳撐起香港半邊天。在專題中，我們一起發掘她們與衣車的故事。

在製衣過程中，布料更是相當重要。那麼，布又是怎樣製造的呢？背後不得不提一班勞碌的紗廠工人。他們在充斥沙塵與煙的環境下工作，髮上、身上總是沾著棉絮。「歷史的聲音」的受訪者潘殿高先生就是其中一員，他的大半生都在紗廠度過：昔日小伙子因上海紗廠招聘，飄洋過海來港當紗布學徒，從此落地生根。即使他現年已88歲，離開紗廠多年，往事如風，流年似水，但這個「小伙子」的記憶依然清晰，更與舊同事相約每年一聚。

年又過年，我們未來一年繼續會透過《四十一報》，以不同角度說出香港小人物的故事，傳承本土歷史文化。在此，祝願大家豐「衣」足食！

封面上圖反映製衣廠的工作環境。/ 1965年 / 香港大學圖書館「香港印象」提供，藏品編號：MSSG-87-002

PROLOGUE

Having entered 2019 and approaching Chinese New Year, have you bought any new clothes for the festival? We at the Heritage of Mei Ho House are going to tell the stories of “clothes” which places first among “clothing, food, accommodation and transport” in the Chinese saying regarding the essentials of daily life. In the 1960s, Sham Shui Po was a crucial district of Hong Kong's garment industry. Not only were there numerous backyard garment factories, but also a wide range of sewing machine shops, piece goods merchants, button factories, knitting manufacturers and so forth. The focus of this issue, however, is not the garments but rather the contributors behind the scenes before the garments are made.

In those days, it was a good standby for every household. It was a tool for earning a living and was even a dowry for some families. It was a sewing machine. There was a generation of women who sewed with treadle-powered sewing machines from day to night, no matter whether at the factories or their homes. They always worked with the machines and not only made a significant contribution to the garment industry but also to overall economic development. We can say that the women “held up half of the sky” of Hong Kong. In the Feature, let's explore the stories about them and the sewing machines.

In the clothing manufacturing process, fabric is of particular importance. But how is fabric created? It is difficult to not mention the workers labouring very hard in the cotton mills. Operating in a dusty and smoky environment, their hair and clothes are always covered with cotton wadding. Mr Poon Tin-ko, the interviewee of the “Voices of History”, was once one of them. He dedicated most of his life to the mill. A lad came across the sea to Hong Kong and became an apprentice because of the recruitment of a cotton mill company in Shanghai. Since then, he has taken root here. Time is like a river and the past is gone just like the wind. He is 88 years old now and has left the mill for many years; but the memories are still clear in this “lad's” mind, and he even still meets his former colleagues once a year.

It is a new year again. In this year, we will continue to tell the extraordinary stories of ordinary folks as well as to preserve the local history and culture. We hereby wish you ample food and clothing!

The upper part of the cover photo shows the working environment of a garment factory. / 1965 / Provided by University of Hong Kong Libraries, Hong Kong Image Database, accession number: MSSG-87-002

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她們腳踏的衣車夢 THE DREAM OF A SEWING MACHINE UNDER HER FOOT

「衣食住行」，以衣行先，衣服的重要性當然不容置疑。從前要製造一件衣服，需要一針一線縫紉，花費不少人力物力。戰後的工業發展迅速，創造了不少新的發明，顛覆以往傳統，其中一項為「衣車」，即縫紉機。衣車讓女性發揮所長，即使不外出工作，也能在家中掙錢，幫補家計。

「勝家」走進每個家

第一部衣車在十八世紀末發明，用於縫製皮鞋。之後雖有其他類型的衣車出現，但因為害怕影響工人的生計而一直不得重視。直至1851年，美國工人勝家（Isaac Merritt Singer）大幅改良衣車，並建立了「勝家」牌，使衣車走進世界各地的每家每戶，亦令勝家成為衣車的代名詞。

Among the basic necessities of life, the importance of clothing is unquestionable. Before industrialisation, all sewing was done by hand and it cost immense manpower and resources. Industrial development in the post war era was very rapid with lots of new inventions introduced. Their creation overturned many past traditions. One such example is the sewing machine. The sewing machine enabled women to contribute their expertise and make some money for the family even though they stayed at home.

"Singer" Reaching Every Family

The first invention of sewing machines for leather shoes appeared in the late 18th century. Though several types of machines were invented later, they were not given heavy emphasis for fear of affecting the livelihood of workers. In 1851, an American worker, Isaac Merritt Singer, greatly improved upon the machine and built up his own brand, "Singer". The brand enabled the sewing machine to enter all parts of world, and turned Singer into a synonym for the sewing machine.

勝家公司借出大批衣車予學校，讓女學生在課餘時間學習縫紉，更會派出專家到場指導，亦可見當時縫紉的重要性。/ 1971年10月4日 / 《工商晚報》

Singer lent a large number of sewing machines to the school for the girls to learn sewing after school. They even sent an expert to the school for guidance and it shows sewing was the critical skill at that time. / 4 October 1971 / The Kung Sheung Evening News



生女琴文金導指，姐小雲綺蘇家專總縫家勝。
。術技的面方經縫關有

「勝家」縫紉專家到學校教授縫紉。由於時代趨向自設自縫世紀，各學校女生對縫紉學習都有強烈反應。金琴文，學生熱烈參加縫紉班，勝家公司借出大批衣車，讓她們在課餘時間學習縫紉，且於每逢星期五由勝家縫紉專家蘇綺雲小姐到場指導，除教授縫紉技術外，並指導使用勝家衣車的方法，及解釋衣車的性能。此項女生縫紉課程，約為一月，月期滿，學生們都能學會一般縫紉技術，進一步的精研，則要各人憑興趣去鑽研及實習了。



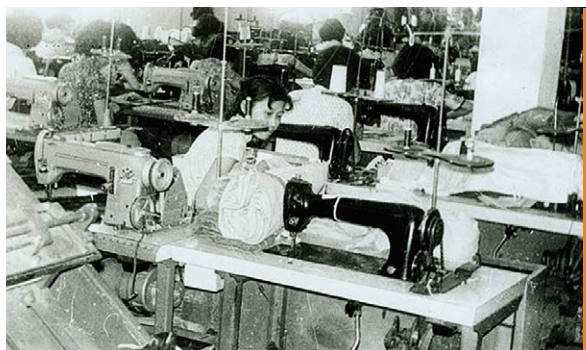
1967年 / 高添強先生提供

1967 / Provided by Mr Ko Tim-keung

她們腳踏的衣車夢 THE DREAM OF A SEWING MACHINE UNDER HER FOOT

在長沙灣一所製衣廠「車衣部」工作的女工 / 1965年 / 香港大學圖書館「香港印象」提供，藏品編號：MSSG-98-006

Female workers in the sewing department of a garment factory in Cheung Sha Wan / 1965 / Provided by University of Hong Kong Libraries, Hong Kong Image Database, accession number: MSSG-98-006



「搵食」好幫手

在五十年代，香港大部分主婦都希望自己能擁有一部私家車——衣車，除了能隨時為家人縫衣裳，更因香港製衣業於二戰後急速發展，她們可到工廠接一些外發工作，打發時間之餘，對家庭經濟稍予幫補。當時中國不少工業家逃難到港，為香港帶來資金和勞動力，令製衣業起飛。深水埗曾是製衣廠雲集之地，皆因這裡「地利」、「人和」俱備——深水埗人口密集，且交通方便，租金也相對低廉，因此在這裡設廠成本較低，亦方便員工上班。衣車在工廠裡自然大派用場，故此對以前的街坊來說，衣車是攸關重要的「搵食」工具。舊街坊文麗香在14歲開始從事製衣業，在青山道的工廠打工。麗香在七十年代剛出來工作時每天工資十數元，那時工資「斷件」（按完成數目）計，多勞多得。後來收入逐漸增加，每日約能賺20至30元，每月數百元左右。在那年代，她們靠著一架衣車、一雙巧手闖出一片天。

A Helping Hand to Earn a Living

In the 1950s, most housewives in Hong Kong wished to own their own sewing machine so they could sew clothes for family members at any time. Due to the rapid development of the textile and clothing industry in Hong Kong following WWII, many housewives were able to take up some jobs from factories not only to kill time but also to help their families make ends meet. The industry developed so fast in Hong Kong because many Chinese industrialists escaped to Hong Kong from China with extensive assets and manpower giving rise to a boom in the textile industry. Many garment factories were set up in Sham Shui Po because the area provided a good supply of labour and land to the owners. Sham Shui Po was densely populated and easily accessible whilst maintaining cheaper rents. Therefore, the cost of setting up a factory there was very low and it was also very convenient for the labour force to get to work. Sewing machines were indispensable in the industry and so they were also extremely important to people wanting to earn a living. One of the old residents, Man Lai-heung, started working in the garment manufacturing industry during the 1970s when she was 14 years old. At that time, she worked in a factory on Castle Peak Road. She could earn over 10 dollars per day and her salary was on a piece-

每天幾角 分期供「車」

不過，衣車價格不菲，外國進口的衣車尤甚，如美國的勝家牌、日本的三菱牌等，在五十年代，每台動輒上三、四百元，並非每戶人家都能輕易負擔——根據1957年香港大學社會調查報告，近四成深水埗區家庭月收入為51至100元；而當時徙置大廈單位月租為14元。因此，不少衣車代理公司都設「分期付款」之制度，其手續簡便，找到具有一定職業的擔保人即可，深為家庭主婦所樂用，「衣車夢」不再遙不可及。大家都能按能力選購不同牌子，每天付一元數角，直到期滿，衣車便成為自己的了。

rate basis so she was paid more by working more. Later, as her income gradually increased, she could earn between 20 to 30 dollars per day, or a few hundred dollars per month. In those days, with the sewing machines and their skilled hands women could create a world of their own.

Owning It by Saving Cents

However, sewing machines were very expensive, especially those imported from foreign countries such as Singer (USA) and Mitsubishi (Japan). In the 1950s not every family could easily afford to purchase a sewing machine which could cost around \$300-400. According to a social survey by the



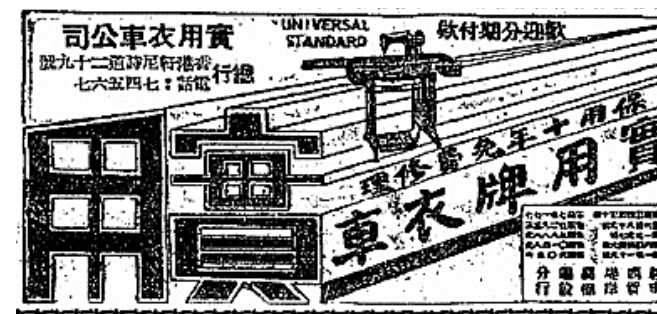
勝家衣車公司在報章刊登廣告，推廣分期付款計劃：首期付45元，之後分18個月付款，每月付23元。
/ 1956年1月7日 / 《工商晚報》

Singer posted an advertisement in the newspaper to promote the instalment scheme. The down payment was \$45 and the following 18 instalments of \$23 each month.
/ 7 Jan 1956 / The Kung Sheung Evening News

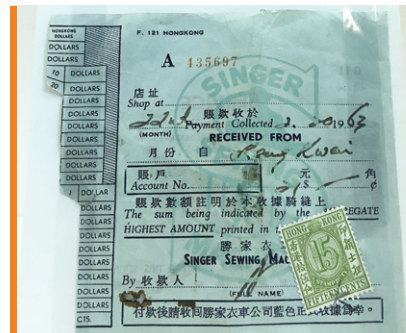


從實用衣車公司的廣告（局部）可見，顧客可分期付款：首次付16元，以後20個月，每月付8元，比起其他進口牌子，相對便宜。
/ 1956年4月26日 / 《工商晚報》

Part of the advertisement of Standard Sewing Machine Co. shows that customers could put down \$16, and then pay another 20 instalments of \$8 each. Compared to other foreign brands, this was relatively inexpensive.
/ 26 April 1956 / The Kung Sheung Evening News



她們腳踏的衣車夢 THE DREAM OF A SEWING MACHINE UNDER HER FOOT



勝家衣車公司的單據，31元應為其中一期供款。/ 1963年 / 美荷樓生活館藏品

This is a receipt for a Singer Sewing Machine. \$31 should be a single instalment. / 1963 / Collection of the Heritage of Mei Ho House

為衣車闖的禍

衣車價格高昂，惹來不少不法之徒垂涎，鋌而走險。除有竊匪將車衣店（縫衣店）所用衣車整架偷去外，還有投機商人冒製勝家衣車。勝家衣車公司駐港代理商早已註冊商標，其他人不得冒用；然冒製事件頻生，勝家公司多次就此行動，如請求警方協助查緝偽造零件的商人，以及控告藏有影射商標衣車的衣車公司等。

此外，有婦女因貪念將租來的衣車押當，因而被控「非法典押」及「騙取貸款」兩項罪名。在1954年的案件中，騙徒被判入獄後，衣車店與押店仍然因衣車擁有權而爭持不下，最終法官將衣車判交原主，即衣車店，事件才告一段落。

更誇張的是，在1953年時更發生一宗女犯串謀頂替坐牢的離奇案件，而「頂包」的報酬就是一台衣車！一名

University of Hong Kong in 1957, monthly income of nearly 40% of families in Sham Shui Po was \$51-100. The monthly rental fee of a unit in a resettlement block was \$14. In view of this, many sewing machine agency companies offered a financing plan. The customers were only required to provide guarantors if they chose to settle payment on an instalment plan. This simple and convenient payment procedure was highly welcome amongst housewives. The ownership of a sewing machine was no longer a dream and they could choose from different brands according to their affordability.

Landing Wrongdoers in Trouble

As a sewing machine could fetch a pretty penny, lots of malefactors coveted and took risks. In addition to the burglars stealing the sewing machines from the sewing shops, some speculative businessmen counterfeited Singer sewing machines. The local agent of Singer had registered the trademark, and no one else was permitted to use it. However, Singer still had to take effective action due to the frequency of the infringement, e.g. asking the police to carry out the investigation into the forgery of components by illegal merchants, and accusing another

因遊蕩罪而被判監一個月的黎姓女犯，與另一名因藏毒而被判監一星期的盧姓女犯，在押送往監獄的囚車中串謀，刑期較長的黎氏著盧氏代名頂替坐牢，並應允盧氏出獄後贈予衣車為酬，結果在盧氏刑期屆滿之日，黎氏自認其名，獲釋出獄，逍遙法外；而盧氏後來被獄中其他犯人舉報，因協助犯人逃走而再被判監半年。

衣車改變婦女的生活，為家庭帶來經濟上的改善，甚至有人為了它而不惜以身試法，其重要性可見一斑。但隨著九十年代開始香港製衣業式微，加上成衣普及化，變得價廉物美，衣車漸漸在香港退出舞台中心。雖然現今衣車已經不復當年的盛況，但衣車所發出的「喀喀」聲，相信仍長留在她們的回憶之中。

勝家控告衣車公司
藏有影射商標衣車
案今晨提審定期下月續訊

勝家衣車公司控告東方衣車公司，指其準備出售之衣車，有冒牌勝家製品之嫌。/ 1955年2月11日 / 《工商晚報》
Singer sued Oriental Sewing Machine for planning to sell sewing machines which were potential forgeries. / 11 February 1955 / The Kung Sheung Evening News

有竊賊在晚間撬門，或以繩自天台沿下店舖的天井，待屋內人熟睡時，將整架衣車偷去。/ 1950年11月20日 / 《華僑日報》

Thieves pried open door or rappelled down from the rooftop to the store, and stole the whole sewing machine after the occupants fell sound asleep. / 20 November 1950 / Wah Kiu Yat Po

竊匪技術日新月異
黑夜盜去整個衣車
白日糾黨騎去單車

company of possession of the sewing machines bearing the Singer logo.

Additionally, some women pawned the rented sewing machine to pawnbrokers out of greed, and thus were guilty of unlawful pawning and deception in their loan applications. In one case in 1954, following the imprisonment of the fraudsters a dispute arose, between the sewing machine shop and the pawn shop, over the ownership of a sewing machine. It was resolved when the ownership of the machine was awarded to the original owner, i.e. the sewing machine shop.

Another more exaggerated example is an absurd case of conspiracy between female prisoners. One stood in another's place to shorten the imprisonment duration. Surprisingly, the reward was a sewing machine! A woman surnamed Lai was sentenced to imprisonment for a month for "loitering". She met another woman surnamed Lo, who was arrested for drug possession and sentenced to imprisonment for only a week. On the way to the prison in the patrol wagon, they conspired for Lai to take Lo's place so that Lai could have a shorter prison term. Lo would then

她們腳踏的衣車夢
THE DREAM OF A SEWING MACHINE UNDER HER FOOT

兩名女子利用一家商店做擔保，向多家衣車店租共十九架衣車，送往當舖騙取貸款。/ 1954年2月24日 / 《華僑日報》

Two women used a store as a guarantor in order to rent 19 sewing machines from several sewing machine shops but then pawned them to swindle the loan. / 24 February 1954 / Wah Kiu Yat Po

典押十九架衣車 兩婦人分別被判入苦獄 衣車店與押店互爭車權

be given a sewing machine as the reward. On the day of Lo's release, Lai stood in her place and was discharged from prison. However, the case was reported by other prisoners and Lo was sentenced to an extra half years' imprisonment for assisting Lai's escape.

Sewing machines changed the habits of many women's lives and helped to improve their families' financial situations. Some people even broke the law in order to obtain a machine and therefore the importance of the sewing machine is easy to see. Owing to the gradual fading out of the garment industry in Hong Kong, and the increased popularity as well as decreased price of ready-made clothes, the sewing machine gradually stepped back from centre stage. Although nowadays the machine is not as popular as it once was in the past, it is believed that the memories of the sewing machine remains.

恆河「紗」數：細說紡織半生緣 SPIN A YARN, WEAVE A LIFE: THE MEMORIES IN THE MILLS

「有呢間紗廠，我哋嚟唔到香港。」潘殿高把大半生時間都奉獻給紗廠。對他來說，紗廠正是讓他於香港落地生根的契機。殿高生於1930年的宜興市，共有六名子女，潘雲舫為三女，潘濤源則為四子。殿高小學畢業後就在農村工作。之後因為局勢問題，上海的紗布廠想搬到香港開廠，但香港方面請不到員工，因此從上海聘請一百多個紗布學徒來香港工作，而殿高正是第三批來港的紗布學徒，並於1949年來港工作。那年正值上海戰役，一群學徒離開上海，坐上船漂浮在汪洋大海，一星期後，戰役結束，上海宣告解放。

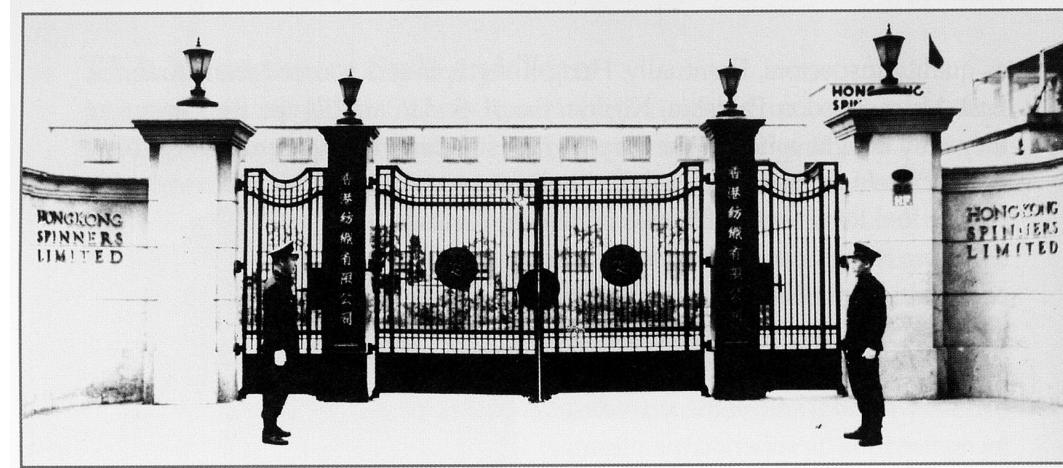
“We wouldn't be in Hong Kong without the cotton mill.” Poon Tin-ko said. He dedicated most of his life to the mill which was the opportunity for him to establish roots in Hong Kong. He was born in 1930 in Yixing City, China. Of his 6 children, Wan-fong is the third eldest sister and To-yuen is the fourth brother. Tin-ko worked as an agricultural labourer after graduating from primary school. Afterwards, due to the unstable political situation in China, a cotton mill in Shanghai wanted to move to Hong Kong but found it difficult to recruit staff in Hong Kong. They could only recruit apprentices from Shanghai and, as a result, Tin-ko was hired as the third batch of apprentices and came to Hong Kong in 1949. That year was also the time of the Shanghai Campaign. A group of apprentices left Shanghai for Hong Kong by ferry and travelled by sea. A week later, the Campaign ended and Shanghai declared its liberation.

香港紗廠正門 / 香港紗廠國際集團有限公司提供

The main gates of the Hong Kong Spinners complex / Provided by HKS Group International Limited

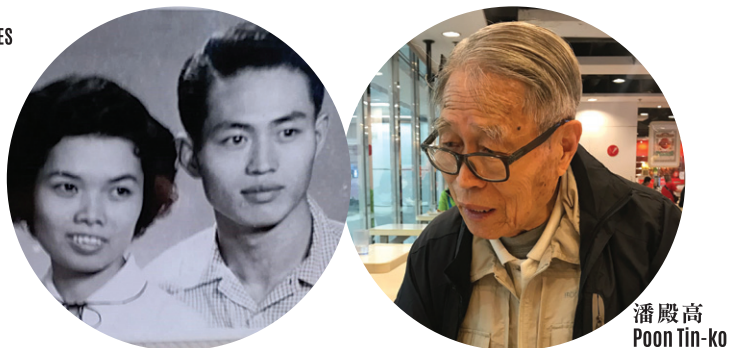


一名女犯為貪一架衣車不惜頂替另一女犯受更長的獄中之苦。/ 1953年12月30日 / 《華僑日報》
A female prisoner swapped another female prisoner's place for a longer prison term for the reward of a sewing machine. / 30 December 1953 / Wah Kiu Yat Po



恆河「紗」數：細說紡織半生緣
SPIN A YARN, WEAVE A LIFE: THE MEMORIES
IN THE MILLS

殿高與妻子於影樓拍攝的照片 /
1956年 / 潘殿高先生提供
The photo of Tin-ko and his wife
taken in the studio / 1956 /
Provided by Mr Poon Tin-ko



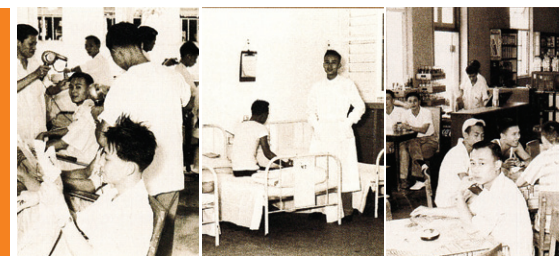
小伙子初來報到

當時香港人口不多，在彌敦道上行走的車輛也寥寥可數，殿高打趣道：「你（在彌敦道）打橫打直行都得。」他於「香港紗廠」工作，是香港數一數二的大紗廠（後來香港紗廠與九龍紗廠合併為香港紗廠國際集團有限公司，通稱為香港紗廠）。初到香港時，紗廠還未正式運作，他便要幫忙清潔剛運到香港的機器。殿高憶述當時香港「搵食難」，而紗廠是大公司，「個個都想入紗廠做嘢，搵飯食，搵工做，唔容易㗎。」不是每一個人都可以進去當學師，求職者要有廠內員工或店舖的擔保方可在紗廠覓得工作。香港紗廠位於荔枝角，不但在紗廠旁設員工宿舍，還提供伙食。他每個月有十幾、二十多元可以當作零用錢，每天會使用幾毫子買東西。後來他在紗廠認識妻子，並於24、25歲結婚，但宿舍只給單身員工居住，於是他們就搬到附近的木屋區居住（現址為聖辣法厄爾墳場）。

The Fresher in Hong Kong

At that time, Hong Kong was a city with a small population. There was only a handful of cars on Nathan Road, which is now one of the busiest roads in Hong Kong. Tin-ko joked, "You could just walk anyway you liked on the road." He worked in "Hong Kong Cotton Mills", which was the top cotton mill in Hong Kong (HKS Group International Limited, commonly referred as Hong Kong Spinners, was established after the consolidation of Hong Kong Cotton Mills and Peninsula Spinners). When he first came to Hong Kong, the mill was still undergoing preparation works and so he had to help to clean the machines which had only just arrived in Hong Kong. He recalled it was hard to earn a living at that time, "everyone wanted to work in the mill but it was not easy to find a job for bread and butter." The mill was a well-established company, so not just anyone could be an apprentice at the mill. The applicants needed to obtain a guarantee from a worker of the mill or a shop in order to secure a position. Hong Kong Cotton Mills was located in Lai Chi Kok. It provided a staff dormitory, meals and the monthly salary of around \$10-20. Usually Tin-ko spent a several dozens of cents for daily use. Later, he met his future wife at the factory and got married at the age of 24-25. Unfortunately, the staff dormitory was only for the single employees, so they moved to the nearby squatter area (now St. Raphael's Catholic Cemetery (Cheung Sha Wan)).

在宿舍裡有理髮廳、醫務室及員工餐廳等設施。/ 香港紗廠國際集團有限公司提供
There were many facilities inside the staff dormitory including the subsidised barber's shop, staff infirmary and subsidised staff canteen. / Provided by HKS Group International Limited



「湊仔」接力賽

之後大兒子出生後，殿高與妻子申請搬到李鄭屋邨徙置區居住，由申請到批核，共需時約一年，在當年來說也算是快，因為同時也有很多人申請搬遷。他們約在1957至1958年間入住李鄭屋邨第六座，一個單位120呎，他們一家三人只可佔用半個單位，月租14元。後來其他子女相繼出生後，潘家變成一家六口，適時同一單位內的另一伙家庭搬走，他們便租住了整個單位，月租24元。那時殿高工資接近一百元，加上妻子的工資，收入共一百多元。潘氏夫婦同任職香港紗廠，紗廠共分三班制，早班為早上七時至下午三時；中班為下午三時至晚上十一時；晚班為晚上十一時至早上七時。因為他們上班時間有別，於是要輪流照顧六名子女。例如潘太上早班，殿高上中班的話，他便會在上班前約20分鐘帶子女到紗廠門口，等妻子下班接手帶子女回家。幸好孩子們都很乖巧，不會自己在街上玩，一起等待兩位至親「手交手」接力，而接手後便要買菜回家煮飯等等。

Child-Minding "Relay Race"

When the eldest son was born, Tin-ko and his wife applied to move to Lei Cheng Uk Resettlement Area to settle down. It took around one year for the whole process from application to approval. You could say that was fast for the time, because many people also applied to move there. They started living in Block 6 of Lei Cheng Uk Resettlement Estate in 1957-58. A single unit was 120 square feet in size and cost \$14 per month. They were only a family of three, thus they could only share the unit with another family. Later, more children were born and the Poon family became a family of six. At the same time, the other family moved out of the unit, so they were given the chance to rent the whole unit for themselves at a cost of \$24 per month. The Poon family's monthly income was more than \$100, including Tin-ko's monthly salary (approximately \$100) plus his wife's salary. Tin-ko and his wife both worked in the same company which ran a three-shift system. The morning shift was 7am-3pm; the afternoon shift was 3pm-11pm; the night shift was 11pm-7am. Since they had different shifts, they had to take turns to take care of the children. For instance, if Mrs Poon worked the morning shift and Tin-ko worked the afternoon shift, Tin-ko had to bring the children to the entrance of the company 20 minutes before his reporting time. Then his wife got off work and took the children home. Luckily, all the children were well-behaved and would not play alone on the street. They would wait for their parents to finish the "relay race" and then go to buy food for dinner.

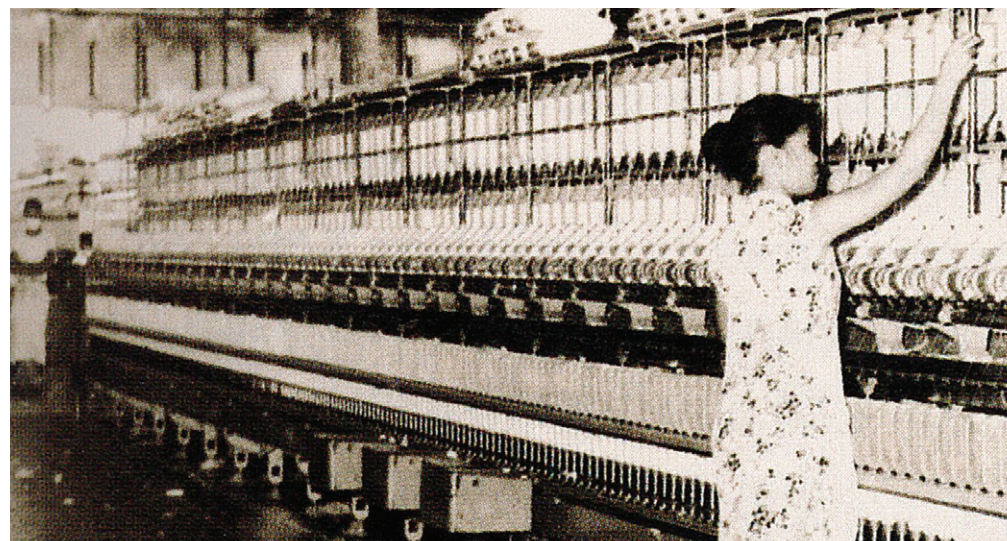
恆河「紗」數：細說紡織半生緣
SPIN A YARN, WEAVE A LIFE: THE MEMORIES IN THE MILLS

衣從何來

一件衣服的誕生，最初由棉花開始。紗廠負責把棉花製成棉紗，之後棉紗便會運到其他工廠編織成布，最後再製成衣服。但由棉花變成紗，中間亦要經過很多部門處理，過程殊不簡單。殿高指紗廠沒有指明的職位，都是叫工人，由上級發放工作。例如他曾於「細紗間」工作，細紗是製紗的其中一項工序。棉花在清理雜質後，便會放進機器裡壓扁，殿高形容壓扁後變得像抹手紙般。之後會捲成一束束，再放進機器裡把已經清理乾淨的纖維弄成粗棉條。然後把棉條合併起來成為「粗紗」，再用機器把粗紗捲到筒上。下一個工序便是「細紗」，就是把粗

Where do the Clothes Come from?

Clothes are made from cotton. The cotton mill was responsible for making cotton yarn from cotton. The cotton yarn would then be transported to other factories for weaving and knitting, and finally becomes a garment. There are several complex steps involved in making cotton yarn from cotton, passing through various different departments. Tin-ko indicated that all the staff were called "workers" because there were no designated positions in the factory and the jobs were assigned by supervisors only. He had worked in the "spun yarn" department and it is one of the procedures involved in producing cotton yarn. After removing the dirt in the cotton, it would then be flattened by the machine and became something like a paper towel, as described by Tin-ko. Then it would be rolled up into a bunch and transferred to another machine to assemble the cleaned cotton into ropes of fiber. Then



細紗工序 / 香港紗廠國際集團有限公司提供
Procedures of spun yarn / Provided by HKS Group International Limited

香港紗廠工人下班的情況 / 香港紗廠國際集團有限公司提供
Workers pouring out of the main gates at the end of their shift / Provided by HKS Group International Limited



紗加工，變為均勻纖幼的紗線。最後，「筒子間」的機器會把細紗捲轉在筒子上，稱為「筒子紗」，以便之後製成布匹，而潘太正是在筒子間工作。

「紗」塵滾滾 危機四伏

對殿高來說，紗廠的環境絕對稱不上是舒適。說到工作環境，他按捺不住要「嘩」一聲，道：「空氣就梗係唔好㗎啦，好大塵呀。」廠內既有煙又大塵，每個人下班出來都是全身佈滿沙塵和棉花。幸好當時工人都有口罩，而廠內亦有冷氣。由於上班人數少，老闆只會考慮個人的生產力，發生什麼事都要自己想辦法解決，因此上班亦有壓力。例如廠內全部都是機器，24小時不斷運作，工作安全都是由工人自己負責。他也曾因工受傷，在當管工時被細紗間的釘夾傷，結果需要入院。而潘太在筒子間工作時，因內有眾多筒子不斷轉動，她於工作時必須同時看管幾個筒子，一有斷線

the ropes would be twisted and drawn into the required thickness before spinning the cotton into spools of yarn. Next, the roving would be passed through the spun yarn department and fed into a spinning frame to draw it out to the desired strength and fineness and become spun yarn. Then it would be transferred again to be wound into large cones of yarn, called "corn yarn", by machinery so that they can be more easily made into fabric. Mrs Poon was responsible for this procedure.

Precarious and Dusty Working Environment

To Tin-ko, the working environment was not comfortable at all. He could not help expressing "Oh!" and said "The air quality was really poor. It was so dusty." The mill was smoky and dusty and everyone who got off work would find himself/herself covered from head to foot with dust and cotton. Fortunately they could wear masks and also air-conditioners were set to facilitate ventilation inside the factory. Since there weren't many people on duty at any given time, their boss would only consider the individual's productivity and they had to take care of themselves in case any problems occurred. Thus, the environment could be stressful and exerted pressure on Tin-ko. For instance,

恆河「紗」數：細說紡織半生緣

SPIN A YARN, WEAVE A LIFE: THE MEMORIES IN THE MILLS

便要處理，故此工作時不斷走動，甚至忙碌得連上洗手間的時間都沒有。繁忙的工作以外又要照顧家庭，導致她後來身體變差。紗廠分三班制，如果有人要請假，便要找其他同事頂替，只要通知上級，下次再幫同事替班即可。但假如沒有找人頂替，上一班的同事便要繼續做，連續做兩班的話工時可達16小時，但這種情況較為罕見。當時於紗廠工作是日薪制，同時設有勤工獎給予該月沒有請假的員工，約有十多元，算是一種鼓勵與支持。後來殿高升職轉去試驗間負責檢驗品質，當時升職不一定由第一批學徒開始，主管會視乎表現升職。

the factory was full of machinery which operated non-stop round the clock and the workers had to be wary of their own safety. One time, Tin-ko was injured at work. Whilst working as the supervisor of the spun yarn department, he was hurt by a nail and needed to be hospitalised. Also, in the corn yarn department, Mrs Poon needed to monitor several large spinning cones of yarn and deal with any problems in case the yarn broke. During her work, she needed to walk around constantly and she didn't even have time to go to the toilet. On top of her busy work, she also had to provide care for her children. This all made her health worse later on. The company ran a three-shift system, if someone needed to take leave, they had to find a colleague to stand in. It was not problematic as long as they notified the supervisor and helped to stand in next time. However, if a substitute could not be found, the earlier shift would need to provide continuous cover for the absent worker. So, the longest working day could be same as two shifts, i.e. 16 hours, but it was a rare situation. The wage was on a daily basis and there was an extra attendance bonus as

小鬼當家

有一段時間潘太身體很差，經常出入醫院，更曾入住明愛醫院三個月。在她入院期間，殿高仍得上班養家，實在是分身不暇，所以雲舫及濤源等兄弟姊妹便要自己照顧自己。兩人稱當時媽媽有教他們使用火水爐，所以雲舫指他們七、八歲就懂得自己煮飯吃，但因為身高的關係，需要踏上木椅子才能夠煮飯。她稱大哥及二姐上午要上學，所以她作為三姐，就要在上午照料弟妹，待哥哥姊姊下午回家接力。之後潘太有一陣子沒有上班，留在家中做手作，兄弟姊妹六人也會一起幫忙，例如造公仔衫、翻「褲仔」（用筷子把玩具褲翻出來）、穿膠花和相框上油等。雲舫覺得當時最難做的是穿膠花，因為手指會穿到起泡，她便不想做；但她喜歡相框上油，因為覺得很好玩。她後來沒有繼

a support and encouragement for those who did not take leave during the month. The bonus was around 10 dollars per month. Later on, Tin-ko was promoted to do inspection and quality assurance. There was no guarantee that the first batch of apprentices would be the first to be promoted. It all depended on individual performance.

Kids are in Charge of Family

For a while, Mrs Poon frequently sought treatment in hospital and even had to be hospitalised in Caritas Medical Centre for three months due to poor health. Tin-ko was fully occupied with his work and could not find time to take care of the children and so the children had to rely on themselves. The Poon siblings mentioned that their mum had previously taught them how to use a kerosene stove. Wan-fong said they knew how to cook when they were 7-8 years old but, due to their height, they needed to step on a chair to do so. She also recalled their big brother and elder sister had to go to school in the morning, so she, as the third eldest sister, would take care of the younger kids instead and wait for their return. Mrs Poon had not worked for

在紗廠紡織的情形 / 1965年 / 香港大學圖書館「香港印象」提供，藏品號：MSSG-53-015
Spinning of cotton yarn in textile mills / 1965 / Provided by University of Hong Kong Libraries, Hong Kong Image Database, accession number: MSSG-53-015



殿高的大兒子與鄰居朋友的合照。長髮的為大兒子，一身當年時髦的打扮。 / 1973-1975年 / 潘殿高先生提供

The photo of the eldest son of Tin-ko and his neighbour. The one with longer hair is his eldest son, with a trendy outfit. / 1973-1975 / Provided by Mr Poon Tin-ko



恆河「紗」數：細說紡織半生緣
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續做這些手作，改為開始車衣（用縫紉機縫衣）。工作做完後媽媽會把部分收入分給他們，所以他們都會很有動力去做。而二姐在小學畢業後亦要外出工作以改善家庭經濟，她在14歲開始於香港紗廠當「養成工」（指由於未熟悉在紗廠內工作的技術，要先經過訓練及學習的童工），工作三至四年後轉到其他公司工作。

在李鄭屋邨住了十多年後，殿高覺得那裡品流複雜，「係紅番區，黑點嚟」，雲筋指那時大哥一頭長曲髮，一身當時流行的裝扮，如穿喇叭褲及戴太陽眼鏡。潘氏夫婦很擔心孩子們學壞，故此申請搬至愛民邨。愛民邨裡部分大廈是較早期建成的雙塔式大廈，外型像兩口井疊起來。他們覺得居住環境較好，有時輪班後要晚上回家也沒那麼擔心。而殿高在1971年開始到觀塘的「大東紡織廠」當領班，



a while after leaving hospital, and so she would stay at home to do some family business. All six of the siblings would help with the work, such as making clothes for toys, reversing the "little trousers" (use chopsticks to reverse the trousers of the toys), assembling plastic flowers as well as painting photo frames. Wan-fong thought that the most difficult task was assembling plastic flowers, as her fingers would be hurt and thus she was unwilling to do it. She liked painting photo frames the most because it was interesting. When she grew up she started to use a sewing machine to sew clothes and no longer did these handicrafts. After they finished the jobs, Mrs Poon would share some income with them, so they had lots of motivation to work. Their elder sister had to go to work after graduating from primary school for the purpose of improving the family's financial condition. She had worked as child labour (one who was not familiar with the skills needed in the mill and had to go through some vocational training) in Hong Kong Cotton Mills starting from 14 years old. After 3-4 years, she changed to work in other companies.

After living in Lei Cheng Uk Resettlement Area for more than a decade, Tin-ko considered the area a "blackspot" with high risk as there were people of all types. Wan-fong still remembered their big brother had long curly hair and a trendy outfit, like wearing bell-bottom pants and sunglasses. The parents were afraid the children would easily go astray, so they applied to move to the Oi Man Estate. Some blocks in the Oi Man Estate are the earlier batch of "Twin Tower" design, which looks like two hollow squares joined at one corner of each square. They

潘家在七十年代搬到愛民邨居住。/ 1975年 /

香港特別行政區政府提供

The Poon family moved to the Oi Man Estate in the 1970s. / 1975 /
Provided by HKSAR Government

收入增加，已經能負擔到愛民邨300多元的月租。惟大東紡織廠於同年發生五級大火，損失慘重，後來員工要被遣散。輾轉之下，殿高轉到「南華紗廠」當主管，直到結業為止。當初在香港紗廠工作的學徒由數百人到現在剩下大約70多人，大家各散東西，他說：「有啲馴咗覺（意指離世），有啲移咗民，有啲去咗外國……」紗廠的工作談不上輕鬆，卻正是紗廠帶殿高越洋到港，讓他與妻子結緣。他在動盪中走過來，半生以紗相伴，一根一根的紗線可以織成衣服，也讓他組織成一個家，這是屬於那個年代的故事。

commented the living environment was better so they were less worried when they needed to be back home late after night shift work. Tin-ko changed to work as a supervisor in Tai Tung Textile Factory located in Kwun Tong in 1971. With better income, he could afford the monthly rent of \$300 of Oi Man Estate at that time. Yet a five-alarm fire broke out in the factory at the same year and it caused significant losses so the workers were dismissed. After a period of searching, he worked in Nam Hwa Textiles Ltd as a manager until it closed down. The original apprentices who worked in the Hong Kong Cotton Mills left one by one, from a few hundred people to around 70 now. People went their separate ways. Tin-ko said, "Some passed away, some immigrated, some went to foreign countries..." Working in the mill was not easy, but it brought Tin-ko across the sea to Hong Kong and enabled him to meet his wife. He has walked through much turmoil, accompanied by yarn for half a lifetime. Cotton yarn can be knitted into clothing, and also knit a family together. This is the story and memory of that era.



即使紗廠已結業多年，舊員工仍會定期舉辦聚會，可見他們感情深厚。/ 2009年 / 潘殿高先生提供
Even though the factory closed down for years, the former employees still hold the reunion regularly. It tells the profound emotional bonds between the workers. / 2009 / Provided by Mr Poon Tin-ko

不說不知的
生活館二三事
INSIDER SECRETS
OF HERITAGE
OF MEI HO HOUSE



走進美荷樓生活館的你，儘管有多細心地參觀展覽，也未必會留意到地下展館天花——那些粗糙的「橫樑」，以及它們所代表的活化過的痕跡。由於生活館在活化前是公屋單位，原先建築的結構無法承受博物館龐大的參觀人數，因此需加上適當鋼結構，用作加固一樓展廳地面的承托力。設立生活館時，我們刻意展示這些痕跡，讓參觀人士在細心觀察時或參加導賞時，可以分辨新加設的物料與結構，符合古蹟活化的原則。下次再參觀時，不妨也抬頭看看吧！

When you walk into the Heritage of Mei Ho House, you may not pay heed to the ceiling of the ground floor even if you examine the exhibition carefully. On the ceiling, there are rough "beams" which demonstrates the traces of revitalisation. The museum area was once a public housing flat but the original design could not accommodate the large number of visitors. The steel construction has therefore been attached to the ceiling to reinforce the floor of the upper exhibition hall. When setting up the museum, we deliberately displayed these traces so that visitors, either by themselves or as part of a guided tour, can distinguish the new materials and structures from the original building design in line with the principle of revitalisation of the heritage. Let's look up during the next visit!

10-12月季度活動回顧 4TH QUARTER (OCTOBER-DECEMBER) ACTIVITY REVIEW

真·深水埗街坊導賞團——行業篇 Sham Shui Po Kaifong Guided Tour of Industries

美荷樓舊居民網路文化活動：「真·深水埗街坊導賞團——行業篇」於2018年10月7日（日）順利完成。由深水埗地鐵站出發，一眾參加者跟隨海濱文化導賞會導賞員的步伐，先後走遍了玩具商鋪林立的福榮街、緊貼電子潮流的鴨寮街和黃金電腦商場、聯成二手鐘錶市場，還有專售衣飾配件的汝州街。在深水埗這麼一個小社區，每條街道都各具特色，琳琅滿目的貨品，讓參加者眼界大開。其後一眾街坊導賞員再帶大家遊覽北河街市外各式各樣的排檔、東成及環球針車行、被稱為布行街的基隆街和大南街，看盡不同行業多姿多彩、充滿活力的一面。感謝海濱文化導賞會為我們準備豐富的行程，帶我們認識深水埗各行各業活生生的歷史變化，亦感激各位參加者的踴躍支持！

Mei Ho House Alumni Network Activity: "Sham Shui Po Kaifong Guided Tour of Industries" was completed successfully on 7 Oct (Sun). The participants followed the Kaifong docents from Hoi Bun Heritage Docents Society walking through Fuk Wing Street, which is famous for selling toys, and Apliu Street and the Golden Computer Arcade, which are the distribution centres for electronic appliances. Then, they visited the second-hand market of the Lung Shing Centre and Yu Chau Street, which is famous for selling clothing accessories. Afterwards, they visited the hawker stalls in Pei Ho Street, sewing machine companies, and Kei Lung Street and Tai Nam Street, which are known as the streets of cloth shops. Thanks to the Hoi Bun Heritage Docents Society for preparing the rich itinerary and the stories from all walks of life in Sham Shui Po. And also thanks all participants for their support!





雙語導賞員畢業禮暨茶聚 Bilingual Docent Graduation Ceremony and Gathering

YHA美荷樓青年旅舍雙語導賞員畢業禮暨茶聚於11月17日（六）舉行。經過半年時間的訓練、考核與實習，一班有心有力的朋友在香港青年旅舍協會總幹事李勁松先生手上接過證書，正式成為我們的導賞員。

導賞員在博物館扮演舉足輕重的角色，是博物館教育中最前線的教育者。我們素來重視導賞服務，美荷樓生活館開幕至今五年，只要是開放的日子，都會提供至少一團的導賞團。這屆雙語導賞員的加入，相信能回應更多服務受眾的需要。

雖然名為「畢業禮」，更其實只是個開端，我們非常期待雙語導賞員與本會一起走得更遠，讓更多來自五湖四海的朋友，認識此活化項目背後的故事。

The Graduation Ceremony and Gathering of Bilingual Docents was held on 17 Nov (Sat). After half a year of training, examination and practicum, these docents were given graduation certificates by Mr Terence Lee, the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association.

Docents play an important role in the museum and they are the educators at the front line of museum education. We have always placed great emphasis on the guided tour service. At least one tour is provided every opening day of the museum since its first launch. We believe that the addition of the bilingual docent can meet the needs of different service recipients.

The Graduation Ceremony is not the end but rather just the beginning. With the combined efforts of the bilingual docents, we look forward to sharing the stories of this revitalisation project with more people from all over the world.

以物易物墟市 x 漂書 Mei Ho House Bazaar x Book Crossing

「以物易物墟市x漂書」在「文化美荷樓」中大受歡迎，因此我們在11月11日（日）再度舉行這項活動，讓大家能趁著新一年來臨之前整理家中物品，為舊物尋找新主人之餘，自己也可以換取適合的物品，為家中帶來一翻新氣象，迎接美好新一年。

在墟市中，登記做檔主的參加者為自己的檔攤張羅一番，與其他參加者介紹物品的背景與功用，參加者不但可以以實物交換，有大人分享自己的故事，小朋友以一個「飛吻」、一個笑容、一首歌曲，換得他們的心頭好——一個四歲的小男孩在墟市逗留良久，放著玩具不看，獨對攤檔中的萬用旅行插頭、澆花灑水壺愛不釋手，最後更把後者帶回家，說要洗澡用呢！同場還設有漂書櫃，鼓勵以書換書，享受閱讀的樂趣。

是次活動在熱鬧歡快的氣氛中圓滿結束，無論檔主抑或參加者都在物質上與心靈上滿載而歸，謝謝大家支持！下次見！



"Mei Ho House Bazaar x Book Crossing" was popular in the "Cultural Mei Ho House". As 2018 came to a close, the activity was held again on 11 Nov (Sun) to allow people to tidy up and organised their home for the new year. Participants found new owners for their old stuff, and also exchanged them with suitable things from other participants to welcome the new year and bring a fresh look to their home.

In the bazaar, the registered participants made preparation for their "stalls" and introduced the background and usage of their items. The participants could barter between each other but if you did not have anything for exchange, some "stall owners" could instead listen to your story as an exchange item. Some children received items by blowing a kiss, showing a sweet smile or singing a song. One four-year-old boy stayed for a long time in the bazaar, not because of toys but because of a worldwide travel adaptor and a watering pot. He could finally take the latter home and said that he would take a shower using the pot! A bookcase was also set up for "book-crossing" with the aim of promoting both book exchange and the fun of reading.

We were delighted to see all the participants soaked in the happiness of the event and returning home with both material and spiritual success. Thanks for your support! See you next time!



2018
DEC

17

2019
JAN

31

相聚美荷 冬至盆菜宴

Poon Choi Gathering Night at Mei Ho House

美荷樓舊居民網絡活動：「相聚美荷 冬至盆菜宴」在12月14日（五）順利完成。

一眾舊街坊和美荷樓舊居民網絡成員聚首於YHA美荷樓青年旅舍，齊齊「做冬」過節。

參加者除了享用盆菜美食外，還一同懷緬往昔住在徙置大廈的日子，哪裡有糧油店、哪裡有學校，就像將當年石硤尾的地圖從腦海中尋回記憶，並跟大家一起拼貼出來。更有認識數十載的三五知己，趁這個大好機會相聚於美荷樓。

感謝各位參加者冒著寒冷的天氣，回來與我們過一個暖烘烘的晚上。

Mei Ho House Alumni Network Activity: Poon Choi Gathering Night at Mei Ho House was successfully completed on 14 Dec (Fri).

Our members gathered at YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel not only enjoying the delicious Poon Choi, but also sharing the childhood memories of when they lived in the Shek Kip Mei resettlement blocks. They shared their memories of the good old days. Some of the participants also had fun with their old friends.

Thank you for joining our activity and hope you had a happy Winter Solstice!



美荷樓舊居民網絡文化活動：留住這一刻的美・攝影比賽

MEI HO HOUSE ALUMNI NETWORK ACTIVITY: RETAIN THIS MOMENT · PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



美荷樓
MEI HO HOUSE

美荷樓舊居民網絡文化活動

留住這一刻的美

攝影比賽

由作為香港的第一代公共房屋，到今天活化成青年旅舍的美荷樓，不但見證着香港時代變遷，走進美荷樓生活館，更有如回到昔日徙置區的街頭巷尾！有人喜歡這裡所保留着的昔日情懷，有人喜歡在這裡感受現代化的青年旅舍，亦有人在這裡找到遠離都市的閒適。這一刻在你眼中所見的，又是怎樣的美荷樓？馬上拿起相機，拍下美荷樓的最美的一刻！

獎品包括：

冠軍 YHA美荷樓青年旅舍雙床/雙人大床房住宿一晚連早餐

亞軍 XPower MS1 3軸手機穩定器（雲台）一個（價值HK\$998）

季軍 Fujifilm Instax mini 9即影即有相機一台（價值HK\$850）

第4-10名 美荷樓生活館紙膠帶「公屋印記」及「H座大冒險」各一卷、深水埗康樂棋一盒、YHA美荷樓青年旅舍紀念明信片一套



美荷樓生活館紙膠帶



深水埗康樂棋

YHA 美荷樓青年旅舍賀年活動： 「豬」玉福滿堂 美荷迎新歲

JAN 26 SAT

農曆新年快到，大家都準備送狗迎豬，香港青年旅舍協會謹祝各位新年進步、心想事成！

今年，我們一如以往邀請書法家黃應常老師及劉敬楠先生示範書法，並慷慨送贈揮春，更有創作人及導師教導大家利用簡易材料製作「新年花燈燈燈燈」手作坊，讓大家可以為家居添上新佈置。同場除了有新春照相區外，更有美荷樓期間限定新年印章，大家可以即席發揮創意，親手製作獨一無二的揮春和利是封！

日期 2019年1月26日（星期六）

時間 下午2時30分至4時30分

地點 YHA美荷樓青年旅舍多用途室

藝術家 黃應常老師（中國書法家）、
劉敬楠先生（中國書法家）、
（創作人及導師）

對象 美荷樓舊居民網絡成員*及旅舍住客

報名方法 即場報名參加

參加辦法及詳情請瀏覽活動網頁：

<http://bit.ly/RetainThisMoment>



*請在此登記成為舊居民網絡成員，費用全免：

<http://www.yha.org.hk/zh/our-services/meh-ho-house-revitalisation-project/become-a-member/>



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隔週星期日 Alternate Sundays

11:30 -12:15

• 請在 www.yha.org.hk/hmhh 網上預約

Please register in www.yha.org.hk/hmhh

服務對象 TARGET

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Public / 20 people per tour

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17:00 -18:00

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Cantonese / English / Mandarin

人數 NO. OF VISITORS

最多50人 Max. 50 people

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每位入場費\$20

每位額外導賞服務\$30

每團最低消費\$1000

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\$30 / head extra guided tour charge

minimum charge \$1000 per group

導賞服務 Guided Tour Service

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Please download the application form in www.yha.org.hk/hmhh and email to hmhh@yha.org.hk or fax to 3755 4378

開放時間 OPENING HOURS

星期二至星期日 — 上午 9 時 30 分至下午 5 時正
逢星期一 — 休息（公眾假期除外）
農曆年初一至初三 — 休息
平安夜及農曆新年除夕 — 下午 3 時 30 分閉館

Tuesdays to Sundays — 9:30am to 5:00pm
Mondays — Closed (except public holidays)
First three days of the Chinese New Year — Closed
Christmas Eve and Chinese New Year's Eve — Closed at 3:30pm

免費入場 **FREE ADMISSION**

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（港鐵深水埗站 B2 出口步行約 5 分鐘）
G/F, YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel,
Block 41, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon
(5-min walk from Sham Shui Po MTR Station Exit B2)

☎ (852) 3728 3544 ✉ hmhh@yha.org.hk 🌐 www.yha.org.hk/hmhh

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