

## **Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden**

### ANNUAL REPORT 2006 and 2007

**Celebrating Fifty Years of Service to Hong Kong** 



Guests, Members of the Board and staff of KFBG at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2006.

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Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Annual Report 2006 and 2007

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Cover photos:

(Top) Kadoorie Experimental & Extension Farm in the 1950's was surrounded by hills covered with grasslands. The newly constructed farm buildings and terraces marked the beginning of the Farm's contribution to the development of agriculture in Hong Kong. (Bottom) Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden today is a conservation and education centre surrounded by lush vegetation.

## **About KFBG**

Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden (KFBG) is situated below the northern slopes of Hong Kong's Tai Mo Shan mountain. Two steep spurs enclose its deep-set valley, which shelters streams, woodlands, orchards and vegetable terraces, together with conservation and education facilities. In the post-war years, Hong Kong was flooded with destitute immigrants. Many had traditional agricultural knowledge of crop production and livestock farming. They required support to rebuild their lives. In response to these pressing human needs, Lord Lawrence and Sir Horace Kadoorie established the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association (KAAA) in 1951. The Kadoorie brothers, part of a well-established business family, saw wealth as a sacred trust to benefit mankind. The KAAA provided agricultural input, interest-free loans and training. With such aid, countless families and communities built small wells, irrigation channels, terraces, pathways, pigsties and houses. The success of the KAAA sponsored a self-help movement that brought many laurels, including the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1962.

Hong Kong's unparalleled prosperity since the mid-1970's has led to a decline in farming. In the midst of wider social change and rapid economic expansion, a new direction was needed. Growing ecological knowledge indicated that Hong Kong and South China's natural diversity was under much greater threat than previously thought. In January 1995, the Legislative Council of Hong Kong passed an Ordinance (Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Corporation Ordinance Chapter 1156) incorporating Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden as a non-profit corporation. The new focus was to promote conservation education, environmental sustainability, and the protection of biodiversity in Hong Kong and beyond.

KFBG has a unique public-private partnership. Though KFBG is a public corporation, its funding and management is in private hands. A Board of Directors appointed by the Trustees of the Kadoorie Foundation independently manages KFBG. KFBG spreads over 148 hectares on land leased from the Government. KFBG runs many collaborative programmes with government agencies, universities and non-government organisations.

## **Mission and Vision**

#### **MISSION**

We exist to increase the awareness of our relationship with the environment and bring about positive change in the world through conservation and education.

#### VISION

KFBG will help create a world without environmental crisis, in which conservation of the natural heritage and sustainable living enable people to live in contentment, with respect for each other and nature.

### **CORE VALUES**

#### **Sustainable Living**

We believe in simple and responsible lifestyles. We examine the impact of all our actions, and strive to take only what we need, having regard for future generations and the natural environment.

#### **Fairness and Justice**

We strive to be fair and accountable in the way we do things. We value socially equitable systems that protect natural and cultural diversity and the interests of all generations.

#### **Love and Happiness**

We value love for the environment and awareness of the interrelationship of all things. We recognise the intrinsic worth of people and nature and have compassion and respect for all life. We believe our own happiness lies in creating and sharing happiness with others.

#### **Learning and Openness**

We believe in learning, continuous improvement, respecting different viewpoints and participation. We translate environmental principles into practical, holistic solutions, balancing scientific objectivity and creative intuition.

#### Professionalism

We strive to be caring and committed, and to uphold professional standards and best practices. We value our independence as well as our partnerships with individuals, communities and organisations.

## Foreword

In 2006, KFBG celebrated 50 years of service to the Hong Kong community. The years of agricultural aid were characterised by a deep love and respect for people and in more recent years, our work has expanded to meet the challenges faced by the deterioration of the environment.

Our materialistic culture has given rise to numerous social and environmental problems. Increasing pollution, the spread of new viruses, water and energy shortages, biodiversity loss and climate change are just some of the impacts of human population growth and modern consumption patterns.

To meet and address these overwhelming circumstances will demand nothing short of a revolution in human consciousness - in the way we see ourselves and the environment. Therein lies the beauty of the challenge, for at the heart of this revolution lies a growing sense of joy, wonder and connection with nature.

All beings desire to be happy - to be treated with love and respect - but it is often only through adversity that we are able to discover the key to this fulfillment. Difficult times are ahead, but the great minds and hearts of KFBG staff, partners, visitors and many others are rising to the challenge.

#### Andrew McAulay

Chairperson

## Preface

This report covers the period from April 2006 to the end of December 2007 and is a transition to a calendar year format for the Annual Report in the future.

I thank and give praise to our committed staff team of 220 or so for their enduring hard work, innovation and passion. Their tremendous physical, emotional, spiritual and intellectual input continues to have significant positive impact on many levels, across many areas.

Whether they are a Department Head, a guard, a conservation officer, a worker pruning plants, feeding turtles or sweeping paths; or an expert studying the forests of Hainan their individual contribution is vital to the whole organization, Hong Kong and South China.

I'd also like to recognize and thank the team of over 300 volunteers without whose goodwill and selfless contribution we could not do our work so effectively.

I must also thank the large number of partners in Hong Kong, South China and indeed worldwide with whom we work. These include NGO's, government departments, schools, universities, community groups, academics and other specialists. We value our collaboration with you.

We were happy to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2006. I am very humble and thankful for the foundation that has been put in place by the passion of the founders, Horace and Lawrence Kadoorie and all the people who have contributed to the Farm over these years. We strive to maintain the deep spirit, passion and love that has brought the organization to where it is, so that we can have meaningful impact, everyday. We believe our role is to alert people to the threats to the future of life on earth and to encourage people to join a growing movement of citizens who are taking positive steps to deal with the challenges we face now and will face in the future. We try to help people to make an emotional connection to the natural world so that they may love and appreciate its wonder, gain spiritual strength from nature and so want to conserve it. We also provide people with a range of practical tools and concepts to help them live a more sustainable lifestyle and so reduce their impact and be able to cope in these changing times.

In pursuit of these aims we have maintained mature, existing programmes and experimented with new, exciting projects. The highlights for me are the many enhancements we have made to the on-site exhibits including new animal exhibits, walking trails and educational displays; and the innovative 'One Tonne Challenge' programme which has sought to engage the community of Hong Kong to reduce their personal carbon dioxide emissions.

Our work is very important. We are doing what we can to help to change the world for the better. Even though these are difficult times of greed, war, destruction, ignorance, apathy and overpopulation we must not despair. We must all have hope and spread hope to the community. Having a personal relationship with animals, trees, plants and the complex web of life can provide the strength required to spread this message of hope.

Andy Brown

Executive Director



### **KADOORIE FARM AND BOTANIC GARDEN**

Opening Speech given by Andrew McAulay, Chairperson, Board of KFBG at the 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2006

 oday on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2006, we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Kadoorie Farm. It is great to welcome our staff, partners, ex-staff and other old friends.

22<sup>nd</sup> April is both Earth Day and the anniversary of the passing away of the Farm's principal founder, Horace Kadoorie - so it is a very appropriate day for us to be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

It was in the early summer of 1956 that the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association started to acquire the leases to this site to continue the work that it had begun 5 years earlier. At that time, this was known as the Kadoorie Experimental & Extension Farm - and, as the name suggests, it was the centre for both a wide range of agricultural experiments and an extension programme that eventually touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of farmers and fishermen throughout Hong Kong.

What made this programme special was the level of care and attention that was paid to the situations of those who were helped. The "K triple A", as it was known, was conceived not as a charity, but as a partnership with people. The motto was "to help people to help themselves" and the most important thing was to preserve peoples' dignity.

Each case was different. Amongst the early beneficiaries was a group of people who complained that the land they had been given was full of rocks; the KAAA offered to supply cement so that if the rocks were dug up, they could be used to build pigsties. At the same time, 2 pigs were promised for each pigsty that was built and training was offered in how to cultivate the land that had been cleared. It was in ways like this that the Farm built its reputation for caring deeply for people.

Of course, it took the hard work of many people to carry out these programmes - but one person stood out as the figurehead and that was Horace. Horace's personal philosophy was that the secret to happiness is to give happiness to others - and from the point of view of his family, he sometimes seemed to go to extreme lengths to achieve this.

In one story that I heard, he had a special coat made with big inside pockets to fit lots of cash. After the work day ended, he would wander alone around the villages looking for people who had been unable to take advantage of any of the KAAA programmes. To them he would give hard cash to enable them to survive.

Some of you will remember Horace. In his final years, he was confined to a wheel chair. He had a broken thigh, a broken hip and Parkinson's disease - which meant that he couldn't move or talk and had to have everything done for him. And yet, even in this condition, he was still thinking of ways to help people. I remember a nurse saying to me that looking after him was a most incredible experience. He would come to the Farm every Saturday and when I introduced him to new staff, I noticed that his eyes would shine in welcome. To me he was a great example that there is something inside a human body that is beyond pain and that each one of us can access that by living selflessly.

This KAAA spirit, which Horace embodied, continues to inspire our work. And to me it is no accident that the Farm is located on the slopes of Kwun Yum Shan, a mountain dedicated to a symbol of love and compassion. There is a powerful energy here, whether you attribute it to KAAA or Kwun Yum or the beauty of the gardens or of nature - and many peoples' lives continue to be uplifted by visiting the Farm.

What that means for those of us who work here is that we have a responsibility that goes beyond that of an ordinary job. We have a responsibility to protect the atmosphere here. The Farm needs our enthusiasm and our devotion - to people and to the environment - and that is why our core values include Love & Happiness.

In 1995, the Legislative Council passed an ordinance to incorporate the Farm with a new environmental mission. We have officially become a refuge for animals and plants as well as a place that cares for people. And this reflects our growing awareness that all living things are connected - that the happiness of all other beings is related to our happiness.

Since 1995, we have established new departments and developed new programmes to protect nature and touch peoples' hearts in an ever-increasing number and variety of ways. From wildlife rehabilitation and reforestation to promoting organic farming and running workshops and events with both science and art-based agendas - in both Hong Kong & South China - it has been truly awesome to see how much our staff and volunteers have achieved.

The level of energy and professionalism in our Administration and Facilities departments has also increased and last year we received 180,000 visitors - well over twice the figure for 1995.

As many of you know, in the last few years, we have been refining and expanding our mission, giving it a depth that was not previously apparent. We have undertaken to explore the way our society works, in order to better understand how we have ended up in our current predicament - facing an environmental crisis that threatens much of life on Earth. And this requires a lot of soul searching - it cannot be carried out by just one of us, or even a group of us; it has to be carried out by each one of us.

At the heart of this process is a questioning of the assumptions that we - and our society - hold most dear. For example, the idea that economic growth benefits everyone. We need to ask who really benefits from economic growth? What happens to the gap between rich and poor? What happens to the environment?



Mr. Andrew McAulay, Chairperson of the Board of Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden, delivering the Opening Speech on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2006.

We need to exercise great discrimination with respect to our sources of information - being aware of the different forces which shape the content of the media. And finally we must ask questions about ourselves: what really makes us happy? How deeply do we contemplate this or do we just trust what other people - or the media - say?

A big part of our mission is education and many of our staff play the role of education officers, in one capacity or another. So in order to do our job effectively, we are seeking to become a learning organization - continually deepening our understanding of the links between different perspectives: environmental, political, economic, social and spiritual. Here in Hong Kong, at this particular time, we are cushioned from the effects of the environmental crisis. We are not poor farmers; we are not the people, animals and plants of the forests that are being destroyed to provide us with the things we take for granted; and we have yet to feel the full impact of issues such as climate change and oil depletion. But we will have to face the consequences eventually.

When that time comes, what will determine how we cope personally and how we are able to support each other, will be the effort that we have put in at this time - especially the attitude, towards ourselves and others, that we have cultivated. We have a lot of work to do and it is not all going to be easy - but not many people in this world have the privilege to be able to do this kind of work. We are fortunate, because it is a joyful enterprise.

In fact, it is an amazing opportunity to evolve as human beings. We often talk loosely about connecting to the environment, but it is a profound topic - one that has the power to uplift and completely transform our experience of life. Ultimately, it is about connecting to the deepest part of ourselves. So I want to thank each one of you, staff, partners and friends for being a part of our mission - as well as the Farm itself for giving us this opportunity.

Thank You.

Andrew McAulay Chairperson

To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, our staff, guests and members of the public planted 2,006 native tree seedlings (for the year 2006) on the slopes of Tai Mo Shan above the Farm on 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April. We also placed a plaque at the tree-planting site containing the following poem written by our Chairperson, Andrew McAulay.

In fifteen years or so, we hope that one would have to search in a forest, alive with plants, insects, birds and other animals to find the plaque.

#### WHEN YOU PLANT A TREE

When you plant a tree You nurture a living being With a right to exist for its own sake You offer something back to the Earth In return for thousands of years Of exploitation by humans Knowing that you can never fully compensate For the suffering that has taken place

> When you plant a tree You nurture a part of yourself The source of the air you breathe Whose essence is your own life force You reconnect with the Earth And with yourself Returning love with love

> > Andrew McAulay





Dr. Lawrence Lee, Member of the Board of KFBG, speaking about the contribution of the Farm to the Hong Kong community.

oday, on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2006 we gather for a very special and memorable occasion, marking the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Kadoorie Farm, the Horace Kadoorie Memorial Day, and Earth Day. I am fortunate in having been a former Director of Agriculture & Fisheries, the former Field Director of the Kadoorie Agricultural Research Centre and a current Member of the KFBG Board of Directors. In this uniquely mixed capacity, I am honoured and pleased to share with you a few success stories and a brief history behind this great event.

In the years immediately following World War II, many New Territories' farmers and a majority of the immigrants that crowded into Hong Kong then, and in the 1950's, were destitute – they possessed no capital or savings to either commence or carry on their livelihood of working the land.

Most immigrants were farmers at heart and it was very desirable for Hong Kong to produce as much as possible of the food it required. With this in mind, an agricultural project was conceived by the brothers, Lord Lawrence Kadoorie and Sir Horace Kadoorie. Accordingly, in September 1951, the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association (KAAA) was formed and the founder members were Lord Kadoorie, Sir Horace Kadoorie and the late Mr. N.F. Wright and Mr. T.S. Woo. Both of the latter two gentlemen were formerly with the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries. This marks the initial, informal collaboration between the Kadoorie Family and the Government.

Initially, a large part of the KAAA's assistance was in the form of gifts of food, housing, livestock, feeds and tools. Soon, pig and poultry breeding became its most important activities. To strengthen KAAA's services, construction of the Kadoorie Experimental & Extension Farm at Paak Ngau Shek began in 1956. Through selection and cross breeding of the local Fa Yuen sow and Wai Chow hen with imported overseas breeds, the Farm has successfully developed superior strains of pig and chicken. These high quality and fast-growing hybrid strains, popularly known as Paak Ngau Shek Specials, went a long way to help substantially increase the farmers' income. Indeed, the success of the KAAA's programmes was so great that Hong Kong's pig population grew from less than 10,000 in the late 1940's to around 400,000 by 1963, vastly easing the territory's dependence on pork imports from outside.

The most touching incident relayed to me which is still deep in the hearts of the older farmers and villagers was the kindness and generosity of Sir Horace Kadoorie during Typhoon Wanda. The typhoon was one of the most severe and destructive tropical storms, which struck Hong Kong in the early 60's. Upon learning of the natural disaster, Sir Horace immediately cut short his overseas trip, flew back and went straight to visit and console the victims and donated cash to help them tide over their hardship.

As the 'have-nots' gradually became 'haves' farmers, they were able to maintain a living and became productive members of the community. These people were then loan-worthy but, by any banking standards, not good security risks, so they turned to money-lenders who charged very high interest rates each month. It became clear that the best form of aid in many cases was providing short-term interest-free loans to farmers. When such loans were made available in 1953 by the KAAA, they were in great demand. At this point the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries reviewed the question of farm credit and decided that such a fund be established by Government.

In 1955, the Kadoorie Brothers and the Government each provided \$250,000 to set up the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund. The Government undertook the loan administration, including processing applications

and collection of loan repayments. By 1971, the original contribution by Government of \$250,000 had increased to \$2,000,000 and that of the Kadoories to \$750,000.

The revolving Fund, including accumulated surplus of the original \$2.75 million capital and additional funding provided by the Government to assist farmers affected by the Livestock Waste Control Scheme, the avian flu outbreak, the red-tide incident, and the cold spell incident, stood at \$21.5 million as of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2005.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2005, a total of \$270,800,000 had been loaned to 81,000 applicants. Only 207 of these loans (amounting to \$380,000) had been written off as bad debts, with a default rate of only 0.14%.

Hence, this is another good example of successful collaboration and partnership between the Kadoorie Family and the Government to cater for the needs of the farming community.

Since the mid 1990's, KFBG has changed its focal work to nature conservation, environmental protection and education. The farm has, as before, continued its good collaboration with the AFCD in the protection of endangered species. The great work in the rescue of endangered species of reptiles, especially the Golden Coin Turtle, and the safe-keeping of the crocodile Pui Pui have added further fame to KFBG.

We mentioned earlier about the close working relationships between the Kadoorie Farm and the Agriculture & Fisheries Department. In fact, this close tie extends to the interflow of staff between the two organizations. In the past, the farm provided on-the-job training for fresh university graduates, especially those from Taiwan, before they obtained sufficient practical experience to join the AFD. Examples are Messrs HO Koon Yu, MOK Shin Him, Benson LEE, CHAN Shui Ki, Ms HOR Ching Yee and Ms Kate LAM. The more recent example is Mr. Simon TANG. On the other hand, the Farm utilized a number of experienced retirees' expertise from the Department to continue serving the farming community. This included Messrs WOO Ting Sang, LO Shui Ki, TAM Yu Wing, YUNG Hing Fok, C.C. CHUM, KWOK Wai Leung, TONG Ying Wai, HO Hin Chi, LAM Yick Fung and CHAN Tin Cheuk.

Mr. TONG Ying Wai, or better known as 'Wah Gar' (the Artist), whose vivid painting of the Farm's activity is still prominently displayed on the wall of the dining hall of KARC next door (you can see a reproduction of this painting in the Historic Exhibition in the Museum). Mr. WOO Ting Sang is very well known to most, if not all of us. His remarkable contribution to KFBG and the farming sector is still carried on through the existing Woo Ting Sang Agricultural Research Fund, currently administrated by the Faculty of Science of the University of Hong Kong.

This brings me to the great contribution of the Kadoorie Family to the University of Hong Kong's tertiary education and research. With the family's generous donation in the 1980's and the 1990's, the University has built the Kadoorie Agricultural Research Centre (KARC; now the Kadoorie Institute) next door and the Kadoorie Biological Sciences Building at Pokfulam Campus. The latter provides modern facilities for university staff to conduct their academic pursuits whereas the former provides field and residential facilities for teaching and research work in agricultural, natural and environmental sciences as well as for conducting academic-related seminars, training courses and group activities.

KFBG had also sponsored KARC and various agricultural associations to conduct the large-scale "Organic Hong Kong 2000" and the "Vegetable Forum" workshops which have helped to promote organic farming and the organic movement in Hong Kong. In recent years, KFBG has stepped up its collaboration with KARC, and increasing numbers of seminars, workshops and training courses relating to nature conservation, environmental protection and sustainable living have been conducted at KARC.

From the stories and facts mentioned above, we can see the remarkable success of the realization of the 'partnership principle' to effectively serve the needy and the community as a whole. For this, and for the continuing meaningful work and great contribution, KFBG and the Kadoorie Family will forever be fondly remembered and gratefully acknowledged.

**Dr. Lawrence Lee** Member of the Board of KFBG



Ruy Barretto, SC, Member of the Board of KFBG, sharing his memories about KFBG.

am 3 years older than the Farm. The Kadoorie Experimental and Extension Farm, as it was called, has led me along a voyage of discovery into conserving our natural heritage. This began as visits as a child, as my family were friends with the Kadoorie Family, and then as a teenage botanist. I learned of the innovative and questioning approach which devised methods of farming which were simple but clever. This relied on imagination, instinct, patience and participation. This led to a core of expertise and respect derived from hard hands-on work. As a university student in summer holidays in the early 1970's I experienced the hard work in managing a botanic garden and which lay beneath the beauty around us.

As a barrister and conservationist I appreciated all the more the questioning approach and valued even more the analysis behind practical improvements such as for wild plant conservation. The experience was applied; for example we were consulted on the boundaries for the proposed new Country Parks. Later I was fortunate to be able to apply a blend of legal expertise together with a love of the Hong Kong countryside and practical conservation knowledge when the Earth Summit in Rio provided an inspirational set of principles for Hong Kong to implement. It was an overwhelming moment when reading this in 1993 one realised that the Farm and the Kadoories had done such work for years and that this was now an internationally recognised way forward to nature conservation and it rekindled our work as the new KFBG from 1995.

The Farm has a way of bringing out the best in people. It makes possible the practical continuation of an essential work and

provides a means of expressing our love of nature. The Farm inspired many people. For Sir Piers Jacobs, our Chairman from 1995 to September 1999, it became part of the most important work of his life. Lord Kadoorie and Sir Horace Kadoorie spent days every month on Farm issues and their legacy endures. It was the attention to detail of Sir Horace which made me realise that detail was the key to many endeavours, but especially conservation.

As the Farm has evolved, the motivated amateurs and experienced workers are now assisted by professionals and many gifted people. We are able to speak and act with greater authority than ever. We usually speak and act from experience. Additionally there is the moral imperative which lends even greater strength to the scientific. This realization became clearer when we did all the work to put our feelings into our written Vision, Mission and Core Values. But we must always remember the underlying innovative and questioning approach. Albert Einstein said that "Imagination is more important than knowledge." I would not go quite so far, because you need that practical knowledge before others will listen and accept, but I would certainly agree that the sparks of intuition and inspiration which lead to solutions for conservation of our precious natural world are to me an enduring feature of the first 50 years of Kadoorie Farm.

> **Ruy Barretto S.C.** Member of the Board of KFBG



Ruy Barretto, SC, with Idy Wong and Andy Brown, at the tree planting event to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.



Mr. Law Yu Bor, who has worked for the Farm for more than 30 years sharing his experiences.

am Law Yu Bor. I am so honoured to take this opportunity to share some of my work experiences with all of you, through which you may know more about the changes of the Farm during the past several decades. I first came to work at the Farm in 1976, at that time the Farm was a large-scale experimental farm called Kadoorie Experimental & Extension Farm. Those supervising the Vegetable Section were largely fresh university graduates, who would by and large shift to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (formerly Agriculture and Fisheries Department) after gaining some working experience and technical know-how, thus, personnel changes were fairly common. For that reason, the former Farm Manager of Kadoorie Farm, Mr. T.S. Woo, tried to recruit some veteran farmers from the vegetable co-operative societies, and consequently I was employed to supervise the Vegetable Section, and later also took up the tasks of Flower and Fruit Sections. As I was almost the youngest among other teammates, they usually called me "Lor Tsai" ("Tsai" means young chap).

As I remember, the Vegetable Section was comprised of seven staff, growing mainly western vegetables including celery and broccoli which were primarily offered to Kadoorie Family members and canteen staff for daily consumption as well as the Peninsula Hotel for preparing party dishes during Christmas and New Year celebration. But now, all these teammates have retired.

As you know, the two lovely mules joined us last year, and they recalled my memories that we had trained pigs to deliver animal feeds uphill, each of them could carry two packs of feeds each

time. They were smart enough to take up these tasks within a short period of time. It was so interesting to see groups of pigs walking from places at the current Composting Section to the Administration Office. In the old days, places nearby the Butterfly Garden and Fern Walk were boars' pigsties, while the Vet Hospital and Composting Section were formerly the pig breeding grounds. If the sows were about to give birth, workers sometimes had to stay overnight to stand by. Some Chinese pig species were highly fertile, as up to 20 or even 30 piglets were born at a time. Sir Horace cared for all the animals of the Farm, and would come to visit them whenever he had time, and he was fond of feeding pigs too.

This year also marks my thirtieth year of service to the Farm, and the Farm's structure has been modified substantially, from a research institute that initially focused on improving livestock breeds (pigs and chickens) and cultivars of fruit trees, and, training farmers on agricultural techniques together with AFCD; later to a botanic garden that promoted wildlife conservation and now, a conservation and education centre.

I am so grateful that I can witness all these changes in my life.

Thank You.

Law Yu Bor









"Celebration of Trees" - a song composed and performed by Dr. Gary Ades with his musical partner, Andromeda Wong at the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

#### **CELEBRATION OF TREES**

1)	A tree is something special Its branches stretching high Like fingers in the sky A tree is something magic The bark like flaky skin Its hidden heart within	3)	A tree shows man the way It stands in life and death And holds a timeless breath A tree drinks from the Earth Its roots spread deep and far Where springs and rivers are
[Chorus]	A tree will shelter me, through the rain and the storm, protects the earth and every living form		Let's plant more trees 'till forests grow Let's embrace them all our lives So future generations can see What these beautiful trees
2)	A tree shares space with others Creatures hide within And on its crusty skin A tree spreads life in the wind It holds the soil together And keeps us safe forever	[Chorus] it p	Matches because record mean to you and me! A tree will shelter me, through the rain and the storm, protects the earth and every living form
[Chorus]	A tree will shelter me, through the rain and the storm, protects the earth and every living form		Gary Ades









Mr. Andy Brown, Executive Director of KFBG, giving the closing speech to guests and staff at the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

n the future, you may review what you experienced today; the moments and messages of the day that were joyful or moved you, the wonderful people you met. For me, I found tree planting with our friends and guests, happily working to help create a future forest, was a precious time that I shall treasure.

I would like to remember and pay tribute to the many individuals who have put their hard work, passion, creativity and dedication into the Farm over these 50 years. Thank you to the many hundreds of workers, officers and managers, perhaps your own family members, who created and have maintained this unique place for the people of Hong Kong. Thank You, you people of the past.

Thank you also to the staff, of every role, for your work over the years and for your contribution in the future.

The young people of Hong Kong and South China are the main target of much of our work. They are our hope. You all have a chance to influence them. You are great role models and they can learn much from you - your practical expertise, your hard work, your passion, and your deep compassion for nature.

These are dark times; our friend and partner Dame Jane Goodall stays with us regularly. She has said that she had lived through World WarTwo and she felt that these days were darker even than those days of War. Yet she is hopeful and we must be hopeful.

Hong Kong and China need you more than ever, as the environmental crisis deepens; great change and a great struggle are ahead. We are all part of a huge worldwide movement fighting against greed, pollution, selfishness and hate - fighting with wisdom, simplicity, giving and love.

Thank you to our 80 guests who attended the celebrations today, you are all important and valued partners, let us please continue to collaborate and grow together.

Thank you to our many volunteers - without you, our fantastic volunteer force of over 250 people, we cannot do this work. Thank you to the speakers; Andrew McAulay, Professor Lawrence Lee, Mr. Law and Ruy Barretto, for connecting us to our roots.

Thank you also to Dr. Lawrence Chau for his excellent talk, 'The Wood Age' on the importance of trees.

Thanks to the musicians Dr. Gary Ades, Andromeda, Maggie Blue and Hoi Chiu.

Thanks to the MC's, Idy Wong and Dr. Gary Ades.

Thank you to the organizing committee of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities - Regina Chow, Ann Houng, Judy Kiu, Amanda Haig, Mandy Mak, Norris Ng, Amos Chung, Terry Fung, Tsz Lam and Dr. Chiu Sein Tuck. Huge Effort. Great Job. Great Team.

Thanks also to the many other members of staff from all Departments who worked so hard to make this event and these celebrations possible.

All of the 2,006 seedlings planted over this weekend were propagated here in our Native Tree Nursery and were moved up the mountain by our mules Denny and Duffi and the Ma Fus, Ah Pong and Ah To - no non-renewable resources were used, no petrol or oil was burned in the process. The team moved over 2,000 kg of seedlings, another huge and sustainable effort. Well done to them.

A major project to celebrate this Anniversary was the redevelopment of Kwun Yum Shan, to enhance the peace, atmosphere and sense of the place. Thanks to the team that worked to design and create the new space especially Tuck and Denis Ng, working with Andrew and myself.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April we will hold a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Public Carnival. Activities including puppet shows, a treasure hunt, tai chi, a Farmers Market, close contact with animals and our experts, face painting, other activities + more tree planting.

Throughout the year we will run many more puppet shows, treasure hunts, art workshops and, of course, regular public tree planting.

As part of these celebrations, we have also created the Historic Exhibition in our new museum/shop, a China Programme Exhibit, the Sustainable Living Exhibit and the Chinese Painting exhibit.

Thank You.



### KADOORIE FARM AND BOTANIC GARDEN

50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2006 – Kwun Yum Shan – Trustee Event

n 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2006, we invited special friends of the Farm, Trustees of the Kadoorie Foundation, Members of the Board of KFBG and the KFBG management team to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary by officially opening the renovated summit of Kwun Yum Shan followed by a hike down the hill to an amazing organic lunch.



Andy Brown, Executive Director, delivered a welcome speech at a gathering of Board Members and guests at Kwun Yum Garden.



Guests impressed by the exhibits and decorations in the KFBG Farm Museum.



Members of the Kadoorie Family, and, Mr Leung Chik, a special friend of the Farm, unveiled a commemorative plaque near the summit of Kwun Yum Shan.



KFBG Trustees and their families, Friends of the Farm and senior staff of KFBG joined together to celebrate the renovation of Kwun Yum Shan Summit as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.



A wall of photos taken on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2006, which marked the opening of a series of activities celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



Andrew McAulay, Chairperson, gave a memorable speech, followed by a special organic lunch enjoyed by all guests.



# EDUCATION



The Education Department organises many programmes for the general public, community and school groups. The programmes during this period, April 2006 to December 2007, included guided tours for overseas visitors, Night Safaris for special groups, bat and environmental education workshops, and community outreach activities. KFBG's Community Tree Planting Programme was very successful with over 20,000 native tree seedlings planted on the upper slopes of Tai Mo Shan.

#### **1. Special Visitors**

Local and international visitors to KFBG during this period included members of the Hong Kong Legislative Council, American Women's Association, Hong Kong Natural History Society, Green Power, staff of the World Wide Fund for Nature, Hong Kong Tourism Board, Invest Hong Kong, and students from local universities such as the Hong Kong Baptist University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, City University of Hong Kong, The University of Hong Kong, and, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Other visiting groups included officials from Zhanjiang Forestry Bureau, State Environmental Protection Administration (China), Botanic Gardens Conservation International, China Association of Zoological Gardens and staff from the University of Plymouth (UK).

#### A. Guided Tours

The "Nature Kaleidoscope" programme, jointly organised with the Hong Kong Tourism Board, commenced in September 2006 and offers a regular weekly guided tour of KFBG for overseas visitors. This programme has been wellreceived.

From April 2006 to December 2007, the Education Department conducted 411 guided tours for 15,532 participants.

#### B. KFBG Night Safari

Members of educational and professional institutions, government officials, and staff of Botanical Gardens in the Mainland joined our popular Night Safari programme. During this period, there were 15 night outings with a total of 150 participants. Wild animals spotted during these excursions included Barking Deer, Wild Boar, Porcupine and Civet Cat.

#### 2. Educational Programmes

Many workshops were organised during this period for teachers. Some of these workshops were conducted together with other organisations such as the HKSAR Education Bureau, Jane Goodall Institute and Bat Conservation International, with the objective of introducing curriculum-



The Executive Director accepting a donation from the Hong Kong Natural History Society during their visit to KFBG.



Children enjoying an outdoor experience in KFBG.



Our popular Night Safari programme.



A workshop organised by the Jane Goodall Institute of Hong Kong at KFBG.

#### KFBG ANNUAL REPORT 2006 and 2007

In the 2006 and 2007 tree-planting seasons, 20,880 native tree seedlings were planted on the KFBG hillside.





GIS Day 2007 over 50 secondary school teachers attended this event.

> based environmental education for young people outside of the classroom. Tree planting and forest care programmes were a huge success this year, involving the Hong Kong Junior Police Call, Girl Guide leaders and numerous other participants. New and ongoing programmes included:

#### A. KFBG Community Tree Planting Programme

In the 2006 tree-planting season, 2,667 participants planted 10,209 seedlings on the upper slopes of Tai Mo Shan just beyond the perimeter fence. This is remarkable considering only 3,324 seedlings were planted in the entire 2005 season. In the 2007 tree-planting season, a total of 10,671 native seedlings were planted by 3,388 participants. Altogether 56 native tree species were planted during this period.

#### B. Forest Care Training for Scouts

Members from the Scout Association of Hong Kong attended two workshops in June-July 2006 and were taught the importance of forests, tree identification skills, and practical skills in plant nursery and tree planting work.

#### C. GIS Day

Geographic Information System (GIS) Day 2006 – "Past times, one place, present green" – was held in November 2006. Using digital aerial photo analysis, fundamental GIS mapping and cartographic techniques combined with field work, over 50 secondary school teachers explored changes of the landscapes at KFBG, from a predominantly agricultural and open hillside landscape in 1956 to a forested "nature protection" area by 1995. These changes in



A bat seminar and workshop organised to increase awareness about bats among local school teachers.

landscape mirror the change of focus of the KFBG mission and the "MAN-LAND" relationship. GIS Day was held in November 2007 and over 50 secondary school teachers attended the event. They learnt how to manage locationbased information and data using GIS tools.

#### D. Bat Seminar & Workshop

Forty-six local school teachers participated in a bat seminar and workshop held in November 2006, jointly organised with KFBG Fauna Conservation Department; the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, and supported by Bat Conservation International, and, National Geographic Wild Channel. This workshop provided local teachers with knowledge of the ecology and animal conflict issues related to bats in Hong Kong. It also provided the teachers with effective educational tools to teach students about bat conservation within the school curriculum. A total of 60 primary and secondary school teachers attended the 'Tree for Life' Bat workshop in the autumn of 2007, gaining valuable insights and educational resources to utilise in classroom teaching.

#### E. School-based Curriculum Development

#### i. Life-wide Learning Teacher Workshop

Life-wide Learning is an approach promoted by the Education Bureau to extend student learning beyond the classroom into the community. A two-day workshop was held in October 2006 for 60 local primary and secondary school teachers on the use of natural resources available at KFBG for teaching environmental education. The KFBG Education Department will assist with further programme development for primary school teachers on ways to integrate the natural resources at KFBG with the relevant parts of the primary school curriculum. The programme includes teacher training workshops, production of worksheets and educational materials specially developed for primary school students.

#### ii. Teaching about Plant Life in KFBG

Student worksheets and a teacher's guide for primary school teachers are being designed about plant life at KFBG. Two workshops were conducted in January-February 2007 with primary school teachers and students in a pilot test of the teaching materials.

## EDUCATION

#### F. Ongoing Workshops & Training Courses

#### i. Native English-speaking Teachers Workshop

A one-day workshop organised by the Jane Goodall Institute of Hong Kong was held at KFBG in May 2006. Twenty native English-speaking teachers discussed various environmental education programmes for primary schools and the ways they could better utilise KFBG's facilities for outdoor education. In September 2007, two student workshops were successfully held in KFBG. Fifty students attended and developed their own "Roots and Shoots" projects to identify environmental issues and recommended solutions.

#### ii. Environmental Education Programme for St. Paul's Co-Educational College

This programme was organised for all of the school's Form One students. Each week, small groups of 25 to 40 students and their teachers visited KFBG to learn about forest care, tree conservation and to participate in tree planting activities.

#### iii. KFBG Environmental Interpreter Training

A total of 104 candidates were selected for the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 KFBG Environmental Interpreter Training Course. Similar programmes were offered to students of the Hong Kong Institute of Education, and the Institute of Vocational Education (Shatin).

#### 3. Art and Environment Programme

#### A. Artist-in-Residence Programme

Lily Pond at Kwun Yum Garden.

Mr. Lin Hong Wen from Taiwan was the Artist-in-Residence at KFBG for 2006. Mr. Lin worked with 24 students from the

Hong Kong Art School to create 18 pieces of installation art using natural materials such as cut tree trunks, branches and leaves. In October 2006, these art pieces were displayed at the "Tree or Not" Sculpture and Installation Art Exhibition held at KFBG. In July 2007, Mr. He Ruihua and Mr. Chen Wenyou from Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, were invited to join the Artist-in-Residence Programme. During their stay, the artists finished 14 Chinese paintings based on the farm environment. They also conducted Chinese painting workshops for 30 participants. An exhibition of artworks was held in September 2007 at KFBG.

#### B. Other Art Projects

The Art and Environment Programme was initiated in June 2006. Activities are held in or around Kwun Yum Garden, giving children the opportunity to express their artistic creativity through drawing, painting and the making of simple handicrafts.

#### 4. Special Farm Projects

The Education Department was extensively involved in all projects related to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KFBG. The Education Department designed and completed the work for the interior layout and exhibits of the new Farm Museum that opened in April 2006 as part of the celebrations for KFBG's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This new facility enables us to share with our quests, visitors and staff insights into our origins, the work of the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association and our early days as the Kadoorie Experimental and Extension Farm.





The "Connections - Tropical Rainforests and People" Exhibition highlights the biodiversity and lifestyles of the forest people of the rainforests in Xishuangbanna.



India using panels made from slate.

**Members of the Education Department** attended a conference in India.

#### KFBG ANNUAL REPORT 2006 and 2007



The Education Department was extensively involved in all projects related to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KFBG.















The Piers Jacobs Wildlife Sanctuary opened on 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2007. The Education Department was responsible for the design aspects of this new visitor facility.

An exhibition entitled "Connections – Tropical Rainforests and People" was set-up in the Reception area of KFBG on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2007. This exhibition to highlight the biodiversity and lifestyles of the forest people of the rainforests in Xishuangbanna, and the consequences of deforestation was co-organized with the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences. The exhibition period was for 6 months until the end of May 2008.

#### 5. Community Outreach

#### **Conference in India**

In March 2007, three members of the department attended a five-day conference in Mahabalipuram, India, entitled "Averting Biodiversity Meltdown in the Asian Tropics". Dr. Chiu Sein Tuck presented a talk entitled "Public Education in Botanic Gardens – Facilitating Connections".

#### 6. Media Exposure

Between 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2006 and 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007, there were 469 newspaper/magazine reports about KFBG and over 133 TV or newspaper interviews of our staff. During the same period, 15 press releases were issued by KFBG.

#### 7. In-House Projects

The Education Department designed numerous displays, signage, and various other items for use around the Farm. Examples of these design projects include:

- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2006) Opening Ceremony
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2006) Carnival
- Farm Museum
- Commemorative Plaque for 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tree Planting Event
- Lily Pond Design at Kwun Yum Garden
- Upgrading the Summit of Kwun Yum Shan
- 12<sup>th</sup> Kadoorie Brothers' Memorial Race 2006

# FAUNA Conservation



In 2006 and 2007 the Fauna Conservation Department established new live exhibit display areas to house captive native and rescued animals. We also created interpretive displays to educate visitors about the crisis facing a number of species due to the illegal wild animal trade. Existing work in wild animal rescue and rehabilitation, conservation and public education continued to be enhanced through publications, media exposure and community outreach initiatives.

#### 1. Wild Animal Rescue

#### A. Sanctuary

In December 2006, the Wild Animal Rescue Centre (WARC) received a total of 267 turtles seized by Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department, and, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). This was part of an illegal consignment bound for the food markets in Southern China. The shipment contained three species all of which were listed either on CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) or IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) Red List. After initial triage, 18% were found to be dead or were euthanised on health and welfare grounds. Re-homing options with the IUCN Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA) Europe were explored and, initially,



Spiny Turtles numbered for ID re-hydrating after being received by the Wild Animal Rescue Centre.

49 turtles were re-homed to TSA Europe (Rotterdam Zoo) to join conservation breeding programmes. In August 2007, the WARC received 7,254 hatchling turtles. These animals bred in the USA, whilst not endangered, were seized by the HK Customs and Excise Department when found amongst other goods being illegally exported to the mainland. We hope to help find a safe future for them.

#### B. Rehabilitation & Release

Forty-eight juvenile Little Swifts were received from the AFCD after their nests under the eaves of a shop in Yuen Long town centre were flagrantly destroyed in June 2006. The offender faces heavy penalties for illegal destruction of wild birds and their nests. All 38 surviving birds were released in the following month. This was quite an achievement as young insect-eating swifts are not easy to care for in captivity.

KFBG and the World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong (WWF-HK) jointly released a Black-eared Kite on Hong Kong Island in August 2006. The Kite had been rescued earlier from the waters of Aberdeen typhoon shelter. After treatment for three-and-a-half months, it was returned to the wild, attracting widespread press coverage.

At KFBG's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trustees Event in October 2006, another Black-eared Kite named "Becky" was successfully released at Kwun Yum Shan.

#### C. Veterinary Work

Pui Pui, Hong Kong's famous crocodile, who was first placed at KFBG in June 2004, finally left after over two years to enter her new home at the Hong Kong Wetland Park on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2006. She left KFBG in good health and is doing well at the Wetland Park.



In October 2006, Avian Influenza (AI) prevention measures commenced. Blood samples were taken from 52 birds and analyzed as part of the AI protocol in collaboration with the AFCD. All birds then received AI vaccinations. All results from the analysis came back negative.

#### **D.** Fauna Statistics

a) Total number of animals received at the WARC between April 1994 and 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2007:

Mammals	391
Birds	1,285
Reptiles	17,496
Stray snakes	2,309
Grand Total	21,481

b) Total Collection Figures on Animal Record Keeping System for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2006 to 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2007:

	Total in collection at 1/4/2006	Received/ captive bred (1/4/2006 – 10/12/2007)	Released/ relocated (1/4/2006 – 10/12/2007)	Died/ euthanised (1/4/2006 – 10/12/2007)	Total at 10/12/2007
Birds	133	216	120	103	126
Mammals	81	49	14	31	85
Reptiles*	206	7,566	102	946	6,724
Amphibians	13	0	2	2	9
Fish	192	0	0	22	170
Total	625	7,831	238	1,104	7,114

\*Excluding stray snakes received from the HKSAR Police.

#### 2. Conservation

The breeding season for the critically endangered Golden Coin Turtle *(Cuora trifasciata)* was short producing only 27 eggs between the 7<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2006. Only eight of these eggs hatched successfully and four of these turtle hatchlings were from known Hong Kong provenanced parentage. An additional five adult animals joined the programme as a result of their confiscation by, or surrender to AFCD.

In September 2006, City University requested blood samples from our monitor lizards and the Crocodile Pui Pui to investigate alleged mislabelling of fresh crocodile meat sold in Hong Kong. With the help of blood DNA, it was discovered that over 90% of so-called "crocodile meat" entering Hong Kong was mislabelled and was, in fact, monitor lizard meat!

On 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2006, Customs officers seized 897 kg of turtle plastrons (lower shell) from an incoming container. The consignment, containing three turtle species (Malayan Box, Black Marsh and Malaysian Giant Turtle) had been shipped from Indonesia to Hong Kong. All three species are



October 2006 Trustees Event - a Black-eared Kite named "Becky" was successfully released at Kwun Yum Shan.



Two volunteers help to take measurements of turtle plastrons (top photo); Plastron of a Black Marsh Turtle, one of more than 10,000 shells seized by Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2006 (bottom photo).

seriously threatened in the wild. Our Fauna Conservation Department requested for use of the consignment to carry out a scientific study on age and size of turtles in the trade. This will provide a useful database for researchers working in turtle conservation.

The moth monitoring programme continued. Reports for the years 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 were completed in August 2007. The number of moth species known from the KFBG site now stands at a minimum of 1,304, of which 32 species are of international conservation significance.

## FAUNA Conservation

#### 3. Education

The department's "Animal Discovery Tables" were wellreceived at KFBG's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Carnival held in April 2006. The tables showing various kinds of specimens attracted many visitors, particularly children, to learn about wildlife and animal conservation issues. This may help the public to change their misconceptions regarding some wild animals, such as snakes. "Animal Discovery Tables" are now a regular feature at the KFBG monthly Nature Fun Day.

In November 2006, Fauna Conservation staff demonstrated the design and practical creation of a wildlife pond, using our recently created pond, to 40 school teachers. The pond is now home to local fish species and native water plants.

In March 2007 Dr. Gary Ades, the Head of the Fauna Conservation Department, and Dr. Roger Kendrick provided talks on the changing landscapes of Kam Tin and Lam Tsuen Valleys to staff and postgraduate students from The University of Hong Kong. This is the second year this field trip has been organised at KFBG.

Night Safaris were jointly conducted with the Education Department. Members of the Legislative Council's Panel for Environmental Affairs participated in a Night Safari in December 2006. The council members sighted many nocturnal animals and gave positive feedback about the programme.

#### 4. Capital Projects

An artificial bat tower was erected in March 2007 using large concrete cylinders similar to those used for sewage and water pipes. After the addition of external educational features and internal roost baffles, the structure will be a replicable model that local environmental consultants could suggest for mitigation in large development projects. The Piers Jacobs Wildlife Sanctuary was officially opened by Lady Jacobs and attended by Board Members, Trustees and friends on 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2007. The sanctuary consists of the wild boar exhibit, barking deer, bats, squirrels and ferret badger. Education displays with four elements (animal facts, rescue story, traditional culture and connection with nature) are provided in the exhibit to show visitors the importance of animals in the natural environment and the connection



The Piers Jacobs Wildlife Sanctuary was officially opened by Lady Jacobs and attended by Board Members, Trustees and friends.



Animal Discovery Table.

Bat Tower.



Night Safari.

#### **KFBG ANNUAL REPORT 2006 and 2007**

that may exist with human culture and ecology. Regular guided tours have been provided to the public since the opening of this new facility.

#### 5. Media & Publications

In November 2006, an article "Pets - companions or fashion" was written by the Head of the Fauna Conservation Department and was published in the North District Flower Show magazine.

The South China Morning Post interviewed several Fauna Conservation staff. An article published on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 covered climate change and how moth species in Hong Kong are adversely affected by rising temperatures. On 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2007 an article alerted the public to the plight of the Three-banded Box Turtle in Hong Kong.

#### 6. Advisory & Outreach

- The first South East Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium (SEALCS) was held in September 2006 at Kadoorie Agricultural Research Centre. It was organised by the Fauna Conservation Department and attended by about 50 delegates. It is hoped that there will be a regular forum in the region on the conservation of this group of insects (moths and butterflies).
- The department sponsored a post-graduate student of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing to attend the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual SEAZA Conference in Vietnam in September 2006. This was the student's first trip out of China.
- The WWF 2007 Big Bird Race 24-hour competition took place in March 2007. The team coordinated by the department and named "The Kadoorie Cuckoos" managed to spot 134 species and helped raise more than HK\$30,000 for Mai Po Nature Reserve.

#### 7. Mule Project

Our two resident mules, Duffi and Dennie continue to do well. During the period, they transported nearly 5,000 kilograms of materials to KFBG's upper slopes. These were mostly compost and seedlings for tree planting.

#### 8. Volunteers

In August 2006, Fauna Conservation staff conducted a workshop for the Environmental Interpreters on how to operate the "Animal Discovery Tables" during the KFBG Nature Fun Day. Various specimens were demonstrated and a total of 17 volunteers attended this training session.

During this period, a total of 19 volunteers generously donated their time for the department. Duties included assisting the vet, attending to animal care, helping with survey work, and, administration of library and specimen room stock.



During this period, Duffi and Dennie transported nearly 5,000 kilograms of materials.



South East Asian Zoo Association - 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Vietnam - a student from the Chinese Academy of Sciences sponsored by KFBG to attend the conference.



The First South East Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium at the Kadoorie Agricultural Research Centre.

# FLORA conservation



The Flora Conservation Department engaged in many programmes aimed at enhancing community awareness and involvement in connecting with and conserving our natural environment. We conducted field surveys, restored habitats, propagated rare plant species, organised educational workshops and talks, and drew public attention to important conservation issues through the media. New initiatives during this period included the planting of over 20,000 native tree seedlings on Tai Mo Shan, co-organising the first KFBG-International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Arboriculture Workshop, Floral Painting Campaign and Exhibition, and expansion of the Horticulture Therapy programme.

#### 1. KFBG 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

To celebrate KFBG's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the department planned numerous activities for visitors including public talks, guided visits and "Plant Your Own Pots" programme.

We organised tree-planting activities, whereby, schools and community groups planted over 20,000 native tree seedlings on Tai Mo Shan. At our Opening Ceremony, Dr. Lawrence Chau shared his thoughts on greening and green living in a talk entitled "The Wood Age".

#### 2. Landscaping Section

#### A. Flower Shows

Our unique landscape displays won major awards at the two annual flower shows in Hong Kong which were attended by over 800,000 visitors. At the 30<sup>th</sup> North District Flower, Bird, Insect and Fish Show 2006 in Fanling, KFBG's exhibit on "Natural Treasures in South China" - a collaboration between Flora Conservation, China Programme, Education and Facilities Departments - won the Best Large Scale Landscape Display Award. At the 2007 Hong Kong Flower Show in Victoria Park, KFBG's "Wonderful Plants in a Secret Garden" display received the Grand Award for Outstanding Exhibit (Landscape Display) - Displays Section (Local). These two flower shows attracted over 250,000 and 550,000 visitors, respectively. The "Wonderful Plants in a Secret Garden" exhibit was also awarded the Grand Prize for Large Scale Display in the 2007 North District event.

#### B. New Gardens

The Fragrant Garden and Ethnobotany Garden is under development. Some of the gardens in KFBG are approaching 50 years old. Revitalisation plans have been launched with new plantings being gradually introduced into the landscape.



Lady Jacobs presented prizes to the winners of "Sketch the Plants, Paint Nature" Floral Painting Campaign in November 2006.



(From right) Horticulture Therapist Connie Fung, Flora Conservation staff Dr. Charlotte Shiu and Brian Lam at the YWCA Horticulture Therapy Garden in Fanling.

C. NURSERY Production (April 2006 - December 2007)		
Planted at KFBG	5,541 pots of flowering plants	
Loaned to Government Departments/Schools	840 pots of flowering plants	
Donated to the Community/Schools	1,389 pots of plants	
Sold to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) or at KFBG Farm Shop	l 2,594 pots of flowering plants	

#### C. Nursery Production (April 2006 - December 2007)

#### 3. Tree Conservation & Management

To help improve local tree management practices, the department jointly organised Hong Kong's first arboriculture workshop with the ISA in November 2006. Local and international experts from Hawaii, Taiwan and US-based ISA headquarters shared their professional knowledge of tree care with more than 80 participants at the workshop. KFBG's professional arborists and tree surgeons serve a vital role in promoting a high standard of proper tree management and preservation in Hong Kong and mainland China.

Flora Conservation staff strive to continuously upgrade their ISA certifications. Professional certifications achieved by our staff include:

- ISA Certified Arborist (CA) Terry Fung & Lawrence Chau
- ISA Certified Tree Worker (Climbing Specialist) Leung Bing Fai, To Lap San and Ken So (who is already a CA)
- Ken So has also been appointed "Proctor" for the ISA Hong Kong/China Region

#### Native Tree Nursery Production

- 35,000 seeds of 66 native trees and shrubs were collected
- About 32,400 seedlings of 258 species of native tree, shrub and climbing plants were held in the Native Tree Nursery

The number of seedlings and saplings donated or sold during 2006 and 2007 are as shown below:

Type of Organisation	Seedlings donated	Seedlings sold
NGOs	2,174	162
Schools, Universities & Government Departments	810	54
Commercial Sector		880
Others	65	
Total	3,049	1,096

#### 4. Orchid Conservation Section (OCS)

#### A. Orchid Conservation Programmes – Propagation of Seedlings

Propagation of rare and endangered orchids is vital in *ex-situ* conservation work. During this period, the OCS propagated 55 orchid species native to Hong Kong and South China using aseptic seed culture (1,290 flasks). About 1,780 flasks of aseptic orchid seedlings from 33 species were sub-cultured. Some orchid hybrids were produced for ornamental purposes for planting out in KFBG. In addition, about 4,190 seedlings of 30 species underwent the hardening process.

### B. Orchid Conservation Programmes in mainland China

In March 2007, KFBG co-organised the 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop on "Conservation of Orchidaceae Plants of China" together with the State Forestry Administration; Guangxi Forestry Department; China Wild Plant Conservation Association (CWPCA) and East Asia Regional Orchid Specialist Group, International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Approximately 130 representatives from stakeholder organisations, relevant national authorities and nature reserves attended from nine provinces in South and Southwest China. Specialist speakers were invited from Australia, Vietnam, mainland China and Hong Kong.



Fruits of Croton hancei (Hong Kong Croton), a Hong Kong endemic and very rare native shrub, were collected from the living collection at KFBG.



KFBG Tree Team members demonstrating "speed-line" technique at a Climbing Jamboree in January 2007.



A new population of a locally endangered orchid, Bulbophyllum bicolor was found in Hong Kong in April 2006 (a close-up photo of the flowers).

## FLORA Conservation

Two field survey reports on "Diversity and Conservation of Orchids in Yinggeling" (Hainan Island) were completed in July and December 2006. Yinggeling is one of the most orchid rich nature reserves in Hainan Island with about 147 species in 63 genera of orchids recorded in the survey, including several new genera, species and endemics.

Gloria Siu and Amy Poon attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Orchid Conservation Congress in Costa Rica in March 2007. Gloria presented a talk on "Orchid Conservation in China" at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Botanic Gardens Congress, in Wuhan in April 2007.

#### C. Doritis Project

In July 2006 and February 2007, OCS and the Hainan Provincial Forestry Department conducted joint field studies in Hainan on the pollination mechanism of the endangered orchid, *Doritis pulcherrima*.

Serious disturbance such as illegal logging and new road construction to one of the key wild populations of *Doritis* in Hainan was identified. OCS conducted follow-up conservation action such as construction of a warden post and strengthening patrolling with reserve officials and the Hainan Forestry Department.

#### 5. Fern Conservation

Under the South China Fern Conservation Programme of this department, Wicky Lee conducted field surveys in Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan together with mainland counterparts. The survey in Hainan discovered three



Field work during the "Conservation of Orchidaceae Plants of China" workshop in Guangxi in March 2007; about 130 participants attended the five-day Workshop.

extremely rare ferns: *Schizaea digitata*, *Schizaea dichotoma* and *Sceptridium daucifolium*. Spores of these rare species were also collected for propagation at KFBG.

#### 6. Seed Bank

Seeds of 83 species of native trees were collected and underwent germination test. Seeds of a further 129 native species were added to the seed bank. Seeds of rare plants were collected and passed to the seed bank.

#### 7. Collaborative Projects with BGCI

The Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) Travel Scholarship for 2006/2007 (now in its fourth year) was organised and conducted at KFBG in November-December 2006. Eight young botanists from various botanic gardens on the mainland gained exposure to plant conservation practices in Hong Kong. Since the inception of this programme in 2004, 26 botanists from the mainland have benefited through attending the courses at KFBG.

In August 2006, Dr. Lawrence Chau presented a talk entitled "Staff Training and Staff Exchange in the Asia Region - Hong Kong" at the First East Asia Botanic Garden Network meeting hosted by Kunming Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Our presence created future opportunities for exchange and collaboration amongst botanic gardens from different countries in the region.

#### 8. Community Services & Education

Flora Conservation staff conducted numerous lectures on gardening, plant propagation and tree planting. We also held practical training sessions, talks on local ecology, habitat and plant conservation, sustainability and arboriculture for educational institutions, community organisations, charities, NGOs and government departments.

Dr. Lawrence Chau was invited by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department to join the new "Tree Expert Panel" to advise on protecting old and valuable trees. In November 2007, we co-organised the seminar on "Ecological & Conservation Studies of South China Buddhist Pines".

#### 9. Media

The department was consulted and featured over 30 times in various newspaper and television media. Topics included conservation philosophy, tree management and preservation, orchid and Buddhist Pine conservation, hillfire prevention and global warming.

#### 10. Staff Capacity Building & Networking

Flora Conservation staff participated in numerous local and international conferences, visits and workshops. In July 2006, Alice Hui was awarded the 2006 BGCI Travel Scholarship and participated in two weeks' training at Kunming Botanical Garden. Amy Poon was awarded an Earthwatch Studentship on "Restoring Vietnam's Rainforest" in August 2006. Other highlights include:

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Five Flora staff went on an exposure trip to Xishuangbanna and Kunming Botanical Gardens in August 2006. Photo taken in front of the huge buttress root of *Tetrameles nudiflora*, Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden.



Ken So appeared in a TV programme on nature appreciation with children.

A very rare fern found in Hainan: Schizaea digitata.





Yellow Tabebuia (Tabeuia chrysantha) flowering in KFBG.

Date	Event	Participating Staff
18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> April, 2006	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration cum Academic Workshop of the Beijing Botanical Gardens	Dr. Lawrence Chau
10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2006	International Horticultural Expo 2006 in Shenyang	Brian Lam, Alice Hui & Leung Yuk Kwan
8 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2006	"China Fern Symposium 2006" at Shangri-La Alpine Botanical Garden	Wicky Lee
30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2006	Symposium for Ding Hu Shan National Nature Reserve 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony	Terry Fung
August 2006	Exposure trip to Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden & Kunming Botanical Garden	Five Flora Conservation Staff
20 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> August, 2006	7 <sup>th</sup> National Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation for Botanic Gardens in China, Kunming Botanical Garden	Dr. Charlotte Shiu & Terry Fung
11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> December, 2006	Workshop on "Living in a Warmer World: Climate Change and Hong Kong" at The University of Hong Kong	Seven Flora Conservation Staff
16 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> April, 2007	n-20 <sup>th</sup> April, 2007 3 <sup>rd</sup> Global Botanic Garden Congress, in Wuhan Dr. Lawrence Ch Dr. Charlotte Shiu Vera Poon	
12 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2007	4 <sup>th</sup> Symposium on Asian Pteridology, Philippines	Wicky Lee

# SUSTAINABLE LIVING & AGRICULTURE



The new Sustainable Living and Agriculture (SLA) Department was established in May 2006 and the essential restructuring of work teams was undertaken in phases to better align SLA to KFBG's Strategy. Programmes and projects were carried out on a collaborative basis with green groups, educational institutions, government organisations and other environmentally aware groups. These create powerful and effective platforms for SLA to spread the message about the value of sustainable living and to reach people from all walks of life. Several key projects initiated were the Low-Footprint Diet campaign in primary schools; extending the concept of organic farmers' market to Hong Kong's urban areas; and the "One Tonne Challenge" project aimed at motivating the public to action over climate change.

Major sustainable agricultural development work included a comprehensive review of compost distribution, establishment of our fruit tree seedling production and strengthening of biosecurity measures for the chicken rearing section. Agricultural workshops held in Hong Kong and mainland China promoted sustainability to a wider community beyond the boundaries of KFBG.

#### 1. Demonstration of Sustainable Agriculture Production Practices

During this period, the SLA Department continued to improve upon sustainable agriculture practices within the Farm.

#### **Organic Resource Management**

In June 2006, KFBG's compost distribution for the years from 2002 to 2005 was reviewed. Production cost was estimated

to be at HK\$1.00 per kilogram, with internal demand approximating production volume. Nearly 140 tons of compost was produced with 90% used within KFBG and the remainder sold to local organic farms and at the Farm Shop. Sales of the 1-kg compost pack at our Farm Shop increased by 40%.

Bat guano was collected for composting trials from an abandoned ancestral village building in Lam Tsuen which was being occupied by roosting bats. This generated about 2 tonnes of high quality compost some of which is sold in the Farm Shop.

#### 2. Farm-Based Programmes

KFBG has developed sustainable agricultural practices, and is a role model for the local farming community. It provides an ideal environment to educate the public on ways one can lead a sustainable life with minimal impact on the world's natural resources. Key programmes include:

#### A. Nature Fun Day at KFBG

Since September 2006, the Nature Fun Day as an event has replaced the previous monthly Farmers' Market at KFBG which was originally initiated in March 2005. The Farmers' Market itself remains a key attraction at this monthly event and all other KFBG departments organise various programmes that reflect their areas of expertise, such as fauna discovery and making pot-plants. Each Nature Fun Day carries a special theme, for example: "Native Tree Planting Day", "Be An Artist in Nature", Keeping South China Alive, Tea Art Day and "World Vegetarian Day". This new arrangement has attracted a significant number of organic farmers, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and organic product retailers. Free poster and banner advertising space was generously donated by the Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation and the District Lands Office, Tai Po. Overall, public attendance has risen and 20,611 visitors attended KFBG's Nature Fun Day during the period from April 2006 to December 2007.

#### B. Education Displays

Two new displays featuring "Mindful Eating" and "Agro-Forestry" were opened in the last quarter of 2006. The Eco Garden Display was redesigned by re-routing pathways, changing the planting plan and upgrading signage.

#### 3. Community Outreach Programmes

The local community, including educational institutions and non-profit organisations, have been very receptive to organic farming and other sustainable living initiatives. The most successful and rewarding programmes included:

#### A. Farmers' Markets in Wanchai &

#### Causeway Bay

The Wanchai District Council, Hong Kong Organic Farming Association, Greenpeace and KFBG jointly launched the first regular Farmers' Markets in Hong Kong's urban area on 12th November, 2006 in Wanchai and Causeway Bay. The primary aim was to increase awareness and support of a more sustainable localised food system. Altogether, 24 days of Farmers' Markets were organised on a six-month trial basis at two pedestrian zones, Gloucester Park in Wanchai and Pak Sha Road in Causeway Bay, on selected Sundays from November 2006 to April 2007. Each market had about 15-20 booths for organic farmers and NGOs, plus a platform set-up for green living. An estimated 2,000 visitors for Wanchai and 4,000 visitors for Causeway Bay have been recorded on each market day. The event generated over 80 media reports during the six-month period. The project was documented as a pilot study to assess viability of expanding the Farmers' Market concept throughout Hong Kong. In view of the great success of the project, the Wanchai District Council allocated additional resources to extend the Farmers' Market in Wanchai for another eight months until December 2007.

#### B. Low Footprint Diet School Project

A pilot project was launched in September 2006 in collaboration with the Chinese University of Hong Kong's Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion. It was well received by 15 participating pilot schools. Outreach activities organised since September 2006 included teacher training workshops, organic farming training courses for teaching staff and student ambassadors, parent-ambassador training programmes, school talks, advisory school visits featuring edible garden design, and exhibitions on 'eat less meat' and 'food mileage'. Following this success, various trial educational approaches will be attempted to assess the school community's acceptance of the low footprint diet. Experience gained was integrated into the programme upon its full implementation into local primary schools commencing in the 2007/2008 school year.

#### C. One Tonne Challenge

Jointly organized by KFBG and partners the One Tonne Challenge was launched in July 2007 to engage the public to reduce their family carbon emissions by one tonne per year. The campaign was launched in 36 schools, and it also included several hospitals, seven uniform groups such as the Scouts and the Girl Guides (with a membership of 200,000). It included a website (www.climatechange.hk), monthly



One Tonne Challenge Carnival Opening Ceremony in July 2007.



Mindful Eating Display.



Farmers' Markets in Causeway Bay.



Organic Ambassador workshop in Wanchai.

## SUSTAINABLE LIVING & AGRICULTURE

carnivals and weekly Farmer's Markets at the Central Star Ferry Pier, and a series of animated films. Participants have so far pledged to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by over 10,000 tonnes by the end of 2007. This campaign generated over 80 media reports including TV coverage.

#### D. Sustainable School at Gansu, China

Site inspections were conducted in July and early August 2006, with construction completed by mid-August. The following month, KFBG provided a landscape design for a tree planting educational activity. SLA staff continued to monitor the school's environmental performance.

#### E. Public Talks & Workshops

Programmes delivered to promote sustainable living included drama performances, cookery demonstration, advice on community organic farming, talks on organic waste management, and on food waste composting at schools and in community groups.

#### 4. Media & Publications

Several of the more notable media events and publications produced during the year included:

- In December 2006, a UK-based organisation granted KFBG the right to produce a Chinese version of two short online animations featuring factory farming, respectively titled "Meatrix" and "Meatrix II Revolting". Liaison on wider use of these animations in Chinese communities is underway. Meatrix was the highlighted film at the 2007 Hong Kong Social Movement Film Festival.
- A joint project with the Hong Kong Polytechnic University Design Institute involved 17 students developing three media projects. The projects were two short films featuring "Peak Oil" and "Ecological Footprint", cartoon characters and a website promoting low footprint diets. The students' work was further developed into an online educational resource to support the Low-Footprint Diet project (www. myfootprint.hk). A book, "Eating with a Low Footprint" was published in June 2007.
- In March 2007, a bilingual book "Grow Organic" was published jointly with Wan Li Book Company to promote community organic gardening in Hong Kong.



A school with sustainable design features built at Gansu. KFBG continues to monitor the school's environmental performance.







SLA book and VCD to promote community organic gardening in Hong Kong.

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- An updated version of a VCD on "Community Farming" (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) was produced in March 2007 for use in community gardening projects and, also, for sale at the KFBG Farm Shop. This VCD was first published in 2004.
- A Putonghua version of the film "From Field to Table" was produced in March 2007. About 250 VCDs were provided to Partnerships for Community Development (PCD) for promotion of Community Supported Agriculture Schemes in mainland China.



Transplanting corn seedlings at a no-dig garden.

• A film featuring chicken rearing at organic farms was completed. Initially, the film was produced for local farmers but due to the ban on raising backyard poultry in Hong Kong in February 2006, the content was revised. The target audience has, thus, changed to farmers in mainland China. Putonghua and Cantonese versions of two films were produced in April 2007, one providing general educational information and the other technical information for farmers. Two hundred and fifty VCDs will be provided to PCD for educational use.



Low Footprint Diet Project was well received by the 15 participating schools.



Promoting sustainable diet during Nature Fun Day.



Harvesting tea at KFBG.



Rooftop school garden.



"Train-the-trainer" workshop for edible garden.

# CHNA Programme



The China Programme (CP) fosters partnerships to conduct work in mainland China under its three focal areas: forest conservation, protection of critically threatened species, and, sustainable living and agriculture. During this period, our work continued on various projects to secure and restore forest ecosystems at Yinggeling, Bawangling (home of the Hainan Gibbon, *Nomascus hainanus* – the world's rarest ape) and in Hainan's limestone forests. We are also taking steps to promote organic farming and sustainable agricultural practices by participating in training workshops. Collaborative projects included participation in biodiversity surveys, publication of further survey reports, scientific papers and our magazine (*Living Forests*), and attending various conferences, workshops and meetings. Several valuable faunal and floral surveys were conducted in Yinggeling Nature Reserve, Hainan, and also in Guangxi, where the Eastern Black Crested Gibbon, previously believed to be extinct in China, was rediscovered.

#### 1. Fauna & Flora Field Surveys, Conferences & Meetings

CP's ongoing collaborations with counterparts in mainland China comprised a wide range of surveys, conferences and meetings related to conservation. These included:

Date	Event	Purpose and CP Involvement
14-15/4/2006	7 <sup>th</sup> Wildlife Trade Alliance Meeting, Beijing	CP staff presented the status of the wildlife trade in South China and recommended monitoring methodologies.
15-30/5/2006	Training needs assessment for staff of nature reserves on Hainan Island	CP staff interviewed staff of Wuzhishan, Bawangling, Jianfengling, Jiaxin and Huishan Nature Reserves to follow-up on questionnaires related to staff training needs.
16/5/2006	Provincial Wildlife Protection List Evaluation Meeting, Hainan	CP was invited by Hainan Conservation Centre to assist with drafting the Hainan Provincial Protected Plants and Animals lists.
29/6 –2/7/2006	Dinghushan 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Protected Area Management Conference, Dinghushan Nature Reserve	We presented our Hainan Gibbon conservation project as a case study to demonstrate good practice and capacity building in nature reserve management.
2-8/7/2006	World Conservation Union (IUCN) Global Mammal Assessment, Asian Small Carnivore Workshop, Vietnam	CP staff attended Red List Assessment workshop, which showed that trapping for commercial trade is a threat to indigenous wildlife in most Asian countries.
9/2006	Gibbon Survey in Guangxi with Guangxi Forestry Department	CP staff rediscovered the Eastern Black Crested Gibbon <i>(Nomascus nasutus)</i> in Jingxi County, in remote West Guangxi. The species was believed to have become extinct in China 50 years ago.
21-23/2/2007	Waterbird survey in Hainan	CP staff conducted a survey which found both species richness and abundance were lower than in previous years with only 50 waterbird species recorded.

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#### 2. Working towards an effective nature reserve at Yinggeling, Hainan

With preliminary agreements covering our collaboration with Hainan Wildlife Conservation Centre (HWCC) and Yinggeling Nature Reserve to provide support for enhanced nature reserve management, we have worked closely with our partners in the early development of this reserve in central Hainan. We participated in the training of reserve wardens, giving wellreceived presentations in January and February 2007. We also began working with villagers in the remote hills to explore possibilities for sustainable agriculture, and to ensure that they benefit from the establishment of the Nature Reserve. Projects included creating a trial compost toilet and a deep litter pigpen, both were well received and can act as models. Our own

Dr. Bosco Chan was appointed to the position of Special Deputy Director of the Nature Reserve on a part-time basis, sponsored by KFBG.

#### 3. Conserving the Hainan Gibbon: the world's rarest ape

Habitat restoration work during this period resulted in 50,000 native fruit-bearing trees being planted and vigorous after-care has maintained an impressive survival rate of over 95% of the seedlings at Bawangling National Reserve which Nature will undergo further extensive habitat restoration work in and around its core area over the next few years. To supply sufficient seedlings for this planting work, the Reserve will expand the production capacity of



Great Crested Tern, a species not seen in Hainan for many years.



planting expertise from the Bawangling Forestry Bureau. The purpose of this tree planting programme is to connect and expand forests suitable for this gibbon.

In March 2007, a Hainan Gibbon conservation survey was conducted in E'xianling, Changjiang County, Hainan, an area with recently reported gibbon sightings. Although no gibbons were seen during the survey, the forest with its impressive biodiversity was found to be an ideal habitat for them.

#### 4. Conserving Hainan's limestone forests

Follow-up investigation by HWCC, and extensive press coverage of the March 2006 Workshop on Conserving Hainan Limestone Habitats and their Biodiversity, has aroused greater attention from the authority toward the unprotected status of the limestone forest at E'xianling. This has resulted in stricter control over illegal logging activity.

To record the information obtained in the Workshop a special issue of the journal "Tropical Forestry", focusing on Hainan's limestone ecosystems was published in May 2007.



Training workshops for wardens of the Yinggeling Nature Reserve, Hainan.

## CHINA Programme

#### 5. Mammal Surveys

Ongoing surveys utilising infrared auto-triggered cameras in Guangxi's Nonggang, and Hainan's Wuzhishan and Yinggeling Nature Reserves, have enabled us to photograph rarely-seen mammals and birds such as the Black Langur (a monkey) and Brown Wood Owl.

#### 6. Sustainable Living & Agriculture

In November 2006, CP collaborated with the charity organisation Heifer China to establish a pilot project on alternative sustainable livestock raising practices and conducted a workshop in Songming Village, Yunnan. A demonstration was set up using a deep litter housing system for pigs, which provides a high standard of animal welfare and raises healthier livestock. The site has been visited by farmers, non-governmental organisations and government officials from Guizhou and Guangxi, and even from Thailand who have expressed interest in establishing this successful system in rural areas.

We worked together with Partnerships for Community Development (PCD) giving training workshops to PCD partners: in Panzihua, Sichuan on sustainable agriculture; and in Li Ping, Guizhou and Heng County, Guangxi on participatory technology and documentation for organic farming. PCD Community Support Agriculture interns from mainland China visited KFBG in February 2007 to study our farming practices.

#### 7. Publications

Three issues of the *Living Forests* magazine were produced in 2006 and 2007. In May 2006, 800 copies of issue No. 11 – *Reforesting South China: Beyond Planting Trees* – were sent to government officials, academics, NGOs in China and overseas. The issue reviewed achievements and limitations of afforestation in the region, and considered the potential for forest restoration on the landscape scale. In January 2007, 800 copies were distributed of issue No. 12: *Roads Least Travelled – Exploring Ecotourism and Development*. Besides giving examples and lessons from ecotourism efforts in China, it touched on deeper questions regarding the nature of development. *Living Forests* No.13 *"Knowledge to practice: How can science be applied to conservation policy and management?"* was published in early September 2007.

Several scientific papers arising from CP projects were published (for details, see table on next page).



Limestone forest in E'xianling, Hainan, supports many important and unique species.

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Living Forests Issue #13.



Wheat, pea and hairy vetch are high in protein and can be used as pig feeds.



The Heifer partner in Songming Village, Yunnan, showing her pig pen to other farmers.

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Title	Authors	Journal
An update on the distribution of the 'Endangered' White-eared Night Heron <i>Gorsachius magnificus</i> in China	He Fen-qi (The Institute of Zoology, Beijing), John Fellowes, Bosco Chan, Michael Lau (KFBG), Lin Jian-sheng (Jiangxi Academy of Sciences), Lee Kwok Shing (KFBG), 2007	<i>Bird Conservation International</i> 17: 93-101
A new treefrog of the genus <i>Rhacophorus</i> (Anura: Rhacophoridae) from Hainan Island, China	Chou Wenhou (Taiwan National Museum), Michael Lau and Bosco Chan (KFBG), 2007	The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology 55: 157-165
Forest bird fauna of South China: notes on current distribution and status	Lee Kwok Shing, Michael Lau, John Fellowes and Bosco Chan (KFBG), 2006	Forktail 22: 23-38
Birds of an unexplored forest along the Sino-Vietnam border in Jingxi County, Southwest Guangxi Province, China	Bosco Chan and Lee Kwok Shing (KFBG), 2006	Birding ASIA 6: 36-43
Further new bird records for Hainan Island from the Yinggeling mountain range	Lee Kwok Shing and Bosco Chan (KFBG), 2006	Birding ASIA 6: 78-80
Farming endangered turtles to extinction in China	Shi Haitao (Hainan Normal University), James Parham (California Academy of Sciences), Michael Lau (KFBG) and Chen Tien-Hsi (Taiwan National Museum of Marine Science & Technology), 2007	<i>Conservation Biology</i> 21: 5-6
New records of plants of <i>Lasianthus</i> Jack (Rubiaceae) from Hainan Province, South China	Ng Sai Chit (KFBG), Zhang Rongjing, Xing Fuwu (South China Botanical Garden), 2007	Journal of Tropical & Subtropical Botany, 15: 168-170
Conservation needs of amphibians in China: A review	Xie Feng, Michael Lau and Simon Stuart	Science in China Series C: Life Science
Hainan winter waterbird survey	Lee Kwok Shing, Bosco Chan, Lu Gang, Su Wenba	Forktail
An overview of wildlife trade in South China	Lee Kwok Shing	China Nature
Wetland birds of Hainan Island, China: results from winter waterbird surveys 2003-07	Lee Kwok Shing, Bosco Chan, Lu Gang, Su Wenba	Forktail

#### 8. KFBG Studentships

KFBG studentships include awards to the following mainland Chinese postgraduate students:

Name	Institution	Research topic
2006		
Wu Fei (Ph.D.)	Kunming Institute of Zoology (Chinese Academy of Sciences)	Avian diversity in different habitats at Dayaoshan, Guangxi
Xie Yi (Ph.D.)	Beijing Forestry University	Policy review of endangered species conservation: case study of Hainan Gibbon
Lian Yunfeng (M.Phil.)	Hainan Normal University	Study of ecology and conservation biology of the turtle Pyxidea mouhotii
Lei Wei (M.Phil.)	Hainan Normal University	Geographical distribution and conservation biology of otters on Hainan Island
<b>2007</b> Wang Haijing (M. Phil.)	South China Institute of Endangered Animals, South China Institute of Botany	Distribution, status and conservation of Chinese Black-necked Pond Turtle
Liu Kai (M. Phil.)	Faculty of Conservation Biology, Southwest Forestry University	Impact of habitat fragmentation in watercourses on fish biodiversity in Northwest Guangxi
Li Zhigang (M.Phil.)	School of Geography and Biological Sciences, Guizhou Normal University	Study on social structure and genetics of the Hainan gibbon population



#### 9. Farm Based Exhibit

In September 2007 we opened the 'Keep South China Alive Exhibit' at KFBG, to help visitors understand our work in mainland China.

Newly born piglets are warm enough in early spring in the one-metre deep litter pen.

# EAP and EMP



#### **ECOLOGICAL ADVISORY PROGRAMME (EAP)**

The EAP monitors land use activities and provides an advisory role to government and the private sector on a wide range of topics related to conservation. We have continued to monitor and pursue new and ongoing environmental problems during this period, and, also to work toward the establishment of a Conservation Trust for Hong Kong.

#### 1 Planning, Environmental Impact Assessments & Land Use

**A.** We regularly identify and challenge illegal site clearing and the appearance of illegal structures; one example at Ngam Tau Shek, Clearwater Bay, Sai Kung, reported by a local newspaper prompted EAP to visit the site, leading to follow-up with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), Lands Department (LD) and Planning Department (PD) requesting an injunction against treecutting and erection of illegal structures. AFCD and LD replied that no action was possible due to insufficient evidence, while PD issued an Enforcement Notice since planning permission had not been obtained by the landowner.

**B.** We frequently challenge illegal dumping. One example is illegal dumping at the Kam Tin Buffalo Fields (near Cheung Chun San Tsuen) which was discovered to be from a nearby

private construction site. Following our letter of concern the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) issued a warning to the contractor.

**C.** Farmland destruction at Ho Sheung Heung, Sheung Shui was caused by dumped materials from domestic renovations and from a site connected to the 2008 Olympic Games at Fanling Golf Course. Letters of concern were sent to EPD, PD and Fanling Golf Course. EPD replied that no enforcement could be undertaken since the landowner approved the dumping while PD issued Enforcement and Reinstatement Notices to the landowner. The main contractor of the Olympic Games project immediately terminated the contract with the sub-contractor and tightened their procedures.

#### 2. Consultations

During this period, the EAP was invited to join 27 consultation meetings and open forums held by Government departments, public utilities, environmental groups and commercial organisations. A key meeting was also held to exchange views and dialogue between PD and environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Issues discussed included the opening of the Frontier Closed Area and North Lantau Island development plans.



Large-scale unauthorised site formation on deserted agricultural land near Tai Mei Tuk.



Unauthorised site formation – collecting evidence from a safe distance with digiscoping.



Highways Department agreed to use stickers of birds of prey (design suggested by KFBG) to prevent deaths of birds by collision with glass noise barriers at Kam Tin.

#### 3. Conservation Trust & Policy

Our Public Policy Analyst met with key stakeholders to pursue KFBG's Conservation Trust Proposal for Hong Kong. A briefing note was prepared for the HKSAR Chief Executive and a report on the Conservation Trust Workshop held in March 2006 was circulated.

In July 2006, EAP members embarked on a study tour to Ireland and discussed the Conservation Trust concept with international expert John Ducie of An Taische (The National Trust of Ireland). Our Public Policy Analyst formed a steering committee to assist in establishing the Conservation Trust as an independent organisation in Hong Kong.

In November 2006, the programme made a presentation on the background, current status and future direction of the Conservation Policy to the British Chamber of Commerce Environment Committee and wrote an article for its monthly publication.

#### 4. Other Activities

The EAP published a leaflet in April 2006 concerning the issue of captive animal release, and warning of the damage alien species can inflict on native fauna. The leaflet was distributed to 130 Buddhist groups and environmental NGOs. Letters of thanks from three Buddhist groups were received.

"The Ecology of Birds of Hong Kong", which is an overview of previous studies on the habitat of local birds and provides a quick tool for professionals, academics and students about bird ecology is a work-in-progress and the final draft is expected to be produced in mid-2008.

In February 2007, the EAP presented a talk at a conservation seminar organised by the Rotary Centennial Institute for Wetland Conservation and the World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF) Hong Kong on "The Effect of Reduction in Coverage of the Frontier Closed Area" focusing on ecological constraints and resources.

#### **ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMP)**

The EMP's prime focus relates to pest management, animal conflicts and change of land use within KFBG. A recent project which deals with a conflict between Lam Tsuen villagers and wild animals gained some momentum.

#### **1. Lam Tsuen Community Bat Project**

This is an interdepartmental project. Local villagers in Lam Tsuen requested help from AFCD to remove a colony of bats roosting in an abandoned ancestral building. As bats are protected by law, the villagers could not disturb them. KFBG assisted AFCD to educate the villagers so that they could co-exist peacefully with the bats. The bat guano in the building is regularly collected with the help of KFBG



With KFBG's assistance, villagers are learning how to co-exist peacefully with Himalayan Leaf-nosed Bats.

volunteers and is composted at the Farm and sold in the shop. This approach has developed a good relationship with the villagers and the bats continue to roost undisturbed in the building. It is becoming a useful community outreach model which provides all staff involved in this project with valuable experience in dealing with conflicts between wildlife and people. Profits from sales of guano will be circulated into bat conservation.

#### 2. Pest Management

The EMP received many requests for advice on wasp and bee conflicts. In particular, a large brown hornet that creates underground nests seemed prevalent. Two nests at KFBG posed a high risk to staff and visitor's safety and they were dealt with by a pest management company. Often, these nests cause no immediate danger and are a natural part of our protected "nature reserve". Our Pest Management Officer and the Senior Occupational Health and Safety Officer assessed problems caused by pests such as ticks, mites and mosquitoes, and, ensured precautionary guidelines are properly followed by KFBG staff.



Vespa Wasp Nest disturbance.

# GENERAL ADMINISTRATION & FACILITIES



In August 2006, the new Farm Shop opened offering a greater variety of organic food items, publications and a more comfortable environment for visitors. In 2006/2007, shop sales increased by nearly 100%. However, overall visitor numbers declined by approximately 30%. This was attributed partly to the opening of the Hong Kong Wetland Park in May 2006 resulting in fewer group visits to KFBG, and, partly, to the introduction of an admission fee in June 2006. Furthermore, Pui Pui the crocodile which was a star attraction at KFBG was also transferred to the Wetland Park in August 2006. During the year, further maintenance and capital projects were initiated to generally improve the facilities at KFBG. Thus, capital expenditures have increased. In addition, there has also been expenditure related to acquisition of neighbouring land.

#### 1. Accounting & Finance

Financial data from 2005/2006 and 2006/2007:

	2005/2006 (audited)	2006/2007 (audited)
Operating (HK\$)	61,927,441	65,296,452
Capital (HK\$)	19,386,463	23,322,695
Total (HK\$)	81,313,904	88,619,147

#### 2. Administration

Number of Farm Visitors:

1/4/2005 – 31/3/2006	1/4/2006 - 31/12/2007
187,662	200,889

#### 3. Shop Sales

Despite lower visitor numbers, shop sales have increased by nearly 100% due to a wider range of organic food products, better management and a more pleasant ambience in the new Farm Shop.

1/4/2005 – 31/3/2006	1/4/2006 – 31/3/2007
HK\$377,719.50	HK\$837,361.30

#### 4. Human Resources

#### A. Staff

Between April 2006 and December 2007, 40 new staff joined the Farm while 22 resigned and four long-serving staff members retired.

#### B. Training

In June 2006, the heads of departments attended an external training workshop "Building the Top Team", aimed



Farm Museum highlighting KFBG's development over the decades.



New Farm Shop provides more information about sustainable living and a greater choice of organic products.



Andrew McAulay giving his speech at the Annual Dinner in March 2007.

#### KFBG ANNUAL REPORT 2006 and 2007

at enhancing understanding, trust and creating team synergy. From October to December 2006, senior staff from all departments also attended similar training workshops. A follow-up external training programme "Leadership Challenge" was also conducted for the Management Team in April 2007. Twenty-nine staff members attended two Fire Ambassador Courses while 41 attended Refresher Courses in fire precaution measures organised by the Fire Services Department in March 2007.

#### 5. Procurement & Land Administration

Four plots of farm land north of KFBG with total area of approximately 38,619 square feet were acquired.

#### 6. Security, Occupational Health & Safety

In order to enhance work safety and operational efficiency, a system of "muster and morning briefings" was initiated for field staff. To enhance the physical and mental well-being of staff, daily stretching exercises was also introduced during the morning muster of field staff. A Stop Work Order system was also implemented in August 2006 as an immediate and active extension of the Hazard Reporting System already in place in order to work towards a target of "zero lost-time injuries". We also implemented an annual safety review and frequent safety committee meetings.

#### 7. Facilities

Various maintenance and capital projects to improve KFBG's infrastructure commenced or continued, including:

#### A. Water Quality & Waste Disposal Improvements

Water storage tanks were upgraded, old water pipes replaced and a new ultraviolet disinfection system was installed in the public toilets to improve water quality. Construction of the Waste Water Wetland is in progress.

#### B. Geotechnical Assessment & Upgrading of Slopes

Ongoing slope stabilisation continued at various locations to meet Government safety standards. This included slopes above the Butterfly Garden, behind the pigsties, behind the Chicken Houses, at Orchid Haven, the main vehicular entrance and beside the new Waste Water Wetland. An inspection programme covering every registered slope/ feature was also implemented.

#### C. Building Renovations & Landscape Improvements

Renovation of existing structures was undertaken including the Farm Shop, Farm Museum, Reptile Exhibit, Macaque Enclosure, Piers Jacobs Wildlife Sanctuary and Sustainable Living Display areas. Significant effort has been expended to restore old buildings to acceptable standards. In addition, existing toilets for the disabled have been upgraded to meet revised Government regulations.



Field staff start each working day with stretching exercises in the Plaza.



The condition of many existing buildings in KFBG were generally improved to a higher standard.

#### D. Safety Enhancement

To improve road safety at KFBG, reinforced concrete parapet walls were constructed at vulnerable points. Road bends, kerbs and worn carriageways were also reconstructed. The bird aviaries were upgraded with new roofs that comply with Government biosafety requirements for Avian Influenza protection. Annual testing of the lightning protection system and certification of fire services installations at the Conservation Building were also conducted.

## **KFBG ORGANISATION\***



#### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF THE KADOORIE FARM AND BOTANIC GARDEN CORPORATION

Andrew McAulay (Chairperson) Ian D. Boyce Dr. Lawrence Lee Ruy Barretto, S.C. Ho Wai Chi Deborah Whittle Daniel R. Bradshaw

#### SENIOR MANAGEMENT OF THE KADOORIE FARM AND BOTANIC GARDEN CORPORATION

#### Executive Director Andy Brown

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Education Department **Dr. Chiu Sein Tuck** 

Facilities Department Denis Ng

Fauna Conservation Department **Dr. Gary Ades** 

Flora Conservation Department **Dr. Lawrence Chau** 

General Administration Department Florence Au

Sustainable Living & Agriculture Department *Idy Wong* 

### A TRIBUTE TO Gloria d'Almada Barretto, MBE, VMM

10<sup>th</sup> July, 1916 - 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2007

Gootributions towards the understanding and protection of the local flora and helped steer our organization to the conservation role which we continue to this day. She lived a full and fascinating life. Her mission was to protect the wild and beautiful places and plants of Hong Kong.

Gloria Barretto was born in Kowloon and spent her childhood and formative years at the D'Almada family bungalow set in a lychee orchard and extensive gardens near Fanling village.

For a Hong Kong child of that era she had the benefit of an unusual and wonderful young life. The Fanling of her childhood had wide open spaces, sweeping grassy hills, vistas of rice paddies, and huge old trees. Living in a rambling house with a shady garden, lychee orchard and stables, she had quiet lanes to gallop along on her pony, clear streams to wade in, and woods to wander in with her dog. These were exciting times for a girl with a horse, and her independence of movement and action and fearlessness in the countryside stems from this time. She was totally at home in the countryside and with the villagers.

During her 20 years working in the District Office at Tai Po, Gloria's special interest in Hong Kong wild orchids was first aroused by her colleagues who asked her to identify plants. This led her to actively investigate and study the subject. Her knowledge and the wild orchids growing at her Fernery interested Sir Horace Kadoorie who invited her to work at Kadoorie Farm, where she started on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 1971.

While working with the Reception Office, she helped initiate the Farm's "Botanic Section", became its Supervisor, and played a major role with the late Mr. T.S. Woo in gardening, landscaping and conservation of native flora. Her long-term study of Hong Kong orchids and other plants was the main impetus for the Farm's initial flora conservation work. In the late 1960's, Gloria Barretto pioneered the conservation of native Hong Kong orchids, ferns and other plants. At the Farm itself, a total of about 1,100 native species of vascular plants (ferns, conifers and flowering plants) plus some 180 species of bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) can be found growing in a wild state. At the suggestion of Sir Horace, Gloria established the Orchid Haven at the Farm in the 1970's, which provided both research and growing facilities. Today, some 98 of Hong Kong's 123 native orchid species are found within our protected areas growing in their natural settings.

Gloria's contribution to KFBG has been enormous and varied. She helped compile a guidebook (1973) to assist self-guided visitors

to KFBG who came in their thousands at weekends and who were transported to the hilltops by shuttle buses. She was also responsible for coordinating, editing and writing chapters and sections of the many Kadoorie Farm reports, pamphlets, postcards and calendars. At the suggestion of Lord Lawrence Kadoorie, Gloria wrote educational articles for the *South China Morning Post*. From February 1974 to 1978 some 54 whole pages entitled "Kadoorie farm and gardens, Notes and news" were published on a monthly basis, which covered a wide range of interests including the wild flora, managed plants, orchard trees, fauna, insects and the various agricultural activities at the Farm. In this she followed in the footsteps of an earlier Hong Kong naturalist, Dr. Geoffrey Herklots and his team of expert enthusiasts from the 1930's who provided scientific information in a readable and accessible style.

From the 1960's, Gloria was part of the "Hong Kong Wild Orchid Group" who in their spare time surveyed native wild orchids in almost every part of the countryside. Through their enthusiasm, the number of wild native orchid species known in Hong Kong increased from around 70 at the beginning of their study to around 120 in 1980. This group included Dr. Gary Allan, Mr. Ron Clibbon-Dyer, Mr. Bernard Coultous, Mr. James Leung, Mr. Tse Shing Chee, and her son Ruy Barretto.

Gloria did much of the detailed taxonomic work leading to the identification of several new records of plants being discovered in Hong Kong and in the Farm itself. Many of these are rare locally or in the region. Examples include *Kopsia arborea* (*K. lancibracteolata*, Apocynaceae), *Rehderodendron kwangtungense* (Styracaceae), *Salomonia elongata* (*Epirixanthes elongata*, Polygalaceae), *Malaxis acuminata* var. *biloba* (Orchidaceae), *Phaius wallichii* (Orchidaceae) and *Machilus wangchiana* (*Persea kadooriei*, Lauraceae).

She made contacts with the University of Hong Kong (HKU), working closely with Dr. Maureen Weatherhead, and Professor Hu Shiu Ying at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and these connections later encouraged and facilitated the employment of suitably qualified staff to the Farm.

Gloria also fostered close contact with officials at all levels; particularly staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, and the Hong Kong Herbarium. She often passed information, photos and plant specimens for new records of local flora, not restricted to orchids, to the Herbarium. The publicity generated from new discoveries contributed to proper attention being paid to the Hong Kong Herbarium and to Hong Kong's biological diversity. Her expertise and wide interests coupled with her position of being responsible for meeting important visitors to the Farm ensured that the cause for nature



conservation in Hong Kong was made known directly to several of the Governors of Hong Kong. She was the expert witness for Government in the prosecution of wild orchid traders. She provided expert evidence in the case against development in Sha Lo Tung. She was a member of the Orchid Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature since the inception of this group in 1984. Mrs. Barretto was also consulted on the Country Park Boundaries and Urban Greening, and contributed her expertise and time to many authors.

Following a visit by the Honorary Treasurer, Lawrence Banks of the International Dendrology Society, Gloria was requested to write an article for their 1980 Yearbook and this was instrumental in the award of "Arboretum Distinguished for Merit" to the "Kadoorie Botanic Garden", as they called us, in 1981.

Gloria was one of the earliest Hong Kong botanists to visit China, being part of memorable expeditions led by Roy Lancaster from 1980. She had many first hand personal contacts with the foremost orchid experts in China, such as Professors Chen Singchi and Tsi Zhanhuo of the Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences. She was one of the first persons from the Farm to be involved in South China when in May 1986 she was invited to Guangdong to advise on conservation. In January 1987 she and Timothy Yam of HKU were invited by Vice Director He Qing Zhen of the Floriculture Research Institute of the Guangdong Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Wushan, Guangzhou to Hainan, in particular the Jianfengling Tropical Rainforest, now a National Forest Park as well as a National Nature Reserve, to advise on conservation of their orchids for which she wrote a report. She and the then Farm Manager, Gregory Chung fostered a warm relationship with the South China Institute of Botany, Guangdong who over the years from 1987-1991 provided several specialists who surveyed and assisted in identifying the flora of KFBG.

Mrs. Barretto was the person who initially responded to Sir Horace's special concern for the future of the Farm and suggested that the Farm be reorganized as a Botanic Garden. She and Gregory Chung drafted a paper, and this finally led to the Kew Gardens team visit in April 1993 who helped to provide a strategy for the gardens and the conservation work. Gloria helped introduce Andrew McAulay, who was concerned about the future of the Farm and who is now the Chairman of the KFBG Board, to local Fauna experts to highlight the biodiversity of fauna at this unique site. These early meetings catalysed by Gloria provided some of the insights and ideas that were later to become the basis of the new conservation and environmental education direction for KFBG. This was enshrined by a Government Ordinance in 1995 when KFBG became a public corporation. Her persistence on this issue was crucial to the existence of the Farm as we now see it.

She has always been concerned for the long-term future development of KFBG in one aspect or another. Gloria was much involved in planning what would be needed for future activities. In November 1993, she submitted a draft report on future management of the Farm. In March 1994, she prepared a paper giving the reasons for the extension of our Short Term Tenancy land for Sir Piers Jacobs then Chairman of the KFBG Board, and in

July 1994, prepared a detailed 30-page plan for the conservation of flora for each locality of the Farm. This was followed by a guide to work-force activities in the areas for flora conservation in February 1995.

Gloria was awarded the M.B.E. in 1970 and included in the citation were her contributions to the study and conservation of local flora. She was awarded the Gold Veitch Memorial Medal by the Royal Horticultural Society in 1997 for her contribution to the advancement and improvement of the science and practices of horticulture.

Gloria was the Manager of the Botanic Section at KFBG when she retired in January 1995. She was re-engaged as a consultant working on various projects in the Flora Conservation Department including the compilation of a plant checklist. She finally retired in January 2003 but continued to assist and provide suggestions. Gloria Barretto's final work was on the "Check List of Plants at KFBG" in 2004 and presents the results of her many years of research, observation and experience, with a total of 2,227 native and exotic species identified.

Gloria has given to KFBG her manuscripts, research material, drawings and photographs - her life's work on orchids - so that an authoritative book on the "Orchids of Hong Kong" can be published.

Gloria's giving to the world of nature spanning over 40 years, had her working in every aspect of conservation, such as plant hunter, plant grower, researcher, author, advisor, expert witness, educator and activist.

> Much loved and cherished by all who knew her More than words can ever express We salute you

> > "Glorious Hope"



A line drawing of the orchid *Cryptostylis arachnites* by the late Pauline Lai, artist at KFBG and good friend of Gloria Barretto.

### A TRIBUTE TO Gloria d'Almada Barretto, MBE, VMM

 $10^{\text{th}}$  July, 1916 -  $24^{\text{th}}$  February, 2007



Gloria Barretto with Sir Horace Kadoorie (on her left) and Lord Lawrence Kadoorie (on her right) at Kadoorie Farm (November 1979).



Gloria Barretto and Sir Horace Kadoorie listening to Major Jim Ades as he tells the story of a rescued Grass Owl, one of several birds of prey under his care in Shek Kong in 1991. Several birds later joined the newly established Raptor Sanctuary at KFBG in 1994. Gloria was interested in the work of Major Ades and supported his wish to establish a permanent centre in Hong Kong dedicated to rehabilitating injured and confiscated birds of prey.



Standing next to Gloria is Pauline Lai (orchid artist) and other "Farm Guides" (1976).



Gloria on a botanical exploration in the Fragrant Hills near Beijing with Plantsman and Author Mr. Roy Lancaster (on her left), 1980.



Gloria Barretto with Prof. Hu Shiu Ying conducting a biodiversity survey for the conservation of Sha Lo Tung (1993).



A thank you dinner to the Kew Gardens team who advised on setting-up a botanic garden at Kadoorie Farm (1993).



Gloria Barretto explaining a point of botanical interest to HRH The Prince of Wales during his visit to Kadoorie Farm on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1994.



A group photo of Gloria Barretto with some of the Farm staff (17<sup>th</sup> December, 1994).



Gloria using her favourite umbrella (a gift from Andrew McAulay) in her daily work around Kadoorie Farm (1994).



Gloria Barretto in conversation with HRH The Prince of Wales at Dragon Pavilion during his visit to Kadoorie Farm on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1994.



A photo taken beside the wildlife pond at Kadoorie Farm (from right: Dean Barrett, Gloria Barretto, Sarbajit Gurung and Gregory Chung -17<sup>th</sup> December, 1994).



Andrew McAulay presenting the Gold Veitch Memorial Medal awarded by the Royal Horticultural Society to Gloria Barretto (February 1997).



At the Fernery at Girassol with orchid friends, Prof. Hu Shiu Ying, Mr. James Leung (immediately behind her), Mr. Ron Clibborn-Dyer (wearing hat) and Mr. Tse Shing Chee (2001).



Gloria Barretto with Ruy Barretto, SC, and Judy Kiu, officiating at the 12<sup>th</sup> Kadoorie Brothers Memorial Race on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2006, her last visit to the Farm.



Gloria Barretto admiring a bloom of one of her favourite orchids - *Phaius wallichii* - at Orchid Haven (26<sup>th</sup> March, 1999).



Gloria Barretto with The Lady Kadoorie and Gregory Chung (former Farm Manager) at the Moon Gate, Kadoorie Farm (2001).



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