

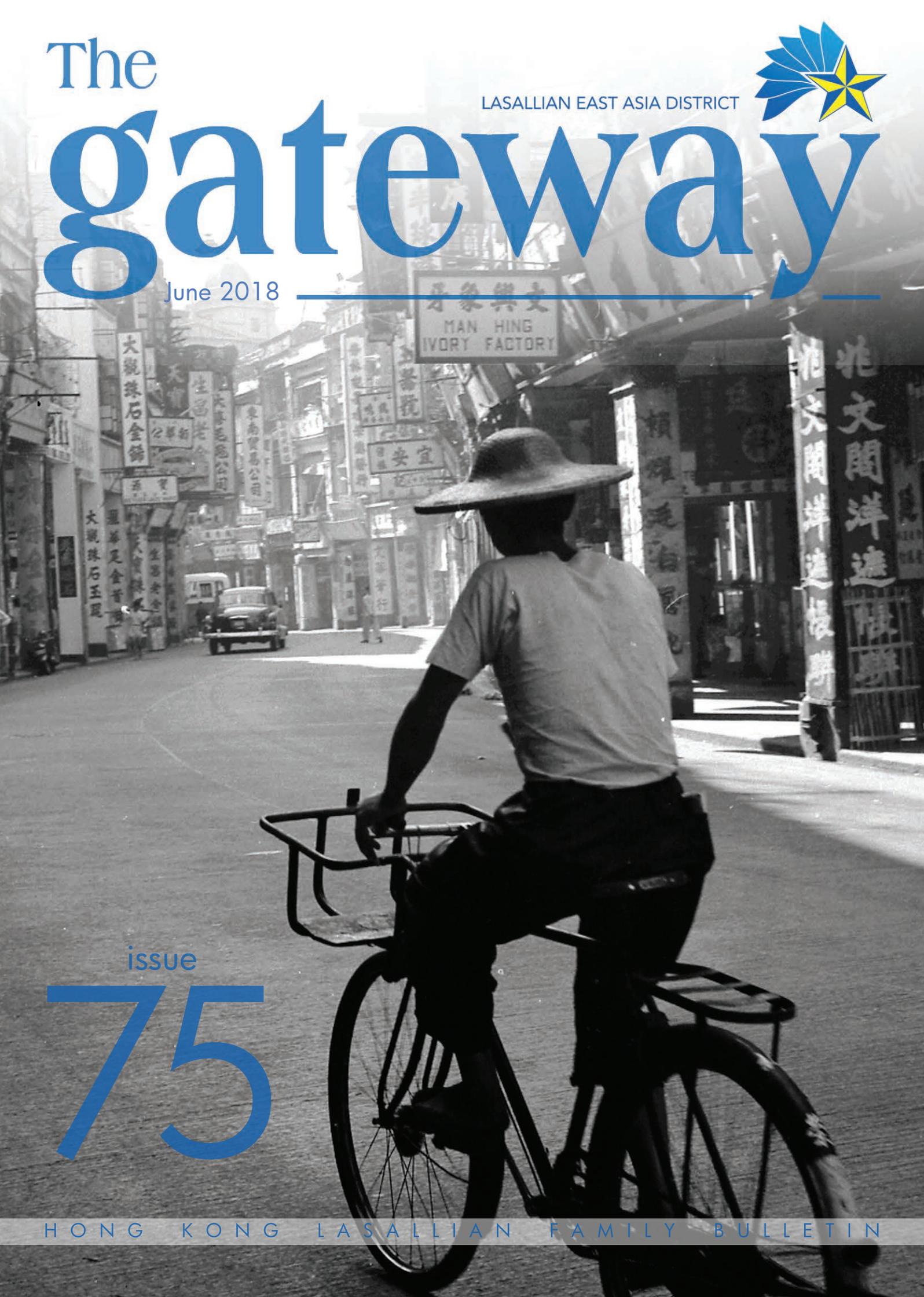
The

gateway

LASALLIAN EAST ASIA DISTRICT



June 2018



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75



By Terry Hardy

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Welcome



Summer came early in these parts, setting a record high temperature for the month of May. The mercury soared over 33° Celsius for 18 consecutive days. Air conditioners were going full blast. The good aspect was the bright, blue skies.

Another good aspect was the summer flowers and blossoms. The Jacaranda has come and gone. Every year

we wait for the Flame of the Forest, the glorious red-domed trees, and we were not let down. Currently we are enjoying the beautiful Allamandas, shining sharply on road dividers, fences and slopes.



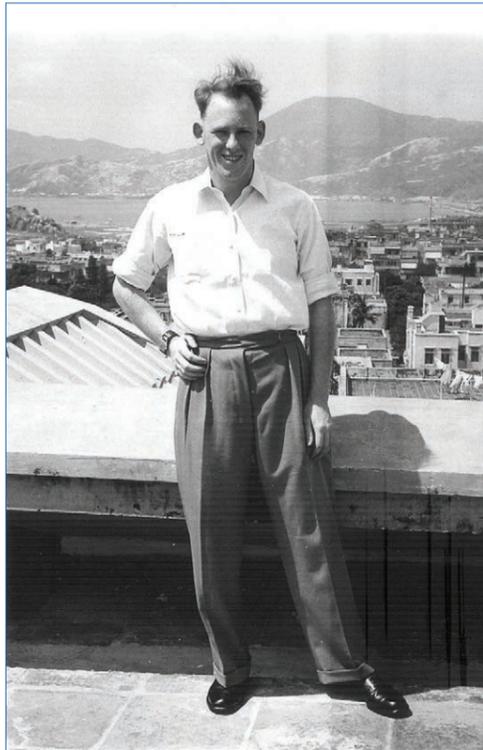
In our Lasallian world, the final exams have either started or are looming. The exams are generally taken seriously, as part of the general love of learning. The exams, like the flowers, will come and go, part of the rhythm of life.

In this issue of *The Gateway* you will read about one man's take on the Hong Kong of the 50s. Terry Hardy has led a long and colourful life. The year he spent in Hong Kong, sometimes at La Salle College, was a defining one in his life. There are updates galore in this issue. This is partly because schools try to get through many activities before the summer break and also because sports competitions have to be rounded off.

We, too, will be off on our summer break in July and August. We hope to be back with you again come September. Happy Holidays! ☺

Hong Kong in the 50s

Through the eyes of Terry



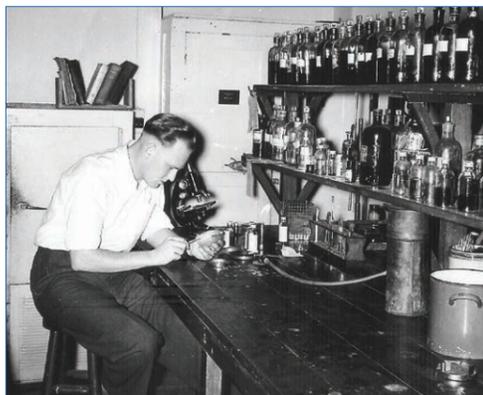
By any stretch of the imagination Terry Hardy has enjoyed a rather busy and colourful life. In the main he did it his way, without too much help or hindrance. He was able to work hard and play hard and he did not waste too much time. In this article we deal with just a small part of Terry's colourful life, the part connected directly with Hong Kong and with our Lasallian world.

In 1955, as an active young man of twenty-two, he was called on to serve in what was then a colony of the British Empire, Hong Kong. He had just graduated as a Pathology Laboratory analyst, and knew next to nothing about Hong Kong. He describes his arrival in Hong Kong like this: "I was, that sunny morning, in magical Hong Kong after that fascinating, turbulent and educational 35 days sea voyage after leaving Liverpool.

"I suppose it must have been noon that 6th March before disembarkation and I left the dear old Georgic and saw the last of the small boys diving for coins as they glistened while falling through the water of the great and bustling Hong Kong Harbour. A jeep took me and all my belongings swiftly away, up the Nathan Road and then to La Salle or 33rd. General Hospital, as it was in 1955 in Kowloon. I was shown my quarters — a Nissan Hut with sandy floor and an inadequate wooden box under my bunk.

I was introduced to the Pathologist, Major Brown who seemed to take a moderate dislike to me from the word go and seemed not to trust me either; a good start. After some at odds discussion it became obvious that I was in the wrong place and the wrong hospital and should be on the Island, at the British Military Hospital (BMH) up on the Peak.

Another Jeep ride to the Yau Ma Tei Ferry and over and up to Bowen Road and BMH. Within minutes as we drew up, I was asked "are you Hardy" ... "Yes" ... "Yes Sgt, I am Sgt Hardy". I had met my namesake who was a regular soldier ex Arnhem paratrooper WW II. Sgt "Jock" Hardy asked me had I ever pulled a rope before [curious first question] and I answered of course, "No". He replied "well you will now — you are in the tug of war team — see me when you have settled in round the



Terry Hardy in the Pathology Laboratory at British Military Hospital, Then Bowen Road, The Peak, 1955.

back by the three palm trees this afternoon" I was aghast and at the same time amazed — 35 days at sea and perambulating round the globe and here I was in a tug of war team! That meeting took place but mercifully I was thought of as a weakling and left alone.

The Lab was a wooden hut with three well-worn wooden benches, built in Victorian times but was complete enough for the conduct of most of the so called 'routine' laboratory investigations. My 'quarters' this time were luxurious — an off shoot of the Lab. And I found out why over the next few months as I seemed to be on duty 24/7 and for the remainder of my stay.

Here I would 'do' the microbiology (making my own plates), the haematology, the chemistry and the histology — blocking out, cutting my own sections and preparing my own stains. Well that was the routine but much of the work was by no means routine. There was parasitology to take care of the nasal swab to determine if there were acid fast bacilli-leprosy present (a good indicator), there were blood groups and cross match samples for the operating theatre, faeces to analyse for that elusive tropical sprue which had dragged me all the way from England to investigate.

There was one last issue I had to assist with — the autopsies. Yes, they occurred, such as the chap who shot himself up his nostril, the child who drank chromic acid mouth wash, the dehydrated Ghurkha babies the victims of falling off roofs while inebriated — and so on. But I also visited the children's ward and bled tiny tots and extracted blood from a naked Chinese murderer in a closed and padded closed ward.

I was often on my own much of the time but a young Pathologist would come from La Salle 33rd General Hospital for a while to check work and sign off forms. This was SJS — who became a true friend for the remainder of my life. A humourist, pathologist, and a kind individual who succeeded at times in putting the Military Machine in its place."

And so, while Terry spent most of his time working at the British Military Hospital, he had several short 'tours' at La Salle 33rd General Hospital, sleeping in a hot and dusty nissan hut, on what had been the school's football field. The field did not have much topsoil and dust was easily kicked up.

Besides his work as pathologist, Terry took a keen interest in photography. Again, in his own words: "An opportunity arose in 1955 to capture faces



of Hong Kong which were destined to disappear forever. I purchased a camera with my meagre funds and wandered the Island and at times, Kowloon peninsula and even the Outlying Islands. My photography started on the 8th of March 1955.

I had joined the 33rd General Hospital then based in the old La Salle College. I parted with a few precious dollars and acquired a shirt and a pair of trousers and took a photograph in the busy street somewhere down Boundary Street. There were women ironing in the street and children everywhere. The ladies were dressed in traditional 'pyjamas' and there were colourful signs in every spare space. I snapped away with my plastic Kodak box camera loaded with Kodak Tri X and the recording of Hong Kong started.



With this thought in my mind I set out to capture the clamorous everyday story of those teeming Oriental backstreets and the time had arrived for me to penetrate the barriers of the so-called 'inscrutable Oriental'. It did not take long for me to realise that numerous difficulties were to be overridden.

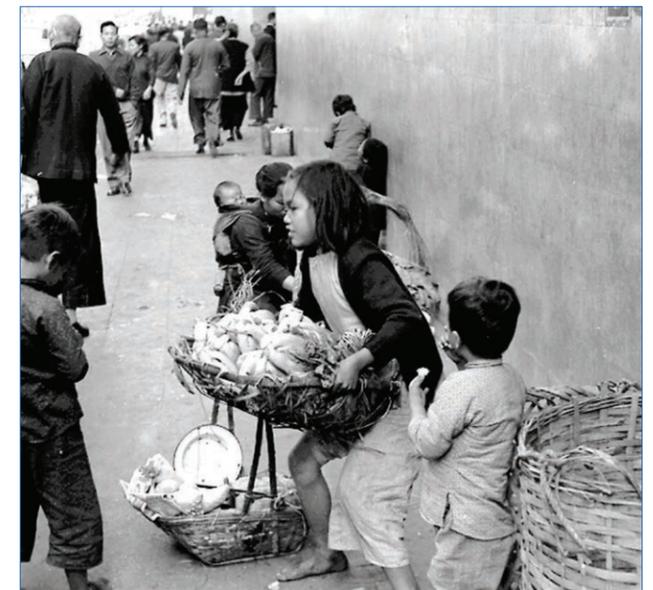
Chinese youngsters are by no means an exception to the rule that photography of children is probably the greatest test of the worker's skill and patience; indeed, they appear to exhibit camera shyness to the extreme. The experience of turning into one of the thousands of little alleyways apparently teeming with life and children of all ages, only to find oneself deserted within moments of entering, however, unobtrusively, is shattering — but by no means uncommon. Even the adults of the Coolie population appear loath to be photographed. In contrast there are, of course the occasions when one is virtually mobbed by scores of grubby, grinning youngsters with their sorrowful cries of "No Mama, No Papa,

No Chow Chow" — and all efforts are concerned with saving the camera from prying fingers.

To give the impressions that all 'native' photography in Hong Kong is a hit-and-miss affair would, of course, be completely erroneous and a worker with a moderate eye for composition and a good deal of patience will be well enough rewarded. Let us take as an example the cyclist; apparently in an almost deserted road he is in reality travelling through one of the City's busiest thoroughfares. My aim was to eliminate as far as possible the clash of Eastern signs and local colour, with high

powered Western automobiles, tourists and American sailors, attempting at the same breath to create an air of tranquility.

Generally speaking, matters were not so simple — many subterfuges had to be sought to overcome the limitations of being "a European in a Chinaman's Castle". The child with the preposterously large basket of fruit, for instance, presented considerable difficulty and I particularly desired to represent the "child worker" in my collection. Several attempts to photograph this child turned out to be fruitless, on approaching her with anything remotely resembling a camera she and presumably her mother (seen behind her in this picture) would smile sweetly but turned very firmly to the wall until I passed on my way. Eventually I was successful only after having an accomplice to purchase some fruit while I took the shots from the cover of a half open jacket, very little attempt being possible to accurately compose the picture.

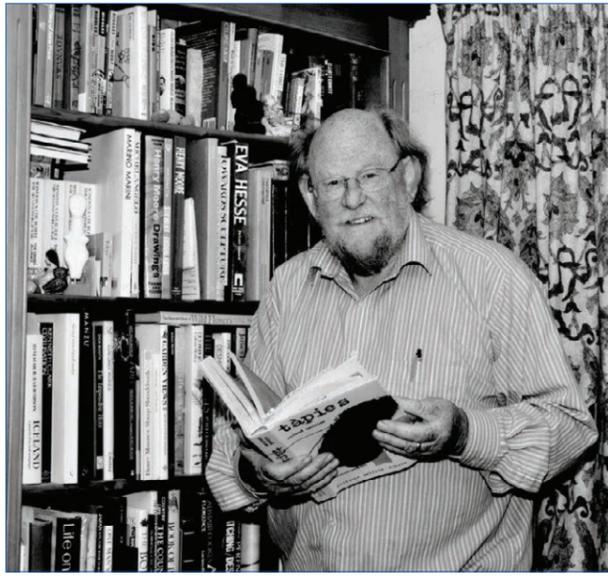


No scenes from the colony of Hong Kong would be complete without a rickshaw or the "Picka-back" babies; even the toddlers stagger along the crowded streets with tiny tots almost as big as themselves clinging to their back, heads lolling sleepily in the humid sunshine. One would imagine that photography of a rickshaw would be simple enough, but there are the usual pitfalls. A picture of a Chinese pulling a rickshaw with a multiple store or very European tramcar for a blackcloth would be ridiculous, but it is in these surroundings that the greatest concentration of the dwindling two-wheeled taxi trade is found. Our Rickshaw "boy" here though is in a fine setting, exclusively Oriental with a typical example of the terraced alleyways climbing from the dusty tumult of the waterfront to the solitude and beauty of the island's highest peak.



Children at mealtimes are always appealing no matter to what race they belong. In the back streets of Wanchai, Kennedy Town and the even more squalid 'shack areas', poverty, lack of sufficient housing and the eternal heat all call for open air mealtimes to be held whenever and wherever practical. Here at last the camera is at a slight advantage for like the child in my illustration the "Chickos" are far too interested in their bowl of "Chow Fan" to bother about a camera."





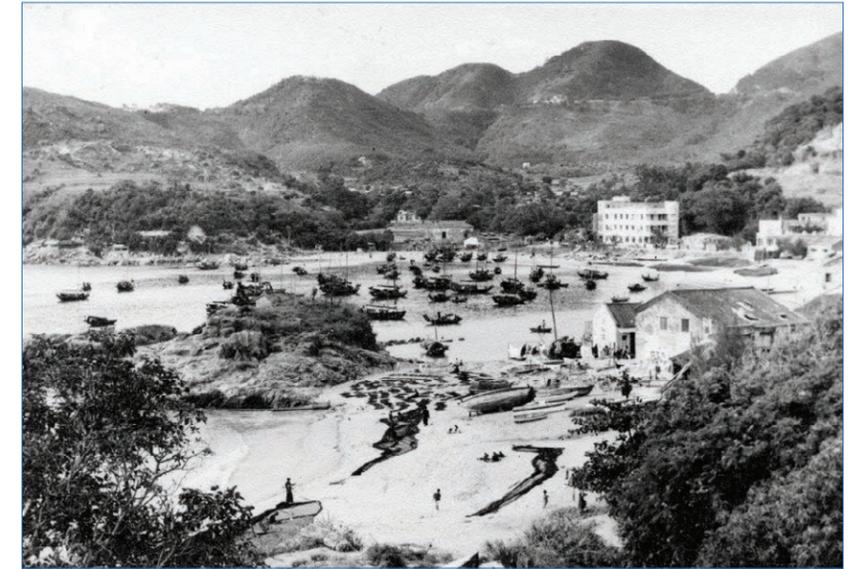
Terry now lives with his wife in a quiet corner of Dorset, England, a far cry from the hustle and bustle of Hong Kong. But he still vividly and fondly remembers almost every detail of his stay here. Not only that, from time to time he sends writings as well as framed pictures of old Hong Kong to La Salle College. These pictures are safely kept in the Library and are occasionally exhibited. Terry has also donated to the Hong Kong Museum of History.

Terry had a good feeling about Hong Kong that has continued to this day. By and large, Hong Kong treated him well. That one year in Hong Kong in the 50's shaped much of his direction in life. He calls it a defining year. ○

And through the lens of Terry



A back street in Central



Stanley Bay Village

Moving heavy loads near Shum Shui Po Ferry



Family Updates

CBS Exchange 2018

The Christian Brothers' Schools Exchange Programme 2018 was successfully launched on the 21st of April 2018 at St. Joseph's College. About 100 Form 4 students took part. Half of them will be sent to our Lasallian schools as exchange students. The other half will remain in their respective schools as mentors. The objectives of the programme are to understand the cultures among Hong Kong Lasallian Schools, to learn and appreciate the strengths as well as the accomplishments of each participating school, to consolidate our identity as Lasallians and to support the Lasallian Family's initiatives. The school Supervisors and Principals give strong support to this exchange programme which is organised by the Hong Kong Lasallian Youth ministry.



Archery Grand Slam



The annual Inter-School Archery competition was held in mid-May 2018. A Grade are the senior players, B Grade the middle and C Grade the junior. Not for the first time, the archers of La Salle College took the championship, indeed securing the Grand Slam in the process. It seems to us, looking in from the outside, that archers need nerves of steel for the task in hand. Those La Salle boys must have very steady hands and cool eyes.

A Good Bet

Chong Gene Hang College presented their annual musical drama on the 19th and 20th of April 2018. This year it was a comedy musical called 'A Good Bet'. The drama brought the audience back to the 'rock and roll' music of the 50's. The drama portrays a music teacher who likes the new music of Bill Haley while another teacher believes the students should be introduced to the music of Buddy Holly instead. The first made a bet that he could get his students to like the music of Bill Haley, while the other bet his class would prefer Buddy Holly. The two teachers encountered a problem because they found that the students did not like either at first. But, in the end, they enjoyed the music of both singers. The musical drama was fun and entertaining and the real highlights of the show were the songs of the 50's and the performance of the students, especially of the 'rock and roll' dance.



Badminton Blooming

After overall success in the Inter School competitions, the La Salle College badminton team have also come away with the championship in the All Hong Kong Jing Ying Tournament, defeating strong opponents on a score-line of three to one. This is the third consecutive year that the school has won this competition. On top of that, they also came away with the championship in both the Junior and Senior BOCHK All Hong Kong competition on the 22nd of May 2018. In recent times, badminton has hit a purple patch in the school and the players, coach and teacher-in-charge are high in confidence. Who knows. Perhaps a Lin Dan or a Lee Chong Wei will emerge from this talented group of players. Congratulations all round.



DLS in Action

De La Salle Secondary School has been encouraging its students to take part in various activities and competitions both inside and outside the school. The students have taken well to this and have come up trumps in a number of fields. Recently, they have won awards in areas like puppetry, rugby and music. They came away with gold award in the Pop Band category and in Vocal Solo sung in English. Interestingly, they have also won awards for singing in German and in Japanese.



Raffle Draw

The annual Raffle Draw for the Hong Kong Lasallian Mission Fund took place on the 25th May of 2018. On hand were a number of Lasallian Education Council members, school administrators, teachers, old boys and Lasallian Volunteers. The raffle tickets sold well, thanks to the efforts of the schools, parents and old boys. Prizes were also attractive, the top prizes including a MacBook, Canon Camera, Tablet etc. Every year, the raffle proceeds are used to support our Lasallian mission special needs in Hong Kong, China and Asia.



Onwards and Upwards



La Salle Primary School continues with its richly diversified programme of events celebrating its Diamond Jubilee. The major event of April was a modern take on the Musical Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves, played to full houses. To say that the musical was a success is to put it mildly. The acting, narration, live music and singing, the dancing, the costumes, choreography and lighting were simply superb. A special feature was the appearance of the school Principal acting on stage and acting superbly too. The Musical ran for three nights and the Guest of Honour for the final night was Brother Thomas Lavin. Brother Thomas was a most appropriate guest because he was responsible in no small part for the strong promotion of musical talent in La Salle College which in turn influenced the Primary school. The Chair of the organizing committee, Mrs. Rebecca Yung and the producer, Mrs. Joyce Wong together with all involved deserve hearty congratulations.

Artistic Creations

La Salle Primary School continued with its Diamond Jubilee major monthly events with a Visual Arts Exhibition held in the Cultural Centre for three days running in mid-May. The guest of honour for the opening ceremony was Brother Edmundo



Fernandez, Visitor of the Lasallian East Asia District (LEAD), a happy choice since Brother is himself an artist. The exhibition attracted a large attendance and they must have been impressed by the stunning works on display — paintings of various hue, shining mosaics and ceramics, cut-outs — all from the hands of the Primary 1 to 6 boys. As Brother Edmundo emphasized, the world would be a much poorer place without art and music.





LEO Closing Ceremony and Party

After another successful year, a closing ceremony and party for our Hong Kong Lasallian Educational Outreach (LEO) project was held at Caritas Centre, Ngau Tau Kok on the 25th of May 2018. The participants included the students, teachers, Brothers, and social worker. Special guests were two Brother aspirants from Thailand, Anthony and Matthew. After an opening prayer, a student representative from each group gave short speeches, the teachers were duly appreciated by letters written by the students and pictures were taken. Then it was time for refreshments before drawing the curtain down for this academic year. LEO expects to be on hand again next year to help these newly-arrived students from China.



Visit of EDB Undersecretary Dr. Choi Yuk-lin

Dr. Choi Yuklin, Undersecretary of Education, visited St. Joseph's College on Friday, the 20th of April 2018. Upon arrival, the school ambassadors briefed Dr. Choi regarding the history of the College. This was followed by a lesson observation and a brief campus tour. She also discussed with staff, student, old boy, and parent representatives regarding their feelings about the school as well as about Hong Kong education generally.

Roman Visitors

The Institute Secretaries for Mission, Brother Nestor Anaya, and for Association/Lasallian Family, Brother Paco Chiva, paid us a visit from the 5th to 9th of May. They came to learn about our Lasallian practices in Hong Kong and to encourage us in our mission. They were given a pretty full timetable, visiting some schools, meeting with various Lasallian Family bodies, including the Lasallian Education Council and Youth representatives. Of course they also had dialogues with the Brothers. On top of all that, they were taken on a city tour. Next stop, Myanmar, and we wish the two Brothers well.



Thailand Calling

Two young aspirants to the Brotherhood, Anthony and Matthew, came to stay with us in Hong Kong for the month of May 2018. They were sent here by the Thai Brothers so that they could improve their English and be exposed to the wider world. They stayed with the Brothers at La Salle College, following the regular daily programme. Angus, a young Lasallian Volunteer, kindly gave the aspirants formal lessons in English while the Brothers supplied the informal. The two young men were also given exposures at the Home of Love, the Lasallian



Outreach Programme (LEO) at Ngau Tau Kok, Diamond Jubilee celebrations of La Salle Primary School, a Young Lasallians Gathering as well as visits to such places as the Peak and the Big Buddha. Shopping in Mongkok was not forgotten. We wish Anthony and Matthew the very best as they continue their Lasallian journey in Thailand.

Golden Jubilee Showcase



St. Joseph's Primary School is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year. As part of its celebrations, it put on a Showcase at Queen Elizabeth Indoor Stadium on the evening of the 5th of May. The stadium was filled with a joyful atmosphere and also filled with multi-coloured lights. The show was graced with the presence of Brother Nestor Anaya, Institute Secretary for Mission, who had just arrived from Rome. Supervisor, Miss Millie Tam, welcomed everybody before the dotting of the eyes of the lions and then we were all entertained to a marvellous variety of acts ranging from Chinese Drumming to Rope-Skipping, Drama to Orchestra and Choirs. Both young and not so young also enjoyed the professional singing of a number of celebrity old boys. The night's entertainment came to a fitting end with the singing of the school rally.



Forever United

The Lasallian East Asia District (LEAD), marking a historical first, has introduced an award recognizing the special contribution to the mission of the Lasallian Family in this part of the world. Each country or sector of the District was asked to nominate one person deemed worthy of the award. On this first occasion there were six recipients in all and the ceremony was held on the 19th of May 2018, as part of the Lasallian Mission Assembly held in Manila. A fuller account may be read in 'Lead Story'. The recipient of the award from Hong Kong was Mr. Paul Tam, secretary to our Lasallian Family. The title of the award is "Indivisa Manent", a Latin motto found in the family crest of St. John Baptist de La Salle. Heartiest congratulations to Paul.



Rest in Peace

We received the sad news recently of the death of Seamus Walsh, formerly known as Brother Livinus. He passed away on the 30th of May 2018. He had taught in La Salle College from 1961 to 1966 and is well remembered by his past pupils as a kind and patient teacher. His academic strength was in Science and his cultural in Music. In fact, he played the clarinet with the school orchestra and even conducted it for a while. Though not gifted in sports, he did his best and supported school teams. When he returned to Ireland, he became a lecturer in a third level College in his home city of Waterford. Later in life, in 2005, his old boys strongly desired to see him again and for this purpose paid his way for a return trip back to Hong Kong from Ireland. He never forgot such great generosity. And his old boys did not forget him in death, arranging for a requiem Mass on the 11th of June in St. Margaret's Church, Happy Valley. May Seamus rest in the love of the Lord.



... ONE FAMILY





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