

CLUB



HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 MAY 2021

TENNIS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021

Rugby

YOUTH BOYS TURN PRO

Junior Soccer

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CLUB MAGAZINE

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club.
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All heart, All hands, All-Star!

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SUNDAY
9th May
2021

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8th May 2021

Sunday Lunch and Dinner
9th May 2021

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THE THOUGHTS OF THE CHAIRMAN

主席的話

Michael J. Wood
Chairman



At the time of writing, the mood in Hong Kong is gradually turning more positive with social distancing measures being more relaxed. One major issue that the Government has been promoting is of vaccination rates being linked to the ability of F&B operations being able to open up with less restrictions. Naturally we are closely following developments on this but at present the level of vaccination take up is very low and it is unclear as to how and whether this will change.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind Members of the Car Parking Bye-laws and in particular the reference to "Family" members being able to use the registered vehicle to park at the Club. "Family" members are your immediate family who are registered under your membership, i.e. you (the Member), your Spouse/Partner and your children under the age of 26 who have a Driving Licence. For the sake of clarity, it does not mean your brother or sister, or father or mother (relatives or friends or business colleagues) who are not members of the Club are allowed to use your car to park in the Club and then go elsewhere. Regrettably, we have had some recent incidents of this nature which have been captured on CCTV and recorded by Security and where Disciplinary action has been taken against the concerned member(s).

On a happier note, I am delighted to share the news that the Hong Kong Council of Social Services (HKCSS) has awarded the **5 Years Plus Caring Company Logo** to the Club, in recognition of our commitment in Caring for the Community, employees and the environment over the past 5 years. The Club has been awarded the logo for **5 consecutive years**.

The Caring Company Scheme aims to foster strategic partnerships between the business and social services sectors to create a more inclusive society. This award is given to companies who have demonstrated good corporate citizenship, recognized the concept of corporate social responsibility, and taken up the responsibility to care for the community.

The Club has fulfilled several criteria under three categories (Caring for the Community, Caring for Employees and Caring for the Environment) and thanks are in order to all our Management and Staff who have worked very hard to demonstrate good corporate citizenship and social responsibility.

Michael J. Wood
Chairman

社交距離措施進一步放寬，香港整體氣氛亦相繼好轉，當中政府一直提倡將接種疫苗與放寬食肆營業限制掛鉤，本會當然會密切關注有關安排的最新發展，但就目前而言，疫苗接種率依然偏低，上述放寬條件的具體執行細節及成效仍是未知之數。

各位會員固然要繼續做好社交距離措施，本人想藉此提醒大家也要遵守泊車附例，尤其是當中提及到「家庭」成員獲准使用登記車輛在本會停泊的條文。「家庭」成員是大家申請會員時所登記的直系親屬，亦即是你（會員本人）、配偶/伴侶及26歲以下持有駕駛執照的子女。為清晰起見，這代表非本會會員的兄弟姊妹或父母（以及其他親屬或朋友或企業同事）不能把你的車輛停泊在本會，然後去其他地方。很遺憾地，我們最近多次透過閉路電視發現有同類事件發生，保安部已經記錄在案，並對相關會員採取了紀律行動。

所謂先苦後甜，好消息自然在後頭。很高興告訴大家本會**連續5年**獲香港社會服務聯會（社聯）頒發

「商界展關懷」標誌，以嘉許球會過去在關懷社區、關懷員工及關懷環境各方面的付出。「商界展關懷」計劃旨在促進商界與社會服務界之間的策略性伙伴合作，建設共融社會，標誌則是為實踐良好企業公民精神、認受企業社會責任及負起關懷社區責任的公司而設，本會正正符合三個評審範疇（關懷社區、關懷員工及關懷環境）的準則，故藉此感謝所有管理層及員工努力不懈，體現出良好企業公民精神及企業社會責任。

主席 胡米高

For information, with the website upgrade still ongoing which has resulted in the temporary suspension of the Member's Login Function, the **Member's Handbook** (where you can view the Club's Articles of Association, Bye-laws and Policy Statements) is accessible under the **Membership page** where you can click on the Member's Handbook link.



RESTAURANT

Heritage Heirloom & Harbour Harvest

Featuring Dover Sole, John Dory and selected artisanal vegetables,
traditional and valued for many generations.

Throughout the month of May.

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FROM THE DESK OF MARK PAWLEY

總經理的話

Whilst our Sporting Sections etc may not all be able to involve themselves in a full League playing / competitive season it is heartening to note that some have participated in worthy charitable causes with a sporting fitness edge. Junior Soccer have been taking part in a “**Loops the Island**” for Charity venture so please have a look at the article on page 10 of the magazine about this. Mini Rugby, in conjunction with Laureus Sport For Good, have been running or cycling (virtually, or otherwise) from Hong Kong to Hanoi. And, members of the Swimming and Triathlon Society were involved in the **31 Day Swim Challenge** back in the cooler month of January when they had to swim in the sea without wetsuits over 31 consecutive days! See the article on page 25 of the magazine. And, another article worth reading is “**Youth Boys Turn Pro**” on page 6 where mention is made of two young up and coming rugby players who participated in Mini / Youth rugby here at the Club and now find themselves on professional playing contracts in England.

From an F&B perspective there are plenty of events / promotions to whet your appetite in May nonetheless of these being Mother's Day on Sunday 9th May. On this special day we have the **Coffee Shop Mother's Day Buffet** (with activities for children and a gift for mums), **Restaurant Mother's Day Set Menu** (both Lunch and Dinner) and in the **Happy Valley Suites the Mother's Day Brunch**. And, we are even putting on an extra Mother's Day Set Menu in the Restaurant on Saturday 8th May this time for Lunch only! Please do look to book / make a reservation beforehand to avoid disappointment.

In the Coffee Shop throughout the month we have the **Indochine Dinner Buffet** and in the Restaurant we have the **Heritage Heirloom and Harbour Harvest** promotion which looks a bit “Fishy” to me! In the Chairman's Bar we have the **Un Certain Je Ne Sais Quoi** promotion – where we will put on some Classic French dishes for you to enjoy along with a selection of French wines by the glass.

Not to be outdone the Sportman's Bar have their very own **Viva Cinco de Mayo** promotion where Quesadillas, Punchbowls and Buckets of Beer are the order of the day. And, don't forget after all of this, you might be asked to “**Pin the Tail on the Donkey**”, on the evening of Thursday 27th May - see more details about this later in the magazine!

Mark Pawley,
General Manager

Mark Pawley
General Manager



儘管受疫情影響，本會各體育部未必能夠順利完成整個聯賽/ 賽季，但部份隊伍沒有因此停下一切，反而將訓練所得的體能優勢應用至公益慈善事務，實在振奮人心。青少年足球部就一直為「**Loops the Island**」籌款挑戰來回奔波，成效不錯，故此希望大家揭至第10頁，細閱他們整個挑戰的心路歷程；小型欖球部則聯同勞倫斯體育公益基金會，以虛擬跑步或踩單車的方式展開從香港到河內的旅程；游泳和三項鐵人組的成員更早於天寒地凍的1月已經接受**31 Day Swim Challenge**，要連續31日在沒有保暖衣的情況下在大海游泳！想了解更多一眾參與泳手背後信念，可以看看第25頁的文章。另一篇值得一讀的文章是第6頁的「**Youth Boys Turn Pro**」，講述兩位嶄露頭角的欖球新星曾經代表本會出戰小型/ 青少年欖球賽事，現在已經在英格蘭簽下職業球員合約，可見他們前途無量，在此再次恭喜他們。

除了運動方面的喜訊，餐飲方面我們於5月亦預備了很多推廣，務求將大家的食慾一一勾起，包括於5月9日（星期日）的母親節。在這重要的一天，我們將推出於**Coffee Shop母親節自助餐**（有為小朋友而設的活動和送給眾多媽媽的神祕禮物）、**Restaurant的母親節套餐**（兼備午餐及晚餐）及**Happy Valley Suites的母親節自助早午餐**，如果你想提早慶祝，Restaurant更額外於5月8日（星期六）提供母親節套餐！座位有限，緊記及早預訂/ 留座，免失良機。

母親節固然重要，其他的餐飲推廣也絕不失禮。首先整個5月Coffee Shop會有揉合了歐亞風情的**中南半島主題自助晚餐**，而Restaurant的**深海瑰寶**特色菜亦不遑多讓，選用了龍脷配以一系列的復古蔬菜，作為海鮮狂迷的你就不容錯過了！美酒佳餚，簡直最適合形容Chairman's Bar新出的**說不出的浪漫法國菜**，經典菜式佐以精選紅酒，猶如回到19世紀充滿浪漫的法國。

相信愛酒成痴的大家對法式浪漫已經深深著迷，然而Sportman's Bar將再次舉辦的**五月五日節**，墨西哥菜式、墨西哥餡餅、賓治盆及一桶桶啤酒是當日最重要的娛樂。大快朵頤過後，千萬不要忘記5月27日（星期四）晚上大家更可能會獲邀玩「**釘上驢尾巴**」以贏取獎品—欲知詳情，請參考本刊的餐飲專頁！

總經理 龐禮文

YOUTH BOYS TURN PRO

Cameron Henderson



Dan John



Last month, in this magazine, the Rugby Section ran an article on the numbers making up HKFC Mini Rugby. This month the Section celebrates the success of two of our members who are a product of the Section's minis and youth rugby programmes. No-one in Hong Kong who follows UK's top level professional rugby, the Gallagher Premiership, will have failed to notice two of HKFC's prodigies - Cameron Henderson who plays lock for Leicester Tigers and Dan John who plays in the backs for Exeter Chiefs. Hopefully their success will be an inspiration to HKFC rugby parents and coaches.





Cameron for Leicester with Argentine Tomás Lavanini



Cameron commanding the lineout against Gloucester

Cameron may be the better known of the two to Club members; his dad, Russell was head coach for his age group through the minis and indeed at junior soccer too. Cameron actually started his rugby career for the wrong team, Stanley Fort, which he joined at the age of 3, before seeing the light and moving to HKFC. He played minis at HKFC from U5's to U12's and had a year with the Colts at U13's, before moving to Strathallan School, in Perthshire, Scotland, with whom he won the Scottish School's Cup. He was a regular in the New Year's Day Youth Tournament games at the Football Club. Cameron joined Glasgow Warriors after school in 2017 as a Scottish Rugby Academy player. Cameron won caps for Scotland at U18 and U20 level including in a record-breaking win over Wales in the U20's 6 Nations and went on to tour with Scotland for the 2019 World Rugby U20's Championship in Argentina.

Shortly after that tournament Cameron was signed on a pro contract with Leicester Tigers. He made his senior Leicester debut in a home game against Bath last season and scored a try in his next game, against Gloucester. Two weeks later, he marked his first Premiership start with a try at Wasps. Formerly at the French International School in Hong Kong, Cameron is now 21 years old and 6' 7" and is developing quickly amongst fierce competition in the second row at Leicester where he has won 12 caps to date.

While Cameron was plying his trade at school in Scotland, Dan John arrived in Hong Kong in 2017 at the age of 15 when he joined HKFC Colts while attending Kellett International School.

Dan played for HKFC up to U19's Colts and Hong Kong U19's before moving to Millfield School in England for sixth form.

Dan played for Wales at U18's, U19's and U20's before earning a 3-year contract commencing at the start of the 2020/21 season with the current European Rugby Champions, Exeter Chiefs. Dan, still only 19, won his first cap against Bristol Bears earlier this year and later came off the bench for his Premiership debut against Leicester Tigers where he played against Cameron. He made his first Premiership start against Gloucester a week later.

Neither boys will forget the support and encouragement given to them by their parents and coaches when they were younger. While Dan has rugby in his blood (he is Welsh after all), like Cameron, he owes a lot of his success to his father, Paul who coaches at HKFC and is the current Hong Kong 7's coach. Dan started playing rugby at Lantwit Fardre RFC in Wales where his dad and grandfather had both played before him. Before coming to Hong Kong, Paul John

won the 2009 Rugby Sevens World Cup as head coach for Wales.

Both Cameron and Dan played football in their early days, Dan winning a place at the Cardiff City Academy where he played from U12 to U15 levels before moving to Hong Kong. This supports the old adage that good footballers make great rugby players. It's never too late to start.

And finally, a word for our many parents, coaches and pro-coaches supporting our young rugby players. One of our Minis parents and coaches, who himself had played rugby for Club and Hong Kong, was asked sometime later how his own kid was doing with his rugby. He replied that he thought his son was "going to make it". When asked what he meant by "make it", he replied that he thought his son would now continue playing rugby after Colts and maybe university and hoped that he would get at least half as much out of rugby at senior level as he himself had done, "that's all I ever wanted to achieve as a mini rugby coach".



Dan: U19 HKFC vs Sandy Bay

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MINI RUGBY

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

We returned to training and then slowed down again!

We have continued training, despite numerous challenges created by the Government's restrictions. Unfortunately, the fourth wave brought with it understandable anxiety about being sent to a quarantine camp. At the time of writing, the daily infection numbers have been low or zero, so perhaps by the time this is published we will again be on track for normality.

A request: the Head Coaches and Team Managers are working hard to

schedule useful sessions, maximising pitch space. If you confirm that your daughter or son will participate, and then your plans change, please tell your Head Coach / Team Manager immediately so that they can work with those changes. "No shows" are simply rude!

HKFC Rugby to Hanoi Challenge - get signed up!

I hope as many of you as possible signed up for the challenge. And there is still time to participate: <https://hkfctohanoi.com/>

Festivals

There are still no fixtures in the diary. Frankly, until the Government (i.e. Home Affairs Bureau and Leisure and Cultural Services Department) restriction of 33 on a pitch is lifted, I cannot see there being any festivals being able to take place. Nonetheless, please pencil your diaries with Sunday 27th June 2021 for the HKFC Mini Rugby Festival 2021, and cross your fingers!

Denis Brock
Chairman, HKFC Mini-Rugby

THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF SPORT

JESSICA COWAN, U10G

Jessica Cowan is a member of the U10 girls team at HKFC. Sport has had a positive impact on her life and wellbeing. This is her story.

Jessica is 9 year old and was born in Switzerland. After a brief stint in Scotland, she has called Hong Kong her home since she was 7 months old.

As an infant and small child, Jessica was hospitalised on several occasions due to a high fever and severe head and abdominal pain. After one intense experience and admission at the Queen Mary Hospital when Jessica was 5, she was diagnosed with Common Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID not COVID-19!). CVID is an immune disorder characterized by recurrent infections and low antibody levels, specifically in immunoglobulin (Ig) types IgG, IgM and IgA.

Jessica continues to be under the care of the QMH (who have been fantastic), and attends regular check ups every 3-6 months which involves having bloodwork done and full physical examinations to ensure that she maintains good health.

In addition to CVID, Jessica has recently



"I am so proud of Jessica's resiliency, strength and passion for life - she's my inspiration for sure!"

-- Laura Cowan, Mother of Jessica

"Jessica is a pleasure to coach and a valuable member of the U10G team at Football Club. She has great enthusiasm and a love of the sport that shines through in everything that she does."

-- Allen Schoonmaker, U10G Head Coach

been diagnosed with Sever's disease. Sever's disease is a painful condition of the heel that occurs in growing children. It happens when the tendon that attaches to the back of the heel pulls on the growth plate of the bone of the heel.

When she was younger, she would get tired easily, and frequently suffer from head and stomach issues. Over the past 3-4 years though, Jessica's immune system has continued to develop and she has grown so much stronger as a result. This has meant that she now has heaps more energy and she loves being active. Jessica began playing rugby for HKFC when she was 5 years old and has continued ever since. She loves it! She's also a keen dancer and will begin badminton classes after the Easter holidays.

For the Sever's disease, Jess needs to do daily stretches, wear ankle braces for any kind of strenuous physical activity, and ice her ankles at night time to help control the pain and swelling. But even this has not stopped her from being active and maintaining a positive mindset.

Laura Cowan
Allen Schoonmaker

JUNIOR SOCCER

LOOPS THE ISLAND FOR CHARITY

From late February to late March this year, Junior Soccer organised the first ever Loop the Island - a virtual run and hike. The aim was to see how many kilometres the Junior Soccer family (players, players' families, coaches and friends) could accumulate and hence how many times we could virtually loop (or circumnavigate) the approximately 60KM Hong Kong Island coastal path.

Nam Nguyen, Junior Soccer Chairman "During the time we are living through, we know that there is nothing more important than keeping active to help our physical and mental health and Loop the Island was designed to get our community engaged and moving! We also set out to raise awareness of a really important topic for young people in Hong Kong".

Martin Cerullo, Loop the Island organiser and head coach of U14 Girls, adds "We wanted to connect Loop the Island to a really meaningful cause impacting Hong Kong. Mental health in Hong Kong has a long history of negative connotation and stigma, experiencing a lack of support and resources. The situation has, in many ways, been worsened by the current pandemic, where the challenges we are all facing are exacerbating mental health issues. We decided to partner with the Kely Support Group and the Weez Project, who both do amazing work to raise awareness of and improve the mental well being of Hong Kong's young people".

Loop the Island started on 26th February with Tony Bruno, the founder of Weez Project and longstanding HKFC member and U18 Coach, doing a solo loop, anticlockwise in 12h58m. A brilliant effort from Tony and a great way to kick off the month! This was then followed by close to 100 Junior Soccer community members joining the HKFC Junior Soccer strava running group and clocking up as many kilometres as they could - running or hiking all across Hong Kong.

Saturday 27th March, the last day of the challenge, started very early for an intrepid group of 14 Junior Soccer coaches and friends. Setting out at 5am from the Yacht Club in Causeway Bay, the plan was to do the loop clockwise, with the challenge of 60Km and 1000M elevation in front of them. Splitting into 3 groups, they set off in great spirits and begun to settle into their pace. Kely Support Group had set up a refreshment and cheering station roughly half way round, which was a very good boost to morale. With the groups sharing their

On 26th February, Tony Bruno, pictured with his wife Ann, sets out at 5am to do his solo loop, supported by Kely and friends



The teams finishing at the Yacht Club



On 27th February, the Junior Soccer coaches and friends ready for a 5AM start at the Yacht Club
L-R: Scott, Steve, Adrian, Jonathan, Keith, Rob, Tony, Martin, Andy, Mark, Chris, Rolf, Saurav, Paul



Team 1 back at HKFC with U14 Girls, representatives from Kely Support Group and Jenny Lee



The teams finishing at the Yacht Club



locations live, the Junior Soccer players were kept updated through the morning with announcements in the stadium and the locations being beamed to the scoreboard. While there were 'moments' for all groups, they fought on in the increasing humidity and heat of the day to smash the challenge!

The first group back completed the loop in a very fast 6h24m, before heading to HKFC for a celebratory lap of the pitch with Junior Soccer players. The second group finished in 8h42m, the first half of the third group in 11 hours and the other half in 12h25m. All rushed to the Sportsman's for some much needed refreshment! Photos from the day are on the Junior Soccer Instagram feed.

Having set out to virtually Loop the Island, the Junior Soccer community in total completed 6206 KM in the month - an incredible 103 loops around Hong Kong Island! The U9 Boys were the top team with 900km closely followed by U14 Girls with 827km. Of the

community members who took part, a special mention for Jenny Lee, U14 Girls parent. As well as covering the most distance in the month racking up over 330 km, she did a full loop solo in under 10 hours in the last week of the month.

At the time of writing, Junior Soccer had raised over HKD 110K for the charities. Tony Bruno shared "Loop the Island has been a fantastic event. It's been brilliant to see the Junior Soccer community get so engaged with and supportive of both the event and raising awareness of mental health."

A great first year for Loop the Island and look out for news as we will be organizing it again in 2022. A big thanks to Tag (www.tagww.com) for the pro bono design of the amazing Loop the Island logo, Wilfred Wong for everything techy, Jenny Lam for the tracking of the KMs, Chris Chan for organizing the shirts and Martin Cerullo for creating and driving the whole event.



Junior Soccer
Instagram



Junior Soccer
Facebook



Kely
Support Group



Weez Project



LAWN BOWLS

TRIPLE AWARDS ON THE FINALS DAY OF HKLBA

L-R: Frankie Siu, Warren Cheung, Edmond Chan, Esmond Lee

This year's National Championship Finals Day of HK Lawn Bowl Association was held at the Club on 28th March. A truly memorable day as the Club demonstrated outstanding fighting spirit and great sportsmanship, resulting in triple awards as follows:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS DAY

Men's National Singles

Champion **Kenny Tam**

Men's National Pairs

1st runner-up **Team Tony
Cheung and
Stephen SY**

Men's National Triples

1st runner-up **Team Warren
Cheung, Frankie
Siu and Edmond
Chan**

L-R: Tony Cheung, Esmond Lee, Stephen SY

With the appreciative audience of Section members and spectators on tenterhooks, Kenny Tam secured his title by delivering excellent bowls by winning four shots at the last end! Congratulations Kenny!

Sincere thanks to all who went to watch our fellow Bowlers for their unwavering support and applause on the Day. A great team effort!



L-R: Kenny Tam, Esmond Lee



L-R: Phyllis Wong, Daisy Mcnie, Wanis Sze



L-R: Warren Cheung, Jesse Bradford, Marshall To

MARSHALL TO AND PHYLLIS WONG

PREVAIL IN THE CLUB'S SINGLES

A total of 36 bowlers signed up for the competition. With the format of knock-out, the Singles played at the Outdoor Green throughout March. Marshall To and Phyllis Wong earned the champion title for the Club's Men's and Ladies' Singles respectively with the finals being held on 27th March. The newly crowned Champions will represent the Club in the Hong Kong Champion of Champions in April, 2021. Good luck!

CLUB SINGLES 2020

Men's	
Champion	Marshall To
1st runner-up	Jesse Bradford
Women's	
Champion	Phyllis Wong
1st runner-up	Wanis Sze

SECTION PLAYERS VOTED FOR THEIR NEW COMMITTEE AT AGM

The Section's Annual General Meeting was successfully held on 20th March with a new Committee being endorsed in accordance with the Section Bye-laws. The office-bearers of the Lawn Bowls Section Committee 2021-22 are as follows:

Chairman	Frankie Siu
Deputy Chairman	Esmond Lee
General Committee Representative	Mike Worth
Kenneth Pang is the nominee for election at the Club AGM in November 2021	
Men's Captain	Warren Cheung
Ladies' Captain	Daisy Mcnie
Secretary	Edmond Chan
Treasurer	Irene Muk
Membership Secretary	Johnny Tsang
Greens Secretary	Tony Cheung
Coach	Ming Sang Chung
Competition Secretary	Wilson Kwong
Social Secretary	May Lee

Let's continue to contribute our staunch support to our Committee.

APPLAUSE TO OUR NEWLY SELECTED HK SQUAD CLUB BOWLERS

Congratulations to our section athletes who are newly selected to be part of the 2021-2022 Hong Kong, China Squad, namely: Tony Cheung, Warren Cheung, Patrick Choi, Stephen SY, Phoebe Ho, Phyllis Wong and Eva Yu. Fabulous news for all these hard working fellows! Well done, we are all very proud of you!

LAWN BOWLS BEGINNERS' COURSE

AIM Know the game and learn how to bowl. General rules, basic skills and etiquette on the green will be introduced.

All Members and Section bowlers are welcome.

Date: Wednesday evenings. 26th May and 2nd, 9th and 16th June 2021
 Time: from 7.30pm to 9.30pm
 Venue: Indoor Green
 Course fee: \$100
 Coach: Sunny Chung
 No. of participants: 18 (First come first served)
 Deadline: 19th May 2021
 Enrollment: Application form can be obtained from the HKFC Sports Desk.
 For enquiry, please contact Sunny MS Chung at 9659 8544 or email to chungmingsang@gmail.com

TENNIS

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021

Photos by Franki Chung

The 2021 HKFC Club Championships was held over two weekends in March. With many of the Club's tennis players in town, there was a strong number of entries which resulted in a fantastic event. The tournament comprising 12 different event categories was organised and managed once again by ATA's Nathan Booth on behalf of the Tennis Society. With perfect tennis weather on hand, the event ran smoothly with some great battles witnessed out on the courts throughout the entire competition.

With the introduction of some new young talent into the tournament we had some fantastic and entertaining matches with upsets caused across the board.

The first weekend of the tournament was a singles only weekend and the young 14 years old Antonio Lee caused some major upsets along the way to making his way to the Men's Open Singles final. Josh Carter prevailed on finals day with a 6/2, 6/1 win over the young gun.

The usual suspects in the closed division played some amazing tennis after backing up from matches in the Open events. Their dedication to playing match after match is a real credit to them and their love of the game.

Last year due to COVID the junior events were cancelled but this year we had a great turnout and the Club's next

generation of players really got involved, playing plenty of singles and doubles matches. Over the two weekends the players raised the level of their game. Playing matches sparked their enthusiasm, and generated more interest in playing competitive tennis in the future.

The second Saturday consisted of doubles only, with players playing in multiple events meant all competitors were backing up from match to match as Men's, Women's and Mixed doubles were all being played at the same time. The Juniors Antonio Lee and Shaan Mohan paired up and had a great run making their way to the semi finals in the Men's Open doubles.

Sunday 28th March was finals day and the quality of the matches went up a notch. Finals were played with real passion and intensity, with all players wanting to take home the Trophy and prizes from **Sergio Tacchini**.

Antonio Lee

Samantha Ho

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021

Men's Open Singles

CHAMPION
Josh Carter
RUNNER UP
Antonio Lee

Ladies Open Singles

CHAMPION
Jenny Tong
RUNNER UP
Aparna Kanthan

Men's Closed Singles

CHAMPION
Shaan Bhojwani
RUNNER UP
Jordan Rhodes

Open Junior Singles

CHAMPION
Antonio Lee
RUNNER UP
Jack Cooper

Closed Junior Singles

CHAMPION
Jack Cooper
RUNNER UP
Irma Sung

Men's Open Doubles

CHAMPIONS
Mario Riccio and Roy Cheng
RUNNER UPS
Josh Carter and Wawrick Foy

Ladies Open Doubles

CHAMPION
Karen Hui and Samantha Ho
RUNNER UPS
Aparna Kanthan and Zoe Pavri

Mixed Doubles

CHAMPIONS
Josh Carter and Samantha Ho
RUNNER UPS
Jeffory Wong and Karen Hui

Closed Men's Doubles

CHAMPIONS
Amro Abbas and Shaan Bhojwani
RUNNER UPS
Henry Williams and Myles Oremerod

Closed Ladies Doubles

CHAMPIONS
Jennifer Feng and Charlotte Cheung
RUNNER UPS
Helen Ormerod and Han Yan

Open Junior Doubles

CHAMPIONS
Jack Cooper and Shiv Mohan
RUNNER UPS
Christian Quach and Antonio Borra Cerruti

Closed Junior Doubles

CHAMPION
Jack Cooper and Shiv Mohan
RUNNER UPS
Jason Wildman and Katie Wildman

Josh Carter



Scan the QR Code
to view more
champion photos
in HKFC website





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3 MAY - 4 JUNE 2021

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HOCKEY

IN MEMORY OF MARY COGHILL



Mary died in Hong Kong on 1 January 2021 and is very sadly missed by all those whose lives she touched.

Mary arrived in Hong Kong in the late seventies and having joined the Ladies Hash House Harriers was persuaded to try hockey... and joined the Ladies Section of the Football Club. Hockey became her sport, so most Saturdays Mary could be found playing for the Club. In 1987 she was one of the founding members of the Dinosaurs, aka the Dinos.

In the Dinos Mary had many roles. Starting off as a defender, she remained wine mistress throughout, always making sure that the white wine was cold, good and plentiful. When her playing days came to an end, Mary became a loyal supporter on the side lines, where she helped to manage the team, calling players on and off, noting the goal scorers and providing words of encouragement. Mary was a true Dino, on and off the pitch.

In addition to finding hockey, in Hong Kong Mary met her husband Richard aka Cogs and they married in Hong Kong on 1 October 1982. In 1987 their family was completed with the arrival of their son James. James has the honour

of being the first Dino baby, a Dino milestone event.

Mary is remembered as a kind and caring person whose calm demeanour, gentle touch and elegance is much missed not only on the hockey side lines but in the lives of all those who knew her.

The Dinos send their condolences to Cogs and James.

Pip pip, dear Mary.

If anyone wishes to make a donation in Mary's honour, please do so directly to either the **Hong Kong Cancer Fund** or to **The Society for the Promotion of Hospice Care**. Thank you from Richard and James.





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BROCCOLI,
ASSORTED VEGETABLES
EXTRA GRAVY



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SQUASH

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS TAKE CENTRE STAGE

The 2021 Squash Club Championships will start in late April with a total of 217 players taking part across five tournaments, including the Mens Open, Masters and Super Masters, and the Ladies Open and Masters.

The event promises to be one of the most exciting ever with a bevy of world ranked players taking part!

The Men's Open event has 3 players inside the top 80 on the PSA World Tour Rankings (Max Lee, Alex Lau and Carlos Cornes). They will have to fight hard if they want to conquer this year's title, on their way they will have to face current HKFC champion Ho Fai and the likes of ex-tour player Dick Lau, as well as some exciting young junior talent.

The Ladies top seed will be Tomato Ho (WR 45) who's looking to lift her first HKFC champions trophy, but our coach Carmen Lee won't make it easy for her. The other top 4 seeds are Heiley Fung and Renee Wu.

The Men's and Women's Masters categories look super competitive with the draw seeming pretty open. The top 4 seeds are Lincoln Chan, Keith Frith, Phil Head and Gillem Tulloch for the men's. For the ladies, our top seed is Javy Chong with the second seed being Christine Chan.

To be able to participate in the Super Masters, you need to be over 50 years of age, so simply taking part in this category is already a great achievement! Mr Keith Frith wants to retain his title from last year, but he will have to face some strong opponents like David Robinson and the evergreen James Barrington and Hugh Dyus.

The finals will take place on June 12th so we welcome everyone to come and enjoy some amazing world class squash!!!

Let the games begin!!!

NETBALL

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRWOMAN



Hope everyone had a great Easter break and happy to welcome our members back to the second half of the netball season. I'm happy to be back at the Club and taking over for Amelia as interim chairwoman due to her departure. We were very lucky to have her lead the DSA over the past few years and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavours.

After much uncertainty, the ladies league finally kicked off again as of 5th April. Our Whirlies team kicked off with an incredible win against Hantang Chilin. We are excited to see the season through with 1 team in the league and all remaining players to train and play internal competitions on Mondays and Wednesdays.

I look forward to bringing netball back and seeing more of our members back at the Club over the next few weeks.

Sincerely,
Natacha Cuvelier

MATCH REPORT



The 'Whirlies 2.0' team were super excited to have our first game since November 2020 on Monday night and were even more excited to pull out a win! We had a closely contested game against Hantang Chilin, a side known for their speed, which ended with us winning 26-20. It felt great to be back on court and test combinations and set plays we had been working on in training, and we were all happy with our performance.

Special thanks to our captain Shirley for leading our pre game warm up and getting us back in the zone to play, and to our wonderful coaches Karin and Melissa for their encouragement and commitment to our team!

Jonny tees it up on the incident packed 17th

GOLF

THE CHAMPIONS TROPHY AKA RHKYC GS V. HKFC GS

Kau Sai Chau East Course | Thursday 25th March, 2021

Cancelled last year due to the pandemic, this match was eagerly awaited by both sides. This has been an annual fixture since 2014 (although 2017 was cancelled due to weather problems) and a match we have never lost - no pressure there then! Normally held in Macau, for the second time running, we were back at Kau Sai Chau and the tricky East Course. A nice sunny day greeting us in Sai Kung, with a steady breeze to test our target golf.



Rich, Stefan, Max and Jonny all smiles

Stalwarts **JP Cuvelier** and **Bill King** were first out for HKFC. Bill being the low handicapper, giving shots to RHKYC regulars **Jeff Chau** and **Simon Wong**. Unfortunately, **Patrick Sherriff**, their Captain, had to pull out of this flight due to a tennis wrist injury that hadn't healed in time. JP had been in excellent form recently with a hole-in-one on the South Course at the 11th hole and a win in a LSW event three days prior. He was hot again, the putter continuing to fire right through to the 12th hole, with Bill in support. Our pair were simply too good, closing out a 6 & 5 win. HKFC 1 up.

Jenny Chapman and **Helen Hayward** were next up against RHKYC's stand-in Captain **Chris Li** and **Ruby Lim**. Ruby is a golf pro and only brought in when The Kellett Golf Society fear the opposition, so a big compliment to us! It was always going to be tight and our pair being 2 down on the 15th hole, the golfing gods were needed. The 17th hole has a history of drama (more on that later) and this time in ours, as the match was clawed back to all square with one to go. With wind in our sails, our Ladies managed to close out the match on the 18th green. HKFC 2 up.

Andrew Wood and **Scott Laws** had never played together and were giving away lots of shots to **Patrick Pender** and **Stefen Fischer**. After the RHKYC pair asking about the match rules on the 1st tee, we knew this was going to be a long day. Patrick also saying he was a Senior, so should play off the Yellow tees and have 2 shots a hole, nice try but on we go chaps. Our pair never hit the heights, but made steady progress on the outward holes. The Yachties were really struggling off the tee and without some escape acts, could have been out

of it very early. They made a couple of putts soon thereafter, but the holes ran out on the 15th, where Andrew's par was enough for a 5 & 3 win. HKFC 3 up. The match over but drama surfaced on the 17th when Stefan accidentally duck hooked his 2nd shot 3-wood at worm height from 70 yards away sending a German missile into Andrew's left ankle!! Put on his backside and stunned, no more golf for the day and time for ice with a golf ball sized bruise.

Our Team Aussie with **Darren McEntee** and **Justin Faulkner** were next up against **Benjamin Yip** and **David Lee**. Seemingly cruising at 4 up on the back 9, a credible comeback saw their opponents claim a decent half point. However, that was enough for us to win the match! HKFC 3 ½ RHKYC ½.

Mike Button and **Alastair Murray** were not to know that the match was won and that we would be bringing The Champions Trophy home for a 6th year in a row against **Andrew Wong** and **Eugene Lee**. RHKYC were not giving up without a fight and in what was another close encounter, fair play to the sailors who played very well but alas not to get a point on the board, going down on the last hole. Mike has a habit of leaving it late, whilst Ali is usually late! So, another victory for the good guys and another 1 up, with just the last flight to play out. HKFC 4 ½ RHKYC ½.

I had put out a strong anchor pairing in the knowledge that it could well be the decider. **Jonny Brock** and newbie **Rich Maton** both received shots. Could



Ouch for Andrew!!

they work well under pressure against another decent pairing of the beautifully named **Max von Poelnitz** (not the bad guy from The Bond Movies and plays off 4!) and **Stefan Kracht**. I was told they had a wonderfully enjoyable match with their RHKYC opponents, Max hits his hybrid further than most people can smash their drivers, and Stefan, who showed he had fate firmly on his side, with two outrageous bounce-outs from the bushes on the 1st hole alone. That, however, couldn't stop our pair from storming into a 4 hole lead at the turn. But fate was about to rear its head once more. On the 12th, Stefan's tee-shot disappeared into a grave, only for the ball to bounce 50 yards out into the middle of the fairway and a mere 20 yards short of the green. On the next, Rich's tee-shot, was only marginally

to the left of the green, but somehow landed on a sprinkler head and flew into the ocean. Nevertheless, our pair managed to get it back to 2 up with 3 to play. Surely a banker? Especially when Stefan's 3rd on the par 5 16th flew high and right into the wasteland only to bounce back at right angles to within 10 feet of the pin! Back to 1 up. The 17th was halved, and so it all came down to the final hole. Would Fate show its hand once more? This time Stefan didn't need such help, as he played the very tricky hole like a pro, just missing out on a birdie/nett eagle. So, it all came down to Jonny, who had nearly holed his 3rd, only for it to spin 10 feet past. Could he sink his birdie putt for a win? Fearing a lightning bolt if he did, he just failed to hit his putt hard enough to see it fade right at the last moment. Nip and tuck all the way with the match halved and big smiles all around whilst saving the best 'til last! A wonderful and memorable day for all. HKFC winning 5 - 1.

With two matches All Square and another two matches 1 up wins to those from Sports Road, the overall result was much closer than the score line suggests. So, two wins to start 2021, well done Football Club. We look forward to defending it hopefully back in Macau early 2022.

Fun was had at the 19th hole. Special thanks to both Patrick Sherriff and Chris Li who also kindly provided most of the photographs.

Andrew Wood
Captain, Golf Society

PRIZES WERE WON BY

Near Pin Winners

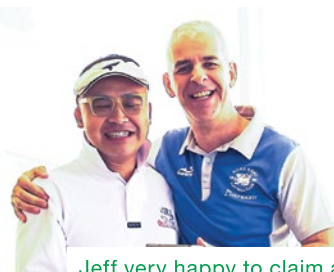
- #3 JP Cuvelier
- #5 Ruby Lim
- #8 Helen Hayward
- #13 Ruby Lim (again!)
- #15 Jeff Chau

Drive/Pitch Winner

- #12 Mike Button



Chris sees the trophy annually, but not to take home



Jeff very happy to claim a prize



Ruby the double prize winner



Helen wasn't wayward at all



CHAIRMAN'S BAR

Some classic French dishes to enjoy.

Throughout the month of May



UN CERTAIN
je ne sais quoi

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SWIMMING AND TRIATHLON

SWIMMING FOR A CAUSE

In January, some of our HKFC swimmers took part in the The 31 Day Swim Challenge, organized by Splash Foundation Co-Founders **Simon Holliday** and **Libby Alexander**. In order to raise funds and awareness of their foundation, they had the idea to swim (without a wetsuit) every day in January, to find 31 monthly donors.



In January, some of our HKFC swimmers took part in the The 31 Day Swim Challenge, organized by Splash Foundation Co-Founders **Simon Holliday** and **Libby Alexander**. In order to raise funds and awareness of their foundation, they had the idea to swim (without a wetsuit) every day in January, to find 31 monthly donors.

Splash Foundation believes that everyone should have an opportunity to learn how to swim. While some people are lucky enough to learn as a child, there are millions of people who face financial or cultural barriers to learning this life skill. Since the foundation was established in 2015, Splash has taught nearly 3,000 children and adults how to swim. It costs just HK\$2,000 to teach someone how to swim and be water safe for life.

The organisation had aimed to teach 5,000 people how to swim by 2020, however, with the recent COVID restrictions in place across all Hong Kong pools and beaches, this target has proven to be somewhat of a challenge for the SPLASH team.

The 31 Day Swim Challenge therefore, was an exciting project. News of the challenge rapidly spread and gathered the interest from many swimmers across Hong Kong, including some ex Olympic Swimmers and Top Hong Kong competitors, all wanting to join the challenge. On New Year's Day, Simon and Libby did their first swim from the jetty at Deep Water Bay with the water a frigid 15 degrees and air



temperature in single figures. The challenge brought them all over Hong Kong, swimming at least one Kilometre a day and sometimes five, and they were joined daily with excited and intrigued guest swimmers.

On Day 27, a delegation from HKFC joined them, assembled by Deb Hanley and led on the day by Alex Fong (Olympic Swimmer). The group swam from Temple Beach, the far side of Repulse Bay, around Middle Island and back - a distance of around 3.5 kilometres. Given the time of year, conditions were challenging, with relatively high winds and cold temperatures. But every member of the team made it back safe and happy.

Over the 31 days, Libby and Simon covered a distance of 100km. But most importantly, and thanks to the generosity of the Hong Kong swimming community, including HKFC members Coach **Dominic Tsui**, **Arthur Li**,

Alex Fong, **Deb Hanley**, **Judy Blaine Marcus**, **Patrick Ip**, **Nicolas Gotard**, and **Matthieu Maury** they managed to find 61 monthly donors, and several one-time donors to support the Splash Foundation.

Before the pandemic, Hong Kong Football Club were able to run learn-to-swim programmes for the employees of members during off-peak times. Once the Club is back to normal operating hours, we hope to be able to restart programmes of a similar nature. In the meantime, Libby and Simon's intention is that The 31 Day Swim Challenge will be an annual event. Through the organisation, they will continue to strive to create a community where people can build their confidence, improve their health and well-being, and flourish both in and out of the water. For more information about their foundation, including how to contribute as a donor, please visit <http://www.splashfoundation.org/en/>.





CHAIRMAN'S BAR

QUAND LE VIN EST TIRE, IL FAUT LE BOIRE

Throughout the month of May

French wine selection
by the glass



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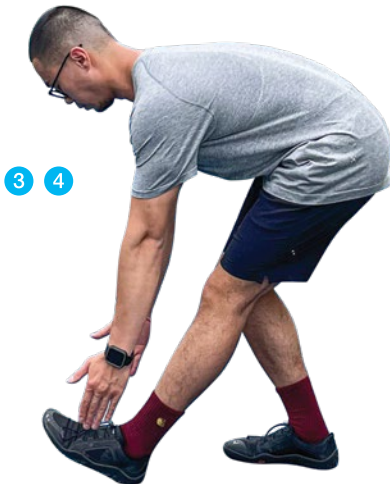
EXERCISE OF THE MONTH

DYNAMIC WARM UP WALKING HAMSTRING STRETCH

BY WILL



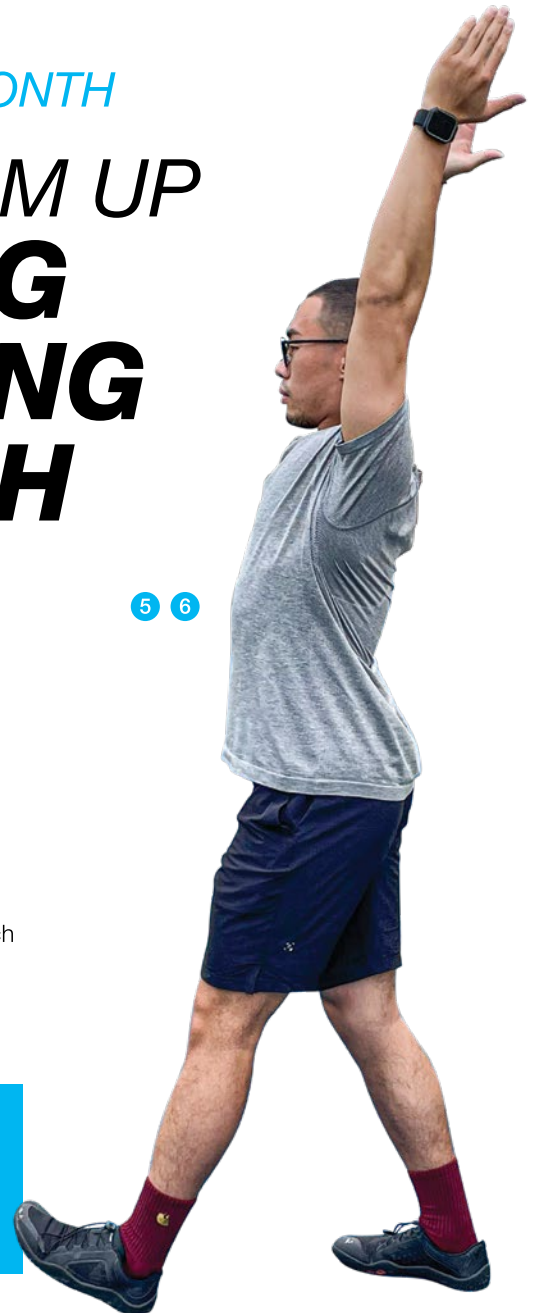
1 2



3 4

- 1 Take a step to the front
- 2 Inhale
- 3 Reach your heel with your hands when you exhale while keeping the knee of your front foot straight
- 4 Feel the stretch on your hamstring and calves of the front feet
- 5 Come all the way back up to stretch your core too
- 6 Repeat with the other foot

TIPS 1. Aim to increase the range of motion for every next step you take. 2. Take 20 steps before your workout as a warm up for your lower body.



5 6

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June Kwok



Monday
9:30am – 10:30am

Wednesday
9:30am – 10:30am

\$200 for member

\$220 for non-member
Non-members must be accompanied by a member

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH



We love our mums!

ON SUNDAY, 9TH MAY 2021

A host of offerings are planned for this very special Mother's Day celebration.



In the Coffee Shop

FROM FRIDAY, 7TH MAY

**FRIDAYS FROM 6PM TO 9:30PM,
SATURDAYS FROM 5:30PM TO
9:30PM**

Indochine Themed Dinner Buffet

The French influence on Vietnamese cuisine, a delicious contemporary fusion.

Price: \$318 per member
\$159 per teens
\$114 per child



In the Sportsman's Bar

FROM SATURDAY, 1ST MAY

**el regreso de
Viva Cinco De Mayo!!
Quesadillas, Punchbowls,
buckets of beer**

Join the "Pin the tail on the donkey" game on Thursday, 27th May to wine prizes sponsored by Corona Beer.

Ask staff for details



In the Chairman's Bar

FROM TUESDAY, 4TH MAY

Un certain je ne sais quoi

Some classic French dishes to enjoy.



In the Restaurant

FROM TUESDAY, 4TH MAY

**Heritage Heirloom
and Harbour Harvest**

Featuring Dover Sole, John Dory and selected artisanal vegetables, traditional and valued for many generations.

WINE EVENTS

In the Restaurant

FRIDAY, 14TH MAY

Cols Du Val Wine Dinner

In the Happy Valley Suites

THURSDAY, 20TH MAY

Italian Hidden Germs Masterclass

In the Lockhart Room

SATURDAY, 29TH MAYSUNDAY, 30TH MAY

Wine Fair

In the Coffee Shop

Monthly Special: **Chinese Super Food Dishes**
Takeaway: **Super Chicken**

In the Sportsman's Bar

Daily Special: **Mexican Dishes**Fun Activity: **Pin the tail on the Donkey**Beer Promotion: **Corona**

In the Chairman's Bar

Set Tea: **Le Gouter**Monthly Special: **Un certain je ne sais quoi**

In the Captain's Bar

Savoury French Crepes

Flavoured Coffee Cream and Syrup



In the Family Lounge

Japanese Swiss Rolls

Craft Soft Drinks

PREVIEW
IN JUNE

Dads' Day Out

SUNDAY, 20TH JUNE

WINE EVENTS

In the Restaurant

FRIDAY, 4TH JUNE

"Dinner with Bubbles" Wine Dinner

THURSDAY, 24TH JUNE

Banfi Wine Dinner

In the Happy Valley Suites

THURSDAY, 17TH JUNE

Rieslings of the World Masterclass

In the Lockhart Room

SATURDAY, 26TH MAYSUNDAY, 27TH MAY

Wine Fair

In the Coffee Shop

Themed Buffet Dinner: **Indochine**Monthly Special: **Sustainable Seafood Dishes**

In the Restaurant

Classic Italian Cuisine

In the Sportsman's Bar

Build your own Burger Returns!

In the Chairman's Bar

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In the Captain's Bar

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In the Family Lounge

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Throughout the month of May



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SUNDAY, 30TH MAY 2021

1:30PM – 6PM

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Winner



LIMERICKS. LONGING FOR LAUGHS IN A LOCKDOWN

*SORRY, THAT'S ALLITERATION,
NOT A LIMERICK*

In the Sportsman's Bar, we dedicated the month of March to St. Patrick's Day. There was a butcher shop selection of Irish sausages to grill at the front patio pop up station, there was a daily rotation of classic Irish comfort food and there was Guinness beer, of course. There were even a couple of green cocktails – yuck! To top it off, why not a limerick writing contest??

All that our Club Members had to do was to come up with their own limerick and if it were one of the 3 funniest ones, they would win prizes sponsored by Guinness. Sounds easier than it was! At first, there were none written but by the 2nd week of March, a few started coming in. The Staff found that after the 3rd drink, the true poets of the Sportsman's Bar rose to the occasion. In the end, we had quite a few to choose from. We had to vet out those that were not proper Limericks and also those that had language that went a little too "R-rated".... In the end, the winner was Stuart McMillan, who walked away with a Guinness goodie bag and a case of Guinness bottles, followed by Matthew Harrison and Bushra Siddiqui who also got some great Guinness swag. Thanks again to all of our enthusiastic Sportsman's Bar fans and to Carlsberg for sponsoring the Guinness Prizes. Slainte!

LIMERICKS ABOUT LIMERICKS

There was a young man named Dan.
Whose limericks never would scan.
And when they asked why,
He said "I do try!
But when I get to the last line
I try to fit in as many words as I can."

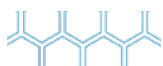
There once was a man
from Kalamazoo.
Whose limericks all looked like haiku.
He said with a laugh,
"I cut them in half. The pay is much
better for two."

There once was a young man
from Limerick
Who had never heard of the humorous
five-line poems associated so closely
with his hometown.

1st Runner up2nd Runner up

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BOOKS AND MOVIES

NEW BOOKS

A Time For Mercy

John Grisham

The Sentinel

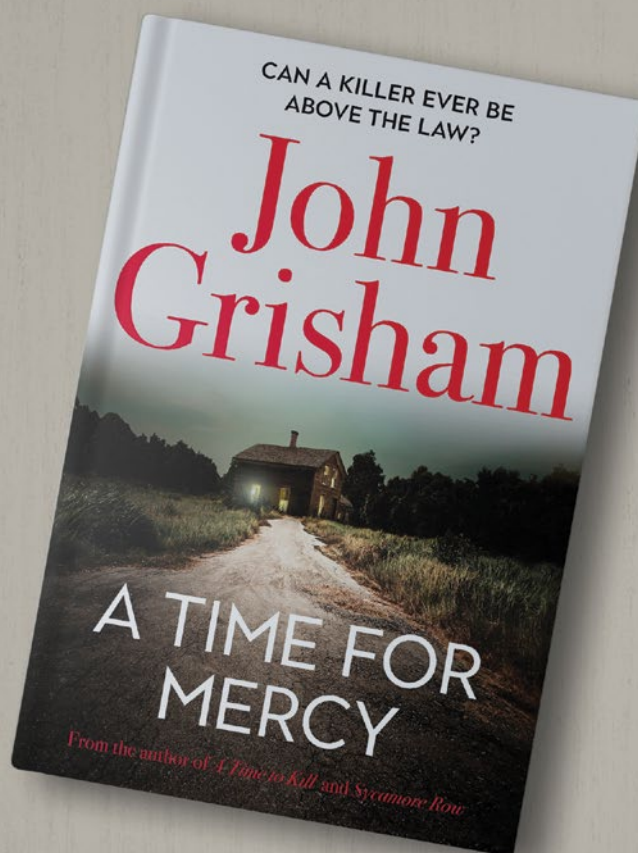
Lee Child

Elsewhere

Dean Koontz

Royal

Danielle Steel



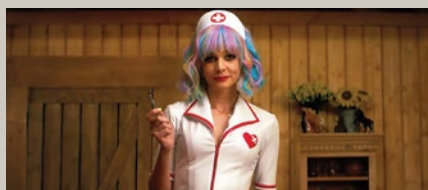
NEW DVDS

Half Brothers

José Zúñiga, Vincent Spano

All My Life

Jessica Rothe, Harry Shum Jr.



Promising Young Woman

Carey Mulligan, Bo Burnham



The Last Vermeer

Guy Pearce, Claes Bang



News of the World

Tom Hanks, Helena Zengel



The Very Excellent Mr. Dundee

Dorothy Adams, Trudy Ager

NEW BLU-RAYS

Monster Hunter

Milla Jovovich, Tony Jaa

Don't Tell a Soul

Fionn Whitehead, Jack Dylan Grazer

Vintage image of a German goalkeeper in action.



The Hope of His Side.
Vintage postcard – a lad emulating the young Henrik in front of goal.



THE UNIQUE LIFE OF HENRIK LORENZ

ALL HEART, ALL HANDS, ALL-STAR!



Germany vs. Scotland – Penalty Shoot-out Mark II, 1993

It is the second such bet; the other time the prize was two bottles of champagne. In the glare of the Club floodlights, hurriedly switched on at midnight for that earlier penalty shoot-out, Walter's challenge was to put two strikes out of three past Henrik to win the bubbly. That time the goalie dug the ball out of the back of the net, not twice but thrice. Ja, midnight debacle.

Not this time. And no lolly-water wager this time, either. Henrik has a real bet in mind. "If you get three out of five past me, I will make a generous donation to charity." (Walter's recall has it in six figures.) They shake.

Henrik heads off to don his kit. Walter presents himself on the penalty spot in a disguise that includes a kilt, so as not to make identification too hard for Henrik. They crouch. High Noon under the Club floodlights.

Henrik saves two of the first four, can't handle the other two. The fifth is a curling laser – into the corner of the net. Charity wins 3-2. The losing goalkeeper, with a giant smile and a flourish, signs the cheque.

That was Henrik Lorenz – a man whose heart was bigger than his hands. No heart, in fact, could be bigger. As for his hands, his big gloves on or off, they were lent to a worthy cause with no hesitation.

Henrik Lorenz is hanging up his goalkeeper's gloves. There is one last task left for them, those big gloves of his – a penalty shoot-out with Walter Gerrard. A rematch. No midnight debacle, not this time.

On Saturday evening, 10 April 1993, Henrik is hosting a slap-up, all-in 'do' after his testimonial match, German All-Stars vs. Club, to mark his official retirement from 'competitive' soccer. It is the moment for revenge. Henrik checks the faces in the Sportsman's Bar, closes in on Walter, sets out the bet.

A tall man was Henrik, hard to miss even in a crowd. He kept his sand-blond hair long and stylish, his blue eyes alight with wit and intellect. At the Club he would be in either a snappy business suit or a jacket and slacks, or soccer kit. Waving, greeting all and sundry, pumping flesh, taking on the chin the banter from English mates who never dared let him forget their victories in 1918, 1945 and 1966 (only one had anything to do with soccer), and giving it back as barbed as he could get away with... someone had arrived in the Sportsman's Bar. It was Henrik Lorenz. But, how had he got there?

His mother wanted him to be a doctor, a lawyer, a concert pianist, anything but a soccer-player. "Football is for the working classes!" she berated him, his ear crushed between her thumb and forefinger as she dragged him away from the makeshift goal he had been guarding on some neighbourhood strasse. It would, his partner Sue Li is convinced, have made Henrik the boy love the game more, have had him sneaking out more cleverly to play it.



Henrik and Gordon Strachan hold aloft the 'Vets Cup' at the 2000 HKFC Soccer 7s – success at the second attempt!!

...to the crush of Carnarvon Road, Tsimshatsui. This is the Astor Hotel in 1970 – Henrik's first 'home' on arrival that year. The Vietnam War was still flying US and Australian servicemen to Hong Kong on R&R leave, hence the proliferation of bars, etc.

From the picturesque tranquillity of Kitzingen, Bavaria...



to the net, claimed the goalkeeper's spot, and impressed enough to soon work himself into the 1st XI. It did not take long, either, for him to start working himself into a legend. The best stories about Henrik in front of the Club goal date from the 1970s.

"DON'T LET HIM SHOOT!"

Wing Cheung tells one: Henrik was the 1st team keeper and the Club had lost every game in the HKFA 1st Division. We were relegated well before the last game of the season. The only honour was to try to keep the goals against for the season to less

than 100. (97 before the match.) Henrik had another outstanding game, keeping the score to 2-0 with minutes remaining. Then he made the save of the season when our own 'Irish full back' let loose a swing that had the ball going to the top corner. At the final whistle the team celebrated as if it had won the FA Cup. Henrik later said that he was elected the best keeper in the league that season by one of the local Chinese newspapers – as translated, he says, to him by one of his work colleagues. Nobody else ever saw this article.

Mike Bentley, too, has a stock of Lorenz folklore; this is his favourite: The SCMP headline read something like BIGGEST SCORE IN HK FOOTBALL HISTORY! I played that game (obviously ineffectively). It was at Club, against South China, in front of a good crowd. The final score was something like 10-0. My abiding memory is of a traumatised Henrik screaming at the Team whenever Wong Man Wai got the ball: "Don't

IDYLIC CHARACTER

He was born in March 1943 in Neuern, in the Sudetenland – which in 1938 had been the part of Czechoslovakia handed to Hitler by the appeasing Allies at Munich, not far away. The family, to escape the Soviets, moved in 1945 to Bavaria where they were regarded as outsiders. Henrik grew up in Kitzingen and graduated from college in Murnau where he read Economics. Both communities share an idyllic part of the world with blue crystalline lakes and the snow-capped Bavarian Alps. How could a young man quit such landscape for a concrete jungle on the far side of the globe? Only others who have been trapped by the lifestyle magnet that is Hong Kong would understand.

The environment in which Henrik grew up perhaps influenced his own 'idyllic' character. In his early twenties he spent 18 months in the UK learning English, then at 25 ventured farther away, to South Africa where he did 'various work' for a year or two. He went back to Germany reluctantly, determined to get a career going in some other distant part of the world. He wrote himself up in concise terms and inserted a 'position wanted' classified in the newspaper. Keen to work overseas! it would have declared. Somebody saw it.

POOR MAN'S MARKET TO PROSPERITY HOUSE

Henrik touched down in Hong Kong in September 1970, aged 27, with HK\$2,000 'and a small suitcase,' to open a buying office for the German mail-order firm founded by Friedrich Schwab in the 1950s. He checked into the Astor Hotel on Carnarvon Road, Tsimshatsui, then moved to a small flat in Temple Street, right by the Poor Man's Market. His challenge was to learn, fast, the business of sourcing and

exporting of textiles and garments to Germany. He did the learning on his feet, travelling the region. He went to the Trade Fair in Guangzhou when China was a pioneer's market emerging from the internecine chaos of the Cultural Revolution. His wish had come true – he was working in foreign lands, more foreign lands than he could have imagined, and working hard.

In 1976, Schwab was taken over by Otto Versand. Suddenly Henrik had a new boss. It was time, he decided, to get out on his own. Henrik Lorenz Ltd. started from an office in Prosperity House, Granville Road, TST, and never looked back. "Henrik was a born entrepreneur," nods Wing Cheung, a close friend since the early 1970s. "Hong Kong was the perfect place for him. He had so much energy that building a successful business without sacrificing any passion for football was no problem." Henrik joined the HKFC right after showing up there in season 1970-71. On training night he walked



One of Henrik's original German All-Stars sides, Yau Yee League c1980.

Henrik and his 'Hong Kong Old Boys' Club side (including Tony Sealy) at the 1994 Singapore 7s, where they clashed with the Euro All-Stars in the quarter-finals.



A star of the Hollywood kind? No, not Jack Nicholson imitating HKFC's Martin Darke at the SCC in 1994, but it could be.

SPORTS HISTORY

let him shoot! Do NOT let him shoot!" That would have been fine, except the screaming started when Wong took possession near the Half Way Line! From there even Pele would have had trouble scoring.

ALL-STARS AND SOCCER 7S

1976 was Henrik's watershed year for more than his business independence. In season 1976-77 he, Wing Cheung and Ian Findlay persuaded the HKFA to set up the Yau Yee (Amateur) League. Henrik's motives included an ulterior one – the German All-Stars, his first entrepreneurial soccer venture. The All-Stars were his team, competing in the new league he had helped conceive – all serious stuff to Henrik, as Mike Bentley can testify: Henrik's motivational technique was to inspire his troops by being the underdog. In the 1980s he managed and played for the German All-Stars against my side, the Club 3rd team at Club. Before the game he was shouting at his players locked inside the dressing room. I pressed my ear to the door. "Today we play the mighty Hong Kong Football Club!" (It was in English as there were few actual Germans in the XI.) "They are top of the league, they are younger, they are faster, they are fitter and stronger than us, and they are more skilful and better. But we shall keep running, never give up, keep tackling, and we shall overcome them and WIN!" The All-Stars ran out shaking, looking terrified. Result: a crushing victory for the Club team!

It took a while for Henrik to mould his All-Stars into match-winners; in 1989-90 they won 'the League title (and) the Challenge Cup.' He then shepherded his charges to the annual 7-a-side tournament at the Singapore Cricket Club. His tourists were a mix of Club players, HKFA pros and a veteran or three from the European premier leagues – the entire tab picked up by Henrik. Not simply a soccer entrepreneur, he was a fully-self-financing soccer entrepreneur. HKFC's Soccer 7s was spawned by the SCC example which focused, as far as invited players went, on retired masters. Tony Bratsanos – having toured for Club to Singapore and being HKFC Soccer Section Chairman – stirred up support for a 7s tournament in Hong Kong, one with a difference. International youth teams, as well as veterans, would be invited.

BEYOND THE PITCH

The inaugural HKFC Soccer 7s was staged at the Club in May 1999. Though an immediate success, the tournament's annual perpetuation was in doubt, until Henrik Lorenz increased his involvement. "If not for Henrik and his Lorenz All-Stars," Tony admits, "our tournament



HKFC Mini-Soccer Group gathered on the Club Pitch in May 1993 for a farewell photo, days before the old premises were demolished. Henrik donated the boys' strips and track-suits, and financed their professional coaching. Standing at far left is Iain Macnaughton, who with Wing Cheung got Club Mini-Soccer started in the mid-1980s.

would have failed." Henrik subsidised the 7s 'out of his own pocket,' flying in Jurgen Klinsmann, Gordon Strachan, Alan Kennedy and other immortals. Today, after ten tournaments, Tony Bratsanos is convinced the HKFC Soccer 7s is the best in the world.

Despite that 'retirement' of his in April 1993, Henrik continued 'competitive' goalkeeping 'up to his last tournament in Phuket' (a month before he died). By then his philanthropy had grown beyond the soccer pitch. Sue Li recalls: Henrik always said Hong Kong had been so good to him and he wanted to give something back. He started helping individuals in China and Hong Kong, and in Thailand after the Tsunami (in 2004). His plan was to concentrate on charity (work) once he found a successor for his business. The institutions he helped set up included an orphanage in Nepal, and the Phuket Youth Football Home 'for under-privileged children from all over Thailand.' In 2005, Henrik was voted an HKFC Life Member. He passed away in his sleep on 16 December 2006, on a flight from Hong Kong to Sydney. Wing Cheung was at the airport to meet him. DVT, with complications, was the cause. He was 63.

LIFE MEMBER

Henrik's Last Will is a statement typical of the man. It instructs the executors to maintain and finance his charitable institutions in Nepal and Thailand until 2106. Says Tony Bratsanos: "Everyone wanted to do something when word came that Henrik had died." Hands, Henrik-style, reached out to help arrange his funeral and settle his affairs. 'Henrik had built a mountain of goodwill. He was a man, a Club character, of the rarest kind.' He is not seen or heard in the Sportman's Bar these days. But he is there. If anyone is a Life Member, it is Henrik Lorenz.

By Denis Way



1966 AND ALL THAT

This unused ticket for the 1966 World Cup Group 1 (England, France, Mexico and Uruguay) match at Wembley Stadium on 19 July bears the autographs of every member of the victorious England side – 4-2 victors over West Germany in extra time in the Final. It is a rare item of world soccer memorabilia.

The autographing started at the 1991 Singapore seven-a-side tournament, when Clubman Brian McIntyre took a veteran HKFC squad to the SCC which included 'Charlton / Hurst / Peters / Banks / Hunt,' and his brother Tony brought from Canada his ticket-stubs from four of England's matches in 1966, plus this ticket. 'Bobby Moore could not come on that trip,' writes Brian who inherited the memorabilia, 'but he kindly signed them for me and then Alan Ball got the rest of the '66 team to sign the tickets when they all met up for their golfing weekend which was in 1992.'

The four stubs have been on exhibition at the National Football Museum, Preston, England. This fifth ticket, which was given specially to Henrik Lorenz and has been graciously donated to the HKFC in his memory, is itself exhibited outside the Sportsman's Bar.

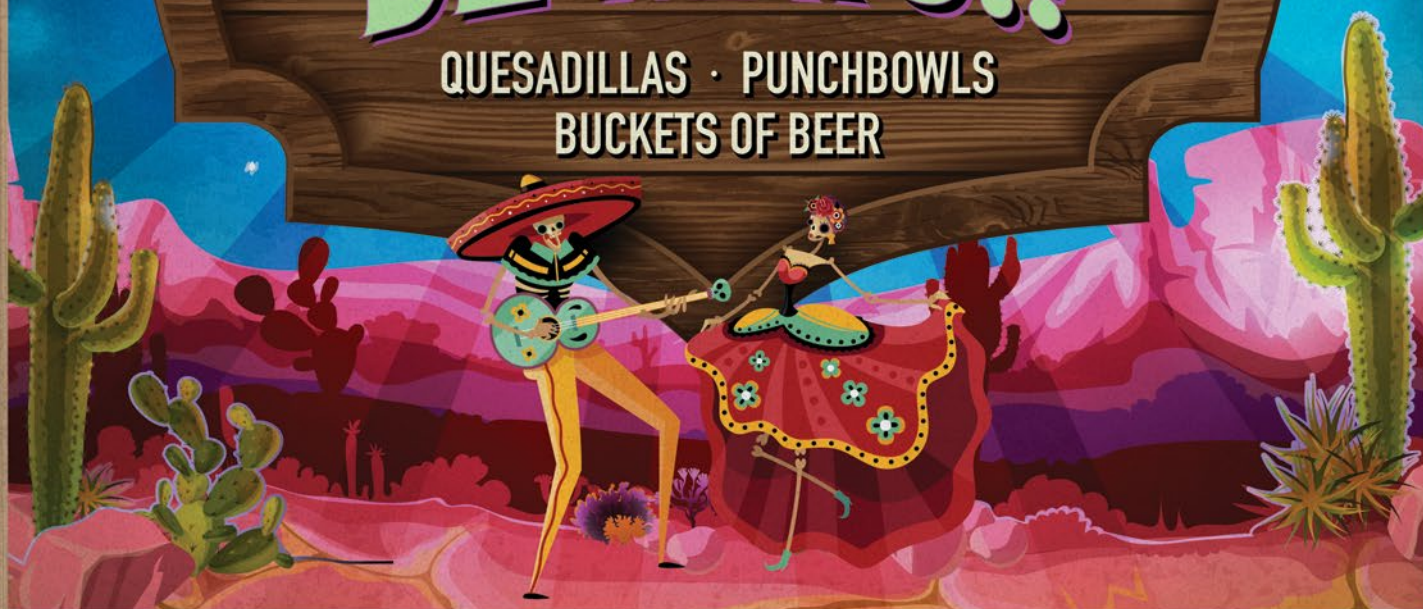
It bears the signatures of Bobby Moore (Captain), Alan Ball, Gordon Banks, Bobby Charlton, Jackie Charlton, George Cohen, Roger Hunt, Geoff Hurst (who scored a hat-trick), Martin Peters, Nobby Stiles and Ray Wilson.



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