

**HONG KONG  
GOVERNMENT  
INFORMATION  
SERVICES**

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**DAILY  
INFORMATION  
BULLETIN**

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Thursday, May 25, 1972

**CHEUNG CHAU BUN FESTIVAL****Governor And Lady MacLehose To Watch Grand Parade**

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The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, and Lady MacLehose, will visit Cheung Chau on Saturday, May 27, to watch the annual Bun Festival's grand parade.

They will be met on arrival at Cheung Chau by the District Officer, Islands, Mr. Mayer Ng, and his Liaison Officers, Mr. Willie Wong and Mr. David Ip.

Chairman of the Cheung Chau Rural Committee, Mr. Chau Li-ping, Director of the Festival Organising Committee, Mr. Fung Pak-tai, and other officials of the Rural Committee and the Organising Committee will be presented to the Governor.

The Bun Festival, commonly known as "Ta Chiu", is one of Hong Kong's most colourful annual pageants. It begins on May 25 and will last until May 28.

The Festival is held by the islanders to placate the avenging spirits of people tortured and murdered by pirates on the island many decades ago.

During the celebrations, the inhabitants of Cheung Chau may eat only vegetarian food.

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As it is a festival of gods and spirits, all the principal idols from the nine temples on the island will be assembled beside the bun towers. After the procession, the idols will be returned to their temples.

This year, the main procession will take place on Saturday, May 27. It will be repeated the next day, that is on Sunday, May 28, so that more visitors may have the opportunity to see this colourful event.

From May 24 to May 28, there will be performance of Cantonese Opera nightly. The "Ta Chiu" religious ceremony will be held at noon on May 26.

On May 26, at 3 p.m., the District Officer, Islands, Mr. Mayer Ng, will perform the eye-dotting ceremonies for unicorns and lions in the forecourt of the Pak Tei Temple.

The traditional bun tower "scramble" will take place near the Pak Tei Temple at midnight on May 27.

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Note to Editors: The Cheung Chau Rural Committee is making all the arrangements for Press coverage of the parade.

The Governor and Lady MacLehose will arrive at Cheung Chau at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, May 27.

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ACCIDENTS ON BUILDING CONSTRUCTION SITES

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In April, 340 workers were injured and five killed while working on building construction sites, according to reports received by the Labour Department.

Of this number, 71 were injured and two killed because of falling objects.

A spokesman of the department said: "Injuries and deaths caused by falling objects are the direct results of unsafe acts of the individual and poor standards of housekeeping."

He explained that an object could not become a "falling object" unless it was placed in an unsafe position.

In preventing objects from falling, he said, "all people concerned must ensure that all tools, materials and in fact anything which could cause an injury to persons working at a lower level are safely placed, stored and used. Accumulations of rubbish, debris, discarded planks, reinforcing bars, piles of sand, etc must be avoided."

He emphasized that "a tidy site with a high standard of housekeeping is not only a safer but is also a more efficient place of work."

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WATER INTERRUPTION IN CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI

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Water supply to a number of premises in Central and in the Tsim Sha Tsui area of Kowloon will be turned off for five hours between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. on Saturday.

In Central, the area affected is bounded by Morrison Street, Sutherland Street, Queen's Road West, Wing Lok Street and South Side of Des Voeux Road West.

In Kowloon, premises to be affected by the interruption are in the area bounded by Austin Road, Chatham Road, Kimberley Road and Nathan Road.

The temporary stoppage is to allow the Waterworks Office to carry out a leakage test in the area.

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MRS. ROWE TO VISIT THE KWAI CHUNG GIRLS' HOME

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Note to Editors: Mrs. G.T. Rowe, wife of the Director of Social Welfare, will visit the Kwai Chung Girls' Home, at No. 1A, Lei Mok Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories, on Friday, May 26 at 10.30 a.m. She will be accompanied by Mrs. Dang Chow Sik-wan, Principal Social Welfare Officer (Children and Women). The Home is run by the Salvation Army in Hong Kong. It was closed in January 1965 but opened again on October 5, 1971, at the request of the Social Welfare Department. It accommodates girls in need of care and protection, and it also rehabilitates girls with behaviour and other problems. The maximum capacity of the home is 50. A subvention of \$180,000 was recommended for the 1972/73 general expenses. You are invited to have the visit covered and your news team should arrive by 10.15 a.m.

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON URBAN RENEWAL PLAN

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Note to Editors: The Chairman of the Town Planning Board, the Hon. J.J. Robson, Director of Public Works, will give a press conference at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow (Friday) in connection with an Urban Renewal District Outline Zoning Plan.

You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the conference which will be held in the G.I.S. 35 mm theatre on the fifth floor of Beaconsfield House.

Also present at the conference will be Mr. J.W. Chambers, Assistant Colonial Secretary, Building and Lands Branch, Mr. A.F. Meyers, Government Town Planner, Mr. Chau Cham-son, Chief Planning Officer, Mr. A.E. Millington, Secretary of the Town Planning Board, and Mr. B.C. Allen, Senior Estate Surveyor.

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ADVANCES IN MEDICAL CARE OVER LAST FEW DECADES

Mortality Rate In Hong Kong Declining

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The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, said today the declining mortality rate in Hong Kong underlined the extraordinary advances made in medical care over the last few decades.

He was speaking at the Golden Jubilee ceremony of the Tsan Yuk Hospital. In the ceremony, he unveiled a plaque to commemorate what he described as an "important milestone" in the history of the hospital.

Sir Murray said: "We now have over 16,000 hospital beds compared with less than 2,000 in the 1930's."

He said the annual death rate per 1,000 had reduced from 21 to five over 50 years. The infant mortality rate has reduced from 350 per 1,000 in the 1940's to 18 per 1,000 in the 1970's. The maternal and peri-natal mortality rates have dropped considerably to their present levels of 1.4 per 10,000 and 16.6 per 1,000.

"These figures portray a remarkable development in our medical services and in the health of our community. But they also underline the valuable contribution made by the Tsan Yuk Hospital, which has trained a great majority of our doctors and midwives engaged in obstetric care," he said.

The following is the full text of the Governor's speech at the Golden Jubilee ceremony of the Tsan Yuk Hospital:

/"Listening .....

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"Listening to Professor King and Professor Chun recount the fifty-year history of the Tsan Yuk Hospital, I am struck by the way this institution has responded to the far-reaching changes in our community.

"Fifty years is not a span of time beyond our conception. Indeed it falls within the lifetime of many of us here, as we can see from the presence today of the hospital's first Matron, Miss Leung.

"But in that period the pattern of life in Hong Kong has altered almost as radically as the practice of medicine itself.

#### Pace

"The Tsan Yuk Hospital has done more than keep pace with these changes. It has also been responsible, to a large extent, for educating the community to adopt enlightened new social attitudes towards maternity and child care.

"It has earned the trust and confidence of its patients and taught them to accept ideas often diametrically opposed to any they had previously held. And it has done this so quietly, with such sympathy and understanding, as to leave us unaware of the revolution that has taken place.

"The declining mortality rate which Professor Chun has quoted underlines the extraordinary advances made in medical care over the last few decades. We now have over 16,000 hospital beds compared with less than 2,000 in the 1930's.

"The annual death rate per thousand has reduced from 21 to 5 over 50 years. The infant mortality rate has reduced from 350 per thousand in the 1940's to 18 per thousand in the 1970's. The maternal and peri-natal mortality rates have dropped considerably to their present levels of 1.4 per 10,000 and 16.6 per 1,000.

/"These figures .....

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"These figures portray a remarkable development in our medical services and in the health of our community. But they also underline the valuable contribution made by the Tsan Yuk Hospital, which has trained a great majority of our doctors and midwives engaged in obstetric care.

"In common with other sectors of the public service, the hospital has had to face increasing pressure on its facilities due to the rapid expansion of the population. It is a tribute to all concerned that not only has it coped successfully with the many and varied problems that inevitably arise in such circumstances, but in doing so it has ensured that standards have not been compromised. Rather, its services to patients have been steadily expanded and improved.

"In order to meet growing demands, the hospital has increased its capacity to 250 beds, and it is hoped to make available an additional 100 beds by converting the present residential quarters when these are vacated for removal to other premises.

"Before unveiling the plaque commemorating this important milestone in the history of Tsan Yuk Hospital, I would like to express my warmest thanks to all those who have been associated with the administration and operation of the hospital and whose dedication and hard work have contributed so much to the impressive progress it has achieved. May I also take this opportunity to wish the hospital continuing success in the future."

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### TRAINING FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS

Two-Year Course Organised By Education Department

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A part-time in-service training course has been organised by the Education Department for practising kindergarten teachers who are professionally untrained and applications are now being invited.

The training course will be spread over two years and the medium of instruction will be Cantonese.

Not more than 50 candidates may be admitted to the course, which starts in October this year.

The course covers subjects ranging from principles and practice of kindergarten education to art and handicraft.

A spokesman for the Education Department said the teachers, on satisfactorily passing the final examination, would be awarded the status of "Qualified Kindergarten Teacher".

They would be eligible for admission to the Department's Register of Teacher if they have five years' approved teaching experience in Hong Kong schools.

Application forms may be obtained from the Education Department Headquarters, Lee Gardens, Hysan Avenue and the Department's Kowloon Sub-office, Kowloon Central Post Office Building, Nathan Road.

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### NEW ROAD IN NIM WAN

To Be Opened By C.B.F. On Tuesday

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A two-mile-long new road linking the isolated village of Nim Wan in Deep Bay with the existing access road leading to Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long, will be opened on Tuesday, May 30. The Commander British Forces, Lt. General Sir Richard Ward will officiate at the ceremony.

The new road, built by the Army, will greatly facilitate the travelling of villagers in Nim Wan and the transport of their agricultural produce for sale in the urban areas.

The construction of this new road is one of the many valuable services constantly provided by the Army to the villagers in various parts of the New Territories.

These services include the building of new roads in remote areas, the installation of generators and TV sets to provide lighting and entertainment to the villagers, the construction of playgrounds and resting places and the showing of films in villages.

The new road is to be named "Charlton Road" after the young project officer of the 33rd Field Squadron Royal Engineers, a unit of Britain's Strategic Command, who was responsible for the planning of the operation.

Over 200 men from this Squadron have contributed to the construction of the road which took them just about three months to complete. The road is eight feet wide with a two-foot verge on either side. In addition, a 120-foot-long span bridge and 15 culverts, varying from 25 feet to 70 feet in length, were built to safeguard the road against Hong Kong's rainy season.

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Materials for the work were supplied by the District Office, Yuen Long, which also made the project possible by the resumption of certain agricultural land. Over \$50,000 compensation were paid to the owners.

Apart from building the road, men of the 33rd Field Squadron have laid a two-mile-long water pipe up the hillside, and Nim Wan, in addition to getting the new road, has its own water supply.

At the ceremony on Tuesday, the Commander British Forces will cut the ribbon to open the road, unveil a plaque naming the road "Charlton Road", and plant two trees by the side of the 120-foot span bridge to commemorate the occasion.

Mr. Lau Wong-fat, Chairman of the Tuen Mun Rural Committee, will then present to Sir Richard a silver plate as a souvenir.

Mr. Tang Chai-on, Chairman of the Ha Tsuen Rural Committee, will present a banner to Major John Benham Cresswell, the Squadron Commander, in appreciation of the work done by the Engineers.

After the ceremony, the party will walk across the bridge, preceded by a traditional lion dance provided by the villagers.

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Note to editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the opening ceremony. For the convenience of press representatives covering the event, transport will be provided. In order to facilitate the making of transport arrangements, please telephone the G.I.S. Duty Officer (Tel. H-233191 Ext. 240 or 250), before 12 noon tomorrow (Friday) and give him the names of your representatives covering the event.

Press representatives going to Nim Wan on May 30 are requested to assemble at the Kowloon sub-pool at the back of the Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office not later than 11.20 a.m.

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### CONCERN SHOWN FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

In Tai Hang Tung

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A Preparatory Committee made up of residents in the Tai Hang Tung area has been formed to arouse more district interest in the well-being of the elderly.

The Committee's aim is to launch a continuous series of projects, including outdoor parties, social gatherings, visits and other activities so that old people in Tai Hang Tung will not feel abandoned to their own devices.

To help raise funds to achieve its aim, the Committee has arranged, by permission of the Tai Hang Tung Community Centre's Cantonese Opera Club, to stage the popular opera, Purple Flower, in the Centre on Saturday, May 27, at 8 p.m.

So as to involve as many Tai Hang Tung residents as possible, performers as well as production staff will be mostly from the district. Music will be provided by the Yin Won Amateur Music Study Society.

Admission prices will be on three levels, \$10, \$5 and \$3, and -- as a result of enterprise on the part of the Committee -- are already on sale in the district in restaurants, tea houses, and popular shops.

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Release time: 6.45 p.m.