

Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Swimming Pool temporarily closed

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (March 22) that Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Swimming Pool in Yuen Long District has been temporarily closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of vomit in the pool.

It will be reopened at 7pm today.

The department appeals to swimmers to be considerate and to keep the swimming pools clean. They are advised not to swim after a full meal and should use the toilet facilities if necessary before swimming.

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Friday, March 22, 2019 is 103.1 (up 0.3 against yesterday's index).

Business seminar in Auckland showcases unparalleled business opportunities of Greater Bay Area (with photos)

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Sydney (HKETO Sydney), together with the Auckland Business Chamber, held a business seminar in Auckland, New Zealand, on March 21 (Auckland time) on the unparalleled opportunities offered by Hong Kong and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area for New Zealand businesses.

Entitled "Accessing the world's largest market through Hong Kong", the

seminar presented to New Zealand business leaders the important role Hong Kong plays in the Greater Bay Area's development and how Hong Kong can provide benefits for New Zealand across many areas given that it is the most open international city in the Greater Bay Area, a well-connected transport hub, and an innovation and technology centre.

The Greater Bay Area, comprising the two Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao and nine Guangdong cities with an estimated GDP of US\$1.5 trillion and a population of some 70 million, is the safest and most strategic entry point into the massive North Asia market, and an economy actively promoting unimpeded trade and investment with New Zealand.

The seminar comprised three sessions – "Making New Zealand Greater Bay Ready: New Zealand's Unleashed Potential", "Building for Tomorrow, Today: Thinking Infrastructure, Think Hong Kong" and "A World Connected: Hong Kong as an International and Technology Hub" – and panel discussions.

The Director of HKETO Sydney, Mr Raymond Fan, spoke on Hong Kong's strong ties with New Zealand and the latest developments of the Greater Bay Area. He said the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area promulgated by the Central Government clearly supported Hong Kong in consolidating and enhancing Hong Kong's status as an international financial, transportation and trade centre as well as an international aviation hub; strengthening Hong Kong's status as a global offshore Renminbi business hub and its role as an international asset management centre and a risk management centre; promoting the development of high-end and high value-added financial, commercial and trading, logistics and professional services; making great efforts to develop the innovation and technology industries; nurturing emerging industries; and establishing Hong Kong as the centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region.

"These areas of work are all conducive to developing Hong Kong further as an international metropolis with enhanced competitiveness. Meanwhile, we are also glad to learn about the eight policy measures introduced by the Central Government which could assist Hong Kong residents to develop, work and reside in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area, as well as strengthen the convenient flow of people and goods within the Greater Bay Area," he said.

The Director, Australia and New Zealand, of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), Ms Bonnie Shek, highlighted Hong Kong's role in connecting New Zealand companies with the Greater Bay Area, pointing out that New Zealand companies could commercialise products or service systems through professionals or intellectual property trading in Hong Kong. The Head of Transport and Industrial of Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK), Mr Benjamin Wong, said Hong Kong's unique advantages under "one country, two systems", together with the city's geographical location, robust legal system and low and simple tax system, could bring unequalled benefits to New Zealand business.

In addition, HKETO Sydney also co-hosted a reception in Auckland on

March 21 with the HKTDC, InvestHK and the Hong Kong-New Zealand Business Association, under the theme of "Connect and Excel".

Speaking at the reception, Mr Fan said Hong Kong in 2018 continued to build on its reputation as the gateway to Asia, growing its connections with the Mainland of China and the region. Hong Kong continues to be one of the best-connected cities in the world, with world-class transport and infrastructure making it a business, transport and trade hub.

"The Greater Bay Area will surely bring Hong Kong significant opportunities to diversify its economy and develop innovation and technology, which is an economic driver in the new era," Mr Fan said.

"As we enter another busy year in 2019, I look forward to the fostering of a stronger relationship between Hong Kong and New Zealand. Hong Kong stands ready to connect you to your next opportunity and to help you to not only succeed in your endeavours, but to excel in them," Mr Fan added.



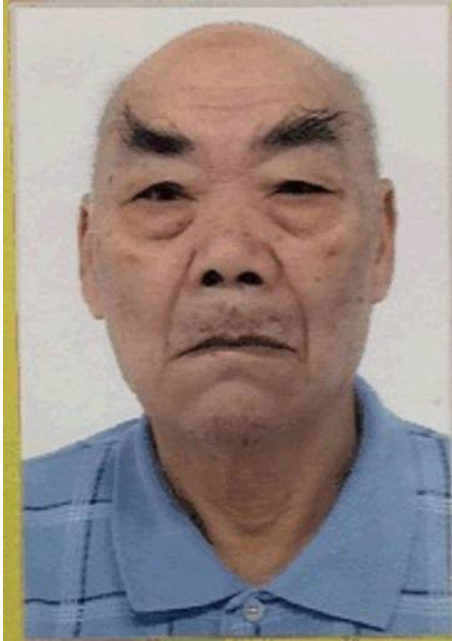
[Appeal for information on missing man in North Point \(with photo\)](#)

Police today (March 22) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in North Point.

Law Wai-man, aged 87, went missing after he left an elderly home in Tong Shui Road last night (March 21). Staff of the elderly home made a report to Police on the same day.

He is about 1.55 metres tall, 67 kilograms in weight and of fat build. He has a round face with yellow complexion and short white hair. He was last seen wearing a blue jacket, a light-coloured polo shirt with stripes, dark-coloured trousers and black shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Hong Kong Island on 2860 1040 or 9886 0034, or email to rmpu-hki@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



Grave sweepers urged to keep environment clean during Ching Ming Festival

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (March 22) urged people visiting cemeteries and columbaria to pay respects to ancestors during the coming Ching Ming Festival to keep the environment clean and dispose of used containers properly to prevent mosquito breeding.

An FEHD spokesman said the department will provide special cleaning services at public cemeteries and columbaria during the festival period.

"We will deploy more staff to clear undergrowth and remove rubbish, and empty bottles and containers left behind by grave sweepers, to keep the environment clean. We will also remove water in containers and incense burners and level the ground surface to prevent accumulation of water. Furthermore, additional litter bins and toilet facilities will be provided," he said.

The spokesman urged the public to co-operate by clearing stagnant water and rubbish before leaving to prevent mosquito breeding. Containers such as lunch boxes, drink cans, plastic bags and buckets for burning incense should

also be removed.

"As a precaution against mosquitoes, grave sweepers are advised to wear light-coloured long-sleeved tops and trousers and apply insect repellent to exposed parts of their body," he said.

In addition to public announcements, notices and banners will be displayed at public cemeteries and columbaria to appeal for public co-operation in taking anti-mosquito action. Managers of private cemeteries have also been advised to take similar precautions against mosquitoes.

To protect the environment and to prevent hill fires, members of the public are encouraged to replace incense burning with flowers when paying tribute to their ancestors. In addition, grave sweepers should take extra care when burning incense, which should only be carried out inside a designated joss paper furnace or iron bucket. People should make sure that all fires have gone out before leaving. Staff of the department will step up patrols at public cemeteries and columbaria during the period. In the event of a hill fire, grave sweepers should remain calm and immediately notify officers on-site.

The Government encourages the public to place additional cremated ashes into public niches to let loved ones stay together or to consider using a more environmentally friendly and sustainable way of handling ashes of the deceased, including scattering the ashes in Gardens of Remembrance or at sea. Those who have created a memorial webpage on the website of the Internet Memorial Service (www.memorial.gov.hk) provided by the FEHD can pay tribute to their beloved online or through the mobile application anywhere and anytime. Family members and friends can also share memories and experiences through the webpage. FEHD has set up a Green Burial Central Register to enable the public to register their wish for Green Burial.

The spokesman also appealed to grave sweepers to make maximum use of public transport during the Ching Ming Festival. Access to Cape Collinson Crematorium, Diamond Hill Crematorium, Fu Shan Crematorium, Kwai Chung Crematorium, Wo Hop Shek Crematorium and Wo Hop Shek Cemetery will be closed to all vehicles while the special traffic and transport arrangements are in operation, except for those with special permission.

For details of the special traffic and transport arrangements in the vicinity of cemeteries and crematoria during the Ching Ming Festival, please visit the Transport Department website (www.td.gov.hk).