

Sun Kim-long and Tang Mi-ling to perform in Cantonese opera "The Magic Cup" in November

Veteran Cantonese opera stars Sun Kim-long and Tang Mi-ling will collaborate with local Cantonese opera performers including Liu Kwok-sum, Kwok Kai-fai, Lam Tsz-ching, Song Hong-bo, Chan Kei-ting and Ng Sin-hang in a new production of "The Magic Cup". This version is adapted from the film of the same title produced in 1961. Details are as follows:

7.30pm, November 14 (Wednesday)
Auditorium, Tsuen Wan Town Hall
Tickets: \$120, \$160, \$220 and \$280

2.30pm, November 18 (Sunday)
Auditorium, Yuen Long Theatre
Tickets: \$120, \$220 and \$280

The story centres on Cheung Tat, who gets thrown into an old well when he finds his wife committing adultery with the sorcerer Chow Kam. The ghost of Cheung's deceased wife appears and directs their daughter Ah-bo to rescue him. Ah-bo finds a magic cup inside the well, which allows her to summon a genie who can cast a spell to save her father. Later Cheung meets Princess Po Ling, who is tired of life in the palace and has escaped to live among the commoners. The two fall in love and pledge to remain together.

Knowing that the King has offered a reward to find the Princess, Chow discovers the Princess' whereabouts and accuses Cheung of harbouring her. The King wants to behead Cheung. Chow steals the magic cup but fortunately Ah-bo manages to get the cup back and saves all those in danger. However, as the secret is revealed, Ah-bo has no choice but to melt the cup and bid farewell to the genie forever.

"The Magic Cup" is presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Tickets are now available at URB TIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7325 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/chinese_opera/programs_636.html.

A pre-performance talk will be held at 7.30pm on November 6 (Tuesday) at AC2, 4/F, Administration Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Speakers include Sun Kim-long and Tang Mi-ling. Another post-performance talk will take place after the November 18 performance at Auditorium, Yuen Long Theatre. Speakers include Tang Mi-ling, To Wing-sum and Lee Ting-fung. The talks will be held in Cantonese. Admission is free. Limited seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Postal services to United States subject to delay

Hongkong Post announced today (September 19) that, as advised by the postal administration of the United States, due to the impact of a hurricane, mail delivery services (including Speedpost, parcels and letter post items) to North Carolina, South Carolina and southwest Virginia with postcodes from 27000 to 29999 and 23000 to 23999 are subject to delay.

Housing Department urges tenants not to burn wax during Mid-Autumn Festival

With the approach of the Mid-Autumn Festival, the Housing Department (HD) reminds tenants that burning wax in the common areas of public rental housing (PRH) estates may cause their households to be allotted penalty points without warning under the Estate Management Marking Scheme and a fine of \$1,500 for littering.

"Parents should stop their children burning wax as it is a hazardous act which may cause fires and severe burns," an HD spokesman said today (September 19).

Family members of children committing the misdeed would have their tenancy jeopardised. "Although wax burning and littering caused by tenants celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival abated last year, we will continue to step up our patrolling this year. If minors refuse to stop the misdeed despite verbal warning from our patrol staff, we will turn to their parents. The household will be subject to allotment of penalty points. The tenancy will be terminated if 16 points or more have been allotted within two years," the spokesman stressed.

Apart from routine checks by estate offices, from Sunday to Tuesday (September 23 to 25), staff from the department's Regional Patrol Teams and Mobile Operations Unit will be deployed to patrol PRH estates beyond midnight. Additional cleaning workers will also be deployed to clean up early in the morning following the festival day.

A total of two fixed penalty notices for littering or wax-burning in PRH estates were issued during the Mid-Autumn Festival last year. About 170 verbal warnings were given and one household was allotted penalty points.

To caution tenants against wax-burning, the messages have been publicised through posters and the Housing Channel.

The spokesman called for PRH tenants' support by reporting any misdeeds to estate offices or the Housing Authority Hotline 2712 2712.

Postal services to Macao return to normal

Hongkong Post announced today (September 19) that, as advised by the postal administration of Macao, mail delivery services that were previously affected by typhoon have returned to normal.

Updated traffic and public transport situation after Typhoon Mangkhut

The Transport Department (TD) today (September 19) said that the relevant departments including the Highways Department, the Fire Services Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Civil Engineering and Development Department have been working at full strength to clear road surfaces affected by Typhoon Mangkhut so as to resume the public transport services as soon as possible.

Up to now, most of the major roads have been cleared to enable passage of traffic, including public transport. However, more time is needed to clear the fallen trees on some major roads such as San Sham Road, Castle Peak Road – San Tin Section, Sai Sha Road, Sha Tau Kok Road, Hiram's Highway, Clear Water Bay Road, Tai Mong Tsai Road, Tin Ping Road and Route Twisk in the New Territories; and Wong Nai Chung Gap Road, Deep Water Bay Road, Shek O Road, Tai Hang Road, Peak Road, Victoria Road, Nam Fung Road and A Kung Ngam Road on Hong Kong Island.

A spokesman for the TD reminded members of the public that they should pay attention to the traffic situation and the latest public transport service arrangement this morning before starting their journey. Motorists are advised to exercise tolerance and patience and drive carefully.

As at 5am today, the latest public transport situation is as follows:

(I) MTR Services

Rail services – all rail lines, service normal

Light Rail services – service normal

MTR Bus services – normal frequency, except routes of some services have to be diverted

(II) Franchised Bus Services

All franchised bus services will provide service this morning, except that the following routes are still suspended due to the road condition. The public may consider using the alternative arrangements indicated below:

Hong Kong Island (15 Routes)

Route Number (Origin – Destination)	Alternative Arrangement
CTB 6 (Central – Stanley Village) CTB 6A, (Central – Stanley Fort Gate) CTB 6X (Central – Stanley Village / Stanley Prison)	GMB Route 40 (Stanley Village – Causeway Bay) and Interchange with MTR
CTB 11 (Central – Jardine's Lookout) CTB 511 (Tai Hang Drive – Central)	GMB Route 14M (Causeway Bay – Moorsom Road) GMB Route 24M (Mount Butler Road – Admiralty)
CTB 41A (Wah Fu – North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange)	Bus to Island North and interchange with other public transport(PT) services
CTB 43M (Tin Wan Estate – Shek Tong Tsui) CTB 47P (Belcher Bay – Wong Chuk Hang)	GMB Route 58 (Aberdeen – Kennedy Town), Route 59 (Kennedy Town Station – Shum Wan Road) and interchange with other PT Services

CTB 76 (Shek Pai Wan Estate Public Transport Interchange – Causeway Bay)	GMB Route 4 (Shek Pai Wan – Causeway Bay) to Causeway Bay and interchange with other PT services
NWFB 9 (Shau Kei Wan – Shek O)	Public Light Bus
NWFB 14 (Sai Wan Ho – Stanley Fort Gate) NWFB 63 (North Point Ferry Pier – Stanley Prison) NWFB 66 (Central – Ma Hang Estate)	GMB Route 16A/M (Chai Wan Station – Chung Hom Kok) Route 40 (Stanley Village – Causeway Bay) and Interchange with MTR
NWFB 15 (Central – The Peak)	GMB Route 1 (The Peak – Central)
NWFB 260 (Stanley Village – Central)	GMB Route 40 (Stanley Village – Causeway Bay) and interchange with MTR

New Territories (7 Routes)

Bus Company (Origin – Destination)	Alternative Arrangement
KMB 51 (Tsuen Wan West Station – Sheung Tsuen)	GMB Route 72 (Yuen Long – Lui Kung Tin) GMB Route 80 (Tsuen Wan – Chuen Lung) GMB Route 85 (Tsuen Wan – Fu Yung Hill)
KMB 76K (Sheung Shui – Long Ping)	GMB Routes 36 (Yuen Long – Tai Sang Wai Rural Office) GMB Routes 37 (Yuen Long – Yau Tam Mei Village Office) GMB Routes 38 (Yuen Long – Yau Tam Mei West) GMB Routes 50A (Sheung Shui Station – Kwu Tung) KMB Route 276 (Sheung Shui – Tin Tsz) KMB Route 276B (Choi Yuen – Tin Fu) KMB Route 276P (Sheung Shui – Tin Shui Wai Station)
KMB 92 (Diamond Hill Station – Sai Kung)	GMB Route 1A (Sai Kung – Choi Hung)

KMB 94 (Sai Kung – Wong Shek Pier)	GMB Route 7 (Sai Kung – Hoi Ha) GMB Route 9 (Sai Kung – Lady MacLehose Holiday Village)
KMB 99 (Sai Kung – Heng On)	GMB Route 807B (Ma On Shan – Wong Chuk Wan)
KMB 299X (Sha Tin Town Centre – Sai Kung)	GMB Route 1A (Sai Kung – Choi Hung) interchange with MTR
NWFB 792M (Tseung Kwan O Station – Sai Kung)	GMB Route 101M (Hang Hau Station – Sai Kung)

The service resumption of the above routes will be announced as soon as possible after the road surfaces have been cleared.

(III) Ferry Services

Except the ferry service between North Point and Hung Hom, all inner harbour and outlying island ferry services resumed normal.

The spokesman reminded members of the public to stay alert to the latest traffic news and allow more time for travel. For details of the above public transport arrangements, members of the public can visit the TD's website or get the information through the TD's mobile application "HKeMobility".