# HONG KONG

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London



# Carrie Lam becomes fifth Hong Kong Chief Executive

arrie Lam was sworn in as Chief Executive of Hong Kong on July 1 at a special ceremony attended by China's President Xi Jinping, who was in Hong Kong to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

Speaking after her inauguration, Mrs Lam promised to repay the trust and support of the people and central government. "My vision is for a Hong Kong of hope and happiness – a city that we are all proud to call our home. I see a vibrant international metropolis that is just, civilised, safe, affluent, blessed with the rule of law," she said.

Mr Xi also swore in the other officials of Mrs Lam's new government and members of the executive council during the ceremony held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Mrs Lam, whose term of office runs until 2022, becomes Hong Kong's fifth Chief Executive and the first woman to hold the post. In her first full day as Chief Executive she visited people in the North District, Kowloon City District and Central and Western District (more on page 2).

Right: President Xi (first right) swears in Mrs Carrie Lam as Hong Kong's fifth Chief Executive.



Left: A flag raising ceremony at Golden Bauhinia Square marks the 20th anniversary of the return of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty.

# **President Xi visits Hong Kong**

President Xi Jinping arrived in Hong Kong on June 30 to attend celebrations to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR.

During his three day visit, Mr Xi visited the West Kowloon Cultural District, a new 40 hectare arts and cultural guarter that will feature



Above: President Xi (first left) is welcomed at the airport on his arrival in Hong Kong for the 20th Anniversary celebrations and the swearing-in of the new Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam. With him are outgoing Chief Executive Leung (second left) and his wife Regina Leung (second right), Mrs Lam (third left), and Mr Xi's wife Peng Liyuan (right).

world-class museums, theatres, concert halls and performance venues – signing an agreement that will allow the new Hong Kong Palace Museum to showcase artefacts from Beijing's Palace Museum.

#### Infrastructure boost

Mr Xi also viewed progress on the 40-kilometre (25-mile) bridge-and-tunnel road, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the Hong Kong Link Road, which will connect Hong Kong, Macau and Zhuhai when it opens later this year. The new road will enhance Hong Kong's connections with China's Guangdong province and Macao, as well as with the rest of Mainland China, and strengthen Hong Kong's position as an international and regional logistics hub.

Mr Xi was also briefed on progress toward a third runway at Hong Kong International Airport which will further enhance connections to Mainland China and the rest of the world.

Continued on page 2.



**Above:** Mr Xi addresses the inaugural ceremony of the fifth Hong Kong government.

#### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...



20th anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Page 4



Egyptian mummies come to Hong Kong



World's most competitive economy Page 7

Continued from page 1

#### President Xi's visit

During his visit, Mr Xi inspected troops of the People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison and visited the Junior Police Call activity centre and new training camp, which includes climbing facilities, a football pitch, indoor sports hall and rooms for computing and creative activities, and is due to be completed later this year. The Junior Police Call scheme, set up in 1974, encourages members to work with the community to help fight crime and provide leadership training. Over a million people have so far taken part.

#### Deepen co-operation

While in Hong Kong, Mr Xi attended a banquet hosted by the Hong Kong government and also a "Grand Variety Show" to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Hong Kong's return to China. He also met around 200 people from various sectors of Hong Kong at a special event held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and attended a dinner at Government House hosted by the former Chief Executive, C Y Leung.

During his visit, Mr Xi also attended the inaugural ceremony of the new Hong Kong government (see page 1) where he swore in the new Chief Executive, Carrie Lam, and other principal officers. Before leaving Hong Kong, Mr Xi also witnessed the signing of an agreement to deepen co-operation between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao (see page 7).



Left: Mr Xi inspects the People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison at Shek Kong Barracks.

> Right: Children perform Cantonese opera for Mr Xi (first left) during his visit to the West Kowloon Cultural District.



Left: Mr Xi (front row,

Executive, Mrs Lam

and members of the executive, legislature

and judiciary.

(front row, eighth left),

centre) pictured with the new Chief



Left: Peng Liyuan (right), wife of President Xi, visits Yau Yat Chuen School.





**Above:** A performance at a Grand Variety Show marks the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to Chinese sovereignty

Right: During a visit to the new road and bridge that will link Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Macao, Mr Xi (centre) is briefed by Frank Chan Fan (right), Secretary for Transport and Housing, and Mrs Lam.

#### Politics

# Carrie Lam tours Hong Kong districts

In her first full day in office, new Chief Executive Carrie Lam visited North District, Kowloon City District, and Central and Western District to meet people in their homes and listen to their views.

During her visit to Ta Kwu Ling she spoke with people who had relocated there in 2008 after Chuk Yuen village was cleared to make way for the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point. Mrs Lam had already met the villagers several times while she was Secretary for Development but wanted to make sure the rehousing and compensation arrangements were working well, she said.



Above: Mrs Lam (first row, second right) visits Ta Kwu Ling to meet former residents of Chuk Yuen village.



#### Resolving problems

Mrs Lam later visited two families of elderly residents at Ka Wai Chuen, run by Hong Kong Housing Society, and also met families in Wing Lee Street, which was originally earmarked for demolition but saved after a local campaign. The street is now restored as a heritage project to preserve typical Hong Kong tenement housing from the 1960s. Six flats have been turned into homes for single-parent families, at nominal rent

Mrs Lam concluded her first full day in office by touring the Heritage Vogue Hollywood Road

Left: Elderly residents at Ka Wai Chuen, pictured with Mrs Lam (second left), Marco Wu (first right), Chairman of the Hong Kong Housing Society, and Pun Kwok-wah (second right), Chairman of the Kowloon City District Council.



Above: Mrs Lam (front row, first right) visits an elderly family at Ka Wai Chuen. Also pictured: Janice Tse (back row, centre), Director of Home Affairs; Marco Wu (front row, first left), Chairman of the Hong Kong Housing Society; Franco Kwok (back row, right), District Officer (Kowloon City); and Pun Kwok-wah (back row, left), Chairman of the Kowloon City District Council.

NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE

● ● Law

# Rule of law "alive and well"

Hong Kong's legal system continues to be transparent, with access to justice "alive and well" and judges appointed on their merits, said Rimsky Yuen, Secretary for Justice, speaking during a two day visit to the UK in May.

The independence of the Hong Kong judiciary has been well-served by the 'one country, two systems' policy, said Mr Yuen in a speech at Asia House in London. He said "judges in the HKSAR continue to deliver very good reasoned judgments, whether in general civil cases or in controversial public law cases – including those concerning judicial review applications. All these judgments plainly illustrate that judges in the HKSAR dealt with cases in a professional, apolitical and judicial manner, and also strictly in accordance with the available evidence and applicable legal principles."

He also emphasised the role of the Basic Law: "By providing for the continuation of the common law system in the HKSAR, the Basic Law provides the constitutional guarantee for the rule of law



Above: Mr Yuen, Secretary for Justice, speaking at Asia House.

street carnival, where she chatted and took photos with members of the public. In letters sent to the Chairmen of Hong Kong's 18 District Councils on her first day of office, Mrs Lam promised to work with them to plan for development and resolve district problems together.



Left: Visitors to the "Heritage Vogue - Hollywood Road" street carnival meet Mrs Lam and share photographs.

Follow Carrie Lam on social media...
Facebook www.facebook.com/carrielam.hksar
Instagram www.instagram.com/carrielam.hksar

in the HKSAR," he said. Hong Kong is the only Asian economy to rank in the top ten for judicial independence, according to the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017, he noted.

The 20 years since Hong Kong's return to Mainland China in 1997 had witnessed a period of healthy development of common law, said Mr Yuen, delivering the Dr Mok Hing Yiu Memorial Lecture at St Hugh's College, University of Oxford. "With the constitutional guarantee enshrined in the Basic Law and the high quality of our independent Judiciary, common law (together with its underlying spirit of the rule of law) will continue to grow from strength to strength in the years to come," he said.

● ● ■ Education

# Global education aspirations

Hong Kong's human talent is its most important asset, said Eddie Ng Hak-kim, then Secretary for Education, speaking at the Going Global 2017 international education conference, organised in London by the British Council.

Mr Ng told delegates that Hong Kong invested heavily in education, noting that five Hong Kong universities were now ranked in the world's top 200, according to the Times Higher Education 2016-17 World University Rankings. In 2017-18, government spending on education will reach an estimated HK\$78.6 billion, he said, more than any other area of expenditure.

Looking to the future, Mr Ng told delegates that Hong Kong aspires to deepen collaboration with other economies and act as a regional hub and "super-connector" in the areas of education, innovation and technology.

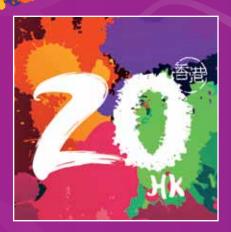
● ● ● Food and health

# Closer health collaboration

Ko Wing-man, former Secretary for Food and Health, visited the UK in May to learn more about healthcare developments here. He visited a digital health company, for example, which aims to provide accessible and affordable healthcare services by combining clinical expertise with cutting edge artificial intelligence technology. He also visited the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew to see how their unique scientific collections of plants and fungi can help develop modern authentication methods for traditional Chinese medicines.



Dr Ko visited the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew in London to see its unique scientific collections of plants and fungi from around the world. The Deputy Director of Science of the Gardens, Ms Monique Simmonds (left) is briefing him on Kew's reference collection of dried plants and fungi specimens.



# 20th anniversary celebrations

A ten-month programme of events to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is being organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO). Here are just a few of the highlights so far. Our 20th anniversary celebrations continue until the end of November. Find out what's on at www.hketolondon20.gov.hk and come and join us.



Left: Over 600 people joined a Hong Kong 20th Anniversary Gala Dinner in London. The evening featured a flag salute ceremony and concluded with a spectacular fireworks display. HKETO also mounted a special 20th anniversary exhibition to highlight the city's achievements over the past two decades.



Above, below: Two concerts at London's Wilton's

and classical music, conjuring up Hong Kong's

cosmopolitan cityscape, fast-paced lifestyle and

Music Hall provided a stunning mix of cinema, jazz

Above: Business leaders in Bristol and Leeds are urged to take advantage of Hong Kong's unique position to help them make links with China, during special seminars in June. Speakers included representatives from the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, InvestHK, China-Britain Business Council and local business sectors.



avenues for spiritual retreat. Hong Kong Episodes (above) and an innovative "3-in-1" concert Music Lab: Fingerman X Beloved Clara X SMASH by Hong Kong programming hub, Music Lab (below) formed part of the Hong Kong Music Series, which also included: Beyond the Senses by Hong Kong composer Law Wing-fai; and the Chinese opera Datong: The Chinese Utopia.







Left: A sound and visual installation by Hong Kong sound artist and composer Samson Young is on display at the Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art in Manchester until October 29. One of Two Stories, or Both (Field Bagatelles) is inspired by tales of 17th century Chinese travellers making their way to Europe on foot.



Above: Internationally renowned Chinese chefs, Ken Hom (right) and Huang Ching-he (centre) demonstrate how to make Dragon Boat Festival rice dumplings during the launch of the Hong Kong's **Intangible Cultural Heritage Festival** in May. The festival raised awareness of Hong Kong's culture via a series of events, including an international symposium on Chinese heritage and food culture.



**Above: The Combined Youth Orchestra** of the Music for Our Young Foundation took to the stage at St John's Smith Square, London, for a special concert performed on Western and Chinese instruments. The orchestra, which is made up of underprivileged young people from Hong Kong, performed an impressive programme of classical and contemporary orchestral works and folk songs to an audience of over 300 people.



Left: HKETO supported a Hong showcase with a catwalk parade



businesses. Many of the events, such as this one in Tallinn, Estonia (left), included

Above left, centre left: Business seminars and receptions. including this one (above left) in Oslo, Norway, are being organised by HKETO in the Nordic and Baltic countries to encourage links between Hong Kong and local

hove: Hong Kong fashion designer, Jay (right), introduces her work as part of an event to showcase the talent of Hong Kong's fashion, furniture and industrial designers The Fashion Farm Foundation's Emerging Hong Kong Designer Makers event was part of London Craft Week.



Kong Fashion Designers featuring designers from Daydream Nation, INJURY Kenaxleung, ZOEE and Jaycow. The show was presented by Fashion Farm Foundation and organised jointly by the Hong Kong Executives Club and the Chinese Community Centre.



Above: Even London's famous black cabs got in on the act, displaying our special 20th anniversary graphics on the capital's streets over the summer. Advertisements at **Heathrow Airport** also encouraged passengers to join in the 20th anniversary celebrations.

Right: Tables were set out on London's streets to offer people a traditional Poon Choi - a large bowl with the very best of Chinese cuisine, presented in layers. Poon Choi feasts are an important part of Hong Kong's traditional culture, held to mark important community occasions. Nearly a thousand people enjoyed the event in London's Chinatown.





Left: HKETO supported the PLAY! Hong Kong Comix Touring Exhibition at the Helsinki Comics Festival in Helsinki, Finland. Organised by the Hong Kong Arts Centre and Comix Home Base, the exhibition exhibited a diverse range of Hong Kong comic books, original drawings, videos and products, and charted the development of Hong Kong comics over the past 60 years.



Above: Titus Andronicus 2.0, a bold retelling of Shakespeare's play by Tang Shu-wing Theatre Studio, is brought to New Diorama Theatre in London. Kasper Ng (fourth left), Acting Director-General of HKETO, is pictured with actors and the production team.

#### ● ● ● Culture

# **Egyptian mummies come to Hong Kong**

A major exhibition in Hong Kong is showcasing six ancient Egyptian mummies and around 200 other priceless Egyptian objects from the British Museum.

The Eternal Life - Exploring Ancient Egypt exhibition at the Hong Kong Science Museum shows how archaeologists use the latest computerised scanning technology to discover the age and gender of mummified bodies and even learn about that person's dietary habits and state of health. The myths and symbols of ancient Egypt are brought to life through interactive displays, which also explore the

extraordinary technological innovations of that era.

The exhibition is jointly presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services
Department and the Trustees of the British Museum, and co-organised by the Hong Kong Science Museum and the British Museum, with sole sponsorship from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The exhibition runs until October 18.



Above: Canopic jars of Djedbastiuefankh from around 380 to 343 BC are among the priceless exhibits on show at the *Eternal Life – Exploring Ancient Egypt* exhibition.

### • • • Finance

# Bond market access

Investors in Mainland China and Hong Kong can now invest in each other's bond markets following the launch of Bond Connect in July. Bond Connect allows foreign investors to buy debt trading on China's interbank bond market directly through the Hong Kong exchange. In preparation for the new scheme, the People's Bank of China and Hong Kong Monetary Authority signed a

memorandum of understanding to strengthen supervisory co-operation. Northbound trading between Hong Kong and China began on July 3, with southbound trading between China and Hong Kong due to start at a later date.

Left: Hong Kong's central financial district.

### ● ● ● Food and health

# Food safety boost

Priscilla To, Director-General of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London, gave a presentation about food surveillance and risk management at the GoFood food safety conference in Lund, Sweden, recently.

The conference also celebrated the launch of the new Joint Centre of Excellence in Food Safety, founded by Lund University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Technical University of Denmark and the University of Bologna. The centre aims to advance the study of food safety.

Below: Ms To addresses the GoFood conference in Lund, Sweden.



#### • • • Economy

# Sweden Working Holiday Scheme

From next year up to 500 young people a year from Sweden will be allowed to spend 12 months in Hong Kong, and get jobs there to finance their stay. The same number of young people from Hong Kong will be given Swedish working visas.

Welcoming the Working Holiday Scheme, Stephen Sui, the then Secretary for Labour and Welfare, said it provided an opportunity for young people in Hong Kong and Sweden to "broaden their horizons and gain living and working experience in a foreign culture." The scheme is Hong Kong's 12th bilateral working holiday scheme. The others are with New Zealand, Australia,

Ireland, Germany, Japan, Canada, Korea, France, the United Kingdom, Austria and Hungary.

Right: Mr Sui, the then Secretary for Labour and Welfare, with Ann Linde, Minister for EU Affairs and Trade of Sweden, at the signing ceremony of the new Working Holiday



### ● ● Technology

# Focus on fintech

The second annual Fintech Week will take place at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 23-27 October, showcasing the city's unique qualities as a financial technology hub.

An array of international and Hong Kong fintech companies and start-ups will be there alongside accelerators, incubators and investors. Themes for the week include China and fintech, blockchain, and artificial intelligence and cybersecurity.

The event launches a series of three consecutive weeks highlighting Hong Kong's advantages for fintech businesses. Fintech and U (30 October to 3 November) will focus on fintech in education and Hong Kong's burgeoning fintech talent pool, while FinovateAsia 2017 (7-8 November) will see fast-paced competitive pitching to an audience of investors, entrepreneurs and service providers.

• • • Economy

# Guangdong, Hong Kong, Macao

Hong Kong is set to play a key role in developing the Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Bay Area, under the terms of a new agreement signed in July.



Above: Mrs Lam pictured with Hu Chunhua, Secretary of the CPC Guangdong Provincial Committee at Government House.

Guangdong, China's most economically advanced province, neighbours both Macao and Hong Kong. The three places have a combined population of 67 million (more than one third larger than the Tokyo bay area) and a GDP of \$1.3 trillion. Major infrastructure projects such as the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link will further boost collaboration between the three places.

The new agreement to deepen Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao cooperation recognises Hong Kong's unique role in developing the Bay Area due to its

position as an international financial, transport and trade centre and global offshore Renminbi business hub. "The agreement sets a clear direction for the joint development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area and signifies a milestone in the work on the development plan for area," said Carrie Lam, Hong Kong's Chief Executive.

The Hong Kong government will now work with the governments in Guangdong and Macao to continue working towards a "world-class city cluster". This will boost not only the wider Pearl River Delta region but the whole of central-south and south-western China. The Chinese government's National 13th Five-Year Plan, launched in March 2016, recognises Hong Kong's unique role in helping to develop the whole Chinese economy and open it up to other countries.



Above: Signing ceremony for the Framework Agreement on Deepening Guang-dong-Hong Kong-Macao Cooperation in the Development of the Bay Area.



Above: Hong Kong has been judged the most competitive of 63 developed economies.

Economy

# World's most competitive economy

Hong Kong has been named the world's most competitive economy for the second year in a row by the International Institute for Management Development World Competitiveness Yearbook 2017.

It was ranked top for government efficiency and business efficiency and came first overall too, followed by Switzerland, Singapore and the US. Hong Kong returned to the top spot in 2016 and maintained its position this year despite lower than expected economic growth.

Welcoming the award, Paul Chan, Financial Secretary, said it was a "clear recognition of our steadfast fiscal discipline, as well as the incessant effort we put into building a favourable business environment and a robust financial system." The report assesses 63 economies to measure their economic performance, government efficiency, business efficiency and infrastructure.

● ● ● Finance

# Bigger Renminbi quota

The Chinese government has increased the amount that foreign investors can invest in Mainland China's bond and equity markets through Hong Kong.

The Renminbi Qualified Foreign Institutional Investor (RQFII) programme was launched in 2011 to make it easier for foreign institutions to invest in China. Hong Kong's quota under the programme has increased from RMB270 billion to RMB500 billion, it was announced by the People's Bank of China in July.

"Hong Kong's RQFII quota remains the largest in the world and this highlights our important role as an intermediary to facilitate overseas investors' participation in the Mainland financial markets," said Norman Chan, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority.

#### • Culture

# London dragon boats

Thousands of people flocked to London's Docklands in June for the annual London Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival, which helps to raise money for the capital's Chinese charities.

Sponsored by HKETO to mark the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to China, the races saw more than 40 dragon boat teams take to the water, representing the community, businesses, public organisations and charities.

Since the first international dragon boat festival in Hong Kong three decades ago, the races have developed into a truly global event, with the London event being the largest outside of Hong Kong. Visitors also enjoyed dragon dances, live music, martial arts and tai chi demonstrations, and a food festival featuring traditional Asian food.

"Dragon boat racing is emblematic of the strength, energy and competitiveness that Hong Kong is renowned for," said Priscilla To, Director-General of HKETO, speaking at the opening ceremony.

#### ● ● Education

# **Hong Kong summer** schools for UK students

Five gifted sixth-form students from the UK spent the summer at Hong Kong universities after winning a competition organised by HKETO.



The competition, now in its sixth year, invited students to create a 48-hour travel itinerary for young travellers visiting Hong Kong, to demonstrate Hong Kong's attractiveness as a tourist destination. Entries included essays, booklets, websites, Instagram pages, blogs and YouTube videos, and were judged based on content, creativity and presentation.

The five winners each spent the summer at a Hong Kong university, where they also had a chance to experience a taste of the city's world-class university life, as well as Hong Kong's cosmopolitan lifestyle and unique culture.

The competition aims to encourage UK students to pursue their studies in Hong Kong, which has three universities in the latest QS World University Rankings top 50.

Above: Winning students in the "Hong Kong: A dream vacation destination for youth travellers!" pictured with competition judges and sponsors.



Sport

## **Liverpool lift Premier League** Asia trophy

Hong Kong soccer fans enjoyed cheering on four English Premier League football clubs as they competed for the Premier League Asia Trophy at the Hong Kong Stadium on July 19.

Tens of thousands watched Liverpool, Leicester City, Crystal Palace and West Bromwich Albion try to win the important pre-season tournament. which is organised in Asia by the English Premier League every two years. Liverpool lifted the trophy after beating Leicester City 2-1 in the final.



Above: Liverpool (orange shirts) in action against Crystal Palace



Above: Hong Kong fans support Liverpool, winners of the Premier League Asia Trophy 2017.

## 20 years of Hong Kong movies

HKETO will be promoting the achievements of Hong Kong's film industry in the "Creative Visions: Hong Kong Cinema 1997-2017" film festival series. Starting in Moscow in early September and going on to Manchester and London, the "Creative Visions" programme features specially curated Hong Kong films produced during the past 20 years. The series is organised by the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society and sponsored by Create Hong Kong. It forms part of HKETO's programme of events to mark the 20th Anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

September to October Creative Visions: Hong Kong Cinema 1997 – 2017 Screenings in Moscow, Russia (5-10 September); Manchester (17 Oct-2 Nov) and London (November, to be confirmed), UK

Wed 20 September 2017 Hong Kong Trade **Development Council** Annual Dinner, London, UK

Thurs 21 September 2017 Think Asia, Think Hong Kong symposium and seminars in London, UK

Thurs 21 September 2017 Intangible Cultural Heritage: Mid-Autumn Tranquillity cultural event, London, UK

Thurs 9 November 2017 Resounding Bauhinia concert by Hong Kong musicians based in London. London, UK

Sat 11 November 2017 Hong Kong's entry to the Lord Mayor's Show, London, UK

#### Wed 15 to Sat 25 November 2017

Intangible Cultural Heritage Exhibition exploring Hong Kong's rich folk culture London, UK

November 2017 (dates to be confirmed) Business seminars in Glasgow and Newcastle, UK

Wed 21 February 2018 Chinese New Year reception in London, UK



hketolondonuk



@HKinLondon @InvestHK LDN



hketolondon.gov hkinvesthk.gov.hk





