

**Hong Kong Natural History Society**  
**June 2015 Boat Outing to Crescent Island**

23 members gathered at Ma Liu Shui Public Pier, got on to Mr. Li's launch boat and set off on time to Crescent Island. The weather was fine and sunny, but as forecasted, there were occasional drizzles on the day. The boat took the usual route along Plover Cove Country Park through Chak Mun Channel.

To welcome our new member, we took a detour to Port Island. Although the Society visited this geo-park on our previous trip the year before, we took the opportunity to see again some of the oldest rocks in Hong Kong. We stopped nearby to the famous "Ghost Hand" and the "Group of Rats" – formed mainly by sedimentary rocks over millions of years.



We arrived at Crescent Island at about 11:30. Mr. Li took a group of members to the beach with his motor boat. Some members decided to swim to the beach. Not quite a private beach all to ourselves, there were two other groups who looked like family outings with big canopies stretched out on the beach. A few members stayed on board to relax or swam around the boat.





After most members took their lunch on board, at about 2:00 pm, Mr. Li took some of them in his small boat along the shore for coral-viewing. The coral community stretches along the shore from both sides of the beach. (He told us to remind him to bring his glass-bottom coral-viewer for clearer viewing next time). Members felted delighted about the trip, while swimmers reported seeing clearly the species of Brain Coral. Swimmers were also happy to find “Nemo” swimming amongst the reefs, and also mentioned seeing the clown fish with its black and yellow stripes.



We left Crescent Island at about 3:30 and everyone declared they had had a wonderful day, whether relaxing on board, swimming around or taking a coral-viewing tour. Members expressed their wish to join another boat trip in the coming months!

*Reported and photos by Mak Wei Ming*