

Hong Kong Natural History Society

February 2010 Outing Report on Hoi Ha, Sai Kung West Country Park

It was a mild and greyish day, a bit humid but fine for hiking. 12 members enrolled and 9 members turned up to take part on the day.



The coach took us right through to Hoi Ha Road with a permit where we started with the Tai Tan Country Trail near Hau Tong Kai. We arrived at the coast near Tai Tan. We then followed the coastline trail and came to the first break at a beach at about 12:00 noon. Here, we found traces of corals washed

ashore and a huge plant with big fruits like pineapples [pandanus utilis, aka common screwpine, although actually a tropical tree and not a pine]. After tea and coffee, we moved on along the trail. It was very scenic on the way, overlooking Ko Lau Wan and Grass Island on our right. The water near the shore was crystal clear.



We soon arrived near Lan Lo Au and came to a picnic area in a campsite in Wan Tsai Peninsula. We chatted and took a half-an-hour break. Then, we walked around the nature trail and found information about the various on-going programmes of afforestation and preservation of the plant species and coral community. After passing by the Marine Centre, we stopped to look at an



industrial lime kiln which stopped its production after World War II. Here, some members took time to argue over the mis-print and grammatical errors on the introductory sign board near the kiln. We arrived at Hoi Ha and had a drink in the open area of a village store. The coach picked us up at about 4:30 and we got back to Central at 5:30.

Though it turned out to be a small group family hike, it was an enjoyable walk not to be missed by all!

Written by Mak Wei Ming, Photos by Pat Ma