

## Hong Kong Natural History Society

### May 2010 Boat Trip Outing to Tung Lung Chau and Po Toi Island



It was a peace of mind that we did not have to turn away any friends or members who came to join us at the last minute on the day. We set off to the islands with 40 people on board – the absolute limit on what the boat can take!

We arrived at Tung Lung Chau at about 11:00. With maps distributed earlier, everyone knew where to choose among the two major sites – the ancient rock carving or the Tung Lung Fort on the island. Two groups went different ways in opposite directions, but somehow the very fast ambitious ones managed to visit both sites within one and a half hours. The trail to the Fort was very well-paved and easy to walk on. With the Twelve-stamened Melastoma (*Melastoma dodecandrum*) sprawling along the hill, the blossoms mat the sides of our path like a brocaded wall-hanging. We also found a big bush with many butterflies of different species on the way. Soon, we came to a stone cottage and most of us went into this centre to read about the historical information of the Fort and excavation on the island.





Near 12:30, we got back to the boat and set off for Po Toi. When we came to Tai Wan near the pier, there were about 20 junks there! We had about an hour to walk around and when we got to Ming Kee, it was fully packed with customers. It was no good even to book a week ahead for 3 tables by the seaside!!! Despite the chaos in the crowd, we managed to grab some seats in an airy space close enough to the beach. The fried squid and yummy clams with cold beer proved why this restaurant was so jam-packed. We left Po Toi at 4:30. The junk was actually riding in big waves with 40 passengers + 3 boatmen on board. Due to the strong easterly wind, we entered from the west side to Victoria Harbour of Hong Kong Island. We did not arrive at Central until 6:45 pm.

All in all, it was a great day enjoyed by everyone!

Written by Mak Wei Ming

Photos taken by our guest, Adrienne Yau