

**Hong Kong Natural History Society**  
**April 2019 Outing Report on Hike to Lantau Country Trail**

Although with amber rainstorm the day before, 19 members arrived at the starting point of the hike at Section 9 Lantau Country Trail. First, we saw cows and egrets resting in harmony on the slope of Shek Pik Dam before we gathered around to pay attention in a briefing on the arrangements of the day. Members were reminded of the re-grouping points at Tung Wan and Lo Kei Wan. They were introduced to 'iNaturalist' – an App which shares information and gives identification of plants and creatures found. Nobody took the option of heading to see the Ancient Carving. Therefore, we stayed in one group and soon arrived at Tung Wan before turning to the ascent with a flight of stairs.



*Five Dot Sergeant*  
*(Limenitis sulphita)*



*Orange Magpie Moth*  
*(Obeidia tigrata)*



*Lantern Fly*  
*(Pyrops candelaria)*

Members were fit and well, ascending slowly at their own pace. It was at the section after the trail levelled off that we observed moths (seeing hundreds of Orange Magpie Moths), wild mushrooms, Lantern Bugs and butterflies of different species. We also met a tagged lonely cow resting on the trail while we all tried to get past without disturbing him. After passing Shek Lam Chau, we had spectacular sea views overlooking Soko Islands with Sham Hang Lek peak at the back from a distance. Rose Myrtle was blooming, greeting us on both sides of the trail. We sat down for a coffee break along the cliff edge under the sun!



*Soko Islands*



*Rose Myrtle*  
*(Rhodomyrtus tomentosa)*



*Tiger-Striped Wasp*  
*Moth (Amata polymita)*

Luckily, part of the trail was shady enough for members to make frequent halts for observation on natural habitats. After the descent on big boulders, we arrived at Lo Kei Wan campsite and beach. Some members joyfully waded through the water while others caught the maritime soothing breeze on “chairs” – large roots exposed by erosion of strong wind on sand. Many more butterflies were observed at Lo Kei Wan with members claiming to see huge fungus and hundreds of tadpoles in a pond.



The 20-minute ascent in steps to Shui Hau became challenging as some of our members felt a bit tired towards the end of the journey. Lunch was ready when we arrived at the café. We had ice cold beer served in pre-chilled glasses! The simple lunch with a very tasty curry was very enjoyable! Members gave positive comments, claimed having observed much natural habitat on the day.



*No disturbance!*

*Engaged in  
observation*

*Catching the sea breeze at Lo Kei Wan*

*Text Mak Wei Ming  
Photos Mak Wei Ming and Kim Chai*