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Wetland Park

Hong Kong Wetland Park Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Hong Kong SAR Government

World Wetlands Day 2015 Hong Kong Celebration Programmes

1. Hong Kong Wetland Park (HKWP) is a world-class conservation, education and tourism facility with a theme on the functions and values of wetlands. With a vision to educate the general public and visitors from all parts of the world on wetland conservation, HKWP has developed a wide range of programmes in accordance with the Ramsar Convention's "Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)" programme to promote the sustainable use of wetland resources.
2. HKWP celebrates the World Wetlands Day (WWD) every year to deliver wetland conservation messages. The theme of WWD 2015 was "Wetlands for our Future". To echo with the theme, a series of fun-filled activities were organised since November 2014.
3. Details of the activities organised for the WWD 2015

3.1. *Thematic Activities on "Home for Birds"*

HKWP organised the winter highlight event Bird Watching Festival. With "Home for Birds" as the theme this year, the Festival introduced to visitors the interesting daily habits and living environments of birds in the Wetland Park through exhibitions and an array of edutainment activities.



3.2. *Public Lectures*

Speakers were invited to share with visitors about the home for birds in HKWP and bird calls in the following two public lectures:

- I. Wetland Park – Sweet Home for Birds
- II. Story of Bird Calls



3.3. Bird Watching Guided Tours

Situated next to the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site, HKWP attracts numerous winter birds migrating from the north. As an important habitat for birds and hotspot for bird watching, the Park has cumulatively recorded 251 bird species. From November 2014, regular bird watching guided tours



were organised for visitors every day. Visitors followed interpreters and volunteers on a journey of bird watching at the bird hides of the Park. Thousands of visitors participated in the tours; they were satisfied with the tours and gave positive feedbacks.

3.4. Thematic Interpretation Sessions on Birds

HKWP organised thematic interpretation sessions for visitors who were eager to learn more about the home for birds. Our speakers presented informative facts about the interesting daily habits of birds.



3.5. DIY Workshops

For those who have an artistic mind, DIY workshops were organised to allow visitors to learn about conservation messages by expressing their creativity. These workshops aimed to raise visitors' interest and enrich their knowledge of birds. Details are as follows:

Badge and Origami Workshops

In the joyful workshops, children learned about the features of birds with their creative painting. The origami and badge stations served over thousands of family visitors during the thematic period.



Bird Paper Quilling Classes

Participants in this workshop made use of simple tools and their creativity to make decorative designs of wetland birds out of ordinary paper strips. Participants handcrafted their own bird paper quilling artwork and brought their masterpieces home.



Binoculars Making Classes

Participants made their exquisite and functional binoculars with infinite creativity. At the same time, they learned about the basic principles of optics applied in binoculars and the tips for bird watching.



3.6. Thematic Exhibitions

Thematic Exhibition – “Home for Birds”

The exhibition introduced the daily lives of birds, their magnificent craftsmanship in architecture, and the way to integrate their living with humans. Visitors could even build their own nest to understand the life of birds.



Special Exhibition - The Flyway Print Exchange Exhibition (Hong Kong Station)

This exhibition was inspired by the “East Asian-Australasian Flyway” (EAAF). Twenty artists, from 9 countries that lie in the EAAF, created original prints in different media to celebrate the Flyway and raise awareness about the migratory waterbirds.



3.7. Wildlife Documentary: "Earthflight – Asia & Australia"

To extend the theme of migratory birds into our Visitor Centre in this festive season, we presented the BBC documentary "Earthflight - Asia & Australia" in our Theatre. In the documentary, the shooting team used fascinating filming techniques, in the bird's-eye view of two continents, Asia and Australia, to create the experience of flying with birds as they encounter natural barriers.



3.8. Photo Collection and Exhibition

"The Beauty of Birds" photo collection and exhibition activity was organised in the Park. Visitors could redeem a souvenir by submitting photographs of birds at the Visitor Centre. Outstanding entries were exhibited in the Park.



3.9. "Home for Birds" Orienteering Game

Four little birds had just moved into the Wetland Park, but they lost their way unfortunately. The orienteering game allowed participants to be Bird Ambassadors helping the birds to find their ways.



3.10. Wetland Classroom

Several sessions of "Wetland Classroom" were organised to provide opportunities for participants to learn more about bird watching, including skills in bird identification, introduction to field guides and use of equipment. Participants could select the beginners' class or intermediate class according to their experiences in bird watching.



3.11. Experiencing Waterbird Survey

Participants learned from our professional waterbird surveyors and joined them in waterbird surveys, assisting the Park to collect ecological data. Participants, who had completed the training workshop, contributed to the “2015 International Black-faced Spoonbill Census”.



3.12. The 15th Inter-school Bird Race

HKWP and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society co-organised the 15th Inter-school Bird Race. More than 170 participants in 35 teams joined the race. The event aimed to develop students' skills in bird identification and ecological surveys. The Park provided lectures, practical trainings and field trips for participating students prior to the Bird Race. During the 5-hour race, participants visited different wetland habitats at the Park



and its surrounding areas, including fishponds, tidal ponds, riverside, mangroves, mudflats and woodland to identify and take record of bird species.

3.13. World Wetlands Day 2015 Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony

As a highlight of the WWD celebrations, the Park organised the "World Wetlands Day 2015 Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony" on 31 January 2015. In the ceremony, prizes were awarded to the winners of competitions and volunteers who provided great support to the Park in the past year.



3.14. *World Wetlands Day 2015 Special Drama: The Butterfly Dream*

To celebrate the World Wetlands Day 2015, HKWP and Theatre Noir Foundation jointly presented a drama, "The Butterfly Dream". Dreamie, the main character of the story, took the audience along on her fascinating journey to the butterfly world.



4. More information on the activities celebrating WWD 2015 can be found on http://www.wetlandpark.gov.hk/en/education/Bird_Watching_Festival_2014.asp