



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

**World Wetlands Day 2017 Hong Kong Celebration Programmes**

1. Hong Kong Wetland Park (HKWP) is a world-class conservation, education and ecotourism 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, Capacity Building, 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 2017 was "Wetlands for Disaster Risk Reduction". To echo with the theme, a series of fun-filled activities were organised.
3. Details of the activities organised for the WWD 2017

*3.1. Thematic Activities on "Secrets in the World of Birds"*

HKWP organised the winter signature event Bird Watching Festival "Secrets in the World of Birds" this year. The Festival introduced to visitors the various interesting adaptive features and behaviours of birds through exhibitions and an array of edutainment activities.



*3.2. Public Lectures*

Speakers were invited to share with visitors about the interesting facts of birds and convey messages on wetland conservation in the following two public lectures:

- I. Secrets of Birds
- II. Secrets of Black-faced Spoonbill



### 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 259 bird species.



Regular bird watching guided tours were organised for visitors every day. Our interpreters and volunteers guided the visitors on a journey of bird watching at different habitats as well as the bird hides of the Park. Thousands of visitors participated and enjoyed in the tours.

### 3.4. Thematic Interpretation Sessions on Birds



HKWP organised thematic interpretation sessions for visitors who were eager to learn more about the unique skeleton system of birds. Our interpreters presented interesting facts about the skeleton system of birds, and visitors could also closely examine a specimen of the endangered Black-faced Spoonbill, as well as the feathers and nests of other bird species.



### 3.5. *DIY Workshops*

For those with 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.

#### Wetland “LEGO” Experience Class

In this experience class, participants made the Black-faced Spoonbill “Pei Pei” and Salt Water Crocodile “Pui Pui” LEGO miniatures under the instruction of professional LEGO tutors. Participants young and old thoroughly enjoyed the building process and learnt more about these endangered species.



#### Badge and Origami Workshops



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

Special editions of the origami and badges were also distributed during the Christmas and Chinese New Year holiday seasons to bring a festive atmosphere to the Park.



Children also committed to conserve and use wetlands wisely through making their unique WWD badges.

### Christmas Icing Sugar Decoration Class

In this festive workshop, in addition to learning about the importance of wetlands as habitats for wildlife, participants also learned to use icing to dress up Christmas cookies with their hearts and creativity.



### Chinese New Year Inking-painting Calendar Making Workshop



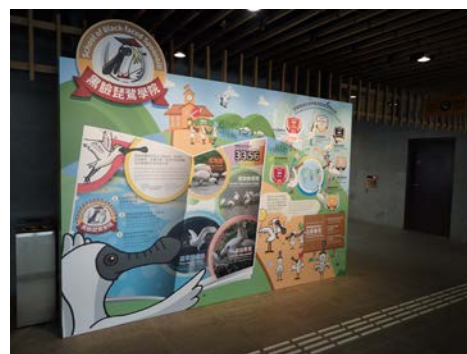
In this art workshop, participants learnt basic Chinese ink-painting techniques to draw wetland birds and create a personalised calendar card, symbolising the New Year of new opportunities and aspirations. Our interpreters also told participants some interesting facts of two elegant wetland bird species – Black-faced Spoonbill and Black-winged Stilt.

Participants both young and old were so excited to bring their own bird calendars home!

### *3.6. Thematic Exhibitions*

#### Thematic Exhibition – “The School of Black-faced Spoonbill”

The exhibition displayed the globally endangered species, and revealed how Black-faced Spoonbill can travel thousands of kilometers back-and-forth between the breeding ground in the north and the wintering ground in the south every year.



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

To extend the theme of migratory birds into our Visitor Centre, the Park 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

"Birds in Nature" 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. Wetland Classroom: Birds

The "Wetland Classroom: Birds" this season included "Waterbird Survey" and "Bird Study" elements. Participants could join different part(s) of the class according to their own interest.

### Waterbird Survey Beginners' Class

Participants learned and experienced collecting waterbird ecological data in the “Waterbird Survey Beginners' Class”. Participants who had completed the class were invited to join the “2017 International Black-faced Spoonbill Census” in January 2017, to contribute to frontline conservation work.



### Bird Study Intermediate Class

The “Bird Study Intermediate Class” was tailored for participants with some basic background in bird watching, and helped to hone their skills in bird identification in the field.



### *3.10. The 16<sup>th</sup> Inter-school Bird Race*

HKWP and the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS) jointly organised “The 16<sup>th</sup> Inter-school Bird Race”. Over 150 secondary school teachers and students from 31 teams joined the race. During the 4-hour race, participants visited different wetland habitats at the HKWP and Tsim Bei Tsui area, including fishponds, tidal ponds, riverside, mangroves, mudflat and woodland, and took record of bird species. The race helped promote bird-watching activities among schools and raise the awareness towards the conservation of birds and the environment.



4. More information on the activities celebrating WWD 2017 can be found on [http://www.wetlandpark.gov.hk/en/education/Bird\\_Watching\\_Festival\\_2016.asp](http://www.wetlandpark.gov.hk/en/education/Bird_Watching_Festival_2016.asp)