

Dear All,

On behalf of the BoL team, we would like to wish you good fortune and health in the Year of The Snake. We are pleased to up-date you through the BoL newsletter again with news of our latest work and progress of the past few months.

Archaeological Investigations

One of the most important part of our preparation for the BoL project is the archaeological investigations to make sure no area or item of archaeological value would be disturbed or damaged during the process of the development. The proposed works on lands owned by BoL are now completed at Mo Tat, Yung Shue Ha and Tung O. The investigations involved mainly hand dug trial pits and auger holes by a qualified archaeologist in strict compliance with government standards and guidelines. Great care had been taken to avoid any impact on local ecology. The final result will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment report.



One of the archaeological investigation sites

“Mile-a-minute weed” clean-up at Tung O & Mo Tat

If you ever hiked from Tung O to Mo Tat Wan, you should have passed by fields of Mile-a-minute weed. The plant is also known as Mikania micrantha (Mikania), a rapid spread of ‘sly’ tree climber that is spreading and devastating the ecology of Lamma Island and the rest of Hong Kong. Mikania flowers appear white when they are in full bloom, but it is the bane of natural environment. Like other climbers, Mikania has the habit of climbing up other plants to reach the canopy for better sunlight. Even worse, its leaves grow vigorously and will cover up other plants eventually causing damage by weighing down the tree branches or even killing other plants by cutting out the light for photosynthesis and smothering them in the end.



Before Clean-up

The volunteer team of the Baroque on Lamma and Agile Property Holdings Limited have organised a trial “Mikania Clean-up” on 26th January, 2013 at Tung O & Mo Tat. We now have a taste of how difficult it is to tackle these fast growing plants. However, we are determined to do something. We are planning to tackle these invasive plants along the footpath and gradually build up a campaign to cover larger areas with a larger volunteer team. If you are interested in joining us, please email to enquiry@bol-hk.com.



After Clean-up



First attempt for the volunteer team of the Baroque on Lamma and Agile Property Holdings Limited to organise a challenging Mikania clean-up day trip.

Pilot Project at Yung Shue Ha Old Village

Lamma Island has a long history of settlement which can be dated back to 3000 B.C. . We propose to undertake “pilot conservation project” in an old village site at Yung Shue Ha. It involves restoring 2 of the crumbled village buildings, using its original construction method, into a visitor center that displays settlement history of Lamma. The conservation architect has kick started the restoration works with topographic and tree surveys. Number tags were attached to trees at Yung Shue Ha Old Village for recording purposes. The conservation architect had also conducted interviews with the indigenous villagers who were born in Yung Shue Ha Village and witnessed the up-and-down of Southern Lamma.

Indeed, the ancestors of the indigenous villagers first settled in Aberdeen on Hong Kong Island. Then they moved to Yung Shue Ha about 200 years ago. This row of houses was part of the original village but was since abandoned when the villagers moved to the new Yung Shue Ha village site closer to the sea side. If you are interested in reading more stories of the Southern Lamma history, please stay tune for the up-coming website updates and the BoL newsletters.



Hundred-year-old traditional “Rooster bowls”



Undertaking tree survey at Yung Shue Ha Old Village



Pilot Project: 2 of the crumbled village buildings in Yung Shue Ha Old Village to be restored

**Yours Sincerely,
The Baroque on Lamma**