



View of Hongkong from Victoria Peak 2023 vs 1971

## Enjoying Hongkong 2023 once more!

11<sup>th</sup> Oct. to 23rd Nov. 2023

6 weeks intensive!

### Prologue

We had not visited Hongkong since 2017, for 6 years! An unusually long interval in the time ever since I landed for the 1st time in Hongkong in 1971, 52 years ago, when the British were still ruling the Colony with authority and no one then would even think of a possible take-over by China. As we know, this then happened 26 years later, in 1997. Now we are in 2023 and the British have gone 26 years ago, already! I am now almost 79 and I start to see sadly an end to our extensive traveling and so I wished to come this one more time to 'live' my dear Hongkong for a handsome 6 weeks, giving me time to remember the half century and retrace all the happenings and changes for taking home a rounded-up package of impressions supported by 1700 pictures and by the following illustrated diary as an aide-memoire for coming days! It may not have been the last time for me to visit Hongkong, but the last time I would be able to cope with such an intense and comprehensive program which was fortunately facilitated by Evi's (also our) friend Andrew, permitting us to stay 6 weeks in his comfortable apartment at the very convenient location near Fortress Hill at North Point! Thank you very much, dear Andrew!

### A few things about Hongkong (7.5 million inhabitants)

Beautiful and Fascinating City. There are not many large cities in the world combining such an attractive topography featuring the harbour, the bays, the islands and the hills/mountains with the combination of modern skylines while at street levels still preserving the traditional Hongkong-Chinese flair with all sorts of restaurants from simple noodle places to top class addresses, shops from few square meter size to huge shopping parks and traditional food markets. But what makes all that so attractive for a visitor is, that everything is easily reachable due to nearness and quality of public transports!

Evolution: The dramatic dynamic evolution starting in the latter 60s' still seems to be untamed and one does not notice any slow-down of building activity, although some people warn, that there are signs appearing for an approaching recession due to various local and geopolitical issues. With the introduction of the new Chinese security laws, the political discussions in public have ceased completely!

City Life: Hongkong is a modern City offering everything one could wish. The streets are clean, modern and there are clean public toilets everywhere available. The public transports like Tram (Ting Ting), Buses, MTR, Ferries are reliable and getting you everywhere! Food and shopping at every price level and food supermarkets like Welcome, 7-11 etc are everywhere at walking distance! People are generally nice and I have never feared any security problems myself.

### What I enjoyed most

Being there for 42 days and enjoying every single day, no matter what we did!

Walking through the busy streets, up and over the hills, along the harbour promenades.....

Main walks: Peak (twice), Lion Rock, North Point to Stanley, around Shing Moon Reservoir, Tung Chung to Tai'O, all of Cheung Chau Island (North), from North Point via Shau Kei Wan, Big Wave Bay to Shek'O.

Sitting on the top front of double-decker Trams and Buses enabling leisurely sightseeing! The Trams are very slow and stop at every red light and you can consider yourself walking on a balcony while sitting.

Peggy and I had Octopus Cards for seniors, so any ride on bus or ferry would cost us 2 HK\$, the tram 1HK\$ (0.12 CHF). We never took the MTR although we could also ride for 2 HK\$.

Eating all the good Chinese food but I rejoiced mostly the simple dishes e.g. Yau Zha Guai, Chow Mein, Won Tun Noodle Soups and of course the Dim Sum, especially the marinated Chicken Feet!

Meeting the Family: Joining them for doing things here and there, having meals together, especially at the upper floor of the Lockhart Market in Wanchai.

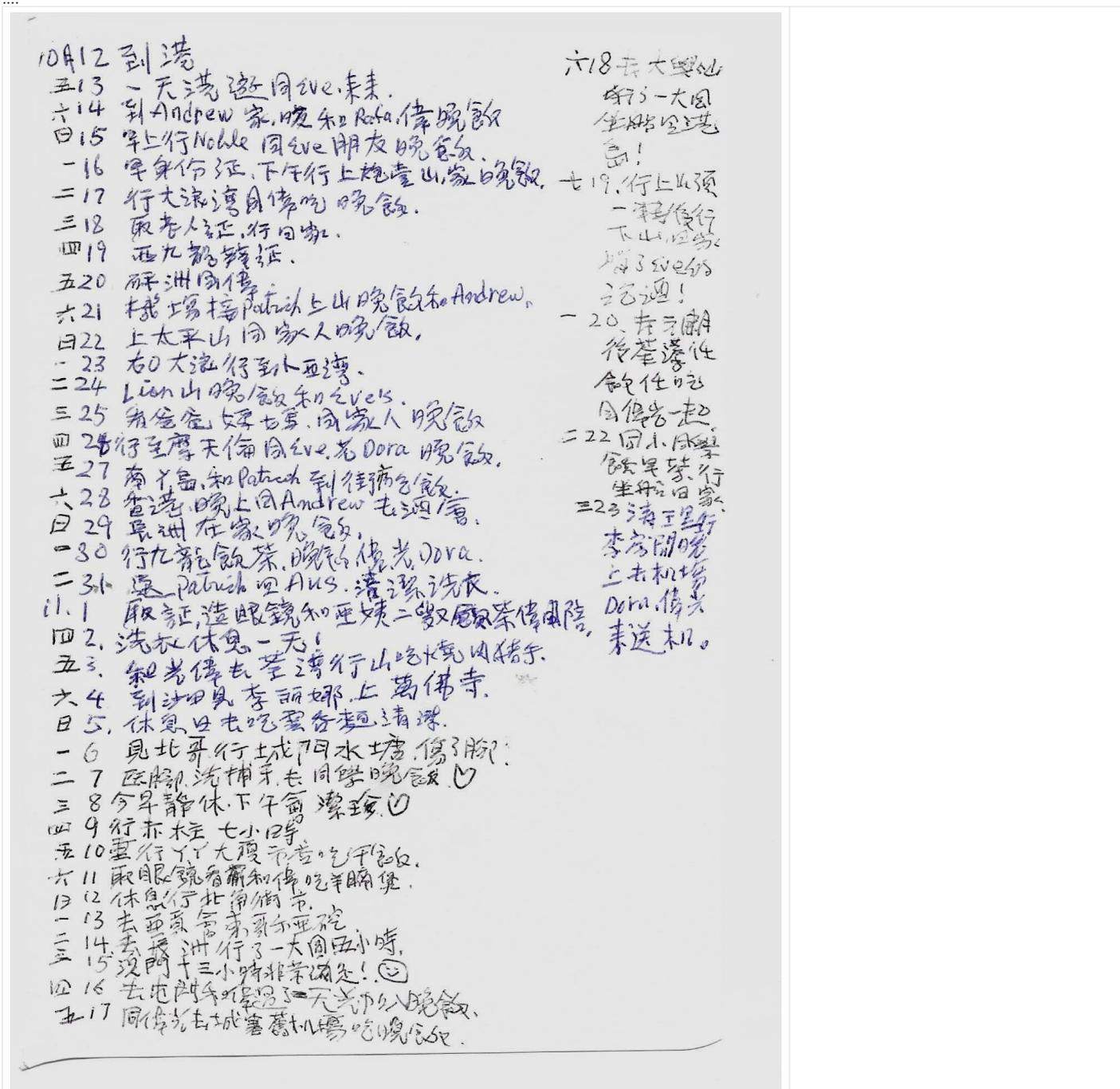
Excursions: First of all to Macao over the new bridge ...and many other outings mentioned in the diary....

**The Weather**

The most comfortable time to visit Hongkong is Autumn from mid-October to mid-December. By mid-October the temperature has lowered a bit and the dry season is gradually setting in and by start of December days may gradually start to feel cool.

Arriving on 13th October we experienced comfortable temperatures with 19-12° in the morning and 25-30° in the afternoon. We had some temporarily covered skies for the first 3 weeks alternating with sunny days with only 1 day with significant rain. The rest of the time till 22. Nov. was virtually beau fixe.

I often felt cold but only in the restaurants where air-conditioning is still blowing cold as if nobody had ever heard of energy savings.



Peggy's Diary

Now enjoy the Diary (Parts 1 & 2).....

## Diary Part 1: First 3 Weeks with Evi & Co and Padi (all Part-Time)

Sa, 30. Sep.      **Preliminary.....Evelyne and Loyloy in Hongkong**

Evelyne and Loyloy arrived at Hongkong and moved to a Airbnb-Apartment in High Street at Sai Ying Pun between Central and Kennedy Town.  
Rafa will join later on Sa,14. Oct.  
PS  
Evelyne, Rafa and Loyloy will leave on Fr, 27.Oct  
Patrick will join us in Hongkong on 21. Oct. and leave on 31. Oct.



Hongkong by Night

Wed/Thu, 11./12. Oct      **Our Trip to Hongkong**

Ipsach: Up at 5am at 6.02 Bähkli to Biel - 7.56 arr. Geneva Airport  
Qatar Airways: Dep 9.50, Duration 5h45, Arr. Doha at 16.35hrs (+1 CH)  
Transit at Doha Airport for 17 hours. Very long night with very little sleep and just hanging around the huge Terminal, even with an indoor Tropical Forest.....  
Doha Dep 8.25, Duration 8h10. Arr Hongkong International Airport 21.35 (+6 CH). At the exit we did not see Stemson & Dora who had unexpectedly come to collect us! What a shame! We did not really look around as we rushed for Bus E11 taking us to Honkong-side (Macao Terminal) to meet Evi and Loyloy along the Harbour Promenade to walk to High Street! Arrived at 0.30.



Tropical Forest in Doha

Fr, 13. Oct      **Enjoying 1st Day strolling to Wanchai**

Walked first around the Evi's area in Sai Ting Pun and then via the old Man Mo Temple to The Center Building (346m, 5th highest). Then had Coffee at a street stall. Later passed the Cathedral and the Governor's House and Loyloy had fun to run under the Fountain nearby! Then continued to Queen's Road (E) to Wanchai. After the passing the market we took the Tram (Ting Ting) back to Sheung Wan and had dinner in Queens Road (W). There Evelyne and Loyloy had fun with 2 little girls!



Walk up to High St. from 3rd



The Center Bldg

Sa, 14. Oct      **Peggy and I moved to Andrew's Apartment / Rafa arrived, Dinner at Sheung Wan Market**

Before Rafa arrived in the afternoon, we had Yam Cha with Evi and Loyloy. Then we walked along the Harbour Promenade to Kennedy Town. Later Peggy and I moved to Andrew at North Point. Once settled, we took Ting Ting to Central to meet Rocky at the Star Ferry at 6pm. After our Happy Reunion we walked to the Cooked Food Center at Sheung Wan Market to have dinner with Evi, Loyloy and Rafa .



Fitness & ...



Promenade at Sai Ying Pun



Dinner at Sheung Wan

Sun, 15. Oct      **With Noble, my preferred Breakfast, Evi's Friends**

Andrew took us for the morning walk with his dog, Noble, to the Victoria Harbour View Point. Then I had my first preferred breakfast, Chow Mein with Yau Zha Guai at a small noodle place (it became our favourite) near North Point Market. Note: just now set my Soni Camera to CH-Time (-6). Later we walked passing Causeway Bay to the Lockhart Market



Walk with Noble



My preferred Breakfast



Dinner with Evi's old Friends

in Wanchai for a beer, before joining Evi's old friends, Jenny & Co, for Dinner at the Yixin Restaurant in Hennessy Rd.

Mo, 16. Oct      **How can Peggy get new ID-Card? Walk to Braemer Hill Road (Evi & Co walked to Stanley!)**

Walk to Wanchai along the Harbour Promenade to Gov. Office to find out about how Peggy can get her new ID card (with much insisting she was given a Hot Line Nr). After that went to have 'Western Breakfast' at Lockhart Market: Toast & Fried Egg and Milk Coffee (for me no sugar!) Then we walked back to home and then continued up long stairs to Braemer Hill Road enjoying the view. Next we walked down to Shu Kuk Street (bought Wine at the 360° shop), before buying Take Away dinner from North Point Market to take home.



Walk to Wanchai



Stairs to..



Braemer Hill

Evelyne, Rafa and Loyloy undertook a long walk from Happy Valley, via Wong Nai Chung Gap and over the Violet Hill and Twin Peaks to Stanley!  
Evi did not ask us to join, as we (Peggy) appeared very preoccupied with ID-Card renewal etc activities. They confirmed that it was a very nice walk and Loyloy had no problem to do over 10 km walking on sinuous but scenic paths and stairs.



Happy Valley...  
10.42 km  
Elevation Gain 701 m



... over Hills...



... Stanley Village!



!!!

**Tue, 17. Oct Walk to Big Wave Bay & Shek'O and Dinner with Rocky at Lokhart Market**

We started around 9.30 to walk to Shau Kei Wan, partly along the Harbour Promenade, then continued to Chai Wan and up to scenic Cape Collision Road along the huge cemeteries. Above Siu Sai Wan we turned up to Pottinger Look-Out then over the hills to the attractive Big Wave Bay (arr. 14.00). After beer while watching people enjoying the big waves, we walked along the road to Shek'O Beach where I had never been before. Young Peggy did!



Sai Wan Ho



Cape Collision Road



Too Big Wave Bay



Watching People



Shek'O Beach



Lokhart Market

At 16.30 we returned by Bus to Shau Kei Wan. Then took Ting Ting to Lockhart Market for Dinner with Rocky. Again I very much enjoyed the slow Ting Ting ride through the 1000 lights of Wanchai & Causeway Bay home to North Point.

**Wed, 18. Oct Peggy gets a Seniority Card before we walk around with Umbrella!**

Walk to Causeway Bay for getting Peggy's Seniority Card. This card enables elderly people to obtain certain rebates or even gifts. During the 1h waiting time we went to Wanchai Market to have delicious Won Ton Noodle Soup! Then we walked around in the rain under Andrew's Umbrella. It was the only day with significant rain. Somewhere we had won ton noodles and eventually we decided to go home early. Evening at home with take away ... later Evi&Co came up quickly for a beer. (no photos of the whole day!)

**Thu, 19. Oct Missed meeting with Stemson. Instead Tonkin Street+ then applying ID Card at Cheung Sha Wan**

Walk to Causeway Bay to get bus 930x to Tsuen Wan to meet Stemson. After waiting for the bus for 1h\*, we gave up and took a Bus to Nathan Road instead. From there we walked to Cheung Sha Wan and had an Indian Lunch on the way. at a simple restaurant we had been before.

Of course we then made a nostalgic turn around Peggy's old home at Tonkin Street where now a new building is shooting up instead. (Old photo from Street View 2016). We then passed the Apliu Street area to reach the Gov. Office at Cheung Sha Wan Road where Peggy had an appointment to apply for her new ID card (Rocky had kept calling Hot-Line!). We then returned home by bus.  
\* We had not seen the notice (facing street), saying that the 930X service is temporarily suspended!



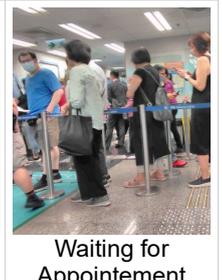
no 930x!



New Building replacing...



... Peggy's home (4fl) in the 1970s.



Waiting for Appointment

**Fr, 20. Oct Excursion to Ping Chau Island with Rocky**

We joined Rocky at the Ferry Pier to Ping Chau. Nice ride facing Peak under heavy sky. Peggy and I had been at Ping Chau Island once, in 1977, with Baby Patrick and Peggy's father. 1 year old, Patrick made his first steps, proud to be witnessed by Gong Gong!

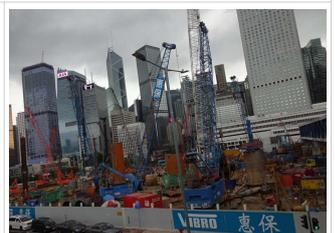
First we made a small walk on the front-side of the Island looking over to Lantau. After a 3-noodle-plates lunch we made another walk on the East Side with Hongkong in the distance. The weather was dry apart from a short shower. Then we took Ferry (2HK\$) back to Central and Ting Ting to North Point Market, where we bought 3 take-away boxes home.



3-Noodles Lunch



East Side of Island



Building Site at Central Pier

Sa, 21. **Collect Padi at Airport, late breakfast, walk to Braemer Hill Road, Welcome Dinner with Andrew**

Took bus E11 to Airport at 6am for collecting Padi, then E11a back to North Point. We enjoyed Yau Zha Guai wrapped in Cheung Fan, Chow Mein and Rice Congee before walking up to Braemer Hill Road View Point and back home.



Lantau Bridge



Breakfast



View from Braemer Hill Road



Rost Goose



MY NOODLES



Cava Olé!

In the evening we had dinner at Jupiter Street with Andrew, Evi, Rafa and Loyloy. Later, at Andrew's home, we degustated his top class Whisky collection (e.g. Bowmore 15y, Yamazaki 18y & also Padi's Tiger Snake Whisky from Australia) to conclude the evening! Padi stayed with us at Andrew's apartment!

Su, 22. Oct **Walk from Evi to Peak via Mid Levels and Pok Fu Lam. Family Dinner in Jupiter Street again!**

We (incl Padi) took Ting Ting to Evi at High Street. Then we all enjoyed the family walk via mid-levels and Pok Fu Lam Réservoir\* up to the Peak. After enjoying the great view, Evi, Rafa & Loyloy walked back down to High Street, Whereas Peggy, Padi and I took the bus on scenic roads down to Causeway Bay and then walked via Times Square back home. In the evening we had a family dinner at Jupiter Street. Mainly owing to Evi's intense lobbying, Toni, Rocky, Stemson and wives took the long ride over here to join us! Many thanks to Evi for the successful family event!



up ...



via Mid-Levels

to



Pok Fu Lam Res.



then up to the...



...Lugard Road on Peak...



....C'Bay



\* The Pok Fu Lam Reservoir for drinking water was the 1st reservoir in Hongkong, built in 1863 and extended in 1895.

Mo, 23. Oct **Ting Ting to Shek'O, walk to Big Wave Bay. Peggy & I walked to Siu Sai Wan and Bus Home.**

We took Ting Ting to Shau Kei Wan, then bus to Shek'O. Then walk to Big Wave Bay to meet Evi & Co. Peggy and I then walked to Siu Sai Wan to take bus to North Point Market for take aways to home. The others stayed for swimming and then had dinner somewhere on the way and went home by MTR.



Most relaxing on Earth!



To Shek'O



Big Wave Bay



To Siu Sai Wan



In MTR

**Tue, 24. Oct Climb Lion Rock, then walk long way to Star Ferry. Dinner with Evi & Co+ at Uigur Restaurant**

I absolutely wanted to climb once more to the Lion Rock! So we took Bus 106 to Wong Tai Sin and 1st had breakfast. Steep climb up to and across the 'very rocky' Lion Rock 495m. We were level with the tops of the highest HK-towers!  
 On the way down we saw several monkeys. Instead of turning to Shatin (like in 2017), we decided to walk down front and all the way to Star Ferry to meet Evi & Co. Then from Central Pier we still walked to Kennedy Town for a Xinjiang Uyghur dinner. Nice Ting Ting ride home and I was of course very tired from walking and I had been very happy to have used Rocky's stick.



Lion Rock... waiting to walk



Top - 495m! 1 Banana for 3 Old Man with Panorama (walking & standing) Lion's Head &... ... Face!



Hard Head on Lion's! 2 Monkeys Byebye! Meeting at Star Ferry Pier! HK-Side ..ending with Xinjiang Food

**Wed, 25. Oct Walk to Sai Wan Ho for Ferry to Lei Yue Mun. Walk up to visit Cong Cong's Grave-Yard. Then Ting Ting to Wanchai for Family Dinner at Lockhart Market!**

Patrick wanted to visit his Gong Gong's grave yard. So we walked along the Harbour Promenade to Sai Wan Ho to take the Ferry for nice ride to Lei Yue Moon. After passing the fish food street we visited the Tin Hau Temple, then walked up to the huge cemetery with the enormous Tombs Center Building.



Lei Yue Mun Ferry Tin Hau Temple Grave Yard with View Fish Street

Then we walked back to the Ferry to Sai Wan Ho and took Ting Ting to Wanchai for Dinner at Lockhart Market for another very enjoyable family gathering incl. Ga Yi and her husband!



Lei Yue Muen Ferry back to... Sai Wan Ho! Lovely Dinner at Lockhart Market

**Thu, 26. Oct Split Program: Padi, Evi & Co to Lantau Buddha, us walking to Big Wheel to meet them there!**

Padi went with Evi & Co for a trip to Lantau Island to walk from Shek Pik Reservoir up to the famous huge Buddha Statue and the Temple, where they met Stemson. They were then continuing to Mui Wo to take the ferry back to Central to meet us at the big wheel at 6pm.



Peggy and I took it easy and at 4pm we strolled along the harbour promenade to meet the others at the big Wheel. Then we all took an exciting ride high above the Harbour into Hongkong's night Skyline!



Strolling ...



... and enjoying ....



... Hongkong!



The Wheel



On the Wheel!



Padi saves Loyloy

Later we all had dinner at Sheung Wan with Stemsom and Dora, same place as 13th Oct, but in boring function room on 1st floor. (No photos available). After dinner Padi, Peggy and I went for a last beer to Evi at High Street. Byebye and then home by Ting Ting arriving at midnight!

Fr, 27. Oct

**Lamma Island / Evi to China & Rafa & Loyloy to CH left today**

Another Excursion with Padi who really enjoyed exploring Hongkong! Took Early bus to Aberdeen to take Ferry to Sok Kwu Wan at Lamma Island for Breakfast on a nice terrace. Then walked via Lo So Shing Beach, where Padi had a swim. On the way to Yung Shue Wan we stopped at Hung Shing Ye Beach to have a good moment in time with a beer and Padi had his Tau Cheung desert! At Yung Shue Wan we took the Ferry to Central. Walking through the Wanchai Park - and then yammy dinner at Lockhart Market. Later we did evening walk via very busy Times Square to home. I had bad tooth ache that night.



Arrive Sok Kwu Wan



Breakfast on Terrace



Lo So Shing Beach



A Moment in Time



Yau Yue



...Present?

Sa, 28. Oct

**Stroll through Wanchai and Central to the Hongkong Wine & Dine Festival with Andrew**

We were greeted by Noble! He is quite young, very lively and also very good natured and he looked very happy to see us and so were we! Then we walked via Causeway Bay to Wanchai Road to have our excellent Won Ton Soup. Then continued our stroll to enjoy going up and down with the outdoor lift at the Hopewell Center. Then continued via Governor's house and gardens to the Stairs Streets and had our pints of Draft Beer, before joining Andrew, who had invited us to visit and enjoy the very crowded Hongkong Wine and Dine Festival just beside the Wheel.



Noble



Hopewell Center.....



outdoor Lift



Old Shrine



Hoegarden



Hongkong's Wine & Dine Festival

Sun, 29 Oct

**Visit Cheung Chau**

We enjoyed Ting Ting again to take the nice Ferry ride to relax on Cheung Chau Island.



Old Court



To Cheung Chau



Cheung Chau



Yuk Hui T.



Along the Port .....



... back to Ferry

We just made a short stroll around the village and the port with a little stop at the Yuk Hui Temple and then went for Sea Food Lunch along the port - Time passed quickly and so we took Ferry back to Central at 17.30. Took Ting Ting to North Point Market for take away Dim Sum.

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Mo, 30 Oct

### Strolling through Kowloon for Padi to complete his Tour! Farewell Dinner with Family

Patrick wished for his last day to explore Kowloon Side. So we took a Bus to Nathan Road and had Yam Cha (incidentally we then noticed Michelin signs) with our favourite Dim Sums....



Yam Cha



Women Street



Beer&Noodles



at Temple Street



Hi Bruce!



Near Star Ferry

Then we strolled through Mongkok and the famous Women Street, then around Yau Ma Tei and had a Beer and Saho Fan at Temple Street, before making a loop via Tsim Sha Tsui East and the scenic Harbour Promenade to the Star Ferry for sailing to Wanchai. Then we walked along Harbour Promenade beside Victoria Park to join Padi's Fair-Well Dinner (Chinese/Thai Style) with Rocky, Stemson and Dora at Electric Road.



Wanchai



Harbour P.



Farewell Dinner Thai / Chinese

.....  
Tue 31. Oct

### Accompany Padi to the Airport

We joined Padi to the Airport on E11 bus and enjoyed this long last ride together. We arrived around mid-day and after Padi checked-in we separated with the usual heavy hearts. Then we took E11a, making even more loops at Tung Chung before heading back to Tin Hau Bus Station. Then went to buy yammy Take Away Rice Boxes to home. Before eating, Peggy cleared and cleaned the apartment.



Harbour Tunnel W.



Bye Padi

### End of Part 1

The first half of our visit to Hongkong is over! We were so happy to share our Honkong feelings with Evelyne, Loyloy & Padi. I tink even Rafa enjoys Hongkong's Chinese Tapas by now! It was remarkable how Padi felt like having missed out a lot of Hongkong in his young and even Baby-Days! He especially seemed keen to catch up the Hongkong-Side where he has spent 6 months beside the Victoria Park (1977: 4 months in Magnolia Mansion on 7th floor / 1979: 2 months with 1 year old Evi in the Plaza Hotel)

## Diary Part 2 (Padi and Evi&Co had left)

We had not much time to feel sad about our kids' departure. Part 2 for another 3 weeks shows that we continued being active in different ways and most of all, enjoying ourselves!

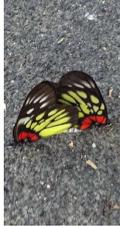
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Wed, 1. Nov.	<b>Day with Rocky: Get Peggy's new ID Card! Order Glasses, Yam Cha with Ah Yi!</b>		
<p>We met Rocky at Cheung Sha Wan Govt. Office for getting Peggy's new ID card. Then went to order new glasses for myself and Peggy before joining over 100 years old auntie Ah Yee for a good Yam Cha. We then walked to an old reservoir on Woh Chai Hill at Sham Shui Po but the entrance was closed. So we went back to Apliu Street to look for a new 8" Tab for me. I could not make up my mind yet.</p>	 Ah Yee over 100	 Ah Yee & Peggy 1972	 Peggy buys Nuts
<p>Bye to Rocky and we took the bus home and Dinner at home: Lo Bak Rings (raw), fried noodles and crisp dried fish skin...and beer of course!                  Note: Lo Bak / White carrots (Rettich) are very appreciated in Germany in Summer to be eaten raw with a beer. Lo Bak are also part of the basic food in Hongkong but always cooked in various ways e.g. Lo Bak Go, kind of fried cake cubes for Dim Sum.</p> <p>Besides: Evi today in Shanghai had met Rana, an old Uyghur friend from Urumchi (in 2001), whom Peggy and I have met there again in 2019!</p>		 Light Meal	 Evi & Rana

.....

Thu, 2. Nov.	<b>Resting &amp; hanging around</b>	
<p>First resting day. We sorted out our diaries, then walked to Victoria Harbour View Point and the close-by area (breakfast?) and then could not resist to buy some yammie-looking take-away rice box offerings (tongue, fish etc) and so had lunch at home with wine.                  Then I was resting on bed and listening to music while Peggy watched TV.                  What did we do in the evening?</p>	 Harbour View Pt.	 Comfortable Bedroom

.....

Fri, 3. Nov.	<b>Bus to Tsuen Wan to meet Rocky &amp; Stemson to walk along Tai Lam Catch Water. Roast Pork Dinner at Sham Shui Po.</b>					
<p>Bus to East-Tunnel Interchange to get Bus 930 to Tsuen Wan at D-Park near MTR. We met Rocky at Fairwood then walked with Rocky and Stemson up to the Tai Lam catch water which we followed until a Dead End after 5km and we had to turn back. Never mind, it was a nice view walk with nice view over to the bridges. Then took Bus from Allway Gardens to Tai Po road in Sham Shui Po to enjoy roast pig and a hot pot with succulent fish head yielding a heavenly taste when sucked accompanied with aubergine! Then Bus home.</p>						
 ICC 484m	 Tai Lam Catch Water	 View to 2 big Bridges	 Nature	 Rost Pork ...	 ...Hack & Steak...	 and Fish Head

.....

Sat, 4. Nov.	<b>Bus to Shatin to meet 'Lila' for Yam Cha. Walk up to 10'000 Budha Temple and down Monks Way!</b>
<p>We took Bus 170 from behind Tin Hau bus station to Shatin MTR to meet Peggy's old friend 'Lila'. Had lovely Dim Sum where I, for first time in my life, saw a robot, autonomously taking back used plates all the way through the large restaurant to the kitchen. Then went for a stroll along river. Later Peggy and I walked up to the Temple of 10'000 Buddhas, also offering nice views! Then slendered down the Monks' Way, admiring dozens of monk figures of all types of characters, which I found very entertaining.... Had a nice beer before taking bus 170 bus home again.</p>	



Rinsing Dishes    Fish Skin & Fung Zhao    Robot for clearing    Shatin    10'000    Buddha...    ...Temple    Monks Way

**Sun, 5. Nov.    Hanging around Wanchai, Causeway Bay and North Point and just enjoying atmosphere!**

Took it easy, then walked to Wanchai market for a delicious won ton noodle soup. Stroll to Exhibition Centre, looking for the stop of bus 930 for tomorrow. Then walked on to Causeway Bay shops and home through Victoria Park. After shower went for a nice take away again. I sometimes also enjoyed to eat relaxed at home with wine as I pleased. There are churches of different kinds all over Hongkong and some are even perched on top of High Rises!



Best Won Tun Noodles    Many Churches, some on roof-top

**Mon, 6. Nov    Bus to Tsuen Wan for Yam Cha with Elder Brother, then walk around Shing Mun Reservoir**

Walk along Harbour Promenade to Exhibition Centre for Bus 930 to Tsuen Wan. We met Rock at the Panda Hotel to go to Yam Cha with Elder brother and Stemson up above Kwai Fong (Shek Yam area). After 1pm we walked on a small path through the bush leading up to the dam of the Shing Mun Reservoir and then along the winding path around the big lake. At the main entrance rest area somebody gave Peggy a fruit which I had never seen before! We then walked down to Tsuen Wan along the road and then across town to the D-Park Shopping centre, arriving 18.20, to take Bus back to Causeway Bay.



Yam Cha w. Elder Brother    At the Shing Mun Dam    Nice Trail    Tai Mo Shan    given Fruit

Note:  
In the evening Peggy had serious pains in her right knee after having twisted it during the walk around the lake!

**Tue, 7. Nov.    The Knee hurts but nothing damaged! Just as well at the Day of Peggy's School Meeting!**

Peggy's knee problems persisting, I went to get Yau Zha Guai and Chow Mein for breakfast and later wine and beer...otherwise we just were hanging around interminably, until we left to see a dentist (for checking and cleaning Peggy's teeth) and then a medical doctor have a look at Peggy's knee. He gave her pills and ordered a rest! At 5pm we went to take bus to Kowloon/Prince Edward to join Peggy's class meeting at 7pm (we arr 6.30, the last at 7!). 13 of 14 school mates could make it, also including Toni! I made the round 14. It was a lovely evening with 12 nice courses, which I could fully enjoy as I was not being distracted by conversations in Cantonese;-) . The party split gradually before 9pm. We got home at 11pm.



The evening starts ....    ... (air cond.)    Suckling Pig    Roast Goose    The End and all are present and happy!

**Wed, 8. Nov.    Trying to find 8" Tabs. Yamm Cha with Peggy's Piano Cousin (Hill Road near University)**

I walked alone to Causeway Bay to find a shop for a new 8" Tab (with SIM). As I did not find any such Tabs, I asked at a Fortress Electronics Store and they told me to go to the Wanchai Hi-Tech Center beside the MTR Station. Instead I went back home. We left at 12.30 by Ting Ting to Hill Road close to University MTR (B2) to meet Piano Cousin (who is piano teacher) at 1.30pm. We had excellent Dim Sum and made a short visit to her home ... Then strolled along the water front for a while. Finally we left by Ting Ting and then got Take Away for relaxed dinner at home again..!



Meeting... ..,Piano Cousin Hill Road (at MTR) Lovely Yam Cha..... ..... & Chatting Rice Box Buffet

PS Tanks to the medications Peggy's knee had felt much better today! And Peggy had some plan for tomorrow...

**Thu, 9. Nov. Will the Knee hold on? Walk to Stanley from North Point over Violet Hill and Twins Peaks! It did!**

Defying all counsel regarding her knee, Peggy was determined to make the XXL-Walk to Stanley! We started with walking to our noodle breakfast place, before heading up to Braemer Hill Road for joining a trail to Jardin's Lookout. 1st knee test walking down towards Wong Nei Chung Gap. That went ok, so we decided to do the full walk to Stanley up over Violet Hill, then steep down and steep up over the Twins and steep down to the end of Wilson Trail above Stanley. Instead of walking on the road we took an awful shortcut to Stanley Plaza! We then really enjoyed the beers at the port promenade beside the water.



My Standard + Sticky Rice



Up to Jardine's Look- Out.



Up to Violet Hill Up to Twin Peak .. and down... .. to Stanley Stanly Port Stanly Village on the Bus

Walking through Stanley Market and nice bus ride to Causeway Bay. Walking back and buying Take away home. We had been 7h on the feet... and Peggy's knee was still ok!!

**Fri, 10. Nov Taking it easy today! Nostalgic excursion with Nr 23 Bus to see my Home of 1972: YY-Mansion!**

We deserved a resting Day. So we just took Bus 23, just outside, heading to Pokfield Road to visit the YY-Mansions, 96, Pok Fu Lam Road, where I had lived on 10th floor with Cliff and Doreen Gardner (& baby Jason, borne in April) for an 8 exciting months in 1971/72. YY-Mansion is still there but beside there is now a Tunnel Entrance leading down to Kennedy Town and just beside a leisure park. We then walked back to and through the huge University MTR-Station with long tunnels providing pedestrian access from 5 distant sites. We chose B1 ending up near Des Vœux Road to take Ting Ting to Wanchai for the Computer Center and saw that the Samsung Galaxy Tab A7 Lite would be cheaper in Apliu Street. Already there, we just crossed the road and had light lunch at Lockhart Market. We then walked back home. Later I went alone to North Point Market to bring 3 take aways from another place back home.



1972 YY-Mansion 2023 Trees & new Rd 1972 YY-Mansions from Pok Fu Lam Road 2023 Trees have grown. YY-Mansion MTR University Tunnel System Lockhart Market Lunch: Saho Fan+

**1971/72 YY-Mansions 10th Floor ----- Retro to 1971/72**



Doreen Cooking (well) Cliff listening to his Music The Lounge Eating Hall Playing badly



View to University

to Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan

to Cheung Chau

Socializing with Jenkins'

New: Jason

... and Peggy

**Sat, 11. Nov Today Bao Pan! Our Glasses, my 8"Tab, Beautiful Garden, Lamb Hot Pot and Fun 'before' Bed!**

Bus to Sham Shui Po. Then went for Cheung Fan at the most popular place before meeting Rocky at the glasses shop to collect our glasses. Then continued to Apliu Street to buy my new Samsung A7-lite tab with a cover and screen protection. As rain was threatening, we took a Bus to the beautiful Nan Lian Garden with a Golden Pagoda surrounded by a Pond and many beautiful rocks. Also visited the Nunnery and the Temple. Then Rocky joined us to Causeway Bay and then we walked to Lockhart Market for a lamb hot pot! Got home by Ting Ting at 9pm and joined-in with Andrew's friends. Bed at 0.45. A truly full and successful day!



Cheung Fan

Golden Pagoda..

at Nan Lian....

...Garden

Lamb Hot Pot at...

Lockhart Market

Andrew's Friend

**Sun. 12. Nov Resting and a little bit of exploring North Point**

.. I had a bit of a hangover and/or lack of sleep...  
 We just roamed around in North Point to find something for lunch at home and we found yet another place with new yammy choices for Take Away and took 2 rice boxes, each with helping from 2 different plates. Peggy then shared them out such that we both had 4 choices each! Then we did some resting....  
 In the early evening I went to buy Egg Tarts and Chow Mein for dinner.



As we bought it

.... and then shared!

**Mon, 13. Nov Meeting Toni and Ah Yuen for Lunch at Sai Kung**

At last Peggy and Toni managed to arrange for Meeting today: Lunch at Sai Kung. Ok for me!  
 At 9.00 we took bus 671 to Diamond Hill, then with bus 92 we had a very nice ride to Sai Kung. At 10.45 we started strolling around the seafront till 12.30 to meet them at the bus terminal. Went for noodles and vegi lunch then sitting at promenade with beer from '7-11' till 4pm. Toni and Ah Yuen decided to join us on Wednesday to go to Macao. Then we took same buses back home and arrived at 6pm. Don't remember what we did for dinner.



Bus to Sai Kung (~Niesen)

Sai Kung Port

Simple Lunch

Beer & View to...

.... Port, then byebye!

**Tue, 14. Nov Visiting Cheug Chau with Walk around the South Part of the Island. Seafood Meal at Port.**

Early Ting Ting to ferry for Cheung Chau. We just missed the ordinary boat, so we took the fast one for once and arrived at 11.15. We walked over the ridge to Sai Wan (West) via Nam Tam Tin Hau and Peak Road to visit the Cheung Po Tsai Cave\* at 1pm. On the way back we took the adventure path down to Po You Bay with big bolders and had to do a little climbing to the other side passing Reclining Rock to reach Peak Road again at the cemetery.  
 \*Cheung Po Tsai was a pirate in early 19th century, a historical figure, giving the Portuguese in Macao lots of trouble!



Sai Ean Tin Hau    Cheung Po Tsa Cave    Through holes...    ....and gaps...    ....to Po You Bay...    with Bolders to....    .....cross!

Then back to continue around to the Little Great Wall to look at the various named rocks and get back to the village. Next we crossed it to end up at the last restaurant at the port front at 3.30 pm (we had been there with Patrick on 29. Oct.). We had a delicious seafood meal with nice view till sunset at 5.30pm. We took Ferry back at 18.15 and enjoyed splendid scenery of Central by Night. Home by Ting Ting at 20.15 (Beer & Bed).



Jade Seal Rock    Dog Rock    Elephant Rock    Beer Reserve (Skol)    Seafood Dinner with    view to and over the Port

**Wed, 15. Nov    Visit Macao over the new Bridge over the Pearl River**

Macao Day! Toni's had cancelled ... sad, but we tried to make the best of it: WALKING & WALKING! We took E11 bus to bus interchange at Lantau for bus to Macau/Zhuhai Immigration. Scenic 30km bus ride on the bridge over the Pearl River Estuary, with an undersea tunnel (6km) and the high Qingzhou Bridge (1km). We reached Macau immigration at 10.30, then took local bus 101x and got off near Sofitel Hotel/Casino at 11.30. We had simple lunch nearby (Saho Fan and Macau Curry Chicken). Then we visited the Barro area, starting at the Templo de A-Ma having given the name to Macao. Continued to the Pousada (in Fortress) and up the hill to a view point on Estrada La Penha.



To Macao 30km



Sofitel Hotel/Casino    Macao Curry Chicken    Street to Barro    Old Templo de Ama    View to South Macao    Macao Tower

Then turned back and after visiting the huge Lisboa Casino complex we continued through the historical centre starting with Largo do Seanado to the Ruins of Sé São Paulo. We then had to go back to the Casino for the bus back to Immigration (hop-on 17.15).

Back in Hongkong, the Tung Chung bus started at 19.00 but we changed to E11 at cable car station at 19.15. Got home after 9pm just getting rests from take away shop for dinner. We were hungry and tired!



Casino Tower    Casino Lisboa    Peggy on Escalator    Largo do Senado    Sé São Paulo    Fortaleza do Monte

**Thu, 16. Nov    Visit Rocky at Tuen Mun: Indian Lunch and Rocky cooking for Dinner!**

Short term decision at 10am: Go out to Bus 652 to Tuen Mun for an Indian Lunch with Rocky. Then Rocky took us around to the Market to do shopping for Dinner at his home. We had crabs, prawns, Fu Gua vegetable, fried noodles with a Penfolds Bin 138. Very good that he had also invited Stemson to join! Yat Wah was there too, of course! It was already dark when we took bus 652 back to Causeway Bay!



**Fri, 17. Nov. With Rocky & Samson visiting Wong Tai Sin Temple, former Kowloon City, former Kai Tak Runway. Ferry to Wanchai for Dinner at Lockhart Market**

Bus to Kowloon to meet Rocky and Stemson at Diamond Hill Station. Then we visited Wong Tai Sin Temple and the former historical Kowloon Walled City, turned into a park in the mid-90s. Then walked to the 13 Streets Area & the former Slaughter House just beside. Took bus to Kwun Tong (snack at Fairwood) and walked to and around Kai Tak Ocean Terminal, walking on former runway amidst huge building sites. Then took Bus to Tsim Sha Tsui for Wanchai Ferry and walked to Lockhart Market for the last yammie common 4-course dinner. Of course Ting Ting to home. Had some beers with Andrew...Bed time after midnight!



**Sat, 18. Nov We love the Walk from Tung Chung to Tai 'O and so repeated it again! Ferry back from Mui Wo**

Bus E11 at 9.20 to Tung Lung Fire station at Tung Chung arr. 10.30. Walked along main road to the start of the Tai 'O Trail which we reaches at 11am. Last time, in 2017, we already saw the Macao Bridge, but then it was still under construction. When, 3 hours later we reached the entrance of Tai O, we decided to go across the river to first make a turn to the seaside of the island to reach the village via a the White Dolphins Lookout.

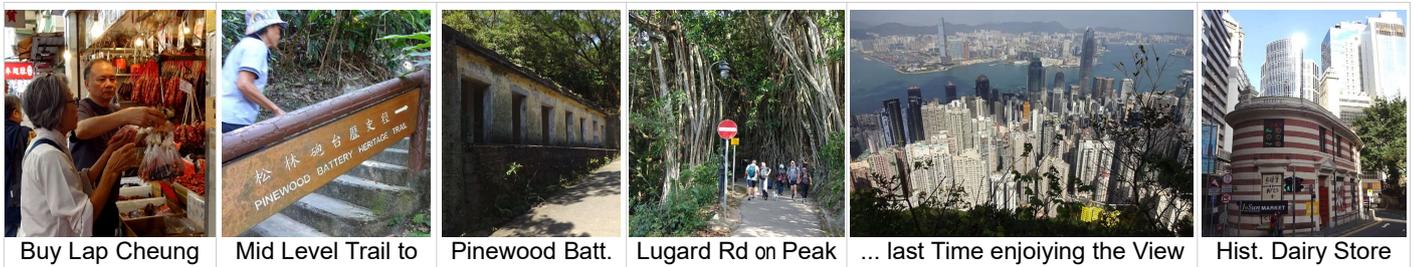


We got back into Tai O at 16.00 and decided to take next bus at 16.30 to Mui Wo (beside Silvermine Bay) for taking the Ferry to Central. Just got there on time to catch the 17.30 Ferry and so skipped dinner. Beautiful evening sky on the way into the lights of Hongkong. Took Ting Ting to North Point where we had 2 simple noodle dishes (without beer) before going home (for beer).



**Sun, 19. Nov. Walk via historical WWII Pinewood Battery to the Peak & back to Central**

First we had Won Tun Noodle Soup nearby. Then took Ting Ting to Centre Street and at 11am started walk up to the WW-II Pinewood Battery then via Hatton Road and the scenic Lugard Road to the Peak Station. This time we decided to walk down to Central where at Lower Albert Road we passed beside a historical Dairy Farm Store from 1892. At 3pm we took the Ting Ting to North Point Market for diverse take aways. Got back home at 16.30. Apéro/dinner with the Prosecco Evi had left behind at her departure (Thanks!)... showers/cleaning 19.30.



Buy Lap Cheung    Mid Level Trail to    Pinewood Batt.    Lugard Rd on Peak    ... last Time enjoying the View    Hist. Dairy Store

**Mon, 20. Nov    Visiting Yuen Long before joining Rocky & Stemson for 'all can eat Hot Pot' at Tsuen Wan!**

At 10am we took Bus for a stroll at Yuen Long in the new Territories before taking the bus to Tsuen Wan to join Rocky and Stemson for a 'All You Can Eat Hot -Pot' with 'all you can drink draft beers'! We had a very lovely time together till 16.15 when our tommies were stretched to their limits. Then we took bus 930x back to Causeway Bay and got home at 6pm. Just drinking hot water, a bit of TV & WIFI and no dinner, then sleep .....

PS On the bus, when passing beside Mei Foo on highway, I could not really believe this would be my last time in Hongkong..!? Che sera sera! The Mei Foo Estate (first stage) was under construction in 1971/72.



Yuen Long Main Street    Queuing for free Rice    Hot Pot & Beer à Go Go    Side Dishes à Go Go    Mei Foo Estate

**Tue, 21. Nov    Mongkok. Yam Cha with a few of Peggy's School-Mates who had missed the main Event.**

Took Bus to Mongkok for Yam Cha with some Peggy's school friends who had not made it to the class meeting on 7th Nov. Then strolling back all the way to Tsim Sha Tsui, at the end paying a quick visit to the good old Peninsula Coffee Shop! Took Ferry to Wanchai and walked back a last time home at 3 pm. Slowly preparing to pack to leave tomorrow. Take Away dinner!

I felt very pity to leave Hongkong with such a week's weather forecast till 30th November: Sunny with 19-21° / 24-27°!



Class Mates of Peggy's...    my Fong Zhou



Temple Street Gate    Good old Peninsula Hotel    and its Coffee Shop    Clock Tower    Ferry -landing    Last Walk back....

**Wed, 22. Nov    Packing etc and in the Evening bus to Airport - Fertig luschtig!**

Getting up slowly and Peggy starting packing the suitcase and doing final cleaning until we went shopping for a last take away at 2pm!

Final packing etc and then we left the apartment to catch the E11A 'endless' bus leaving at 18.45 and arr. at Airport at 20.45. (Note: 3 rows behind us there was a chap coughing and sneezing the who way!)

Check-in, then go with Rocky and Stemson for a last chat to MacDonald before goodbye and going to immigration.



Thank You Andrew & Noble..    letting us feel home...    ..here for 6 weeks..    last bite!    We will miss you all!

**Thu. 23. Nov.    Flight to Geneva with 4h Transit in Doha**

The flight to Doha at 0.30 (+7 CH) took 9h and was on time but was very boring as I could only snooze for 2-3h. After 4h in transit till 9am (1+ CH) it took 7h flight to Geneva where we landed at 13.15, just on time to catch the 14.05 train to Biel and by the Bähnli to Ipsach. Arrived home at 16.00. All had gone smoothly, it seemed! Had a little snack and then bed at 19.00 being very, very tired! Intermittent sleep and...

.....  
Fri. 24. - Tue 28. Nov.    **bad awakening .... but good end at last!**

... I woke up at 3am and fell asleep once more after 5am, when at 6am, Peggy woke me abruptly, asking me: Where is your backpack? Still groggy it took me a while to realise that I had left my backpack behind in the train in Biel! Horror!! How was it possible that I had not noticed that my back was free the whole way from Biel to home and even at home? It took me 2 very stressed hours to issue the lost-message notice in SBB's Lost Items Sit!

Sat 25. Nov. we received a message that my backpack had been found and was ready for collection in Biel Station!

Sun 26 Nov ... in the morning we both felt having a bad cold! It will turn out to be COVID (I tested positive on Tue, 28 Nov. It was a souvenir from the chap in the E11A bus to the airport!

.....  
**Mo 8. Jan. 2024                    Completion of the Diary (1st Version)**

It took me much effort to produce this report, but I enjoyed every minute to sort out the initial 2000 pictures, to select and process some of them to insert with the text, for which I often had to consult the internet, often finding out about things I did not know or had forgotten!

In short: While being at it, I was virtually in Hongkong again and with the mindset that it will be my last summing up of 52 years of good and strong feelings of this important chapter of my life mostly thanks to ....



**.... Peggy and the Family!**

Departure from Kai Tak Airport in August 1972

**The End**