

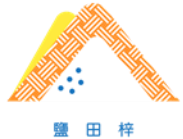
YIM TIN TSAI STORYTELLING

「SAI KUNG YIM TIN TSAI CULTURAL HISTORY CONSERVATION
AND REGENERATION RESEARCH: COMMUNITY NARRATIVE AND
PUBLIC EXPERIENCE PARTICIPATION」

NEWSLETTER | JAN TO JUNE 2023 | ISSUE NO. 3



鄉郊保育辦公室
Countryside
Conservation
Office



YOUTH STORYTELLERS

We will review the process of cooperating with the kaifong tour team at the beginning of the year to train our youth storytellers.

PROJECT SEMINAR

We held the project's first seminar in April this year, where guests shared their views and exchanged insights and ideas across a number of topics

PROJECT PROCESS

In the first half of 2023, society gradually began to recover from the pandemic. In addition to continuing our collection of oral stories, we also hope to share these stories with the public in the new year. Therefore, we have recruited a group of young storytellers, both male and female, aiming to design storytelling routes and incorporate interesting themes. This way, everyone can briefly experience the village's previous life!

Furthermore, the project team has conducted oral history interviews with the residents of Yim Tin Tsai Village and other relevant stakeholders, which are now mostly completed. We have collected and organized over 150 stories so far.

One of the project's outputs, the "A community-engaged narrative map of cultural and historical heritage in Yim Tin Tsai," was launched in April. This season's newsletter will not be too long, taking up only a little of your time, so please join us in reminiscing about the project's journey in the first half of 2023.

**Any opinions, research results, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication and project activities do not necessarily reflect the views of the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.*

YIM TIN TSAI STORY MAP

We successfully launched our "community engaged narrative map of cultural and historical heritage in Yim Tin Tsai" this year. Welcome to online browsing!

Let's keep an eye out for updates on future activities!

Story Sharing – Fetching Water Like Spiderman

Note: The freshwater well mentioned in the story refers to the Living Spring Well. It is currently closed for safety reasons, but visitors can still tour the well's surroundings.

「 There is no way to get into the well now as it has been closed. Our village was located on an island with rather small hills, so little water could be collected during winter. With no spring water in winter, adults carried buckets with a shoulder pole to get water from the well. Climbing down step by step like Spiderman, we had to reach the bottom of the well to fetch water. It was fun and no one ever fell. There were three wells in the village, two with salt water for irrigation only and one with fresh water which tasted very nice. 」

Editor's Note: : Presently, revisiting this narrative evokes concerns about safety awareness. However, at the same time, there is envy towards the children of the past who were able to soar and transcend their limits, experiencing a sense of freedom without boundaries.



The story illustrations were drawn by Mr.Chan, a retired illustrator who has lived in Sai Kung for many years, based on the images of the old way of life described by the villagers.



Those who have lots of experience of life will likely know what this is about. If you're not familiar, you can always ask someone around you for more information.

Youth Storytellers Training

Telling a compelling story is always challenging (especially when there are hundreds of them to be told) 😊

The youth storytelling internship program began in January. The 19 full-time students are from different local universities and post-secondary institutions. The tutor team provides professional training and sharing to help interns get to know Yim Tin Tsai, from unknown to familiar.

Acknowledgment : Mr Luke Tam with the Kaifong Tour team, Professor Siu Woo Cheung, Dr. Dora Agapito, with a group of Yim Tin Tsai villagers.

Now let's review the highlights of the intensive training we went through together!



Theoretical Classes and Sharing Sessions

First, the Storytellers attended two on-site classes at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The first session was led by Mr Luke Tam with the Kaifong Tour team (pictured above), which helped participants introduce and familiarize themselves with the community they are in, as well as providing an initial understanding of community tour route design concepts.

The second session invited Professor Cheung Siu-Woo to share his experiences of conducting fieldwork in Yim Tin Tsai (pictured left). Additionally, Dr. Dora Agapito from Portugal (pictured bottom left) shared her experiences and designs for multi-sensory tourism activities in Portugal (A multi-sensory approach to countryside conservation and revitalization).

The participants derived significant benefits from these sessions.



On-Site Training and Consultation With Villagers

To allow the youth storytellers to have a better understanding of the island's environment, the project team arranged consultations with the villagers for individual groups. This was done to enrich the content of the thematic story routes and ensure their authenticity.

Subsequently, the Storytellers embarked on field practices on the island following the routes they designed, in order to test their feasibility. Mr Luke Tam with the Kaifong Tour team assisted the students on that day and provided feedback.

The field practice on January 28, 2023, coincided with the island's Lunar New Year celebration. As a result, the mentor team and the storytellers had the opportunity to taste the traditional delicacy called "round cage tea cake" (圓籠茶粿) during the event.

Villager Auntie Lucia shared her past experiences living in Yim Tin Tsai Village.



(Above image) Annual Lunar New Year Party poster for the joyful gathering

(Right image) The team took a group photo with the "round cage tea cake" (圓籠茶粿).



The group is engaged in a serious discussion about the content and process of the route. (As of June, we are still waiting for them to finalize their plans.) 😊

Cultural and Historical Story Walks in Yim Tin Tsai

In 2023, our Storytellers will lead participants on Yim Tin Tsai Island to experience the various stories and events that took place there in the past, based on different thematic routes.

On February 10, 2023, we successfully held the first session of the event. As of June 30, the event has taken place 11 times, with a total of 216 participants. We sincerely appreciate everyone's enthusiastic participation!

We look forward to continuing to bring the Yim Tin Tsai stories to everyone in the second half of the year!



Visitor Storytelling Platform – Epilogue

In the first half of 2023, the project team continued the "Visitor Storytelling Platform" weekend activities in Yim Tin Tsai Village.

Visitors could still experience our prepared Nine-square Game, answer a series of questions about Yim Tin Tsai Village's culture, history, and more, and receive a "Yim Tin Little Story" graduation certificate as a gift. In addition, the team carefully prepared different traditional countryside games for visitors to try, including the "Catch Game" and "Dutch Water Cover" (as seen in the illustration on the second page).

Over the course of 13 days in the first half of the year, a total of 1,258 members of the public participated in our games, answered questions, and received gifts.

The Visitor Storytelling Platform has come to a successful conclusion. Through interaction with visitors, we hope to deepen their understanding of Yim Tin Tsai Village and promote the conservation of rural culture.



Project Seminar

On April 28, 2023, the project team held its first project seminar with the theme of "Values and Significance of Rural Stories Across Generations." The seminar brought together the Storytellers, villagers, and stakeholders involved in the project to share their experiences and insights on inter-generational transmission of rural stories.

Group photo of the seminar participants; from left to right: Project Manager William, Professor Johnson Chan, Mr. Christopher Chan, a villager from Yim Tin Tsai, Mr. Tam Kin Lok (Luke) from the Kaifong Tour team, and three Storytellers.



For the first time during the event, physical copies of the "Yim Tin Tsai Story Map" were distributed. Please refer to the next page for a brief introduction.

簡單回顧

During the event, Mr. Simon Ng first shared his experiences in organizing cultural projects in Yim Tin Tsai since 2016 and the process of organizing the Yim Tin Tsai Arts Festival in 2019. He also discussed interactions with various stakeholders, including villagers, and shared his involvement in community engagement efforts in other areas. Following that, Mr. Tam Kin Lok (Luke) also shared his organization's community projects conducted locally and explained why they chose to engage with communities. Both speakers shared their perspectives on the concept of cultural heritage preservation.

During the discussion session, in addition to the two guest speakers, we also invited Mr. Christopher Chan, a villager from Yim Tin Tsai, and the three Storytellers to share their perspectives on the topic.

During the public Q&A session, the guests responded to the following questions:

- Are villagers concerned that the development of cultural tourism may disrupt the peaceful rural environment?
- How can the storytelling process deepen participants' experiences and make them feel more connected to the villagers' memories?
- What motivates the speakers to engage in cultural conservation work over the years?
- How can individuals promote the organization and preservation of cultural stories in their own rural communities using their own efforts?



Mr. Tam Kin Lok (Luke), from the Kaifong Tour team, shared his insights during the session.

【The Community Engaged Narrative Map of Cultural and Historical Heritage in Yim Tin Tsai】

The project team officially completed the printing of the Traditional Chinese version of the "community engaged narrative map of cultural and historical heritage in Yim Tin Tsai" in April 2023 and began distributing it during the event. This is one of the significant outputs of the project. The first 50 copies of the story map were available in both physical and online versions, allowing the public to choose their preferred way of browsing. Due to space limitations in the physical version, the remaining stories would be gradually published online for public access.

The initial 50 stories in the "community engaged narrative map of cultural and historical heritage in Yim Tin Tsai" not only include written content but also vibrant story illustrations and trilingual (Cantonese, English, Mandarin) audio recordings. These elements aim to provide the public with an immersive experience while exploring the project's stories.

How can you get one? By participating in our events!



香港中文大學主辦
西貢鹽田梓文化歷史保育及復育研究：
社區敘事及公眾體驗式參與



鹽田梓文化歷史故事之旅

鹽田梓故事導賞 + 活動分享 七月份場次

場次	1 15/7/2023(六) 2 16/7/2023(日)
時間	09:30 - 13:00 (2小時故事導賞 + 1小時活動分享討論; 14:40乘船回程西貢)
嚮導	講故「仔」講故「女」
對象	18歲或以上公眾
語言	廣東話

網上登記



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Future Trends

Cultural and Historical Story Walks in Yim Tin Tsai

In the second half of 2023, the project will continue to organize Yim Tin Tsai Cultural History Story Tours and introduce new Yim Tin Tsai stories. Simultaneously, the project team is in the process of filming and producing short videos related to Yim Tin Tsai, so stay tuned for those exciting releases!



Yim Tin Tsai Storytelling 鹽田「故」仔

@yttstorytelling

