HONG型 KONG型 September 2018 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London

Stronger legal ties between **UK and Hong Kong**

n June the Secretary for Justice Teresa Cheng SC made her first visit to London. At a meeting with David Gauke, the UK's Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, both reaffirmed the importance of the rule of law and agreed to continue dialogue to promote it.

While in London Ms Cheng also met professional bodies to enhance ties between the legal professions in Hong Kong and the UK. Key figures Ms Cheng met included Andrew Walker QC, Chair of the Bar of England and Wales, and Joe Egan, President of the Law Society.

A deal-making hub

Speaking at a seminar attended by participants from legal and financial backgrounds organised by the Hong Kong Association, Ms Cheng said that businesses looking to take advantage of



Above: Secretary for Justice Ms Teresa Cheng with Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, Mr David Gauke (left), during her visit to London

developments in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area should consider making Hong Kong their location for deal-making and dispute resolution.

The Bay Area has a combined population of 67 million (more than one third larger than the Tokyo bay area) and a GDP of US\$1.3 trillion. Ms Cheng said Hong Kong's robust legal system and unparalleled expertise in legal and financial services made it an ideal hub for businesses looking to do deals or resolve disputes in the Bay Area.

Belt and Road opportunities

Hong Kong could also play an important role in deal making and dispute resolution in countries covered by the Belt and Road

Initiative, said Ms Cheng, speaking at Asia House. At a student talk at King's College London, she also highlighted the ample opportunities for Hong Kong in the international arena. Ms Cheng also met

Continued on page 2

The "place to be" for innovation

Hong Kong is the "place to be for the next wave of innovation and technology development", said Secretary for **Innovation and Technology Nicholas Yang** during his visit to London in June.



Speaking at a luncheon organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London, and InvestHK, Mr Yang said that innovation and technology developments in Hong Kong were "energetic and exciting", noting that the Government had allocated an unprecedented HK\$50 billion to it in this year's budget.

Highlighting private sector investment, Mr Yang said three new submarine cables were due to be completed between Hong Kong and the US, tripling the capacity of Hong Kong's existing cables. "Investors

Continued on page 2

Above: Mr Yang (right) meets Sam Gyimah, UK Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation.

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Health

Fighting mental health stigma

Professor Sophia Chan, Secretary for Food and Health, visited London in May to learn more about the latest developments in genomics and mental health services.

While in the capital Professor Chan visited the charity Rethink Mental Illness to learn about the campaign Time to Change, which aims to end the stigma of mental health in the UK. Hong Kong is further developing its own plans to promote mental health and reduce stigma and what she learned would be valuable, she said.

She also visited Genomics England to learn more about the latest developments in the understanding of genes in health. Set up by the UK

Department of Health and Social Care, Genomics England is sequencing 100,000 whole genomes from selected patients with rare diseases, and their families, to benefit patients and enhance the development of genomic medicine.

Before heading to Geneva to attend the World Health Forum, Professor Chan also attended a round table discussion at Chatham House.



Above: Professor Chan meets Hong Kong students and young professionals studying and working in the UK to discuss career opportunities in Hong Kong's healthcare sector.



Above: Professor Chan (left) meets Baroness Finlay of Llandaff, Deputy Speaker at the House of Lords (centre), to discuss topics including mental health, organ donation, tobacco control and palliative care. Also pictured is Dr Constance Chan, Director of Health (right).

Continued from p1 'Stronger legal ties'
Professor Edward Byrne, President and
Principal of King's College London, and
Professor Gillian Douglas, Executive Dean
of the Dickson Poon School of Law at
King's College London.

Before leaving London, Ms Cheng visited Gray's Inn to give a talk on the future of dispute resolution in Hong Kong and attended a breakfast briefing with the All Party Parliamentary China Group, briefing participants on the latest developments in Hong Kong.



Above: Ms Cheng (second left) with Richard Graham, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary China Group (APPCG) (second right), Lord Wei of Shoreditch, Chair of Hong Kong Sub-Committee of APPCG, (first left), and Priscilla To, Director-General of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London.

Continued from p1 'The "place to be" for innovation' including Facebook, Google, Telstra, and NEC are choosing Hong Kong as a landing point for their huge investments," he added, "strengthening our potential to become the region's data hub."

Start-ups blossoming

The new Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in Lok Ma Chau Loop would boost collaboration between Hong Kong and Mainland China in areas such as scientific research, higher education, and the creative and culture industries, he said. Technology start-ups were also blossoming, he added, noting that the number of start-up companies in Hong Kong had increased by 16 per cent to 2,229 between 2016 and 2017.

Mr Yang said the 11 cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area offered not just a huge market for technology enterprises, but a highly efficient manufacturing base for turning research outcomes into prototypes and products. "The development of the Bay Area is poised to present huge opportunities for individuals and enterprises alike," he said. "I invite British researchers, entrepreneurs and investors to come and tap the tremendous opportunities there."

Biomedical research

While in London, Mr Yang met Sam Gyimah, UK Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation, and Graham Stuart, Minister for Investment. He also visited the Francis Crick Institute, a renowned biomedical research centre in London, and spoke at a reception for the Hamlyn Symposium on Medical Robotics after a meeting with Professor Yang Gaung-zhong, Director and co-founder of the Hamlyn Centre.

Mr Yang also visited Oxford Sciences Innovation (OSI) and spoke to spinouts of OSI at a lunchtime seminar. He also visited Williams Advanced Engineering to learn how Formula One technology is being adapted for other commercial purposes.



Above: Mr Yang (right) visits Williams Advanced Engineering in Oxford to see how Formula One technologies are adapted for commercial purposes.

Education

European internship programme

Hong Kong university students gathered in London for a special event in August to learn how the Hong Kong Government recruits administrative officers and find out about the work of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO).

Some of the students are on the Internship Scheme for Hong Kong Students in Europe, which enables students from Hong Kong universities to become interns at participating organisations including HKETO and Hong Kong Trade Development Council, plus private sector organisations including Comms8 marketing consultancy, Conran and Partners and Bank of East Asia. Students from London universities such as UCL, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and King's College London also joined the event.



Above: Priscilla To, Director General, HKETO (centre), pictured at a gathering of Hong Kong university students.

● ● Culture

New memorial honours police

A new memorial to Hong Kong police officers killed in the two World Wars or in the course of their duties was unveiled at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire in May.

The memorial, which is installed and maintained by the Royal Hong Kong Police Association, is an upgrade to the previous one which was set up at the arboretum some years ago. Priscilla To, Director General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London, was among the guests to lay a wreath at the dedication ceremony.

The 150 acre National Memorial Arboretum has over 30,000 trees and more than 300 memorials and is open to the public.



Above: Ms To (second left), pictured at the Hong Kong Police memorial with amongst others Lord Wilson of Tillyorn and Kenneth Li Kin-fai, Director of Personnel and Training, Hong Kong Police.

Sport

Ocean race visits Cardiff and Gothenburg

Scallywag, Hong Kong's representative in the prestigious Volvo Ocean Race, successfully completed its 45,000 nautical mile journey across four oceans when it arrived in The Hague in June.

Boasting the Hong Kong dragon on its sail, Team Sun Hung Kai/Scallywag was helmed by veteran Australian skipper David Witt and supported by BrandHK during its voyage that saw it stop at 13 cities around the world.

The Hong Kong flying dragon met the famous Red Dragon of Wales when Scallywag arrived in Cardiff, UK, in May. While the yacht's visit to Gothenburg in June was a chance to celebrate the strong links between Sweden and Hong Kong.



Above: Hong Kong's representative in the Volvo Ocean Race, Scallywag, pictured during her visit to Cardiff in May.

• • Education

UK students win Hong Kong university places

Five sixth-form students from the UK attended summer schools at Hong Kong universities this summer after winning a competition organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO).

To enter, students were asked to compare a city in the UK with Hong Kong, in terms of how they support start-ups. Entries were

judged based on content, creativity and presentation and included essays, websites, blog entries and YouTube videos.

The theme of start-ups was chosen because Hong Kong is among the world's five fastest-growing centres for start-ups, said Priscilla To, Director General, HKETO, speaking at the awards ceremony in June. "When you come back to the UK, I hope that you will be proud ambassadors for Hong Kong as a great place to study," she said.

The annual competition, which began in 2012, aims to encourage UK students to pursue higher education in Hong Kong and is sponsored and judged by Cathay Pacific Airways with support from the British Council, the Hong Kong Society and this year Invest Hong Kong as well.

The sixth formers each attended a summer school at either

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Chinese University of Hong Kong or University of Hong Kong – giving them a chance to enjoy Hong Kong's cosmopolitan lifestyle and unique culture as well as its world class higher education.

Left: Priscilla To, Director-General, HKETO (third right), pictured at the competition awards ceremony with winners (from left): Bertram Lyhne-Gold from North Bridge House School, Canonbury; Thibau Grumett from Invicta Grammar School, Maidstone; Trinity Hooper from Benenden School, Kent; Uma Baron from St Paul's Girls' School, Hammersmith and Tomas Utting from King's College School. Wimbledon.



Culture

Hong Kong Children's Choir perform in Helsinki

The internationally acclaimed Hong Kong Children's Choir performed in Helsinki's Finlandia Chamber Music Hall in August, in a concert co-presented with the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO).

This was the choir's first concert in Finland since 2012 and presented music from East and West including *Ave Maria* by Giulio Caccini, *Laudate Dominum* by John August Pamintuan and a specially commissioned piece by Darius Lim, *Children of Light*. "We are pleased to see that Finland and Hong Kong have in recent years built even closer ties on various fronts, including arts and culture collaboration," said Priscilla To, Director General, HKETO, opening the concert.



Above: Ms To welcomes the Hong Kong Children's Choir to Helsinki.

Founded in 1969, the Hong Kong Children's Choir has earned a reputation as one of the best children's choirs in the world. The Helsinki performance, which also featured the renowned Tapiola Choir

from Espoo in Finland, was part of a European tour which included a major international choral festival in Tallinn, Estonia.

Left: Members of the Hong Kong Children's Choir perform in traditional Chinese costume.



Hong Kong Scottish rugby team tour mother country

Hong Kong Scottish toured their mother country in August playing against teams including Heriots, Crusaders and Watsonians. Formed in 2011 by Hong Kong's Scottish community, the club is supported by the famous London Scottish Football Club, whose badge and colours (blue, white and red) they share to show their strong ties. Hong Kong Scottish compete in the Hong Kong rugby union premiership.

Below: Priscilla To, Director General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (front row, centre), pictured with players at a reception in honour of Hong Kong Scottish.





Culture

'Scratch-and-sniff' Hong Kong

Hong Kong had a special pavilion at the London Design Biennale 2018, which took place at Somerset House in September. The theme of this year's Biennale was 'Emotional States' – with designers, innovators and curators from over 40 places, including Hong Kong, looking at how design influences our emotions.

The Hong Kong Pavilion, titled Sensorial Estates, played with the idea of scent as a tool for triggering memories. Co-chaired by Hong Kong designers Wendy Fok and Elaine Young, it featured not only the sights of Hong Kong but also its smells with 'scratch-and-sniff' wallpapers and boxes filled with aroma-infused objects, exploring nostalgic representations of the city.

Hong Kong's fast-growing creative industries are a vital part of the economy, said



Priscilla To, Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London, which sponsored the pavilion. "Their development will create synergy with our traditional pillar industries such as tourism and the convention and exhibition industry," she said, speaking at a reception to launch the pavilion.

Left: The Hong Kong Pavilion at the London Design Biennale 2018 features not only the sights of Hong Kong, but also the smells of it, including boxes filled with aroma-infused objects.

Sport

Catch that! A giant ten-storeyshigh rugby ball floats on Victoria Harbour during the 2018 Hong Kong Sevens tournament which took place in April. Now in its 43rd year, the tournament attracts thousands of spectators from around the world to watch 40 teams compete in front of 120,000 fans over three days at the Hong Kong stadium. This year's tournament was won by Fiji.



Development

Carrie Lam attends first Greater Bay Area development group meeting

In August, Chief Executive Carrie Lam attended the first plenary meeting of the leading group for the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Bay Area), which took place in Beijing.

Held at the Great Hall of the People, the meeting was hosted and convened by Vice Premier of the State Council Han Zheng, to discuss and plan priority work areas for the next stage of the Bay Area's development.

Mrs Lam reported on the latest progress in Hong Kong on the development of the Bay Area into an international innovation and technology hub. This included:

- The Chinese Academy of Sciences establishing a presence in two research clusters in the Science Park
- A co-operation arrangement to be signed between the national Ministry of Science and Technology and Hong Kong's Innovation and Technology Bureau
- The establishment of a Bay Area academician alliance in Hong Kong to enable staff from

the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Engineering to take part in developments. Mrs Lam said that Hong Kong's integration into the development of the Bay Area will enrich the implementation of "One Country, Two Systems" and will help maintain Hong Kong's long-term prosperity and stability.

Express rail link

One crucial development that will facilitate further development of the Bay Area is the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong

Below: Ms Lam (third right) at the inaugural meeting of the leading group for the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.



Business

Nordic business boost

Entrepreneurs and SMEs from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden will be supported to set up in Hong Kong with the launch of a new Nordic Innovation House there by Nordic Innovation, an organisation funded by the governments in the region, which works to promote cross-border trade and innovation.

Express Rail Link, which will provide a speedy, convenient and comfortable way for travellers from Hong Kong to reach many Mainland cities in the Bay Area and across the country. The co-location ordinance which allows all passport control to take place in West Kowloon Station came into force in early September, in preparation for the Hong Kong Section to start operating later in the month.

To help promote the opportunities offered by the Bay Area, the Government has launched a website offering detailed information on how Hong Kong and its people will benefit. More information at: www.bayarea.gov.hk/en/home

Business

Third Belt and Road Summit

The Third Belt and Road Summit, organised by the Hong Kong Government and the Hong Kong Trade and Development Council (HKTDC), welcomed nearly 5,000 participants from 55 countries and regions in June.

Over 80 government and business leaders from Hong Kong, the Chinese mainland and other countries discussed opportunities presented by the Belt and Road Initiative, now in its fifth year.

Opening the summit, Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam said that as China's most international city Hong Kong would play a significant part in the Belt and Road Initiative. "Hong Kong will contribute to the Initiative across all areas of its wide-ranging connectivity, from policy co-ordination, financial integration and trade, to infrastructure and people-to-people bonds," she said.

"Collaborate for success"

Mrs Lam said the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area would also boost integration within the region, encouraging strategic partnerships between Hong Kong, Guangdong and the larger Belt and Road region.

At the summit, governments and companies of several Belt and Road countries signed agreements and memorandums of understanding to deepen co-operation and help realise the summit's theme of "Collaborate for Success". The HKTDC also



Above: Mrs Lam delivers the opening address at the third Belt and Road Summit.

arranged nearly 500 one-to-one business matching meetings for participants to support future co-operation.

Financial Secretary Paul Chan pointed out that as one of the world's leading financial centres and China's international financial capital, Hong Kong could help to "meet the financing needs of the mega Belt and Road infrastructure projects." The summit took place at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Technology

Global talent welcomed

The Hong Kong
Government has
published a 'talent
list' highlighting the
skills needed by Hong
Kong, to help attract
talented people from
around the world.

Professions on the list include waste treatment specialists, asset management



professionals, marine insurance experts, fintech professionals, cyber security specialists, marine engineers and creative industry professionals. People from the professions on the list will receive bonus points to support their immigration application.

In a separate move, the Innovation and Technology Commission has also launched a Technology Talent Scheme to nurture more talent in the field of technology. The scheme will see, for example, postdoctoral professionals in research and development receiving a monthly allowance of HK\$32,000 each for up to 24 months. A separate programme will also see local companies receive subsidies to train their staff in advanced technologies.

"Talent is a key factor in the global innovation and technology race," said Nicholas Yang, Secretary for Innovation and Technology. "The Hong Kong Government has been taking a proactive approach to attracting and nurturing top-notch talent and building a critical talent pool required for driving innovation and technology."

Technology

Making cities smarter

Hong Kong is set to be a world class IT hub and smart city, said Chief Executive Carrie Lam addressing the Smart City Summit, organised in Hong Kong by the American Chamber of Commerce in June.

Noting the Government's financial support for IT innovation, she said that smart city developments in Hong Kong would be supported by sound technological foundations and outstanding scientific research backed by top universities and research institutes. "We want to attract more tech-intense companies or research institutions to Hong Kong by building up two important clusters, one focusing on healthcare technologies and the other on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies," she said.

Noting that Hong Kong is amongst the top five places in the world for start-ups, she said that venture capital had surged from US\$80 million in 2012 to about US\$1,100 million in 2017.

After delivering the speech, Mrs Lam chatted with Sophia, possibly the world's most celebrated robot who has made numerous TV appearances and been named the first United Nation Innovation Champion. Sophia was developed by Hanson Robotics, a start-up based at the Hong Kong Science Park.

Right: Mrs Lam (right) chats with Sophia, a robot developed in Hong Kong. Sophia is capable of 62 natural-looking facial expressions and neck movements. She can make eye contact, recognise faces, understand speech and engage in conversations.



Culture

Ceremony marks 21st anniversary

Carrie Lam, Hong Kong Chief Executive (below, second right), greets members of the public before the flag-raising ceremony in Golden Bauhinia Square on 1 July (right) to mark the 21st anniversary of the return of Hong Kong to the motherland and the start of 'one country, two systems'.

The Hong Kong Disciplined Services and the Government Flying Service performed a special sea parade and fly-past before an anniversary reception at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

As well as remembering the past, the events focused on Hong Kong's exciting future as a technologically advanced smart city, ready to benefit from 21st century developments such as the Belt and Road Initiative and Guangdong-Hong Kong -Macao Bay Area development.





Business

Happy birthday Hong Kong airport

Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) marked its 20th anniversary in August. Often ranked by travellers as one of the world's best airports, HKIA is a leading aviation hub with over 100 airlines operating flights to over 220 destinations. In 2017 it served 73 million passengers, making it the third-busiest airport in the world. It has been the world's busiest cargo airport for eight years running.

New developments, including a three-runway system and Skycity, a major development with retail, entertainment facilities, hotels and offices, look set to ensure the airport's continued growth.

Below: Hong Kong International Airport is the third busiest in the world.



● ● Finance

New Academy of Finance

Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) is to set up an Academy of Finance in Hong Kong as a centre of excellence for promoting financial leadership and research. The new academy will replace the existing Hong Kong Institute for Monetary Research and reinforce Hong Kong's competitiveness as an international financial centre.

"Creating a centre of excellence that aims at promoting top notch talents in financial leadership and at upgrading our capability in financial research ... is crucial to the maintenance of Hong Kong's position as the premier international financial centre," said Mr Norman Chan, Chief Executive, HKMA.

The new academy, which is due to start in 2019, will work closely with the Government, financial regulators, the Financial Services Development Council, the financial industry and professional training bodies in Hong Kong.

Finance

Finland tax agreement

Hong Kong and Finland have signed an agreement to avoid double taxation. Finnish tax paid by Hong Kong companies will be allowed as a credit against the tax payable in Hong Kong on the same profits. Likewise, for Finnish companies, the tax paid in Hong Kong will be allowed as a deduction from the tax payable on the same income in Finland.

This is the 40th agreement that Hong Kong has signed with other places to avoid double taxation, and the 16th with an EU country. "I have every confidence

that the signing of the agreement will bring our bilateral relations to a new level," said James Lau, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury. In 2017, Finland was Hong Kong's 50th largest trading partner.

Right: James Lau, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (right), exchanges documents with Jari Sinkari, then Consul-General of Finland in Hong Kong, after signing a new agreement to avoid double taxation.



Culture

Dragons battle in Docklands

Thousands of people gathered in London's Docklands for the London Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival 2018, sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO).

Thirty-three teams from the local community, businesses, public organisations and charities battled it out in a full day of racing. The festival also featured lion and dragon dances, live music, and martial arts and tai chi demonstrations, as well as a food festival allowing people to try traditional food from Asia and all over the world.

Dragon boat racing dates back more than 2,000 years and since Hong Kong held the first international dragon boat festival three decades ago it has developed into a truly global event.

"Celebrating the Dragon Boat festival



Above: Crowds gather in London's Docklands for the 2018 London Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival.

has been a significant part of Hong Kong's lifestyle," said Priscilla To, Director General, HKETO. "Nowadays, in many places around the world where there is a major Hong Kong community we can find people celebrating this traditional festival. So no wonder here in London, the London Hong Kong Dragon

Boat Festival has also become a key event in the city's calendar."

The London Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival is organised by the London Chinatown Lions Club, the London Chinese Community Centre and the Hong Kong Executives Club. The festival helped raise money for Chinese charities in London. "Dragon boat racing is emblematic of the strength, energy and competitiveness that Hong Kong is renowned for," Ms To added.



Above: Dragon Boats compete at the 2018 festival in London's Docklands.

● ● Culture

Reflecting on water

An exhibition about water and its scarcity featuring work by six artists from China, Hong Kong and the UK is at the Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art in Manchester until 7 October. The exhibition, Aquatopia, features the work of Hong Kong artist Kingsley Ng and is sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London. Through a mixture of participatory art works and new media works the exhibition invites people to reflect on water – what it means for our communities and our environments, and the impact of water scarcity and pollution.



Above: The *Aquatopia* exhibition creates a space for reflecting on water and what it means to us.

Transport



Above: Over 90% of commuter journeys in Hong Kong are made by public transport.

Number one for mobility

Hong Kong has been ranked number one in the world for the mobility of residents, travellers, goods and services in the latest Sustainable Cities Mobility Index, compiled by global design consultancy Arcadis.

The index compares mobility in 100 places around the world, looking at its impact on people's lives, the planet and also economic development. Thanks to Hong Kong's efficient Mass Transit Railway, buses, mini vans, trams, taxis and ferries, Hong Kong is one of the least car-dependent cities in the world.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thurs 27 September 2018

Hong Kong Trade Development Council Annual Dinner, London, UK

Mon 29 October – Fri 2 November 2018 Hong Kong FinTech Week, Hong Kong

Sat 10 November 2018

Hong Kong's entry in the Lord Mayor's Show. London, UK

Mon 3 – Sat 8 December 2018
Business of Design Week, Hong Kong

Wed 12 December 2018

Hong Kong International Tourism Convention – Belt and Road and Bay Area, Hong Kong

Mon 14 – Tue 15 January 2019 Asian Financial Forum, Hong Kong

Tue 12 February 2019

Chinese New Year reception in London, UK

FOR HONG KONG EVENT DETAILS:



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