

# The Hong Kong OF Annual Dinner 2019

The Hong Kong Club,  
Central, Hong Kong.

On 18th February 2019, a number of OF's (living in Hong Kong and visiting!), either met for the first time or were reunited, at the Hong Kong OF Annual Dinner. It was a fabulous evening.

The HK OF's enjoyed a record turnout, seating twenty around one large table, in the Hong Kong Club, Central, HK. See list of attendees at the end.



Special thanks to Ian Howard (S57-62), who's early kindness and membership at the club, provided us so appropriately, this year's venue for our get together, both at planning stage, whilst the number of attendees grew and whilst we were able to be joined by David Copeman (K42-49) and his wife Ann. (Both David and Ann were stopping in Hong Kong as part of a world cruise aboard the 'Queen Mary 2') and in hindsight to that, perhaps no finer venue appropriate to the two great circumstances.

It was so special to be here on this night too because whilst numbers are now popping at the seams for the ensuing years, we perhaps witnessed a wonderful evening that was both; where Ian Howard had so effectively hosted a few annual dinners in a last years (alongside choosing other wonderful private dining rooms, such as at the China Club etc, also over past years) and to where the first (like a 'premiere' for OF HK Annual Dinners to come!) was enjoyed and will be remember fondly, only to reunite OF's again whilst numbers will grow again to any given space where attendee are aplenty and warm exchange, shared news and plenty of giggles, are shared.

As the evening began with drinks, at 7.30pm in 'The China Room' of the club. The immediate warmth of those either meeting for, the first time or even reuniting, were a plenty and interestingly not easy to differentiate :) The ease and warmth of welcome, amongst all, was a wonderful way in which to start the evening.

Throughout the evening, I was reminded (in such company) of what we certainly enjoyed in our time at the College. I was reminded to; our reflected warmth, care and respect amongst our peers (a wonderfully ideal environment in which to grow). The dinner, with diverse year groups present, seemed then to show more than just the gratitude that we could possibly carry with us since those independent years. By being joined by the various year groups, at such an occasion, there was a wider sense of appreciation to the College's influence as a whole - given the various years and the great characters of all those present.

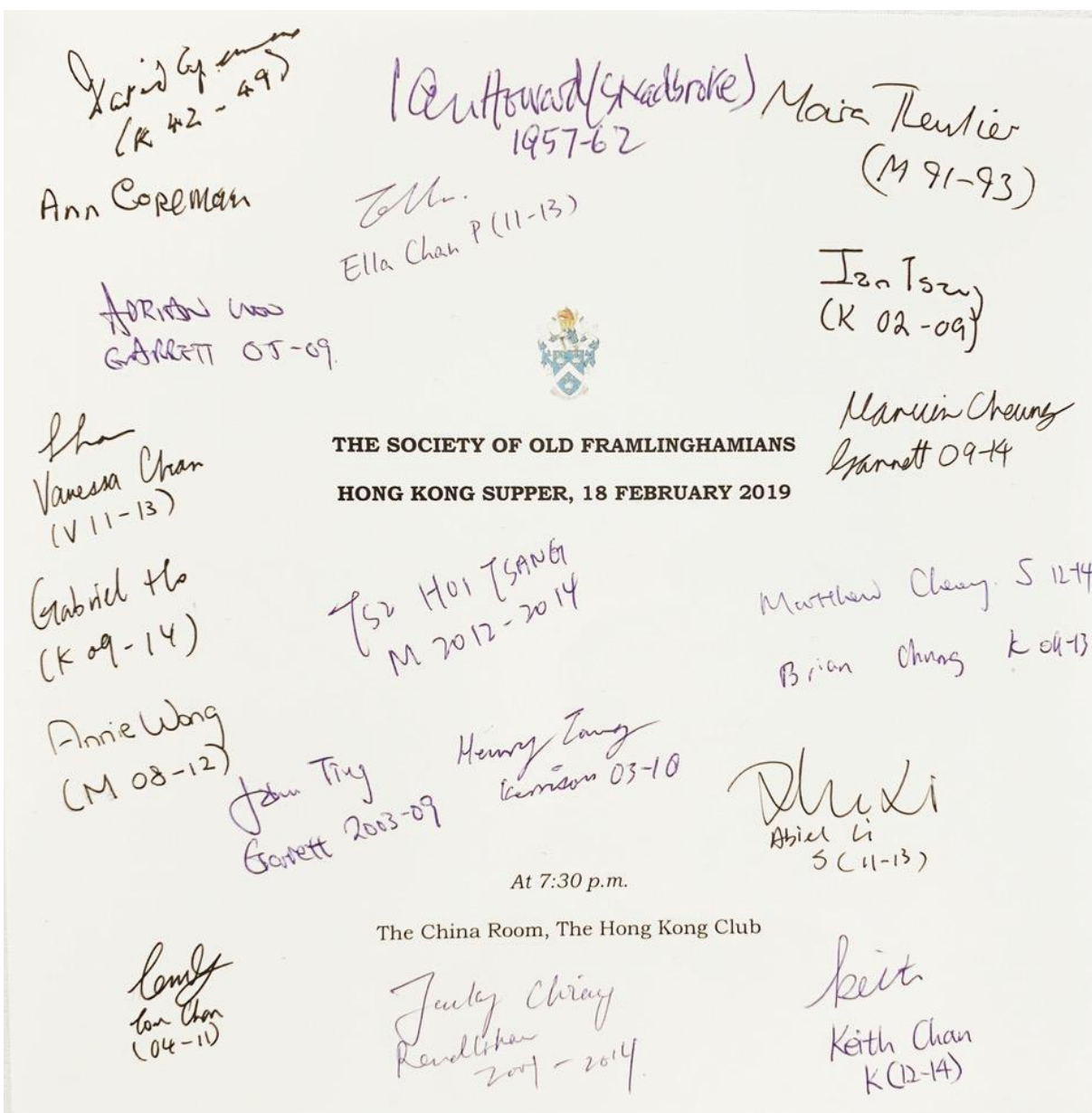
It was so special, to have also spent a part of the day, with David and Ann Copeman, whilst they stopped in HK - as part of their world tour aboard the Queen Mary 2. and on to Shanghai and so many other wonderful destinations, after Hong Kong. Whilst they were able to join us for dinner (and rather planned to the chosen date as such), their journey to and from their ship turned out to be as easy as expected. So, whilst particularly





honoured to have their company, we felt appreciative to learn how reaching out a little can bring the spirit of getting together with other OF's 'home' a bit more and in doing so, appreciate the 'small world' OF's living or tripping around the world\*, that we perhaps do not so easily recognise, once we live far from the UK.

The dinner started with, what has become a lovely tradition, 'each person signing every menu. This year, was significantly more taxing than previous occasions (mistakes learnt and all that!) with so many menus losing inner and signed pages, around the table. This was perhaps the evenings unnecessary icebreaker - only serving as a teaching experience for me (as I walked around our table reassigning our pupils' homework) and sympathising with David, to my seated left, who had become too used to electronic ways of typing so that twenty signatures (also needing to be written around a bowl of soup!), was alarmingly challenging and rather too dexterous.



David instead kindly reapplied his honorary status, to kindly make a speech and a lovely one at that. I had said a few words, and then passed onto to David, as our guest in HK and most senior OF present. We did then and on the spot, nominate the youngest OF present, Tze-Hoi Tsang to also say a few words. A few words we got, whilst we laughed to 'Please start.' and tucked into a delicious meal.

It was such an enjoyable evening (that was epitomised [here] in a great photo at the end. It was just after David and Ann has left, to return to their ship and so 'just so happens to be the very gang of OF HK's attending the Annual Dinner 2019 memories made, friendships united and reunited, aspirations to events in the future and, as I had spoken of, ending my welcome to the gang, I had heard once that '...education is something that cannot be taken away from you' for that which we are very fortunate - we thank Fram and even those who enabled us to go to the College. However, my point now is not just recognising that the gift of our education and character is something that we have in common but that, as OF's, its the reunions, the friendships, the events to those, that we stand to the wealth of that and to so many more great times ahead.



My thanks goes to John Ting (G02-09) who now takes over the role, to host the HK OF Annual Dinners. We look forward to the next!

Moira Theulier (M '91-'93)

\*This is with thanks too, to Chris Essex (taking fantastic care of the OF Overseas Bag ) who did help to put David and I in touch and for his wonderful support in providing best and concentrated efforts and information, helping me to bring about what turned out to be an exceptional gathering for this years dinner. He is behind every effort abroad.

Those attending were as follows :-

<b>David &amp; Ann</b>	<b>Copeman</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1942</b>	<b>1949</b>
Ian Ashley	Howard	S	1957	1962
Jenkin Ching-Kei	Leung	K	1979	1984
Moira Caroline	Theulier	M	1991	1993
Yu Hin John	Ting	G	2002	2009
Cheuk Hei Ian	Tsang	K	2002	2009
Shiu Nam Adrian	Woo	G	2005	2009
Henry Shiu Yuen	Tang	K	2003	2010
Ho Yan Tom	Chan	K	2002	2011
Annie Hiu Lai	Wong	M	2008	2012
Gabriel	Ho	K	2009	2012
Jacky Sin-Lung	Chiang	R	2009	2013
Brian	Chung	K	2009	2013
Ella Chan Yan	Chan	P	2011	2013
Abiel Chung Hay	Li	S	2011	2013
Marvin Wang	Cheung	G	2009	2014
Vanessa Ho Yee	Chan	V	2011	2014
Keith kai-Chun	Chan	K	2012	2014
Matthew	Cheong	S	2012	2014
Tsz Hoi	Tsang	M	2012	2014