

Suspected red tide sighted at Deep Water Bay Beach and Stanley Main Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (April 3) that due to the sighting of a suspected red tide, the red flags have been hoisted at Deep Water Bay Beach and Stanley Main Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches until further notice.

Missing man in Sham Shui Po located

A man who went missing in Sham Shui Po has been located.

Yip Hing-shing, aged 48, went missing after he was last seen on Ki Lung Street on March 30 afternoon. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

The man was located on Lai Chi Kok Road last night (April 2). He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

Music Office bands, choirs and orchestras invite applications for membership

The Music Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department is recruiting new members for its 18 bands and orchestras as well as two choirs. Training for 2024-25 will be held from this September to May 2025. The deadline for applications is May 3.

The 20 ensembles are respectively the Hong Kong Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Music Office Junior Symphony Orchestra, the Hong Kong Youth

Strings, the Island Youth Strings, the Kowloon Youth Strings, the New Territories Youth Strings, the Hong Kong Youth Symphonic Band, the Music Office Youth Brass Band, the Kowloon Youth Symphonic Band, the New Territories Youth Symphonic Band, the Music Office Junior Symphonic Band, the Hong Kong Children's Symphonic Band, the Hong Kong Youth Chinese Orchestra, the Island Youth Chinese Orchestra, the Kowloon Youth Chinese Orchestra, the New Territories Youth Chinese Orchestra, the Music Office Junior Chinese Orchestra, the Music Office Children's Chinese Orchestra, the Music Office Youth Choir and the Music Office Children's Choir.

Young musicians aged 25 or below who have attained the required music qualifications can now apply to enrol in different levels of ensemble and choir training. Apart from weekly rehearsals, members can also broaden their horizons by participating in various cultural activities and concerts, or attending exchange sessions with young musicians from the Mainland and overseas.

Training is free but members are required to bring their own instruments (except for bulky instruments) and pay for their uniforms and music scores.

Interested persons can visit the Music Office website (www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/mo/training/bandchoirandorchestratraining.html) for more details and application submission. Course pamphlets and application forms are also available at all Music Office's music centres. Qualified applicants will receive an audition notification by May 31. The audition will include performance of a self-chosen work and/or designated pieces, as well as sight-reading or sight-singing. Applicants will be notified of their application results by August 15.

For enquiries, please call the Music Office's music centres at 2802 0657 (Wan Chai), 2796 2893 (Kwun Tong), 2399 2200 (Mong Kok), 2158 6462 (Sha Tin) and 2417 6429 (Tsuen Wan).

[A March with record-breaking high temperature](#)

While the weather of Hong Kong was cold in early March, with the northeast monsoon over the south China coast much weaker than normal in the second half of the month, March 2024 was overall much warmer than usual in Hong Kong. The monthly mean maximum temperature of 23.9 degrees, monthly mean temperature of 21.1 degrees and monthly mean minimum temperature of 19.1 degrees were 2.0 degrees, 1.6 degrees and 1.5 degrees above their corresponding normals and respectively one of the sixth, the eighth and one of the eighth highest on record for March. Moreover, the maximum temperature recorded at the Observatory reached a record high of 31.5 degrees on March

24, easily breaking the previous record for March set way back in 1973. The month was also drier than usual with a total rainfall of 21.6 millimetres, about 29 per cent of the normal figure of 75.3 millimetres. The accumulated rainfall recorded in the first three months of the year was 32.4 millimetres, about 78 per cent below the normal figure of 147.4 millimetres for the same period.

Under the influence of the northeast monsoon and with a broad band of clouds covering Guangdong, the weather of Hong Kong was cold and mainly cloudy with a few rain patches on the first two days of the month. The temperatures at the Observatory fell to a minimum of 9.6 degrees on the morning of March 2, the lowest of the month. While it was mainly cloudy with a few light rain patches on March 3, the weather turned brighter in that afternoon.

Affected by a humid southerly airstream, the weather was mainly cloudy and misty with a few rain patches and rising temperatures on March 4 and 5. The visibility in the harbour once fell to about 1 000 metres on the morning of March 5. With sunny intervals, it was also rather warm during the day on that day. Under light wind conditions, it was mainly cloudy and foggy with a few rain patches at first on March 6. The visibility at Waglan Island once fell to around 100 metres. With the arrival of the northeast monsoon and a broad band of clouds covering the coast of Guangdong, local weather turned cooler with a few rain patches on that afternoon and remained so on the next day. The weather improved with sunny periods during the day on March 8.

Under the influence of a replenishment of the strong northeast monsoon and a band of clouds covering the coast of Guangdong, local weather turned cloudy and cooler with a few rain patches on March 9 and 10. Affected by upper-air disturbances, it was cloudy with showers on March 11. More than 10 millimetres of rainfall were recorded over many places of the territory. With the departure of the upper-air disturbances and affected by a continental airstream, the weather turned fine that night and the next day. It was mainly fine at first on March 13 and turned mainly cloudy during the day when a fresh to strong easterly airstream arrived. The weather of Hong Kong remained mainly cloudy in the next two days.

With the easterly airstream affecting the coast of Guangdong gradually replaced by a humid maritime airstream, local weather turned misty with a few light rain patches on March 16. It was mainly cloudy and foggy with a few rain patches on March 17 and 18. The visibility in the harbour once fell below 1 000 metres on the morning of March 17 and it was rather warm with sunny periods during the day that day. A cold front moved across the coastal areas of Guangdong on the morning of March 19. Locally, while it was mainly cloudy with a few rain patches in the morning, under the influence of the associated dry northeast monsoon, the weather turned mainly fine and dry on that afternoon and remained so on the next two days.

With the northeast monsoon affecting the coast of Guangdong gradually replaced by a warm and humid southerly airstream, local weather was mainly cloudy with a few rain patches in the morning and became warm with sunny

periods during the day on March 22. Under the influence of the southerly airstream, it was hot with sunny periods during the day on March 23 to 26. With plenty of sunshine, the temperatures at the Observatory soared to a maximum of 31.5 degrees on the afternoon of March 24, the highest of the month and also the highest maximum temperature for March on record. The visibility over parts of the territory was also low on the mornings of March 24 to 26. The visibility at Waglan Island once fell below 500 metres on the morning of March 25. Affected by a fresh easterly airstream, the weather turned cooler and cloudier with a few light rain patches on March 27. Under light wind conditions and the subsequent southerly airstream, it was mainly cloudy with a few showers and local temperatures recovered again on the last four days of the month. It was hot during the day on March 29 to 31. The daily mean temperature of 27.1 degrees and daily minimum temperature of 26.0 degrees on March 31 were both the highest on record for March. The visibility over parts of the territory was also low on the mornings of March 29 and 30. The visibility at Waglan Island once fell below 1 000 metres on the morning of March 30.

There was no tropical cyclone over the South China Sea and the western North Pacific in March 2024.

Details of issuance and cancellation of various warnings/signals in the month are summarised in Table 1. Monthly meteorological figures and departures from normal for March are tabulated in Table 2.

[Hong Kong Flower Show photo competition entries to close on April 16](#)

Entries for the "Floral Joy Around Town" photo competition, one of the activities of the Hong Kong Flower Show 2024 which concluded earlier, will close on April 16. Members of the public interested in joining the competition are reminded to enrol and upload their entries via the electronic link (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/lcs095/en).

The photo competition is jointly presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB). The competition aims to promote community greening with impressive photographs of flowers and plants on display, interesting or touching scenes captured at the showground, and portraits of TVB artistes and Miss Hong Kong titleholders with beautiful garden displays as a background.

The photo competition is divided into three categories: Category A – Portrait of TVB Artistes and Miss Hong Kong; Category B – Flowers; and

Category C – Snapshots.

Entries for Category A, comprising the Open and Student Sections, must be photos of TVB artistes and Miss Hong Kong titleholders taken by entrants to the activity "Portrait Photo Shooting Session" on March 14 at the showground in Victoria Park. Entries for Category B must be photos of flowers including garden displays or floral art exhibits taken at the showground during the show period. Entries for Category C must be photos of interesting features or moments at the flower show taken during the show period.

Results of the competition will be announced in June on the flower show webpage. Winners will be notified in writing for the collection of prizes. All winning entries will be uploaded onto the flower show webpage for public viewing at the same time.

For enquiries, please call 2601 8260 or refer to the flower show webpage www.hkflowershow.hk/en/hkfs/2024/photo_rs.html for details.

The flower show was organised by the LCSD. The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust supported the flower show for the 12th consecutive year and has been its major sponsor since 2014.