

Baptist Union of Great Britain

Hong Kong Response Project

Newsletter 6 – July 2022



Sharon Shek writes:

Summer Holiday

Everybody looks forward to summer holidays. And it is also a peak travelling period for Hong Kongers. Hong Kongers are hard-working and many of them used to travel a lot in summer, especially the families and teachers. It released them from the pressure of work. Many Hong Kongers travelled abroad or went to China for shopping and eating. However, the political events and Covid have stopped them going to China and travelling abroad since 2019. Maybe some of the Hong Kongers have felt a bit crazy because of this! Some are having a staycation in Hong Kong instead, booking a hotel to stay for two or three days, even if the hotel is near home.

For the Hong Kong migrants in the UK there are many more places to visit. Everywhere in the UK seems new for us. The views and the historical buildings are welcomed by Hong Kongers. Camping would be a new activity for most Hong Kongers. One of my friends invited us to camp. He has had three camping trips in his first summer in the UK. However, the weather is different from Hong Kong and there are many tips and rules we need to know when we are camping here. Of course, glamping is also a new activity for us, while this is popular for the locals. It's good to hear the tips from you and it's good to invite the Hong Kongers for camping together and making friendships. The photo was my first camping this summer. It's fun to camp under the rain!



Good news

Hurray! The Hong Kong Renew café has been happening in Derby!



Wellbeing Café Movement has been growing very well in England. There are over 200 Renew Cafés which started from the first 'Renew 37' in Nottingham. It's based on the five elements to wellbeing and is very focused on prayer and partnership with the church. The slogan of 'It's OK not to be OK' is an important value for accepting all people of every status. The emotions of Hong Kongers are complex. Leaving home in Hong Kong and building a new home in the UK is not easy for them. It can come with homesickness, tiredness, confusion, disappointment and depression. Hong Kongers need a place to rest, to speak and to be silent. Renew café is a good place for them.

The team of the Hong Kong Renew café learned about the concept and the running of a Renew café. Also, they spent months to have Renew training, safeguarding training and many meetings for team building. The Hong Kong team is also new in the UK and they have their own difficulties. However, they are very kind to spend their time, and to humbly learn and serve the other Hong Kongers because of the love of Jesus. It's such a great testimony!



Please pray!

- 1 Pray for the organisations and churches which are welcoming Hong Kongers. Pray for the wisdom and love that we can respond to the needs of Hong Kongers.

Next Step

- 1 The recording of our 'experience sharing' webinar has been uploaded to our Baptists Together YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/NYPF_gGtZxA Take a look and learn from each other – please 'like' and share the video.
- 2 Invite Sharon Shek to preach or share about the project in your church. Please contact me at sshek@baptist.org.uk
- 3 Download the virtual banner from the website (www.baptist.org.uk/hkwelcome) to show that you welcome Hong Kongers and people from all over the world. Or you can purchase a real one to hang outside your church from the CPO website: cpo.org.uk/hong-kong-welcome

