明愛陳震夏郊野學園

源自英國郊野學習議會

英國郊野學習議會於一九四三年成立,是一所教育慈善機構,目的為大眾提供第一身的戶外學習 機會,對於香港的實地考察教育發展具有深遠影響。該議會深信如果人類可以更深入了解身邊的 環境,可以讓我們懂得欣賞自然環境及引發人類保護環境的原動力。早年香港教育署亦參照英國 郊野學習議會的運作及課程,並於一九七八年成立西貢郊野學習館。郊野學園成立初期亦有派出 老師到訪英國郊野學習議會以汲取當地教學的精髓。

源自西貢郊野學習館

明愛陳震夏郊野學園參考西貢郊野學習館的模式,以資助學校模式運作。因西貢郊野學習館提供的 實地考察課程需求殷切,明愛陳震夏郊野學園於一九九六年開始舉辦高級程度生物科及地理科考察 課程,並由學位教師任教。

明愛陳震夏郊野學園的出現

西貢郊野學習館自開館以來一直求過於供,學校往往要等候兩至三年方能參加一次高級程度生物 或地理住宿課程。因此,當年教育署決定成立更多郊野學習館以滿足對住宿課程的殷切需求。最終 香港明愛成功於一九九六年成立了第三間郊野學習館(郊野學園)。

香港明愛創立郊野學園的成功要素

與前職業訓練及教育服務部總主任李崇德太平紳士及教育署前首席督學羅慶倫先生的訪問中,歸納 出以下幾點:

- 1. 明愛陳震郊野學園位於明愛營地附近,營地能提供住宿課程的膳宿需要。
- 2. 香港明愛獲得陳震夏信托基金支持。
- 3. 當時明愛高層包括力理得神父、楊鳴章神父及李崇德太平紳士全力支持成立郊野學園。
- 4. 長洲具有豐富的考察點,如海岸綫及生物多樣化。

上述因素皆使明愛陳震夏郊野學園於一九九六年孕育並在這二十年內穩定發展。

以下為一九九二、一九九五及一九九七年所拍攝的航空照片,展示郊野學園不同階段的發展。



學園興建前(1992)



學園興建中(1995)



學園正式運作(1997)

Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre

Originated from Field Studies Council

Field Studies Council, which was established in 1943, is an education charity in England. It offers opportunities for the public to learn about and engage with outdoor through first-hand experience. It has positive and profound impact on the development of field studies works in Hong Kong. It is deeply-entrenched among the Council, that people will appreciate the nature and start to protect it, once they get to know deeper about the environment in which they live. The Sai Kung Field Studies Centre was set up by Hong Kong Education Bureau in 1978, after drawing inspirations from the daily operations and courses of the Field Studies Council. The Council was also the main source of education enlightenment to which teachers from Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre were sent, during the first years upon the Centre's establishment.

Originated from Sai Kung Field Studies Centre

Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre is modeled from Sai Kung Field Studies Centre operated according to Code of Aid. The establishment of Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre was the result of over-subscription of the field courses of Sai Kung Field Studies Centre. Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre conducted field studies for Advanced Level Biology and Geography students in Hong Kong by one graduate Biology teacher and one graduate Geography teacher respectively in 1996.

Emergence of Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre in Cheung Chau

Sai Kung Field Studies Centre was over-subscribed since its commencement. The participating schools had to wait for two to three years in order to join the Advanced Level Biology or Geography residential field courses. As such, the Education Department decided to open more field studies centres to cater for the keen demand for residential courses. Eventually, Caritas Hong Kong successfully established the third field studies centre in Hong Kong in 1996.

Factors accounting for the organization of Field Studies Centre

In the interviews with the former Head of VTES, Mr. Lee S.T., Peter and former Principal Inspector, Mr. Law H.L., Stephen, the following factors are being summarized:

- 1. The present location of Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre is located next to Caritas camps that provide meal and accommodation for the teachers and students of residential courses.
- 2. Caritas Hong Kong was able to solicit the funding from Chan Chun Ha Charitable Trust for the centre founding.
- 3. The senior of Caritas Hong Kong in early 1990s including Rev. Lerda, Rev. Yeung M.C., Michael and Mr. Lee S.T., Peter have shown unanimous support.
- 4. Cheung Chau is a site encompassing fascinating coastal features, biodiversity of flora and fauna.

The above factors have sowed the seeds for the perpetual growth of Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre rooted in Cheung Chau.

Below are the aerial photos taken in 1992, 1995 and 1997, which shows the stages of development of the Field Studies Centre.



Before construction (1992)



During construction (1995)



Establishment (1997)