

Police officers finds "Elvis stone" on Taitung beach 警察撿到奇石 像貓王在唱歌

Elvis Presley, who was wildly popular around the world in the 1950s, has been sighted in Taitung — on a stone with a microphone in his hand!

When Liu Ching-hui, head of the investigative team in the Beidou precinct in Changhua County found a stone on a Taitung County beach three years ago, his wife **discarded** it immediately. Later, however, he thought the pattern on the stone looked familiar, so he picked it up again. After bringing it home, he compared it with a picture of Elvis and found an **uncanny** likeness.

At an Asia Pacific wood and stone exhibition in November, a Singaporean collector of strange stones wanted to buy it for NT\$500,000, but Liu wouldn't part with it.

The beach at Nantian Village in Taitung County's Daren Township is full of stones, and it often attracts collectors of strange stones. In 1983, Liu took advantage of his vacation to collect stones in different places, and in 2006, he and his wife returned to the beach at Nantian Village.

He picked up a stone with a large piece of quartz in it. The couple looked at it for a long time without being able to make any associations to an image. In the end, his wife threw the stone away and went to find some other stones before heading back home again.

After having driven about five kilometers, Liu suddenly saw the classic image of Elvis singing into his microphone before his eyes. He immediately turned back to the beach, where he found the stone after **scouring** the beach for a half hour.

When he returned to Changhua, he found the image of Elvis singing and when he looked at the pattern on the stone, it was almost an exact copy of the picture. The hairstyle and the pose were very similar, and even the way he held the microphone looked the same. That's when Liu realized that he had come within **a hair's breadth** of throwing away a treasure.

(LIBERTY TIMES, TRANSLATED BY PERRY SVENSSON)

九五〇年代席捲全球的美國歌手貓王在台東現身，他浮現在一塊石頭上，手持麥克風！

彰化縣北斗警分局偵查隊小隊長劉景輝，三年前在台東縣海邊撿獲一塊石頭，被太太當場丟掉，後來他覺得石頭上的圖樣非常熟悉，回頭把它撿回家，與貓王演唱的那張相片比對，更覺得唯妙唯肖。

十一月間在亞太樹石展覽中，新加坡奇石愛好者出價五十萬元欲蒐購，他仍捨不得割愛。

台東縣達仁鄉南田村海邊有許多石頭可以撿拾，常吸引愛好奇石民衆尋寶。劉景輝七十二年間就利用閒暇到各地撿拾石頭，九十五年間他與太太再度前往南田村海邊。

當時他撿起一塊石頭，中央有一大片白石英，與太太看了許久，無法聯想到任何圖樣，太太將這塊石頭丟棄，另外撿拾其他石頭就回家。

車子走了約五公里，腦中突然浮起貓王手拿麥克風演唱的經典畫面，馬上返回現場，找了半個小時終於找到。

一回到彰化，他迫不及待查詢貓王演唱的那一張相片，再與石頭比對，赫然發現如同該張相片的翻版，不論是髮形、演唱神態都非常神似，甚至連麥克風手勢也如出一轍，這時他才知道，差點把到手的寶貝丟掉。

(自由時報記者王百鍊攝)

The stone seems to have an imprint of a well known image of Elvis Presley.
PHOTO: WANG PAI-LIAN, LIBERTY TIMES

這塊石頭上的紋路有如貓王知名相片的翻版。

照片：自由時報記者王百鍊攝



TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. discard /dɪs'kɑrd/ v.

丟棄 (diu1 qi4)

例：Make sure you discard your litter before you leave.
(離開前記得把垃圾丟掉。)

2. uncanny /ʌn'kæni/ adj.

不可思議的 (bu4 ke3 si1 yi4 de5)，奇怪的 (qi2 guai4 de5)

例：I had an uncanny feeling that something terrible would happen.
(我有一種奇怪的感覺，好像會發生甚麼不好的事。)

3. scour /skaʊr/ v.

搜尋 (sou1 pian4)

例：The search party scoured the area through the night.
(搜索隊在該區徹夜搜查。)

IDIOM POINT 重要片語

a hair's breadth 些微的差距

A hair's breadth is a very small distance or amount. Examples: "We were a hair's breadth away from winning the tournament, when the opposition suddenly scored," or "I has a hair's breadth away from getting hit by a taxi this morning."

「a hair's breadth」指的就是非常微小的距離或數量。例如：「對手突然出手得分，我們以非常些微的差距輸掉比賽」，或是「今天早上我差點就被一輛計程車撞到」。