

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MAC CHAN



Dear fellow members and Rotarians,

October is Rotary International's Economic & Community Development Month. Rotary supports investments in people to create measurable and enduring economic improvement in their lives and communities. The Rotary Foundation enables Rotarians to invest in people by creating sustainable, measurable, and long-term economic improvements in their communities and livelihoods by:

1. Building the capacity of entrepreneurs, community leaders, local organizations, and community networks to support economic development in impoverished communities;
2. Developing opportunities for productive work;
3. Reducing poverty in under-served communities;
4. Supporting studies for career-minded professionals related to economic and community development.



For Rotarians, this month is a reminder of the pivotal role we play in driving sustainable development and creating resilient communities. Our club, in this year, is going to organize a structured vocational training program aiming at empowering women (especially those low-income, middle-aged women) with skills that are essential for employment and entrepreneurship, fostering a culture of self-reliance and economic independence. For this project, we have applied for District Grant for subsidies.



May this month bless you with love, contentment and good health.

Yours in Rotary,

Mac Chan

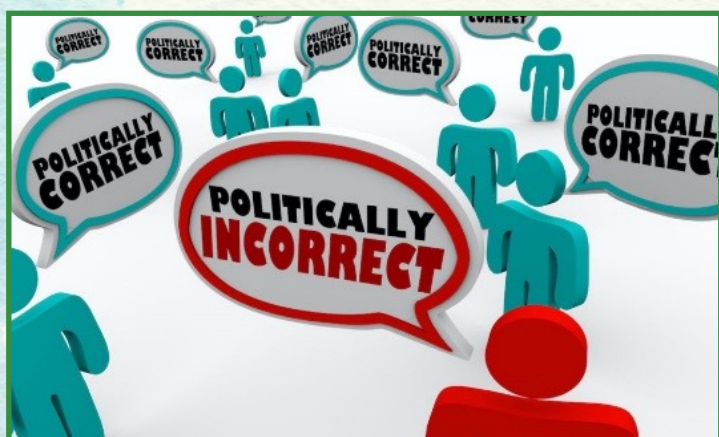
EDITOR SAYS
CLAIRE MAK

In our ever-connected world, language can be a delightful yet tricky dance! Recently, I sent out a group email to our client and its advisors in Singapore in a case we handle together, outlining the details of an upcoming initiative. Almost immediately, a foreign colleague reached out to me privately, expressing concern that the abbreviation I used might be misinterpreted by some members from a specific country. She wondered if it could inadvertently come across as racially insensitive.



I appreciated her vigilance and promptly sent a follow-up email to clarify the situation and even canceled the use of the abbreviation in question. In today's climate, where political correctness is paramount, it's essential to tread carefully. After all, being cautious isn't just for politicians!

Language can be a minefield; as they say, "Words are the source of misunderstandings." How we articulate our thoughts doesn't always guarantee clarity. The nuances of language can vary widely, influenced by cultural contexts and individual sensitivities. A wise person might speak without intent, yet the listener might interpret it differently.



As we navigate these complexities, it's crucial to remain vigilant and thoughtful. This is particularly relevant in an era where AI is becoming more prevalent. While AI can replicate certain abilities, it lacks the nuanced understanding of human emotions and cultural contexts. I think no one from our club attends the District DEI Seminar; so, it remains unknown if the Seminar might shed any light on the above, not that I am very eager to know anyway.

In any event, let's embrace the richness of communication, continually learning from each other and fostering a spirit of inclusivity within our Rotary community. After all, it's our diverse perspectives that enrich our mission! Alright now, let me double check this issue of Tai Post for any insensitivity.





ROTARY INFORMATION PETER LAM

Rotary
Club of Tai Po



P.3

We have just passed the Rotary Basic Education & Literacy Month in September but let's take a look at this interesting basic education Rotary Program in Taiwan supported by the Rotary Foundation. Maybe some rural schools in China and Asia require similar kind of projects for Hong Kong clubs to explore?



Rotary program boosts scientific literacy in Taiwan's schools From RI Website Feb. 2017

The sky above the playground at Lao Mei Elementary School (老梅國小) in New Taipei City, Taiwan, is dotted with kites of different colors, shapes, and sizes. Below, groups of students are busy making more kites and testing their construction skills in flying competitions.

To a passerby, the scene looks like just a fun day at school, but teachers know this is much more than play. It's science, or to be exact, physics.

"As a matter of fact, it's pure physics. The basic ability to fly a kite teaches lessons of aerodynamics and physics," says Lao Mei science teacher Tsai Shin Yi, who believes that making and flying kites helps students see how science affects their daily lives — including playtime — and motivates them to learn more.

And in this class, even failures are seen as positive teaching moments. When some of Yi's students were ready to quit after several failed attempts to get their kites airborne, he asked them, "Can any of you tell me why some kites fail to fly successfully?"

The kite classes at Lao Mei School, affectionately referred to as Love Kites, Love Lao Mei, are part of the Rotary Science Education Program, the flagship project of the *Rotary Club of Taipei Pei-An* (台北培安扶輪社). The global grant project aims to improve science education for students attending public schools in rural areas of Taiwan.

"We realized that science teachers and classrooms, particularly elementary and secondary schools in rural areas, receive fewer materials and resources, and even less institutional support" than other subjects, says Pauline Leung, past governor of District 3520 in Taiwan and the club's former president. Local teachers and Rotary club members agree that without a proper foundation in science, students become scientifically illiterate. And science teachers need strong classroom management skills and an in-depth understanding of their subject to help their students develop an interest and aptitude for science.

"So, we designed a science education program that provides a systematic approach to learning with a number of components, including audiovisual and instructional materials, professional development, material resources, community support, and evaluation," says Leung.

Lao Mei School has used kites to help students learn about a variety of subjects, including math, engineering, and basic science. Because of the program's success, the school added a new component that helps students understand basic science theories, says Leung.

The program involves working with simple machines — levers, wheels, axles, gears, and pulleys — along with energy. To ensure the program's sustainability, teachers also received training. Leung says the program is partly funded by a global grant from The Rotary Foundation with help from the Taiwan district's international partner, Rotary District 3700 in Daegu, Korea.

"We wanted to participate in projects that support literacy and education. The Rotary Science Education Program in Taiwan exemplifies Rotary's enduring commitment to this effort," says Seung Ho Lee, a member of the Rotary Club of Daegu-Seongseo in District 3700.

Since the Rotary Science Education Program launched three years ago, teachers in the 20 rural schools where it's been implemented have reported a new enthusiasm for learning among their students and increased participation by students with learning difficulties.

Yi says the program has also affected teachers, adding that the professional development elements have helped teachers increase their science knowledge and improve their teaching techniques.

Last year, members of the Taipei Pei-An Rotary Club visited Lao Mei School to see the program firsthand. "We realized that what students learn is greatly influenced by how they are taught," says Irene Lu, club president. "The actions of science teachers are deeply influenced by their understanding of the subject matter."



Applying their knowledge of physics and math, students at Lao Mei School build and fly kites during classes supported by the Rotary Science Education Program.



Building on the success of the Program, the school added a new component that teaches students basic science topics using simple machines and the application of energy. Teachers believe that making and flying kites helps students see how science affects their daily lives and motivates them to learn more.



October 2013



Planning meeting (dinner at City U Chinese restaurant) to setup our Rotaract Club of CU WYS College with CP Sunny Liu and our Tai Po Rotaractors on 18 Oct.



With 1995-96 PP Man at District Vocational Service Seminar hosted by RC Peninsula at HK Hotel on 20 Oct. 2013-14 Pres. Francis was at head table.



At the meeting on 7 Oct at Hullet House 1881, Rotaryanne Bebe was winner of raffle gift of Zwilling knives set which Claire bought from her trip in Germany.



Those were the days when many of us members & spouses joined our sister club RC Taipei 65th Charter Anniversary party at W Hotel 12 Oct.



A truly fun-filled 4 days trip which included Japanese Isakaya welcome dinner, Golf Day, Tea House lunch, Pineapple & Taro cake shopping, Cultural Park visit, Karaoke after party, seafood lunch and 豆漿breakfast.



October 2016



Joint meeting with RC Mandarin on 17 Oct. at KCC. with guest speaker Lynna Wong from RC Shanghai West about "Coffee."



Our theme night led by Frankie "The Good Old Days" at the prestigious Hong Kong Club in Central on 29 Oct. We had great fun with singing contest by theme groups.



On 29 Oct., RCTP members and Rotaractors from CU WYC turned up in great force to support social workers & volunteers from HK Seng Kung Hui Tai Wo Neighbourhood Elderly Centre to perform health check service (such as blood pressure checks, BMI checks, cholesterol checks, bone density checks) for about 100 elderly in an activity "身心健康齊參與".



October 2016



We had a big meeting on 31 Oct. at KCC when IPDG Peter Pang spoke to us about Plastic Surgery. Many visiting Rotarians as well as our Star Reaching Project youth, social worker and Rotaractors from CU WYS were present.

At 3 Oct. meeting with guest speaker Pres. Connie Leung of E-club and YC Ho (DG 2018-19). Benjamin Wong was there!

October 2019



Our biggest activity in October is certainly our annual trip to attend sister club RC Taipei's Charter Anniversary. We had a very rich program this time as our 5-8 Oct. trip started off with joining RC Taipei's baby club RC Taipei Diamond's party, followed by golf and big welcome dinner the next day and the official Charter Anniversary of RCT on the 3rd day and farewell Japanese lunch with RCT. Of course, there was the after party late night snack (宵夜) at the popular spot 小李子清粥小菜餐廳. Big thanks to 2019-20 VP Wilson Woo for representing Pres. KF who could not make the trip and glad to have Joanna with us!



14 Oct. meeting with talented speaker Yuki Wong on the topic of "Talking to the Post-80s". Claire gave vote of thanks to her fellow alumni.



At our 22 Oct. meeting, we welcome back Scottish girl Kayleigh Miller in town. Kayleigh was one of 2 Scottish students who joined the Youth Exchange project our club organized between 2 schools from Scotland & Tai Po during Claire's RY2005-06. Kayleigh must be glad to be reunited with her host family Alice (wife of former member Timmy Kwong) as well as the former student from Tai Po Mabel Chu who had become a teacher. We also celebrated birthday / belated birthday of Jacky & Kenneth who received the birthday gifts prepared by KF.



October 2022



Rotaract Club of Tai Po's Installation was held at iBakery Café in Admiralty on 9 Oct. when Katherine So took over as President. DG Norman and DRC Henry were present too.



Happy times on 8 Oct Saturday: first we attended DAG Sally's clinic Grand Opening and cocktail reception in the afternoon in Tsimshatsui. We rounded off the day with our Ole! Ole! Spanish theme night at EL CID restaurant where members had team building drawing activity and good Spanish dinner afterwards.





New Grand Children !!!

BEST FEELING
 IS
 BEING
 GRANDPA
 FOR THE
 FIRST TIME

PP Matthew Yum
 Congratulations on the arrival of first grandchild!

Ellie Jade Yum 任芊泳
 Born May 2025
 Daughter of Nicholas and Elise



Rotarian Sincere
 Congratulations on the arrival of fourth grandchild!

Kira Chu
 born Aug. 7, 2025,
 weight 7 lb. 15 oz.
 Daughter of Kelly and Kingston

ACTUALLY
I am a
GRANDMA
 ★ several times ★
 AND VERY PROUD



DG Cassy Cheng's Official Visit to Area 6

22 September 2025. K F Tam

The DG's visit to Area 6 took place on 22 September 2025 at the Royal Plaza Hotel. Before the joint dinner meeting, there was a private meeting with the DG and her team. Our club was assigned the time slot of 6:00 to 6:30 PM, which was convenient for us. Our club was represented by President Mac and 5 club officers/directors. President Mac introduced our club's plans, service projects, and the upcoming events. The DG's team provided valuable feedback and highlighted the focus points for the district this year. We shared ideas and engaged in good interactive communication during the meeting.



The dinner meeting was a significant event organized by Area 6, supported by 11 clubs. Our club members occupied one table, while our PDGs and President Mac sat at the head table. As usual, there were brief reports from different clubs in Area 6, along with a keynote speech from DG Cassy.



The second part of the meeting included the induction of new members for the Rotary Club of Area 6, as well as a celebration for the September birthday stars. That night, we were delighted to gather with the club members of Area 6. Everyone exchanged pleasantries and greeted one another. We raised our glasses and enjoyed drinks together while discussing community and club matters. The dinner meeting concluded on a joyful and lively note.



Visiting Street Sleepers' Shelter Society — Sharing Warmth and Care

30 September 2025 . Danny Lau

On Tuesday, September 30, 2025, members of our club visited the Street Sleepers' Shelter Society (SSSS) in Wanchai to deliver care packages and spread Mid-Autumn warmth. Participants included PP K.F., PP Natalie, PP Louis, PP Peter, PP Danny and PDG Anthony's spouse Mary. Our goal was to bring love and festive blessings to those who need it most.

The Wanchai facility is one of the oldest shelters of its kind in Hong Kong, located near the St. James' Settlement. Staff shared that when the shelter was first established, there were no restroom facilities — residents had to use a public toilet downstairs. This historical detail underscores how humble the original living conditions were. Thanks to years of steady support from various charities, the shelter gradually improved: now men and women have separate dorms, and the population served is more diverse — including mothers with children as young as six. The organization's annual operating cost exceeds HK \$3 million, and it serves more than one hundred residents each year.



During our visit, we were deeply moved. Even in a wealthy city like Hong Kong, many people still depend on places like SSSS to get through difficult times. Staff also revealed something few outsiders know: after typhoons, the most urgently needed items are not mooncakes or gifts, but dry food and instant noodles. Storms disrupt transport, making restocking nearly impossible — so durable, non-perishable food becomes essential.

In response, our club purchased and donated more than 600 packs of cup noodles, biscuits, and other dry goods, distributing them between the Wanchai and Sham Shui Po branches of SSSS. Club members also gave additional food boxes to both centers as Mid-Autumn gifts, hoping residents would feel society's warmth during the festival.



During the visit, we got a close look at the shelter's daily operations. Most residents return by evening; the facility conducts regular pest control and cleaning to keep things hygienic. Each resident's bed is considered personal property — they can take it with them when they leave. These small but meaningful touches show respect and care for those staying there.



This visit not only gave our members a real sense of grassroots hardship, but also reminded us that in a bustling city, there are still people who need sustained care. Through hands-on support and genuine interaction, the Rotary Club of Tai Po hopes to carry forward the spirit of action with compassion, bringing warmth and strength to our community.

**Drinking with the Moon:
 A day of Service followed by a great night of Fellowship**
 30 September 2025 . Kenneth Wong

The Rotary Club of Tai Po celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival on the evening of 30th September with a heartfelt event, "Drinking with the Moon".

Before joining our own celebrations, members of our club first extended the warmth of the season to our community. In a meaningful act of volunteer service, we visited a group of homeless individuals in The Shelter for the street sleepers in Wanchai. Presenting them with goodie bags with essential provisions was more than a simple donation; it was a gesture of compassion and solidarity, ensuring that the spirit of caring for the less fortunate reached those who need it most. This initiative powerfully reflected our commitment to "Service Above Self," bringing a moment of joy and connection to the less fortunate.

Following this rewarding community service, the club reconvened for a festive fellowship evening at a restaurant with breathtaking view of the Victoria harbour. Good food and free flowing of good spirits and guessing of lantern riddles enabled members to immerse in fun, share stories, and enjoy excellent cuisine in a warm, convivial atmosphere. It was a cherished opportunity to celebrate our collective efforts and the rich traditions of the festival.



"Drinking with the Moon" demonstrated how our Club's fellowship fuels our commitment to serve, and how our service, in turn, deepens the bonds we share. We extend our gratitude to every member who participated, in making this a truly memorable and impactful Mid-Autumn Festival. We are especially thankful to fellowship team 1, ably led by PP Wilson Lam, Mac, Danny, Henry and yours truly. Club fellowship chair PP Armstrong is always a source of inspiration and motivation to each and every fellowship events of Rotary Club of Tai Po and we are keenly anticipating our next club fellowship.




**SEP
2025**

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
13 Oct (Mon)	19:00	# 1470 Regular Meeting cum Club Assembly	Regal Kowloon Hotel Tsimshatsui East
18 Oct (Sat)	19:00	Rotary Club of Taipei 77th Charter Anniversary	2F, Ballroom, Shangri-La Far Eastern, Taipei, Taiwan
20 Oct (Mon)	19:00	# 1471 Joint Meeting with RC Kingspark HK Speaker: Mr Cavan Chan Topic: Sleep Advantage: Lead with Energy Not with Exhaustion	Regal Kowloon Hotel Tsimshatsui East

Anthony Hung
Armstrong Shea
Claire Mak
Kenneth Wong
KF Tam
Louis Tang
Mac Chan
Natalie Kwok
Peter Lam
Sally Luk
Simsim Lai
Wilson Woo

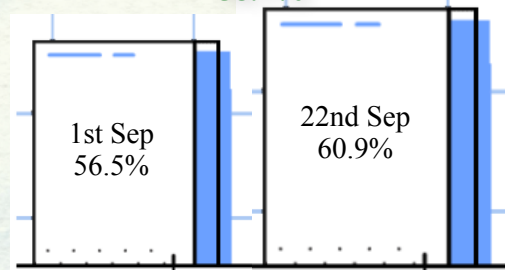
CASINO ROYALE
77th Charter Anniversary
Rotary Club of Taipei
 Saturday, 18 October 2025
 Reception at 6:00 PM | Gala from 6:30 to 9:30 PM
 at 2F, Ballroom, Shangri-La Far Eastern, Taipei
 201, Section 2, Dunhua South Road,
 Daan District, Taipei, Taiwan
 NTS 3,000 per person | Dress Code : Black Tie
 R.S.V.P. / rotary.taipei@msa.hinet.net

JOINT MEETING
RC Tai Po & RC Kingspark
 20 October 2025 (Monday)
 7:00pm | Regal Kowloon Hotel
**"Sleep Advantage:
Lead with Energy
Not with Exhaustion"**
 Cavan Chan
 Sleep & Performance
 Coach

miss you
 Benjamin Wong
 CM Yu
 Frankie Wu
 Mansan Ho
 Masayuki Tsubaki
 Sincere Yip
 William Yim

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
讓冰川退燒
達古冰川考察團
 名額: 80
 從速報名
 5日冰川保育考察團 (10/26-30)
 早鳥優惠 名額40個
 二人成團優惠
\$8,900
 出發日期: 2025年10月26-30日 (星期五至四)
 獨家安排:
 1. 搭乘中國國際航空直飛成都
 2. 搭乘「國冰川退燒」特種列車
 3. 搭乘「國冰川退燒」特種巴士
 4. 搭乘「國冰川退燒」特種火車
 5. 搭乘「國冰川退燒」特種飛機

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
To October Stars!
 Viola Chow (1/10)
 Jodhy Mak (6/10)
 James Cheng (12/10)
 Jacky Sung (14/10)
 Charles Chan (16/10)
 Janet Lin (17/10)
 Sincere Yip (31/10)

SEP 2025
Average Attendance
58.7%

Got something to say?

Tai Post wants to hear from you.
 Write in to clairemak.rctp@gmail.com
 Tai Post reserves the right to edit articles for
 length and clarity.

The editorial board
Claire Mak, Peter Lam