

TAI 報 POST

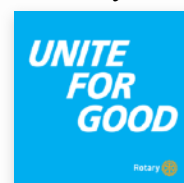
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



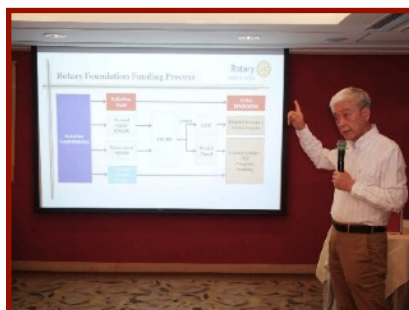
Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Two more months to go - the next Rotary Year will commence in July 2025. I have the pleasure to take up presidency of this Club since January 2025 and will continue to serve as President of our Club in next Rotary Year. I am grateful to have all your unwavering support throughout.

This month, we have got a surprise from our club's past president, Past District Governor Kenneth Wong. We must thank Kenneth for his generous gift to an Endowment Fund set up in the name of our Club for celebration of our Club's 35th anniversary.



As shared by PDG Kenneth at our previous general meeting, he considers it as a better alternative to members contributing to the Rotary Foundation. He initiated to donate our members' cash gifts for his daughter Amy's wedding held in December 2024 to the Endowment Fund in the name of Rotary Club of Tai Po, leaving permanent legacy in our club's name.



This generous donation inevitably supports the Rotary Foundation in perpetuity. As mentioned by Rotary International, "while a gift to the Annual Fund helps people live better lives today, gifts to Rotary's Endowment support the same life-changing programs forever."

Benefactor

When you include the **Endowment Fund** as a beneficiary of \$1,000 or more in your estate plans or when you donate \$1,000 or more to the fund outright. Benefactors receive a certificate and insignia to wear with a Rotary or Paul Harris Fellow pin.

Contributions to the Endowment Fund do not qualify for Paul Harris Fellow status, but they do count towards the accumulation needed for Major Donor recognition.




As a Rotarian, we will definitely continue to support Rotary's global action that improves people's lives every day, and as driving force behind Rotary International's successful efforts to eradicate polio, provide peacebuilding tools, protect the environment, and improve health, education, and economic resources etc.

We hope that, in future, our members' contributions to the Rotary Foundation could similarly be made towards the Endowment Fund, to support Rotary members over the world who carry out sustainable projects that deliver real, long-term solutions to the world's most persistent issues.

I trust it will be a meaningful year for us, especially when it comes to 35th anniversary of our Club. We will celebrate it through a series of service and fellowship events.

Yours in Rotary,
Mac Chan



CLAIRE MAK

EDITOR SAYS



One important celebration in May, aside from Labour Day (holiday 😊), is Mother's Day. Mother's Day originated over a century ago in the United States, preceding Father's Day. Why did Mother's Day come first? This can largely be attributed to historical gender inequality, where fathers enjoyed societal privileges while mothers labored tirelessly without recognition. This dynamic reflects the essence of International Women's Day, which advocates for women's rights—privileged men typically do not require a special day to celebrate themselves.



Another factor contributing to the prominence of Mother's Day is the universal acknowledgment of the profound importance of maternal love. Even within religious contexts, figures like Jesus (who did not seem to have a father) had Virgin Mary as a mother, emphasizing the significance of motherhood in shaping lives. As the status of mothers continues to rise, Mother's Day has become increasingly celebrated across cultures and communities. While some argue that fathers also deserve recognition—especially those who shoulder substantial family responsibilities—Father's Day has gradually gained acceptance and respect over time.

Importance Of Mothers In Our Lives

In summation, the multifaceted contributions of mothers to individual development and societal cohesion underscore their indispensable role as architects of human flourishing, underscoring the imperative of honoring and supporting maternal well-being across diverse cultural contexts.



Overall, both Mother's Day and Father's Day serve vital roles in promoting and nurturing familial bonds. In our modern era, familial relationships can often feel increasingly distant. Many of us meet less frequently with family compared to friends or former colleagues, creating gaps in connections. While respect for uncles and aunts may be shown during festivals, deeper connections with cousins and extended family members often remain unformed. It is frequently during significant events like weddings and funerals that distant relatives come together and reconnect.



The Rotary Club of Tai Po embodies the spirit of family. I hope we can facilitate the strengthening of our family ties, ensuring that our members, our satellite club members, and our sister club members, along with our mother/daughter clubs, celebrate and honor our shared heritage.

Presidential Peace Conference 2025 – Istanbul Turkey

From RI Website

ROTARY INFORMATION



Healing in a Divided World
**PRESIDENTIAL
PEACE CONFERENCE**
Istanbul, Türkiye
20-22 February 2025

Building peace requires thoughtful, sustained efforts and meaningful partnerships, Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick told attendees at a peace conference in Istanbul. The presidential conference, held 20-22 February, focused on “Healing in a Divided World.” In her opening address, Urchick described the dedication required for true healing to take place.

“Our time together here is a testament to our shared belief in the power of peacebuilding,” she said. “But let’s acknowledge something essential: The act of ‘Healing in a Divided World’ is not something we can achieve quickly or easily. It takes an intentional commitment over time.”

Participants from various backgrounds outlined how that commitment could take shape. At a session focused on technology and media, speakers discussed how technology can reinforce both peace and conflict. They highlighted the impact of artificial intelligence, the ways technology can bolster peacebuilding efforts, and the expansive threat of misinformation. Sheldon Himelfarb, an award-winning filmmaker and the founder of PeaceTech Lab, called for peacebuilders to forge a global response to misinformation. The danger it poses, he argued, is comparable to that of war, pandemics, and climate change.

Healing the environment and humanity

Other sessions focused on environmental issues in peacebuilding.

Nada El Agizy, president of the Rotary E-Club of Egy-International and director of sustainable development and international cooperation at the League of Arab States, emphasized a particular threat in the Middle East. “Climate change poses one of the most significant challenges the Arab States region has ever faced,” she said. “The region is considered one of the world’s foremost climate-change hotspots, and it is highly vulnerable to the negative impacts of global warming.”

In the final session, attendees heard from a survivor of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. Freddy Mutanguha was 18 when his parents, four sisters, and nearly 80 members

of his extended family were murdered. After this unimaginable loss, he dedicated his life to preventing such atrocities and building a more peaceful world. Mutanguha, a member of the Rotary Club of Kigali-Mont Jali, Kigali, Rwanda, is now director of the Kigali Genocide Memorial and CEO of the Aegis Trust. He said the Kigali Genocide Memorial represents a decision to heal.

A new Rotary Peace Center welcomes scholars

Attendees at the conference included the first 13 Rotary Peace Fellows at the Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center at Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul. The newest of Rotary’s seven global peace centers, it offers peacebuilders based in the Middle East and North Africa the opportunity to earn professional development certificates in peace and development studies.

The Rotary Peace Fellows come from countries including Egypt, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Pakistan, Sudan, Somalia, and Yemen. During their fellowships, they will pursue projects such as aiding migrant single mothers, creating peacebuilding content for social media, strengthening grassroots organizations, and educating youth through sports programs. Several of the fellows’ projects aim to empower refugees.

“Climate change and unsustainable agricultural policies contribute to the number of people involuntarily displaced,” said fellow Havva Şeyda Bodur in her biographical statement. “Humanity must find comprehensive solutions immediately. Otherwise, one day, everyone from all walks of life has the risk of being a refugee.”

In concluding the conference, Urchick called on the participants to forge partnerships to work for peace and said the new peace center reflected the essence of Rotary.

It “is more than just a physical space. It is a symbol of what we can achieve when we work together,” Urchick said. “Rotary’s success has always been rooted in partnerships, whether it’s between clubs, with local communities, or with global institutions.

The challenges we face today demand nothing less than the combined efforts of governments, nongovernmental organizations, academia, and grassroots organizations. By fostering collaboration and sharing resources, we can amplify our impact and drive real progress.”





flashback photograph
Rotary Club of Tai Po

FLASHBACK 當年今月

Rotary
Club of Tai Po



TAI 報
POST

A look back of our club's events of the month in the past 3, 6, 9 & 12 years

May 2013



18 May "Ladies Night" Theme Night at The Box restaurant in IFC when we were asked to dress in red, yellow or green. President Ron presented our ladies with towel gift.



OC team member KF and Vikky came up with some interesting games where some of our kids also participated.



Club visit to RC HK Harbour on 23 May when our spouses Creamy, Alice & Jackie joined then RC Lan Kwai Fong PP Flora (now DG Nigel's wife) to learn about Dumpling making before the meeting.



At our Rotaract Club of Tai Po General Meeting & Professional Talk at a café in Mongkok on 26 May.



Thanks, CP Donald, for arranging vocational visit to KCC for our潮看Teen 空project students on 15 May.



2012-13 PE Francis Au and his team with DG Kenneth at District Assembly in Shatin Jockey Club on 25 May.

May 2016



2015-16 President Vikky with DG Peter Pang, PDG Anthony, PP Wilson Lam, PP Frankie & spouses and other A6 clubs PPs at RI Convention in Seoul from 28 May to 1 June.



We joined BBQ dinner with social workers, staff & students of our Sunshine Teens project after the closing ceremony in NTHYKTPDSS on 25 May.



PP Louis was recognized at our meeting on 16 May for good work he led our club to support TRF.



Members, spouses & kids and Rotaractors turned up in great force to support our "Tender our Loving Care 同心獻關愛長者計劃 Health Check Service Day cum Closing Ceremony at Tsing Yi Community Hall on 21 May.



PDG Anthony, PP Peter & teacher advisor Viola and Interact Club Pres. Alan Yeh at IAC Tai Po Schools "Running Man" activity on 1 May.

May 2016



Thanks PP Wilson & Wanda for inviting Uncle Mr. So Man Hing to speak to us on the topic “The Origin of HK Slang” in KCC at the 9 May meeting.



District Conference at an interesting venue 長隆橫琴灣酒店珠海海洋王國店 on 14-15 May. PP Claire was our Conference Secretary General. Pre-conference Circus show and “Rotary in Wonderland” DG Banquet were big attractions of the event. Rotaryannes Mary & Creamy were among the 7 who dressed up as Alice!



May 2019



PP Frankie & Chloe (daughter of PP Wilson Lam) paid home visit to elderly for our Dementia Friendly Elderly project 守護關懷行動 on 25 May.



At Sunshine Teens & 潮看Teen空 projects closing ceremony at NTHYK TPDS School on 4 May.



“Youth Night” meeting on 6 May with 2018-19 DRC Menza Chu, PDRR Lok Chi, past Rotaractor Joe Ho, and Rotaractors from our two clubs.



With our baby club RC Central at DG (YC Ho) Banquet of District Conference in JW Marriot Hotel in Cotai Macau 18-19 May. We had a very causal fun dinner where attendants all dressed in colorful polo shirt!



We supported our Rotaract Club of Tai Po “Empowering SEN students to Excel” project and attended the photo exhibition and Forum on 11 May in iBakery in Government Headquarter.



May 2022



How glad we were to resume physical meeting since late April! On 16 May (left photo) former Rotaractor Chief Inspector of Police Alex Fan came speak to us about “Cyber Scam”. Alex’s wife San also joined. On 23 May (right photo) PP Daniel Lam of RC Kowloon, member of Board of Hospital Authority was our keynote speaker on the topic “Hardships & Difficulties faced by Hospital Authority during the Pandemic.”



At District Conference in Nina Hotel in Tsuen Wan on 28-29 May. We were lucky to be able to hold District Conference all 3 years 2020-22 during Covid time!

“海陸Home” SDG Service Day

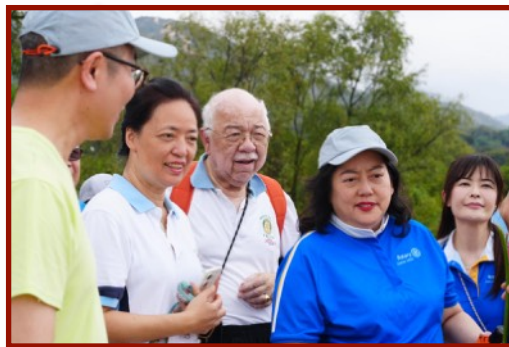
19 April 2025 . Claire Mak

Located in Yuen Long, Ha Pak Nai (下白泥) serves as a green oasis for Hong Kong, renowned for its stunning sunsets that captivate both locals and visitors alike. The District PPE Committee selected this picturesque locale to host the “海陸Home” SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) event, emphasizing the need to protect and nurture its fragile ecosystem. It is hoped that participants would not only enjoy the natural beauty but also engage in meaningful activities that contribute to the sustainable development of the community. Through actions like beach clean-ups and workshops on managing food waste, attendees aimed to embody the spirit of the SDGs. Among those present were enthusiastic members from the RC Tai Po: PDG Anthony and Mary, PP K F and Trix, PP Claire and Satellite members Gary and Jodhy and Isaac, Janet, and Scarlet. Together with other Rotarians and families, members of the ORA Car Team and several children from St. Christopher's Home, and instructors from event organizer Zquare, they shared an enriching and unforgettable day.



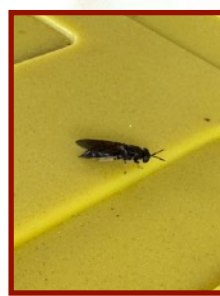
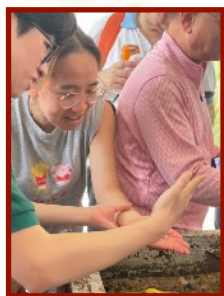
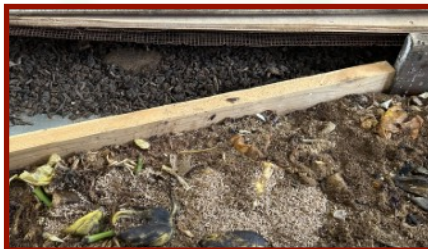
Coastal Ecology and Mangroves

The day began with a visit to the Ha Pak Nai Wetland, where participants immersed themselves in the intricate web of wetland ecology. Guided by local expert Kenji (Zquare instructor), we learned about the delicate balance of marine ecosystems and the alarming threats posed by marine debris and microplastics. The session highlighted the critical role of coastal ecosystems and mangroves in supporting biodiversity and the urgent need for sustainable environmental management. Participants were encouraged to think about their personal impact on these ecosystems and the importance of collective action in conservation efforts.



Food Waste Special Forces: The Ecological Value of Black Soldier Flies (黑水虻)

After exploring the wetlands, the group returned to the center for a fascinating workshop on black soldier flies (黑水虻). Participants discovered from Eric (Zsquare instructor) how these remarkable insects play a vital role in processing food waste, fostering resource recycling, and promoting sustainable agriculture. Some members tried holding the black soldier flies, feeling their warmth and wriggly movement. Though they might not appear appealing at first glance, these little creatures are integral to transforming kitchen waste into valuable resources like plant fertilizer and even ingredients for skincare products. The discussion reinforced the idea that waste can indeed become a resource, showcasing how the black soldier fly contributes to a circular economy by minimizing environmental footprints and enhancing sustainable waste management practices.



Pot Planting with Black Soldier Fly Fertilizer

The next hands-on activity involved using the fertilizer derived from black soldier flies in a pot planting workshop. Participants eagerly engaged in this exercise, using the nutrient-rich fertilizer to grow their own potted plants. This practical experience illustrated the value of resource recycling in sustainable agriculture. Creativity flourished as everyone, including four-year-old Isaac (with a little help from his dad Gary), decorated their pots with colorful designs. This engaging activity fostered a deeper understanding of how resource recycling can lead to sustainable practices at home.



DIY Plastic Bottle Recycling

Continuing the theme of sustainability, the workshop transitioned to DIY projects using recycled plastic bottles. Participants learned innovative ways to repurpose discarded bottles into functional pot plant containers. This practical exercise not only reduced plastic pollution but also raised awareness about social responsibility and the importance of sustainable consumption patterns. By reimagining waste materials, members left with a sense of accomplishment and a commitment to reducing their ecological footprint.



Lunch: A Sustainable Meal

The lunch break featured a buffet-style meal, emphasizing environmental protection using self-brought reusable containers and utensils. Participants washed their dishes with eco-friendly detergent after the meal, reinforcing the event's commitment to sustainability. The food was delicious, and the sweet, refreshing watermelon and grapes provided by sponsors were a delightful touch, revitalizing everyone for the afternoon activities.



Management of Coastline Mangroves and Terrestrial Invasive Plants

After lunch, participants ventured out to witness the ecological wonders of mangroves firsthand. We engaged in beach cleaning activities, working together to create a cleaner habitat for marine life while protecting the pristine beauty of the area. This hands-on experience not only fostered a sense of community but also highlighted the importance of maintaining clean coastal environments.

A critical component of the day's activities was learning about the management of coastline mangroves and the threats posed by invasive plant species. Members were educated on the necessity of environmental management in promoting marine conservation and sustaining ecological balance. They rolled up their sleeves to help remove invasive species like *Kandelia candel* (水筆仔), recognizing the harmful impact these plants can have on native ecosystems. While it was physically demanding work, the sight of the collected marine waste was encouraging—each participant contributed to the removal of approximately 50 kilograms of invasive plants, making a tangible difference in the local environment.





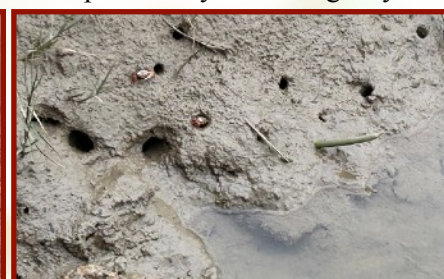
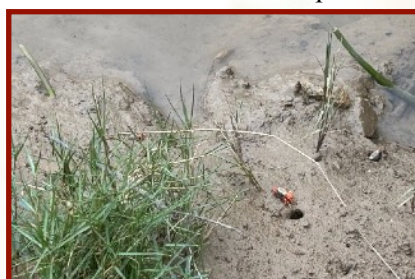
Assisting the Secluded Thai Monks

In a gesture of community support, a small team of us assisted in cleaning the access road leading to a nearby secluded Thai monastery. This effort underscored the day's theme of caring for those in need while promoting a sense of community integration.



Conclusion

While the sun did not shine brightly enough to showcase Ha Pak Nai's famous sunsets, the day was far from dull. We spotted egrets (白鷺), fiddler crabs (招潮蟹), and baby mantis shrimps (濫尿蝦BB), each sighting adding to the richness of the experience. The knowledge gained and the efforts made toward environmental protection were profoundly rewarding. By the end of the day, we not only appreciated the beauty of Ha Pak Nai but also contributed to its preservation, embodying the spirit of sustainability in our own lives. This engaging event served as a reminder that collective action, no matter how small, can lead to significant change, fostering a brighter future for both the community and the environment.



Rotary's Vision and Essence Statements

(from Rotary International "Our Brand")

Our vision

More than 1 million people around the world, including club members, staff, and the public, helped define Rotary's vision. The result is a statement that inspires and engages while creating a pathway for our organization's future.

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Our essence

Our essence statement originates from our vision and summarizes what Rotary is all about — leaders who come together, form relationships, and create positive change in communities at home and around the world. It also reflects the values that define Rotary: fellowship, integrity, diversity, and service and leadership.

By incorporating elements of this statement in our communications, we bring to life the essence of Rotary for those who don't know us — showing how we differ from other organizations and why Rotary matters today.

Rotary joins leaders from all continents, cultures, and occupations to exchange ideas and take action for communities around the world.

Our values

Our values as an organization represent our beliefs and determine our behavior. Our values are also the basis for the guiding principles that define Rotary. We bring our values to life by showing how we use them to improve lives in communities around the world.

Fellowship: We build lifelong relationships.

Integrity: We honor our commitments.

Diversity: We connect diverse perspectives.

Service and leadership: We use our leadership skills and professional expertise to solve social issues in our communities.

Our Action Plan

Rotary's Action Plan builds on our past successes and sets our future direction to ensure that we continue to grow, unite people, and make a lasting difference. To achieve the vision of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, we've set four priorities that direct our work:

1. Increase our impact
2. Expand our reach
3. Enhance participant engagement
4. Increase our ability to adapt

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary 

Regular Meeting

28 Apr 2025



PP Sally promoted the upcoming District Installation.



RC Tai Po finished the Fifth (last) season of the PPE Kahoot challenge. This time Sim Sim emerged the winner.



AG Scarlett Tso shared with us about the new Rotary Club she is chartering.



PDG Kenneth Wong, P Wilson Lam & PP Louis Tang are the Speakers of the evening and together they “Unlock the Myth of Ancient Civilization in Central Asia - an Immersive Driving Tour in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan” for us by speaking about the trip they made to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in August 2024. Kenneth introduced the geographics and demographics of Central Asia and briefed us on the historical background. He impressed upon us the relatively simple and cheerful life that the people there are having. Wilson spoke about his expertise – driving - and the cultural experiences along the way. More importantly, he shared tips on planning such driving trips. Louis on the other hand, commented more like a by-stander because, like he admitted, he had drunk a bit too much since day 2.



PP Armstrong gave a lively Vote of Thanks to our own Speakers.



PP Peter thoughtfully gave a raffle gift set comprising a Japanese diffuser and one pair of beer glasses; and the lucky winner was AG Scarlett Tso.

Date	Time	Event	Venue
19 May (Mon)	19:30	Team 4 Theme Night: BBQ Competition & Home Style Dinner	6/F Serenade, 11 Tai Hang Road
24-25 May (Sat-Sun)	14:00	65th District Conference	Galaxy International Convention Centre, Macau
2 June (Mon)	19:00	Regular Meeting cum Club Assembly	Regal Kowloon Hotel
21-22 June (Sat-Sun)		Club Installation	Zhong Shan, China

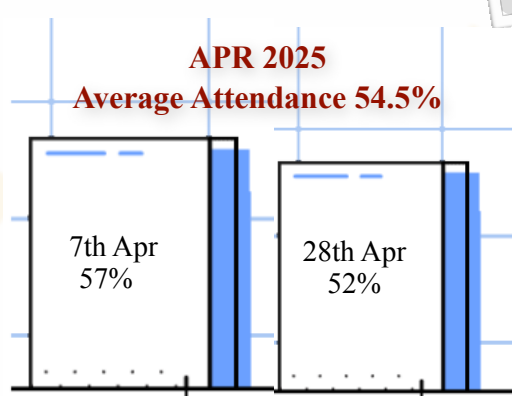

APR 2025

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



miss you

Benjamin Wong
 Danny Lau
 Frankie Wu
 Henry Wang
 Mansan Ho
 Masayuki Tsubaki
 Sincere Yip


Got something to say?

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 Tai Post reserves the right to edit articles for length and clarity.

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