



Be a gift to the world



# Tai 大報 Post

October 2015 Issue

Monthly Bulletin of Rotary Club of Tai Po



What is the most important thing in the month of September? Yes! Birthday Stars! A quarter of our fellow members' birthdays are in September. It is amazing, isn't it?

After an abundance of birthday celebrations, should we work hard to keep fit? What is the most effective way to reduce weight? And, is there a very healthy way to diet? According to official recommendations, we should exercise more and eat much less! But...we all know how hard that is!



### Club Officers

Public Image Committee Deputy Chair Minghay – Wow, he designs very nicely, and very fast! Minghay reads my mind. In fact, sometimes I have just said half of what I want, and he already knew the rest. How great that kind of communication is!

International Service Chair PP Pearl, with her planning and follow up, let us feel each event is an enjoyable one. Thanks, PP Pearl for all your effort and wonderful work in arranging the Taipei visit on 2nd-5th Oct, and for taking care of the 30 of us.



### Attending Rotary Club of Taipei 67th Charter Celebration on 3rd Oct 2015

Visiting Taipei and attending the RC Taipei Charter Night was a most welcomed International activity. This year, as usual, attracted members & spouses, and the mother club & friendly club joining the group. Our visit was a really happy time together.

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Central Hong Kong and the Rotary Club of Taipei Diamond on becoming sister clubs. We attended their big day on 2nd Oct, as well as celebrating RC Taipei Diamond 7th Birthday. It was great to share in their happiness.

### Interact Club of Tai Po Schools



It was so pleasant to attend the carnival organized by the Interactors of Tai Po Schools. This was their first event involving such a big project. Excellent work! It was a successful and delightful carnival! Thanks to the advisors! Thanks to PP Dennis and PP Peter for their unconditional support and sponsorship!



Be a gift to the world

When I was in the Balkan countries recently, I received a pleasant surprise.



At most restaurants, as soon as we sat down, waiters would ask, "Anything to drink? Water? Sparkling or still?" In Hong Kong, I'd almost always answer "Tap is fine." Or "warm water please." This time, I was in unfamiliar territory, so I either asked for still water, or better, a beer (which comes at almost the same or even lower price). Then the wait staff will bring filtered tap water. What a great idea. I hope it catches on in Hong Kong.



We know restaurants sell bottled water because it is an easy way to make money. I'm not very against the idea because restaurants do need to make a profit for the business to continue; and this is especially understandable when rents in Hong Kong is so high. But I have, on occasions, been refused tap water, and the insistence on having bottled water is petty. I think all of us can afford a bottle of water (at \$60 or more) but it annoys me to be forced to do so.

A bottle of water which retails for some HK\$3 (and restaurants purchase in bulk and so I think will be charged even less) is normally marked up 20 times or more. I had recently been to restaurants where as soon as we finished one bottle of water, the waiters immediately started pouring from another bottle without asking if it is ok, and it is NOT ok, at least for me.



Filtering water is not expensive. And the restaurants can make up for the lesser profits by slightly raising the price of their food or other drinks. It's fine to have bottled water at hand because some people do insist on having bottled water. But the staff can be trained to tell that tap filtered water is safe to drink. In the end, the restaurants will be able to make the same amount of money without putting a bad taste in the mouth of its customers before they have started the meal.



It is not as if we are in places where the quality of water is outright questionable. During my trip, the tour leader delved into his vast travel experiences and when India was brought up, the first thing he said is about the water. "If you have a lot of weight to lose, try going India." That's a joke of course, but it seems diarrhea is common place. Water there cannot be trusted - not for drinking of course, but not even for washing hands or other things. Weird isn't it?



**DID YOU KNOW?**

The average American uses 160 gallons of water per day

- 10 minute shower is equal to 50 gallons of water
- 1 in 5 people do not have access to safe drinking water
- One toilet flush is equal to 3 gallons of water
- 1/3 of the world's people do not have enough water to clean themselves
- Brushing your teeth with the faucet open is equal to 4 gallons of water
- In Latin America less than 14% of human waste receives any form of treatment

REFuse REDuse RECYCLE

The amount of fresh water polluted beyond recovery is equivalent to the amount that we actually use!



This is when you start thanking Rotary for making "Water" as one service emphasis. Lacking supply of water is a problem. Poor quality water is another. When we are annoyed over having to choose amongst still water, sparkling water, bottled water, tap water ... just think of the poor people in remote areas or barren land when they have to walk miles for water supply; and even when they have reached the water sources, the sight of the water already makes one want to puke. We should be thankful for what we have today and do whatever we can, through Rotary, to improving the water supply in those remote places.



How close are we to a polio-free world? What's needed to finish the job? And how can Rotary members help? On 23 October, we'll answer these questions and have more at Rotary's third annual World Polio Day event, co-hosted with UNICEF. We'll be streaming live from New York City and bringing together more than 30,000 viewers around the world. We'll share our progress on the road to polio eradication and what Rotary members can do to end polio for good in the next several years. Lets' hear one good news on the subject here.



## Nigeria declared polio-free, removed from endemic list

The World Health Organization (WHO) announced on 25 September that Nigeria is now polio-free and has been officially removed from the list of countries where polio is endemic. It's been 14 months since any cases of polio caused by the wild virus have been detected there. With Nigeria's historic achievement, polio remains endemic in only two countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan. That means transmission of the virus has never been stopped there.

Nigeria was the last country in Africa where polio was endemic. The continent celebrated its own first full year without the disease on 11 August. Once three years have passed without a case in WHO's entire African region, officials will certify polio eradicated there.

"Rotary congratulates Nigeria on its tremendous accomplishment in stopping polio," says RI President K.R. Ravindran. "On behalf of the entire Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), we thank volunteers, health workers, and parents in communities across Nigeria for their tireless commitment to ensuring every last child is protected against this devastating disease. In the months ahead, their dedication will remain as important as ever, as we work to keep Nigeria polio-free and to eliminate polio from its final strongholds in Pakistan and Afghanistan."

Nigeria's success is the result of several sustained efforts, including domestic and international financing, the commitment of thousands of health workers, and new strategies that reached children who had not previously been immunized because of a lack of security in the country's northern states.

## Type 2 poliovirus gone for good

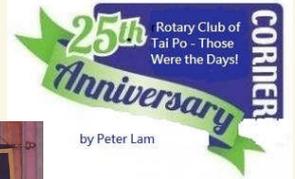
In other encouraging news, an independent global health commission officially verified on 21 September that wild poliovirus type 2, one of three strains of the wild virus, has been eradicated worldwide. Although the last type 2 case was detected back in 1999, the confirmation is an important milestone, as Rotary and its partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative prepare to switch from a form of the vaccine that targets all polio types to one that does not protect against type 2.

The announcement by the Global Commission for the Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication confirms that only two strains of the wild poliovirus remain. Of those, type 3 wild poliovirus hasn't been detected in almost three years, and wild poliovirus type 1 is endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

## Funding increase needed to reach final goal

On 25 September, the GPEI's Polio Oversight Board met to determine the next steps needed to eradicate polio. The group concluded that \$1.5 billion in new funding is needed to help Rotary and its partners end polio in the next few years. With Nigeria now polio-free, spending will focus on the most vulnerable children in Afghanistan and Pakistan, while continuing to shield millions of children already living in polio-free countries.

As we are approaching our 25th Anniversary next year, let's look back at some old photos and learn about our history. This month, Area 6 Clubs host the Joint DG Visit (19th); so let's review what it was like in the past.



DG Dom Vessigault's visit 1992 (Pres. Anthony Hung)

DG Moses Cheng's visit 1993 (Pres. KM Chan)



DG Liu Lit Mo's visit 1994 (Pres. John Gretton)

DG Vincent To's visit 1995 (Pres. Man Mo Leung)



DG Jason Chan's Visit 2010  
(Pres. Frankie Wu, AG Wilson Lam)

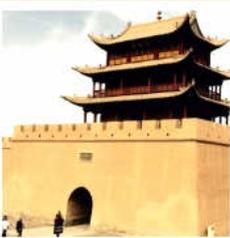
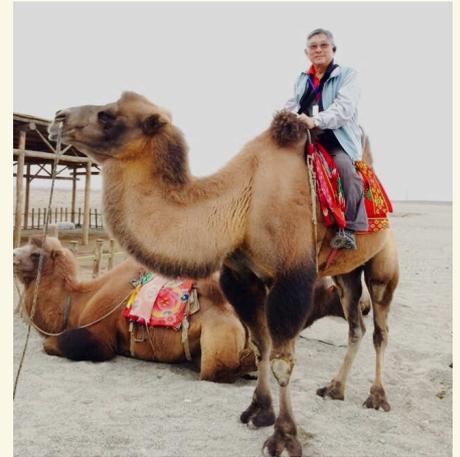
DG Kenneth Wong's Visit 2012  
(Pres. Ron Chung)



DG Jones Wong's Visit 2003 (Pres. Jacky Sung, AG Peter Lam)

## Beautiful Dunhuang In the eyes of CP Donald Yap

CP Donald embarked on a colourful trip to Dunhuang in late September this year. In his own words, "I feel this trip has increased my understanding of China and the historical effect of the Silk Road." As pictures may speak louder than words in this case, let's take a look at the picturesque Dunhuang in the eyes of our Charter President.



## Tai Po to Taipei

Ron Chung

Every year in early October, the Rotary Club of Tai Po will send a delegation to the Rotary Club of Taipei to celebrate their Charter Night.

This year was no exception... except that under the leadership of President Vikky and CP Donald and our most capable International Service Chair, PP Pearl, this year's delegation was a group of 26 strong!!! In addition, PP Sammy from mother club, P Denis from RC HK Sunrise and guest, also joined us. Together with special family members that include mother of our Deputy International Service Chair, Sally, and daughter of PDG Kenneth, the RC Tai Po delegation is a group of 31! If we include members from our baby club, RC Central Hong Kong, who is now, officially, sister club with RC Tai Pei's baby club, RC Taipei Diamond, the number is close to 40! Very impressive showing indeed! If you were not part of this, just imagine what you have missed. Plan early for next year... don't miss it again!

As a result of the size of the group and every one's different schedule, the group travelled on, check this out... 7 different flights! Imagine the coordination PP Pearl had to go through with our host?

The first group led by AG Frankie had a head-start building goodwill through golf fellowship with our host. The main group of 11, led by President Vikky and CP Donald, arrived just in time for RC Taipei Diamond's Charter night due to flight delay... tough ride! But, that's what we do for Rotary!!!

The Charter anniversary of Rotary Club of Taipei Diamond, the baby club of the Rotary Club of Taipei, has always been the prelude to the main event that we attend. This year is their 6th anniversary and is a special one as they became sister club to RC Tai Po's own baby club, RC Central Hong Kong. As mother clubs, RC Tai Po and RC Taipei, are of course delighted to see their baby clubs continuing with the "family" tradition and becoming sister clubs to each other. In the picture is PP Bio of RC Taipei who "baby-sat" their baby club 6 years ago, together with the two CPs, two Presidents and two Presidents of the mother clubs. Congrats to ourselves and our baby clubs.



Prior to dinner at RC Taipei's Charter night, the host was very nice in arranging a series of events for our members, including a few of us' first experience making pizza.





After a nice day out with the sun was getting back to the hotel and getting ready for the main event.

The Charter night of the Rotary Club of Taipei was well attended, not only by the Hong Kong delegation, but also RC Macau and, internationally, dignitaries from RI. These include President Elect of RI 2016-17, John Germ and Past RI President Gary Huang. The first picture features our President Vikky with both, and, of course, President Elizabete of RC Macau and President Denis of RC Sunrise HK.



After dinner, our group went Karaoke, featuring:



We were treated to a farewell lunch by our host on Sunday, after “recovering” from the previous nights?

How can we thank our hosts? We have the AG and our PE taking the lead...



With regard to details over the three/four days, there is just too much to write about... and the luncheon was not IT. The main group had more tour visits arranged by the host... (no pictures here as the official camera crew, PP Peter has departed.)



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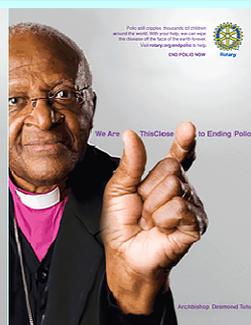
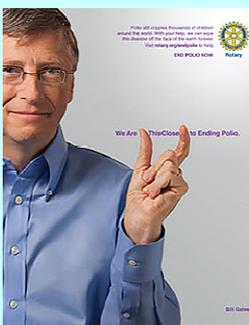
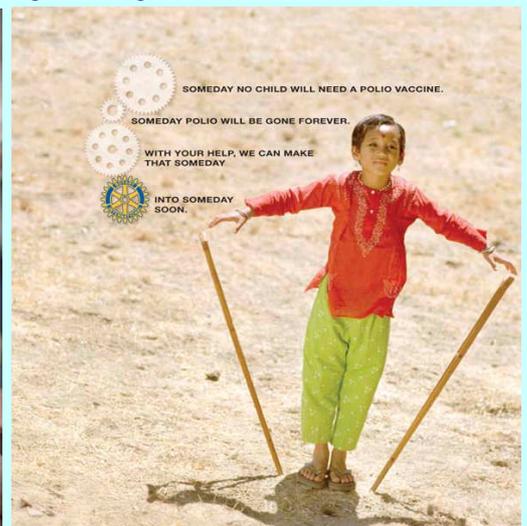
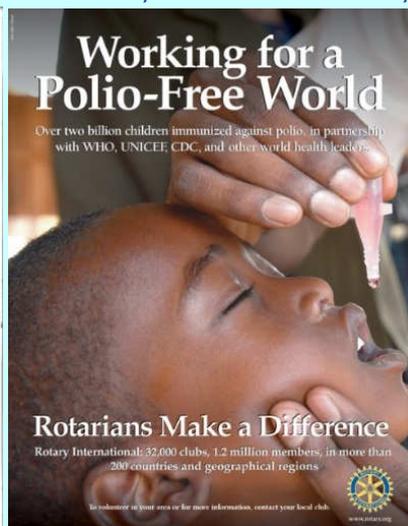


Before we close, I am sure everyone read through our whatsapp regarding our plane experience back... I can safely claim that NO-ONE arrived Hong Kong on time due to the typhoon and temporary closure of the Hong Kong air-space, but EVERYONE arrived safe and sound. One final word for our sister club... "We'll be back!"

For more details of the trip..., just do consider joining us next year!!!



Rotary's effort to Eradicate Polio continues and we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel. Here are a few powerful images / posters which exemplify Rotary's effort in this regard.



## Rotaract Club of Tai Po Installation Ceremony 2015-16

Beverly Chung, External Vice Chairlady RAC Tai Po

This is my very first time to join a Rotaract Club event and here I am hosting this very special event for the first time too. I am truly thrilled with the presence of all the respectable guests in such important ceremony of Rotaract Club of Tai Po and being able to know about the club as well as the honourable participants.



In the beginning of the event, we have the chance to go through some amazing memories that the club has experienced last year. The voluntary trip to the Philippines was absolutely eye-opening, which I really love to be a part of such memorable experience of helping and teaching the young kids. Apart from that, we are all well informed with the diverse range of meaningful activities that will take place in the coming year and I am sure all of you are very interested in joining them.



And of course, here came the most important and anticipated moment of the entire event, which was the installation. Once again, on behalf of the board members, we would like to say thanks to Tony and congratulations to our President, Gabriel.



Let's look forward to another awesome year and the well planned activities that Rotaract Club of Tai Po will bring to you all.

# R

egular  
meetings

21st September 2015



PP Pearl, PE William and Pres. Vikky representing RCTP and Rosanna and Doris representing YWCA concluded the Elderly Service Contract for 2015-16.



Chinese Medical Practitioner Jacky Fong told us the medical check part to be undertaken by his team under the Elderly Service.



IPP Natalie introduced Speaker of the evening: her fellow classmate IPP Keith Chow.



IPP Keith Chow of RC Admiralty reviewed with us the development of themed restaurants in Hong Kong (香港主題餐廳) and let us into the secrets of the success of his chain of restaurants, the King Parrot Group.



PP Wilson specially bought 2 sets of delicate sake sets and were won by President Vikky and PE William.



President Vikky shared her birthday with us all. No wonder she's the lucky lady that evening. Many happy returns!



We had with us Visiting Rotarian Florence Gambarota from Rotary Club of Bataramulla, Sri Lanka.



Rotarian Sally announced arrangements for the forthcoming Taipei visit.

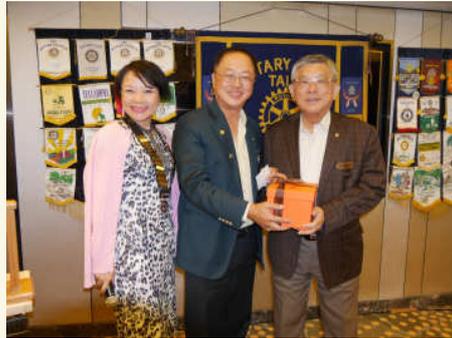


PP Pearl introduced the Elderly Service for 2015-2016

**12th October 2015 – Club Assembly**



Happy birthday Jacky and belated greetings to PP Dennis.



PP Jacky won the lovely ornament gift from RC Taipei and was presented with the prize by CP Donald.



Ming-hay bought a thoughtful Chinese 'stamp-pad' and was won by President Vikky.



Youth Chair PP Peter reported on activities on all of our youth clubs including IAC Tai Po Schools Carnival held on 11 October.



PE William chaired the Club Assembly and also discharged his role as Service Chair and reported on the progress with our various services.



Treasurer and Foundation Chair PP Louis brought up the matter about increasing auto-pay limit.



AG Frankie urged members to attend "Bollywood", the District's recent initiative at fellowship.



PP Claire and Rtn. Ada announced the arrangements about the Kick off Ceremony of the "Tender our Loving Care" Service for the Elderly on 17 October.

