





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WILSON WOO



DECEMBER 2021 MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF TAI PO

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Ho Ho Ho!! Christmas is around the corner. This year, COVID-19 pandemic is also knocking the door. Staying safe is the new normal. We are wearing mask and keeping our hands sanitized at all times. Even though our lives have changed a lot, somethings seem to have endured. Like our club tradition: we would like to meet some old friends and connect with loved ones at our Christmas Party. I don't think there is any reason for you to miss this wonderful and fantastic gathering. By the time this message gets published we would have enjoyed many delicious gourmet, good wine and fun games as prepared.

Needless to say, "Star Reaching (摘星計劃)" is the signature service project of our club. Since 1995, we have sponsored the youth service program which is organized by the Hong Kong Children & Youth Services (HKCYS). The main objective of this program is to help young people aged 15-20 in the Tai Po community, mostly school drop-outs or street children, to stay away from crime and lead a more positive and meaningful life. This year, the program helps to develop a rapport with the young people and explore their values and goals through a series of activities. A workshop at HKCYS was just held on 8 December which provided the opportunity for the young people to learn and experience the

ROTARY CLUB OF TAI PO
WARM CHRISTIMAS PARTY

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Rotary Club of Tai Po

Club of Tai Po

difficulties faced by disabled persons. More than 20 young people had attended the workshop and eagerly participated in the event. The photos can tell. Two more similar workshops will be held in January 2022. If interested, please feel free to join us. The message of "Serve to Change Lives" is spreading.

Rotary Service Day will be held at Science Park on 29 & 30 January 2022, which aims to motivate Rotarians or Rotaractors to partner with Interactors, Rotary Community Corps (RCCs) or non-Rotary community members (e.g. NGOs, local civil groups or local businesses) to plan and participate in fun and innovative service projects together. With our sponsorship, our Rotaract Clubs – RAC Tai Po and RAC Wu Yee Sun College will run a Lunar New Year theme booth for charity

during the period. On 30 January, Rotary HK Ultramarathon will also be held to enhance the synergy effect by drawing more public attention together.

Apart from above mentioned, more activities are coming, which includes the Spring gathering with our baby clubs, RC Central and RC SoHo; District Blood Donation Day and District Blind Bowling. Much grateful if you could come and join us. We need your unfailing supports!

Wishing you and your family a happy, healthy & wealthy 2022!









### DITOR SAYS

CLAIRE MAK

is not unusual that client's mobile phone rings when we are having conference. I am not particularly adverse to phone ring tones. But on certain occasions, such as during concerts, movies or seminars, ring tones do tend to be quite disturbing. And it is not simply incoming calls that make a sound. Certain functions like messages / reminder alerts, also give a beep or a ring. It is understandable that people may, at times, forget to turn the phone to silent mode, or to switch off the phone altogether. Given that there can be a dozen or more in one chat group and people do like to

chip in discussions eagerly; when each comment gives rise to a beep or a ding and you are a member of a huge number of chat groups ... the ring sounds can be like jingle bells and they do jingle all the way!



I will not frown if my client's phone rings during our meeting as this happens way too often; and it has become part of life. However, how one handles the ringing can be interesting. Most will be embarrassed, apologize and then HOW TO TURN OFF MOBILE NOTICATIONS quickly switch off the ringing. Some others act as if it was the very first time to

handle the phone going off and are at a lost fumbling how to mute the sound. Some others who would not wish to take the call and yet do not switch off the phone would just leave the phone ringing incessantly, thus adding to the embarrassment.

Still some others view taking calls as more important than anything and will take the call and speak on the phone whenever and wherever. Of course, the calls may involve making very important decisions: closing of major deals, to have war with competing companies ...; but sometimes it may just be deciding which cuisine for lunch or which supermarket cuts a better deal...endless chit chat. Well, feel free to do it at your own pace, but don't forget, the lawyer is waiting and the timer is ticking.



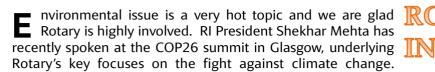
We in RCTP considers it quite disrespectful to talk on the phone while the meeting is in progress. Yes, even the ringing shows diverted attention and is discouraged. So whenever a phone rings, a dutiful Sergeant-at-arms will be by your side handing over to you the red box in no time. In a way it is quite a useful deterrent and used to be a source of handsome red box income. During the time when we met in Kowloon Cricket Club where the use of mobile phone is banned within roofed-over places, it was even more important to adhere to the rule of absolutely no phone calls. But still, it is a common sight that if the speakers' talks fail to really hold audience's attention, you will see members with head down and fingers flicking smart phones furtively. We can't really help such attention digression, can we? Well, maybe only

the speaker(s) can serve (us with more interesting topic) and change lives (to deliver us from boredom). Hahaha... Agree? It is a blessing that the recent speaker program are well sourced and diversified. The speakers' talks are invariably interesting to have kept us sufficiently entertained and engrossed.









**Rotary** 

## ROTARY INFORMATION



Rotary International President, Shekhar Mehta, has declared that mangrove restoration will become one of the key threads of Rotary's environmental focus. Shekhar was speaking today at COP26, the United Nations' Climate Change conference in Glasgow, the biggest showpiece event of his Covid-hit Presidential year so far.





He kicked off a session at the Commonwealth Pavilion, which was attended by a number of dignitaries from across the Commonwealth, including Baroness Scotland, the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, as well as representatives from several global environmental organisations. The event was held under the banner of the Commonwealth Blue Charter initiative, an agreement by all 54 Commonwealth countries to work closely on environment issues.

Chief among those issues is mangrove restoration, regarded as one of the most effective ways to accelerate climate change mitigation. The carbon found in mangroves' ecosystems is reckoned to be up to five times more effective at absorbing carbon than tree-planting. "The impact of climate change is rising sea levels, tornadoes and cyclones, and the best and the first defender of these in tropical coastal communities are the mangroves," said Shekhar.

Unfortunately, he said, large areas of mangroves have disappeared. Between 30% to 50% of mangrove cover has been lost globally over the past 50 years. Locals living in coastal regions have used the mangroves as fuel for cooking or cleared the land for more profitable ventures.

The Rotary President, making his first official visit to Great Britain & Ireland in his new role, pinpointed need in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Seychelles, Kenya and Tanzania where Rotary programs of mangrove planting and education could work. "There is the money and there is the hard work from Rotary to make this happen," he told the delegates. "I know this is something which Rotarians would want to do. We will be hands-on."

It was a point seized on by Baroness Scotland. Responding to Shekhar Mehta's commitment to the mangrove projects, she said, "Rotary says it has the money so, Mr. President, tell me the deal, and we will spend the money extremely well." Afterwards, Shekhar Mehta added: "Any meeting that I come to, I always want to take some action, and I am happy to look to start projects in eight different countries – India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Seychelles, Kenya and Tanzania. I heard what can be done and what needs to be done.

"We heard at the meeting that just random planting of mangroves is not viable. Someone else made a good suggestion about providing women with eco-friendly stoves so that they don't cut the mangroves for fuel. These are ideas we need to take forward. "I have suggested that, within a month, we will have another Zoom call to decide a framework and what is going to be the reach of these programs. We are committed to taking this forward."

Asked whether the mangrove project could, one day, be put on a footing with polio as a key element of the

environmental focus, the Rotary International President was cautious. He said that they would need to judge the initial impact of these first projects over the next 12 months to see how the project could be progressed further.

Shekhar told the Commonwealth gathering how Rotary has spent more than \$20 million on environmental projects over the past years, and how this one issue has now become the seventh area of focus.

It was also interesting to note that Rotary made another impact at the COP26 with the display of the climate change theme poster created by primary school students in UK from the poster competition organized by a Rotary club in UK, the Rotary Club of Helensburgh Garelochside







## FLASHBACK A look back of our club's past activities by topic

Rotary {



### Members' kids attended regular meetings

**SERVE TO** 

**CHANGE LIVES** 



How nice of KT (Kam Tung - daughter of Frankie Wu) who helped sergeant Dennis to sell raffle tickets at our meeting on 27 July 2015. PP Roger was our speaker on the subject of Mediation and there were many visiting Rotarians from RCC.



Grace, daughter of PP Vikky and Amy, daughter of PDG Kenneth at our meeting at 1881 Heritage on 15 Jul. 2013. Many Rotaractors also joined this meeting to hear humorous speaker Vivek Mahbubani's talk about adding humour to speeches.



2007

PP Wilson Lam's wife Wanda and daughter Chloe attended our meeting on 15 Jan. 2007 at Royal Park Hotel in Shatin. Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Ayumi Yamashita who was studying at Chinese University at that time was our keynote speaker.



(left) Thanks PP William's son Alaric for introducing his friend Eric Hanel from Germany to speak to us about his country at 27 Aug. 2018 meeting in KCC.

(right) Alaric, Ryan (son of Dr. CM Yu) & Angel (daughter of PP Louis) gave a talk about their overseas study experiences during AG Brendon Wong's visit meeting on 12 Aug.





(left) PP Peter's boys Benjamin & Daniel attended our regular meeting for the first (& only) time on 28 Jul. 2014 at Royal Garden Hotel when Peter gave a talk about his journey to discover Japan. (right) It was also rare chance for Sincere's daughter Kelly to visit us at our meeting on 24 Aug. 2015 when former member Yu Ming Hay was speaker.





(Left) Michiko, daughter of 2010-11 PE Tsubaki, attended our meeting on 12 Jul. 2010. Our speaker that evening was Mr. Kentaro Wada, Miss. Nippon Contest OC Manager and instructor of Wada Beauty Laboratory who brought along 2010 Miss Japan to attend. (Right) At our 1,000th meeting big celebration party on 18 Feb. 2012 at Royal Plaza Hotel, Charlotte (daughter of PP Francis Au) and Elizabeth (daughter of PP Natalie Kwok) seemed to enjoy the excitement of dancing and speaking (or singing?) on stage!











### **Star Reaching Workshop**

8 December 2021 Danny Lau

ometimes it is easy to forget how lucky we are just to be able to walk freely without any physical constraint.

I was reminded of that when I participated in the Star Reaching Workshop on Wednesday night, 8 December 2021. The workshop was held by the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services and it was dedicated to connecting young people with wheelchair users and to let them know the potential challenges that a wheelchair user may face every day. Members of RCTP including me were joined by a group of young people and their outreach social workers.











For the first part of the workshop, a group of wheelchair users shared with us the proper way of handling a wheelchair, for both the wheelchair user and the caregiver. It is very important to lock the wheels and lift the footplates when they transfer to and from the wheelchair. They also gave us some tips on how to stop and turn a wheelchair. It is not difficult to imagine that a wheelchair user might encounter different accessibility problems when they go out. . Although there are wheelchair-friendly facilities built to help

wheelchair users get around more easily, there is always room for improvement, which was what we experienced in the second session of the event.

The real challenge came when we had to actually travel with the use of a wheelchair. Accompanied by RCTP members and social workers, the junior participants had to either sit in a wheelchair or be the "caregiver" by pushing one. We had to travel from Tai Po Fu Heng Estate to Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital, roughly a 20-minute walk. Along the way, there was no way we could overlook the accessibility facilities which we usually do, or should I say, we HAD to pay extra attention to them - as, without them, our commute would be so much more "bumpy" and difficult.

Another insight I gained that night was the admiration for the outreaching social workers. During the 20-minute walk to the Nethersole Hospital, I got the chance to



speak with one of the outreach social workers. I did not know until then that the Tai Po District Youth Outreach Social Work Team runs almost 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These social workers work in two shifts, either from 10 am - 10 pm or 10 pm -10 am. I could not imagine how demanding it is to juggle between long working hours and quality time with their own family and friends. It is by the virtue of their hard work that these district youths do not go astray and continue to engage with the Tai Po community in a positive and constructive way.







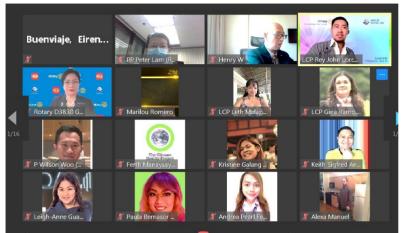






#### **Global Climate Youth Summit**

25-26 November 2021 Henry Wang





Rotary Club of Tai Po cohosted with its Sister Club, Rotary Club of Makati San Lorenzo, a successful two day Global Climate Youth Summit on 25-26 November 2021. The summit aimed to bring together Climate Reality Leaders, Rotarians, Rotaractors and young environmental and climate advocates from all over the world to listen to climate experts from Hong Kong and the Philippines. It also aimed to deepen the youth's understanding of the roles of various sectors in climate change adaptation and mitigation, plus the importance οf collaborative actions in addressing the climate crisis. Over 900 youths, Rotarians and Rotaractors globally participated in the twoday summit.

Day 1 started with a keynote address given by the Philippines Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda who highlighted the importance of Climate Change globally. Then Arch. Rey John Lorca, the President of the Rotary Club of Makati San Lorenzo, gave good opening remarks. He particularly mentioned the good cooperation between the two Sister clubs on this important international green club Climate youth project. Then





Maria Jocelyn Genevieve Tan, the District Governor of Rotary International District 3830, good welcome message. gave particularly welcomed DG Keith Chow of District 3450 and President Wilson Woo of RCTP to the Summit. Then Atty. Rachel Anne Herrera, the Commissioner of the Climate Change Commission of Philippines gave a good overview of Climate Change and its impacts. Then Atty. Rachel Anne Herrera, the Commissioner the Climate of Commission of Philippines gave a good overview of Climate Change and its impacts.













Then Henry Wang from the Rotary Club of Tai Po was invited to give a presentation on Global Climate Policies and its implications. He highlighted the worsening Climate Change impacts globally including flooding and droughts. He then shared the key findings by the G20 Leaders and B20 CEO International Taskforces, that he has been invited to join by the G20 and B20 Presidencies. Global experts have advised G20 leaders that Climate Change will cause serious damages the global GDP if no suitable actions are taken. Urgent actions are required globally to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and to global warming. Many G20 governments accelerating their energy transition and replacing their fossil fuels with clean renewable energies. The rising green investments are creating new companies which are creating many new green jobs for youths globally. Then different climate environment, green transportation, smart cities to the youths & Rotaractors.

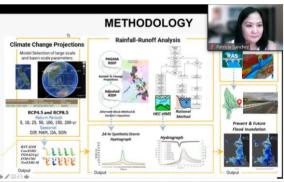












On Day 2, the youths started with a Youth Expert Huddle. Youth climate experts gave presentations on the major climate challenges and the actions that everyone can contribute to help address. These were followed by Jam Board exercises when facilitators helped the youths and Rotaractors to develop potential new climate projects.



After the Summit, DG Keith Chow has sent us some very good positive feedbacks, after he attended the first day of our joint Global Youth Climate Summit. DG Keith thanked us for our good sharing which he felt have help youths and Rotaractors globally to learn a lot about Climate Change. We also discussed that there are many meaningful climate projects that we can do with Rotarians and Rotaractors in Hong Kong, Philippines and internationally. We are currently discussing these with our Sister Club about potential meaningful joint international projects with Rotaractors and youths after the successful Summit.







## REGULAR **MEETINGS**

Welcome back Jacky Sung - as seen with Pres. Wilson. Speaker Dr. Lee Cheuk Kwong and PP K F.

#### **15 November 2021**





Rtn. Henry gave a brief introduction on the intended Joint Youth Climate Forum project with RC MSL







Speaker of the evening **Dr. Lee Cheuk Kwong** appealed to us on "夠血 救人" and enlightened us on all the interesting facts about blood donation, blood substance, trend and needs, what the Red Cross has been doing about enticing blood donation... etc. Pretty interesting and informative talk.





Soon after Dr. Lee had spoken, a few hands immediately shot up with questions from respectively: Past Presidents William, Vikky, Louis, Claire and President Wilson. Questions ranged from urban myths/facts about the effect of blood donation, blood component donation to big data analysis/forecast and the effectiveness of the Red Cross App.









Meeting at 7PM every Monday

@ Regal Kowloon Hotel

PP Peter offered a lovely prize for lucky draw: a box of Godiva Chocolate Truffle which was won by guest Ms. Cynthia Poon. Just hope the sweet experience will see Cynthia coming to joining us more often.





#### **22 November 2021**











This was a joint Area 6 Meeting with hybrid physical/Zoom attendance. President Wilson made RCTP's reports and announcements via camera while most of us cheered from our tables.





PDG Wilson Cheng shared with us about Section 88 Inland Revenue **Department** tax exemption organisations and Club Administration matters. He drew distinctions among a society, a company limited by guarantee, a company limited by shares, a charity and what were required of a Section 88 company.





strained and stretched holding onto the lap top so that we all could be included in the Area 6 joint clubs group photo.

Wilson

President

President Wilson and PE Danny asked questions and had to speak into the lab top respectively.

PP Tsubaki thoughtfully bought a set of Shisheido men's day lotion and night cream for raffle draw. Lucky President Wilson who won the prize now has his skincare well taken care of.









#### 6 December 2021







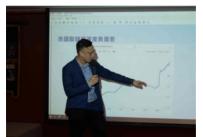
We welcomed Governor Nominee Norman Lee visiting our club and also a few 'less seen' members: PP Ron and Alice and Rtn. Sincere.

Rtn. **Henry** gave a brief report on RC Makati San Lorenzo's Joint Youth Summit.



PP Tsubaki promoted the upcoming RCTP 'Warm' **Christmas** Party.







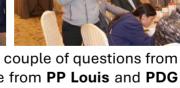
When Speaker Michael Chang discussed with us the topic "全球面對滯賬的風險", he presented quite a gloomy view of the world financial market and suggested that it would be better to hold cash.





PP K F gave an introduction of the Speaker and PP Ron gave a lively Vote of Thanks.





The Speech generated a couple of questions from the floor including those from PP Louis and PDG Kenneth.





DR. CM gave out a B&O water-proof blue tooth portable speaker for raffle draw and PDG Kenneth emerged the lucky winner.



President Wilson gave out a set of SK-II face mask for an extra lucky draw and PP Dennis claimed the prize.







#### **13 December 2021**

AG Isaac qiY kicked started joint meeting (both zoom physical) and where there were over 90 participants from all Area clubs.

Even though a well-known figure in Rotary, AG Isaac thorough introduction of speaker PP Menza Chu, District Youth Service Committee Chair.





When giving "An Overview of District Youth Service RI D3450" PP Menza started by describing the hierarchy of Rotaract and highlighted that in 2019, Rotaract changed from a Rotary programme to a partner in service. There was an Elevate Rotaract Task Force.

Interactors are those from 12 to 18 years old.

- Interact Clubs Onboard (Sept 2021)
- Joint Interact Council selection (late Sept 2021)
- Macau Trip (Jan 2022, tbc)
- Interact Conference (7 May 2022, tbc)
- International Understanding Trip (Jul / Aug 2022)

## Interact Facts & Figures

- Number of Interactors : 342,953
- Number of Interact Clubs : 14.911 Countries with Interact Club: 145
- Rotary District 3450
- Number of Interact Clubs : 92
- Number of sponsoring Rotary Clubs: 55

#### On behalf of RCTP. President Wilson reported on recent and upcoming events of RCTP.













- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, RI imposed additional requirements to districts to submit Crisis Management Plan for YE program. D3450 YE Committee has made first submission and has been following up RI's comments.
   On 24.11.2020, RI decided to suspend all Rotary YE program through 30th June 2022 in
- I.11.2020, RI decided to suspend all Rotary YE program through 30th June 2022 in se to the development of the COVID19 pandemic.

- Continue Outbound-only Certification Application mentioned above
   Organise Short Term Outbound YE program for Hong Kong and Mongolia as well as

In view of the worldwide pandemic, Rotary Youth Exchange has been suspended by RI until 30 June 2022.

#### Youth Protection Policy

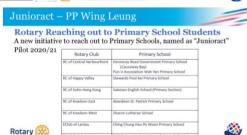
- Every District Committee Chair / New Generations (Youth Service) Director in Rotary Club is responsible for applications of YPP in youth programs, including
  - RYLA
  - Youth Exchange
- Rotaract
- Interact
- Junioract (D3450) · Mentoring & etc



Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) also planned to go on-line.



There was this initiative from our own District Junioract - reaching out school tο primary students for services.



PP Menza further touched on Youth Protection Policy pertaining to both participants and the service targets.



Questions from Alexis Suen of RC Kwai Chung, PP Frederick Ng of RC Mandarin and our own PP Peter Lam about distribution of resources between

> Rotaract, new Rotarians, and the practical difficulties with Junioract.

Group Photo.











90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0%	78.3%	52.2%	47.8%	65.2%
270	05 Nov	08 Nov	15 Nov	22 Nov

Average attendance: 60.87%

Date	Time	Event	Venue		
3 JAN (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Speaker : PE Danny Lau Topic: Crypto Currency	Montparnasse Room, 2/F, Regal Kowloon Hotel, TST		
10 JAN (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Speaker : Hidy & Harry Topic : 身體力行保育海洋	Montparnasse Room, 2/F, Regal Kowloon Hotel, TST		
17 JAN (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Speaker: Mr. Jacky Lai Topic: Power Influence & Persuasion	Montparnasse Room, 2/F, Regal Kowloon Hotel, TST		
24 JAN (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Topic: Meeting with new generation: Rotary Club of Tai Po and Rotaract Club of Wu Yee Sun College	Montparnasse Room, 2/F, Regal Kowloon Hotel, TST		

#### To all readers of Tai Post,

Hope you enjoy the Christmas eve with the ones you love and step into the new year with lots of happiness and good health. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



















#### **NOV 2021** Perfect Attendance

**Anthony Hung Peter Lam Danny Lau** Claire Mak **Armstrong Shea KF Tam Louis Tang Henry Wang Wilson Woo** William Yim

SALLY LUK WILSON LAM Sasha Chu SINCERE YIP



#### Got Something to say?

Tai Post wants to hear from you. Write in to clairerctp@gmail.com

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



The editorial board

Peter Lam