

Tai Post 大報

Monthly Bulletin of Rotary Club of Tai Po (Nov 2013 Issue)

President's Message Francis Au



Dear fellow RCTP members,

Our busy and fun packed events have never stopped since our Annual Ball back in June. Every month we have something big going on. In October, we had a big trip to visit our Sister Club, Rotary Club of Taipei. You have seen pictures from PP Peter and PP Claire before. I would like to share with you guys some of the fun facts.

*** Taipei delegation fun facts ***

1. Our biggest delegation to Taipei ever. Over 30 people altogether including PE Michel from our mother club, RC Peninsula



- 2. We have more Ladies than Gentlemen in the delegation.
- 3. We have finished 7000ml of Whisky. That's 10 bottles!!!!
- 4. We have consumed 8kg of Snow Crab. Yummy!!!!



5. We started drinking since 13:00 in the afternoon. Not news. Just to let you know we are still the same!! Tai Po style!!!! Especially PP Tsubaki!!!! Hehe

6. We took coach bus from Le Meridian to W Hotel all the time. The ride took us 15 - 20 minutes. If we walk, it only takes 3 - 5 minutes!!!!



Anyway ... I can keep going on and on. Thank you again for all the members' support to make this Taipei trip so enjoyable and memorable!!!

*** Youth Service ***

Wu Yee Sun College Rotaract

Finally we had a chance to meet the board members of our potential Rotaract Club, students from WYS College of Chinese University. Very energetic youngster. We are lucky to have PPJodhy and PP Stanley from our own Rotaract Club of Tai Po to help them along the way. Both WYS College master and their student affairs officer are keen to have this club established.



Tai Po Interact

The Tai Po community-based interact is on its way. Principals from Tai Po have gathered a group of potential board members. We have setup a kick off project. They are about to launch.

Both of these new clubs are keen to be setup. We should gear up and help them. I'll be working closely with PDG Tony, PP Ping, PP Claire, and PP Peter to get this up and running very soon.



*** Happy Halloween ***

Our first time celebrating Halloween with other clubs. It's a fun party. Thanks to RC Channel Island's initiative, it's another showcase of how Rotary makes a difference.

A different outlook this time!!!
Our Tai Po ladies are the best!!!
You all are gorgeously scary!!!
Hahaha!!!



Anyway ... time to wrap up!!! 2013 is about to the end. Serious party-mode is about to begin. Let's stay happy and enjoy the rest of 2013!!!

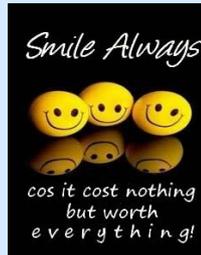
Thanks!

Editor Says ...

Claire Mak



When someone smiles, the effects are usually positive: a gloomy mood lifts; an apology is accepted; a deal is struck; a flirtation begins. If you say hi, or wave hello, it may not solicit any or much response. But with a smile, it turns the table. It works *better*, if not wonder.



There were studies which conclude that smile is not only an expression but a useful tool for sales/business. It seems also a trade-off for longevity as it has been said that those who always wear a smile live longer!

But change the circumstances or the cast of a smile, and the terms shift: a rival grins to get under your skin; a bully's smirk unsettles his mark. Look at what Benigno Aquino did. His rather inappropriate and unfathomable 'smile' had angered HK people so much he became unforgivable!



Every **Smile** A New Beginning



A smile in the morning will generate an agreeable day because your smile will usually be greeted with a

similar smile in return. Further, people remember events (vacations, birthdays etc) as being happy even if they weren't so long as the photos show people smiling.



Smiling is actually a complex behaviour. There are happy smile, wry smile, mechanical smile; then there are laugh, grin, jeer, giggle, sneer, smirk, chuckles, showing teeth or showing just a twitch all serve to convey very different emotions and feelings.

You still recall the photos we took which show the cheeky side of everyone? Who is most generous with their smile/laughter? These 6 seem to top the list:



There are a lot of chances for laughter and cheers this year as RCTP has organised and will continue with a whole host of cheerful events when we shall all be sharing the fun. Be ready with a huge smile if not hearty laughter out loud!



Whether you intend it or not, a smile just adds lubricant to your life!



Rotary Information

Claire Mak



It comes the time of the year when clubs have to hold their AGM and be serious with selecting the club's succession of leaders and officers. Our club invariably gets our future president at CP Donald's birthday dinner over a few hairy crabs and lots of high spirits. Is it a task no member would somberly agree to take up? Or do we have to ensure that the secret nod of agreement shall be toasted over a few glasses of whisky or Huadiu? I don't know.

I wonder what's the *practice* at RI level? You all know that Past RI Director Gary Huang of our sister club, RC Taipei, will be our next RI President. Tai Post did a rather thorough coverage of that in a past issue. How about his successor? Well, we already had one chosen. Let's get to know a little more about the RI President for 2015-16.

Ravindran is choice for 2015-16 RI president



K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, a member of the Rotary Club of Colombo, Western Province, Sri Lanka, has been selected by the Nominating Committee for President of RI in 2015-16. Ravindran will become the president-nominee on 1 October if there are no challenging candidates.

Ravindran said his top priority for Rotary will be to increase membership, which he called the bedrock of any organization.

"The emphasis on membership has to continue with focus on the younger generation," Ravindran said. "Additionally, we must seek to attract the just retired and experienced people into Rotary."

Creating regional membership plans and realizing that "one size does not fit all" has been a move in the right direction, he said.

"Albert Einstein defined insanity as 'doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.' In many ways this has been the story of Rotary's poor membership advance," he said. "Thankfully, our approach this time has been studied and altered. We have created 22 different membership regions so that each region would develop and execute a plan that would suit that particular region."

Ravindran said it's important for Rotarians to share their stories, especially through social media, so others can see the impact Rotary has had in their lives. He said it's also important for the organization to speak with a consistent voice. "Our identity must remain simple and be based on our core values. It must be clear and straightforward to both our internal and external audience."

Ravindran holds a degree in commerce and is founder and CEO of Printcare PLC, a publicly listed company and global leader in the tea packaging industry. He also serves on the board of several other companies and charitable trusts. He is the founding president of the Sri Lanka Anti Narcotics Association, the largest antinarcotics organization in Sri Lanka. As his country's PolioPlus chair, Ravindran headed a task force with members from the government, UNICEF, and Rotary and worked closely with UNICEF to negotiate a cease-fire with northern militants during National Immunization Days.

A Rotarian since 1974, Ravindran has served Rotary as a director and treasurer of RI and as a trustee of The Rotary Foundation. He has also served as an International Assembly group discussion leader, district governor, Council on Legislation representative, and zone institute chair. He chaired the Schools Reawakening project, sponsored by Rotary clubs and districts in Sri Lanka, which rebuilt 25 tsunami-devastated schools, benefiting 15,000 children.

Ravindran has been awarded The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award and the Service Award for a Polio-Free World.

He and his wife, Vanathy, have two children, and are level 4 Major Donors to the Foundation.

The Nominating Committee members are Eric E. Lacoste Adamson, USA (chair); John T. Blount, USA; Robert K. Crabtree, New Zealand; Gerson Gonçalves, Brazil; Frederick W. Hahn Jr., USA; Lynn A. Hammond, USA; Teruo Inoue, Japan; Paul Knyff, The Netherlands; Peter Krön, Austria; Jorma Lampén, Finland; Kyu-Hang Lee, Korea; Masahiro Kuroda, Japan; Michael D. McCullough, USA; Donald L. Mebus, USA; David D. Morgan, Wales; Catherine Noyer-Riveau, France; and M.K. Panduranga Setty, India.

Source : Arnold R. Grahl, Rotary News



Germany / Switzerland

19 – 29 September 2013

Claire Mak



In September, right on Mid Autumn evening, my parents and I went on an 11-day trip to Germany and Switzerland. In between these 2 countries, our tour group also fits in Liechtenstein. I can now personally vouch that the moon is not rounder abroad even at mid autumn! I am sure most of you have been to these countries and are likely to have more stories to tell than me. I shall not therefore recount the whole journey but only highlight the few matters which have impressed me.

The Natural Scenery

Nothing can beat the natural scenery of these two countries, especially the rustic countryside. The fresh air, the jade green trees, the twittering birds ... one just could not resist inhaling deeply and at times, impulsively jumping with joy.

Germany

Rudesheim is a wine making town in the Rhine Gorge and thereby part of the UNESCO World Heritage. I took in the full view as I lunched on the bank of River Rhine at Rudesheim.



Titisee is a lake in the southern Black Forest. The view is breath-taking and I also got the chance to sample real black forest cake! They are famous for the special brandied cherries inside cakes.



The idyllic Titisee lake.



The authentic Black Forest cake – not too sweet but the brandied cherries inside are aromatic.



I literally jumped for joy at the vast meadow!

Switzerland

Reideralp is a mid-mountain resort which sits on a terrace south of the 23 km long Aletsch Glacier. Being there is like being in a fairy tale.



Panoramic view of Reideralp



A "post-card" like scene.

Rhine Falls is the largest plain waterfall in Europe and is located at the upper Rhine in northern Switzerland. It is not soaring high, but it is rather wide.



I stood in front of the Rhine Falls.

Aletsch Glacier (UNESCO) is the greatest glacier in the Alps. One could not help but gasp at the spectacular nature river formation.



At the background is the huge Aletsch Glacier.



The Old and Beautiful

There are castles and fortresses; old towns and markets which have withstood the test of time and even wars. They won't fail to mesmerize you.

Germany

Drosselgasse is a 3m wide, 144m long cobbled street alley in Rudesheim. Along the alley are many wine houses, cafes and souvenir shops.



Roof tops adorned with cuckoo birds.



Leisure stroll on the cobbled street.



Way-in to Drosselgasse.

Bamberg is a city in Bavaria, Germany on the River Regnitz close to its confluence with River Main. Its historic city center is a listed UNESCO world heritage site.



Altes Rathaus in Bamberg.



Alte Hofhaltung (Old Palace).

Rothenburg is a well-preserved medieval old town in Bavaria, Germany, and is located on a plateau overlooking the Tauber River. A stroll on its cobbled road and along the town wall can be quite refreshing.



Souvenir shop with carved German beer mugs and lovely German dolls on display.



The old town has its own bell tower.

Switzerland

Chapel Bridge is the oldest covered bridge in Lucerne which runs diagonally across Reuss River and is the landmark of the city. The fire in 1993 damaged quite a lot of the paintings. Even though most parts have been restored but it is never the same.



It was a bit misty when we visited the Chapel Bridge.

Chillon Castle is an island castle located on the shore of Lake Geneva. The castle consists of 100 independent buildings that were gradually connected to become the building as it stands now. The surrounding scene is idyllic.



In front of Chillon Castle

Interlaken is an important and well-known tourist destination in the Bernese Oberland region of the Swiss Alps and indeed is where we passed through before going up the Alps. The imitation Interlaken in China is a far cry!



Scenic Interlaken

Switzerland

Maienfeld lies along a key route through the Rhine valley in the Alps. It is known for its local wine and more for its setting of the story *Heidi*. We actually got into grandpa's house!



The signboard for Heidi House.



Outside Heidi House



Inside Heidi House with Heidi and Peter dolls.



There are lots of stamp motif on the pavement. This one shows Vaduz Castle, like on the souvenir bag



Lunching at Liechtenstein

The Modern and Technologically Advanced

Germany

Germany is known for its advanced and innovative technology. Product precision and durability are qualities one can safely count on. I experienced these in terms of the designs of its former Olympic Stadium in Munich, the metamorphosis of Mercedes Benz and BMW cars respectively in Mercedes Benz Museum in Stuttgart and the BMW Museum in Munich. Closer to daily lives are Rimowa luggage cases, cuckoo clocks, Zwilling knives.....etc.

Neuschwanstein Castle better known as the New Swanstone Castle is a 19th century castle commissioned by King Ludwig II of Bavaria as his retreat and as homage to his beloved musician Richard Wagner. It is known for being the inspiration of Disney's Sleeping Beauty Castle.



Neuschwanstein Castle



Outside Mercedes Benz Museum.



One of the Benz show cars.



Outside BMW Museum



Trying out a BMW motorbike

Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein is the smallest yet the richest (by measure of GDP per capita) German speaking country lying entirely within the Alps. Despite its limited natural resources, Liechtenstein is one of the few countries in the world with more registered companies than citizens. It is well known for its stamps. Often, people just pass through Liechtenstein to its bordering Germany or Switzerland. We had the pleasure of lunching at its capital Vaduz. The king and prince of Liechtenstein live in the Vaduz Castle and are well-loved and respected by their citizens.



Vaduz Castle perched on the hill top.



Bought a Rimowa luggage case



BMW Classic



Cuckoo Clocks



Zwilling knives and scissors

Continue →

Switzerland

Jungfrauoch, top of Europe, is in fact the lowest point on the mountain ridge between **Mönch** and Jungfrau. The Mountain ridge consists of its 3 highest: Eiger, **Mönch** and Jungfrau. We arrived at its 3,471 meters (11,388 ft) top by rail via Europe's highest railway station. Imagine the technology involved!



Jungfrau hidden by the cloud



A view of Jungfrau from Interlaken



We reached Jungfrauoch – Top of Europe



Tail of train ride up Jungfrauoch.

Of course, there was Einstein who had lived in Bern, the capital of Switzerland – because he married a Swiss wife. He represents innovation.



Einstein House – Like a lot of houses in Bern, there is an entrance for basement from Ground Floor opening at an angle.

The Food

In Germany, the menu leans heavily towards serving meat. I cannot find fault with the cold cuts and sausages which fare much better than those in Hong Kong. Generally, the dishes are a bit too salty. But I guess this goes well with the ubiquitous beer and wine.



Wheat bread and various cold cuts



Different cheese and scrambled egg



Sausages with fusilli



Attacking Pork knuckle while tasting a beer



Hearty salad

In Switzerland, milk and cheese are in abundance. So was the fondue I got to try. We had had 3: cheese fondue for the bread, meat fondue for of course the meat and chocolate fondue for the fruits.



Bread for cheese fondue



Chicken piece for the meat fondue



Strawberry for chocolate fondue

The Drinks

Tap water is drinkable. Indeed, water from the Alps is refreshing and rather *sweet*. Otherwise, how can one refuse a German beer and there are just such a lot to choose from: draught, wheat beer, smoked beer, beer without alcoholand of course, when in Switzerland, it is white wine or even ...milk!



Dad having beer without alcohol



Draught beer



Wheat beer

Smoke beer



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Happy Halloween Joint Meeting

28.10.2013

Eerie ghosts

Stupefied



Rotary District 3450 Invitation

Join us for our **Happy Halloween Joint Meeting**
 Together with our fellow Rotarians from **Channel Islands, Tai Po & Tolo Harbour**
 we will be having an awesome, out-of-ordinary joint meeting, on **Monday, Oct 28, 2013**

Cocktail reception: 6:30pm, Joint Meeting: 7:30pm sharp
 Dinner and Catwalk show: 8:30pm-10:30pm
 1881 Heritage @ 2A Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon
 Dress-code: Halloween Costume (mask, dracula teeth, etc)

Instead of having a regular meeting... we will be having a **Halloween Costume Contest & Catwalk**. An unconventional way to raise awareness too!

There will be food, drink and dinner. Now all we need is YOU!

Instead of having to wear business attire... everyone is encouraged to wear costumes of Halloween prep.

CHANNEL ISLANDS TAI PO TOLO HARBOUR

Happy Halloween Joint Meeting



Dare Devils



Ghost Busters



Continue →



Message from Beyond



Zombies



Lead Demons



Lovely Spirits



Spooky Meals



TAI PO MISCELLANY

Step Up Infinity Practice Visit

Visiting dancing team for 傷健共融日 is a gathering with our young dancers on 15.10.2013 (Tue) night, 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at 大埔區文藝協進會. 3 out of 4 dancers of the *Get Crazy* team, William, Jacky, Bebe and Cynthia from RCTP and Social Worker Eugene and colleague joined in the sharing of video and card game.



Potential Rotaract Club of Wu Yee Sun College, CUHK

18 October, Friday, Dinner Meeting at Shing Hin, City U



Zalon, Anthony, Francis, Ping, Peter
Nicole, Claire, Sunny, Kiki, Jodhy, Stanley



District Vocational Service Seminar

22 October, Tuesday, Marco Polo Hong Kong Hotel, Speaker: Dr. York Chow



Regular Meeting

21 October 2013



Speaker Dr. Brian Leung gave us tips on being "The Efficient Worker".



PP Louis gave a vote of thanks to our speaker.

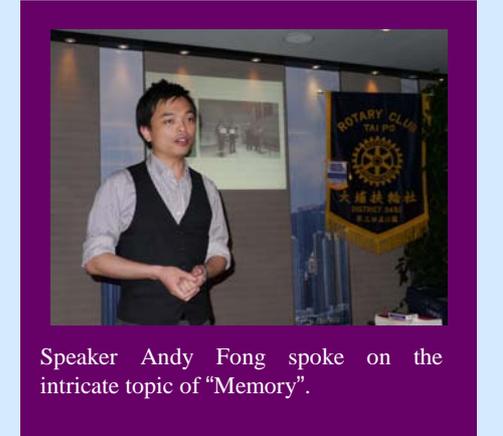


PP Peter again emerged as the raffle winner and received a set of Riedel wine glasses from PP Louis.

4 November 2013



PP Louis won the raffle prize given by PP Jacky of a Chinese kung fu tea set.



Speaker Andy Fong spoke on the intricate topic of "Memory".



President Francis actively participated in the game devised by Speaker Andy.

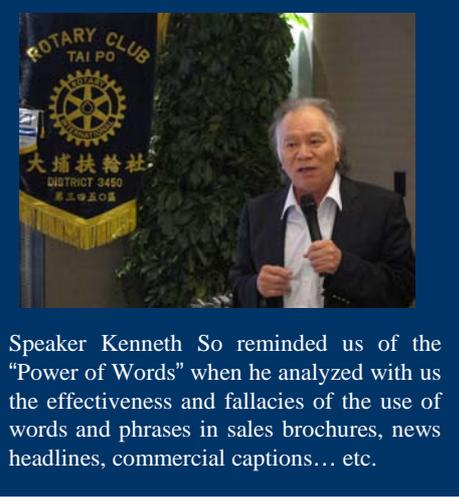
11 November 2013



Past District Rotaract Representative Anita Chan introduced us to APRRC2014 and the benefits to our new generation joining the conference.



APRRC2014 Chairlady Edwina Chung encouraged our club to sponsor Rotaractors to joining the Asia Pacific Regional Rotaract Conference 2014.



Speaker Kenneth So reminded us of the "Power of Words" when he analyzed with us the effectiveness and fallacies of the use of words and phrases in sales brochures, news headlines, commercial captions... etc.



Upcoming Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
25 Nov (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Topic: Health and Nutrition (健康與營養 – 天下一病) Speaker: Mr. Steven Hu	Hullet House, 1881 Heritage, 2A Canton Road, TST
29 Nov (FRI)	11:30a.m.	District Golf Tournament	Mission Hills Dongguan, Rose / Poulter Course
2 Dec (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Topic: Men's hair loss prevention and improvement tips (男士脫髮預防及改善心得) Speaker: Ms. Sara Wong	Sing Yin (星宴), W. Hotel, Kowloon
9 Dec (Mon)	7:00p.m.	Club Assembly/ Annual General Meeting	Sing Yin (星宴), W. Hotel, Kowloon

October Winners (100% attendance):



FRANCIS AU,
CAREN CHAN,
PATRICK FONG,
ANTHONY HUNG,
NATALIE KWOK,
PETER LAM,
WILSON LAM,
CLAIRE MAK,
MAN MO LEUNG,
JACKY SUNG,
VIKKY TAM,
LOUIS TANG,
KENNETH WONG,
WILLIAM YIM



In October
Patrick Yung
David Chan
Sincere Yip

We Missed You

% of attendance of regular meetings (inclusive of make ups)

Average attendance:71.26%

- 7th October 75.8%
- 21st October 69%
- 28th October 69%

On Leave in Nov



Roger So

Christmas Party 2013

Brought to you by Rotary Clubs of

Peninsula, Tai Po, Central & SoHo HK

On: 14 December 2013, Saturday
At: Hullet House, Heritage 1881, Tsim Sha Tsui
From: 7 pm till late



Happy Birthday Nov

18th Donald Yap
25th Pearl Dang

Chief Editor :
Claire Mak

The Editorial Board :
Peter Lam & Ronald Chung & Francis Au

Got something to say?

Tai Post wants to hear from you. Write in to claire.mak@rctaipo.org

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