

# Tai Post 大報

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

## President's Message *Francis Au*



August 2013 is a **busy** month!!! We have been switching venues for the whole month. From The Hullett House to W Hotel, and to Royal Plaza, and back to W Hotel again! Thank you for your understanding and support. There was something funny though. PP Peter forgot we were meeting at W Hotel and went to The Hullett House on 12 Aug. Hahaha!!! And of course it resulted in PP Peter's generous Red box contribution.



August 2013 is a **red box growing** month!!! Thanks to our acting Sergeant, PP Frankie!!! Our Red box collection grows tremendously in these 2 months. Thank you 麻辣沙展!



August 2013 is a **reunion** month!!! Happy and exciting news for RCTP! Our charter member, Jimmy and ex-member, Paul rejoined us in August 2013. Both of them were inducted during the DG visit Area 6 Joint meeting on 19 Aug 2013.



A Big thank you to all RCTP members. We had altogether 40 members and guests joining this meeting. Another showcase of the RCTP spirit!!!

August 2013 is about **leisure**!! Our travel themed speakers series took us to Europe and South America. Oh Well! Need to seriously think about our travel plans now. Apart from our up and coming Taipei trip, I really do aim to setup a leisure only trip next April or May. Stay tuned please.



August 2013 is an **efficient** month. The new project I've told you all many times is showing progress. The initial project name is "We Can Code!" We will be working with Apps Lab of City University of HK. City U will support us with facilities, student instructors and class curriculum. This is going to be an 8-week program. For 2 hours each Saturday, you will be able to create your very own App for your smart phone. There will be maximum 10



spaces for our members and it is going to start in Nov 2013. Please join us and be our pilot graduate!

September is going to be another packed month. Please support your club meetings and enjoy all the great fellowship events.

Thank you.

## Editor Says ...

Claire Mak



These days, photos are taken whenever, wherever and about whatever: thanks to user-friendly digital cameras and more so, smart phones.

Oh, it's a nice cup, snap! The food is cutely presented, HOLD it everyone – don't start tucking into it yet - Snap! Snap! Do I look good in this dress? Snap! The flight is ready for boarding – Snap! Oh, and



our very own William has made it easy and possible to take photos under water with his Seashell case.

Photos are now taken with ease and a peace of mind – for 3 reasons. First, storage is easy. A small hard disk can save a whole lot of photos and some even got saved at *cloud's* end: all ready for review any time any where. Secondly, it is clean and tidy. There is no worry about the using of *plastic* films or toxic solution for developing hard copies photos. Just click



and upload; or click and delete and traces are removed. Lastly, the cost is minimal. Once the camera is purchased, the only recurring cost is just for recharging the battery. Photos can be taken over and over again.

As a matter of fact, photo-taking has become almost indispensable. When I chaired the 2010 District Conference, I factored in a whole hour *Photo Session* for all attending members, spouse and guests to take group photos.



This was a welcomed idea and has now evolved into a must-do thing in most events; and a photo back-drop has to be ready for most occasions.

I am glad that Tai Po members are now well-trained and

pretty alert to the need to take photos for Tai Post. Ha ha, thanks everyone. I just cannot imagine how dry Tai Post would become if there is no photo to go with the articles. We had had a hard time fitting in all our members and spouses on stage for taking the group photo with Governor Eugene at the 19 August DG Visit. It is fortunate that our club has got PP Peter Lam to tirelessly take photographs and indeed, Tai Post is the biggest subscriber to the photos he takes. There is a small section entitled "*Those Were the Days*" in this issue to relive some of the more memorable moments of our club, courtesy of PP Peter.



Having said that, too many available photos will sometimes present problem; and this is not infrequent given the ease with taking photos. Remember the July issue of Tai Post featuring our *Funny Sexy Hawaii* Annual Ball? Ball-chair Francis has given us a total of 5 albums showing over 1000 photos! Can you imagine what it takes to sort out and select photos for use in Tai Post? Just thinking back about it brought a buzz to my head!

There is also one quibble about the ease of digital photo storage. It may take up a negligible amount of your storage space, but each time a photo got stored "in the cloud", it eventually got logged into the server on the "ground". At the same time, somewhere in an unknown corner of the earth, the digital properties are stored and copied.



If the photo got sent to 10 friends and those 10 friends further shared it out to their friends ... coupled with the original and the copy we have, the exposure of the photo will be expanding at light speed. Well, one person doing it for one photo is not really worth mentioning. But when most HK people are (addicted to) doing the same thing, it is no longer negligible! Just think how the data centre maintain and back-up its storage to ensure a 24/7 operation: the exhaust air, the heat, the dust ... Such manner of operation is likely to produce huge amount of environmentally unfriendly substance! Not as bad as the solutions for hard copies film and photos, but still ...harmful.



We cannot live without taking photos; but let's do it wisely. Oh, and please continue to enjoy the colourful and interesting Tai Post!



## Rotary Information

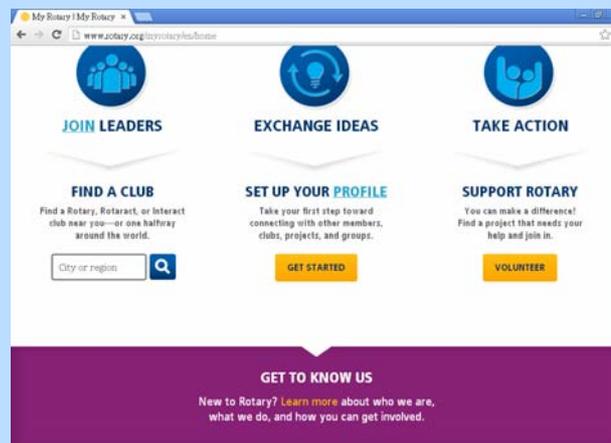
Peter Lam



Under the strong leadership of DG (now IPDG) Kenneth Wong last Rotary year, our district has launched the new modern look website. In fact Rotary International recently also renewed its website with major image changes and great improvement in user-friendliness and content. So please login now to [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) and check it out !

Another big recent change in Rotary is the launch of the new Rotary logo which is part of RI's multiyear initiative of unprecedented scale since 2011 to strengthen the image of Rotary. It was believed that "despite over a century of impact in communities around the world, Rotary does not get the recognition it deserves. We need to rethink how we tell our story so people everywhere understand what Rotary stands for, how we're different, and why it matters," according to the new Rotary visual & voice guideline. The new logo is part of our effort to strengthen Rotary image by "refreshing our visual identity, to energize our look and feel while celebrating our heritage." Let's take a quick look at some of the changes.

### New RI Website & New Rotary Logo

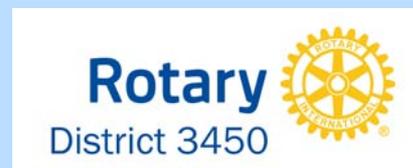


"I hope you find our new website exciting as well as a big step forward," says RI President Ron D. Burton. The site is organized around what you need to connect with leaders, exchange ideas, and take action in your community and around the world. The website actually comprises two sites: one for the public and one for the Rotary family. The new [Rotary.org](http://Rotary.org) tells Rotary's story in a clear and compelling way to help potential members, volunteers, and donors understand what makes Rotary unique and how they can get involved. The member site, known as [My Rotary](http://My Rotary), is where you'll find everything you need to conduct your Rotary business. By creating an account and signing in to the site, you'll access all the same reports and tools.

For the new logo, known as "Mastermind Signature", it has now evolved to include our wordmark, which is the word "Rotary", and our emblem, the Rotary wheel (also known as the "Mark of Excellence"). Please note that the traditional blue/gold two colour Rotary wheel has now been replaced by just one colour Rotary gold wheel with the ® sign added beside the wheel and our official logo include the wordmark "Rotary" in Rotary Royal Blue colour.



New Rotary logo (Mastermind Signature)



New District logo



## Goodbye Again, Cambridge (再別康橋)

Roger So

I had the privilege to station in London for 3 weeks in July on a business trip. Here below are some snapshots of my experience which I would like to share while my memory is still fresh.

### Daily life in London downtown

Every day I travelled to and fro between office and my hotel through the London metro just like many other Londoners. Like Hong Kong, the metro during peak hours is packed like tinned sardines but unlike Hong Kong, the metro line on which I commute every weekday is an old one which lacks air-conditioning. In this extraordinarily hot summer in UK (I was told this is the hottest summer over the past 7 years) you can imagine someone dressed in a suit like me would feel like inside an oven. In Hong Kong if the air-conditioning system in a compartment of an MTR train was out-of-service it would attract proliferate complaints from the passengers. Surprisingly, the Londoners seemed quite used to this and no one uttered one word of dismay.

### Dolce Vita

Another cultural difference between Londoners and Hong Kong people is about lunch break. My colleagues and I followed the custom of local colleagues by having quick and simple lunch like sandwiches, salads and meat rolls and we seldom enjoy “yum cha” during lunch, albeit my local office is within walking distance from China Town.

To reward ourselves for a hard day’s work we usually gathered after work to enjoy dinner at a good restaurant. Fortunately London has many choices of good restaurants serving different cuisines. The Belgian muzzles, Argentine rib-eye steak, Boston lobsters and Chinese Peking Ducks and dim sum are particularly good. However, if you like Cantonese roasted geese you will be disappointed as geese meat are not served in UK restaurant, albeit *Foie Gras* is a popular dish among most European restaurants.

As a side note, the luxury goods in London during

summer sale are in general 20 to 30% cheaper than same items in Hong Kong taking into account the tax rebate.

Another advantage of shopping in London is that you need not line up in long queue in front of those famous shops such as LV, Channel, Gucci, etc as in Tsim Sha



*A delicious and heavy dinner*

Tsui and Central while receiving “differential service” from those Mainland customers.

### Club Visit to Rotary Club of Kensington

During my stay in the UK I made a club visit to the Rotary Club of Kensington (RCK). RCK belongs to District 1130, Greater London. Chartered in 1925, it is one of the oldest clubs in the UK and has twenty three members, although half of them are retirees living in the countryside and do not join the meetings regularly.

At the club visit only 6 Rotarians from RCK were present but there were 5 visitors including the speaker and me. Yet I was warmly welcomed by RCK and we exchanged silk banners and had an interesting chat.

As a small tip, everyone intending to pay a club visit to European Rotary Clubs should make a prior appointment as not every club would be holding regular meetings during summer time as quite a number of members would have gone on vacation.



*Silk banner of Rotary Club of Kensington*



### Visit to the my son's host family

Coincidentally my son was taking home-stay together with a classmate in the countryside of London on a study tour in July. I made a visit to his host family on a Sunday afternoon to find out his well-being. His host family comprised a couple with 3 young kids. The family head was once an engineer (same trade as me) and is now the head of an NGO, and his wife was taking care for the young kids and family chores. At the time of my visit the kids were having an enjoyable time playing water game with my son and his classmate in the backyard of the host family. It seemed they have mingled well with no problem communicating in English.



*My son and his host family in London suburb*

### Visit Cambridge

On a Saturday morning I took a train to Cambridge together with several colleagues for dual purposes – enjoying the weekend while at the same time to have a first-hand experience in the intercity railway service in UK (something related to my work). This was the second time I visited Cambridge since 23 years ago.

The scenery and buildings along river Cam look virtually the same as my last visit. But for the vast number of study tour groups which sprouted in recent years one would have thought the time might have frozen here due to mysterious gravitational force.

We travelled along River Cam on a punt which is a narrow boat that resembles a Venetian gondola. During the tour the punter chatted about the history of Cambridge, the chronology and some interesting stories of past celebrities of Cambridge. He also admired the famous Chinese poet *Xu Zhimo* for his renowned poet "Goodbye Again, Cambridge" (再別康橋).



*Photo taken at River Cam*

As an interlude, I came across a group of students in the same form as my son's secondary school. It was a pity that Fred was in another study group which had already left Cambridge an hour ago that I could not give him a surprise.

I would like to conclude with a short poem below:

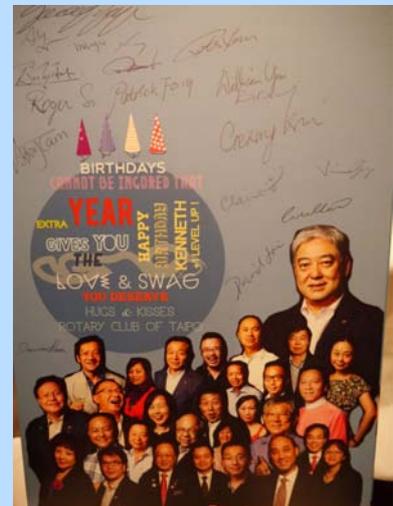
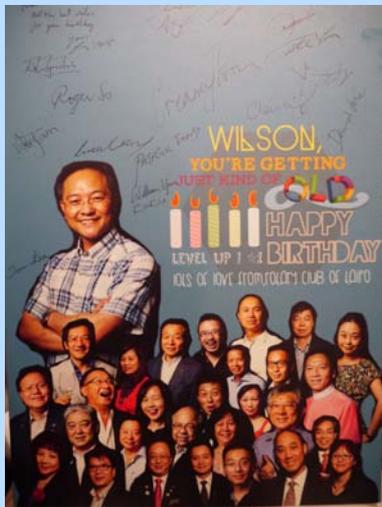
悄悄的我走了，正如我悄悄的來；  
Quietly I leave, as quietly I came;

我揮一揮衣袖，不帶走一個名貴手袋。

I cast my sleeves a little, not taking even a luxurious  
brand of handbag away.

*[original: Goodbye Again, Cambridge,  
Xu Zhimo, with slight modification]*

Those which speak for themselves and those which required nothing said



## Amazing Safari

Jodhy Mak

I was very blessed and lucky that I am able to visit the natural Africa twice in such a short time! Ngorongoro Conservation Area in Arusha region in Tanzania and Murchison Falls National Park in Uganda. [Photos credit to my friend Ng Ka Ching, Joyce, as I lost all the photos taken in safari in Tanzania.]



Gorgeous sunrise



This was how we do the game drive and camping.



We were the chef...only at this moment.



Bird's eye view.



A Maasai (best known ethnic group in Africa) with a few donkeys at Ngorongoro Crater



Buffalo



The Great Wild Beast Migration, mixed with zebras.



Hate & Love (if you have watched Lion King)



The wild beast ran really fast!

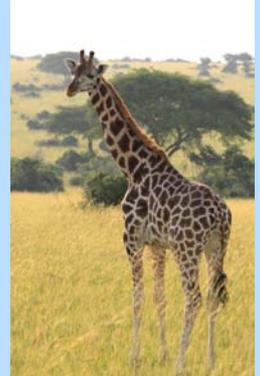




Lazy lions in Tanzania & in Uganda.



Deers



The giraffe



What're those?!?!? .....Hippocampus



Elephant family



Bird



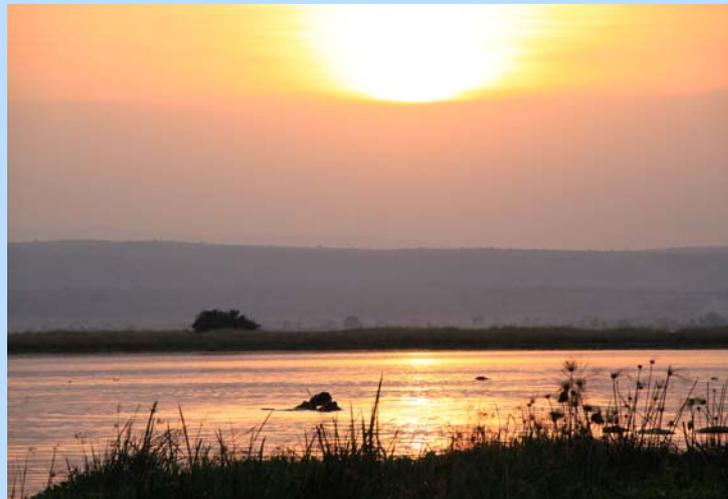
Ostrich



Fox



Monkey



I believe I saw 2 rhinoceros kissing.



Starry night in Uganda.

# Regular Meeting

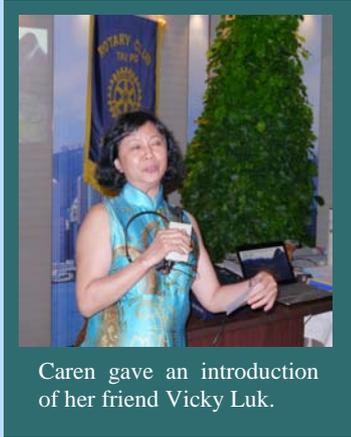
26 August 2013



Welcome back PP Charles for dropping by our meeting.



Welcome back Sincere who made it to hear about the exotic Brazil with which she is rather familiar!



Caren gave an introduction of her friend Vicky Luk.



A big hand to speaker Vicky Luk for her interesting slide show on "Hermosa America del Sur 美丽的南美" and sharing with us her trip to Argentina, Brazil, Peru & Uruguay.



VP Vikky gave a vote of thanks to Speaker Vicky.

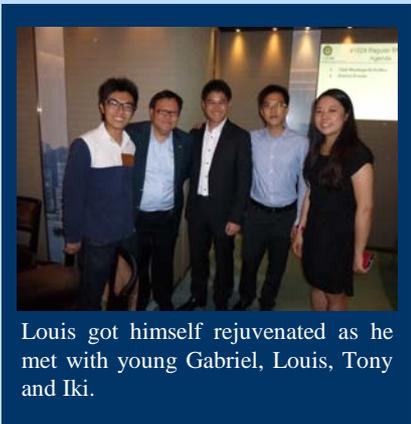


The very nice Krups coffee pot from PP Pearl went to raffle draw winner Pres. Francis.

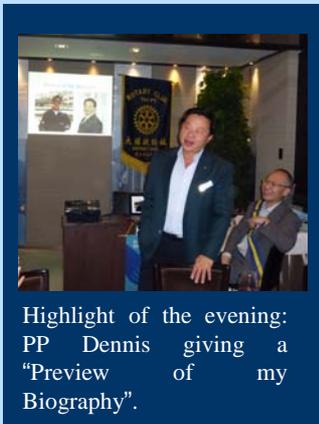
2 September 2013



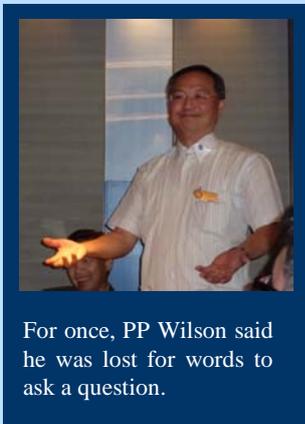
As PP Wilson and Sgt KF set up for the meeting, Pres. Francis welcomed back PP Jacky.



Louis got himself rejuvenated as he met with young Gabriel, Louis, Tony and Iki.



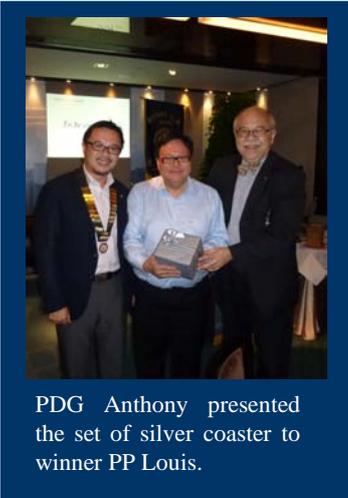
Highlight of the evening: PP Dennis giving a "Preview of my Biography".



For once, PP Wilson said he was lost for words to ask a question.



Francis thanked Speaker PP Dennis as he was joined by Lancy.



PDG Anthony presented the set of silver coaster to winner PP Louis.



At Iki's request members took a group photo at the end of the meeting.

9 September 2013



Visiting Pres. Kirk of Rotary Club of SoHo introduced their service project of helping youths who are living in very poor conditions.



Speaker Khalid Khan shared his rich experience as Prison Officer.



CP Donald was pretty amused by the interesting talk.



September Birthday boys and girls, speaker Khalid included, cutting the birthday cake and receiving well wishes from members.



VP Vikky shared her wonderful experience attending meeting at the Rotary Club of Horsham in West Sussex near London.



Rtnn. Angela was the lucky winner of the unique souvenir metal plate which VP Vikky bought from India.

## Upcoming Events

### August Winners (100% attendance):



FRANCIS AU,  
CAREN CHAN,  
PEARL DANG,  
PATRICK FONG,  
ANTHONY HUNG,  
PETER LAM,  
WILSON LAM,  
CLAIRE MAK,  
ROGER SO,  
VIKKY TAM,  
KENNETH WONG,  
FRANKIE WU

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
23 Sep (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Topic: Spotlight & Life Speaker: Ms. Sue Tam	Sing Yin (星宴), W. Hotel, Kowloon
30 Sep (MON)	7:30 pm	Fellowship Night with 50 rotarians from India, RC Peninsula, RC Lan Kwai Fong, RC Soho HK, RC Central	
7 Oct (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Topic: “從中醫角度講養生” Speaker: Mr. Kenneth So	Sing Yin (星宴), W. Hotel, Kowloon
21 Oct (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Speaker: Dr. Brian Leung	Sing Yin (星宴), W. Hotel, Kowloon
22 Oct (TUE)	12:30 p.m.	District Vocational Service Seminar Speaker: Dr. York Chow	Centenary Room, G/F, Marco Polo HK Hotel



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

Average attendance: 69.3%

- 5th Aug 66.8%
- 12th Aug 63%
- 19th Aug 85.2%
- 26th Aug 62.1%

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY "Sept"**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter Lam
- 4<sup>th</sup> Kenneth Wong
- 6<sup>th</sup> Wilson Lam
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dennis Lo
- 17<sup>th</sup> Claire Mak, Natalie Kwok
- 21<sup>st</sup> Patrick Fong, Vikky Tam
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Man Mo Leung

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](mailto:claire.mak@rctaipo.org)

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