



Be a gift to the world



Tai 大報 Post

June 2016 Issue

Monthly Bulletin of Rotary Club of Tai Po

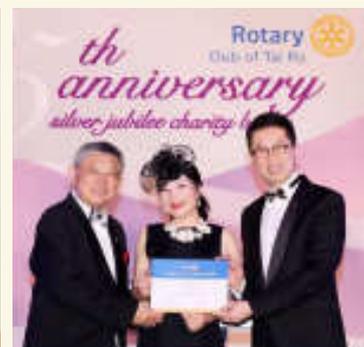
President's Message

P



Congratulations to the club, to all of us, and to the Ball Chair PE

William and the team! What a successful 25th Silver Jubilee Anniversary Celebration! More than 500 guests enjoyed the dinner, the atmosphere and the celebration! What's more, DG Peter delivered the good news that Rotary Club



of Tai Po has won the Rotary International Significant Achievement Award. Thank you very much, dear fellow members and family members, for your active participation in all our community services. I am proud to be part of the team, helping people in need, and making the world better.

This is the last President's Message that I will write for Tai Post. I would like to thank Chief Editor PP Claire, PP Peter and Rotarian Minghay for the wonderful work they have done to keep everyone connected through this monthly magazine. I am a die-hard fan, and I know many of my fellow Rotarians in this District are also fans of Tai Post.

Our incoming President William Yim will take over my job from July onwards. We are all confident that under his leadership, our club will reach new heights. I would like to share a little with you about William.

William was born in Hong Kong and studied electronics and electrical engineering at Maryknoll Practical Secondary School. He found his lifetime interest and future career path at Maryknoll, which made him an engineer, an inventor, and an entrepreneur later on.

After graduation, he studied electronics and electrical engineering at the Hong Kong Polytechnic. Not long after, he worked as Engineer in an electronics factory in Kwun Tong. William invented the test equipment for telephone production which occupied a large share of the market in Hong Kong. Building on his experience, he started his own business. Since then, he has actively participated in electronic product development and manufacturing solutions for electronics, semiconductors, critical components, and other advanced manufacturing industries. As of now, William possesses more than 70 patents, as well as various local and international awards and recognitions in product design.



William has won the Gold Medal at the 44th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva for a biomedical product he invented. It is a rapid diagnosis solution with microfluidic, lab-on-a-chip technology, which is used for infectious virus detection. This revolutionary invention greatly improves diagnostic efficiency by shortening "bleed-to-read" turnaround time; it segregates the diagnosis capability into a portable platform instead of a fully equipped laboratory.

William has a family of 6, including his beloved better half Bebe, three sons, and a daughter.

With PP Wilson Lam's introduction, William joined Rotary Club of Tai Po in 2011. His classification is "Manufacturing Technology".

I wish William the best for the coming Rotary Year. Have an enjoyable and memorable year!



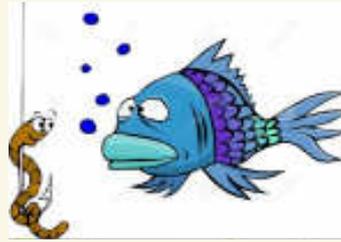


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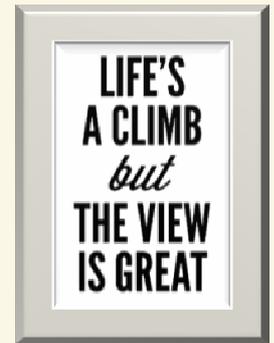
Very often, you see life mottos being passed around on Facebook. Some are pretty cliché but they keep circulating all the same. Recently, I read one which sounded quite inspiring. In effect, it says, "God is

Interesting. Cats like fish but cannot go into the water. Fish like worms but fish cannot go on land. This is life. You take possession as you lose out. You choose as you forgo." Whether you believe in god or not, this is quite an apt observation.



I think most people had tried to be a perfectionist at one time or another. I did. Then, as I grow - with increase in blunders and failures, the yearning for perfection withers bit by bit. Rather, it becomes more apparent that behind every perfect matter are blemishes. On the other hand, something less than perfect, or deformed, there are usually some hidden perfection. You gain some, you lose some. Nothing's really perfect.

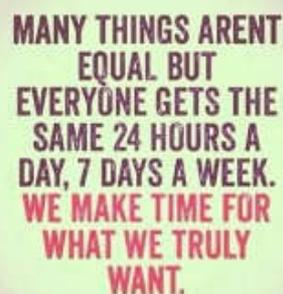
You must have heard successful people recounting how they achieve their successes. The pressure, the sacrifices, their momentary loss of direction, even losing good health or losing family. True. At times, to achieve success in business or profession, one may become narrow-minded and twisted. You see others' successes and you become envious. You see others fail and you secretly rejoice. After all, this is a competitive world. However, this won't make you happy. It only worsens one's integrity and adds on the pressure. You may gain success in business but you lose out on friendship, on peace of mind.



The speaker for our 30th May meeting from Junior Achievement HK said when judging the Entrepreneurship Competition (for high school students), it does not really weigh too heavily which contestant makes the most profit. While most of us in the audience shook our heads and smirked, she does bring me to think that leaving aside the conditioned world of that particular competition, in the real world, being successful in your profession is important but not most important. What's more important I think is to be successful as a person. Life is full of choices and when you choose some you let go of some others. Let's be conscious that for every deed, we give of our best, then let it be and that's it. It is difficult not to compete and not to want more or always push for some more. But life is full of limitations and you have to let go of things whether consciously or not. So as this Rotary year approaches an end, let's remind ourselves not to get too worked up but give your best shot and let go. You will find yourself being a Gift to the World and a gift to yourself.



Be a gift to the world



Council Grants Clubs greater flexibility in meetings, memberships



The 2016 Council on Legislation may well be remembered as one of the most progressive in Rotary history. Not only did this Council grant clubs more freedom in determining their meeting schedule and membership, it also approved an increase in per capita dues of \$4 a year for three years. The increase will be used to enhance Rotary's website, improve online tools, and add programs and services to help clubs increase membership.



The Council is an essential element of Rotary's governance. Every three years, members from around the world gather in Chicago to consider proposed changes to the organization and its member clubs. Measures that are adopted take effect 1 July.

The tone for this year was set early, when the RI Board put forth two proposals that increase flexibility. The first measure allows clubs to decide to vary their meeting times, whether to meet online or in person, and when to cancel a meeting, as long as they meet at least twice a month. The second allows clubs flexibility in choosing their membership rules and requirements. Both passed. Representatives also approved removing six membership criteria from the RI Constitution and replacing them with a simple requirement that a member be a person of good character who has a good reputation in their business or community and is willing to serve the community.

The \$4 per year dues increase was based on a five-year financial forecast that predicted that if Rotary didn't either raise dues or make drastic cuts, its reserves would dip below mandated levels by 2020. The yearly per capita dues that clubs pay to RI will be \$60 in 2017-18, \$64 in 2018-19, and \$68 in 2019-20. The next council will establish the rate after that.



"We are at a moment in time when we must think beyond the status quo," said RI Vice President Greg E. Podd. "We must think about our future."

Podd said the dues increase will allow RI to improve My Rotary, develop resources so clubs can offer a better membership experience, simplify club and district reporting, improve website access for Rotaractors, and update systems to keep Rotary in compliance with changing global regulations.

Also because of this Council's decisions:

- A Council on Resolutions will meet annually online to consider resolutions — recommendations to the RI Board. Council members will be selected for three-year terms. They'll participate in the Council on Resolutions for three years and the Council on Legislation in their final year only. The Council on Resolutions will free the Council on Legislation to concentrate on enactments — changes to Rotary's governing documents. Proponents predict that the Council on Legislation can then be shortened by a day, saving \$300,000.
- Rotaractors will be allowed to become members of Rotary clubs while they are still in Rotaract. Proponents argued that too few Rotaractors join Rotary. Sometimes it's because they don't want to leave their Rotaract clubs before they have to, upon reaching age 30. It's hoped that giving them more options will boost the numbers of qualified young leaders in Rotary.
- The distinction between e-clubs and traditional clubs will be eliminated. The Council recognized that clubs have been meeting in a number of ways, and given this flexibility, the distinction was no longer meaningful. Clubs that have "e-club" in their names can keep it, however.
- The reference to admission fees will be removed from the bylaws. Proponents argued that the mention of admission fees does not advance a modern image of Rotary.
- A standing committee on membership was established, in recognition that membership is a top priority of the organization, and polio eradication was also reaffirmed to be a goal of the highest order.



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For this special old photo page to commemorate our 25th Anniversary, we have in the past 11th issues covered various big topics like Anniversary Dinners, District Conferences, Youth & Elderly Services, Sister Clubs, Fellowship Nights and DG Visits, etc. For this final coverage, let's go back to basics and look back at some old photos of our regular meetings. Happy 25th Anniversary RCTP and let's treasure all the memorable moments and move forward to another page of our club history!



*New member Vikky as speaker
Apr. 2011*



*Club Visit to RC HK Harbour
Dumpling workshop May 2013*



*Our ladies with Miss Japan with speaker
from Japanese Consulate July 2010*



Oct 2009 Meeting at KCC with visit by RC Taipei guests



Meeting with Ambassadorial Scholars as speakers May 2005



*Jan. 2007 meeting with
Ambassadorial Scholar
Ayumi Yamashita*



*Receiving donation from TTCA Principal Joshua
Yau for StandTall project July 2008*



*Leo Hsieh from Taiwan
July 2010*



*1998-99 President Peter Lam with his team at last
meeting of the year at Royal Park Hotel
June 1998*



*Speaker in 1995: Director
of Planning Peter Poon*



*1st Miss HK (pageant 1973)
Elaine Suen Wing Yan as speaker
in 1993*



BAD town, wonderful journey

by Minghay



If anyone gets the chance to do a ‘自驾游’ in Germany and Austria, one will come across many places with names that start with a BAD. The word has actually nothing to do with the quality of the place but it refers to something the romans had built many many years ago and those were baths , yes the places where people could gather and socialise and bath at the same time.

After few weeks of clients' visits and price battling in the Netherlands, Laura finally joined me at ¾ of my trip. To make this trip a special one we decided to do a road trip from the Netherlands all the way into the Alps of Austria. The total journey was estimated to 12 hours drive.

On the way we had the time luxury and a good coverage of 4G to stop wherever we thought it might be interesting and one of the places we chose was Bad Kreuznach, which is located 100 km north of Stuttgart. Through Bad kreuznach runs the Nahe (sounds like 内河), which is a branch river line of the Rhine river. The small town's main income comes from tourists taxes that are collected when guests stay in 1 of the three beautiful THERME hotels. These THERME hotels offer guests to bathe in brine baths that has a high level of salt in it.

The salt water comes from a spring 500 metres underground and is piped to the baths from Salinental, the "saline valley". Balneologists have found spa treatment to be useful in fighting rheumatic diseases, allergies and bronchial asthma.



Regular visits to thermal baths are also an excellent preventive measure. Periodic salt water baths boost your circulation and strengthen the immune system.

Social awareness

Well , this was something we didn't read about when we were googling about Bad Kreuznach before we entered the town. Another thing we didn't read about was seeing how the German Government tackles the asylum seekers issue. Instead of allocating asylum seekers into outskirts of big cities the asylum seekers are 'assigned' into smaller towns where employment is minimum and the number of extreme right activists are growing in an exponential way. Bad kreuznach is one of these towns where the separation of both locals and immigrants are strongly visible and Germany , like other EU countries will have to put lots of effort and financial resources to help new immigrants to integrate with the society as smoothly and quickly and possible.



The next day we continued our journey heading to SÖLDEN (pronounce as Sur-den)in Austria where we had planned our short ski trip. For late season goers there are two things one needs to pay attention to when you are looking for some fun in snow :

- Check lifts not rooms : rooms are in abundance at the end of the season so the lifts are the ones one has to check for operation times.
- Make sure gondolas are not having their annual maintenance around this time as most resorts are making preparations for the summer season.



Sölden has over 250 km of slopes and 30 more lifts options to bring you up to 3300 meters altitude. I have lived many years in Europe and it was the first time I skied in Austria. Actually it was the first time I went on Ski's after having snowboarded for almost 20 yrs.

I now can finally answer the question many people have asked me before: Which is more difficult ? To ski or to Snowboard?

My answer would be Ski because you have 'an extra leg' to adjust your wrong doing.



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Claire Mak

The District Conference is the most important district event of any Rotary year. The DC has its own set of formalities under the RI guidelines but the Chair or the Committee always infuses it with variety and special features to make it interesting. This year, DC takes place in Chimelong Hengqin Bay Hotel and is an entirely refreshing experience.

The Pre Conference Events on 13th May 2016 included a breathtaking Circus and an easy light supper. Members have had a good time mingling and settling down or exploring this rather new and spacious hotel.



The Conference proper commenced in the afternoon of 14 May 2016. For the more important people, they started with the Leaders' Lunch and got to greet RIPPR Past RI Director Barry Rassin ahead of the rest of us.

The awesome and welcoming **House of Friendship** displays lined the Corridor entrance to the Conference hall. 10 photos of the different display panels entitled you to a meaningful friendship bracelet hand-made by Cambodian children under the care of The Children's Improvement Organization.



The Opening Ceremony saw cute kids jumping out from a Huge Gift Box as DG Peter Pang, RIPPR Barry, Conference Chairlady Wendy, and Guest of Honour Dr. Wilfred Wong untied the ribbons. Even though the **Keynote Speech** topic "A case study on how foreign enterprises can contribute to Pearl River Delta's sustainable development" sounds daunting, keynote Speaker Dr. Wilfred Wong made it interesting with all first-hand personal experiences to share. DG Peter Pang gave his **Governor's Report** and members had had a good time reliving the multifarious activities and achievements of the District in the past year. Then it is the indispensable photo-taking and a **Group photo** was taken of everyone at the terrace.





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After coffee, members broke out into different **Breakout Sessions** and got to discuss and voice their views about important issues like: District Strategic Matters, Membership Growth, District Finance and Administration and One Rotary Summit (Image and Foundation). At the same time, spouses also went hands-on with Flower Arrangements and Leather Purse Handicraft workshops.



The awaited **Governors' Banquet** "Rotary In Wonderland" lived up to the mesmerizing theme. Just look at how our delectable Rotaryannes dressed up looking for Alice already filled you with laughter. The Mapping Dance and the Robot Dance also captured all members' keen attention.





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What appeared more attractive for RCTP members may, however, be the **Drinks Party** at PP Peter's room that evening where whiskey, beer, mao-tai etc. and of course gossip and jokes were in abundance.



The 2nd Day of the Conference on 15 May 2016 started soberly at 10 a.m. with spouse and family members going in the Theme Park while Rotarians attended the serious **Business Session**. The Financial reports of last Rotary Year were duly passed without hiccup. Different from past years where resolutions proposed were mainly courtesy ones, this year there was this rather controversial one about setting up a District Audit Committee with all the ancillary duties. It generated quite some heated discussions and in the end, the resolution was passed in favour of the motion. The two addresses which followed, including the **Report on Council on Legislation** by PDG John Wan and RIPPR Barry Rassin's update about the current **Rotary affairs worldwide** paled by comparison.



The Foundation Lunch was served by way of bento as we listened to the two inbound Scholars about themselves and what they had experienced in this year of Exchange in Hong Kong; followed by a series of TRF Recognition.





Special Speaker Dr. Witman Hung, a Past President himself, brought the afternoon Youth Session to a good start with a presentation of what he considered "A Brave New World" exploring mainland China and with special reference to Qinghai. Then **Presentation by the Youth** comprising Rotaract, Rotary GFA Microfilm Award, RYLA, Liaison with Universities, Central Mentorship Scheme, RAAS and Interact spiked up the atmosphere. Our DRC Francis could not resist but have to show off the singing talents of our Rotaractors with an acapella performance.



The Conference did not end there. After coffee break, members came back to **Meet the Future Leaders** and got to know a bit more about DGND YC Ho, DGN HW Fung and also DGE Eric Chin. Lastly, after promoting the next RI Convention in Atlanta and the next District Conference, Chairlady Wendy gave her **Closing Remarks and Thank you** note. This was when emotions swelled and tears dropped. Hard work paid off and the Conference ended on a high note of sweat and tears, but, without further ado, members dispersed and hurried to catch the buses and ferries for the journey home.





Yesterday Once More

Claire Mak

Maybe because it is the last Theme Night of the year, or maybe it's the 25th anniversary effect, Team 4 comprising Leader Minghay leading Frankie, Jacky, Claire, Tsubaki, William and delectable Laura, went all retro and hosted the Theme Night on 23rd May 2016 at the Chinese Recreation Club entitled "Yesterday Once More".

Everything, right from the venue to the décor, from the food to the live Band, from the songs to the outfit, from the games to the prizes ... were just nostalgic! Yet nothing is dated and we all had had a super fun night.



The *Free Way Trio* Band played songs from the 60s to 80s as guests, in their retro outfit, started to arrive and fill up 4 tables cozily. Buffet dinner was served.

True to the spirit of the game 超級無敵估歌仔, Tsubaki mimicked the particular Cantonese song which only he could hear through his exclusive headphones. Everyone then made their guesses. You can imagine the chaos. The game brought cheerful tears to everyone. Those who managed to get the right answer were rewarded with nostalgic prizes of 大白兔糖 or 馬仔. Then a member would perform that particular song to the amusement of everyone.





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These songs included 飛哥跌落坑渠, 荷里活大酒店, 唐山大兄, 係唔係嘅啫... It was only after this game of 超級無敵估歌仔 that members dared take a sip of water for fear of choking by uncontrollable laughing.



Soon after desserts, singers inclusive of our guests like Wendy and PDG Jones and own members Pearl, Francis, Tsubaki etc. sang some oldies like 問我舊歡如夢, Sha la la, 學生哥 ... and Francis even had had his singing on Facebook Live! The evening wound down with PDG Kenneth singing the theme song "Yesterday Once More".



The lovely music and all the hearty laughter just kept twirling in my brain and gave a fitting end to all the 4 theme nights of the year. I think everyone would just hope it was yesterday once more!

Tender Our Loving Care - Closing Ceremony cum Health Check Service Day

Charles Chan



The closing ceremony cum Health Check Service of the Tender our Loving Care program took place at the Tsing Yi Community Hall on May 21, 2016.

It was attended by over 100 elderlies who are residents of the Cheung Hong Estate close to the venue. This was also the fifth and final part of the project.

Representatives of our partners and sponsors from YWCA, 明月堂 and 進業水務建築有限公司 were also present.

The Health Check Part of the program included:

- Chinese medicine consultation
- Saliva and blood glucose level checks
- Cholesterol level check
- Osteoporosis test
- Fall Prevention test

The above work were carried out by qualified volunteers from 明月堂, Enano Health Limited and medical students from the Hong Kong Chinese University Medical School.



With the meticulous planning and under the leadership of PP Pearl, the well thought out program was executed without a hitch. This was also made possible by the active participation of many volunteers from YWCA, our Rotaract Clubs, the Chinese University Medical School students, some independents and of course a significant number of our own members and officers.



There were indeed many happy faces at the event particularly those lucky ones who finished the day as the winners of the lucky draw.

And we finished the day with a most enjoyable fellowship dinner with the sponsors and volunteers.

Mission accomplished and a job well done indeed!





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Closing Ceremonies of 潮看Teen空 and Sunshine Teens

Jacky Sung

It was quite a new experience for our members to join the Closing Ceremony of both “潮看Teen空” and “Sunshine Teens” together on the same day, in N.T. Heung Yee Kuk Tai Po District Secondary School on May 25, 2016. The School Principal, teacher advisors, project participants, few parents, 10 RCTP members and spouses attended these two events.

As usual, the ceremony included a project recap, sharing from participants, encouragement speeches by our President, President Elect, Past District Governor, the School Principal and top management of Salvation Army.



Most of us participated in these projects in different stages during the past few months. It was very encouraging to see that most of the participants demonstrated improvements significantly in attitude and self confidence after almost five months of training. At the end of the ceremony, each of our member received a small bouquet, a hand-written thank-you card and a hand-made leather name-card holder from the students to show their appreciation.



After the ceremony, a BBQ party was arranged for all students, teachers and our members.



As there will be another social worker from Salvation Army to lead these projects next year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Wendy Poon for her great assistance given to RCTP and wish her all the best in her future assignments.



Oi! Oi! Oi! Oyster Class!

Yuki Tam

RACTP presented an informative, educational, fun, delicious and tasty club service on 24 April 2016 – Oyster shucking. Although it was a rainy day with amber signal, it didn't reduce the interest and determination of the participants for our club service.



An oyster expert – Wing - shared knowledge with us on how to store, handle and open live oysters. He also gave us good tips on wine options on wide categories of oyster. Taking on board all the warm heads up, we took our turns to practise. All had difficult moment for their first 2 oysters. Yet, it goes without saying, practice makes perfect, faces became less stressful and fewer people stood up to leverage their bodies. Towards the end, victory postures spread across the room with smiles, laughter and pride. It is surely another successful RACTP club service activity.



R

egular
meetings

30th May 2016



VP Roger chaired the meeting in the absence of Pres. Vikky who was at the RI Convention.



Ms. Rachel Chan of Junior Achievement Hong Kong introduced their Business Model Competition and invited Rotary to be a volunteer partner.



Wilson Woo gave a Vote of Thanks.

6th June 2016



Welcome back PP Man – the usual red box way



K F introduced speaker Mr. Aaron Pang, Head of Lalamove 貨拉拉



Mr. Aaron Pang recounted the initial idea of setting up the logistics company Lalamove 貨拉拉, its market position and its prospects when he expounded on the topic "Logistics – a dawn or dusk industry?"



PP Jacky delivered a Vote of Thanks.



The very fine tea set given out by AG Frankie was won by Creamy! So Frankie graciously offered cash prize for one more raffle draw.



PP Armstrong was 'second time lucky' and won the \$500 cash prize from AG Frankie as Pres. Vikky and Rtnn. Creamy cheered for him.



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A ttendance

FRANCIS AU,
PEARL DANG,
PATRICK FONG,
ANTHONY HUNG,
NATALIE KWOK,
PETER LAM,
WILSON LAM,
CLAIRE MAK,
ROGER SO,
JACKY SUNG,
VIKKY TAM,
LOUIS TANG,
MASAYUKI TSUBAKI,
KENNETH WONG,
ADA WU,
FRANKIE WU,
WILLIAM YIM,
MINGHAY YU



W e In May missed you

Dorothy Chan
Sasha Chu
Jimmy Wai
Patrick Yung

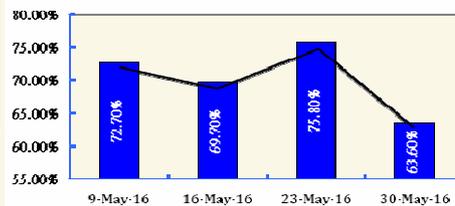
L Jason Lo Leave of absence

Up coming events

Day	Time	Event	Venue
4 JUL (MON)	7:15 p.m.	Club Installation	Function Room, The Royal Garden, 69 Mody Road, TSTE
9 JUL (SAT)	6:00 p.m.	District Installation	Convention Hall, Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

May 2016

Average attendance: 70.45%



Editorial Team

Chief editor

Claire Mak

The editorial board

Peter Lam

Jason Lo

Minghay Yu

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Tai Post wants to hear from you.
Write in to clairemak.rctaipo@gmail.com
Tai Post reserves the right to edit articles for length and clarity.



Rotary Club of Tai Po

RCTP INSTALL 16/17

JULY 4th

Reception: 6:30 - 7:00 PM
Meeting: 7:15 PM sharp
Venue: Function Room, ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL, Mody Road 69, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon
Fee: Guests HK\$ 550 Members & Spouses: F.O.C

