

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 2021 MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF TAI PO

WILSON WOO



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Time flies! When you read this message, my presidency has only three quarters left. In the past few months, nothing is more enjoyable than spending time with my fellow members. I can feel everyone's blessings and heartfelt support via your participation in our service activities and fellowship gathering. Being the President of Rotary Club of Tai Po offers me the opportunity to reach a real milestone in Rotary: the club and me growing together. Definitely, I still have a lot of room for improvement, to listen more, to observe more and to serve more. Please be patient with my stubborn and slow reaction. Your advices and opinions are very important to me and I will try my best to reflect and improve.



A blood donation activity was held on 4th September which was co-organized with Red Cross 耆英團新界東地區委員會. It is quite an interesting one which is different from the previous services I have participated. In this service, "we" the volunteers are ready to help the needy. We were encouraged to invite our members, family and friends to give blood on a regular basis and share the joy of helping others. One single donation can save three to four lives. Imagine how many more people could be saved with a group of us! We have received plenty of positive feedback and comments. Another blood donation activity will be arranged in the first season of 2022, please stay tuned.

You may wish to know that the pandemic doesn't stop us from supporting our sister club, Rotary Club of Taipei. After getting the green light from our board, our club has agreed to fund a 3-year community development and vocational training program organized by Rotary Club of Taipei for the indigenous people of mountain tribes in Heng Chun Peninsula, Southern Taiwan and we will be one of their international partners. The budget for the whole project is about USD 75,000 for 3 years, and our club will apply for District Designated Fund from our district, hopefully about USD 5,000 to be granted. We join hand-in-hand together to serve to change lives.



For upcoming activities, please be reminded that our first Theme Night will be held in late October led by our Team 1 leader, Jules and his team. CP's birthday celebration will be held on 5 November tentatively. More details will follow and I will keep you posted.

Wilson



Meeting at 7PM every Monday @ Regal Kowloon Hotel



Rotary Club of Tai Po URL: www.rctaipo.org



#rctaipo

EDITOR SAYS



In the past 2 months, I am experiencing Rotary differently. Being *drafted* into the District Global Grant Subcommittee, something which is entirely *new* to me as I had never paid real attention to The Rotary Foundation stuff, I am now learning from scratch. July and August also saw a few memorable events held in our District and I was involved in two: The District Installation and our Club’s 30th Anniversary Ball cum installation. These are happy events and I had thoroughly enjoyed myself in them, no doubt about it. That said, the nagging questions suddenly re-visited and gave me the pinch: “What am I doing?” “Why was I spending all these time?” “Why was I even there?”



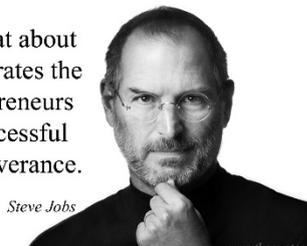
The more grand an event, the more it will appear to be something distant. I wonder if the Olympic athletes experience the same “lost” pang. Well, maybe not when they were in the heat of competition, but what about other times? Having watched and listened to the interviews of the winning athletes, there is a strong feeling that every athlete seems to be a lonely and isolated entity, each labouring under his/her own universe. Only their tenacity and never-give-up spirit spur them on.

For instance, a fellow classmate of Siobhan Haughey told the story that even though the swimming pools were all closed under the pandemic times, Haughey nevertheless went alone to practise in the lake when it was freezing cold. She proceeded to classes, her hair still wet or even with frozen water drops! Those were the moments when nobody would notice. There was no other person, there was only herself. Haughey had said, at one time when she was in the middle of the lake, even she had her moments of doubt: *What was she doing? Why was she even there?* It was so easy to give up and no one would be able to point a finger. But luckily perseverance prevailed and we have an Olympic medallist for Hong Kong.



An athlete has an easy and tangible goal: a race determines victory or defeat. If the endless practices were simply for the medals, then winning a medal justifies all the time and effort spent preparing for the race. But what if no prize was won eventually, does that mean all the preparation would become futile and wasted? Do you continue or do you leave the stage and do something else? When shall one call it a day and change to greener pastures? When shall one continue and persevere?

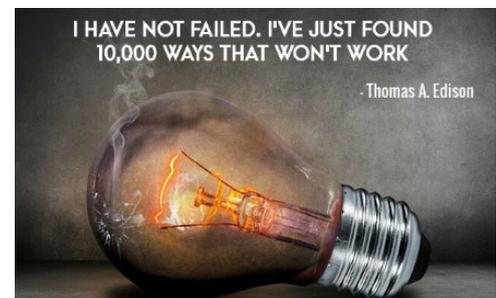
I’m convinced that about half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance.



A speaker at one of our regular meetings Rtn Hermann Lui talked about AI choice of stock. He was saying that AI analysis of big data enables us to know when to walk away, when to throw in the towel, when to cut losses. To recognize those occasions when it is smartest to call it quits is actually an immense strategic asset. Having said that, I was scrolling through social media and found a familiar quote from legendary entrepreneur -

Steve Jobs. You’ve probably heard it before: “I’m convinced that about half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance.” So how to draw the line?

I guess it is partly luck and partly introspection assessed in the light of all the circumstances. In short, there is no definite answer and there is no right or wrong. Indeed, it may take a long time to really see if your ideas pan out; that your perseverance bear fruit. Let me end by one more quote. This one comes from Thomas Edison. Edison says: “I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that don’t work.” It was only by isolating those 10,000 misfires that Edison was able to come at last to the light bulb. Some food for thought.



Meet the winners of the 2020-21 Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards

ROTARY INFORMATION

PETER LAM



Rotaract
 Rotary Club Partner

THE winners of the 2020-21 Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards were announced in April and celebrated during the virtual Rotaract Preconvention in June. Rotaract clubs and districts in 63 countries nominated a record 675 service projects, which were evaluated by RI staff and Rotaract Committee members on criteria including sustainability, community assessment, promotion, impact within Rotary's areas of focus, involvement of multiple Rotaract clubs, and collaboration with Rotarians and local experts. Two projects were chosen as international awardees and six as regional awardees.

For more than 25 years, the Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards program has been an opportunity for Rotaract clubs to share their success with the global Rotary community and to inspire other clubs to develop sustainable and innovative projects. Because the nomination form is modeled after The Rotary Foundation's global grant application, the process also helps prepare Rotaract clubs to apply for global grants, which they will be allowed to do starting 1st July.

International Award Recipients

Single club: Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, for creating and sustaining Sri Lanka's largest educational audiobook library, as well as designing audio-based vocational training lessons to benefit visually impaired students.

Multiclubs: Rotaract clubs in Southeast Asia for their *You Are Not Alone* mental health initiative, which reached more than 50,000 people with an approach that included local outreach and virtual educational workshops on suicide, cyberbullying, trauma, and depression.



Rotaractors in Southeast Asia created digital posters to spread awareness of their multiclub mental health initiative

Regional Awards Recipients

Africa: Rotaract Club of Kololo, Uganda, for empowering women from five communities by donating sewing machines, providing financial training, and creating an investment club to pool resources and savings.

Asia-Pacific: Rotaract Club of Zamboanga City West, Philippines, for a project that introduced hydroponic gardening to an association of women farmers to help them increase their food security and generate income.

South Asia: Rotaract Club of Islamabad, Bangladesh, for Project Beacon, in which members renovated a Rotary-sponsored school and provided tutoring, guidance, and educational materials to students facing challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Canada, Caribbean, and United States: Rotaract Club of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, for helping install in a local park an artificial tree that uses solar power to charge electronic devices, raising awareness of the benefits of alternative energy.

Central Asia, Europe, and Middle East: Rotaract Club of Tunis-Ennasr, Tunisia, for leading a nine-club project that collected donations of hair in order to provide customized wigs to children undergoing chemotherapy. In the process, the clubs highlighted the psychological impact of cancer and combated cultural myths about hair.

Latin America: Rotaract Club of Itabuna Universitários, Brazil, for supporting a neighborhood that had no access to drinking water or basic sanitation by distributing ceramic filters, educating residents about water treatment methods, and getting public health authorities involved.



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FLASHBACK

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

YOUTH CLUBS' JOINT MEETINGS



2016

Our youth joint meeting was moved to WYS College CU campus on 20 Mar. 2016. Thanks Wilson Woo for giving us a talk on "The Secret of a Fire Fighter".

2017



Deputy Youth Chair Wilson Woo's sharing during group discussion on 20 May 2017 event at CU campus. PP Cobe Tsang from RC Tolo Harbour was invited to share with us his life experience and insights of growing from a Rotaractor (Tai Po club) into a Rotarian.

2015



Well before COVID-19, it seems PDG Anthony already knew "non-hand shaking" technique during interaction with Rotaract Club of WYS Charter President Sunny Liu during our 15 Mar. 2015 event at TTCA School Hall.

2015



Youth Chair K F with Interact Club of Tai Po schools 2014-15 President Lee Nok Ting. Thanks K F for organizing various fun games and Louis for giving us a talk.



2014



Our first gathering of our schools youth groups from Rotaract Club of Tai Po, CU Wu Yee Sun (WYS) College and Interact club of Tsung Tsin Christian Academy (TTCA) on 17 May, 2014 at TTCA school hall. Each club gave a presentation and there were group discussion and games well participated by Rotarians led by 2013-14 President Francis Au. We were pleased to see our newly chartered Rotaract Club of WYS (chartered in May 2014) participating in good numbers with all their members dressed in the red Rotaract Tee and in high spirit! Did not remember why Interactors from Tai Po schools were missing . . .



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RC Tai Po Blood Donation Day

4 September 2021

Danny Lau

We've all heard that "One Blood Donation Saves Three Lives", but have you ever wondered why that is so? Do you know you can choose to donate a whole part of your blood or selected portions of it? We all know that anytime is a good time to donate blood, but when is our blood most needed in order to stock up the insufficient blood inventory? Does it hurt a lot to donate blood? You may have a lot of questions about this simple but life-saving practice if you are new to it. But I can assure you, the process is not a painful one, but a rewarding experience.



I was very glad to have donated blood along with 53 participants at the RC Tai Po Blood Donation Day on 4 September at Mongkok Donor Centre, Chow Tai Fook Centre. Thanks to an experienced nurse, I did not feel a thing during the blood extracting process even though there is a tiny needle hole on my arm which was fully visible! I had a whole blood donation in which the blood will be processed into different blood components: red blood cells, platelets and plasma. These three components will each be used to help meet different patients' transfusion requirements. That is why they say "One Blood Donation Saves Three Lives"!



There is another type of blood donation which cannot "save three lives" but is equally important - the Apheresis Donation. Apheresis is a procedure by which the donor donates only the blood plasma or the platelets or both with the use of a blood cell separator. This kind of donation can yield around 5 times more units of blood platelets/plasma than the usual whole blood donation. It can greatly reduce the donor's adverse exposure and enables catering for people who need a large dosage of platelets for treatment. But to be a plasma or platelet donor, you will need to be a regular blood donor who weighs above 55kg.

Anyhow, most of us can be whole blood donors. According to Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service, the blood inventory is especially low after a typhoon or bad weather because naturally, no one wants to travel to a blood donation centre under heavy rain. So next time when typhoon signal no 8 is hoisted, we should be thinking about going for a blood donation the day after!



District Learning and Development Academy

28 August 2021
 Danny Lau

I attended the District Learning and Development Academy along with P Wilson on 28 August which was successfully held in Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Moderated by Immediate Past District Rotaract Representative Alan Yip, the event covered two topics that are highly relevant and inspirational to our life inside and outside Rotary Club respectively.

The first part of the seminar explored the “Youth Policies of Rotary International” where we had five speakers from our Rotary/Rotaract Club Community. They were: Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta, District Youth Service Committee Chair PP Menza Chu, District Rotaract Representative Luffy Chan, P Kenix Yuen (Rotary Club of Kwai Tsing) and PP WH Fok (Rotary Club of Peninsula South). We had a fruitful discussion on the policy changes that will encourage more young and talented Rotaractors to participate in Rotary events and contribute to the development of the Rotary Club. Rotaract Club becoming a counterpart of the Rotary Club will surely bring more vibrancy and robustness to our community, notwithstanding the potential challenges that may arise from the change. Apart from that, we also considered the subject of youth protection, which doubtlessly is a crucial and inevitable part of any youth policy, especially if we shall have more young individuals to join our community. Any child/teens abuse or sexual harassment is intolerable in the Rotary and Rotaract community. This is manifested in our relevant Youth Policies.



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The second theme of the event was the “The Digitalisation of RMB”. We had three very knowledgeable and accomplished experts from the financial and business field. They were Rtn. Paul Pong (Rotary Club of Admiralty), Rtn. Jacky Luk (Rotary Club of Kwai Chung) and Prof. Emil Chan. Their presentations provided the current development of China’s ongoing project of eRMB and insights into how it would benefit the Chinese population as well as the international financial market.

While cryptocurrencies are gaining global importance as an investment tool and all the rest, the development of central bank digital currency (CBDC) is still a designing process for most of the big economies in the world. China, amongst all, pioneered CBDC at which the People’s Bank of China has already developed an eRMB wallet app where the digital money is stored. In other words, China is the first country to have a digital currency of its own. The implications of such an innovation are multi-fold. Despite the popularity of domestic payment apps such as Alipay and WeChat Pay, the majority of China’s rural population do not enjoy the convenience of such apps because they do not own a bank account. Digital RMB solves the dilemma by issuing e-currency directly to a citizen’s e-wallet by virtue of its legal-tender status. In view of the lack of internet coverage in some parts of rural areas, a feature of dual offline payments is also developed which will allow payments to be made even when both the payer and the payee are offline. Another surprising but possible implication of developing eRMB is that it may, in the future, be the rival of or even replace the US currency as the international reserve in the global financial market! Digitalisation of RMB has opened up and will bring more and more opportunities for asset classes.

All in all, the seminar has been very informative, timely and eye-opening. Let’s look forward to the advantages and improvements brought by constant financial and technological innovations.

 <p>Mr. Paul Pong 龐寶林先生</p> <p>Rotary Club of Admiralty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Managing Director at Pegasus Fund Managers - Chairman at IFTA (Institute of Financial Technologists of Asia) - Founder at IESGB (Institute of ESG & Benchmark) 	 <p>Mr. Jacky Luk 陸振球先生</p> <p>Rotary Club of Kwai Chung</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Head of Investment Section of Ming Pao Daily News - Senior Managing Editor, Ming Pao Daily News 	 <p>Prof. Emil Chan 陳家豪教授</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chairman, Smart City Consortium Fintech Committee - Founder and Hon. Chairman, StartHK - Adjunct Professor of EMBA programme of City University of Hong Kong
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23 AUGUST 2021

REGULAR MEETINGS



PE Vince Liu (left) and **President Wilson Chan** (4th from left) both of Rotary Club of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area came to support their member, our speaker Rtn. Hermann Lui (middle). President Wilson Chan gifted us a bottle of **Blanc de Blanc Brut Reserva** which was uncorked for drinking right away.

Speaker Rtn. Hermann gave out **Mooncake coupons** to members as token gifts.



Speaker **Rtn Hermann Lui** introduced to us **“What AI choice of stock is about 什麼是人工智能選股”**. We were advised of the advantages of stock trend prediction using scientific analysis of big data putting petabyte in its place. Financial institutions are increasingly investing in Artificial Intelligence and/or Machine Learning to achieve reliable portfolio management, algorithmic trading and sentiment/news analysis.



PP K F Tam gave a lively **Vote of Thanks** and praised AI could do better in place of unreliable human sentiment in stock investment.



PP Peter lamented on his 80% lost in stock trading and wished he had learned of AI stock trading earlier from the speaker which could have helped him cut a bit of his loss.



As **KF's birthday** falls right on the day, Rtnn. Trix bought a birthday cake for the celebration and she also offered an affectionate birthday kiss!



It must be birthday boy **KF's lucky day** as he won the **raffle draw prize** of a bottle of **2012 Chateau Palmer red Bordeaux** given out by **PP Louis**.



30 AUGUST 2021



President Wilson started the meeting with a recap of recent happenings and promoted upcoming events. He also showed a video clip which promoted the forthcoming RCTP Blood Donation Day.

Assistant Governor Isaac Yip of RC New Territories and **Deputy Assistant Governor Lillian Chan** of RC Shatin mingled and got in touch with different members.



Area 6 Assistant Governor Isaac Yip paid us an official visit and imparted to us **RI and District emphasis** this year as well as some recent events. He and DAG Lillian were also there to collect our queries or feedbacks to bring back to the District.



PE Danny asked AG Isaac for **Bullet Summary** of District Rotary Information which led to discussion about District Website which leaves a lot to be desired.



IPP Sally Luk thoughtfully gave out a **Tommy Hilfiger sports bag** for raffle draw in the hope of giving incentive to encourage members to exercise more. Hopefully, lucky winner **Rtn. Jules** would be putting the bag to good use.



6 SEPTEMBER 2021



Satellite Club chairman Tony Luk gave an introduction of his colleague, our speaker of the evening Celeste Lee.

Acting Sergeant PP Armstrong reported on the good order before the start of the meeting; and he was helped by PE Danny with the sale of raffle tickets.

It was quite an eye-opener when speaker **Celeste Lee** introduced to us: **How Social Media Promote Your Products?** We learned of many aspects of digital marketing including Display Banner Buying models, Responsive Ads and interesting terms like CPC (cost per click).



Questions were raised by our more outspoken members like PP Louis and PE Danny. The latter's question was quite complicated to which PP Louis (instead of our speaker) attempted to give an answer but was later on cut short by Sergeant.



PP Natalie was the lucky winner of a high-tech hand-held vacuum cleaner given out by PE Danny.



As is typical of RCTP, our September birthday celebrations are overwhelming by headcount. Here are the September boys and girls singing birthday song and cutting birthday cake ... but they are not all!



PE Danny kept his Vote of Thanks sweet and brief.



13 SEPTEMBER 2021



Members were briefed on the RI and District's concerns when **Past President Silva Yeung** (RC Kowloon Golden Mile) spoke to us on the topic "**Youth Protection Policy**". The main theme he wishes to drive home is that Rotarians and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young people they come in contact with

and protect them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse. Towards achieving these aims, the District will provide youth protection training and information on youth programs covering topics like how to protect youth and crisis management. Such trainings cater for Youth Service Director, Youth Protection Officer, Rotaract/Interact advisors of each club.



Members and even **Satellite Club member Scarlet Li** who joined from Canada via Zoom sang the **birthday song**... once again.

PP Silva's talk was informative and thought provoking so members, including **PDG Anthony, President Wilson, and PP K F** raised **questions** mostly about the practical implementation.



President Wilson did the **introduction** of Speaker and **PP KF** gave a **Vote of Thanks**.

Thank you PP Silva for paying **happy box**.



PP Claire gave out a compact yet very practical **Maxima Sol sensor light** and it was won by **President Wilson**.

The timely box of **mooncake** offered by **St. James Settlement** (Kwun Tong Workshop) was won by **PP K F**.



Just as **Pres. Wilson** thought he was through with the meeting unscathed, he got handed the **red box** by acting Sergeant Henry for having forgotten to ask for the Sergeant's report before toasting to close the meeting.



UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 2021



Average attendance: **69.76 %**

Date	Time	Event	Venue
20 SEP (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Speaker: Ir Dr Otto Poon Topic: How to Translate Fundamental Research into Business?	Montparnasse Room, 2/F, Regal Kowloon Hotel, TST
23 SEP (THUR)	17:00	The Rotary Club of Makati San Lorenzo - 29 th Installation of Officers and Induction of Members	Zoom
27 SEP (MON)	19:00	District Governor's Visit to Area 6	Royal Plaza Hotel, 193 Prince Edward Road West, Kowloon
4 OCT (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Speaker: Terry Topic: St. James Settlement	Montparnasse Room, 2/F, Regal Kowloon Hotel, TST
11 OCT (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Speaker: Prof Xiao Guo Topic: Towards Carbon Neutrality – Implications for Hong Kong	Montparnasse Room, 2/F, Regal Kowloon Hotel, TST

SEPTEMBER

- 1st Peter Lam
- 4th Kenneth Wong
- 6th Wilson Lam
- 8th Dennis Lo
- 10th Danny Lau
- 17th Claire Mak
- 17th Natalie Kwok
- 21st Vikky Tam
- 21st Jules Jiu 



TEMPER US IN FIRE, AND WE GROW STRONGER

**DISTRICT ROTARACT
INSTALLATION
CEREMONY 2021-2022**

Date : 22 September 2021 (Wed)
Time : 14:00-16:30
(Registration starts at 13:00)
Venue : Jockey Club Lecture Theatre,
Olympic House, Causeway Bay
Fee : \$60

Rotary  District 3450 Rotaract  District 3450 Rotary Opens Opportunities   **SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**

SASHA CHU
WILSON LAM
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
Claire Mak
Peter Lam



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