

TAI 報 POST

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



DANNY LAU

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Time flies! We are approaching the end of 2022. Looking back, there were plenty of trial-and-errors during the first quarter of my presidency, and I'd like to give my gratitude to all the support and advice that were given. Moving forward, we can certainly anticipate more engaging activities and meaningful service projects, both online and physical, in the coming year.

Allow me to make a special mention of the Christmas party on 10 December this year at Tsim Sha Tsui Centre with much joy and blessing. It was a great night with stunning performances by Lily Li. Although Lily humbly claims that she is an amateur singer, she is certainly a professional! Thank you PP Vikky, Sharon, Hilary, Grace, KF and Team 1 members for preparing such a wonderful night!



I am thrilled to let you know that the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services (HKCYs) has awarded RCTP with a Service Award for the past support and collaboration rendered by RCTP. During my chat with the social workers from HKCYs, we discussed a common cause at heart – career guidance and development for teenagers. We will be working together again in the coming February on a Career Expo for Tai Po teenagers, so that the invaluable professional experiences and life



wisdom from our Rotarians can be passed on to the next generation. It is also important to provide young people with mental preparation before their coming of age and becoming contributing members of society.

Our Rotaractors have also done something to help the minority in our community as well. In early December, there was a Micro-landscape Sphere Workshop for the ethnic minorities in our community. It was not only a chance for the participants to make a beautiful home decoration, but also a precious opportunity to meet with them to understand their difficulty and to foster understanding between us. Of course, our service scope is not only limited to our younger generation and local community, but also the environment. During the Sha Tau Kok Farm Visit in November, we also helped plant trees near the mangrove in Tang To Village. More events to come!

Wishing you good health, prosperity, and happiness for the year 2023!

Cheers!

Danny

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EDITOR SAYS



CLAIRE MAK

We have entered into the winter season. Prior to that, our club celebrated the most important event in the autumn season which is CP Donald's birthday. In the past, we used to have the *in season* hairy crabs and the dinners were sometimes referred to as the Hairy Crab Dinners. This year (well, in fact, since a couple of years past), being more and more health conscious, we did away with the high cholesterol crabs and held a cosy dinner in a more manageable size to celebrate CP's birthday. Time changes and our events sensibly change with the tide.

Back to 'winter'. Temperature has fallen quite a bit recently and so thick/warm clothes quickly surfaced. Cashmere tops, down jackets, woollen scarves are in abundance. To foreigners, this might be an interesting sight. I have seen posts on the web saying that when temperature is around 14 to 16 degrees, London people frolicked in the weather wearing short-sleeve Tees. It sort of makes us Asians look like we could not withstand even mild temperatures.

Of course, different places offer different experiences. In the south, the coldness comes with dampness. There is no ground-heating or central-heating facilities like in the north. Also, quite a lot of eateries in Hong Kong still have their air conditioners on full blown; so it sort of justifies why we put on thick clothes. Further, apart from fighting coldness, we also fight boredom.



How extremely boring it would be if we wear the same sort of clothing, of the same thickness and of the same materials throughout the year? The four seasons in Hong Kong are not exactly very markedly defined. Spring and summer have quite similar temperatures. When it comes to autumn, it becomes slightly windier. Then a (sharp) drop in temperature and winter is ushered in - the perfect excuse to get into clothing of different designs, different materials and different thicknesses! A make-over for oneself!

Choosing suitable clothes enables one to look resplendent and can be an interesting challenge. It is up to one's imagination on what are interesting to wear or pairing up. IMAGINE ROTARY is our Theme after all.



More importantly, we had experienced almost 3 years not being able to travel abroad until the recent relaxation of COVID rules. The money so saved cannot all be spent on food and drinks which will only increase the size of our waistline and the threat of "Three High". Why not buy some new clothes to add variety to your wardrobe and brighten yourself instead? Indeed, once the temperature plummeted, more and more people are alternating between old and new clothes, bright and solemn colours. If you do that, you not only break the boredom; each time you step out of home, you are entertaining yourself!

**BORED OF BEING
BORED BECAUSE
BEING BORED IS
BORING**

I think this winter will see more and more colourful dresses and clothing. Hong Kong people are good at creating novel fun in boredom. They hate the word 'bore' and cannot be bored. Dispelling coldness takes second seat in fashion because what's more important seems to be driving away boredom. Just IMAGINE!



Eco club in Italy draws ‘members of the future’

From RI News Aug. 2022

ROTARY INFORMATION



PETER LAM

When Lorenza Mazzoni joined her first Rotary club in 2017 in a small town outside Milan, it had a sizeable membership of around 45 people. Less than four years later, the number had fallen by at least a third. "This has happened in many clubs in Italy," Mazzoni says. "During the pandemic, I think it got worse."



Mazzoni also left the club — but she didn't leave Rotary. Instead, she joined the new *Rotary Club of Eco Milano*, Italy, one of a growing number of clubs in nontraditional formats dedicated to a particular issue or cause — in this case, the environment.



The new club began in late 2021 with 24 members, including 11 who were new to Rotary. What drew the newcomers also drew Mazzoni, who works in customer service at an international health care company.

"The idea of identifying with a cause resonated with my personal ideals," says Mazzoni, who became the club's charter president. "And the idea of having a club that identified with my own values, and meeting people who think like me, and working together, that was very interesting."

Olderico Caviglia, a marketing specialist, also recognized the importance of establishing a focus. Five years earlier, he had helped charter the Rotary Club of Milano Digital, which is an online club. "It's a club that continues to function well," Caviglia says. "It was a success, but it lacked a purpose. Besides, we have to think of who the members of the future are."



To determine who those members might be, Caviglia conducted a survey of more than 1,000 young people, including Rotaractors, Interactors, and university students. "Out of the 1,000, only four said they would belong to a traditional club," he says. "They also said they would be interested in a thematic club on the environment, and a smart club — figital, a mix of physical and digital."

By mid-2021, Caviglia and Franz Müller, a past governor of District 2041, had proposed such a club: Eco Milano. "We didn't decide to do a club just to create a club," Caviglia says. "We started a club responding to the specific requests of those who are the future members. The world of Rotary is born and dies with clubs that bring people together. So clubs have to think about who those future members are."

Members of the new club range in age from 34 to 76. About half live in the Milan area, while others reside elsewhere in Italy; there are also members in Poland and Switzerland. The core of the club's identity is promoting environmental sustainability, with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development serving as an overall framework. The current focus of its members is on plastics. "I'm a chemical engineer," says Müller, "and I had begun to occupy myself with the problem of plastics because they remain in the environment forever if they are not recovered and treated."

The club is working on a series of informational videos and publications aimed at different age groups to educate them about plastic use. It meets once or twice a month in person and the rest of the time online. "We can meet more frequently, and we can be more agile with the things that need to get done by meeting on Zoom," says Mazzoni.

Like many clubs in Europe and beyond, the Eco Milano club is responding to the war in Ukraine, helping refugees find jobs in Italy. And it's expanding its reach by creating a network of Rotary eco clubs around the world. "I was tasked to contact some Indian eco clubs," says Yasir Khan, 36, who is from Pakistan and is in Milan to study green aviation, a field dedicated to limiting aviation's environmental impact. "We were able to have a meeting with one club and established a link to learn and work together on these issues."

Khan and members of his generation are who Caviglia and Müller thought it was important to attract. "We know the problem of the environment is enormous and urgent," says Müller. "But it's not our problem. It's the problem of our children and our descendants. It's absolutely essential that we don't turn back." "If we want to leave the young people a better world," says Caviglia, "we need to start thinking about how to preserve the environment. And we have to create a movement within Rotary to get these results. There's a saying I like to repeat: 'God always forgives. Humans sometimes forgive. Nature never forgives.'"



FLASHBACK

SEN PROJECTS

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

2020



We attended the Opening Ceremony of 大埔扶輪社 融匯愛教室 at Fortress Hill Methodist Secondary School (FHMSS) on 11 Jan. 2020 and were given a guided tour by the school Ambassadors 炮循大使 (SEN students). With sponsorship by our club, the "SEN Parents Support Room" was renovated from the school's Tuck Shop and is now used to hold counseling activities and gatherings for the parents. SEN students also benefited by its recreational facilities.

2019



Danny Lau attended Pre-Adventureship Mentoring Activity for SEN students on 19 Jun. 2019 and 2018-19 President Patrick Fong also led Danny, Wilson Woo, KF and Peter to join a lunch with SEN students, FHMSS Principal Mr. Shum and Director, followed by a recognition ceremony at a hotel in North Point on 5 Jul. 2019.

2019



Our Rotaract Club of Tai Po worked with Fortress Hill Methodist Secondary School and our club to jointly organise a service project known as "Empowering SEN students to Excel" which targeted SEN children and their families. After the family visit by our Rotaractors and photographers, a Photo Exhibition and Forum was held on 11 May, 2019 at iBakery Cafe in Admiralty.

Welcome Dinner for IPP Rey from RC Makati San Lorenzo

Peter Lam

This Covid pandemic has stopped us from travelling overseas for a long time. So, when Hong Kong adopted the “0+3” rule and abolished the hotel quarantine requirement when entering Hong Kong, many Hong Kong people started making plans to travel overseas or might have already embarked on their journey abroad. Yet we all know that our city is far from “back to normal” and we still find it hard to attract tourists or business travelers. So, it was indeed a pleasant surprise to learn from Rtn. Henry Wang that IPP Rey (Rey John Lorca) from our sister club RC Makati San Lorenzo was coming to town 25-30th November. A welcome dinner was setup on Tuesday 29th November at the Sichuan Paradise restaurant (天府人家). Thanks to the nice arrangement by PP William who knows the restaurant well when we had our first fellowship night back in early August. This restaurant is located within walking distance from where IPP Rey was staying in Wanchai.

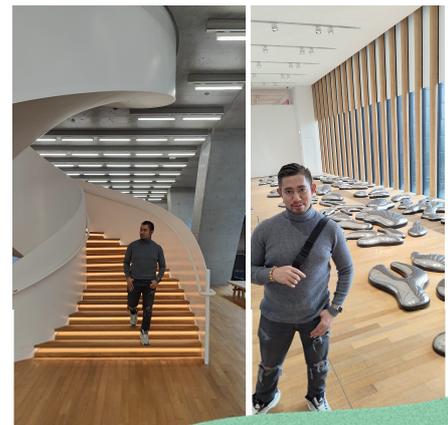


Has any of you heard of this Aki MGallery Hotel in Jaffe Road, Wanchai? Well, that’s where IPP Rey stayed. It is a rather modern boutique hotel with a nice whisky bar on top floor... Henry arrived early at the hotel lobby to meet Rey and I joined them at around 6:45pm to walk from hotel to our restaurant. We were glad President Danny, PDG Kenneth and PP William and Bebe all arrived early to greet Rey when he entered the private room in restaurant! Again, thanks William and Bebe for taking care of the menu and ordered various Sichuan dishes although we skipped the very hot signature dishes like 水煮魚 as we were not sure if Rey likes it or not and we know Henry prefers fewer hot dishes. Anyway, we were glad Rey did enjoy spicy food. Peter brought along white wine and whisky but it seems none of us were big drinker that night so we could only finish the two bottles of white wine but not the bottle of whisky. The magnum red wine which William brought along was also not consumed (oh no!) In fact, I already had a big glass of draught beer at a nearby pub when I arrived early before dinner . . . so I’d prefer not drink excessively. I didn’t drive that evening of course but I ended up giving up my initial plan to visit my favourite Irish Pub Delaney’s, Wanchai after dinner...

At the dinner, we learned that IPP Rey’s trip was both for business and leisure. Rey is an architect by profession but he is also involved in fashion designs. He was in town to attend an event of the famous fashion magazine Vogue. In last Rotary year, Rey had worked closely with Henry to successfully launch this online Global Climate Summit where many of the youth from Manila participated. Building on this connection, PDG Kenneth also made use of this dinner opportunity to promote the Virtual Vocational Exchange with our sister club RCMSL through IPP Rey. We were indeed thankful for IPP Rey visiting Hong Kong at this “not yet normal” time; and we realize that he must be a brave outgoing guy for having travelled to the RI Convention in Houston in June this year!



IPP Rey left Hong Kong the next day afternoon and how nice of PDG Kenneth to offer to accompany him to M+ Museum in West Kowloon that morning and brought him to yumcha lunch at Lei Garden restaurant (利苑) in Elements where IPP Wilson Woo also joined. Our face-to-face interaction with RCMSL has halted for almost 3 years and we truly value this small exchange with IPP Rey and hope he brought back with him our well wishes and friendship to their club members. Let’s plan to visit Manila in near future!





Rotary Club of Tai Po "Cowboy and Cowgirl" Christmas Party

10 December 2022

Ryan Yu, son of Rtn. Dr. C M Yu

This year's annual Christmas dinner was hosted in Tsim Sha Tsui's Starverse, with a crossover cowboy theme. Everybody wore their snazziest hats and boots to give their best wild-west impressions. Upon arrival, excitement filled the room. Not only were there Rotarians and their spouses from Tai Po,

but there were many other guests representing other Clubs. On top of that, a number of the Rotarians' children came along for an evening filled with happiness and laughter.



Sara and Hilary, 2 pretty ladies, were our MCs of the evening. After a brief introduction speech, President Danny announced the delightful Christmas party to begin!



It goes without saying that there was plenty of food to go around during the buffet-style dinner. Even during the meal, PP KF and PP Vikky acted as game show hosts, challenging us with multilingual quizzes. The evening was followed by the professional performance of Ms. Lily Li. The entire room was suddenly filled with her angelic singing.



To wrap the evening, Rotary Club of Tai Po's favourite Santa Claus, PP Dennis, paid a visit as the last event of the evening. This was the staple of every annual Christmas event. With the help of CP Donald, the duo spread joy to the room through raffle gifts, ranging from festive doorbells to the ultimate flat screen TV. While some were very lucky to receive presents in the evening, everybody else felt even luckier to have spent the evening with all their good friends, chatting and singing karaoke.....It was definitely true that everybody had a lovely night.





The Shadow Behind Perfection

Elizabeth Law, daughter of CDS Natalie

This poem is a shape poem, and it is about the pain behind the beauty of ballet. It is in the shape of a pointe shoe, with the verses in the upright shoe describing the flawless elegance of a ballerina, and that of the upside down shoe (its shadow) describing the pain that comes along. I chose ballet as the topic for this poem because it's somewhat ironic that ballet, the epitome of beauty, hides a painful secret that most observers are unaware of. You won't realize it by looking at the athletic, graceful, and fluid movements of the dance, but the pain hides deep within their shoes. Ballet is one of my favorites things, I love it wholeheartedly and I have a passion for it. The pain that comes with dancing on pointe is something I find beautiful, I have no idea why, but the idea of it makes me feel like it contributes to the beauty of it.



Echoes of the melody filled the air,
each note a pristine movement.

Her feet curled into a flawless arch,
her arms curved into perfection.

Carried by an unseen force,
she glides across the stage with
such etherealness,

swaying along the music
with such grace,

such refinement.

Each delicate step, so
precise, so consuming.

Each lithe move,
ever so agile,

pulling from the reservoir
of her experience.

The sublime lines she creates,
she is epitome of beauty.

But no one sees what's underneath.

Their eyes don't think and their
minds don't see,

that what is alluring isn't
so exquisite underneath.

For underneath
those slippers,
fragile like glass.

Bruises and scars that turn her
skin to stone,

Blisters and cuts
from the long nights and tears shed.

Her battered soles burn,
and her joints scream in agony.

They have no inkling,
of the countless times each
toe bled,

the pale piece of silk

wrapped around her
marble skin,

Soaked in red;

Of how she would spend
hours of darkness

Perfecting her technique,

Only to find it never ending;

Of how she would feel like
admitting defeat,

Surrender and stop trying,

Only to come back the next day with
unwavering resilience,

Determination coursing through her veins,

To continue pursuing her dreams,

To continue dancing with passion,

To continue putting on a smile,

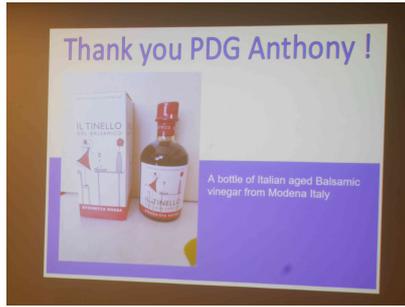
To dance, evermore.





21 November 2022

Regular Meeting



PDG Anthony offered a bottle of aged Modena Italian Balsamic Vinegar for raffle draw. Lucky PDG Kenneth claimed the prize.

During Club Assembly, IPP Wilson Woo reported on service projects, Sgt Jules on Red Box collection and PP KF floated ideas for Membership development.



DT Louis referred to our club's Foundation contributions and that we shall continue to be EREY and PHF club. PDG Kenneth explained the idea behind the District's initiative on District Re-Zoning. He also spoke on Virtual Vocational Exchange.

PP Armstrong praised fellowship events held in the past half year and previewed the upcoming ones..



Our Youth club advisors reported on current well-being of their clubs, with Rtn. Gabriel speaking of RAC Taipo, PP Louis about RAC WYS and Pres. Danny on Satellite Club of Taipo Companion.



Pres. Danny said we have more than sufficient money to spend while Green Chair Rtn. Henry reported that he attended the on-line Carbon Reduction and Ecology Summit.



5 December 2022

Speaker of the night **Dr. Hermann Lui** is a Rotarian from RC of Guangdong-HK-Macau Greater Bay Area in Area 6. This is the 2nd time he was invited by **PP Wilson Woo** to speak to us on the Fintech subject. The financial market in Hong Kong has gone through some big ups and downs in recent months and we benefitted from hearing our speaker's tips on when to buy and sell stocks from his eye-catching topic 從技術分析看港股 - 極地反彈條件及訊號. Hermann gave us recap of various global factors and historical events like the Trump Rally and few QEI & II boosting market measures by US government which led to our tremendous market growth. The important message was that BUY & HOLD stock of any kind is only good when the financial market is stable or experiencing an upward trend. So, under the recent market turmoil, Hermann suggested avoid Buy & Hold. Rather, follow a certain signal to BUY & SELL which he labelled as 終極指標 and he demonstrated his concept with his chart . . . Not sure if many of us can fully understand but his technical analysis and key points like "stick to the signal" and "trust where the money flow" did offer us some insights on how to manage our investment.



Hermann's talk was followed by lively Q&A session which involved **Kenneth, Louis, Joan, Danny** and Rotaractor **Jimmy**.



In his vote of thanks, **Henry** not only praised our speaker for his knowledge and tips to us, he also acknowledged Hermann's entrepreneurship and multiple interest like he recently ventured into F&B business opening up a high-end Japanese restaurant in Causeway Bay . . .

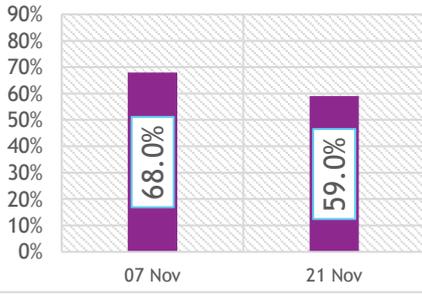


PP Peter was the lucky winner of the fine set of Pokka Café Cup and Saucer Set given out by **PP Louis**.





NOVEMBER 2022



Average attendance: 63.5%

Perfect Attendance NOV 2022

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Anthony Hung | KF Tam |
| Gabriel Kwan | Louis Tang |
| Peter Lam | Henry Wang |
| Danny Lau | Kenneth Wong |
| Claire Mak | William Yim |
| Armstrong Shea | Natalie Kwok |



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Venue
20 DEC (TUE)	16:00 - 17:30	Service for the Disabled in Tai Wo	Yan Chai Hospital District Support Centre (Tai Po), G/F, Fook Wo House, Tai Wo Estate, Tai Po
31 DEC (SAT)	10:00 - 17:00	DEI Rotary Service Day	Charles K. Kao Auditorium, Science Park
14 JAN (SAT)	14:00 - 22:00	2023 District Mahjong King Competition	Kornhill in Vogue, 201 & 301 Kornhill Apartment, 2 Kornhill Road, Quarry Bay
16 JAN (MON)	19:00	Regular Meeting Speaker: PP WH Fok Topic: A Couple of Matters When Large Planes Land	Fincher Room, KCC, 10 Cox's Road, Jordan



our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion



RONALD CHUNG
VIKKY TAM

MASAYUKI TSUBAKI
SINCERE YIP

CM YU



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



Leave of Absence

PP WILSON LAM



Meeting at 7PM every other Monday @ Kowloon Cricket Club

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