

Tai Post 大報

Monthly Bulletin of Rotary Club of Tai Po (Aug 2014 Issue)

President's Message

Natalie Kwok



Time flies. While it is still hot in daytime we can feel some gentle breezes in the early morning and late evening, confirming the Lunar festival of commencement of the Fall (立秋). In this transition period from Summer to Autumn, I look forward to celebrating mid-Autumn Festival with all members and guests at our 1st Theme Night on 1 Sept.



The past month is a busy month for Tai Po. In our first club meeting on 14 July we have the honour to have a large group of delegates from Rotary Club of Makati San Lorenzo (RC MSL), District 3830, Philippines. They have long and good connection with PP Pearl and members have had an enjoyable interflow with the delegates.



One of the good cultures of RC Tai Po is an appreciation for good food and wine. On 21 July we had the privilege to taste some very delicious homemade style cookies from the guest speaker Mr. Eric Chiang who is the founder and CEO of Gu Fah Bakery (古法烘焙).

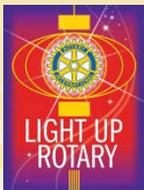


Mr. Chiang delivered a very interesting and inspiring talk not only on how he learnt the secret recipe in making delicious egg-waffle from the famous Uncle Egg-Waffle through his persistence and sincerity, but also how he overcame his depression and turned a new life. More importantly, he continues to pay back to the society by employing mentally rehabilitated persons, something which echoes the Rotary motto – Service Above Self.

On 28 July we had a very heavy weight speaker to share his life adventure to discover Japan. Yes, you are right. This is PP Peter. I learnt more about PP Peter and his life as a student. Credit should be attributed to our club admin chair Patrick who invited PP Peter to speak. Not only did he discover Japan as a country but he also encountered his wife Tomomi. What a romantic adventure.



CONTINUE



On 4 Aug we have a double pint of joy. The first pint is the sharing of the whisky tour to the whisky viney of Glenlivet by IPP Francis. IPP Francis is also kind enough to bring 4 bottles of different whisky for our tasting.

The high time of the meeting was the induction of our new member Dorothy Chan by our CP Donald. *Welcome you again Dorothy.* This has already achieved my membership growth target. Yet we should not be contented and should strive for continual growth.



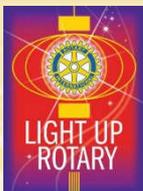
Other than the regular meetings we have also other meetings which made last month a busy month. We have our 1st board meeting on 28 July, attended the 1st JPM and 1st JSM on 22 July and 5 Aug by myself and Rtn KF respectively. On 2 Aug PP Dennis attended the District Membership Development & Retention Seminar at Police Officers Club.

Beside meetings our Service Committee has also participated in two very meaningful community services. On 1 Aug we had HKCYS dance showcase of youth in Tai Po. The performance of the youth was really cool and we can see confidence in their sparkling eyes during the performance, indicating the seeds of hope planted in their life have sprouted.



On 2 Aug we have yet another socially caring project - Build Our Loving Villages (同建愛心村) opening. We have provided health checking service, health talks and provided some useful gifts to the aged villagers who may need to travel with considerable efforts to Sheung Shui or other new town to receive medical services. Besides, these two activities have also reinforced our traditional virtues – "Honour the aged of other family as we honour our own; Care for the children of other family as we care for our own" (老吾老 以及人之老 幼吾幼 以及人之幼). Happy claps for VP William and PP Pearl for organising these two caring events and for those who have participated and contributed.



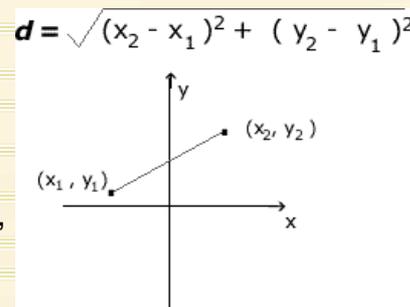


Editor Says

Claire Mak



If my mathematics still serve me right, the shortest distance from one point to another is a straight line. To substantiate this proposition, it involves a pretty difficult formula, one which I'd never really understood. But I think maybe it can simply be answered by reference to common sense. As for the longest distance between 2 points, of course it can be a boundless stretch, just like how government officials answer questions, or how ruthless taxi drivers did – go long-winded and never reaching the destination.



Sometimes if you pay attention, you may observe that people tend to stay at a maximum distance from one another. Say, in a lift; or in a big communal table in a restaurant ... if possible, people will stand or occupy opposite corners; as far as possible from others. This may originate from a wish to secure the maxi-territory for one to enhance the sense of security.

I also find it interesting that in dim sum restaurants, after the waiter finishes adding water to the teapot, he tends to put it on the furthest corner away from the patrons. For instance on a square dining table seating 2 persons on adjacent side at one corner, the waiter will place the teapot at the opposite corner of the table and the teapot handle will face (or be sticking) out. This is not the sort of restaurant where waiters will be continuously serving you tea but the patrons have to fill up their own cups. Why this phenomenon, I wonder?

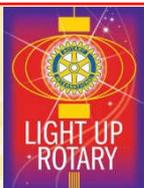
“The longest distance on earth: not from north to south; it’s when I stand in front of you and you ignore me.”



If humans are habitually distancing themselves from others, then we need to make an effort to bond. According to President Natalie, within RCTP, we are doing it by way of fellowship. Our club reinvents the 4 teams to organize the well-received Theme Nights. It is through such gatherings where everyone is at ease and family members are involved that distances between us shortened if not totally vanished.

At community service levels, we are reaching out to people on the farthest end in the Hong Kong territory. At the meticulous organization by PP Pearl who spared no effort in ensuring every detail is attended to, and in conjunction with the YWCA, members paid a visit to the elderly in Sha Tau Kok and offered them soup and health check in addition to keeping them company. I hope we can afford more time and effort and do more of these services to bring the distances between us and the service targets to a minimum.

“TIME IS THE LONGEST DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO PLACES.”



August is Membership Month and it was indeed best timing that our club gained two new members recently - Ada Wu & Dorothy Chan. Let's take a look at this important subject from our RI leader and see if we can do more!

PRESIDENT GARY C.K. HUANG'S AMBITIOUS 1.3 MILLION MEMBERSHIP GOAL

Rotary News 1 Aug. 2014

Gary C.K. Huang never imagined he would become Rotary



International's president when he joined in 1976, but now that he is in office, he hopes to increase membership to 1.3 million by the end of his term.

"It's simple. The more members we have, the more people we can help. A stronger membership base will result in stronger communities," says Huang, who on 1 July became Rotary's first Chinese president.

Huang also hopes his presidential theme, Light Up Rotary, will encourage members to brighten Rotary's image to the public, which he believes in return will improve member recruitment and retention.

Huang has a track record of improving membership development in Asia, adding 19 clubs when he was district governor for Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau. One of the cornerstones of his presidency is encouraging clubs and districts to conduct a Rotary Day. These one-day events, he says, can spotlight a particular cause, and solidify Rotary's image as one of the world's leading service organizations.

"We need to showcase our good work to everyone in the community. Rotary Days need to be fun and All Inclusive.. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to participate. My hope is at the end of the day a few non-members will want to join Rotary," he says. "Let's give people the opportunity to experience what it's like to make a difference. Rotary Days can achieve that."

Huang designed a travel schedule that will allow him to visit more than 30 Rotary Day events across the globe, including Argentina, Chile, France, India, Italy, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, and the U.S., as well as his home city of Taipei.

Huang says he's honored and humbled to be Rotary's president. He knows he's part of an exclusive club.

"We [past Rotary presidents] have achieved great success in our businesses and in our communities," says Huang. "But success isn't about power or Money. It's about giving back. Being a Rotarian has given me the opportunity to help those in need. As president, I can inspire our members to take advantage of the same opportunity and bring happiness in people's lives."

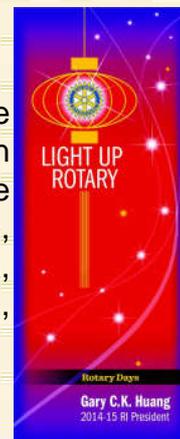
FUNDING GAPS

Huang says Rotary members are never short of ideas and innovative ways to solve problems, but Funding gaps prevent many of these projects from taking off.

For instance, Rotary members in Korea, Japan, and China are strong Fundraisers, but struggle to help each other use the funds because of distance and language barriers, Huang says.

"I want to show Rotarians why I am their president," he adds. "The best way to do that is to see and inspire their work, participate in their projects, and help them raise Funds."

"I want to, along with my district governors, reach out and try to link different clubs from different countries together so we can find the right communities in need," he adds. "That's one of the great things about being an international organization: the ability to bring different cultures and backgrounds together to find a common cause."



Discovering Russia

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Wanda Ngan

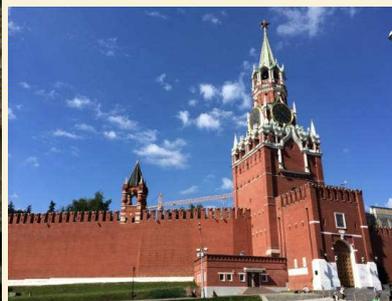
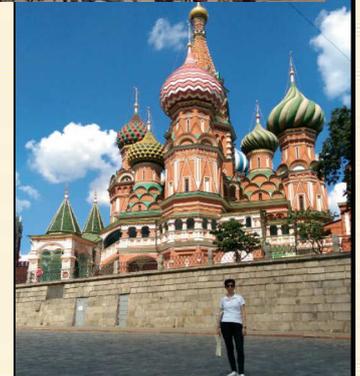
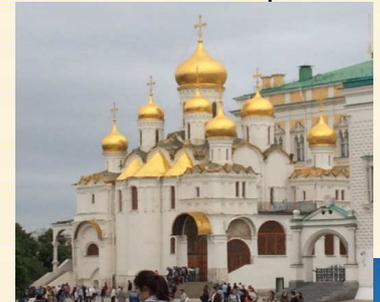
On July 6, 2014, Chloe, my parents and I finally set for Moscow, a place I have always wanted to visit. It was a nine-hour direct flight. We arrived at Moscow Domodedovo Airport which is the largest airport of Russia and Eastern Europe in terms of passenger traffic. We spent 3 days in Moscow and 4 days in St Petersburg.



Moscow

The first spot was Kolomenskoye Wooden Palace with a river behind. The weather was perfect to see the river view.

Orthodox is the most popular religion in this country. With their distinctive onion domes and ornate, atmospheric interiors displaying dazzling artistic treasures, Moscow's cathedrals are the pride of the city's architecture. My favorite one is St Basil Cathedral inside the Red Square. It is colorful and not as golden as others. Cathedral of Christ of the Savior is Moscow's most prestigious building project of the nineties; this resurrected cathedral is a phenomenally impressive symbol of post-Soviet Russia. The Cathedral of the Annunciation, once the private church of the Tsar's family, is a glorious 15th century cathedral, now used as a museum and is one of the highlights of the visit to Kremlin.



Directly opposite the Mausoleum, on the eastern side of the square, lies the building which houses Russia's most famous shopping mall - the State Department Store, GUM. The building itself is glorious and there are still a few more interesting relics of a bygone era on the higher floors that make it well worth exploring.

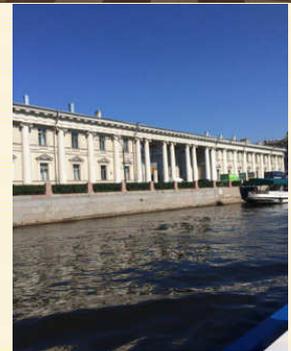
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Bolshoi Theatre is the most famous theatre in Russia, which has a glorious interior and excellent acoustics, and is home to one of the most important ballet and opera companies in the world. You will also see Stalinist buildings with terra cotta wall in concrete looking. Moscow metro station is also one of the tourist spots that is not to be missed. Each station has different brass sculptures and mosaic wall paintings. You will not think it is a station but a museum.



St Petersburg

St Petersburg is the second largest city in Russia. We travelled there through 4-hour speed train. It is renowned as "Venice of the North". A city built over 42 islands, St. Petersburg is surrounded by water and interlaced with a complex web of rivers, canals and channels that seem to bind the city together, while also marking the borders of its different districts and neighborhoods. We did our boat cruise in the evening with bright sky round the Neva River. It was its "white nights" season.

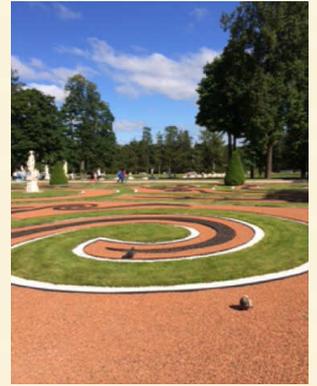


The Hermitage Museum is the largest art gallery in Russia and is among the largest and most respected art museums in the world. Statue of Venus was one of the art pieces that we can see from it. The Winter Palace is the most famous building in St. Petersburg and is located on the south embankment of the Neva River. We enjoyed the "Swan Lake" ballet show inside this palace.

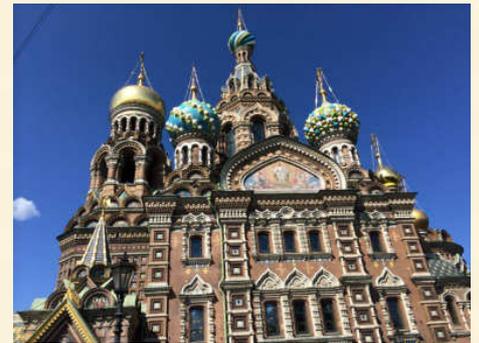


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Catherine Palace in Tsarskoye Selo (Pushkin), south of St Petersburg was built as summer residences by generations of Romanov Tsars. Fountains, paintings and sculptures are everywhere. This palace is even more beautiful than Versailles in France.

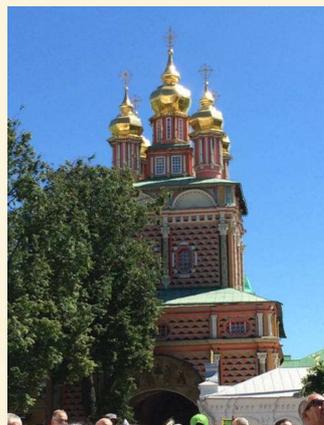
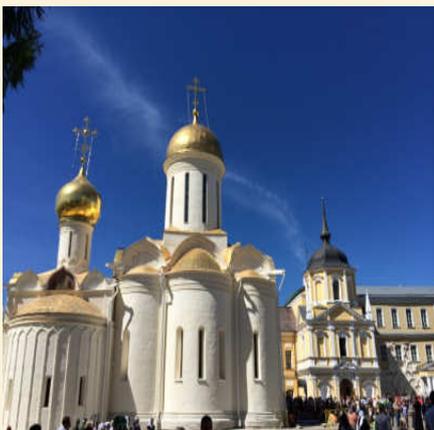


We can also see many Orthodox churches in St Petersburg. St Isaac Cathedral is the one that amazed me. Each single red granite column weighs over 80 tones. The dome ceiling is filled with colorful glass portraits.



There is another colorful church in St Petersburg which is The Church of Our Savior on Spilled Blood.

Beside visiting Moscow and St Petersburg, we also visited Zagorsk which is an old city in the suburb of Moscow. It is also one of the world UNESCO heritages.



Apart from sightseeing, we also did painting on Matryoshka doll. It is also the most popular souvenirs for the tourists.

In conclusion, it is a country with too much to see but is also a country with too little smile. Not many of the Russians have smily face.

"Build our Loving Villages" Project Visit

from the Diary of Bernice Yin

Saturday 2/8/2014 Sunny

I went to be a volunteer with my parents. I was very excited. We left home at 10:00 in the morning.

I and my parents went to a street near the Kowloon Tong MTR Station to take a bus ride to Hong Kong's Restricted Area 'Sha Tau Kok' village. It took quite a long time to get there. My parents chatted with other uncles and aunties and I read a book.

At the next stop at Fanling, Elizabeth got on the bus. We chatted and had snacks we brought. Auntie Pearl also brought some snacks for us.

We got off the bus in the Restricted Area to have lunch. My favourite dish is the steamed chicken. It was delicious. I drank soda.

We played for a while when we were back at the centre. Then we packed food and groceries into gift

bags to give to the elderly when the service is over. I enjoyed doing it. On the other side, the doctor was teaching them exercise. I saw that they were really happy. At the same time, some of the volunteers went to another room to provide medical check-up service to the elderly.

The work progressed smoothly and orderly. Time goes fast. It was time to present gifts to the elderly. After that I and Elizabeth played the last role: giving out Chocolate flowers.

We had a short conclusion after the elderly had gone and we left on scheduled time.

After a very tiring day, we had a wonderful dinner. We played until early in the morning. What a day!

Getting Ready for Service



Lunching at Sha Tau Kok



Delicious Chicken and milk tea are must tries

CONTINUE

Show Our Spirit



Greeting and Entertaining the Elderly



Medical Checks



Health Talk and Exercise



Sweet Gifts and Happy Ending





Jackie Leung's Graduation

In mid-July, we missed Ping and Angela from our meetings. Indeed, Jeffrey, Ping, Angela and Joyce were in London to witness and congratulate Jackie on her graduation. This is what Ping said about the trip: "I have had 5 games in London in Mill Hill Letchford and 3 at North Middlesex under great weather."

This proud dad seized the opportunity to have some golf fun apart from immersing in the joy of his daughter's graduation. Congrats to the Leung family!



Manabu Kiyama 城山學 9 June 1964 - 4 Aug 2014



(former member of RCTP)

Kiyama san came from Gosen, Niigata, Japan and graduated from Senshu University, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

He joined RCTP in 2010 and his classification was "Sochu Sake Sommelier". He operated the Sake Shop and to us, he is always our "Mr. Sake" and was fondly remembered as a most dutiful sergeant-at-arms. Due to personal reasons, **Kiyama** resigned from RCTP in April 2013.

Kiyama san is survived by his wife Clarence and two sons, Yutaro (Jimmy) and Ryushi.

May **Kiyama** san rest in eternal peace.



Stephanie Dennis 鄧慧心 13 March 1977 - 16 Aug 2014



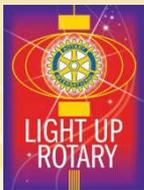
(former RCTP executive secretary)

Stephanie was the executive secretary for RCTP from 2000 to 2006. She was lively, energetic and discharged her duties with a lot of zest.

She is survived by her husband Stephen Dennis.

Stephanie now rests in God's arms and is rid of any further pain or suffering.





New Member



Monthly Bulletin of Rotary Club of Tai Po (Aug 2014 Issue)

Dorothy Chan 陳韻儀

Birth date: 29 July

Post: Executive Manager, Enterprise Risk Management,
the Hong Kong Jockey Club

Education: Master of Business Administration (University of Birmingham)
Master of Science in Ergonomics (University College London)
Bachelor of Science in Psychology (University of Southampton)

Interests: Water sports, tennis, movies and reading

Inducted: 4th August 2014

Classification: Enterprise Risk Management



Hello Hello Tai Po Rotary Club! Thank you for welcoming me into the family. Some people call me “Tai Po Mui” now but I am actually a Chiu Chow Mui by origin. I was told that I used to speak fluent Chiu Chow dialect when I was little but as I grew up,

I have lost that precious gift as my grandparents didn't speak very much Cantonese. I remember when they were still around, I would look very puzzled during some of our chats and had to look to my dad for help and my mum would say “you used to understand, you used to understand..!” Language is always a source of laughter in my family and to top it up since my grandpa, my uncles, my aunt, my dad and I look so much alike and my brother and I share the same gene of stubbornness, our family friends would always say “here comes the Chans!”.

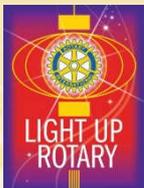
Hong Kong is what I put as my hometown when I fill in one of those Immigration forms, I spent good 9 years in the UK studying. That country taught me English, led me into hobbies such as going to the theatre, cinema, reading, watching tennis... I do try to go back once every year to visit my friends there and I guess I really miss the culture, atmosphere and scenery too.



As you can see my profile photo, I am a fan of wake boarding and funnily enough, I actually get seasick very easily so every time I go I have to take a seasick pill to help me get through the time when I am not in the water. As I am writing, I thought I don't need to say much about what I do because I think quite a lot of Tai Po Rotarians know that I work at the Hong Kong Jockey Club although what I actually do, is quite difficult to explain. I usually ask people “would you like the 1 minute version or 1 hour?” Just like in my previous jobs as an ergonomist and a safety engineer, I get a lot of “oh that's very interesting what you do... (Silence)”. 😊

That's it for now and enough about me, I really would like to get to know more about you all. Look forward to my time as one of the Tai Po Rotarians. Buendía!

Cheers,
Dorothy



Dance Showcase

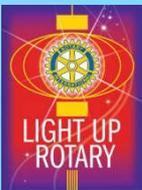
Step Up Infinity, 1st August 2014

Claire Mak



Every year, we supported the *Star Reaching Project* and had seen marked improvement in the young people whom we have helped in their personal development. Our Partner in Service, the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services (香港青少年服務處), was appreciative of what we have done and the encouragement we have shown to the Tai Po Youths. On 1st August 2014, Friday, our *Step Up Infinity* Dancers showcased the dance scores they had been practicing for months. Our members (Jacky, Peter, Ron, Anthony and Mary, William and Bebe and kids, Ping and Angela) and Rotaractors from RAC Wu Yee Sun College (Grace, Chloe, Alysia, Edmond, Trevor, Becoz and Cho-Fan) turned out in numbers to show them ardent support and in return, found themselves very much entertained by the energetic and mesmerizing dances!





Into the Astonishing Blue!

Professional Development Seminar, 26 July 2014

Alfred Lau, PD Director 2013-2014, RAC Tai Po

The long awaited summer has finally come! How to maximize our fun in this once-in-a-year special occasion? Staying away from the sun for movies and ice-cream? Doing Shopping? Spending thousands travelling around the world? It sounds like a brilliant idea to enjoy our favourite TV shows at home with air-con and boxes of ice-cream ready to be served, only if you want a "summer surge" in your weight! What about water activities then? Swimming pools and beaches are now crowded with tons of locals and travelling visitors, thanks to some good reviews of Hong Kong's swimming facilities in the newspapers published somewhere across the Shenzhen river. So what else can we do? In this case there is only one way out, which is to go further and deeper...into the blue!

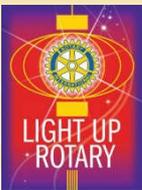


Noticing such demand in exploring further and deeper into the blue, RACTP invited Mr. Woody Lee, a professor in Japanese Studies from CUHK, who is also an experienced open water diver, to share with us the amazing marine world and some techniques in open water diving. The event was held on 26th July at the club house of PP Louis in Kwun Tong. In the first part of the sharing, Mr. Lee unveiled the mysterious underwater world by introducing various kinds of life forms that was not commonly seen in the waters we are familiar with. Those creatures looked so strange that you cannot help but suspect if they were from Mars! The transparent shrimps (*Periclimenes magnificus*) were so invisible as if they had the invisibility of the "Predator"; the Fire Clams were emitting some sort of electric arcs in deep waters; and a swarm of Jack fish forming a giant wall in the middle of nowhere. These phenomena were simply breath-taking and amazing.

In the second half of the sharing, Mr. Lee shared with us some basic techniques and equipment used in scuba diving. He advised that maintaining neutral buoyancy of the body was the key to getting close to those beautiful creatures, as finning would scare them away. Mr. Lee concluded the session by sharing his personal heart-stopping experience in fighting a down current that kept pulling him towards the bottomless abyss.

We had a very fruitful session with Mr. Lee who widened our horizon by showing us another face of this world. Our mother Earth is indeed full of surprises and treasures. In order to preserve our precious natural heritage, we should pay more effort in protecting this lovely planet before it is too late! Lastly we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to PP Louis for the venue. Thank you for lending us such a nice place!





Regular Meetings

21 July 2014



Speaker Eric Chiang explained the inter-relationship amongst "deliciousness, happiness and satisfaction" as he spoke on his award winning business model. He also gave each of us a tasty tin of Jini's cookies.



Birthday Girl Ada was given this year's birthday gift – a pair of umbrellas



Roger presented the much sought-after ice-cream maker to lucky raffle draw winner Annie.



Natalie congratulated big and small July birthday girls Ada and Elizabeth.

28 July 2014



PP Peter's whole family Daniel, Tomomi and Benjamin came to support him as speaker.

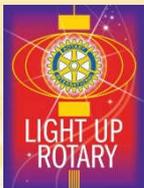


PP Ronnie Chui (right) of RC Kwai Chung brought along his daughter to support Peter on his talk and were greeted by PP Jackie, P Natalie and PP Peter.



PP Peter's talk was on the unique topic of "My Journey to Discover Japan."

CONTINUE



Regular Meetings



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PP Peter specially purchased the raffle gift of a set of Japanese tea set to coincide with the theme of his talk and the set went to the hands of lucky Bebe.



PP Pearl explained the arrangements for the "Build our Loving Villages" Visit on 2 August

4 August 2014



New member Dorothy was inducted into RCTP with Pres. Natalie attaching the member pin on her and CP Donald reminding her of the Rotarian duties.



IPP Francis gave a thoroughly informative talk on his Scotland Whiskey Journey and treated everyone with some unique Scottish whiskey.



PP Louis gave out a \$2000 meal coupon and Rotary Anne was the lucky winner.

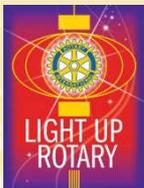


PP Pearl reported on the successful service for the elderly at Shat Tau Kok under our project "Build Our Loving Villages".

August Birthday boys KF and Timmy cut the birthday cake together in celebration of their big days



Service Chair William reported on the Dance Showcase by the Step Up Infinity dancers



Upcoming Events

July Winners
(100% attendance):



ANTHONY HUNG,
NATALIE KWOK,
PETER LAM,
WILSON LAM,
CLAIRE MAK,
MAN MO LEUNG,
JACKY SUNG,
LOUIS TANG,
FRANKIE WU,
WILLIAM YIM

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
23 AUG (SAT)	2:00 p.m.	District PR Workshop 2014	TKP Wan Chai Conference Centre, 17/F, East Town Building, 41 Lockhart Road, Wanchai, HK
25 AUG (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Area 6 Joint clubs DG Visit	Royal Plaza Hotel, Prince Edward Road West, KLN
1 SEP (MON)	7:00 p.m.	1st Theme Night cum September birthday celebration	Sichuan Paradise, 3/F, One Capital Place, 18 Luard Road, Wanchai, H.K.
6 SEP (SAT)	10:00 a.m.	Build Our Loving Villages HK Island Tour with Elderly	Gathering: Kowloon Tong MTR Station (former Ideal Hotel)
15 SEP (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Speaker: PP K L Cheng from RC Kwai Chung Topic: Future of Horse Racing in China	Function Room, The Royal Garden, Mody Road, TSTE



New member
inducted:
Dorothy Chan
On 4 Aug. 2014

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

Average attendance:
60.2%

4th July 55%

14th July 58%

21st July 55%

28th July 72.8%

In July

Sasha Chu
Sincere Yip
Patrick Yung



Rotary District 3450

WHISKY DINNER WITH MASTER WAN

23rd August 2014
\$800/Head 50 Pax ONLY!!
1/F Aubin House,
171 Gloucester Road,
Wanchai.

THE RUNDOWN

- 4:00pm Learn from Master Wan Classic Chinese Pastry & Dim Sum
- 6:30pm Cocktail
- 7:00pm Dinner

COOKING CLASS

- 椒鹽墨魚仔
- 棗炸春卷
- 蝦仁燒賣

DINNER MENU

- 原隻鮫魚海蜆
- 松葉蟹蟹钳
- 日式川椒雞
- 刺蔘燉海螺
- 古法梅子鴨
- 清蒸乳龍躉
- 鮮蝦荷葉飯
- 豆蓉煎堆仔
- 鹹魚大包

WHISKY OF THE NIGHT

- Scallywag Scotch Whisky**
(distilled from 100% rye, malted and Maltcorn, bottled at 40% alc/vol (80 proof))
- Big Peat**
(A special peated bottling, non chill-filtered, 40% Alc/v, a fairly rich character from the magical whisky lands of Islay including Ardsay, Caol Ias, Bowmore and Port Ellen (closed distillery))
- The Glenrothes 9 years old**
(distilled by Provenance, cask #10191, sherry butt)
- Glenlivet 18 years old**

Happy Birthday Aug

- 12th Timmy Kwong
- 14th Louis Tang
- 23rd K.F. Tam

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Got something to say?

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