



Tai Post 大報

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

President's Message

Francis Au



Dear Fellow RCTP members,

September is gone!!! Just like that. In the usual Tai Po way, we had a lot of things going on in September 2013. Thank you for all the good memory.

*** Fellowship ***

We had a lot of parties.

Wilson & Ken surprise birthday party, Aaron's wedding banquet, Mid-autumn Festival private kitchen on and on!!! Together with our regular meetings, we definitely can be named "RC TAI PO - A CLUB THAT NEVER STOPS". One thing we have constantly been doing ... alcohol consumption. I should have saved all the empty bottles. You will be quite amused what we have archived!!!



*** Rotary business ***

We have 2 major events in September: Installation party of our Rotaract Club of Tai Po and a first ever joint meeting with 7 clubs from India RI District 3230 and all our relative clubs (Peninsula, Central, and SoHo HK). Another big hand to you all Taipoian!!! Thank you for all the support to make all these events memorable and, of course, enjoyable as well.



*** Service projects ***

We do this in 2 areas.

Planning

"Strive for Summit" (潮看Teen空) & "Sunshine Teens"

We have conducted a fruitful meeting with the Salvation Army and NT Heung Yee Kuk Tai Po District Secondary School to plan our "Strive for Summit" and "Sunshine Teens" project effectively. Lots of dates have been fixed. The most important one is our BBQ night on 16 Dec with all the students from "Sunshine Teens" in their school. Please put this in your calendar.

"We can CODE"

We have a very effective meeting with people from City University App Lab. Our project basic structure has been confirmed. We aim to start the project on 4 Jan 2014 for 8 weeks. Details will be provided in these 2 weeks.



Action

"Step up Infinity"

We had a very meaningful visit in the Tai Kok Tsui community. It is an up close and personal experience for all our members and students from the *Step up Infinity* program. It gave us a chance to understand the real life and adverse situation of a community in our neighbourhood. It is an opportunity for all of us to understand the real need of our community. We may do this again. Please join us next time.

October 2013 is another BUSY BUSY BUSY month filled with programs and events. Look forward to more laughter and enjoyment with you all.

Yours in Rotary,

Francis



Editor Says ...

Claire Mak



Taking a holiday and travelling abroad can be a major boost for our daily lives. We usually come back from a holiday with renewed spirit and emboldened strength – if not a few new friends or an enhanced outlook as well. Sometimes we just need to rest, and so we choose places to reset our bodies and minds. Other times,



we feel the need to immerse ourselves in culture, history, good food or different kinds of exotic experiences. Some of us went upon



family duty or even club duty. Travel can be an investment in pleasure, sanity and lasting memories.



A combination of these reasons had brought Vikky and Peter respectively on their trips to UK and elsewhere with rather different tales to tell. So was

the experience a bunch of 34 of us had as we went to Taipei for the charter night of our sister club Rotary Club of Taipei and the incidental leisure trip. All the good



food we had; all the whisky and sake consumed; all the fun and laughter we shared! Do read through the articles with interest and



start making time for the next trip. I must exercise some restraint and reserve the trip I took (to Germany and Switzerland) for the next issue lest this issue of Tai Post becomes like an extract from a travel magazine!

Both Peter's and Vikky's trips necessitated from a display of the fatherly / motherly love of bringing kids for overseas studies. As you see (well, you actually don't see it but suddenly came to realize it!) the second generation growing up, the cliché "How time flies?" really knocks head-on! The epitome of the metamorphosis and growth of RCTP second generation comes vividly in the form of Aaron's wedding to his lovely wife Teri, the banquet of which was attended by no less than 50 of us from RCTP! Look at youthful Armstrong and Rita. Wow, together with the newly weds, they made two pairs of handsome couple!



Speaking about the younger generation, the first Service Project of the year: 'Step Up Infinity Visit to People in Poverty' seems to have created quite some impact on them. Roger's daughter Katherine and William's son Alaric have both volunteered to share a piece of their minds with us. Let's learn about this service project through the eyes of the young people.

There are just such a lot of interesting events happening that I should not bother you further; but let you explore all the fun we had in the past month as you turn the pages here!



Rotary Information

Peter Lam



Let's take a look at two recent good news on our Rotary global effort to fight against polio.

INDIAN PHILANTHROPIST BOOSTS ROTARY'S PUSH TO END POLIO WITH NEW US\$1 MILLION GIFT



Indian philanthropist and businesswoman Rajashree Birla has announced a new gift of US\$1 million to Rotary to help eradicate polio. The gift brings her total contributions to the Rotary effort to more than \$7.2 million.

What's more, this gift will be matched two-for-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, resulting in \$3 million in new funding for the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI). Rotary is a leading partner in the GPEI, especially in advocating government and donor support, fundraising, and building public awareness.

Through the [End Polio Now: Make History Today](#) fundraising campaign, the Gates Foundation is matching two-for-one every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication, up to \$35 million per year, from 2013 through 2018.



"Mrs. Birla's generous gift is deeply appreciated and could not have come at a more opportune time in our fight to end polio once and for all," says Ashok Mahajan, a former Rotary Foundation trustee and close friend of the Birla family. "Her generosity no doubt will inspire other private donors to step up and help Rotary take full advantage of our innovative partnership with the Gates Foundation."

Birla's gift underscores India's commitment to remain polio free. India -- which some experts believed would be the last nation to beat polio -- hasn't recorded a case of the disease since January 2011. Only Nigeria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan remain on the list of countries where the wild poliovirus has never been stopped. India's nearly 3,200 Rotary clubs have been instrumental in supporting National Immunization Days, massive initiatives that reach nearly 175 million children under age 5 with the oral polio vaccine.

"Thanks to the efforts of Rotary and its partners -- including India's Health Ministry, WHO [World Health Organization], UNICEF, CDC [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention], the Gates Foundation, and other organizations -- India continues to be free of polio," says Birla, whose son, Kumar Mangalam Birla, has transformed the Aditya Birla Group into a Fortune 500 global conglomerate.

GATES FOUNDATION JOINS WITH ROTARY TO BOOST POLIO ENDGAME SUPPORT

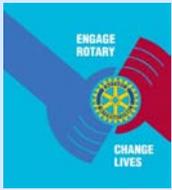


"Going forward, the Gates Foundation will match two-to-one, up to US\$35 million per year, every dollar Rotary commits to reduce the funding shortfall for polio eradication through 2018," said Jeff Raikes, the foundation's chief executive officer, in a prerecorded video address shown during the recent RI Convention's plenary session on 25 June in Lisbon, Portugal. "If fully realized, the value of this new partnership with Rotary is more than \$500 million. In this way, your contributions to polio will work twice as hard."

The joint effort, called End Polio Now – Make History Today, comes during a critical phase for the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#). The estimated cost of the initiative's 2013-18 [Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan](#) is \$5.5 billion. Funding commitments, announced at the Global Vaccine Summit in April, total \$4 billion. Unless the \$1.5 billion funding gap is met, immunization levels in polio-affected countries will decrease. And if polio is allowed to rebound, within a decade, more than 200,000 children worldwide could be paralyzed every year.

Rotary and the Gates Foundation are determined not to let polio make a comeback. "We will combine the strength of Rotary's network with our resources, and together with the other partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), we will not just end a disease but change the face of public health forever," said Raikes.

In 2007, the Gates Foundation gave The Rotary Foundation a \$100 million challenge grant for polio eradication, and in 2009, increased it to \$355 million. Rotary agreed to raise \$200 million in matching funds by 30 June 2012, but Rotarians in fact raised \$228.7 million toward the challenge.



Visiting Horsham

Vikky Tam

The town of Horsham is in the southern part of England with a population of 55,657 (2008), about an hour drive from London. Horsham is a beautiful place. I like the old trees particularly which are planted along roads all over the town. Green trees, colourful flowers, hustle and bustle - the commercial area, peaceful and safe – the residential areas.... they may be the reasons for attracting so many people to choose to live there after retirement. They may be the reasons making Horsham – one of the most liveable places in the UK.

I went to Horsham because Grace would be attending Christ's Hospital, a boarding school that was founded in London in 1552 by Edward VI and relocated to Horsham in 1902. One of the most amazing things about this school is the uniform. It remains almost unchanged for more than 460 years. I think the uniform is so cool!



Christ's Hospital Boarding School



school uniform

Grace and I arrived at the hotel in the late afternoon on August 28, for the new students' induction & school term on the 31st. I met nearly 30 students & family members in the hotel for the first time. The students are attending the same school from Year 7 to 12 and from Hong Kong. The parents' Whatsapp group started contact earlier this year, a good and effective way to exchange ideas & share experience between one another – including booking the same hotel.

We could not wait to explore the town the next morning. Thankfully the weather was lovely. We took advantage of this and spent a long time exploring the area. When we got to the town centre the shops were open. I found there was no empty shop. I guess the business must be good or the people are good at doing business. The buildings are very traditionally English, a huge contrast to those in Hong Kong. Grace found the aesthetic of the small town fascinating, as she studies History and History of Art. An ounce of practice is worth more than a pound of theory (讀萬卷書不如行萬里路). We thoroughly enjoyed our first day out in Horsham.

One of the more memorable occasions is visiting Rotary Club of Horsham. Mr Brian Little – the Hon Sectary, is just so nice and so kind to me and had given me detailed meeting information. He went to the hotel with his wife Eileen to pick up Grace and I to the special dinner

meeting on Thursday the 30th. Yes, the meeting was a full house – 50 members and guests; so...much fun – English humour, professional magic show; so...warm – everybody was so friendly and made me feel so at home. It was a great gathering.

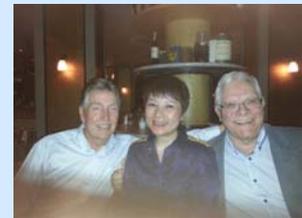


Flanking me was Richard and Dave, Grace and Brian

I was invited to the birthday dinner of Jean, the first lady of RC Horsham on Saturday night. President Peter and his son Rotarian Andrew, together with Brian, Eileen, Roy, Richard & Janet, bought her a surprise birthday dinner. I did not have a moment to close my mouth.... you could imagine there was so much laughter. Not only laughing, of course eating, and learning Spanish & French - thanks Brian. What a super evening.



Jean's Birthday Dinner



Peter and Brian

It was so kind of President Peter and Richard to have planned to take me to the attractions on Monday. I could not make it; I was not feeling well because of jet lag. I could not sleep at night and was very tired during daytime. I changed my schedule and headed to the airport at lunchtime. The President said I could keep this "coupon" for use next time. Yeah... :)



I exchanged souvenir banner with President Peter

I really feel the power of being a Rotarian: as a member in Hong Kong with good friends in the UK and in every corner of the planet.



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Teri and Aaron's Wedding Banquet

14 September 2013

It was with immense pleasure that RCTP members accepted invitation from PP Armstrong to attend the wedding banquet of his son, Aaron with Teri. As Aaron is also a Rotarian of Rotary Club of Kowloon Golden Mile, the venue at Double Haven, Shatin Jockey Club was packed with Rotarians on 14 September. RCTP members, spouses and children alone accounted for 50 of the guests.



Hey, aren't Armstrong and Rita just too young to be parents-in-law? They looked as dashing as the newly wed!

It was such a joyful event that everyone just drank and ate and cheered and fully enjoyed. RCTP presented a set of "golden pig and piglets" necklace and a pair of dragon and phoenix bangles for the bride and groom. Oh, in the slide show, there is a photo showing the newly-wed lovingly holding somebody else's baby. That's a sign which does not require Prof. Langdon or Da Vinci to decode! A similarly auspicious event may very likely be in the pipeline... ..





UK & Paris

Peter Lam



Those of you who know me well can tell that I seem to be “always in a hurry!” Yes, hurry to work early in the morning, hurry back home late night from work or from activities, hurry to Rotary meetings, hurry to golf . . . And my overseas travel seems to follow this pattern as I often arrive late and return early on my trip to sister club in Taipei. Once I went to California USA to attend high school reunion on a weekend trip arriving on Thursday night and leaving on Sunday midnight! My recent trip to UK & Paris was no exception as I spent only two nights in UK and three nights in Paris from 28th August to 2nd September, a short trip considering the distance travelled which my wife Tomomi did complain . . .



The main purpose of my trip was to take my young boy Daniel to boarding school (Form 5) in Bromsgrove, near Birmingham in UK. No excitement or visit to interesting spots this time as I have toured London twice before when I took my elder son Benjamin to school and attended his graduation 1-3 years ago. So this time our family just had lunch at Harrods Department store in London with Daniel’s guardian (a British Lady) and headed straight to school. As the UK trip mainly focused on orientation at the boarding school, it just reminded me of my good old days in high school & college in California and I was amazed at how time flies and kids growing up fast (too fast!) and . . . kind of following my foot steps !



So the exciting part of our trip was our first visit to this fascinating, glamour city – Paris, where we visited after saying goodbye to our son at school. On the first two nights, we stayed at a boutique hotel in Rue St. Honore area which is at the centre of tourist attractions like the Opera House, Place de la Concorde, Place Vendome, Musee du Louvre. To see with my own eyes the historical artwork at Louvre like the famous painting “Mona Lisa” by Leonardo da Vinci and the Impressionist painting “Dance at Le Moulin de la Galette” by Renoir at Musee d’Orsay was indeed a



dream come true for me. My only regret was that we were again “in a hurry” so we could only take a quick look inside the museums as Tomomi kept pushing me to move to the next spot! A long walk near the river Seine and Avenue Des Champs Elysees and visit to Are de Triomphe were both fascinating and romantic. Tomomi was happy to “pick up” something from the Louis Vuitton shop at the Avenue Des Champs Elysees, oh no . . . !



Needless to say, a 3-night trip to Paris can only allow us to cover the main attractions. So on the third day, we moved to the St. Germain area on the left bank of the Seine river. We stayed at this historical hotel known as *Lutetia* which is in a very convenient location to cover the near-by spots like Cathedral de Notre Dame, Church at St. Germain des-pres and the St. Germain Boulevard area. I was particularly impressed with the beauty and relaxed atmosphere at Jardin du Luxembourg (Garden) as we joined the local people to sun-bathe and rest in the garden. Tomomi seems more interested in the many boutique and fashion shops in the area but she was disappointed that many of them were closed as it was a Sunday! I wish I could have relaxed at the famous Café Les Deux Magots or Café de Flore in St. Germain where many famous writers and artists like TS Eliot and Hemingway once hung



out in the 20’s, 30’s and 50-60’s; but sitting outside facing the street in crowded tiny table with people smoking was not Tomomi’s cup of tea so we gave up! Our visit to the infamous Eiffel Tower was not as exciting as it was really too crowded with so many tourists lining up to take elevators to go up inside the tower which we gave up. We also found it a bit disturbing that there were so many gypsies, boys & girls, hanging around asking for “donation.” (In fact we were also approached by gypsy for “donation” inside the subway which was a little scary!) It was a most rewarding experience for us to round up our trip with the night boat cruise along the romantic Seine river where we could see the Eiffel Tower lighted up. Yes, we love Paris and Tomomi keeps saying we must go back soon . . . hopefully not in a hurry next time!

Bon Voyage, Merci beaucoup!



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916 MID AUTUMN CELEBRATION

16 September @ Le Mieux Bistro

Claire Mak

“What happened in the winter months of December and January which led to so many of RCTP members being born in September?” I think this question comes up year after year and of course, this year was no exception. The question was raised again at the 916 Mid Autumn Celebration as we celebrated the full moon festival as well as the birthdays of our September birdies.



President Francis made special arrangements for a rather niche (yet affordable) French menu by renowned chef Ricky Cheung at Le Mieux Bistro. Also invited to share the festivities were President Eric Chak of our mother club and his members; and also members from RAC Tai Po. We also welcomed Past AG Wendy Lee and also a few potential members and good friends.



There were the 5-course special menu, plenty of wine, tricky/cheeky riddles and even cheekier presents for those coming up with correct answers, a made-on-the-spot birthday cake from chef Ricky for birthday celebrations and above all, loads of good fellowship!





Hong Kong Children & Youth / Rotary Club of Tai Po

Step Up Infinity Service day

Date: 29.9.2013 (Sun)

Time: 2:30p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Tai Kwok Tsui Gathering venue: 愛鄰舍睦鄰中心

Address: Unit 2, 2/F, Hoi Hong Building, 47 Tit Shu Street, Tai Kok Tsui, Kowloon.

Purpose: Visiting families in poverty (each group visit 2 families)

Participants: 8 Step Up Infinity youngsters and RCTP members divided into 3 groups

Remarks: Presents (food) prepared by social workers

Dress code: Casual wear



Visiting People in Poverty

Alaric Yim

On the 29th of September 2013, a cloudy, misty rainy Sunday afternoon, our club, Rotary Club of Tai Po organized the first volunteer service event in its new term: visiting families who live in poverty in Hong Kong together with the team members of *Step Up Infinity* which RCTP sponsored. The goal was to find out what these families need and what their problems are.

There were 15 persons from our club members and their family, including Kenneth, Francis, Wilson, Natalie, Vikky, Jimmy and my father, William. We were divided into 7 groups. My group consists of Fung B, Mean who are the members of *Step Up Infinity*, William and me. The person we visited is a 75 year old lady who lives alone in Tai Kok Tsui. We phoned her to confirm that she's at home and then we started walking to the address that was given by the staff of the community center.

The old lady lives just a street away and we arrived there shortly. As we went into the flat, I noticed that the room was small, dark and messy. I also noticed that the old lady sounded unusually tired. During the conversation we found out that she is suffering from liver cancer and that the pain was so intense that she couldn't eat or sleep and she would only feel better if she visits the doctor. But as the medical fees are very high, her son, who sometimes flies back from Australia to look after his mother, paid for it. The old lady also told us that she has 4 children but only 2 of them looked after her. At the end, we concluded that we can continue visiting this old woman, although she mentioned that she wouldn't need any help as long as her son is looking after her. However, she was indeed very positive and with a heart filled with appreciation that really touched us.

Soon after we have finished the visit, we all returned to the community center and have a sharing among all the groups. Each family visited by our group members was having different kinds of difficulties in their live and they are in need of help.

I think we are all very lucky to have good living conditions compared to a lot of other people. I think we should be happy with what we have now and help those in need.

Last but not least, I must thank Eugene of HKCYS, Miss Ho and their colleagues for organizing this meaningful event.



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An Unforgettable Visit

Katherine So

“Subdivided flats”, “cage homes”, “coffin homes”... these are the by-products from the extremely high cost of flats in Hong Kong. As Hong Kong is such a tiny place and yet contains a huge population, the price of housing soars and seems never stops. Being unable to afford living in a nice and comfortable flat, people under poverty have no choice but to cramp into the so called “subdivided flats”, which basically is a partition of an ordinary flat. These “flats” are usually very small and unhygienic, and have little natural ventilation since not many have the privilege of a window. You may wonder how Hongkongers can tolerate such living condition. In the following I am going to share with you one such experience.

On 29 Sep, my family and I visited a low-income family in Tai Kok Tsui through a program co-organized by the Love Neighbour Centre and Rotary Club of Tai Po. When we reached our destination by following the instruction on the map, I was still astonished by the worn-out appearance of the building, even though I had had some imaginations about it. The stairs were uneven without lamps and the corridors were as dark as the haunted house in Halloween. Only some natural sunlight shone into the building through a window. Walking up the steps, we finally arrived at Mr. X's home. His wife opened the gate for us and led us to a room. “This is our home,” she told us, and felt sorry for not having enough space for us to sit.

The area of their home was around 50 sq. ft., which is about the size of my room. Though the flat was extremely small, it was neat and tidy, with a bunk bed and some other appliances. Mr. X informed us that he worked as a security guard, while his wife was a new immigrant with little education. As Mr. X's son was entering kindergarten, to help tutor his son, he had reduced his working hour from 12 hours to 8 hours a day. “Travelling to Tai Po takes an hour,” he said, “and the total travelling time for work becomes two hours each day.” As his son needed help and to monitor his homework, a task which his wife could not tackle, Mr. X decided to take up a job that earned less but provided him more time to educate his child.

Mr. X's greatest wish was to live in a government housing estate. The rental expense of his flat was around HK\$2000 per month, yet it was of poor condition and small area. “It wasn't this expensive before,” he sighed, “but after the government decided to provide subsidy to low-income families, the owner raised the rent immediately”. I was empathetic with the family, and appreciative of what I enjoy today. Through the conversation with Mr. X, I noticed that despite his lack of much education, he was a clear-minded person. He knew that only through education can bring them social upward mobility and escape from inter-generational poverty, which was why he was determined to provide his son with the best education he could afford to enable his son to break through the poverty vicious circle.

Besides, Mr. X was disappointed with the political parties who opposed all the government's policies, no matter good or bad. He was fed up with the Legislative councilors debating on priority of building public housing versus environmental conservation. “The political parties are opposing the government for the sake of opposition while many poor can't afford a living place,” Mr. X spat with dismay.

The visit to the low-income family made me reflect a lot. I am really fortunate to live in a middle-class family with well-educated parents. However, not many people enjoy these privileges and suffer from poverty. Therefore, I should treasure the chance of receiving a high-quality education and shouldn't whine for studying, as not many can afford that. Other than that, I think the government should treat the housing problem seriously as the housing cost is ever increasing. Besides, it shouldn't use “We have no land” as a lame excuse, as there are many unutilized car parks and closed schools in HK not being explored. As a result, I think the government shouldn't debate whether clearing up some part of the country side for housing or not, but to make good use of the unused land and leave the country parks alone. This is, after all, a tourist attraction and is an important environment safeguard serving our “city lungs”.

(N.B. The surname of the family visited was renamed to Mr X for privacy reason.)





930 Two districts Eleven clubs Joint Meeting

Claire Mak

There is little in common between District 3230 and District 3450 except that both districts belong to Rotary International and both are in Asia. Other than those, it is the love of service and fellowship that had brought together the 2 districts: the 7 clubs from India and 4 clubs in Hong Kong.



Our friends from India went out of their way to be thoughtful and had given each of the dignitaries at the Head Table, heaps of souvenir and gifts. They also briefed us about their District and the awards that they had achieved.



The 7 clubs in District 3230 are on an international fellowship tour to Hong Kong and Macau from 28 September to 2nd October. They comprise Rotary Clubs of Madras Cosmos, Chennai Velachery, Chennai Mid City, Madras Downtown, Chennai Galaxy, Mandras Porur and Guindy. The host from Hong Kong is our clan - Rotary Clubs of Peninsula, Tai Po, Central and SoHo HK.



There were the usual social chit chat and mingling before formal meeting where members talked and tried get to know each other. The meeting was chaired by the 4 host club presidents and graced by Governor Eugene, Governor Elect Belinda, Governor Nominee Peter and wife Catherine and also no less than 5 PDGs, a few friends from the District like CDS Eric, PP Eddy Wong and interested guests... etc. There was the inevitable exchange of banners and memento.



The toast which marked the end of the evening was a precarious task – for naming all the attending clubs could mean some input for red box but luckily, Pres Francis ploughed through and we all toasted to the good health and prosperity of Rotary members.





Tai Po to Taipei

11 – 14 October 2013

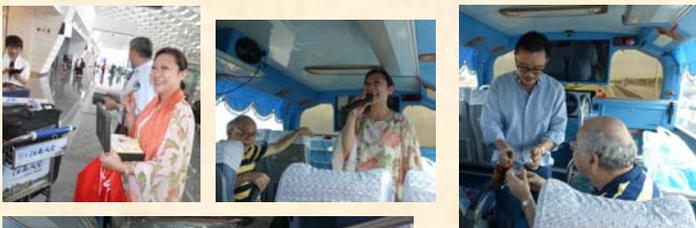
Claire Mak

A delegation of 34 RCTP members and family went on a 4-day trip to Taipei, to celebrate the charter night of our sister club, Rotary Club of Taipei, and to share some fun and leisure together. The main group stayed in Le Meridian Taipei while Wilson and Wanda stayed in W Hotel where the Taipei Charter Night was held. We had had such a lot of good food, whisky and sake, fellowship and fun that everyone is already looking forward to and asking about the next trip!

11 October, Friday – Day 1

Arrival

Upon arrival at Taoyuan Airport, we were warmly greeted by Pres Tom, Eugene and Liz from RC Taipei. They were presented with a box of yue yee (good fortune charm) each wishing them luck; but luckily or unluckily, they were stuck with us for the rest of the trip! True to the RCTP spirit, the delegation from Hong Kong, once on board the bus, started toasting in whisky.



Dinner at Dozo Izakaya Dining Bar

Dinner took place at the posh Dozo Izakaya Dining Bar where, in addition to gorging sumptuous Japanese food, downing glasses of sake and whisky while watching the drum entertainment (太鼓), we also celebrated PP Jacky's birthday. It was thoughtful of the restaurant to give us 2 huge tumblers of beer for the celebration.



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Karaoke with RC Taipei

Karaoke followed at Cashbox KTV PartyWorld and our Peter and Tomomi, Jimmy, Tsubaki and Francis got to sing a few songs in the company of Taipei friends Pi-song, Eugene, Felice.....



12 October, Saturday – Day 2

Golf Match (per Peter Lam)

We had our friendly golf match with sister club on 12th Saturday morning at the Ta Shee Golf Club. Our club was represented by Tsubaki, Man, Kenneth, Jacky, Jimmy and Peter. PE Michel Verdy from our mother club RC Peninsula; Francis' uncle Simon Tang and two Japanese Rotarians from RC Kyoto also joined.

It was a real tough challenging game as rain and strong wind never stopped the whole morning! Thanks to our luck in the New-New Peoria scoring system, our club won the overall friendly match even though better gross scores were from players of RC Taipei like Koji san, Eugene Hong and Stephen Kao. Congratulations to PP Koji for winning the best net score, IPDG Kenneth and PP Tsubaki for winning the "closest to the pin" prizes and PP Peter was also lucky to win 2nd best net score! Big thanks to sister club especially to Jack for the thoughtful arrangements which rounded off with a nice fellowship lunch with lucky draw prizes. Thank you RC Taipei!



Breakfast

Meanwhile, a few non-golfers started the day with Taiwanese style breakfast at a local joint called Kong Ga and sampled soy milk, glutinous rice roll, fritters, siao lung bau ... etc..



Morning Stroll

After breakfast, we managed a brief stroll in National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall and witnessed the change of guards.



Sunnyhills Pineapple Cake

After a rather full lunch, it was time to do a bit of shopping and strolling. We were brought to sample some very authentic pineapple cakes with tea to wash down. Of course, we bought the cakes in bulk as they were tasty, fluffy and nicely wrapped up and presented.



Lunch at Zenzoo Tea House

The non-golfing delegation gathered for lunch at a nice small restaurant by the lake called Zenzoo Tea House. It is Japanese in style but serves fusion Japanese/Taiwanese cuisine. The restaurant stresses the use of fresh, organic produce (mostly from Tai Dong and which are also on sale on site) and the menu shows the chef's dedication to producing delicate yet delicious food which are very nicely presented.



Song Shan Cultural Park

Our next stop was Song Shan Cultural Park where there were museums showcasing Taiwanese innovative and original products. It also stands next to the biggest Eslite Store in Taiwan.

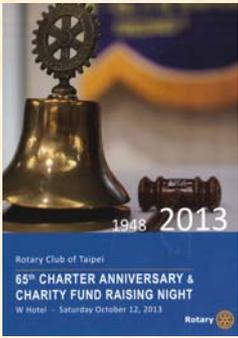




12 October, Saturday – Day 2

Rotary Club of Taipei 65th Charter Anniversary & Charity Fund Raising Night

The highlight of the evening is of course our sister club's 65th Charter Night which took place at the W Hotel. As said before, PP Wilson and Wanda stayed in W Hotel and this turned out to be an advantage as he conveniently went up to his room to fetch the much needed liqueurs! We at RCTP enjoyed ourselves so much that we easily became the most loud and rowdy crowd in the hall.



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The food was good, the entertainment was captivating and thankfully, the speeches were bearable. President Francis did the usual greetings on stage (whilst not forgetting to recognize the big delegation who supported him) and toasted to the host. We reacquainted ourselves with a lot of good friends from Taipei and also made a few new friends.



Continue →

13 October, Sunday – Day 3

Lunch at Addiction Aquatic Development

Francis told us to skip breakfast to prepare for an early aquamarine lunch. This turned out to be good advice as we went for a very big and sumptuous lunch at the Addiction Aquatic Development (上引水產) which is an upbeat restaurant within the Fish Market and serves fresh and delicious seafood. The compound was divided into 10 areas and we occupied Area 4 for *Seafood Hotpot* and explored our way into Area 3 – *Seafood Bar* and Area 2 – *Instantly Consumed Delicacy*. We also procured sake and other drinks from Area 6 – *Fresh Food Market*. Tsubaki got himself a big pack of dried fish flakes there and we can safely take it from him that it is pretty value-for-money. Even by the time we leave, some members went to Area 9 – *Fresh Food Selections* and got themselves some fresh coconut juice.



Procuring Delicacies

After the very full lunch, it was again time for a bit of shopping. At the request of different members, we made our way to purchase smoked chicken, taro cake and what not.



Farewell Gathering at K-Room

Rotarians from Tai Po and Yokohama were bid farewell at PP Ampo's K-Room – but not without first being served with a buffet, beverages of all kinds and to top it all, karaoke singing. At the same time, Pres Francis showed our appreciation to our sister club by presenting our club's gift of NT\$100,000 for their service fund.



14 October, Monday – Day 4

Before we depart Taipei, a few of us, led by Francis, had taken breakfast at the well known 永和豆漿大王 and tasted traditional soy milk, siobeng fritters, dumplings etc. On the way back we took the Taiwanese railway and got a feel staying in a rather jam-packed train.



Thus ended an eventful and memorable trip to Taipei, leaving members yearning for more and looking forward to another trip together.



Youth Corner

Rotaract Club of Tai Po

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

Installation on 28.9.2013

President Iki Chan

"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve." So said Dr. Albert Schweitzer and perhaps this is the best way to sum up the spirit and vision of Rotaract Club of Tai Po.

The Rotaract Club of Tai Po 2013-2014 has 12 board members on board and over 5 new members. I humbly pay tribute to all the Mother Club Rotarians for their trust and belief in us. I must especially thank IPDG Kenneth and IPP Ronald for the lead roles they have played and who have helped set the foundation by their own commitment to Rotary.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you again President Francis (HKD\$500), IPP Ronald (HKD\$1000), PP Ping (HKD\$500) for their kind sponsorship. We were glad to have DG Eugene, PDG Anthony, IPDG Kenneth, PDRC Peter, PDRC Sally, PP Ping, PP Pearl, PP Louis, Rtn. William and so many representatives from other Rotaract clubs who attended our installation on 28 September 2013 (Saturday).

Our board committee shared a common goal to try something new and challenging - serving the refugees in Hong Kong. We want to tell people that refugees are not far away from us, they are living with us in the same community. We hope the service project this year can bring "changes to our own living attitude", "changes in refugees' life", as well as "changes to Hong Kong people mind".



Thank you DG Eugene and IPDG Kenneth for their speech to us!



We have over 5 new members this year. Welcome!



Regular Meeting

23 September 2013



As we welcome visiting Past President KL Cheng of Kwai Chung, who was acquainted with speaker Ms Sue Tam, we also thanked them both for readily contributing to our raffle sale.



Former Miss Hong Kong contestant and celebrity Ms Sue Tam shared with us her first hand experience of "Spotlight & Life".



Rotarian Paul gave a vote of thanks.

7 October 2013



Past President Louis could not help but make a big donation to the red box for giving a long comment on the speaker.



Rotarian Paul was the lucky winner of the raffle gift of a handheld vacuum cleaner given out by Past President Dennis.



Wendy from the Salvation Army came with Kennis and gave us both a review and a preview of the two projects: Sunshine Teens and 潮看天空



Service Chair William reported on the first community service this year about Step Up Infinity Project visit on 29 September to people in poverty



Multi-talented Mr. Kenneth So, though not a qualified Chinese medical practitioner, made it very easy for us to understand the intricacies of 養生 as he looked at it from the Chinese herbalist perspective.



William accompanied Bebe to claim the raffle prize of a durable pair of Zwilling knives which Past President Claire bought all the way from Germany.



Welcome back Past President Armstrong and Rita as they were elevated to being parents-in-law.



Upcoming Events

September Winners (100% attendance):



FRANCIS AU,
CAREN CHAN,
PEARL DANG,
PATRICK FONG,
ANTHONY HUNG,
PETER LAM,
WILSON LAM,
PING LEUNG,
CLAIRE MAK,
VIKKY TAM,
LOUIS TANG,
KENNETH WONG



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

Average attendance: 70.9%

2nd Sept 65.5%
9th Sept 67.8%
16th Sept 78.5%
23rd Sept 78.5%
30th Sept 64.2%

On Leave in Sept



Roger So

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
22 Oct (TUE)	12:30 p.m.	District Vocational Service Seminar Speaker: Dr York Chow	Centenary Room, G/F, Marco Polo Hong Kong Hotel
28 Oct (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Joint meeting amongst Tai Po, Channel Islands and HK Sunrise Topic: Happy Halloween Speaker: Dr. Lo 盧傑雄博士	Hullet House, 1881 Heritage, 2A Canton Road, TST
2 Nov (SAT)	9:00 a.m.	Sports Day for All 傷健共融運動日	Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground
2 Nov (SAT)	6:30 p.m.	Rotary Club of Central 5th Annual Party 花樣年華「中區扶輪」夜	The China Club, 13/F., The Old Bank of China Building, Bank Street, Central
4 Nov (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Topic: Memory Speaker: Mr Andy Fong	Sing Yin (星宴), W. Hotel, Kowloon
11 Nov (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Topic: The Power of Words Speaker: Mr. Kenneth So	Sing Yin (星宴), W. Hotel, Kowloon

CP Donald's Birthday Celebration

Hairy Crab Dinner



16 November 2013, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Shanghai Min Restaurant (小南國)

10/F, 1 Peking Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon



14th Jacky Sung
16th Charles Chan
23rd Ronald Chung
28th Patrick Yung
31st Sincere Yip



Chief Editor :
Claire Mak

The Editorial Board :
Peter Lam & Ronald Chung & Francis Au



Got something to say?

Tai Post wants to hear from you.
Write in to
claire.mak@rctaipo.org

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