



# Tai Post 大報



Club Bulletin of Rotary Club of Tai Po (April 2011 Issue)

## President's Message Frankie Wu



With the completion of the District Conference on March 20<sup>th</sup>, we are starting to look toward the coming year. Apart from busy organizing our 20<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration, our PE Tsubaki is also taking lead in a number of areas such as having organized our meeting in welcoming visiting Japanese Rotaractors. I have to say that with the effort of PP Peter and PE Tsubaki, this is one of our best meetings. During this meeting, we had also reported on the launch of our Japan Disaster Relief Fund. We should give special thanks to our honourable PDG Peter Wong who supported us by donating HKD10,000 to this Fund.



After 9 months of Presidency, I have to admit that running a Rotary club is entirely different from running a company. In particular, members of a Rotary club come from different vocations with sound knowledge and experience. It is not easy but we should thank the wisdoms of the founders of Rotary. They had developed a very effective system which makes Rotary one of the most successful and long lasting organizations in the world. Without going into details, I think Rotary has provided us with the best training to become the leader of the leaders. I encourage every member to set a target to become a club president. I assure you that you will earn and learn a lot which books cannot impart.

## Editor Says ... Claire Mak



I fear I am beginning to lose friends in RCTP.

When members come across me these days, the greeting is no longer the conventional "Hi, how are you doing?" but a sheepish "I shall hand in my homework soon."

One wonders if the school principal had come forth with a cane!



What created the fear? The latest fad is messages for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Book. Everyone (yes, everyone, including even former members) contributes a part, maybe a tad more from the past presidents as they have to dig into archives and retrieve old photos and more importantly, rack their brains for a nostalgic recount of what happened during their year as president. This is what they call *homework*.



By now, apart from just a couple of delinquent busybodies, I have received almost all messages I need for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Book. For such concerted effort, I wish to sincerely salute all RCTP members.



Most of the times, it is a pleasure to read the homework from members, whether they are articles for Tai Post or scripts and photos for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Book. There are such a lot to learn and laugh about. And receiving messages from former members is even more heart-warming. It also brings back heaps of fond memories.

As  approaches, it signifies resurrection and new beginning. Now that the District Conference has passed and we are looking ahead to the new Rotary Year with all the

trainings and District Assembly awaiting, let us together move forward in earnest. I do hope that by now, you have adapted to handing-in homework on time; and may even join the likes of PP Peter or PP Charles to submit homework proactively and voluntarily!

I know who to go after for the next article as I recall PP Man asking innocently:

"What is ?"



## Rotary Information

Peter Lam



The situation in Tohoku (northern) Japan is still critical with governments & NGOs all over the world devoting great efforts to launch various disaster relief work. At the end of March, President Frankie & PE Tsubaki started to appeal to members for support to launch our club's Japan disaster relief fund and within only a few days we have already built up a fund of about HK\$200,000 with substantial donation by PE Tsubaki and also contribution from PDG Peter Wong. PE Tsubaki & Rtn. Kiyama will lead us to look for future projects or relief effort in Japan. Here is another recent article from RI News relating to Rotary's relief effort in Japan:

### Rotarians respond to Japan earthquake, tsunami

By Ryan Hyland and Dan Nixon, Rotary International News -- 25 March 2011

Rotarians have been finding a number of ways to help victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan that killed thousands and left hundreds of thousands more homeless. In response to the disasters, The Rotary Foundation established the [Rotary Japan Disaster Recovery Fund](#), which will support long-term recovery projects in the affected areas. More than US\$500,000 has been donated since the fund opened on 11 March.

*"It is encouraging to know that our overseas Rotary friends care about us," says Yuzaburo Mogi, president of the Rotary Club of Tokyo.*

*"I am confident that the people of Japan will overcome this great disaster, and we are hopeful that we can get over the various difficulties soon."*

District governors in Japan are running a fundraising campaign to send money to the governors in affected areas. Mogi says that Rotarians who wish to help Japan should contribute to the Foundation's [recovery fund](#).

Responses have included:

- The first Matching Grant project to receive support from the fund was approved a week after the disaster. Clubs in districts 3350 (Cambodia and Thailand) and 2820 (Japan) are using a total of \$65,650 to help provide food and drinking water for 15,000 people at an evacuation center in Ibaraki.
- Three Rotary districts in Japan are using district funds to help. District 2610 (Ishikawa and Toyama) has developed an emergency relief project to support people evacuated from the disaster areas. District 2840 (Gunma) shortened its presidents-elect training seminars from two days to half a day and donated the remaining funds earmarked for the seminars to relief efforts. And District 2680 (Hyogo) set up a contribution box during its district conference, raising about \$7,500 for recovery efforts.
- The Rotaract Club of Tokyo launched the *Cheer Tohoku* project to rally the support of Rotaractors around the world, asking them to use Twitter to send messages of support to survivors in northeast Japan. The club is also [using Twitter to post photos](#) of Rotaractors holding up short messages they've written. "We thought we could make use of the worldwide Rotaract network to show people in the stricken area that we care," says club president Ai Takahashi.
- The Rotary Club of Akashi, Hyogo, sent a private airplane carrying a load of medical supplies to the Rotary Club of Sukagawa, Fukushima, which delivered them to a hospital near Fukushima Airport. The governor of District 2640 (Wakayama and parts of Osaka) and six Rotarians also brought 1,000 blankets to Rotarians in the Fukushima region.
- Rotarians and friends of Rotary in District 3330 (Thailand), an area extensively damaged by the 2004 tsunami, are among those who have felt especially moved to respond. The district's Rotary Foundation alumni association worked with local Rotary clubs to raise \$15,000 in contributions.
- Former GSE team members and others in District 5450 (Colorado, USA) are also mobilizing support. "We were involved with the outbound and inbound teams to Japan's Sendai area last year and have been heartbroken to learn about the tragedies experienced by their friends," says Past District Governor Mike Oldham.
- Miho Fukuhara, a former Rotary Peace Fellow from Japan, is temporarily leaving her post as a United Nations and intergovernmental affairs officer at UNICEF headquarters in New York City to join the Japan Committee for UNICEF for five weeks. "I never thought of myself being sent to Japan for emergency response work," says Fukuhara, who managed and coordinated reconstruction programs in Iraq for Peace Winds Japan earlier in her career. "It is really sad to see the situation, but I will do my best."



The Rotaract Club of Tokyo is encouraging Rotaractors around the world to post messages of support on Twitter for survivors of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami. Photo courtesy of Rotaract Club of Tokyo

## Rotary Club of Taipa 4th Anniversary & Charity Dinner Party Annual Ball on 26.03.11



## Rotary Club of Hong Kong Harbour 2011 Annual Dinner

< Memory of Temple Street >

海港扶輪<廟街情懷>2011年周年晚宴

Rotary Club of Hong Kong Harbour cordially invite you to our 2011 Annual Dinner at Versailles Ballroom, 3/F Regal Kowloon Hotel (71 Mody Street, Tsimshatsui East, Kowloon) on Saturday, 2 April 2011

6:45pm  
7:45pm  
8:15pm  
8:30pm

Cocktail reception and games  
Ceremony  
Dinner buffet, highlighted with Temple Street style  
Performance

Dress Code: 60's, 70's, 80's



## Rotary Club of Peninsula 35th Anniversary Ball

Date: 9 April 2011

Venue: Nikko Hotel



PP Thomas Wong with Connie & PE Tsubaki and Patrick

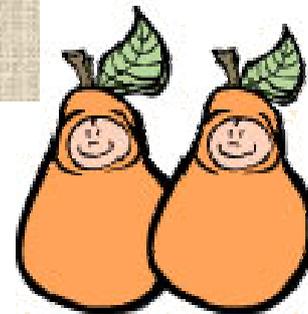
## Rotary Club of Shatin 30th Anniversary Ball

Date: 9 April 2011

Venue: Kowloon Shangri-la Hotel



30th Anniversary Fund Raising Ball of Rotary Club of Shatin 09 Apr 2011  
Foliger World Ltd. Professional Photo Services Tel: 852-2222 0000 #8870



a perfect pair.

Congratulations Francis, Ada and Charlotte on the addition of Cayden (6.6lb) & Cayman (5.4lb) to the Au's Family in the early hours of 14 April 2011!

Many Happy Returns!

## District 3450 and Rotary Club of Tai Po welcomed Group Study Exchange Team from D7780

Kenneth Wong

Group Study Exchange (GSE) is an educational program of The Rotary Foundation wherein Rotary districts in different countries are paired to send and receive professional study groups of non-Rotarian team members and Rotarian team leader to travel for four to six weeks, staying in the homes of Rotarians. It's a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young professional men and women between the ages of 25 and 40 in the initial years of their professional life.

This year, our GSE partnering district is D7780, Portland, Maine, USA.

Vocational focus: Medical and health care related professions

The SIX-member team from D7780 comprises of:

Team leader: Dr Burt Dibble

Team Members: Dr. Darren Guy (Pediatrician) Erin Megan (ICU nurse) Maria D'Andrea (ICU nurse) Tracey

Merrill (Physiotherapist) Karen Abentroth (Medical Social Worker)



Team from D7780 visited D3450 between 25 Feb to 25 Mar.

The inbound GSE itinerary covers Hong Kong, Macao and Mongolia



Rotarians from RC Tai Po played pivotal roles in receiving the inbound GSE team. Our PP Wilson, PP Jacky and PP Louis served as host families for inbound GSE team members.



The following are extracts from the Blog of the Inbound GSE Team which gives some idea as to how this GSE experience impacts upon the team from D7780. You can find out more at: [www.gsehongkong.blogspot.com](http://www.gsehongkong.blogspot.com)

### Visit to Prince of Wales Hospital

Today we got to a special tour of the Prince of Wales hospital. Dr. Patrick Yung was our tour guide of this amazing hospital. It was very interesting to see the difference between old and new, as the original hospital was built in 1985 and the new addition opened about 6 months ago. The SARS epidemic transformed how they now practice medicine in many ways. Thank you to all the doctors and staff who gave their time to show us your beautiful hospital.



### Chinese Medicine

The morning was spent learning about Chinese medicine at Baptist University. Amazing scientific studies are being conducted at to prove that herbs are an effective treatment for many illnesses. Darren was the volunteer for acupuncture demonstration.



The afternoon was spent at Kwong Wah Hospital which incorporates both Western and Chinese medicine. We all got to try some herbal tea to balance our energy.



On Thursday we had a day of traditional Chinese Medicine, first at the Baptist Hospital, where there is an organized faculty and fully funded university level teaching program leading to a degree of doctor of Chinese medicine. It is backed up by a highly developed and equipped research program evaluating the formulation, stability, purity, and manufacture of herbal medications. Such issues as source contamination with heavy metals, consistency, purity, efficacy, and formulation into granules, capsules, or tablets were being researched.

### Relive SARS at Princess Margaret Hospital

If I really thought about it, I could remember that 2003 was the year of SARS. But it would take me a few minutes. While 9/11 is a date that will forever be in our minds, here in Hong Kong it is March of 2003 that changed everything. Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH), known for its expertise in infection control since the 1970s, became the epicenter of SARS. Policies for hospitals and public health were drafted and carried out at this facility. These practices have since shaped the way infection control is approached in Hong Kong today.



### Stand Tall

Today was a great day full of vocational site visits. It is very apparent that District Governor Nominee Kenneth Wong has worked very hard to ensure a variety of vocational experiences to expose us to many issues that we were curious about, and also some that we were not previously aware of.

Our site visit this afternoon to Prince of Wales Hospital focused on the Stand TALL Program, a humanitarian organization started by Dr. K.M Chan, Chair Professor and Chief of Orthopedics at Prince of Wales Hospital in response to the devastating earthquake in the

Sichuan Province in China in May 2008. This earthquake, measuring a 7.9 on the Richter scale, killed 69,000 people and left an approximately 4.8 million people homeless.

Realizing the extent of suffering of his fellow Chinese people in the Sichuan province, Dr. Chan was able to mobilize the goodwill of the Hong Kong people into Stand TALL, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing state of the art prosthetics and technology to victims of the earthquake who suffered amputations and spinal cord injuries, with a strong emphasis on providing aid to affected children.



Thursday was an early start for all of us because we were going to the mainland by car. This gave us a different perspective on our surroundings in many ways. Our first stop was to a factory owned by my host family, Wanda and Wilson Lam. Wanda's father began working in the electroplating factory as a young man. What I have previously considered the "American dream" of achieving great success through hard work and determination, her father worked his way up in the business from



worker to owner. After Wanda and Wilson were married, both of them joined the family business. It has changed a great deal over the years from manufacturing parts for electronic devices, to costume jewelry, and now primarily making the metal components for compacts, make-up cases, perfume bottles, etc. Looking at the variety of products this company has produced, you may start to think of 5th Avenue in Manhattan- Dior, Chanel, and YSL to name just a few. They are now working on a product for Taylor Swift's upcoming

fragrance. What was even more amazing was the process it took to make these deceptively simple objects. Over 700 people work for the factory in various departments. There is a lot of effort, time, and attention to detail that goes into making the final product.



## Happy time in Macao

[A-Ma Temple, UNESCO World Heritage Site](#)



Yesterday was another great day of cultural sight seeing in and around Macau by our gracious Rotary hosts. We began the day with a visit to Macau's A-Ma Temple, a very famous Macau temple and a Unesco World Heritage Site.

According to the legend, a 16 year old girl named A-Ma was looking for passage on the boats in port to Canton, and was declined passage by every boat except that of a poor fisherman. A sea squall blew up and destroyed every boat in the water except the boat of the poor fisherman carrying the girl. After arriving in Macau, the girl disappeared into the hills and reappeared as a goddess. On the site that the girl reappeared as a divinity, the fishermen build the A-Ma temple in her honor.

The Macau A-Ma temple is the largest of 2500 temples devoted to A-Ma the world over, and incorporates the natural elements into its design with multiple prayer halls, courtyards, and pavilions for worship.

## Experience in Mongolia

Today we visited the National Cancer Hospital in Ulaan Bataar. It is a very dated facility going back to the time of the Soviet Empire. Mongolia has had a hard time recovering from the withdrawal of the economic impetus to its economy that existed during that period. Things are beginning to improve, and it appears that there is a political awakening occurring in a

better educated and growing middle class. Mongolia has incredible mining riches in coal, copper, gold, and uranium, which are being developed aggressively. It is expected that these resources will provide the funding necessary to modernize the economy, and particularly the healthcare sector. There are many opportunities, however, while this is happening, to respond to current needs.



## March 24 Women Infant and Children Hospital

We were privileged today to see the only Women, Infants, and Children's Hospital today in Mongolia. It provides the only Intensive Care Unit for babies and children.

The number of patients are often twice the number of beds available. It was quite an eye opening experience.



This afternoon we enjoyed a beautiful drive in the country to a National Park where we visited the Chinggis Khan Monument Center. It is the largest statue in the world of a man seated on a horse. There was a museum, gift shop, and we got to go out onto the top of the horse for some cool pics!

Dear GSE Chair Kenneth,

I want to thank you and the Rotarians from District 3450 for your gracious hospitality. Our team has experienced a wonderful and meaningful vocational and cultural exchange, thanks to your meticulous and thoughtful planning and the warm reception they have received throughout District 3450.

We look forward to receiving the District 3450 Team and all of our clubs are very excited about their arrival.

In the interim, if you have any questions or comments regarding the itinerary we sent to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With warm regards,  
Grace Connelly  
GSE Chair, D7780

## Fresh Tips for French Trips

Charles Chan

Paris is a wonderful city for tourist. Indeed, it is the number one city in the world for tourism. Tourism together with all its associated industries is a major economic driver for the city of Paris and France.

Unfortunately it is also one of the most expensive cities to visit. What I intend to do in the following paragraphs is to share with you some of my thoughts and experience as to how you may stretch your euro and hopefully you get a bit more out of visiting the city on your own instead of joining a tour. With the wonderful internet web sites at our easy disposal, I will include the links of the various points of interest so that you can get the detail in the event you want to learn more.

### How do you get around and where to stay?

If you are travelling in a group of three or more people, I will take the Taxi for sure. Other option includes the Roissy bus (direct to l'Opera) or the Air France Bus. They are clean and efficient but you still have to deal with your luggage yourself. The Roissy Bus

<http://www.europeforvisitors.com/paris/articles/paris-cdg-ground-transportation.htm>



Paris is definitely a walking city and has a convenient public transportation grid that is serviced by the metro (subway), bus and the train (RER). We normally buy a book of 10 discounted tickets at the metro ticket counter. The tickets can be used for all three services and no expiration. Unless you are very familiar with the exact location, I will stick with the metro and the train and walk to the destination. Clara and I seldom use the taxi except to-and-from the airport. We always use public transportation and walk a lot. Indeed you get a lot more out of walking in seeing and appreciating the well-preserved buildings and the surroundings.

You should book a hotel near any of the metro or train station. 4-5 stars Paris hotel is notoriously expensive and will set you back easily 300-600 euro per night. If you are not too concerned about the amenities and all you want is a clean room and hot bath, there are good selections in the 100-200 euro range for doubles. And for around Euro 200 you can stay at Marriott, Holiday Inn etc.

To reserve a room, you can surf the web by using Google search on "Hotels in Paris". Alternatively, you can have your travel agent in HK quote you the price as well. Since there is a 19% VAT, sometimes you get better deal from the HK travel agent. AEX travel and Asia Miles run specials from time to time as well. My friend stayed at this boutique hotel for around Euro150 and I was told it was very good: The Five Hotel

<http://www.thefivehotel.com/pages/location.htm>



### What to do in Paris? Sightseeing for Adults

Paris has the best concentration of museums and monuments that you should not miss. You should buy a museum pass that allows you to visit almost all the popular ones including the Louvre and the d'Orsay. The pass allows you to by pass the long waiting line and is definitely worth it. All museums are free for entry on the first Sunday of each month. However, I am not sure it is worth the wait to get in.

<http://en.parismuseumpass.com/>



The Louvre

A few musts are, the Louvre, d'Orsay, Musee de l'Armee (tombeau de Napoleon), Musee des Egouts (this is the sewage museum and it is amazing to see the importance of this function to the development of a city. It has history dated back to the pre-Roman days). Depending on your interest, you can get the details of each museum and attractions from the above link to plan your visits.

### Sightseeing and Things to do for Children

Paris has many wonderful venues for young children to visit and play.

<http://www.davidlebovitz.com/2009/04/ten-great-things-to-do-with-kids/>

We took our grandchildren to venues 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9,10 and the Disneyland. The kids really like them and some of these places are great for adults as well. We like the Disneyland very much as it packs a lot of attractions into one venue for a full day's visit. For die-hard Disney goers, you can always spend a night at the Disney village. There is a direct train from downtown to Disney. You can buy discount one day pass at the train station.

<http://www.disneylandparis.com/>



Parc de la Villette

### Food and beverages

This is a key attraction for going to Paris and indeed it is one of the areas that one may miss out by joining a group tour. Restaurant foods are quite expensive. Breakfast with just a cup of coffee and a croissant will cost 5-8 euro. Take away is cheaper. It is an experience to buy the famous hot crepes with Nutella at any of the street corners and eat them in a park. Make sure the crepes are freshly made and don't buy the pre-made ones from the refrigerator. It is worth the wait for the fresh ones. A decent lunch per person (two courses that comprise of

entre + main course or main course + dessert) will cost around 25 euro not including drinks and 60-100 euro for a wonderful gourmet meal. The dessert is always wonderful. For dinner at the same establishment the price will be 50-75% higher for the same food.

A few pointers that we use to guide us for reasonable (comparatively speaking) price good food in Paris are:

1. We tend to go to the gourmet restaurants for lunch and eat at the popular ones in the evening.

2. We stick with only French or Italian food and occasional go with North African (couscous) and Spanish food. We have yet to find a decent Chinese restaurant in Paris. The majority of the Japanese and Korean restaurants are owned by Chinese with the chefs from China as well.

3. At the popular restaurants, we follow the locals by just getting table water. It is free and we'd rather spend the money on wines. Most establishments have fairly decent house wines.

4. Although all services (15 to 20) % of the bill are already included in the food price (service compris), the waiter still expects some loose changes (a few percentage) of the bill as gratuity.

5. Lunch starts around 12:30p.m. with dinner around 7:00p.m. They do take their food quite seriously and a meal usually takes longer than in Hong Kong.

6. When you see a crowded restaurant, generally speaking it means it is pretty good and the menu is always displayed in the front so that you will know what you can order before entering.

7. You need to call ahead and make reservation for all the restaurants that I mentioned in the text. Ask your hotel to book for you as not all of them speak good English. A good French restaurant rarely opens seven days a week.

8. You can use the Google search to get details of the restaurant as most of them have their own web site. Furthermore, you can go to Google map and with the address, the map will show you the nearest metro or train station.

A few local dishes that we like a lot are the ducks including the foie gras; braised beef cheeks; chicken; oysters and shellfish in season; crabs from Normandy; mushroom and asparagus in season. The large juicy Belon oyster is fantastic. With the exception of the seafood, the chefs use different cooking techniques, styles and ingredients from different regions of the country to prepare the food and we are rarely disappointed.

If there is anything that we avoid in a typical French restaurant, it will be grilled steak. They are not close even to the Australian and New Zealand beef and no comparison to the Japanese and US beef that we have in HK. Stewed and slow cooked meats are OK.

Following are the few restaurants that we like very much:

Gourmet food (most of them do not accept children under 12)

**L'Espadon** This is the main dining room inside the Ritz hotel and is wonderful with its awesome food and the great Cheese wagon after the meal. This is Clara's favorite.



15 Place Vendome,  
75001  
Tel: 01-43-16-30-80

**Le Jules Verne** This is Alain Ducasse's restaurant right inside the Eiffel Tower. The food is great and also very important is that it has its own elevator up the Eiffel Tower to the restaurant and you don't have to wait for the 2-3 hours queue to get to the top of the tower.

Tour Eiffel 5 Avenue Anatole France, 75007 Paris, France (Tel: 01 45 55 61 44)

**Au Gourmand** This is a great restaurant within walking distance from Place Vendome serving traditional French food and seafood. This past year, they have adjusted their menu and pricing so that it is the same for both lunch and dinner. At around 50-60Euro per person not including drinks, it is a must and it welcomes children as well. The kids will love the big mechanical bear that greets them at the entrance.

17 rue Moliere, 75001  
Tel: 01 42 96 22 19

There are many high-end gourmet restaurants; for details, you can get a Michelin guide while in Paris.

Popular and up and coming restaurants (those that are good enough to be mentioned by Michelin and no star yet which also means the prices are more affordable)

**Angelina - Rivoli** This is a dessert heaven and the name Angelina is synonymous with chocolate drink in Paris. The children and all chocolate fans will love it. It has a great weekend brunch. The hot chocolate is so thick that you should order a separate hot milk to dilute it. It is very close to the Louvre.



226 Rue de Rivoli  
75001 Paris  
Tel: 01 42 60 82 00

**Au Petit Sud Ouest** This boutique restaurant specializes in duck, goose and Foie Gras. According to the lady owner, it is the only restaurant in Paris that serves Foie Gras sashimi style with a pinch of sea salt. Clara and I are not bold enough to try the raw Foie Gras. However, the cooked Foie Gras, duck breast and confit with seasonal mushroom are

awesome. It has its own farm and you can buy the uncooked products to take home. It is very close to the Eiffel Tower.

46 Avenue de La Bourdonnais 75007  
Tel: 01 45 55 59 59

**La Maison du Jardin** by Philippe Marquis. It serves traditional French food and standard is always very good.



27 Rue de  
Vaugirard 75006  
Tel: 01-45-48-22-31

**L'Epi Dupin** by Francois Pasteau in St. Germain. The food is fantastic and the guy does not understand why he still has not received the star and is trying very hard. It is traditional French cooking and we have some wonderful stewed beef cheek here.

11 Rue Dupin 75006  
Tel: 01 42 22 64 56

#### Specialty food

For those with sweet tooth, the in-product now in Paris is Macaroon. All the big guys are opening up shops all over town to sell this expensive bite size sweet/dessert. The famous ones and the product indeed tastes pretty good are the Laduree and Pierre Hermes. You can find them inside the Printemps and Lafayette department stores. They differentiate their products by offering special dual flavor filling such as passion-fruit/chocolate, lemon/rose etc... Clara did manage to find two excellent value-for-money shops that make equally good macaroon at 30% of the price although they don't have as many flavor selections.

**Marc Rollot,**  
48 Rue Madame,  
01-42-22-14-57

**Gerard Mulot,**  
76 Rue de Seine.  
St. Germain



Gerard Mulot

When you buy these things, get the loose ones from trays in display and ask them to put them in small free plastic bags, other wise, you will again be paying double for the packaging.

Macaroon is coming to Elements. They are selling it for HK\$28 each that you can pretty much swallow in one bite.



## Shopping

Paris is a great place to shop particularly for women clothing and high-end jewelries. A few key points to share:

1. The Vat now is 19%. Luckily as foreigners

we do get detaxe privilege. At present, we get back 12% but after paying for the commissions to get your money at the airport, you will probably get back around 10-11%. For expensive jewelries, most of the houses will be happy to sell it to you as an overseas purchase by excluding the 19% tax altogether. They will ship it to Hong Kong directly to you. A while back, your purchase at any location will need to be around 40,000 euro before they extend this service for you to save a further 7%.

2. It used to be that you could walk in and get a 10% discount card from Printemps and Lafayette (two of the three large high-end department stores in Paris) by presenting your foreign passport. Now you need a reference from the hotel you are staying to get the card.

3. You should pay a visit to Bon Marche department store although they don't offer the discount card. It is our favorite and they have a gourmet food floor that you can pretty much buy everything you need around the world. They have 4 -5 years Bellota ham from Spain. Bon Marche is very close to church St. Sulprice which is a must for "Da Vinci Code" fans. You should have a better appreciation of the BS written by Dan Brown from a historical perspective after the visit.



Bon Marche

4. There are a number of premium factory outlets where you can get good value buys. The one that we do go occasionally is the outlet at La Vallee Village that is one train stop before the Disneyland. It has pretty much all the name brands. With Loro Piana at 50% off and if you can find the one you want, it may be worth your while to go.

<http://sg.franceguide.com/what-to-do/shopping/Factory-Outlets-near-Paris-and-in-Troyes.html?NodeID=2302&EditID=209093>  
<http://www.lavallee-village.com/fr/repertoire-de-marques/toutes-les-marques>

5. There are two large city-wide sales a year. The first one generally starts in the second week of January to clear winter clothes. The second one starts in the second week of July to clear summer stocks. The prices are good but the hot items do go quickly with the steep discount. The mad rush is not as bad as the sales at the Harrods in London but the crowd is definitely there.

## When to Visit

Paris has its charm in all four seasons. Even in winter, the Christmas decoration is beautiful and they also let the kids ride the merry-go-round throughout the city for a month. The summer is not that hot and few homes have air-cons but you don't really need them. I will try to avoid August as most of the good restaurants are closed.

# 51st District Conference on 19 and 20. March 2011 at HK Convention and Exhibition Centre



House of Friendship



Spouse program



RCTP members at the 51st District Conference



RCTP members and spouse attending District Conference



Opening Ceremony



Sergeant at Arms Patrick and Man



Rotaractors performed a dance at DG Banquet



Sergeant Francis



DG Banquet



Celebrating Tsubaki's birthday together



DG Banquet



Interactors from TCCA



Future Leaders



RCTP members with the New Generation



RCTP members staying till the end of the DC

## Recognition At the Foundation Lunch 20.3.2011

Top Per Capita Clubs in 09-10  
Every Rotarian Every Year Club (EREY) in 09-10  
Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member Club (RFSM) in 09-10  
(The 2nd Interim Contribution Challenge)  
Third highest Contributing Club  
Second Top Per Capita Giving Club

### Bequest Society

Wilson Lam

### Major Donor Level 1

Peter Lam

### Multiple Paul Harris

Francis Au

Dennis Lo

Louis Tang

Masayuki Tsubaki

Frankie Wu

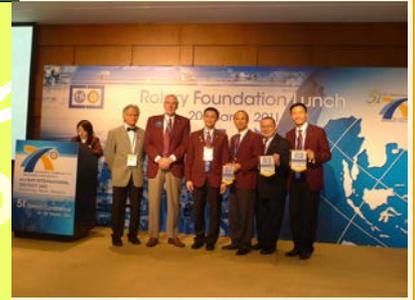
### Paul Harris Society

Anthony Hung

Kenneth Wong



Kenneth Wong and Anthony Hung recognized as members of Paul Harris Society



Top Per Capita Giving Club



Peter Lam recognized as Major Donor I



Wilson Lam recognized as Bequest Society member



## Kenneth Working Hard Down Under

*I want to share with you one of the happiest days of my life. My little girl Amy has graduated!*

*Kenneth*



I have been busy. DGN Sandra Doumany of D9640, Gold Coast, South Brisbane flew down from Brisbane to meet me at Sydney.

We had a very fruitful discussion on the GSE program of our year and many other possible cooperation between the two districts.

So, it is almost certain that the GSE paired district of 2012-13 would be D9640, Gold Coast, Brisbane: a very fun place to visit.



# Youth Corner

Club Bulletin of Rotary Club of Tai Po (April 2011 Issue)

## CLUB VISIT BY ROTARACTORS FROM DISTRICT 2650 (KYOTO, NARA, FUKUI & SHIGA)

44 Rotaractors and 2 Rotarians (Koichi Tanida & Tsugihiko Yasui) from District 2650, Japan came to D3450 on a cultural exchange trip from 26 to 28 March 2011. They visited scenic places in Hong Kong, joined local Rotaractors on the District Service Project, visited Rotary Club of Tai Po's meeting and also went shopping before departing Hong Kong.

On 27 March 2011, the Japanese joined RCTP's regular meeting ably organised by PP Peter Lam who was also the MC of the evening. At the start of the meeting, all present observed a minute of silence for the earthquake / tsunami victims. After welcoming messages from DG Jason Chan, New Generations Chair PDG Peter Wong and our own PE Tsubaki, the Japanese Rotaractors thanked us for receiving them and updated us on their idea about Hong Kong and their views on Rotary. Soon after dinner, the Japanese Rotaractors gave performances to show their cultural activities during the 4 seasons of the year and kept everyone entertained and amused. The evening was one of warm friendship and cheerful cultural exchanges.



RCTP welcomed Japanese friends



Japanese Rotaractors joining our District Service Project and having a good time with the service target kids.



DRR Kirihata and DRR Anita



Observing a minute of silence



Tsubaki and Tanida



PDG Peter Wong offering a few words of encouragement.



Peter, Yasui and Kiyama



Everyone enjoyed the 4-season Cultural show



Cheerful dinner

21 March 2011



Rtn. Patrick Fong recounted his experience as sergeant at District Conference



Rtn. Ada Wu won the raffle prize of air purifier given out by VP Ron Chung



Pres. Frankie thanking Dr. Amy Pang after her intriguing presentation about her photograph trips in Tanzania



Caren and Louis were the lucky winners of Dr. Amy Pang's photo collection books.



4 April 2011



PP Peter introduced RYLA and guest speakers

11 April 2011



PP Charles won the raffle gift of Crabtree & Evelyn goody given by Thomas



VP Ron thanked Best RYLarian Stephen Ho and 1st Runner-Up Crystal Wong with the usual memento after they shared with us their experiences and insights at this year's RYLA camp as Pres. Chelsia To, Warden of RYLA Camp looked on.



Lucky Francis won the Polo sweater from PP Armstrong as VP Ron congratulated him



AG Wilson updated members about the Area 6 Joint Project Guangxi Visit



Pres. Frankie thanked Rtn. Patrick after he spoke to us about himself as Rtnn. Torrente joined them



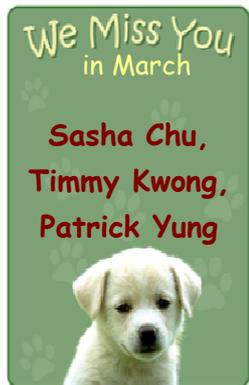
Speaker Rtn. Patrick Fong let members understand him a lot more

## Upcoming Events

### March Winners (100% attendance):

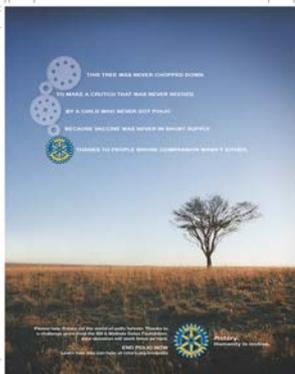


Francis Au, Pearl Dang,  
Patrick Fong, Anthony  
Hung, Manabu Kiyama,  
Peter Lam, Wilson Lam,  
Ping Leung, Dennis Lo,  
Claire Mak, Man Mo  
Leung, Jacky Sung, Louis  
Tang, Masayuki Tsubaki,  
Kenneth Wong,  
Frankie Wu



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

7th March 84%  
14th March 71%  
21st March 64.5%



<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Venue</u>
30 April 11 (Sat)	2:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.	Elderly Visit with Rotaractors	仁濟醫院歐陽森紀念安老 院暨日間護理中心 - 九龍 慈雲山慈正邨服務設施大 樓3-4字樓
5 May 11 (Thu)	7:00p.m.	Club visit to RC Hong Kong Harbour	Regal Hong Kong Hotel, Causeway Bay
9 May, 11 (MON)	7:00p.m.	4th Theme Night	SR Gallery Restaurant, 3/F Cubus, 1 Hoi Ping Road, Causeway Bay
14 May 11 (SAT)	9:30 am – 4:30 pm	51st District Assembly	The Shatin Clubhouse of the HK Jockey Club
16 May 11 (MON)	7:00p.m.	Speaker: Dr. Eddie Cheung Topic: "Children Heart Disease"	3rd Floor, Chinese Restaurant, Royal Plaza Hotel, Prince Edward Rd. W.

Theme Night 9.5.2011

## **Dine Art** SR Gallery · Cafe



### "April"

Matthew Yum  
(Hon. Member) 28th



### Got something to say?



Tai Post wants to hear  
from you. Write in to  
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