



The beginning of February has brought us “shocking news” in different areas. Those who have a concern in stock and financial market may be shocked by the sharp fall in worldwide stock markets and the Bit Coin price in early February, leaving behind the debate whether it is now a bull market or bear market. For those who have young

kids attending kindergartens and primary schools may be shocked by the abrupt announcement of early commencement of the Chinese New Year holiday. And for those who have relatives and friends in Taiwan they may be shocked by the earthquake in Hualien, Taiwan causing several hundreds of deaths and injuries (Let’s pray for Taiwan).

But these sorts of shocking news should not mask the characteristic of February. It is the month of Chinese New Year (also known as the Spring Festival). It is the month for reunion and celebration. There have been different legends on the origin of celebrating this festival, one of which is concerned with a fierce monster called Nin 年. Monster Nin resembles the lion in traditional Chinese lion dance. It used to attack villages during the Spring Festival period, killing and eating villagers and causing damages to houses. Later on, a clever man had come up with an idea to protect his villagers – a basket of food was placed on the street as bait. When Monster Nin came to eat the bait, a team of strong men hiding nearby would come out and throw burning firecrackers towards Monster Nin. While Monster Nin was scared, the team of strong men then attacked it with weapons. As a result, Monster Nin was severely injured and fled. The whole village then celebrated this victory and repeated this precaution every year by reunion among themselves during Chinese New Year, albeit Monster Nin had never appeared since then. This legend perhaps explains why we used to burn firecrackers and play the lion dance during Chinese Festival.



Our club has also seized the opportunity to have held some fellowship events, namely the Third Theme Night “Tappan Reunion Night 團年鐵板宵” and the Reunion Dinner 團年飯 on Feb 2 and Feb 5 respectively. Besides, there are two rounds of Spring Dinner with the clan clubs of mother club (4-Generation Joint Meeting on Feb 23) and the Area 6 clubs (Area 6 Joint Meeting - Spring Dinner on Mar 5).

When one realizes the origin of a tradition and the rationales behind, one will be more likely to appreciate its value, to adopt it and to help ensure its continuation among the next generation. One may then ask: “what is the tradition of Rotary and in particular Rotary Club of Tai Po?” You are of course encouraged to learn from the good write-up by PP Peter in every issue of Tai Post. But for sure, we emphasize both fellowship and service. We tend to have more attendance from members and their families and friends in our fellowship events than service activities, where the responsible leaders and the organizing committee should be given credit. Yet our club is not merely a social club. In fact, the motto of Rotary is “Service Above Self”. Hence participation in service projects is of equal importance to fulfill the above motto. So may I take this opportunity to urge for your continual support and participation in both fellowship and service activities to be organized by our club and the District.

**Last but not least, Kung Hey Fat Choy!**

Kung Hei Fat Choy! As we are still basking in the Chinese New Year festive mood let me wish you good health and prosperity! I recall that in the past, people used to make it a point to beat the year-end deadline '尾牙' before the hairdressers or the barbers closed for the Chinese New Year. Some hairdressers charged double or even triple during the run-up to CNY and some worked till midnight to let clients look resplendent for the First Day of CNY. The situation is less acute these days as the hairdressers or hair stylists seem to take lesser holidays than in the past and there appears little point to pay through the nose for hairstyling just for the CNY.

Since we are on the subject of hair, white hair raises concerns, second maybe to balding. It seems more and more people start to have grey hair soon after their teen years. There were warnings against pulling out white streaks lest you get 3 by return! Even though this alarm is rather groundless, because from a biological point of view white hair develops when the black pigment weakens as one grows older; still, one would rather err on the side of caution and not risk getting white hair triple fast. Some younger people may have it in their genes for greying hair and so cannot help the symptom. Others may really have some health problems which let hair go grey earlier than the norm.

That's why people go to dye their hair black once grey hair appears. The TV Ad by Tsang Kong withstands the test of almost half a century! "You can have it black gradually; or you can have it black in an instant! Done!"



Thereafter, many shades of dye emerged. Playful or daring ones (even those blessed with lovely black hair) would dye it silver or blond, to be 'in' and stylish. Indeed, those who have some natural grey streaks on the side burns tend to show signs of wisdom; and those with a full head of silver hair tend look both handsome and wise. Do I hear mention of Wanda's Dad (Ngan Pa Pa) and my own Dad? And I think Kenneth is catching up fast.



Ngan Chi Kwong

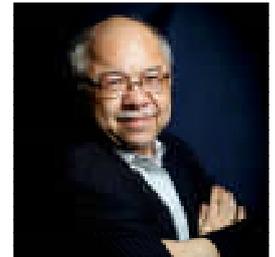


David Mak



Kenneth Wong

For those whose hair are thinning out, their fervent wish maybe like treating an unsuccessful investment - to cut loss. Well, having said that, if the thinning or even balding takes on gradually, in a way, it can become a sort of trademark. Haven't you heard PDG Kenneth referring PDG Anthony as Rotary founder Paul Harris' look-a-like? Particularly his silhouette ...



It would be a blessing that you like your hair and need not do anything much about it, be it cutting or styling. Too often, those with curly hair would go straighten their hair; while those with straight hair would want to perm their hair to give it more bounce. Those with thick hair ask for it to be layered to the effect of reducing the bulk; while those with thin hair would want their hair layered in another way to give it more volume. And it is rare that one would not require to do anything about his/her hair: to get it trimmed, extended, permed, coloured, highlighted, tied up, braided, styled and then restyled ... ..



Who knew that if you turned Donald Duck upside down you get the other Donald?

Age will be catching up with you no matter what; and worrying will only increase hair loss or hair damage. It is how one carries oneself that may slow down the effects of aging and to age gracefully. As we enter the Year of the Dog (or, as President Roger took pains to point out in last issue of Tai Post, it's not any dog but Year of the Brown Dog) let's try not to work like a dog or be worrisome; but to take on the good traits of a dog to be alert and agile; while staying carefree and... .. be rid of bad hair days.



Editor Says

Claire Mak



# Rotary in China



Rotary information

Peter Lam



Since RI adopted a more flexible regular meeting and attendance rules and guidelines for members and our district is keen to support more new clubs and young members, there has been a tremendous growth of new clubs in our district in recent 2-3 years. I believe many of us need to catch up with the new club status in our district with the establishment of quite a number of new clubs, some with rather interesting and innovative names like Golden Bauhinia HK,

The HUB HK, Smart HK, Innovation HK, Star Avenue, Harmony and Prosperity HK etc. In fact, even in China it is now no longer just RC Beijing and RC Shanghai but we are amazed at how many new clubs they have now, although membership is still limited to non-local Chinese (foreign passport holders ("expatriates") or Chinese "compatriots" (citizens of Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan). Let us get some update information from the Rotary China website: <http://www.rotarychina.org>

There are currently 19 chartered Rotary clubs, 5 provisional Rotary Clubs and 1 Satellite club in mainland China. These clubs in turn sponsor several Interact and Rotaract clubs. At the moment, membership is still too small to become a district, but because of China's unique characteristics, RI has since 2006 treated mainland China like a small de-facto district under the leadership of a *Special Representative to China*, who is the *de-facto* District Governor. The current Special Representative is Mr. Frank Yih, Past President of the Rotary Club of Shanghai. Note that for practical reasons, Guangdong province that is adjacent to Hong Kong and where Cantonese is the language commonly spoken has been placed under the care of our District 3450 since July 2013. There is now a Rotary Club in Shenzhen (Rotary Club of Shenzhen) that consists entirely of Chinese citizens, which our club should be familiar. Its Charter President, Xie Jun, was once our member for a brief period. Here is the list of existing clubs in China:

## Beijing 北京

Rotary Club of Beijing	北京扶輪社
Rotary Club of Beijing Chaoyang	北京朝陽扶輪社
Rotary Club of Beijing Mandarin	北京文華扶輪社

## Shanghai 上海

Rotary Club of Shanghai	上海扶輪社
Rotary Club of Shanghai Fresh Start	上海Fresh Start扶輪社
Rotary Club of Shanghai Pudong Lujiazui	上海浦東陸家嘴扶輪社
Rotary Club of Shanghai West	上海浦西扶輪社
Rotary Club of Shanghai Elysée (Provisional)	上海Elysee扶輪社 (臨時社)
Rotary Club of Shanghai Hongqiao	上海虹橋扶輪社

## Dalian 大連

Rotary Club of Dalian	大連扶輪社
Rotary Satellite Club of Dalian Shenyang	大連瀋陽衛星扶輪社
Rotary Club of Dalian Kai Fa Qu	大連開發區扶輪社

## Suzhou 蘇州

Rotary Club of Suzhou	蘇州扶輪社
Rotary Club of Suzhou Mandarin	蘇州文華扶輪社

## 其他：

Rotary Club of Dalian Changchun Satellite
Rotary Club of Chengdu 成都扶輪社
Rotary Club of Chongqing 重慶扶輪社
Rotary Club of Hangzhou 杭州扶輪社
Rotary Club of Kunshan 昆山扶輪社
Rotary Club of Kunming (Provisional) 昆明扶輪社 (臨時社)
Rotary Club of Nanning (Provisional) 南寧扶輪社 (臨時社)
Rotary Club of Nanjing (Provisional) 南京扶輪社 (臨時社)
Rotary Club of Ningbo 寧波扶輪社
Rotary Club of Qingdao 青島扶輪社
Rotary Club of Dalian Shenyang Satellite 大連瀋陽文星扶輪社
Rotary Club of Tianjin 天津扶輪社



# Regular Meetings in the past five years: February 當年今月: 二月例會

Do you remember 2013 - 2017?

February



by PP Peter Lam

REWIND



February Birthday boy PP Frankie Wu (and acting Sergeant) at our 10 Feb. 2014 meeting in W Hotel.

Many of us remember that a big delegation from RC Makati San Lorenzo, Philippines visited our club meeting in July 2014 under Natalie Kwok's Presidency which kicked-off our Global Grants project and sister club development. But in fact the initial contact dated back to 23 Feb. 2013 when their International Service Director Johnny Tan visited us at our meeting in Royal Garden Hotel. On that day, inbound Ambassadorial Scholar Dr. Samantha Gale was our speaker.

Natalie and daughter Elizabeth receiving lucky draw prize from Dorothy on 16 Feb. 2015 meeting at Royal Garden Hotel.



Remember the 開年飯 at Chiu Chow Association in Western District on 6 Feb. 2017? Rtnn. Joanna was rather excited . . . as usual, and dared to challenge PP Claire to finish up the bottle of red wine . . . or did she?



Our last meeting in Feb. 2016 was merged with Area 6 Spring Dinner on 29 Feb. 2016 at the New World Millennium HK Hotel in Tsimshatsui East when Vikky Tam was our President and PP Frankie Wu our AG. We were pleased to have sister club PP Braces (William Choi) and PP David Loie with us that evening and we had great fun dancing and winning many lai see.

## Meeting at Regal Hong Kong Hotel

Visit by Rotarians from RC HK Harbour and RC Colmar Rhin

15 January 2018

Claire Mak

Our regular meeting on 15th January 2018 turned out to be a big event with visits from no less than 3 entities including fellow Rotarians from Rotary Club of Hong Kong Harbour, Rotarians all the way from Rotary Club of Colmar Rhin of Alsace, France and also our own Rotaractors from Rotaract Club of Wu Yee Sun College, CU.

In anticipation of the large turnout, we moved our venue to Regal Hong Kong Hotel and planned a full rundown for the evening. The event started with dumpling making and wine tasting during which Rotarians from the 3 clubs mingled and chatted while the spouses tried making dumplings.

When the dinner meeting started, President Roger did the formalities of recognition and introduction of members/guests and exchange of banners etc. before inviting our PP Wilson to give a detailed recount of our club's recent gourmet fellowship trip to Shantau/Chaozhou.



Still on outbound trips, our Rotaractors were invited to give a presentation on their recent International Service Trip to Thailand (for coffee growing and making). Their sale of 10 packs of coffee beans in support of the local coffee organisation was sold out in no time.



The highlight of the evening was a presentation by President Michel Fonne on "Alsace Discovering" when he took us through the beautiful Alsace, gave a little of its history and background and how he sees the wine business worldwide. He also fielded a few questions from the floor raised by Rotarians knowledgeable in wines and there was an in depth exchange of views.

Lastly, like any gathering of Rotarians, the event ended with the taking of big group photos for the sake of good memories.

We tucked into a menu specially picked by DS Natalie and which was paired with different white wines from our French friends. Everyone tried their luck at the raffle draw to win the Pu'er tea cake given out by PP Wilson – and PDG Anthony emerged as the lucky winner to the envy of many.



## 3 Days 2 Nights Shantou / Chaozhou Trip 12 - 14 January 2018

Wilson Lam

There are altogether 27 people joining this trip including friends and families of members. We happily boarded the coach from Hong Kong and passed through Sha Tau Kok border to get into China. Chaozhou area comprises Shantou City (汕頭市), Chaozhou City (潮州市) and Jieyang City (揭陽市) right by the north east coast of Guangdong Province. It is about 350km from Shenzhen through coastal drive. The population is about 20 million living in this 10,346 sq. km. region and they have their own dialect and culture different from the rest of Guangdong.



### Day 1



On our way to Shantou, whenever we stopped by a service station for a break, everyone was attracted by the local snacks: tea boiled egg, corns, cakes, peanuts ...



We stopped half way at Shanwei (汕尾) around 13:00 for a delicious seafood lunch in a local restaurant. The seafood dishes were mainly freshly catches and cooked in simple home style. Soil in Chaozhou is poor and not good for agricultural products but the region is famous for seafood as it is right by the coast facing the Pacific Ocean. Shantou is the second largest fishing village in Guangdong [first largest is Yangxi (陽西) at the south west end].



Due to the traffic condition, we missed the opening hours of the first sight-seeing spot "Shantou Opening Port Culture Exhibition Hall" and went instead to a local snacks shop famous for fish balls and oyster cakes.

By the time we arrived at the old city center, we were astonished by the renovation works under progress by the local government. All old buildings were restored with lights showing their beauty as of last century. The style and design of these buildings show a mixture of Arabian and European culture of the 19th century.



This Octagonal Pavilion located inside a small park in the old city center is a landmark. It carries a lot of memories for those who left Chaozhou in the 1800s to earn a living in South East Asian countries like Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.



The side walk gallery showing the prosperity of the old days of Shantou city. It was the main port for trade and overseas travelling in the 18th and 19th century.



Post office of the Ching Dynasty.



Shantou Opening Port Culture Exhibition Hall, UNESCO World Heritage



Jianye Restaurant, first Chaoshan cuisine and Guangdong Famous Trademark Enterprise, where we had our dinner. We enjoyed the same menu which I tried in last Nov with the delegation led by the Hong Kong Production Council and Federation of Hong Kong Industries. It was a feast of local delicacies, lobster, Chaozhou marinated goose, bouncy beef ball, giant mullet fish, oyster cake ... plus 2 bottles of whisky and many bottles of wine. It was an enjoyable night with good food, nice wine and most important of all, the fellowship.

Day 2



The second day started with a high spirit group photo at the Regency Hotel. We went to the Nan'ao Island (南澳島) which is now connected by an 11.08 km long bridge. Southern half of Nan'ao Island belongs to Guangdong Province and Northern half belongs to Fujian Province. As Nan'ao Island faces the Pacific Ocean, it is also the reference point for recording the wind speed when typhoon pass through South China region. We all experienced the chill gusty wind even on such a sunny day. The island is crowded with local tourists in summer days.





There is an ancient military camp site (總兵府) of the Ching Dynasty in the middle of the island just stretched across the border of the 2 provinces. Armies from the 2 provinces were in charge to safe guard the island and as front line protection against pirates and invasion from overseas.

We lunched in a local restaurant with seafood menu and a special order of 2 giant conchs weighing over 2.5 kgs each.



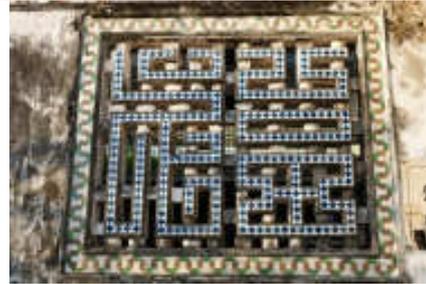
With full stomach, we walked to the landmark of Tropic of Cancer (北回歸綫). The sun is right at the top of this landmark on 22nd June and there is no shadow in midday. It is windy on this island all year round as we can see many windmill generators all over the mountain range.



Leaving the island, we went to a heritage mansion Cihong Former Residence (陳慈贊故居). The mansion was built by the oversea Tan family from Thailand in 1910 and took almost 50 years to complete. The area is about 25,000 sq. m. and with a total of 506 rooms, it is the most well preserved architectural building of the last century.



This mansion complex was donated to the government by the Tan's family. The building itself is a fusion of eastern and western architectural designs, with Arabian style color ceramic mosaic, marbles and ancient hand crafted wooden decorations.



The second day dinner started with drinking games. President Roger and PE Patrick toasted to each other. CP Donald and my father-in-law were so happy playing finger guessing game after dinner. The food is famous Chaoshan 18 dishes (潮汕十八式宴). Consumption of the wines surpassed the food that night.



Big thanks to PP Frankie for the karaoke treat after dinner. With the training by CP all these years, we all sang like professionals on that night after a few drinks. That evening ended very late as no one wanted to leave until we had finished all the drinks.



### Day 3



Days 3 started with a visit to the ancient Chaozhou city which is protected by a stone wall right by the Hanjiang River. Two sides of the river are connected by a floating bridge, Xiangqiao (湘橋), built in Sung Dynasty in year 1171. It is one of the four great ancient bridges in China.

The Chaozhou City protection wall was first built in 10th Century, during North Sung Dynasty, and was rebuilt and extended a few times in the 11th and 12th Century by different reigns of the



Sung Dynasty. The wall is over 8.5M in height, over 6 km long and with a base of 7M thick. Nowadays, there is only 2,100M left and it is the best preserved ancient city wall in China over 1,000 years old. The four-storey building on top of the wall was government office and soldier guard office in old days.



Yanghai Confucian Academy 儒學宮



Kaiyuan Temple old section 開元寺舊院

Inside the walled city, we visited the Confucian Academy. In ancient times, students who scored highest in open examinations would come to the academy to thank Confucius to show respect. Parents would pray to Confucius for their kids.



Kaiyuan Temple 開元寺



Kaiyuan Temple new section 開元寺新院

Kaiyuan Temple was built in 738, Tang Dynasty, and had been expanded through different reigns. It was over 100 acres in Tang Dynasty and now it reduced to only about 20 acres. It is one of the best preserved Kaiyuan Temple.

After a delicious vegetarian lunch, we walked through the ancient city town. There are shops selling local snacks, handicraft articles, souvenirs, antiques, local produces and ... you name it, they have it. Two hours passed by easily. Everyone rushed back to board the coach with big and small bags of shopping plunder.



After 4 hours of bus journey, we were back to Sha Tau Kok for dinner around 20:00. We all enjoyed this trip very much as it was full of joy, fellowship, cultural knowledge and good food. Special thanks to Uncle So who acted as our tour guide and shared with us his immense knowledge on culture and history. We all are looking forward to working out when and where we will go for our next fellowship trip.

# District Bowling 2018 cum Blind Bowling Tournament

## 21 January 2018

Wilson Woo

This event was sponsored by the Labour & Welfare Bureau, organized by the Hong Kong Blind Sports Federation (HKBSF) and co-organized by Rotary International District 3450. The main objective is to raise the self-confidence of people with visual impairment through equal participation in sports training and sports tournament and to arouse the public awareness on their abilities.



Same as previous years, we supported the event not only by donating money, but participated in the event together with our Rotaractors and the blind bowlers. On 21 Jan 2018, our club sponsored 3 teams to support the event. For the first team, we had PP Peter as the team leader with Rotaryanne May, her son Fred and a blind bowler as the team members. President Gary from RAC Tai Po and President Wendy from RAC Wu Yee Sun led the second and third teams together with their members. President Roger and President Elect Patrick attended and formed our cheering team. Definitely, all those who attended enjoyed the quality moment very much.



## “Tappan Reunion” Theme Night 團年鐵板宵 at Roku Japanese Restaurant (Teppanyaki, Robotayaki, Sashimi) 2 February 2018

Patrick Fong

### Team 3

Leader: PP Armstrong  
Members: PDG Kenneth, PP Louis, PP Pearl, PP Ronald,  
Sincere, Marco and PE Patrick

It was the third Theme Night for the year 2017-18 and was well participated by 20 members, 9 spouses, 2 family members (Charlotte & Sebastian) and 3 guests (Leo, Hoi Ho and Alfred). The venue, Roku Japanese Restaurant, is recommended by PP Armstrong and is conveniently located near TST MTR station.



When we arrived at the restaurant, bottles of Sake and Whisky were already set on the table. The restaurant became our private room. After some rounds of drinks, we were seated on the 4 big teppan tables.



At about 7:45pm, President Roger called for our regular meeting. Having reported some events and activities, a beautiful birthday cake was moved to the middle of the room to celebrate the February birthday stars, IPP William and PP Frankie. We sang the birthday song, William and Frankie made wishes and then cut the birthday cake for sharing.



Food was served at 8:15pm. It started with starter/salad, followed by sashimi, King Prawn, A5 Wagyu (飛驒和牛), Abalone, fried rice and miso.



When the chef started to fry rice, she taught us how to scoop the egg using the 'wok chuan', throw the egg across from right hand to left hand and then use the 'wok chuan' to break the egg shell. All of us listened carefully and watched how the chef fried rice in order to win the "fry rice" game.



Each table sent one representative to participate the fry rice game - Leo, Lucia, May and Charlotte. The 3 chefs and PP Armstrong were the judges. They tasted the fried rice prepared by the participants and voted for the winner of the game. Charlotte got 4 votes and was the winner. Rtnn Rita sponsored the prizes and presented them to Charlotte as well as the people on Charlotte's table (Rtnn Alice, PP Ron, PE Patrick, Rtnn Torrente, PP Francis, Rtnn Creamy and PP Frankie).



Finally, our sincere thanks to:

- PP Armstrong for being leader of the event and sponsoring bottles of whisky
- Rtnn Rita for donating prizes to the winning group
- Marco for preparing the attractive poster
- Sincere for monitoring the cost
- all team members for organizing the event
- all members, spouses and guests for participating and supporting

For sure, all of us are looking forward to attending the fourth theme night and sharing another joyful evening together. Thank you.



# District Golf Tournament

31 January 2018

Peter Lam

Around 88 players mostly Rotarians registered to join the tournament this year but a few did not show up perhaps with good excuse this time . . . the weather was extremely cold and wet on 31st January 2018 at Fanling Golf Club. During the tournament which lasted for around 4.5 hours the rain was not as heavy as to have the game cancelled and the rain did stop and slow down for a while. Unfortunately, it rained quite heavily around tee off time 8:15 a.m. right when we were having OC Chair PP Andy Li and DG HW Fung's opening remarks followed by group photo and tee-off ceremony. One can imagine the challenge, or should I say misery, our players and guests faced!

to finish the game in much longer time than normally allowed and in a relaxed manner. No Golf Marshals appeared to chase after us since it seems that most golfers who scheduled to tee off right after our tournament had cancelled. The Fanling Golf club is famous for being very strict in enforcing the playing time rule and the Golf Club members of each flight who are slow play and do not finish on time will often receive warning or even be penalized. The tournament ended with buffet lunch at the club house followed by award presentation by DG HW Fung. Our Tai Po club players left with empty hands and Tsubaki left early not because of no awards but rather to take good rest and to prepare for his 5-6 days golf trip to Bangkok with mother club RC Peninsula the following day. Other than the various individual awards, the main club team results are as follows:



Gross Score winning club (actual score)	
Champion	RC Kwai Chung A Team
1st Runner's Up	RC HK City North
2nd Runner's Up	RC The Peak
Net Score winning club (New New Peoria)	
Champion	RC Kowloon West
1st Runner's Up	RC Kwai Chung B Team
2nd Runner's Up	RC Hong Kong

Our club was represented by PP Peter Lam, PP Frankie Wu, PP Tsubaki and PP Francis Au. Francis and Peter also served in the OC team with Francis as MC during opening and awards presentation ceremony. The cold and wet weather did cause some damage to both our spirit and skill as the four of us did not perform well with poor score. Only Peter and Tsubaki managed to finish all 18 holes while Frankie and Francis preferred a warm shower earlier after playing 15 holes . . . The bad weather did bring one positive outcome which was to allow all players



## Rotaract Club of Wu Yee Sun College International Service Trip to Chiang Mai – ‘Lost and Farm’

28 December 2017 – 4 January 2018

RAC WYS Secretary Sunny Cheung

During this small break between 2 semesters, instead of idling our time away with nothing accomplished, our club committee members and other participants embarked on a special journey to Chiang Mai, Thailand. At first glance, from the title of the service trip ‘Lost and Farm’, we had expected the trip to be about organic farming, environmental protection and serving the Karen people, a small minority race in Thailand. However, as time proceeds, it is beyond our expectation that we, the volunteers, learnt from the local Karen people, their attitude and ways of living. The trip was mainly separated into three major components, which are visiting the CLUMP farm, a high mountain village and Pun Pun Organic Farm.

The CLUMP farm was the first place we visited during the 7-day trip. This is an organic farm which produces coffee beans and other side products using environmentally-friendly method. Here, we met a group of local students from an international secondary school, who would go with us to the high mountain in the next few days.



We adopted a division of labor for the efficiency of work, so that different groups held different tasks. Some engaged in the mixing of soil and water into mud, some helped in the transfer of materials and some utilized mud and bricks to construct the walls.



After two days of toil, we were able to finish a quarter of the classroom. Looking at our work, we all felt accomplished and rewarding. The process seemed formidable, but

everyone was actually enjoying themselves and gaining happiness from it like the local people. Undeniably, this was an experience we could never have in Hong Kong.



In the second part of the trip, we went to Karen village where Karen people live. When we arrived, we were shocked to see how technologically backward it is. There were no skyscrapers, no electronic devices and even no hot water, which most of us made the first attempt to cold water bath in winter. On the next day, we met another challenge that we had to help the villagers to construct a new classroom for their local primary school. In the process, we had to carry heavy buckets of small stones, sand and other materials, which was not easy for us.



At night, we had a small cultural exchange with the Karen villagers and the local secondary school students. We shared some famous pop songs such as Bound Ocean, Vast Sky by Beyond and Below the Lion Rock by Roman. In exchange, the villagers sang songs along with their unique traditional instruments. Their songs are soft and comfortable. Even though we did not understand their language, all of us enjoyed the night



However, our moments in the Karen village did not last long and we returned to CLUMP. In the following days, we started to have a deeper understanding about CLUMP by attempting different procedures of coffee production such as separating coffee beans from coffee cherries and collecting dried coffee beans. We even got a chance to try their products.

The taste was just unforgettable to those coffee-lovers in our tour. Those young people were always generous in demonstrating and serving us with different types of coffee. They smiled from their hearts when we enjoyed drinking. Every one of us could feel their passion in coffee.



On our last day in CLUMP, we finally got the chance to meet Brother Anurak, the manager of CLUMP. We shared our ideas on how CLUMP could promote itself, which we discussed and prepared the night before. We sincerely hoped our effort could let more people



know and appreciate their ideas of living. At the end of our sharing, Brother gave us a speech on the idea of CLUMP. His speech gave us insights, conclusion and inspiration from our 5-day experience in

CLUMP and Karen village. You may think that CLUMP is in need of funding and donation from the government and the public, and so were we. However, this is not the case for CLUMP. Brother emphasized that they do not need anyone to buy their product based on pure sympathy, but instead, they hope people support them because of the quality of coffee beans. They had rejected large sum donations a few times before. Their idea and motto behind coffee beans is definitely new and unprecedented to us. When all of us in Hong Kong get employed for money and for living, he disagreed with this kind of employment which he believed is exploitation. In CLUMP, no one is employed and everyone works on his/her own. This is the reason why the young people enjoy their lives while we are struggling with stress and tension. The speech was too long for me to reproduce here, but it definitely broadened our horizon and point of view.

After the speech, our time in CLUMP came to an end. We had to leave and head to the Earth Home and Pun Pun Organic Farm where we stayed for the remaining night. Pun Pun Organic Farm is another farm which puts emphasis on the environment. Because of the limitation of time, we only had 2 hours to visit. Different from CLUMP, Pun Pun provides a wide range of crops and flowers which were planted without being genetically modified (GM) or any use of chemicals. What I truly appreciate is its seed preserve center, which keeps different species of seeds. They hold their belief that under mass production and with the use of GM products, the variety of plants in the future will dramatically drop. One significant example is that we had different types of tomato back then, but now we mainly consume one type only. In the visit, we saw different ways and approach to farming which minimizes the use of chemicals, but at the same time ensures a stable output of crops.



After our visit to Pun Pun Organic Farm and the Earth Home, our service trip had come to an official end. During this small trip, we had been able to meet a lot of local people. No matter they are the villagers in the mountain, the young people in CLUMP, or simply the drivers we met when we were travelling in the city, they all shared the same feature - having a simple but happy life. It was not at all difficult to observe that they are enjoying themselves. Even when

they were playing table tennis with a dented ball, they had nothing to complain about. Isn't this attitude Hong Kong people should learn and adopt? I wonder repeatedly after this trip. During these 7 days, it seemed that we were just influenced by them and forgot our worry and stress in Hong Kong. I found that only under this lifestyle can we really enjoy our lives.

## 29 January 2018



Good friend and colleague of our Sergeant Benjamin and also Speaker of the evening, **Mr. Sebastian Schmidt-Eckert**, broadened our knowledge on the “**New Era of High Speed Train**” with particular focus on the rail system in China. He explained how his company, Knorr-Bremse, captured the Chinese market through its consistently top-performing products and advanced technologies like the supply of precise and safe brake products and on-board systems for railway segments.



Immediate Past District Rotaract Representative Lok Chi and Executive Officer Shun shared with us the Rotaract District Service Project (DSP) 2017-18: what had gone on before and what's lined up for the last part “**Inside Out**”. They also raised a bit of fund by selling to us DIY Lip Balm and DIY Hand Cream. Our RAC Tai Po and RAC WYS are host clubs for the DSP.

# Regular meetings 大埔



Rtnn. May won the nice bottle of Canadian Ice Wine given out by PDG Anthony for raffle draw.

## 5 February 2018



Accompanied by Vice President Hilary, the new Board from our Rotaract Club of Wu Yee Sun -College visited us and Incoming President Justin Huang introduced to us his board members.



Speaker **Mr. Thomas Woo** satisfied our curiosity on what used to be a 2-day non-stop banquet/art appreciation ceremony of the royalty, the “**Manchu Han Imperial Feast**”. Many exotic ingredients had to be sourced and transported from different regions of China to make up for the over 200 dazzling dishes of finest recipes and delicacies. Some dishes were for pleasant display and some others only for the appetizing smell! We now know what the present-day replacements are for the bear paw and the monkey brain featured in the olden days!



Members from Rotary Club of The HUB led by CP Heman Lam and President Kelvin Wong (2nd row. 1st and 2nd from left) paid us a friendly visit and members of the two clubs mingled well.

5 February 2018

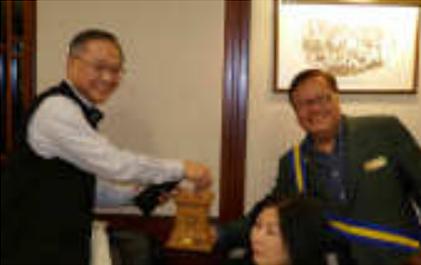


PP Pearl gave out 5 cookbooks of Speaker Mr. Thomas Woo as raffle prizes and the lucky winners were Rotaryannes Margie, Creamy and Wanda and also PDG Kenneth and Rtn. Wilson - all of RCTP.

Regular meetings



Basking in the Pre-CNY reunion mood, we also welcomed Past RAC Tai Po Presidents Sheena Cheng and Kelly Chan (2nd and 3rd from right).



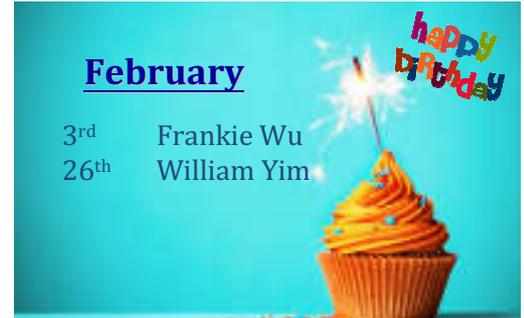
It is nice to welcome back a few 'absentee' members before the CNY including PDG Kenneth, PP Louis, PP Wilson and PP Vikky ... all of whom cheerfully paid red box!



Members were given auspicious couplets to welcome the celebration of Chinese New Year. Good luck, good health and good fortune! Yay!



day	time	event	venue
24 FEB (SAT)	3:00p.m.	Star Reaching Project "Tackle Home" 打理頭家 Closing Ceremony	Steak Workshop Flat I, 10/F, Valiant Industrial Centre, 2-12 Au Pui Wan Street, Fo Tan
4 MAR (SUN)	7:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m.	Rotary Hong Kong Ultramarathon 2018 and Rotary Carnival	Lung Wo Road, Central
5 MAR (MON)	7:30 p.m.	Area 6 Joint Spring Dinner Meeting Speaker: 李丞責 Topic: 2018 Home Feng Shui and Yearly Luck Preview	Royal Plaza Hotel, 193 Prince Edward Road West, Kowloon, Hong Kong
7 MAR (WED)	6:30 p.m.	Rotary Centenary Challenge Cup	The Millions, 3/F Happy Valley Stand, Happy Valley Racecourse
12 MAR (MON)	7:00 p.m.	3rd Club Assembly	Fincher Room, KCC, 10 Cox's Road, Jordan
19 MAR (MON)	7:00 p.m.	Joint Meeting with RC Tsuen Wan & RC Kowloon Tong Speaker: Mr. Albert Wong	Regal Kowloon Hotel 71 Mody Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East



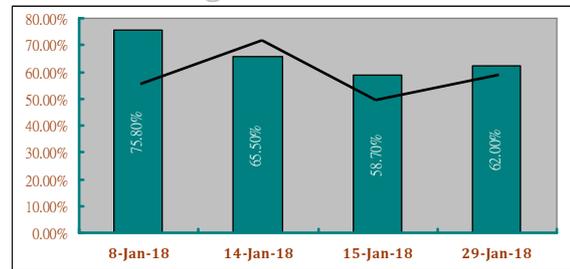
**扶輪社第六區 新春團拜**

嘉賓：著名堪輿學家 李丞責 博士  
 主題：2018家居風水的對與錯  
 十二生肖運程大揭秘  
 日期：二零一八年三月五日  
 地點：旺角帝京酒店  
 時間：下午 7:30

**A** **January 2018 Attendance**

CAREN CHAN,  
 DOROTHY CHAN,  
 PEARL DANG,  
 PATRICK FONG,  
 ANTHONY HUNG,  
 NATALIE KWOK,  
 PETER LAM,  
 CLAIRE MAK,  
 ARMSTRONG SHEA,  
 ROGER SO,  
 FRANKIE WU,  
 WILLIAM YIM

**Average attendance: 65.5%**



**Editorial Team**

**GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?**

Tai Post wants to hear from you.  
 Write in to [clairetaipo@gmail.com](mailto:clairetaipo@gmail.com)

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

**The editorial board**  
 Claire Mak  
 Peter Lam

**JANUARY**

MingHay Yu  
**Leave of Absence**

**In January**

**We missed you**

Sasha Chu,  
 Sally Luk,  
 Henry Wang,  
 CM Yu