



東風

Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East
TUNG FENG



Vol.68 No.21

26 May 2021

OFFICERS

President

Leo Yu

Hon. Secretary

Rico Fung

Hon. Treasurer

John Poon

DIRECTORS

Club Administration

PP Andy Wong

Fellowship

Rtn. Kevin Leung

International Service

Rtn. Mofiz Chan

International Service Chair

PP William Wong

Membership

PP Nancy Yee

Membership Chair

PP Eddy Wong

Service Projects

PP Stacy Ho

Youth Service

DGN Norman Lee

Foundation Chair

PP David Li

IT Chair

Rtn. Bernard Lee

Legal Chair

Rtn. Stephen Leung

PPE Director

PP Stacy Ho

PP COUNCIL REP.

George Leung

EX-OFFICIO

IPP Gilbert Fung

CLUB ADVISORS

PDG YK Cheng

PP Andrew Chen

PP Tim Lui

PP Henry Chan,

PP Hubert Chan,

PP George Leung

PP David Li

PP Rudy Law

Rtn. Freddy Wu

Last Meeting: Club Assembly

As reported by DGN Norman:

President Leo started the meeting by celebrating birthday for Rtn John Yao, Rtn Tony Loy was invited to lead the birthday song. President Leo then inducted the new member, Benson Ng. His sponsor Director Mofiz delivered an introduction speech. PP Andrew Chen had the esteem honour of pinning our new member.

President Leo showed the activity data and some statistics about our membership trends.

Each committee chairs reported their corresponding area of service. PE Bernard briefly outlined his plans for next year and requested members to contribute more ideas.

The meeting went smoothly, all members showed enthusiasm to contribute.

Redbox: 1,350HKD



THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

香港東區扶輪社週報

Club 16340 District 3450 Chartered on 06 April, 1954 by
Charter President PDG (Uncle) John Yuen





Want to experience & explore such a fabulous journey?

Click the below photo link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/fZ9GrSuTWrlvCdfz9>

OR

Go to our club website: <https://hkie.rotary3450.org/>

OR

Go to our club Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubHKIslandEast/>

OR

Click below TWO YouTube links:

Members: <https://youtu.be/OoUtRPwogsQ>

Old Objects: <https://youtu.be/nV5ZkX66Bf4>

OR

Scan below TWO QR CODES to enjoy this stunning journey.



(Members)



(Old Objects)

“ UNDERNEATH THE VENEER OF A FORGOTTEN LEGEND”
US “

“DISCOVER THE STATE THEATRE IN ALL OF

Photo credit: DGN Norman Lee, Rotariannes Carmen Yu, wife of PE Bernard Lee, PP Nancy Yee and Rtn. Peter Yeung

Special Thanks to our PE Bernard Lee for doing the final soundtrack touch-up and

Christian Lee, son of DGN Norman for making the soundtrack in all the videos that we placed on all social media



Photo Memories: May 14th 2021





Back to Future – Underneath the Veneer of a Forgotten Legend, a New Story Awaits

Written by PP Nancy Yee

On May 14th 2021, our President Leo led a total of 11 members & Rotariannes through a vocational visit of the State Theatre. The group stepped inside a time tunnel, dived into a chamber of history with a re-interpretation of the classic scenes of yesteryear, and explored the story of our own, the city and the State Theatre.

The State Theatre, full of gorgeous lights, shadows, and memories of 68 years, is undergoing a meticulous restoration project by the New World Development Co. Ltd. (NWD). Our visit to "Discover the State Theatre in All of Us" took place on the last day of the special tour organized by NWD's Culture for Tomorrow. We started our journey with an old-style dress circle ticket and a welcome pack including a "handbill" 「戲橋」 with a synopsis of the performance which included celebrity photos that greeted audiences in the past.

From Xuan Palace Theatre, "Little Shanghai" to the State Theatre, from international performances to the first round of Chinese and Western movies. From the sound, film, painting and the set design, they found more than a hundred pieces of precious old objects that were displayed for the first time, revealing their respective roles in the plot of this story.

Protected as a grade one historic structure in 2017, State Theatre is known as the "Flying Arches", which exemplified post-war modern architecture, is the only building left in the world with this design.

Mr. Harry Oscar Odell, the founder, creator and soul of the State Theatre; exhausted his wealth of \$2.5 million (worth 200 blocks of property at that time) to build the Empire Theatre, which defined Hong Kong's entertainment landscape in the 1950s when world-class performers such as China's top soprano Barbara Fei, American jazz clarinetist master Benny Goodman and his band and the genius harmonica player Larry Adler performed at the Theatre.

However, faced with high operating costs, the Empire Theatre was sold along with the adjacent land in 1958. It was subsequently renamed State Theatre and rebuilt as a mixed-use complex for commerce, residence and entertainment.

Back then, a residential unit in the State Theatre Building with such an excellent location and built with high-quality materials including American-made elevators, would fetch a starting price of ten thousand Hong Kong dollars. How we all wish the current property price could go back to the 1950s!!!!

During the hey days of the 1970s, the State Theatre arcade also made history with the first hair saloon ran by female stylists who broke the monopoly of Shanghai barber shops and the first English music shop in Hong Kong. The majority of the red leather seats in the cinema were hand-made, and with the spirit of artisanship.

With the help of digital technology, Lam Ka Hang recreated those olden days with a "Full House" mural on the outer wall, and with posters of the classic movie characters in "The Private Eyes" and "Game of Death" in a uniquely nostalgic style. Sam Chan, champion of the Hong Kong Calligraphy Open, whose art pieces were adorned on the iron gates of the shopping mall of the State Theatre.

We came back to the present after finishing our last tour at the Flying Arches by taking a lot of photos to end this stunning and eye-opening journey - roaming through space and time, still mesmerized by the splendid grand occasions of the State Theatre.

My special thanks to Mr. Adrian Cheng; the CEO of New World Development Co. Ltd, for his passion that upholds the State Theatre onto its colourful past and creates a new era for future generations. We are thrilled to rediscover its chamber of history and celebrate the new monumental chapter in Hong Kong's culture and art about to take place in 2026.

Announcements

1. District Conference: June 19th - 20th 2021
2. Club Installation for Rotary Year 2021-2022: July 14th 2021
3. District Installation for Rotary Year 2021-2022: July 10th 2021



Happy Birthday to our Splendid May Birthday Boy
May 11th Rtn. John Yao

Fellowship Dinner at the Hong Kong Country Club: May 21st 2021

Our Fellowship Director Kevin with the help of DGN Norman and Rotary Ann Isa organized a wonderful fellowship gathering at the Hong Kong Country Club, Bayview Room. It was a wonderful night filled with laughter (finished 8 bottles of wine!) and a great opportunity for members to get to know one another better. Everyone is looking forward to more fellowship events in the future.



New Member Application: Andrew Lai

On May 13th 2021, HS Rico circulated an email with details a new membership application that was received from Andrew Lai. If no written objections to the proposal, stating reasons are received by the Board from any members of the

Club postal address : P.O.Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, Hong Kong

Meeting Venue : Regal HK Hotel, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Meeting Schedules : Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 12:30 pm

Website : <http://hk.rotary3450.org/>