

Vol.63 No.21

### President's Message - Be a Gift this Christmas



Be a gift to the world

The Rotary theme for this year is 'Be a Gift to the World', and what better time to remind us all of this than during gift-giving season. While we enjoy the festivities, and warm and merry company of friends and family, let's also consider how we can be a gift to others.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Happy Lunch was this past week, and that in itself is a perfect expression of us being a gift - the gift of our time to provide encouragement and company for

students to whom it means a lot. In fact, in this case, the gifts were for us, as the students presented us with some.

Let's look beyond this Christmas. Do good, look for opportunities where we can help others. Sometimes the meaning of gift is less literal, and more spiritual.

Happy festive season!



# COMING SPEAKERS

**16 DECEMBER** Sara Tsui - World Vision Topic: Vision Fund - A Powerful tool to eradicate poverty

23 DECEMBER Club X'mas Luncheon

> **30 DECEMBER** TBA

Avg. Attendance Members







Last Week REDBOX \$1,200

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

# Out & About - Happy Lunch



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Happy Lunch event with Choi Jun students was held on 4 December 2015 at Langham Plaza in Mongkok district. The accompanying school teachers Miss Cheung and Miss Yip introduced us to five of their students, three of whom were primary school and the remaining two were secondary school students. The students enjoyed a hearty and happy time with our members Uncle John, Uncle Kishu, PP Andy Wong, Dr. Rudy Law, Director Kevin and Rtn John

Poon. In addition to the buffet appetizers and free flow of juices, the main courses on offer were burgers or spaghetti, of which not only the students loved but our Uncles also enjoyed filling their bellies very



### Last week's Proceedings - 02 December 2015



President William rang the bell at 1.05pm to commence proceedings and introduced the guest speaker Louisa Ho and her assistant Michelle. Hong Kong Executive Director, TNC,. John Poon also introduced his guest who was his spouse Sarah Chan. P William then welcomed back PP George and Tony Loy. SAA John Poon then announced the Red Box takings of \$1,200, before P William invited guest Michelle to take to the podium to speak about 'The Nature Conservancy Abstract – Youth Engagement'. After her presentation, P William invited PP Hubert to thank the speaker, before asking everyone to rise, give a toast to RI and HKIE, before joining together for a group photo.



### SPOTLIGHT ON - The Nature Conservancy Abstract - Youth Engagement



What is Conservation? People tend to think of polar bears and melting ice caps when they think of Conservation and Climate Change. In truth, the story of Conservation is increasingly about how natural resources impact the lives of people: water scarcity, food security, air pollution...just to name a few. Equally important, the discussion is now focusing on how we mobilize the people who are affected the most. For this, we look to urban dwellers.

By 2050, the world's population will be at 9 billion -2 billion more people than what we are currently supporting today. This will only intensify the competition and demand for resources. Of that, 66 per cent of the world's population will be living in cities, making

urban dwellers the prime cause of environmental issues. At the same time, this group can also be an influential force to push through innovative solutions to the issues.

In cities, an important group of change-makers are Youths.

At The Nature Conservancy (TNC), we believe that good planning with data-driven considerations, the right engagement, and a focus on sustainable impact are crucial for success. Through our youth engagement efforts, we spark this process to help youth grow through our three pillars: Learn, Act, and Lead.

**Learn**. How do we communicate to youth about the environment in a fun and interactive way? TNC launched *Nature Works Everywhere* in the U.S.- an online platform that hosts fun videos tackling environmental issues at its source targeted at the YouTube generation.

We tried this approach in Hong Kong and the overwhelming feedback was the Hong Kong teachers and students were already oversubscribed! So, we took a different approach to better fit Hong Kong needs and developed Nature Works HK to help students come together from across different socio-economic backgrounds to develop projects that tackle environmental issues in their communities. The students get exposure through an experiential learning camp to develop their ideas, a 12-week mentorship with corporate professionals to fine tune their ideas and business plans, and a chance to present their vision on Pitch Day.

Students also get a chance to **Act** and conduct pilot projects to test out their theories and implement actual environmental solutions for the community.

Lastly, we have **Lead**. We believe that fostering a new generation of young leaders is crucial to develop a healthy work force who can take up the mantle of creating and deploying solutions for the world's growing environmental needs. TNC in the U.S. has a suite of programs that aim to develop this pool of talent. *LEAF (Leaders of Environmental Action for the Future)* takes students from under privileged neighborhoods and gives them a paid internship opportunity at some of TNC's project sites in the U.S.. This encourages students to see that environmental science is a viable career opportunity.

For university students, we have *GLOBE* that recruits talented students and offer them a two-year fellowship at TNC after graduation. TNC operates in 35 countries across five main themes: Climate Change, Land, Freshwater, Marine, Cities so the opportunity to learn about global solutions is immense.

Lastly, we have NatureNet Fellows which offers post-graduate students interested in developing innovative ideas an opportunity to mentor with top Ivy League schools and TNC scientist to develop game-changing ideas that can potentially change the way we implement environmental solutions, whether that's in the field of nano-technology, economics or traditional biology.

TNC Hong Kong aims to expand our current reach and internationalize such worthy programs to also demonstrate to Hong Kong students the dynamic opportunities in the environment sector as a career development option.

Across the world, TNC has over 25 years of experience in youth programs, from training indigenous young leaders in Australia to volunteer opportunities for Gulf Coast restoration in the US. We will continue to empower our Youth so that they can become our Catalyst for Change to sustain Our World in the years to come.

#### About the speaker - Louisa Ho

Louisa leads the TNC Hong Kong teams to develop conservation and outreach programs that brings TNC's brand of pragmatic, science-based solutions to address local Hong Kong issues, as well as raise awareness and support for broader Asia-Pacific conservation work. She also works with the Asia-Pacific Council, TNC's influential regional trustee board, to structure strategies and actions that mobilize different segments of society to support conservation actions across the region. Before joining TNC, Louisa previously worked with Honeywell Limited, Time Magazine (Time Inc.), Hyatt International and the global law firm, DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Dec 4 Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Happy Luncheon with students from Choi Jun School at 12.30PM to 2.00 PM.
  Venue: Mr. Steak Café Langham Place, Shop No 2, Level 13, Langham Place, Mongkok, Kowloon.
- 2. Our official club Christmas Party will be held on Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>, Wednesday. Please come, bring your family members and enjoy our festive fun and celebration.
- 3. 2016-2017 DG Installation is will be held on Saturday July 9, 2016 in HKECE. HKIE is DG Club next year, we need everyone to fully support our DGE Eric, please mark this big date in your diary, come with your spouse and make registration in due course.
- 4. RI Convention in Seoul, Korea, May 28 to June 1, 2016. PIC Stacy Ho, members please contact Stacy for registration if you are planning to go.

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#### DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 5th Dec 2015 Saturday – District PR Seminar.

# THE LAST LAUGH - Wisdom

#### Old Chinese proverbs....

Lady who goes camping with man must beware of evil intent.

Man who leaps off cliff jumps to conclusion.

Man who runs in front of car gets tired, but man who runs behind car gets exhausted.

Man who eats many prunes gets good run for money.

War does not determine who is right; it determines who is left.

Man who fights with wife all day get no piece at night.

Man who drives like hell is bound to get there.

Wise man does not keep sledge hammer and slow computer in same room.

Man who lives in glass house should change clothes in basement.

And, Confucius Did Not Say. . . "A lion will not cheat on his wife, but a Tiger Wood!"



Club postal address Meeting Venue Meeting Schedules Website Facebook : P.O.Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, Hong Kong : Regal HK Hotel, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong : Every Wednesday at 12:30 pm : http://hkie.rotary3450.org/ : https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubHKIslandEast

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