

Vol.64 No.15

President's Message - Positivity



One of the things which has always struck me since becoming a Rotarian (apart from some of the good food and wine I've had) is how positive most Rotarians are. I seldom meet anyone who is negative, among our own members and across the district. It's a characteristic I relate to very much, and it occurred to me again when I listened to the talk by our guest speaker, Dan Wells. A young man who, against what might have seemed all odds, decided to pursue a challenging, somewhat dangerous and possibly less secure career, based on the sheer belief that he could make it. Only someone brimming with

self belief and positivity would be so crazy (or maybe he'd met PE Stacy and she'd convinced him to go for it!). I remember when I was 19 years old, I was working on construction sites. I didn't go to college and kind of flunked at school. But I had this inner conviction, this in-built belief, that I was destined for a creative career. So I went in search of it. Despite many negative people around me telling me it was useless and I should get real. In the end, my positivity won through. I believe with positive thinking you can achieve anything. As was demonstrated by PP Jonathan when he gave his vocational talk last year. I did not realise he had been so much to get where he has. I was so impressed. And I believe it's this can do spirit that is so prevalent among Rotarians that sets us apart. Let's face it, with the horrible weather we're having this week, we need to be positive. Especially as it's ruined a well-planned for golf day!







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

Spotlight On - Dan Wells, Racing Driver



It was the success of Formula 1 world champion, Lewis Hamilton who inspired Dan Wells to consider racing, his chosen career. Dan hails from Born in Southamptonin the UK.He began his story by telling us that, at the age of 18 having completed his school studies in 2009, he gave up a university place to puruse his dream of becoming a racing driver. At first, his parents were apprehensive, but eventually his father gave his blessing was they decided to support him in his dream, his father taking him to try out at the kart racing track, and he impressed with fastest laps and podium finishes in Senior Rotax Max Karting in UK. After intitial progress in the UK, Dan decided to venture out to Asia where he thought the chances of making

progress were greater. So he moved to Hong Kong in April 2012 with very little money. In 2012 he was

Vice Champion in the Formula Pilota China, with 3 wins and 9 podiums. In 2013 he achieved second position at the Macau Grand Prix, and in 2015 was Champion in the Asian Formula Renault Series with 11 consecutive wins.Dan's career is not funded by his family, so he has to look to sponsors. He attributes his education studying economics and politics as being useful to him as he pursues sponsorships from the business community.

Racing is an expensive sport and he needs funding to go out and win races. He once raised US\$20,000 on Twitter, without



social media, he wouldn't have a career. It is important to be quick to attract the right sponsor or investor backing in order to progress up. Dan became well known through Twitter, Facebook and his blogs, and



eventually, a Chinese team called KCMG said they wanted a winning European driver and they would subsidize his budget. He then entered a contract with CTCC Ford, and so finally, was being paid to drive. Dan believes in giving back, and his charity work includes helping the Half the Sky foundation, and Cambodian Children's Fund. He was recently invited to commentate at the Formula E (Electric Racing) in Hong Kong. He told us that the racing world is an extremely challenging industry, and it's all about energy management. He finished off by telling us about his philosophy, and his will to win, which has driven him forward in his career so far.

Last week's Proceedings - 12 October 2016

President Chris began by welcoming our guest speker Dan Wells, as well as welcoming back PP Henry, PP Stephen and PP Tajwar. He also then invited PE Stacy to introduce her guest who was her younger brother Gergory Ho, who she explained was a big racing fans, so keen to listen to the story of speaker Dan. P Chris then introduced a new topic for our luncheons – the lucky draw, introduced by Uncle John who was also sponsoring this week's prize, a bottle of red wine. It was then time for the announcements. P Chris enlightened the audience about his new approach to presenting announcements visually, so he had a presentation ready to share on the screen. Let's see if he can keep this up. SAA



Andy then announced the Red Box takings of \$1,800, before P Chris invited PP Heman to introduce our guest speaker. This was a very different and inspiring topic, and there were quite a few questions afterwards. PE Stacy was invited to thank the speaker and she talked about how she had actually met Dan a few years previously and was encouraged by his progress. Then we were ready for the first lucky draw, and lo and behold, the inaugural winner was P Chris, who was very apologetic (yeah, right..) as he tried to hide his delight, and Uncle John presented him with a very fine bottle of red from Napa Valley. P Chris then wrapped up the session by inviting everyone to give a toast to RI and to HKIE, before we all joined for a group photo.

New approach to improve club's attendance:

- introduce Uncle John lucky draw idea, will do the draw towards the end of the meeting, regular feature every week. PP Andy explained how the raffle works –member pays to the Red Box will get one free Raffle ticket, donate more to the Red Box will get more Raffle tickets to increase the chance of winning.
- Red Box collection is \$1,800
- visual stimulation by powerpoint presentation on club's announcement.

Out & About

Rotary Forum

DG Eric as usual has been here there and everywhere lately, including joining district members to hear Chief Executive CY Leung as speaker at the Rotary Forum, where he was also joined by PDG YK Cheng & IPP William Wong.





Past President's dinner

DG Eric was joined by IPP William, PP Paul Chan, PP George, PP Jonathan, Uncle John, PP Eddy and PP Norman at the recent PPs dinner in Causeway Bay.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

These are the following announcements for our club:

- 1. The Uncle Peter Memorial Golf Tournament has been postponed because of the bad weather. Please wait for further updateson the rearranged date..
- 2. The Choi Jun Swimming Above Self event will be on Saturday October 22nd, at Ma On Shan swimming pool. IPP William will host dim sum beforehand and please let him know if you will be joining. Saturday October 22nd 9pm 12.30pm Ma On Shan Swimming Pool. IPP William is hosting dim sum before the event at 8am: Horizontal Suite Hotel Chinese Restaurant, On Chun St, Ma On Shan
- 3. P Chris is arranging to host a barbecue party for our club members on Saturday, October 29th, 6-10pm. He will also book a tennis court earlier from 4pm if anyone is interested in a game before dinner. Please mark your diary and let P Chris or Fellowship Director Kevin know if you intend to come along with any family members, so we can start to do the attendance numbers. More details will follow nearer the date. The venue will be at Redhill Peninsular, Tai Tam.
- A visit to our friendship Club RC South Sea Taipei has been organized by PP Jonathan and IPP William from November 2nd -5th. If you would like to join plesae let them know asap.
- 5. This is an advanced announcement on December 30th, we will be holding a special event HKIE Got Talent. This is an open talent competition for our members and spouses, to show their talents be that singing, playing music, dancing, magic, or any other entertaining activity. You have been warned! So start thinking what you can do, and we will update you in good time.

District Announcements

- Rotarians' Wine Appreciation Fellowship Hong Kong Chapter and Preserve Planet Earth Committee are proudly presenting you this crossover event with the aim to lift the awareness of Sustainable Seafood together with some wine that will be paired carefully to the sustainable seafood menu for a happy fellowship night! Date: 27 October, 2017, Venue: Chiu Chow Garden, 2/F, Causeway Bay Plaza 2, 463 Lockhart Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong. Dress Code: Smart Casual with BLUE. Dinner Fee: HK\$780.00 per person, Early bird registration on or before 10 October 2017 : HK\$730.00 per person
- 2. For For the District CPR Project, Chair P John Wong has I organised 4 courses in Nov 2016 (in Chinese) and 1 course in Dec (in English) for sponsoring club members, including Rotaracters, Interacters or even non Members as long as they are older than 13 years old. P Chris has the application form, so pleaee advise if you have interest to join. The first course starts on Nov 9. Please try your best to attend this life saving course and to serve humanity in its best way!
- 3. RIC is encouraging all members to register for the RI Convention in Atlanta (to be held during 10-14 June 2017) by 15 Dec 2016 (Saturday), so that you only have to pay USD340 per person for registration. The registration fee will become USD415 if you register after 15 Dec 2016, and increase further to USD490 after 31 Mar 2017.

THE LAST LAUGH

A doctor and a lawyer are talking at a party. Their conversation is constantly interrupted by people describing their ailments and asking the doctor for free medical advice. After an hour of this, the exasperated doctor asks the lawyer, "What do you do to stop people from asking you for legal advice when you're out of the office?" "I give it to them," replies the lawyer, "and then I send them a bill." The doctor is shocked, but agrees to give it a try. The next day, still feeling slightly guilty, the doctor prepares the bills. When he goes to place them in his mailbox, he finds a bill from the lawver.



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- https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubHKIslandEast

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