

Vol.64 No.44 14 June 2017

# **President's Message - Nearly there**



I can feel the change in the air already as we start to prepare for that moment of transition from one President to the next. And PE Stacy has been busy preparing I know. One topic we will be facing soon (and discussing and voting on) is to do with the frequency of our meetings. Do we change to be less frequent, in a bid to up attendance? Or stay as we are? I did ask for some option on this, among my President classmates. Some did change (2 x per month) and said it did not affect (improve) attendance. Others said it helped. But suffice to say we are not the only club which faces the issue of low attendance

rates. A problem we've been discussing for a while. All I know is that the problem has been on the agenda for quite some time and we must get behind Stacy moving forward to help tackle the problem. Perhaps more fellowship events can help (some said yes to this in my survey). I'm look forward to the Year of Stacy anyway, not least because I can step back a bit (phew) but also because I know what amazing energy she will bring to the Presidency. Nearly there!





COMING SPEAKERS

21 June 2017

Doreen Kong -Home baking



LAST WEEK'S REDBOX COLLECTION \$800

THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

香港東區扶輸社週報 Club 16340 District 3450 Chartered on 06 April, 1954 by Charter President PDG (Uncle) John Yuen

## Spotlight On - The world of wine making



Jean-Philippe Gry began by telling how his story about what he calls his 'little wine venture' came about. A textiles and fashion businessman by trade, he is also a part-time vineyard operator, and visits Burgundy 4-5 times a year.

The story started in 2011-12, he and his friend wanted to invest in French agriculture. All though they are not wine experts, the opportunity arose in 2012 in invest in a vineyard. In France to operate a vineyard you need to specially form a company called 'GFA '(Groupment Foncier Agricole) which is set up to run an agriculture business. The wine they were set to produce is Pommard, an iconic red wine in Burgundy with a long history.

Next they needed someone to run the vineyard. This is a young man called Arnaud Mercey, who is a legit-imate wine maker of Hospice de Beaune, which is actually a charitable institution-operated vineyard, a very prestige vineyard in the Burgundy area.

The first harvest of this new venture was in 2013, with an output of 5000 bottles. 2011 was average, 2012 was a poor harvest because of hail and frost. Jean-Philippe emphasised that there is a lot of uncertainty of this business. They invested, and did a lot of marketing and promotion of their new wine.

Jean-Philippe said that he and his partner have a dream – to produce the very first white Pommard in France. They know the soil is outstanding, which is the only factor for good wine. Pommard is only known as the red wine, but by convincing, by increasing the quality, by acquiring all the white wine plots around them, maybe in 5 or 10 years they can get the AOC for Pommard Blanc. That's the crazy dream.

Domaines Ville Gry is available in Hong Kong. The main buyer is Hong Kong Club, Hong Kong Country Club and Crown Wine Cellars. For the rest of it, they sell it direct, friends, contacts.





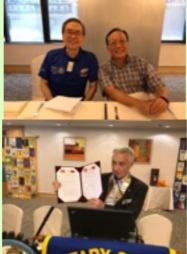
# Last week's Proceedings - June 7th, 2017

President Chris kicked off the meeting at around 1.05 (after some technical problems) and welcomed guests and members. Visiting us once again was one of our favourite guests, PP Pedro Chin, of Rotary club of City North. P Chris also introduced the guest speaker, Jean-Philippe Gry, producer of Domaines Ville Gry wine, and a self start wine maker, who had come to talk about his experiences in starting out as a novice wine producer. P Chris then went through the announcements, commenting how at this time of the year there is naturally much less going on, so the announcements are short. P Chris then shared with everyone the official signed Sister Club agreement he had brought back from the trip to RC Taipei Southsea, plus the gift we received. He then introduced the guest speaker early this week. After which PP Rudy was invited to thank the speaker. There had been an oversight however, with the delay of the birthday cele-

bration for Rtn John Yao, who's birthday had been several weeks before. P Chris apologised and assured him we would be prepared next time. The speaker session was very informal and went on with many questions, and before we knew it, it was time to wrap up. We ended with the lucky draw, with the prize this week being 2 magnum bottles of Domaines Ville Gry wine, which were won by P Chris and Treasurer Jason. P Chris asked all to rise, give a toast to RC HK City North, RI and HKIE, before all joined for a

City North, RI and HKIE, before all joined for a group photo.







### Out & About

#### 2016-17 RI Convention

This year the RI Convention is held in Atlanta Georgia, and guess who is there? Here's DG Eric, enjoying the proceedings with wife Christine, as they sample the local foods and meet up with fellow Rotarians from District 3450.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### These are the following announcements for our club:

 On Sunday June 25th afternoon, we will be supporting the Love & Care for the Sick elderly activities day. If you have interest to be involved please inform Service Director Leo or President Chris.

#### **District announcements**

District Golf June 23. Coming up is the big District golf event of the year. Your chance to test your skills against the District's finest. Contact Lewis Man at Lm@rcosh.org or Tobi Doeringer at td@rcosh.org

- The District Installation will be on Saturday, July 8th. Please keep a look out for further details soon.

#### **OFFICERS**

President

Chris Kyme

**President Elect** 

Stacy Ho

Secretary

Heman Lam Treasurer

Jason Chiu

#### **DIRECTORS**

**Club Administration** 

Andy Wong

**Fellowship** 

Kevin Leung

International Service

Laurence Chan

Membership

Norman Lee

**Service Projects** 

Leo Yu

Youth Service

Jonathan Lamport

#### **CHAIRS**

**Rotary Foundation** 

David Li

Service Project

John Poon / Elle Tse

Membership

Eddy Wong

**Youth Service** 

Charles Man

Fellowship

Stacy Ho

**International Service** 

William Wong

ΙT

Angus Leung

**Vocational & PPE** 

Elle Tse

Sergeant-at-Arms

John Poon / Elle Tse

### PP COUNCIL REP.

George Leung

#### **EX-OFFICIO**

William Wong

### CLUB ADVISOR

John Kwok Y. K. Cheng Eric Chin Andrew Chen Henry Chan

**Hubert Chan** 

## THE LAST LAUGH -

### **End of term:**

Father: Son, what are your results in the end of term exami-

nation?

Son: Underwater.

Father: What do you mean, un-

derwater?

**Facebook** 

Son: Below "C" level.



Club postal address Meeting Venue Meeting Schedules Website : 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