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Today: 3rd Club Assembly

Last Meeting: Mr Charles Wong on Heritage & Archives Management



Members Present:

President Bonnie Yeung	PP David Li	IPP Rico Fung
PDG Norman Lee	PP Eddy Wong	PE Lawrence Lui
PP Rudy Law	PP William Wong	Rtn Christian Li
PP Bernard Lee	PP Leo Yu	Rtn Peter Yeung

Visiting Rotarians: DAG Felicity Yeung, Happy Valley
Rtn Tim Wong, Happy Valley

Guests: Mr. Terrance Lau
Ms Ko Shan

We celebrated the birthday of PP David Li.

This year, voting for the District Governor Nominee Designate will be conducted by "ballot by mail". Our club is entitled to two votes, which will be discussed during our upcoming board meeting.

President Bonnie Yeung introduced our speaker Mr. Charles Wong.



Charles shared how heritage and archive management evolved from being his subject of study to a personal interest, and ultimately, to his career.”

On 16 October 1834, the Palace of Westminster, a medieval royal palace that served as the home of the British Parliament, was largely destroyed by fire. The blaze was caused by negligence during the burning of small wooden tally sticks, which had been used as part of the Exchequer's accounting procedures until 1826.



Archives can exist in various formats. After records have served their purposes, some may be disposed of, while others may hold historical or reference value and are therefore archived. In 1838, the Public Records Act was enacted by the British government. By 1851, a new library was established to ensure proper archiving of government records.

After graduating with a degree in the History of International Relations, Charles took on the role of Museum Trainee in Hong Kong. His academic background in paleography helped him develop a deeper understanding of the significance of historical written records. During this time, he had the opportunity to contribute to significant projects, such as work related to the Terra-Cotta Army of the ancient Qin Dynasty. Subsequently, he worked with the Hong Kong Government, the Hong Kong Jockey Club, and K11 in the fields of archives, history, and museum management.

The basics of archival management involve physical control, ensuring that objects of archival value are preserved properly. Tools commonly used include acid-free paper, plastic containers, gloves, and pH testers to minimize media damage over time. The Record Life Cycle typically includes documents used for activities and decision-making, such as meeting minutes, photographs, and drafts. Once their useful life has ended, active records become inactive records, which are retained for a period for reference. Subsequently, they are professionally classified to determine if they hold value and should be preserved as historical records. The official definition in the UK is: 'Information created, received, and maintained as evidence and information for transactions and business,' with 'business' referring to activities in a broader scope. The value of such documents is often determined by the decisions made during these activities, and their value may change over time, especially for historical or sentimental reasons, as they provide a direct window into the context of those decisions. Importantly, documents do not need to be old to possess archival value.

Charles proceeded to showcase examples of projects he had participated in. One notable case involved a public utility company in Hong Kong celebrating its 160th anniversary. In addition to showcasing items used by their staff over a century ago, memorandums issued by senior management in the U.K. highlighted how they valued their loyal staff in Hong Kong. The bookkeeping records also revealed how the company managed its operations and incidents, which were found to hold significant value for enhancing the company's public image.

Another transportation company, with a similar heritage and age, focused on improving their storage systems to enhance humidity control, a critical factor in record preservation. In a third case, an NGO with historical artifacts required the repair and conservation of these items to ensure their longevity.

PE Lawrence Lui gave the vote of thanks and announced the red box amount of HK\$780.

Happy Birthday to our Splendid March Birthday Members



2nd - PP David Li, PP Andy Wong, 10th - Rtn Jason Chiu

Club Activities

Our board met with Ms. Ko Shan after our previous meeting. Her NGO, "Under the Same Sky," has been serving children in need for the past 20 years.

The organization arranges visits to schools mostly in Mainland China, with active and retired teachers volunteering as visiting instructors. Some schools sponsored their teachers' travel expenses. The teachers find fulfillment in making an impact and contributing to the community, while young



volunteers gain valuable responsibility and experience from these trips.

"We have always strived to uphold the belief of "bringing happiness to those in need". Along the way, we have experienced joy, happiness, and heartfelt moments, as well as faced setbacks, disappointments, and confusion. We are

deeply grateful to all of you, from every corner of the world, who have accompanied us in our growth, offering us endless tolerance, support, and strength. Together, under the same sky, this big family of ours continues to grow stronger and stronger." says Ms. Ko.

Our Club is proud to sponsor the HKCRA Cup – the Hong Kong Inter-School Go Open – for the fourth consecutive year. The event will take place on 13 April 2025 at SKH St. Timothy's Primary School, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact President Bonnie.

The District Past Presidents Dinner was held on 10 March 2025. PP Eddy Wong, PP Hubert Chan, PP William Wong, and IPP Rico Fung were there. This marked the first time in the past 10 years that the event was organized by the District.



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://hkierotary3450.org/>