

PRESIDENT'S REPORT **ROTARY YEAR 2021-22**

Introduction

The Rotary International theme for the 2021/22 was "Serve to Change Lives":



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

This was a powerful theme and I believe the Rotary Club of Kowloon North contributed significantly towards accomplishing the goals envisaged by it.

With the hope that pandemic would be soon behind us, my year as President started with great anticipation of a fruitful year and a fresh start. It was expected that Rotary Clubs around the world would be able to resume normal Club activities and take part in service projects. How mistaken I was! We started the first Board Meeting with a fire scare at my office and we were still plagued by the pandemic for the majority of 2022.

Though the Rotary year of 2021-22 was not without its challenges and obstacles, our Club persevered as always and looking back, we achieved a considerable amount during the year.

Rotaract Club

We held the installation of Charter President Yumi of the Rotaract Club of Kowloon North (a Rotaract Club sponsored by our Club) on 2nd July 2022. This marked the formal chartering of our Club's newest Rotaract Club. We had around 30 people in attendance, including IPDG Eric Chak, PDG Ada Cheng and District officials from both Rotary and Rotaract Clubs, members friends and family. Our own charter member Gary Harilela also attended to support our young Rotaractors.



Projects and Service

Rotary x Hub Vision Screening Day on 31st October 2021

Our Club was proud to resume its vision screening project, this time in Hong Kong. Together with the Hub, we have organized a vision screening day for the children at the Hub on 31st October 2021. This is a meaningful project, especially since children nowadays are facing eyesight problems from the increased usage of electronic products to study at home during the pandemic.

We mobilized a total 33 volunteers (not including the volunteers from the vision department of Polytechnic University) to serve throughout the day and served close to 200 children that day, prescribing them with new spectacles.



Christina Noble Children's Fund – Child Sponsorships

Our Club members sponsored 19 children's living and educational expenses with the CNCF in Outer Mongolia in the total amount of HK\$126,900. Since this initiative was started 19 years ago, the Club has donated a highly impressive total HK\$3,369,979.60, comprising of HK\$2,482,250.00 for the education of under privileged children plus HK\$857,278.40 medical and healthcare of such children.

Food Angels service

During months in which food service was available, our Club sent out teams of volunteers to the food preparation centre of Food Angels to serve food to the elderly or pack food boxes. A total of 4 volunteering sessions were attended by our Club this Rotary year.



RC Golden Bauhinia x RC Kowloon North x The Hub HK Cyberport Visit on 29th December 2021 @ CyberPort

Our Club partnered with RC Golden Bauhinia and The Hub HK to organize the visit to the Cyberport for 24 kids of the Hub. It was their first time there and truly an eye-opener and a fascinating experience for them.



Area 7 - Joint project: LOVE & CARE FROM ROTARY 3450 「健康傳耆顯愛心」 on 7th - 14th May 2022 @ Ngau Tau Kok and Sau Mau Ping

Our Club is proud to be a part of the Area 7 joint project for the donation of "lucky bags" to the elderly living in the Ngai Tau Kok and Sau Mau Ping area, where it is far from supermarkets. Throughout the week, we mobilized volunteers from our Club to pack the bags and personally deliver them to the elderly. The bags were loaded with goodies and contained necessities such as rice, canned foods, testing kits and exercise tools. In the end, we delivered lucky bags to 349 elderly people in the area. A key message of the project was the promotion of the importance of regular exercise to the elderly whilst being confined to their homes during the pandemic – the bags contained instructional pamphlets on exercises that could be done at home.



The Rotary Foundation

Each member of the Club has donated US\$100 per year (EREY) to the Rotary Foundation to support Polio Eradication. Members who donated a total of US\$1,000 become a Paul Harris Fellow and receive a special pin in recognition.

COVID Relief

Vaccination days and campaigns

Doctors of our Club, Angela Wong and Francis Chu, volunteered at the Rotary COVID Pandemic Campaign on 7-9 January 2022 and gave medical advice to vaccination receivers at Wong Tai Sin. Angela Wong volunteered again at the Vaccination Day hosted by RC Kai Tak on 19-20 February 2022 and this time she helped give vaccinations to members of the public. These were important works which helps both the people being vaccinated and the rest of the community.



Donation of testing kits to the Hub

With the co-ordination from Josephine and donations from our members, our Club purchased and donated 3,400 testing kits to the HUB which were distributed to families and children of the centre.



Fellowships

Fellowship Pub Quiz Night on 30th July 2021 @ Bar Ares

Fun night of drinking, eating and quizzes. We had 20 people attending, including friends and family and Rotaractors. Under President Gordon's leadership and with his immense general knowledge, Team "Stupid" achieved the lowest score among the 5 teams and was the only team awarded the Wooden Spoon prize.



Monthly Fellowship Gathering on 28th August 2021 @ Boticario Bar & Grill

South American dinner night with free flow drinks. The event was held on Saturday to see the feedback from members and it was great: we had 17 people attending, including friends and family and Rotaractors. The Club also took the opportunity to celebrate Rotaractor Manyan's birthday.



Bowling Night on 24th September 2021 @ Hong Kong Club

Bowling Fellowship Night – a tradition and staple event of our Club which was as usual a success with 19 Rotarians, friends and family attending. President Gordon chose his teammates wisely and recruited key player Bill Hoffman, ultimately leading his team to victory.



Monthly Fellowship Gathering at Papu's on 20th November 2021 @ Papu's house

It has been a while since we held a fellowship at one of our member's home. Papu had generously offered his residence as the venue for hosting our November monthly fellowship gathering, inviting all members, friends and family for dinner.

Papu's house was luxurious as always, but as expected, the bar was the most popular attraction, offering a wide selection of fine whiskies and wines for guests to enjoy. President Gordon was stationed there all night to lead and to make sure that the fellowship was going smoothly. Just as when everyone was getting full from the snacks served during drinks, Papu surprised everyone by announcing that he had also prepared a buffet dinner for guests. The guests were completely stuffed after the dinner and took a rest during the Bingo game hosted by Renee.



Christmas Dinner Party on 17th December 2021 @ Yacht Club

The Christmas Party at the Yacht Club is a tradition and staple event of our Club which was as usual a success with over 30 Rotarians, friends and family attending – plus Santa Claus himself. This year's Christmas party was held at the Gun Room Steakhouse where we enjoyed a traditional Christmas meal which included turkey and Christmas pudding. Each attendee also brought a small gift for the lucky draw which was picked through a game of Christmas Song bingo – with a twist that the winner had to also sing a Christmas song before he/she could claim his/her prize. Thereafter, we enjoyed the singing performance by Renee and Patrick.



Hotpot Fellowship Dinner on 20th May 2022 @ Wanchai

As we approached the end of the Rotary year, the Board wished to organize one last fellowship to thank the President for the wonderful job he has done. The President noted that the Club did not have a single Chinese meal throughout the Rotary year. Therefore, for the fellowship, we decided to have hotpot for dinner (and popsicles for dessert!). This was one of the more casual and cheaper events of the year.



58th Anniversary Dinner on 10th June 2022 @ AMA Ristorante by The Amatricianist

After not being able to organize an annual dinner for the past 2 years due to the pandemic, our Club finally found a small opening in early June 2022 to organize one. With such short notice and only a month to plan, the results were nothing short of amazing.

The theme of the annual dinner was simple – travel and vacation – many have been fed up with staying in Hong Kong and unable to travel, and we wanted to give everyone some encouragement and hope for the future. The night was jam packed with prizes, entertainment and of course drinks. Attendees enjoyed themselves, took many photos with the custom-made photo props and left with travel-related gifts and prizes.



Regular Meetings

Regular lunch/dinner meetings and/or Club Assemblies were held twice a month (other than on public holidays) and we had strong attendance throughout the year.

District Governor Keith Chow visited us on 5th November 2021 at our joint lunch meeting with RC Kowloon. His presentation was informative and enjoyed by all.

Administration

Our website (www.rckn.org) was overdue for an update. The Club refreshed the information and data on the website to keep it current and relevant.

Club Officers for Rotary year 2021/22

President	Gordon Chin
IPP (and Public Image Director)	Josephine Leung
Vice President (and President Elect)	Angela Wong
Secretary	Emba Leung
Treasurer	Rainer Jungjohann
Foundation Chair	Ian Petersen
Vocational Training Director	David Lindsay
Service Project Director	Wendy Lee
Service Project Director	Michelle Lee
Membership Director	Anthony Sandeen
Fellowship Director	Renee Chan

Board meetings were held quarterly in the year.



Membership

We did quite well on the membership front, with 4 new members joining over the Rotary year, bringing our membership count to 37 by the end of the year (with 1 more member pending induction).

New members

Dom Rohrmoser
Florian Edelsbrunner
Nancy Leung (*re-joining member*)
Jacqueline Teo

Members resigning

Anna Molero

Membership development and training

As a part of our Club's membership development and training, Rainer "The Professor" hosted regular breakfast meetings to teach our new members and potential members about Rotary knowledge, what it means to be a Rotarian and what is expected of us as Rotarians.



Conclusion

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Board Members and all members for their unfailing support throughout the year. I am glad to have finally taken on the role of President after many years of the members calling me to do so and I could not have done it without your support. I would specially like to thank Josephine for giving me an endless supply of service project ideas, Renee for organizing each of our monthly fellowships, and Angela for supporting and being in attendance for every Club event. With that said, I will now return to my original role and continue serving the Club as the "Eternal Hon. Secretary". I look forward to another successful year for the Club under the leadership of Angela Wong.



Regards,

Gordon Chin
President 2021/22