

President's Report (2016 – 2017)

During the second year of the current tenure of YWGSAA, a total of three Council meetings were conducted to discuss the Association's plans and activities. We are honoured to have the current School Principal, six advisors and some former Council members to sit in our meetings to provide the Council with invaluable advice. Alumnae assistants were also invited to join our Council meetings.

(I) Activities

1. Spring Bazaar 2016

As the highlight of fundraising events for the School's redevelopment, Ying Wa held an unprecedented Spring Bazaar on 19 March 2016. The Spring Bazaar was initiated and sponsored by enthusiastic alumnae. The Alumnae Association is honoured to provide our assistance over the course. Thousands of products, ranging from handmade scarves to environmental items, were sold at bargain prices. Alongside the Bazaar were students' performances and a variety of interesting games and entertainment booths. Nearly 10,000 students, alumnae, parents and teachers came and supported the event. We are pleased to announce that over HK\$1.7 million for the redevelopment of the Robinson Road campus were raised.

2. Thanksgiving Dinner and Celebration of Rev. C.C. Lee's 50 years of ordination into the Christian Ministry

On 19 November 2016, we celebrated with Rev. Lee for her 50 years of blessed ministry with a Thanksgiving Dinner at the Shamshuipo campus. Over 200 people, including alumnae, teachers, guests and students attended our Thanksgiving Dinner and celebrated the 50th anniversary of Ordination of Rev. Lee. Past teachers Miss Betty Barr and Miss Lily Chow were among the guests. Miss Barr surprised Rev. Lee by presenting a beautiful bouquet to her on stage. In true Thanksgiving spirits, alumnae responded enthusiastically to the appeal to make a pledge to support Ying Wa's redevelopment and HK\$2.8 million was raised.

(II) Liaison

1. YWGSAA Newsletter

The fall issue (Oct 2016) was published and distributed to members either online or by post. The cover story featured the interviews of the School's former PE teachers, Miss Tsui (徐惠芬老師) and Miss Lai (賴玉蘭老師). Miss Tsui and Miss Lai were PE teachers of Ying Wa during late 70s to 80s. In their interviews, the two teachers shared with students and alumnae their fond memories teaching at Ying Wa and the great support the School provided to physical education. The Newsletter also covered a wide range of topics such as filming of our student athlete at the Asian Cycling Championships by Miss Mabel Cheung and updates of our former mathematics and computer teacher, Mr Shum (岑暢老師).

The spring issue was published and distributed in February 2017. The cover story featured YWGS Fund-raising Concert 2017. The concert will be held on 22 April 2017 at China Congregational Church. There will be solo performance, chamber choir, string quartet, A Cappella and performance by our Alumnae Choir. Other articles included news of overseas Ying Wa girls and joining of Bene, the Guide Dog to our School. Bene is not only the first Guide Dog in Ying Wa but also the first among secondary schools in Hong Kong. On behalf of the Alumnae Association, I would like to extend our warmest welcome to Bene.

2. Overseas Alumnae Newsletter

The third and fourth issues of Overseas Alumnae Newsletters have been respectively released in October 2016 and February 2017 online. The third issue covered message from the Principal, a meaningful letter from Miss Winnie Yau, a 75-year-old yet energetic alumni now residing in Canada and major updates from our overseas chapters. As to the fourth issue, the cover story was a recap of the Thanksgiving dinner and the celebration of Rev. Lee's 50th anniversary of ordination into the Christian Ministry. Many overseas alumnae traveled all the way back to Hong Kong to celebrate Thanksgiving and the anniversary of ordination with Rev. Lee. It also covered, among other things, the Toronto Alumni Annual Dinner and an interview of Ms Phyllis

Wong, former Mathematics and IS teacher of Ying Wa.

3. YWGSAA Homepage (<http://www.ywgsaa.org.hk>)

News of alumnae functions and latest update of School redevelopment are posted on the alumnae website which serves as an effective means for local and overseas alumnae to keep in touch with the Alma Mata and the Alumnae Association.

(III) Interest Groups

1. Alumnae Choir

The Alumnae Choir gave a total of 2 performances in the past year. Members of the Alumnae Choir enjoyed every practice and performance and gained much exposure and confidence through each of them. The Alumnae Choir had regular practice in the Shamshuipo campus on Saturday afternoons. The Alumnae Choir is dedicated to strengthen the bonding between alumnae through music, and acts as the platform for alumnae of different generations to build up friendship, with a view to enhancing Alumnae's sense of belonging to the Ying Wa community.

It is with great sadness to report that Miss Angel Yeung, coordinator of the Alumnae Choir and a devoted member of the Alumnae Association passed away on 12 July 2016. I had the privilege of working with her during her time as Vice-president of the Alumnae Association and am deeply inspired by her dedication to serving the School. Her kindness and laughter is forever remembered. A memorial website for Angel has been set up for friends to leave their tributes. The website is as follows:

<http://www.forevermissed.com/angel-yeung/>

2. Caring Team

The Caring Team continued to pay visits to senior alumnae and former principals, vice-principals and teachers. This year, we have formed a hiking group called “YWGS Hikers” under the Caring Group. YWGS Hikers organizes hiking activities on a regular basis with an aim to encourage all AA members to enjoy the fun of hiking with fellow alumnae and former teachers.

So far, five hiking trips have been arranged. Our destinations include Tai Tam Heritage Trail, Luk Keng, Lamma Island, Ping Shan Heritage Trail and Ping Chau.

(IV) Projects

1. Mentorship Programme

The year 2016 marked the 12th anniversary of the Mentorship Programme. An orientation meeting was held on 12 November 2016. This year, there are a total of 36 students and 29 mentors participating in the Mentorship Programme. Over the years, the Programme has accumulated a good pool of mentors with relevant match between mentors and mentees.

2. Bible Giving

At the beginning of the school year, each S.1 student received a Bible as a welcoming gift from the Alumnae Association with names of the students hand-written on the Bible to add a personal touch.

3. Alumnae Database

The Alumnae Database aims to keep up-to-date information of our Alumnae and facilitate communication between the Alumnae Association and our fellow schoolmates. The database is maintained properly with regular updates. As at 3 March 2017, there were a total of 6,068 records of alumnae and friends in our database. There were a total of 160 new members to the Alumnae Association following graduation of S.6 students in the summer of 2016. We have also been receiving updates of information from our overseas alumnae. Alumnae are welcome to send emails to alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk for enquiry or change of information. This year, our Alumnae Database team has conducted a survey concerning go-electronic, i.e. using electronic means to receive information of the School. 211 alumnae who provided their feedbacks indicated their preference to go-electronic.

4. School Archives Collection

The AA Archives Team continued with the work of safekeeping the

school archives and collecting items of historical interest. Council members of the Alumnae Association have commenced discussion with the School on arrangement of an Archive Room in the Robinson Road campus.

5. Video Documentary – “Transformation”

2016 marked the 6th year of the filming of the video documentary titled “Transformation”. Filming of ten S.6 students is in progress as scheduled. The major focus of filming this year would be the growth of these students through preparation of DSE and other events.

(V) Charity Trust Fund Activities – Details at Annex.

(VI) Membership

As at 31 December 2016, the Alumnae Association has 3,294 life members.

(VII) Others

I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all our advisors, the Principal, Vice-Principals, teachers and school staff, Council members, year coordinators and alumnae assistants who contributed their time and efforts in the past year. Their assistance and hard work have made the running of the Alumnae Association smooth and efficient. I would also like to thank every alumna who gave us continuous support by giving your valuable views and participating in the alumnae functions and contributing in many other meaningful ways.



Yau Shu Ying, Josephine
President, Council of YWGSAAAL
5 March 2017