



# Ying Wa Girls' School

### Alumnae Association Newsletter

Special Feature on Overseas Alumnae (Web-version only)

## 英華女學校校友會通訊

海外校友專輯(網上版)

101 Castle Peak Road, Kowloon 🔪 Tel: (852) 2546 3151 👚 Fax: (852) 2858 8669 👚 E-mail: alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk 👚 www.ywgsaa.org.hk

# Introduction

The 115th anniversary is indeed a memorable milestone of our alma mater. The redevelopment of the school campus on Robinson Road is steadily progressing, with the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony being held on 7 March 2015. The 115th anniversary dinner on 28 March 2015 at the Hong Kong Exhibition and Convention Centre was in particular an overwhelming success, attended by some 1800 guests and alumnae, some of whom had traveled half the world just to be there. The Ying Wa family knows no boundary and the tremendous efforts made by our overseas alumnae to support our school personify what our school song has nurtured in us: "We maybe far away, but our heart will never leave."

The AA Newsletter Team is happy to present this premier issue of our "Special Feature on Overseas Alumnae", with heartfelt stories on 13 overseas alumnae from nine cities. The four overseas chapters of the Alumnae Association in Toronto, Vancouver, Los Angeles and Sydney are very active and stay in close touch with us. With the help of the Internet, our goal is to expand our network and reach out to those overseas alumnae where there is no organized alumnae contact.

We are very grateful to all the contributors in this premier issue, and we extend our warm invitation to all alumnae, local or overseas, to continue to send their articles and photos on overseas alumnae to this web version, which would be uploaded twice a year, in sync with the regular publication of the Newsletter in the Fall and Spring. Submission could be sent to the Editors of AA Newsletter by e-mail: alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk

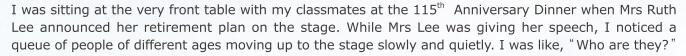


- Introduction
- Thank you, overseas chapters
- Toronto, Canada
- Toronto, Canada
- Vancouver, Canada
- San Francisco and Los Angeles, USA
- Los Angeles, USA and Canberra, Australia
- Sydney, Australia
- Melbourne, Australia
- p10 Geneva, Switzerland
- p11 Taipei





# Thank you, overseas chapters!

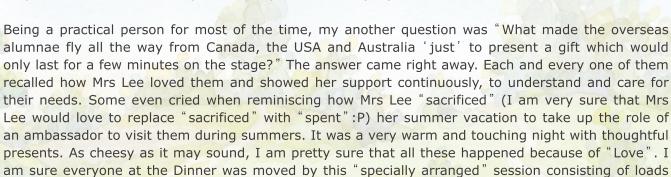


I later found out that the Executive Council of the Alumnae Association had very carefully prepared several special gifts for Mrs Lee to mark her retirement in September 2015, and has graciously invited representatives from our overseas chapters to help present some of them on stage to her. The special gifts were:

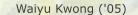
- (1) a gold school badge presented by Alison Lam Lai Bing ('59), one of our alumna representatives on the Incorporated Management Committee (IMC) (also the Speaker of the IMC);
- (2) a watch with the outline of the Robinson Block engraved on the front presented by Winnie Yau Ping Wai ('59) from Toronto and Clara Lok Wai Chi ('71) from Vancouver;
- (3) a windbreaker for Mrs Lee's post-retirement trip to North America presented by Chan Wing Yee ('62) from Los Angeles; and
- (4) a gold plague with the inscription of a poem composed in honour of Mrs Lee and the calligraphy of the poem in a scroll presented by So Shuk Sze ('58) from Melbourne and Sabrina Fan Chou Kong ('74) from Sydney.

A card with messages from Student Association presidents during Mrs Lee's 14 years of service was also presented by Ho Man Yee ('03).

of thoughtful ideas. Thank you very much!









# 海外存知己 天涯若比鄰

# 多倫多校友會

今年英華115周年晚宴在歡送李石玉如校長的環節上,台上見到多位從海外遠渡而來的校友,場面熱鬧感人,她們為石校長致送禮物之外,亦一訴對母校的衷情。究竟分佈世界各地的校友是如何得以凝聚起來呢?



關若蘭老師可説是第一代海 外校友會的精神領袖,她笑 稱自己是顧問角色,會務都 由歷屆的校友主持。在115 周年的晚宴上,邀請她拍照 的師生校友絡繹不絕,"The

Nightingale"的舞蹈表演賞心悦目,詩歌班的樂器伴奏迸出新意,石校長的台上發言令人感動,在在都令她感受到當天晚上的美妙。

1「重建路上二 同心同德同路人」p.68

巫敏如('78)



# 與英華的周日情緣

王秀霞 Helena('68) 今年專誠由加拿大多倫多回港參加母校 115 周年晚宴,同屆並有來自澳洲墨爾砵的鄭葆莊、雪梨的歐陽清華、加拿大溫哥華的黃碧蘭、黃月好和吳佩珩、英國的謝靄愉及美國的史美臣和鄭家鴻。3月28日晚上共有28位同屆同學出席,熱鬧溫馨。4月1至5日部份同學更拉隊往台灣旅行。

Helena早在80年代已在多倫多參加當地校友聚餐,當時退休體育老師郭黃鏡清女士及中文老師陳蘊芳先生還健在。今次在晚宴重遇中三C班主任Miss Barr倍感歡欣。對晚會各細緻安排,如左面牆上大型投影錄像等,Helena都留下深刻印象。對海外校友安排亦周到,而"The Nightingale"音樂劇一段演出亦十分吸引,師妹們表現出色。

Helena 對母校感情深厚,多年來回港探親都會抽空到校園一遊,1995年在羅便臣道剛踏足校門,與牆上掛著校祖蝶喜蓮肖像四目交投,一時激動得流下淚來。

話說有一年 Helena 因在訪港時間緊迫下無法不得在星期天回校園以嚐遊園之樂,還約了同窗譚倩冰,由般含道拾級而上,值雞蛋花盛放,滿心雀躍。怎料周日校園重門深鎖,吃了閉門羹。正當失望萬分之際,突然有一位男仕從內出來準備離開,他熱誠地讓她倆入內流連一番,Helena 真是十分感激,而這位男仕就是我們的新任校長關翰章先生。

感謝 Helena 真誠分享,她説到情濃處不禁流下淚來,英華兒女確深情繫母校。



# 時光荏苒 恩情依舊

專訪邱秉維老師



邱秉維老師(Miss Yau)('59)移民加拿大多年,為了慶祝母校115周年以及歡送李石玉如校長榮休,今年3月專程回港,見證英華的歷史時刻。眼前的Miss Yau容光煥發,笑意盈盈,她説縱然身在多倫多,但跟英華及香港的距離從來不遠,每天閱讀香港報紙,不時跟英華人聚會,甚至跟李清詞牧師的IDD通話,都令她「天天能知英華事」!

難得Miss Yau 回港,香港校友會當然要好好把握機會,訪問她了。

1988年7月,Miss Yau 第一次到多倫多旅遊,適逢周馬佩堅校長及林遂心老師都同時到達,故相約已移居當地的關若蘭老師及同學相聚,但消息不脛而走,竟招聚了過百位英華校友及老師參加。由於英華同學一向勇於服務,加上「人才鼎盛」,所以在一呼百應的情況下,成立了多倫多英華校友會,使多倫多的校友能緊密聯繫。之後每年舉辦一次聚餐,都由不同屆別的校友積極策劃,包括'59辛懿媯、楊秀蓮,'70 黃麗儀,'71 陳尚欣、周永平、伍寶珠,'77趙鳳儀等等,她們勞心勞力的付出,為校友會打下堅實的基礎。

Miss Yau 指出,自從學校於2009年底宣布重建計劃,並發起籌款活動以來,近幾年的多倫多校友聚餐,大家都落力為母校籌款,例如昔日的英華辦公室同事Cindy Leung曾大展歌喉,又有校友義賣各式各樣的曲奇等等,總之「是英華就get together」,盡點棉力,回饋母校。而今年115周年,就有多位校友專程回港參與母校慶典,反映了英華眾志成城的一面。

英華的籌款活動已遍及美、澳、加,可見英華不只是Hong Kong YW,更是Global YW了!「身遠心莫離」這句歌詞,正反映了校祖的遠見及教育視野。這五個字,在英華人心上生了根,使我們無論在地球的任何角落,都不忘母校的教誨。

談及多倫多校友會的展望及對英華的祝願,Miss Yau指出,香港方面的校友,可幫助做些推廣,如有校友到多倫多生活、讀書或旅遊,歡迎他們聯絡多倫多校友會,大家彼此照應。

Miss Yau 也跟'59屆的同學於去年慶祝畢業55週年重聚時約定,英華新校舍落成之日,將是她們下次重聚之期。她也呼籲各屆的同學,作同樣的安排,於新校舍落成之日,專程回港,見證英華踏進新里程,實行開心暢聚"happy together"!

張明意 ('99)





今年的115周年聚餐場面盛大,亦有校友自遠方來,並上台致送 榮休紀念品予石校長,我有幸認識到溫哥華的代表駱惠慈(Clara) ('71)。

Clara 在 80 年代移民溫哥華,與當地的八位同屆同學經常聚會,亦一直積極在舊生會服務。其實舊生會是英華書院於 60 年代創立的,其後本校校友才加入,變成「英華書院及英華女校(溫哥華)舊生會」,而近幾年則以本校校友較為活躍,有三、四十名會員,每年均舉辦活動,多為聚餐。由於有些老師及會員年紀比較大,幹事會特別留意以電話聯絡他們,安排接送等,可謂無微不至。其中常聯絡的老師包括孫堅徒老師、李直方老師及潘雄鋒老師 (Mr. Terence Pun)。潘老師亦常為舊生會提供資訊科技支援。

欣逢學校重建,舊生會自2013年4月的聚餐開始舉辦籌款活動,包括售賣自家精心製作的曲奇及頸巾、孫老師的自傳、李老師的書畫、石校長從香港帶去的英華紀念品、慈善獎券、相架等。她們希望籌得港幣五萬元,而目標剛於今年四月達成。本來可以找人大手筆捐款以迅速達標,但幹事會寧願花時間接觸更多校友以積少成多,畢竟這並不是只求募款,募心也很重要。

Clara 説她和舊生會大約三分之一的會員回港參加這次聚餐,能分享石校長榮休的喜悦、得知重建計劃的最新進展等,實在不枉此行。她認為當晚最感人的是石校長激勵人心的演說,令人完全感受到她懷著一顆謙卑的心,對神投入,盡心盡力服務英華,使人產生無限敬意。整晚的安排緊湊、流暢、時間控制得很好,亦能令各方面的代表(包括海外校友)參與其中,使大家都能歡渡一個滿懷喜樂、感恩的晚上。

目睹當晚的盛況,Clara希望溫哥華舊生會能凝聚更多校友,發揮「身遠心莫離」的精神,一起為英華服務。可能近二十年較少人移民,而有些校友在溫哥華完成學業後便回港,所以舊生會較少年青的會員,而且較年青者須為事業及照顧家庭忙碌,現在的幹事會遂全由70年代畢業的校友所組成,看來她們需要為會務的傳承及接班問題多動點腦筋。也許香港校友會可嘗試扮演橋樑角色,聯絡移民至溫哥華或在當地升學的校友,鼓勵她們參加舊生會,使它日漸壯大。



▼ 2014年聚餐

女校(温母華)舊生《

◀ 精美頸巾

全人手制作的曲奇

▲今年四月成功達致籌款目標(前排全為1971屆校友)



# Wong Po Kin (黃寶健)('58)

I live in Foster City, California, USA. I have attended milestone celebrations of Ying Wa in Hong Kong, namely the 100<sup>th</sup> and 110th anniversaries of the school. The phrase "身遠心莫離" in our school song has inspired me to stay in close touch, and I will try to join Hong Kong alumnae activities as long as my health allows me to take long-distance flights.

My fondest memory of the 115th anniversary dinner was the speech by our principal, Mrs Ruth Lee ('72). Another pleasant surprise was running into my former student, who happens to be Ruth's sister!

I enjoy receiving all school news dispatched electronically to overseas alumnae, and salu te the team who works hard to strengthen the ties.

#### I have the following messages to:

Ying Wa: God's will be done.

Ruth, the retiring principal: 又良善又忠心的僕人,可以管更多的城 (學校)!

Francis, the incoming principal: 不見一人,只見耶穌



# Chan Wing Yee (陳穎儀) ('62)

I moved back from Los Angeles (LA) and lived in Hong Kong from 2004 to 2010 when my husband, Anthony Tsang Chiu Yeung (曾昭陽) served as the senior pastor of Hop Yat Church in Hong Kong. During our six years in Hong Kong, we tried to attend most of the Ying Wa Speech Days. We also attended the 105th Anniversary celebration and the musical "Alice" in 2010. After my husband's retirement from Hong Kong in 2010, we returned to LA.

One of my reasons for coming back for the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was the retirement of Principal Ruth Lee ('72). God also provided discount plane tickets and lodging in Hong Kong. Singing of the school song and school hymn has always been very touching for me. Of course, the presentation of gifts to Principal Ruth was very memorable for me as it was an honour for me to represent overseas alumnae from LA.

In August 2013, when Principal Ruth first visited us in LA, Jenny Fong Yuk Chee ('67) and I started to gather the alumnae in LA. We act as the coordinators of the LA Chapter of the Alumnae Association and now we have contacted about 20 alumnae. We are trying to find and connect more alumnae in LA and San Francisco.

We are grateful for Principal Ruth's sacrificial effort for the redevelopment project. We are especially grateful for her caring for the overseas alumnae in LA. We were very impressed by her "Walk an Extra Mile" to raise funds for the redevelopment of the school.

For our incoming Principal Francis, as he is the first male principal for YWGS, may God grant him wisdom to carry on the spirit and culture of YW.



# Jenny Fong Yuk Chee (方玉枝) ('67)

The Los Angeles (LA) Chapter of the YWGSAA started in August 2013 when Principal Ruth Lee came to LA for a visit and the alumnae here rallied together to hold a welcoming dinner in her honour. Up to now, there are 22 members.

It must have been God's perfect timing that my son, Derek, went to audit a company in Sherman Oaks of California in March this year and ran into Anit Chan ('82). Derek happened to start chatting with Anit in her office. Noticing that Anit was from Hong Kong, he asked if she had heard of a famous school that his mother attended called Ying Wa. To make a long story short, Anit joined our May 30 luncheon and we all were so happy to meet her for the first time.

We plan to have a gathering in October when Ruth is in town. We will continue to pray for the Lord's guidance to our group.

Since the genesis of YWGS all our girls have been singing our School Hymn. The first line of our School Hymn "建我學校在基督身..." and the common theme that repeats in the verses "惟聖靈靠" have been carrying our school through 115 good and bad years. The Hymn truly reflects the hearts and souls of the great missionaries from ancient time. May Ying Wa continue to uphold the great mission and keep marching on the noble journey set forth by the London Missionary Society of long ago.

I wish Principal Ruth could take time to relax and enjoy God's blessings for her retirement. We in LA will always welcome her.

For Francis, the incoming principal, I would like to say that every morning, first and foremost, before even washing up, please kneel before the Lord to ask for His leading and guiding in everything. The Almighty God will carry Francis through in His place, with His ways and at His time.



# Priscilla Kan Pui Hung (簡佩紅)(170)

I live in Canberra, Australia. I attended the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner with my dear friend and classmate Winnie Yeung Mi Yin (楊美妍) from Brisbane, joining 24 others from our class of '70. The most touching moment that evening was when we all sang the school song and school hymn together. After the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, Chan Ping Cheung (陳炳昌) set up a WhatsApp group for our year, connecting most of us. Chiu Suk Fun (趙淑芬) also compiled a contact list for us. So the communication amongst our class of '70 is very good. I also receive the e-copies of school bulletins and alumnae newsletters regularly.

Australia is very spread out and I am not aware of any other alumnae in Canberra. Once, I travelled 3.5 hours on a bus to Sydney to join a lunch gathering organized by alumnae there.

I wish Ying Wa all the best in its redevelopment and that Ying Wa will continue to provide good education to girls in Hong Kong.

I do not know Ruth, our principal, personally, but would like to wish her a happy retirement. This is the first time we have a male principal. So I extend my best wishes to Francis and am confident that he will be a good principal.







# Sunny Ko (高倩竹) ('65)

The Australian Chapter of the YWGSAA was actually the brainchild of Kenny Chan Man Kin (陳文堅)('65), my classmate and the eldest daughter of our Geography teacher Ms Kwan Yeuk Laan (關若蘭老師) ('38). Kenny and Ms Kwan visited Sydney, Australia in 2005, and wanted to meet up with the alumnae here. However, there being no formal network at the time, Nancy Choy Kit Wan('62) took the initiative to place an advertisement in the local Chinese newspaper announcing the reunion. A group of around 20 alumnae attended this historical event. Regretfully I was unaware of it as I did not subscribe to the local Chinese newspaper.

Later, having found out that I was in Sydney, Kenny emailed me directly with the request to start the chapter here. Based on the Australia and New Zealand alumnae information extracted from the Hong Kong master database, I sent out emails and letters to everyone on record. From the replies received, I updated the data as best as I could and then, with the help of my '65 classmates in Sydney, the first formal reunion lunch was organized in 2010. Around 60 alumnae spanning 5 decades (from '60s to 2000's) attended. The word spread, and we were able to contact more and more alumnae through the new network.

After the second annual reunion, Sabrina Fan Chou Kong (范秋江)('74), Esther Tam Woon Han (譚煥嫻)('67) and a core group of other alumnae graciously took over the coordinator role from me, and have been doing a great job since.

## Sabrina Fan (范秋江) (174)

According to the information passed on to us, there are 73 contact names/email addresses on our records. This includes So Shuk Sze who is residing in Melbourne, and another alumna in Brisbane. We are aware that some alumnae on our records may not be permanently residing in Sydney.

Our gatherings are in the form of yum cha, lunch buffet, art gallery visits, visits to calligraphy works, leisure walks and garden tours. All of these activities can be viewed on our Facebook account named "Ying Wa Australia". A specific email account (ywsydneyalumnae@gmail.com) is set up for correspondence purposes between our Sydney committee and the alumnae. We mostly receive the e-copy of the AA newsletter and some by post. We wish that the Hong Kong AA can continue forwarding the news to us via the aforesaid email account.

I, Esther Cheang, Ellen Yuen and a few others meet every week for exercise. Following the "retirement" of Sunny Ko, and as requested by her, we try to continue her work.

We are very proud to be Ying Wa graduates and cherish the values we have learned. We wish Ying Wa can continue to serve the community long into the future.

We would like to thank Mrs Ruth Lee, a truly wonderful principal, for a job well done. She is sure to be missed. We congratulate her and wish her and her family all the best in the next chapter of her life. As to the incoming principal, Francis, we would like to send our congratulations and warm wishes.



# So Shuk Sze (蘇淑施)('58)

As far as I know, I was the only alumna from Melbourne attending the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner. It was very well organised. I would like to thank the organising committee and everyone who took part in making it so successful. I was very impressed by the capability of students and alumnae, both on stage and off stage, e.g. the sale of school souvenirs in the foyer of the Convention Centre, and the performance of an excerpt from the musical "The Nightingale". The programmes on the stage were very good too.

I was glad to represent the alumnae from Australia to join others from the Alumnae Association in presenting the retirement gifts to Principal Ruth Lee. I wished there was more notice so that I could have prepared a longer speech to Mrs Lee.

In Melbourne, there are informal lunches among alumnae. I have been attending these gatherings for about 11 years. We meet for lunch about three to four times a year, with between five to seven alumnae attending.

I have about nine alumnae on my contact list. In October 2014, the local alumnae hosted a dinner for 13 alumnae reunion from the class of '62 who were passing through Melbourne. A total of 20 people attended and had a very good time. In February 2015, two of my classmates came to Melbourne for a week, and the local alumnae met for dinner.

In future, we intend to continue to strengthen the ties amongst local alumnae, and to act as hosts to alumnae visiting Melbourne. We would also help to disseminate news of Ying Wa to those who do not have access to the bulletins and news dispatched electronically.

I hope the school will keep up the contact with overseas alumnae. We appreciate all the news we can get, especially on school redevelopment. I receive e-circulars from Ying Wa and also the hard copy of the Alumnae Association newsletter which I really enjoy reading because the content is consistently good. Thank you to the editorial board.

I would like to thank Mrs Ruth Lee for her Christian witness through her work. I extend my sincere gratitude to her and her team for their great effort in preparing and educating girls for the many challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. May God bless her richly in her retirement.

May I wish Mr Francis Kwan all the best in the years ahead as the incoming principal. May God's guiding hands be with him and his Ying Wa team.



At the 115th Anniversary Dinner From left: So Shuk Sze, Wong Po Kin, So Yan Kok, Winnie Yau, Lam Lai Bing



Some of the alumnae of 1958 at a lunch just before the 115th Anniversary Dinner





▲ At the 115th Anniversary Dinner (front row, centre)

▲ Visiting Paris with my family

# Cecilia Ng Wai Sheung (吳慧湘) ('90)

I live in a town 35 km away from Geneva. I go back to Hong Kong in general at the beginning of the year for vacation. For this  $115^{th}$  Anniversary Dinner, I think I had heard of it more than six months in advance. I managed to re-arrange the date of travelling. This was the first time I went to the anniversary dinner. We never have enough time when we are in Hong Kong.

I keep in contact with my Ying Wa classmates in Hong Kong. We have a Whatsapp chat group. So, basically I keep really up-to-date contact with them. I also met up with Lina Yip (also '90) who lives around 20 minutes from my home a year or two before.

I think everything at the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner was just fantastic. For me, I just love seeing the old classmates and teachers, in real, although time was limited that night.

I receive news of Ying Wa from our Whatsapp chat group. My classmate Vivian Yan Miu Kam 甄妙琴 ('90) passes the news to us constantly. Personally, I think a newsletter via email from the Alumnae Association every few months, with the news of YWGS and some news of overseas alumnae (say, how Ying Wa affects their lives) would help enhance communication with and better support overseas alumnae.

#### My messages to:

Ying Wa: Good luck with the redevelopment.

Ruth, the retiring principal: Thank you for the effort you devoted to YWGS. Happy retirement!

Francis, the incoming principal: All the best for the future.



Wa's anniversary celebrations every five years. But due to heavy workload from my practice as a neurologist, as well as my volunteer involvement, I have only managed to attend the 100th (including attending the musical "Alice") and now 115th anniversaries. I bought various souvenirs at the anniversary celebrations including the bears and tickets for "The Nightingale" to give away, as I would be back in Taipei in late July. I also attended the 35th anniversary of our class of 1976 in 2011, and made a donation on that occasion to support the school redevelopment project.

Class of 1976 has set up a WhatsApp group so that classmates in Hong Kong can convey news to those overseas. I have also kept in contact with Miss Virginia Pak, our former art teacher, whom I happened to meet in India while both of us were doing volunteer work. Since then, we have kept in touch and I was happy she invited me to give a speech at her Rotary Club.

The 115th Anniversary celebration was indeed memorable, in particular the sharing from Principal



Ruth and meeting some classmates whom I have not seen since we graduated almost 40 years ago.

As an overseas alumna in Taipei, I find that the Alumnae

Association seems to have strong connection with alumnae in Canada and the USA, but less so with those in other places. I once wrote to the AA years ago and shared some of our overseas alumnae ministries, but received no response. I wonder if the letter ever reached AA, and if the AA has enough capacity to strengthen the communication with all overseas alumnae who approach them. I suggest the AA should try to actively reach out to overseas alumnae, and cover their stories and their success.

Ying Wa: Continue to keep up the tradition and spirit.

Ruth, the retiring principal: I feel that Ruth is too young to retire. However, I believe retiring from one job will also be the beginning of another service to others, and therefore it is best to keep up the spirit of service.

Francis, the incoming principal: I do not know Francis personally, and I could not help to wonder from a general perspective whether it is suitable for a girls' school to have a male principal. However, I look forward to reading more about him from school news which I receive through electronic dispatch. I trust the selection committee has made a good choice.

P.S.

The Editors are much encouraged by the enthusiasm of overseas alumnae in support of the Alumnae Association Newsletter all these years. We are indeed very grateful to the team that dispatches our news electronically, reaching out to alumnae all over the world.

Thank you, Josephine, for contributing to this web-version only special feature on overseas alumnae. It will be a good beginning. We look forward to working closely with overseas alumnae to open up a platform dedicated to serving all those whose heart has never left us, though they live far away.

Please continue to contribute your writing. We look forward to receiving your updates from time to time. In fact, we would like to extend this invitation to all.

The Editors could be reached by email: alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk

With best regards Editors, YWGSAA Newsletter