



YWGSAA General Meeting 2021

Annex B

President's Report

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Council Meetings (2020~2021)

Despite of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alumnae Association (AA) still managed to hold two face-to-face Council meetings since the last AGM held on 23 May 2020. We needed to observe the social distancing requirements and put on a face mask. Yet

these measures had not diminished our eagerness to come and meet one another and to develop plans to promote AA activities. The meetings were



Above: Council meeting in 2019

Right: Council meeting in 2020



mainly focused on the Centennial celebration, homecoming day, AGM, Founder's Day service, succession of YWGSAA Charity Trust Fund Trustee succession and other administrative matters.

We are honoured to have the School Principal, Mr. Francis KWAN, and five respectful alumnae, namely, Dr. Alison LAM, Mrs. Katherine CHAU, Ms. CHAN Kwok Ying and Mrs. Ruth LEE, serving as our Honorary Advisers. School students were also invited to join our council meetings as alumnae assistants.

Interaction with YWGS

1. Bible Giving

At the beginning of the school year, the AA sent each S1 student a Bible as a welcoming gift. The names of the students were hand-written by council members to add a personal touch. A total of 158 Chinese Bibles and 1 English Bible were given to S1 students in September 2020.



2. S6 Orientation



The S6 orientation was satisfactorily carried out on the Speech Day on 6 July 2020. Together with four Council Members, the President introduced the AA to the fresh graduates. Packed cookies, specially designed small cloth bags and folders were sent as gifts to the graduating classes. A total of 78 new members joined YWGSAAAL.



3. Thanksgiving Service and 120th Anniversary of School

Due to the situation of Covid-19, the Homecoming Day, originally planned in March is postponed. However, in God's Grace, we could still have our Thanksgiving Service on 17th October 2020, with limited participants in Silcocks Hall, and by YouTube Live, allowed alumnae



all over the world to worship and to give thanks to our Lord together for His abundant Grace to Ying Wa.



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4. Suspension of school due to Covid-19



School was suspended periodically due to Covid-19 from last summer. On behalf of AA, we would like to give our heartfelt thanks to our Principal, Mr. Francis KWAN, together with all teachers and staffs for their hard work in preparing on-line lessons and materials for students to keep up their learning at Home.

Liaison

5. Newsletters

Two issues of Alumnae Newsletter were produced and dispatched to members by post and by email since the last AGM. The October 2020 issue had invited students, parents and alumni all over the world to share their lives in facing Covid-19. The spring issue (March 2021) reported the Sponsored walk within our new campus, new facilities and supports in current school life, as well as news about some retired teachers. About 1 600 hard copies of newsletters were sent out.



Two issues of the Overseas Alumnae Newsletter were also published in the past 12 months to report the current news and activities of oversea alumnae groups. Only e-copies were produced and posted online. The cover stories of the 10th Issue (October 2020) and 11th Issue (March, 2021) were the Zoom gatherings for different chapters, sharing of Anniversary Album produced by 1960 graduates, and sharing of some graduates of their study experiences in different countries.



As of October 2020, Ms Sonja CHAN has retired as Chief Editor of the Alumnae Newsletter. Sonja has been a long serving Editor for over 20 years. During

the period, she has served AA with passion, dedication, commitment, cleverness and resourcefulness. She has set a good model for all of us to follow. The AA Council and the Editorial Team wish to express their utmost sincere thanks to Sonja Chan for her devotion in producing newsletters which strengthen the ties between alumnae and the school.



Background



Our association was founded in 1922 by Miss M.M. Hogben, the Principal serving Ying Wa from 1920 to 1925. On 1 March 2006, it was incorporated as a limited company.

6. Homepage

Since the new mobile-friendly AA Homepage was launched on 29 August 2018, with most of original contents were also migrated to the new domain. Updating and maintenance is taken up by an AA Management Team composed of school staff, alumnae and Council members.

7. Facebook Group and Instagram

The "Ying Wa Girls' School Alumnae Association" Facebook Group was set up to share the alumnae news and activities. Alumnae, students and parents,



teachers, school staff, and honorary members recommended by the AA Council are all welcome to join the Group and share their messages. To enhance a better management the page, some rules

were set for members as a reference for the posts and replies.



An Instagram account (**@ywgsaa**) is also set up to post updated news of AA.

Due to Covid-19 most of our activities that required physical presence were cancelled. However, that did not stop us from running a few games and lucky draws for the jolly alumnae via Facebook to keep up the connection and interaction among us.



8. Caring Team

The Caring Team aims to provide mutual support and strengthen bonding among alumnae and teaching staff. During the year, we maintained close contact with some overseas alumnae, ex-school teachers and ex-principals.



A bunch of flowers and a birthday card were sent to our former Vice-principal, Ms KWAN Yeuk Laan, on August 2020, to greet her 100th birthday.



To express our gratitude to serving teachers, AA committee members have made a small donation to treat them fruits in July and September in 2020. Spared funding will be used for the third-round



treatment in due course.



9. Alumnae Database & Membership

The database aims to keep up-to-date information of our alumnae and facilitate communication between the AA and our fellow schoolmates. The database is regularly updated.

A Task Group (TG) was set up during the 68th Council Meeting held on 9 October 2020 to review the content of the database and the appropriate level of membership fee. The TG noted that a broader membership would help YWGSAA to promote its

activities and generate income to keep the Association on-going, and that a high membership fee would have a deterring effect on fresh graduates to join the Alumnae Association.

At the 69th Council meeting held on 8 January 2021, members decided to adopt all the recommendations suggested by the TG and that a new membership fee of \$zero will be prescribed in the coming General Meeting to be held on 27 March 2021.

As at 29 January 2021, the alumnae database contained 6 738 records, of which involve the correspondence of 6 144 Ordinary Members, 66 Associate Members and 528 nonmembers. Alumnae are encouraged to send emails to alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk to update their contact details and opt for receiving e-newsletters instead of hard copies.

10. Overseas Chapters

The Council is overjoyed to connect to various overseas chapters scattered across the globe. We feel indebted to the committed contact persons for their efforts made in reuniting the YW community in Toronto, Vancouver, Southern & Northern California, Boston, London, Sydney and Melbourne. They



continue to support the overseas edition of the Alumnae Newsletter by contributing articles about their latest news, which remind us that our hearts are tied despite of our physical distance.

Special thanks go to Ms Yolanda SHIN who has dedicated to serve the Toronto's chapter for ten years and has passed the baton to a group of 1970's graduates. Last but not least, overseas chapters welcome visits from teachers, alumnae, and students who come to study aboard. For contact information, please send your message to alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk.

Interest Groups

11. Alumnae Choir



Due to Covid-19, all practice was cancelled. We would try to resume the practice as soon as the situation allows.



12. Outing Group

Despite no outing activities were arranged due to Covid-19, the Outing Group was still diligently in constant search for routes and overlooked scenic pockets nestled among the urban arteries so that wonderful trips could be immediately arranged when the pandemic is over. Some of these spots are iconic

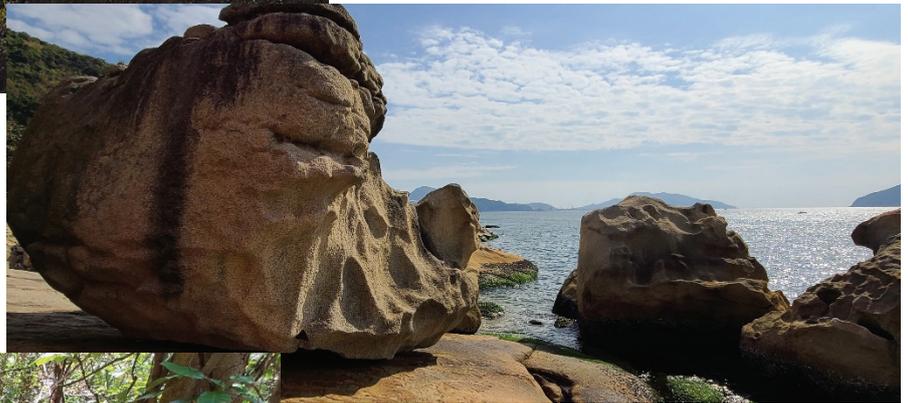
spectacles. Others are located in quiet remoted strips. We can get a glimpse of what to expect for our next trips from the pictures here.

Kowloon Reservoir



View from Mt. Butler

Lee Yue Mun - the only remaining untouched coast line in HK



A boundary stone in Tai Tam

Projects

13. School Archives Collection

The Archives Team works hard on the safekeeping of school archives and collection items of historical values. We are now working intensively on the setting-up of the Archive Repository in the new campus.

14. Mentorship Programme

During this year, recruitment of mentees was carried out in September 2020. Most of our experienced mentors have continued to serve this year. There were 30 students, mostly S4, enrolled the program this year.

An orientation was organized on 14 November 2020 in the Silcocks Hall. The Careers Expo, originally set on 16 January 2021, has to be postponed due to the current situation of COVID-19. The tentative date would be 26 June 2021.

15. 120th Anniversary souvenirs sale



specific dates.

Due to the postponement of the 120th Anniversary Homecoming day, we arranged online order of the AA souvenirs with pleasing responses. Most of the orders were delivered to alumni by courier. Some orders were arranged to pick-up from school on some



16. Video Documentary - "Transformation"

Through the Charity Trust Fund, AA continued its financial support to the school's DVD Team who is in the final stage of the post-production work and it is estimated that it will be a 120 to 135 minutes production, tentatively titled "To My-Nineteen-Year-Old Self". The intention is to hold the world premiere of this documentary at the Cultural Centre, which will also be a fund-raising event for the School.

YWGSAA Ltd. Charity Trust Fund

We are grateful to have

- Dr. HUEN Kwai Fun
- Dr. WAN Charn Wing Frank
- Ms. CHUNG Wai Chi, Janet
- Ms. LEUNG Man Ping Priscilla
- Ms. CHUI Wai Shan Anita
- Ms. CHING Tak Ying Kitty
- Ms. LEE Suet Yee Jessica

serving as Trustees of the CTF for a term that lasts until 31 May 2021.

Thanks to their continuous efforts and funding support to the School in the past year.

Acknowledgements

I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Principal and other advisors, 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 AA 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.

CHUI Wai Shan, Anita
President
Council of YWGSAA
26 February 2021