



Ying Wa Girls' School

Alumnae Association Newsletter

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Interview with the Principal

In Ying Wa's 102 years' history, Mrs. Ruth Lee is the second Principal who is an alumnus. After 29 years at the helm, Mrs. Chau Ma Pui Kin retired last year. Ying Wa has grown from strength to strength under her guidance. Needless to say, the challenge to sustain this momentum is no small task. As Ruth enters her second year as our new Principal, we are happy to have Alumnae Assistant Dorcas Yeung Hiu-Yan 6B interview her for us.

P: Mrs. Ruth Lee, Principal R: Reporter

R: Good morning, Mrs. Lee. Thank you for giving us an opportunity to interview you. What is the school's objective in this academic year?

P: The school's objective this year is the promotion of reading culture. Last year, the School Objective Team has successfully laid down the foundation of the programmes and we will go ahead with full implementation this year. Programmes such as the reading journal, increasing reading time in school, the reading award scheme and reading workshops will be carried out. At the same time, we would like to adopt the whole school approach to reading. Not only do our students read, but parents, teachers and even the minor staff are also encouraged to read. We believe all these will help cultivate and reinforce the habit of reading among our students.

R: There is a lot of repairing work being carried out in the school. Would you like to tell us the details?

P: Our school has a very long history, so there are lots of things that needed to be repaired. Last summer, the Education Department gave us a grant of over 5 million dollars for major and emergency repairs. Major repair work includes the painting of the interior of the school building and the external walls, the replacement of air conditioners and doors, the electrical rewiring of Block D (1st to 3rd floor), and the replacement of windows in Block B (4th-5th floor) and Block R (6th to 12th floor). For the SIP (School Improvement Project), its process is a bit slow due to some technical problems like the maintenance of slopes and the preservation of trees. Fortunately, we have other projects that are on schedule. We expect the two new lifts will be ready in December 2002.

R: I know many of our alumnae would like their daughters to study in Ying Wa. What are the admission criteria and the requirement?

P: I extend a warm welcome to all alumnae who wish to apply for a place in Ying Wa for their daughters. But as we all know, our school is funded by the Government and we are

obliged to adhere to the policies of the Education Department. We are limited in the scope of priority consideration that could be given to applicants who are daughters of our alumnae, but usually we give them the opportunity to be interviewed. Admission will be based on academic results, performance in the interview, involvement in extra-curricular activities and recommendation on the conduct of the applicants. There are two channels to come to Ying Wa: 1) through the application for discretionary places in January 2003 in which we accept applications from all over Hong Kong, or 2) through the central allocation system in May 2003, but this is restricted to applications from the primary schools in our school nets.

R: As we all know, you are an old girl of Ying Wa. After working in Ying Wa for one year, do you find any differences between the girls in Ying Wa now and the girls in the past?

P: Actually there are not too many differences, but I must say the girls now are much brighter. Their academic results and the results in sports are excellent and outstanding. However, I think students in the past were more patient and hardworking as we were trained to persevere through the social milieu at that time. I hope Ying Wa girls can have more self-confidence. Besides the devotion to serving others, Ying Wa girls should learn to shine so that they will become impressive, presentable people with their own perspectives. "To serve and to shine" is indeed a good motto to guide our girls to strive for the best.

Reported by Dorcas Yueng Hiu-yan 6B

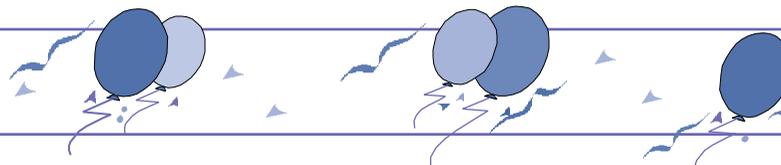
Editor's Note

Turning 100 is no mean feat for a school. The outpour of unity and sense of belonging in reunions, and the willingness of alumnae to contribute in many diverse ways as covered in this issue of the Newsletter is testimony of what Ying Wa stands for. Two years into our 2nd centenary, have you ever pondered how the next edition of our School history would record these years ahead of us right now? In the following pages, the Alumnae Association appeals earnestly for your involvement. Yes, we welcome your input, and feedback. Contact us at ywgsaa@yahoo.com or fax 2858 8669.

Editors



In Celebration



With smiles on their faces, a twinkle in their eyes, and hearts rejuvenated by friendship, alumnae celebrate with one another and with teachers important anniversaries of their graduation. Are you tempted to organize one for your year? The Alumnae Association can help by providing an updated directory of your year, and contact of teachers. Just e-mail the Association at ywgsaa@yahoo.com.

Stop Press

1972

A dinner gathering to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the class of 1972 was held on Saturday, 26 October 2002 at Yau Yat Chuen Garden City Club. Aaround 70 attended the occasion. Guests of honour included Rev. Lee Ching Chee, Mrs. Chau Ma Pui Kin, Mrs. Fong Lo Sau Chun, Miss Anna Lam Yee Lai, Mr. Leung Kar Yau, Mr. Man Cheong Shing, Mr. Au Yun Sum, Mr. Mok Kwong Chuen, Miss Theresa Sinn Yin Man, Miss Margaret Myra Moore, and Miss Joyce Yao Tsai Yee.

(More news and photos in next issue)



Class of 1962 celebrates their 40th anniversary

1962

Forty years ago, sixty-one of us bade farewell as we graduated from Ying Wa Girls' School. Many of us have had no contact with one another until our recent reunion in Vancouver, Canada. "Why Vancouver?" you may ask. The answer is—with less than 25 percent of us still residing in Hong Kong, and the rest of us living in Australia and North America—"Why not?"

With the help of internet and word of mouth, we were able to locate all but eight classmates in two years. However, it would be a challenge for the organizers to set a date convenient for the majority and to design a program suitable for divergent lifestyles—so the organizers thought at the beginning. We even prepared an "ice-breaking" game for the banquet on the first day.

It turned out that as each of the thirty participants arrived at the hotel we called

home base, the ice was broken as soon as one bumped into the others gathering in the lobby, hotel rooms, elevators and hallways. It was taxing to identify some, but for most, voice and demeanor are the same as forty years ago. We all reverted back to our teenage behavior in no time, despite the gray hair, wrinkles and sore joints that we share in our fifties-going-on-sixties. Ms Kwan Yeuk Laan, our geography teacher, joined us from Toronto for all the reunion events and became one of us. Ms Suen Kin To, who also lives in Vancouver, was able to join us for two of the events. Half of the reunion participants went on a four-day extended tour to the Canadian Rockies.

In parting, we vowed to create as much fun in our next grand reunion in five years, with a mini-reunion in three years.

By Yeung Bik-Lam, Seattle, WA, U.S.A.
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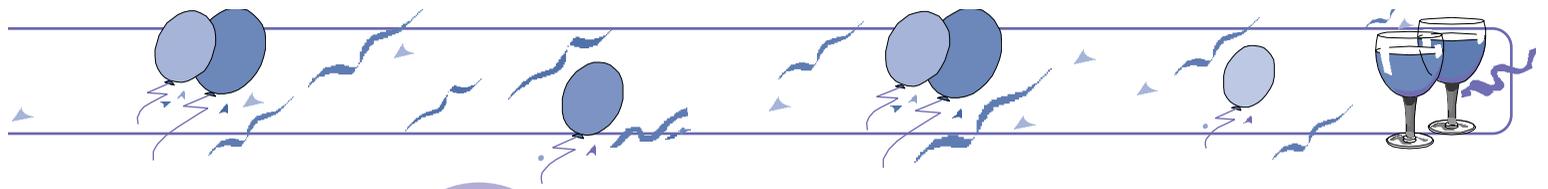


Tea at a classmate's home



後左: 勞月群,黃佩華,鍾春蘭,彭春梅,辜素芬,黃麗麗,楊碧琳,溫寶蓮
中左: 潘國賢(抱狗),余寶珍,黃碧草,陳麗碧,陳慧中,關若蘭老師,鄭美愛,譚其秀,楊潔瑤,陳念賢(站),黃碧文(站)
前左: 蔡妙貞,蔡潔雲,韋碧玖,蔡麗娥,文淑萍,楊秀華,李文娟





1977

Class of 77 celebrates Silver Jubilee

"Let's all rise to sing the school song."

"Let's sing **Don't Worry** together."

30th
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
72

Did these words sound familiar to you? On 4th July, 2002 about 70 of the form five class of 1977 had the privilege to sing these songs and hymns together again after 25 years at our 25th anniversary reunion dinner held at the YMCA in Tsim Sha Tsui.

It was a very enjoyable evening where we had the opportunity to renew old ties with our classmates and teachers after a quarter of a century. Apart from fulfilling our appetite with a sumptuous buffet dinner, we also invited Mrs. Ruth Lee, Principal of Ying Wa, to give us an update of the current development in our mother school.

A total of \$27,000.00 was raised during the function. The donation was presented to our Principal on 14th August. The donation will be put into a fund (exact name to be determined) to encourage and support students' participation in extra-curricular activities.



Fantastic Alumnae Annual Dinner in Toronto

On 12th October, 2002 I attended the Alumnae Annual Dinner in Toronto, Canada. It was a great pleasure and honour for me as I am just a one-year exchange student in Toronto. The highlight of the dinner was to welcome our former Vice-principal, Miss Margaret Pilkington, who visited Toronto from England during Thanksgiving. Miss Pilkington continued her teaching career after leaving Ying Wa in 1972. Since her retirement, she had been greatly involved in church ministry. At the age of 70, she gladly accepted the invitation to be ordained as minister in June 2002.



The dinner was full of joy and laughter. There were over ninety alumnae in total and many of them came from different cities such as Vancouver, Ottawa, London (Ontario), New York, and Hong Kong. It was even more amazing to have alumnae with age spanning over 70 years.

Miss Chan Wan Fong, aged 97, was the most senior member present while the youngest was in her teens, as she came to Toronto after Form 3. Two of our fervent supporters, 就哥 and 就嫂, who were so loyal in their role as minor staff in Ying Wa for many years, also came. Our former Vice-principal, Miss Kwan Yeuk Laan, as usual, charmed the party with her humorous speech. Other teachers present were Miss Lily Chow and Miss Yau Ping Wai who was the M.C. of the evening.

The success of the dinner must be attributed to the graduates of the '70s who devoted themselves to preparation of the dinner voluntarily. Last but not least, I was inspired by the speech of Miss Pilkington and the great achievement of our seniors. They are very outstanding and demonstrate the words of Miss Pilkington, "Women in this world can do anything." This has really been an inspiring evening for me.

Trista Lam, 98 graduate
Alumnae Association Executive Council Member
2001-2003

Contact in Toronto: Winnie Yau Ping Wai (cheungw@ipoline.com)

校園活動花絮



多元智能挑戰營

今年11月5日至10日，我們二十四位中四級的學生參加了由消防處及教育署合辦的「多元智能挑戰計劃」。在這一星期內，我們的起居飲食都受到管束，「無自由，失自由」這句話正好代表了我們那幾天在消防學校的生活。

在短短一星期內，我們嘗試過不少受訓消防學員所學習的訓練如：步操、實火模擬訓練、體能訓練、划木筏，沿繩下降等。當中令我們印象最深刻的可要算是「操車」了，其實「操車」是訓練消防員警覺性的突擊集隊，我們正因為操車時未能達到教官的要求而受罰。我們一邊坐無影，一邊伸直雙手打圈，才做了幾分鐘，雙腳已在發抖，連站都快要站不穩了！這夜，我們在體能上雖然受到這麼嚴峻的考驗，幸好經過一整晚的休息，我們於翌日已可以體力充沛地應付另一考驗—划木筏了。在划木筏比賽中，我們更以大比數取勝呢！

記得在畢業禮舉行當天，烏雲密布，微雨不歇。教官問我們是否很想在露天操場舉行畢業禮，我們很團結的答：「Yes Sir!」這就是我們在這六天學到的團隊精神了！最終，我們還是冒著雨在操場上畢業！

經過這六天五夜的訓練，我們所學能到的，不單是堅毅的意志力、團隊精神、守紀律和消防學上的知識，這次的訓練更帶給我們一次畢生難忘的經歷，那種感受真是非筆墨所能形容的。

藉此難得的機會，我們要衷心多謝這幾天一直陪著我們的周小鳳老師及學校社工張詠珊姑娘，當然還有在這營中聲嘶力竭地訓練我們的教官，願我們真的能如教官所望，把在營內所學的應用在以後的生活中。

5C 方慧中



外展訓練

校友會每年都會資助學生外展訓練，今年同學參加的課程是「青少年獵奇之旅」，訓練地點為往灣洲訓練基地及鄰近八仙嶺郊野公園，當中的活動包括野外定向、三日兩夜露營、紮木筏、行山、游泳、划艇。在一個緊密的小組內，需要共同負責小組的運作，包括：權衡決策的後果、承擔當中的責任、照顧其他組員、管理營具和裝備、預備膳食、計劃及組織日常生活等，面對各種挑戰，相信同學在體能、心智和人際關係都得到成長。



夏日美食嘉年華

學校今年得到「優質教育基金」資助，「夏日美食嘉年華」於2002年7月3日學生日順利舉行。舉辦此活動的目的是希望同學能把她們在會計科、經濟科和家政科上所學到的知識活學活用。參與學生分為6-8人一組，在其投得之校內攤位銷售美食。參與學生由籌組模擬公司、撰寫計劃書、生產或採購食品、財政管理、裝飾攤位及當日營運等都須親力親為。箇中的艱難與挑戰，實在不少。然而比起從活動中學習的那份喜悅，也不算得甚麼。整個活動為學生日加添不少氣氛與樂趣。



彩虹部隊

在不知不覺間，英華女校的學生會已經是第五十四屆了。今年的學生會名為「彩虹部隊」。彩虹是由不同的顏色組成，意思是指雖然學生會的成員擁有不同的性格，但是她們會團結一致，發出閃爍的光芒。她們今年的方針是令同學在參與各項活動中得到身心平衡的發展，並配合校方「從閱讀中學習」的目標，鼓勵同學閱讀不同種類的書籍，從而提升同學的積極性。

Celina Yuen joins School Council

Celina Yuen Wah-chu describes herself as the type that dares to challenge and question. That is not exactly a trait characteristic of most Ying Wa girls but Celina has never been one that settles for the ordinary anyways. This independence has served her well in her studies and career especially when she is not infrequently reminded by superiors and peers that they do not actually expect to be working with a woman. She studied Production and Industrial Engineering and Building Services in the then Hong Kong Polytechnic, and has worked for Otis Elevator Company (HK) Ltd, and the Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation.

Celina accepted an invitation to join the YWGS School Council in July 2002. Her wealth of experience in project management covering procurement and contract administration functions in areas of building services makes her an invaluable addition to our School Council. Currently, there are seven other alumnae on the School Council. They are Lam Lai-bing (Chair), Chiu Lai-har (Vice-chair), So Ka-wai (Treasurer), Chan Kwok-ying, Wong Man-wah (Representative from Church of Christ in China), Mak Chai-kwong and Ruth Lee (Principal).



From left to right: Miss Yuen Wah-chu, Miss Man Sze Wan, Miss Lai Yuk Fai, Mrs Yip Wong Yee On

Alumnae Concern Group set up

Two years ago, we celebrated the Centenary of Ying Wa Girls' School and many alumnae agreed that the time in Ying Wa has been such a wonderful and unforgettable part of our life. During the celebration activities, alumnae revisited the school ground and so many fond memories were evoked. We were much heartened to learn of the excellent achievement in academics, sports, music and service of the new generation of students, and thoroughly enjoyed the same old friendliness and family spirit they showed us. However, alumnae also witnessed the rundown condition of the school premises in quite a few areas. What can be done? How can I help? As if by telepathy, alumnae turned to the school in incredible numbers to offer their service.

Various parties have volunteered their support in different areas. Financially, some alumnae collected and donated money to the School Improvement Fund, Student Welfare and Exposure Fund. At the same time, many showed their willingness to offer their professional expertise and agreed to take part in the mentorship system which is still at a very early stage. Sharing sessions have been organized for S5 graduates with "alumnae mentors".

Moreover, a Concern Group with around thirty members has recently been set up to discuss how alumnae can offer support in the School Redevelopment Project. Talents in various sectors, say education policy, public relations, architecture, finance, IT, town planning and premises development, civil engineering, fundraising, logistics, and administration are in urgent demand to help the School Council look into two broad areas: To map out the way forward for Ying Wa in the 21st century so we can best serve the needs of our students, and what needs to be done about the existing premises to support our school programmes. We welcome your contribution. Ying Wa can only be as good as how much we put into its continuous development. In the near future, workgroups will be set up for strategic planning and to explore feasibilities. If you would like to attend these meetings, or just put forward some ideas, please contact Rosa Lai, chairlady of the Alumnae Association at 9267-3841 (mobile), 2858-8669 (fax, attn: Rosa Lai) or e-mail her at ywgsaa@yahoo.com.

You can make a difference.

YWGSAA

Website: <http://go.to/ywgsaa/>

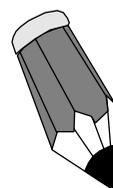
Email: ywgsaa@yahoo.com or
alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk

a challenge

Steeped in a strong tradition that we are so proud of, Ying Wa has always treasured our roots and heritage. The Alumnae Association needs your help to organize and preserve these wonderful relics of the past. You will be privileged to leaf through snapshots of school life of years past, and be amazed at how far we have come in 102 years. A noble history is the driving force to forge a glorious future. Your work to help build Ying Wa's Archives will steer generations of students to pursue what Ying Wa stands for.

Are you interested to help manage these valuable Ying Wa archives?

Contact person:
Ms Man Sze Wan
Email: ms@ywgs.edu.hk
Tel: 2546-3151



譚慧敏牧師

校牧在英華女校可說是有很久的歷史，亦是校園生活不可或缺的一部份。自從去年起，這一職位由年青、熱誠及信主多年的譚慧敏牧師擔任。譚慧敏是合一堂的牧師，因為這是她第一次任校牧，心情難免有點緊張。現時譚慧敏牧師每逢星期三下午一時至五時都會在學校二樓的校友會室駐校為同學服務。她認為她的工作重點在關心全校的人，及豐富校內信仰生活。譚牧師十分重視跟同學和老師接觸的機會，藉此啟發她如何有效發揮校牧的職能。她一方面與老師舉行座談會，另外又構思一些活動，例如於十一月安排詩歌分享，希望藉此和全校學生分享校牧工作，及提高對信仰的興趣。

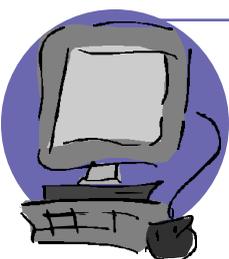


譚慧敏牧師說她最大的挑戰是如何推廣及吸引同學參與她安排的活動，以有限的資源，惠及最多的同學。今年聖誕節是譚牧師的預產期。在此謹預祝譚牧師主恩滿溢，母子平安！

6S 何家慧、蕭鳴櫻、翁晶晶

致賀

李林遂心老師近日榮獲全港十大傑出基督徒長者獎，並獲事奉見證獎。林老師秉承「非以役人，乃役於人」之英華精神，服務社會，其嘉言懿行，實為英華兒女之楷模，校友會謹此衷心致賀。



Alumnae Database Project

An efficient and extensive database is needed to invigorate the alumnae association and equip her to ably support our alma mater.

In the past months, the YWGSAA has devoted a lot of resources to establish a proper electronic database. Here is a brief progress report.

Programming completed and the database was ready for operation early this year. However, some alumnae records are already obsolete and we had difficulty in reaching these members. In order to update our records and recruit more members, we launched a network of year coordinators. So far, we have already gathered over 200 up-to-date records. Well done, everyone!

In the coming months, we are going to follow up on the latest info obtained. Meanwhile, we strive to expand our team of year coordinators.

Can you help?

- Spare us a few hours and sign up as a year coordinator.
- Send us your mailing list in hand or start compiling one for us.
- Seek out the Ying Wa alumnae in your workplace, church communities and post-secondary educational institutions. Invite them to enrol as life members!
- Contact Rosa Lai (Tel. 9267-3841 or ywgsaa@yahoo.com)



List of Year Coordinators

90's

Chui Wai Shan, Anita 徐慧珊
Wong Nga Lai 黃雅麗
Wong Ka Chung, Wisy 黃家頌
Cheng Sui Wah, Grace 鄭瑞樺

80's

Chen Ching Chee 陳靜芝
Hui Tuen Yung, Frances 許端蓉

70's

Yuen Bo Kit, Teresa 袁寶潔
Chan Fung Ming, Ruth 陳鳳明
Luk Siu Yee, Marina 陸韶宜
Pang Yuk Ching, Rosanna 彭玉貞
Chan Seung Yan, Sonja 陳尚欣
Choi Wai Lan, Teresa 蔡惠蘭
Lee Yuet Ha, Lillian 李月霞

50's-60's

Leung Bo Chu, Miranda 梁寶珠
Lam Lai Bing, Alison 林麗冰
Hung Yuen Cheung 熊琬章
Luk Ming 陸明
Leung Sung Chong 梁崧

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2002-2003

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