



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) ('74)

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.