

Chairman's Report

Two years ago, the Executive Committee and I set for ourselves two targets, namely, to inject “new blood” into the Executive Committee and to attract more young members to join the Old Boys’ Association.

It is with much diffidence that I am able to say that the first goal has already been achieved. Today, more than half of the members in the Executive Committee are graduates in the late 1970s or thereafter. Some of the “new faces” also bring along with them various talents previously unknown to the Executive Committee. Thus, for instance, with the help of two young “computer wizards”, the Old Boys’ Association is able to set up its own website. Now you may even read the electronic version of the “Torch” through our website. And for those of you who have visited our website, you will fully appreciate the tremendous efforts that these two young men have put in.

At the same time, the Executive Committee also welcomes back one of its veterans, Lau Tin Shing. With the help of Tin Sing, the Old Boys’ Association can now have its own Chinese Orchestra. I trust that many of you have already listened to the wonderful music of Tin Shing and his team.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank a former Executive Committee member, Chung Yuk Man, who has been serving the Old Boys’ Association selflessly for some 20 years. In case some of you may not know, it was on Yuk Man’s initiation that the Old Boys’ Association decided to set up a Sports Development Fund for Ying Wa. Over the years, thousands of Ying Wa students have benefited from the Sports Development Fund. Needless to say, your continual support will be most crucial.

Lack of young members has proven to be a big problem in the long term development of the Old Boys’ Association. To this end, the Executive Committee has approved the funding of a project whereby “Torch” as well as notices and correspondence from the Old Boys’ Association will be sent out free of charge to all new graduates, regardless of whether they are members of the Old Boys’ Association, for a period of 5 years after they left Ying Wa. Perhaps, it is still too early to tell whether this project would bear fruit. But without your generous response to our appeal for sponsorship, I beg to say that this project simply cannot sustain.

During the last 12 months, the Old Boys’ Association has proudly sponsored, amongst others, the following activities of students at Ying Wa:-

- Outward bound training camp for all F.6 students
- Summer camp jointly organized with Ying Wa Girls’ School
- Publication of “Torch”

- Opening of the Ying Wa College History Room
- Joint School Visual Arts Exhibition held in Ying Wa College

On recreational side, the Old Boys' Association hosted a Chinese New Year Concert in the Noble Hall on 19th February 2005. This Concert, which was jointly organized by our Chinese Orchestra and the Ying Wa Chinese Orchestra, aimed at promoting Chinese music and providing an opportunity for alumni, their family and friends to meet and celebrate the Chinese New Year. Miss Nancy Tseng and our Old Boys' Choir also appeared as guest performers. All funds raised on that evening were donated to the Music Development Fund of Ying Wa. The next concert will be held in the Noble Hall on 28th December 2005.

Thanks to the hard work of Leo Ma, the annual Golf Day held on 17th November 2004 was a big success. There were 20 odd participants with 7 tees and the tournament was followed by a sumptuous lunch in the picturesque setting in the midst of the Sai Kung Public Golf Course. The coming Golf Day will be held on 16th November 2005.

But by far, the most popular activity organized by the Old Boys' Association must be the football league. Ten teams comprising graduates from the 1960s to 1990s and Ying Wa teachers competed at Ying Wa Football Pitch on Sundays. Alumni and their kids filled up the spectators' stand with cheers and laughter. It was real fun! The Award Presentation of last year's football league will be held during the AGM dinner. Check out for the schedule of matches this year in our website.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, may I extend my heartfelt thanks for your overwhelming support of the Old Boys' Association in the past year and I wish you all a happy and prosperous year ahead.

Edward Shum (1980)
Chairman
Executive Committee