WYKPSA Newsletter

Publication of the Wah Yan College, Kowloon Past Students' Association

Interview with Calvin Wong (09)

It was a cozy August afternoon and we planned to meet somewhere we haven't been before: a cafe near the Jao Tsung-I Academy.

Meeting Calvin at the nearby the bus terminus, I couldn't remember how we started talking about the French. He was already telling me how the best cane for reeds (mouthpieces for woodwind instruments, in his case, the saxophone) came from southern France. We also talked about how American English was spoken with an open throat — a lot more open than French. No wonder so many American singers had big voices.

You can see how he cares so much about what he does. We did away with all the 'how have you been' and 'nice meeting you again after New York'. And yet it felt the most natural: the last time we met, a lot was about finding time to practice without being called a hermit.

Once we sat down, I took out my pen. It was a new fountain pen — a music nib — and I offered to let him try it out. I think the word 'music' got him interested: he started writing some choice words, then musical notes and rest signs. 'No wonder it is a music nib,' he said, 'the quarter-note rest is just like it appears in textbooks!'

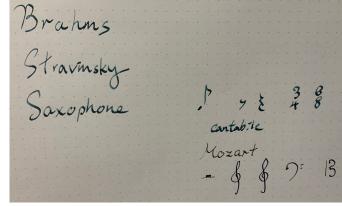
'Let's start with the usual. How did you start your journey in music?' 'I was four when I wanted to learn playing the violin but the piano company in my neighbourhood recommended the piano.' He went for it for a year but had to give it up: the sight reading was easy but the left and right hand coordination was too much. The next opportunity came after four more years, when he finally met the saxophone.

I remember Calvin showing me a refusal letter from a music academy here in Hong Kong when he was in my 2W. Calvin told me he looked at it every time he practiced so he won't stop striving for the best.

'Joke's on them though. Now you're about to start your Doctorate in Musical Arts at Arizona State University. Iowa, Indiana, Texas. Now Arizona.' That letter was taken very seriously as a reminder to do better. What an attitude motivating him to do better no matter what. That's Magis, without saing the big word. Show and tell, really.

On his musical journey, doubt did not only come from academia. He told relatives at a family dinner he wanted to be a music music major and one relative immediately asked if music could make money. That motivated him to give more concerts after his undergraduate degree — not for free. The relative who asked the motivating question got invited to every one of them. I was happy to learn that his parents and the rest of the extended family were very supportive and went to every single concert.

We went on to Ms. Hwong, our music teacher. When some music instructors told Calvin he had no ear for music (in the original Chinese wording, '五音不全'), Ms. Hwong encouraged him to keep working on his aural skills despite everything. Around that time I lent him a CD: Joshua Bell's rendering of the Violin Concerto by Tchaikovsky. He could hear how Bell gave a lot of nuance and unique interpretation to a very well known piece. His 'ear for music' must have improved: in his next music practical exam at Wah Yan, Ms. Hwong gave him 29/30. She never gave full marks for performances and only gave that mark twice — the other person who got it was David Leung Chun Chim (96), now a professor of violin in the USA.



Calvin trying out some musical notes at the interview. Note the 'textbook' crotchet.



Interview with Calvin Wong (09), Funeral for Father Coghlan, S. J.



He was always grateful to Ms. Hwong. In 2011, when she was fighting hard with cancer, he visited her and gave a private performance at her home. She took out her jewellery box and gave him a treble-clef pendant. He kept it by his side ever since. This simple act of kindness kept him going.

When asked about his future plans, Calvin told me about his pre-30 checklist. The last item was giving a personal concert here in Hong Kong. The next one was making a CD recording. Properly. With the professional playing, the mixing engineer, the cover design, all the trimmings. He's not a textbook perfectionist. Though he insisted on doing his absolute best, he was not scared of making mistakes on a recording, which is a permanent record. Fear of criticism wouldn't stop him: no one was perfect as a human being and even the best virtuosi got ridiculed a lot for their blunders and first recordings were seldom successful. Improvements couldn't come without a few failures first.

While listening to his amazing story, I was also thinking when I could announce his first professional recording. Probably the newsletter issue around May 2022.

Funeral for Wah Yan's beloved Rev. Fr. Seán Coghlan, S. J.

(1933-2021)

Our beloved Father Seán Coghlan passed away peacefully on 2nd September, 2021, at St. Paul's Hospital, Hong Kong, as a result of cardiac failure and other complications.

A large numbers of priests, religious and lay people including students and alumni of both Wah Yan Colleges attended the funeral mass on 25th September, 2021 at St. Ignatius Chapel, Wah Yan College, Kowloon, for the repose of the soul of Fr. Coghlan, former Rector of Wah Yan College, Kowloon.

The Mass was presided by His Eminence Cardinal John Tong, Apostolic Administrator of the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong. Fr. Robert Ng, S.J. and Fr. Stephen Chow, S.J. shared their remarks of working with Fr. Coghlan in the Mass.

'Fr. Coghlan was concerned about poverty in our society,' said Fr. Ng, 'He often visited the homeless during his service at Wah Yan College, Kowloon. Sometimes together with his students." Fr. Coghlan also went to the refugee camp to nourish the Vietnamese refugees.

Fr. Chow shared an email that Fr. Coghlan wrote to him in April, 2021. Fr. Chow was very touched by Fr. Coghlan's willingness to be missioned and to serve the community even at the times of his illness. He called Fr. Coghlan a true Jesuit.

The burial took place at St. Michael's Cemetery, Happy Valley, right after the Funeral Mass.



Fr. Robert Ng, S. J., Cardinal John Tong and Bishop-Elect Fr. Stephen Chow, S. J. presiding the mass.



Angelic singing by our choir members.

Funeral for Henry Yuen (94), Memorial Football Match for Henry Yuen (94)

Funeral for Henry Yuen (94)

A long line of people formed outside St. Joseph's Church on 22nd September to say farewell to our godly and loving brother, Mr. Henry Yuen (94). Some people stopped and wondered for which celebrity was the funeral mass held. Indeed, Henry was our celebrity.

The funeral mass was held at 3pm, with Fr. Bruno Lepeu as principal celebrant, joined by concelebrants Fr. Stephen Chow, S. J., Bishop-Elect of the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong, and Fr. Clement Tsui, S. J., Supervisor of the two Wah Yan Colleges.

Eulogies were given by Mrs. Guiovanna Yuen, and one alumnus from Henry's Class of 1994. There, friends and loved ones of Henry's shared best wishes for him in heaven as they heard the many great qualities of a loving husband, an upright Wahyanite, a most patient father and, most of all, a godly man for and with others.

Even though the church was very packed, the mass went on serenely with beautiful music, the most remarkable being Caesar Franck's Panis Angelicus.

Following the completion of the mass, many took coaches provided to the Cape Collinson Crematorium to bid Henry a final farewell.

A Celebration of Life gathering was also held on 2nd October, 2021 at the Island Evangelical Community Church in North Point, where more people, including colleagues and recent graduates at Wah Yan College, Kowloon, shared their appreciation for Henry.



Memorial Football Match for Henry Yuen (94)



On 21st November, 2021, many Wahyanites across generations gathered at 1:30pm next to our grass football field to play two matches in memory of our dear late brother Henry Yuen (94). Players were divided into four teams, playing in two matches: a WYK Staff team versus a Class 94 team, then an HKCEE team versus an HKDSE team. Before the matches, speeches were given by our School Supervisor Rev. Fr. Clement Tsui, S. J. (WYCHK 88), Henry's widow Guiovanna Yuen, PSA Chairman and representative of Class 94 Cedric Ko (94), as well as graduates Ken 'Figo' Law (08), Royston Lai (19) and Oscar Yim (19). Many alumni also came to support, including our first alumnus principal, Mr. Norman So (65), and our most respected biology teacher, Mr. Chiu Hai Kaw (61).

The matches were very exciting, especially seeing our new School Supervisor joining the players in the field! The first match was concluded with a draw 2:2, while the second ended with the HKCEE team winning 2:0.

















Team of Class 94 and families.

Speech Day 2021

Speech Day 2021

Our Speech Day was held on 19th November, 2021 in our School Hall.

After the inspiring speeches of our School Supervisor, Fr. Clement Tsui, S. J., the School Principal, Mr. Warren Chung, and the guest of honour, Dr. At Tak Shing, our graduates of Class 2021 were presented their certificates. They were followed by winners of All-Round Education and Academic Awards presented by Fr. Tsui, Outstanding Academic Awards by Mr. Chung, Leadership Awards presented by Mr. Eric Cheung, Chairman of the Parents' Association, and then the Student Ambassador Award by our WYKPSA Chairman, Mr. Cedric Ko.

Mr. Ko reiterated that despite COVID travel restrictions, the PSAs of both Wah Yan Colleges were of the same mind to honour promises of visiting overseas alumni chapters once travelling became feasible again. He also praised the applicants for this year's PSA Awards and the Student Ambassador Award for their impressive achievements, their good presentation and communication skills and, most importantly, their commitment to the Wah Yan community. The addition of optional teacher or coach references also enhanced our understanding of the applicants. The three award winners were:

Kwok Fung Nam Joshua of 5J Lo Tsz Fung of 5Y

Ng Chi Yuen Gavin of 5W (Student Ambassador)

After announcing and congratulating the Student Ambassador and the PSA Awardees, Long Service Awards were presented to teachers and staff who have served WYK for at least 15 years. This year our veteran educators were:

Mr. Ching Wing Kee Laurie (35 years)

Mr. Chan Ka Lok (30 years)

Mr. Chan Tin Chu (25 years)

Ms. Chu Sau Ying (20 years)

Mr. Ng Ming Lam Martin (20 years)

Dr. Chan Ka Hei Lesley (15 years)

Ms. Chan Lai Tak (15 years)

Mr. Fung King Hung (15 years)

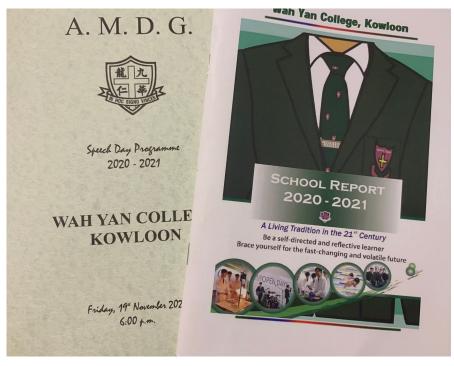
Ms. Hui Nga Man Jasmine (15 years)

Ms. Ng Yan (15 years)

The moment of gratitude for our devoted educators was followed by a vote of thanks by the valedictorian, Chan Chun Yin. The Official Party then joined the attendees to listen to an elegant first movement of Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*, *K.* 525, rendered by senior members from the string sections of the WYK ensembles and orchestras. The ceremony then reached its conclusion with the School Hymn.



Our School Supervisor and Principal with recipients of Long Service Awards.





PSA ExCos photographed with the PSA Award winners this year.



The Official Party with Class 6K of 2020-2021



Mr. Cedric Ko presenting the PSA Awards.

2021 Hong Kong Hymnos Festival, Wah Yan League

WYK Boys' Choir Shined at the 2021 HK Hymnos Festival







The first Hong Kong Hymnos Festival was successfully held on 10th November 2021 and 15th November 2021 in the City Hall and the Hong Kong Cultural Centre respectively. The festival proudly saw the dedicated participation of over 130 boys from the Wah Yan College, Kowloon Boys' Choirs; they were trained well under the batons of their music teacher Dr. Lesley Chan (98) and Prof. Chan Wing Wah for two consecutive weeks.

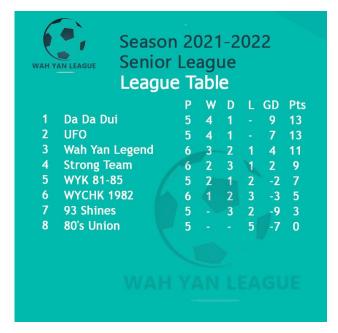


... and Prof. Chan Wing Wah.





Wah Yan League Progress





281 & Outjin 4

Shooting Cannon

12 NEW STAR

Galaxy WYK

10 Youth United

11 Eastern

3 1 1 1 0 4



News from the Wah Yan One Family Foundation



Wah Yan One Family Foundation Limited

281, Queen's Road East, Hong Kong W: www.wahyanonefamily.org T: 2336 3688 E: contact@wahyanonefamily.org

20 November 2021

Dear Wahyanites and Friends,

Further to our report in August 2021, we have launched 2 initiatives of the Bloom Campaign, namely:

1. Wah Yan 100+ Music Festival, 4-9 January 2022 @ Grand Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, where an odyssey of music development in Wah Yan will be presented in a 5-night performance.

It is a reunion for every Wahyanites to support our hardworking teachers and pupils who have been practicing hard to deliver their best since February this year. Celebrities like Joe Jr、彭家麗、王敏德 (our former parent), 炎明熹、冼靖峰、崔碧珈、唐貝詩、可嵐及錢國偉 will add flavours to the rich and diverse performances by our orchestras, choirs, soloists and friend schools like PUAWYPA, Good Hope School, Heep Yunn School and CUHK. Book your tickets/make contribution now http://www.wahyanonefamily.org/wah-yan-100--music-festival.html



2. Chong Hing Credit Card Re-launch

Designed by Wahyanite and endorsed by our beloved teachers, this new Centenary Card is meant to be an identity for every Wahyanite and his family and friends. Improved card face, welcome gift (\$500@) and a new hire-purchase scheme will be offered.

Wahyanites, please help us gather 3,000 new card users and every dollar you spend will benefit both Wah Yans as a stable income. For instance, a \$5,000 monthly spending from 3,000 card holders will generate \$50,000+ each month. http://www.wahyanonefamily.org/credit-card.html

It is the best way to support Wah Yan in long term. Apply online



Enquiry: 2336 3688



5 JAN 中西樂團

> 6 JAN 合唱團、管弦樂團

> > NAL 8 阿仔 (WYHK69) AND FRIENDS音樂會 II

> > > MAL 8





華仁書院百周年校慶呈獻



4-6, 8-9 JAN 2022 19:30

香港文化中心大劇院 \$800/\$500/\$300/\$100*

特別嘉賓:



演出嘉賓:

方俠 WYHK63 羅鼎威 WYHK69 鍾尚志 WYHK71 高世章 WYHK88 方欣國 WYHK02

方津生 WYHK64 張皓輝 WYHK69 吳天海 WYK 69 梅廣釗 WYHK70 胡定旭 WYHK72 曾浩輝 WYHK83 梁卓偉 WYHK89 姚潤昆 WYK 96 香港中文大學校友及同學協恩中學 德望學校 番禺會所華仁小學 華仁書院舊生合唱團 註 : 特 別 嘉 賓 及 演 出 嘉 賓 將 於 不 同 日 子 演 出 , 詳 情 請 致 電 查 詢

回路



香港及九龍華仁書院 香港及九龍華仁書院舊生會 所有收益全數撥捐華仁一家基金有限公司

條款及細則 1. 新冠疫情流行期間,華仁一家基金有限公司將採取由香港特別行政區衛生防護中心發出的防疫指引,並適時按疫情情况決定最後安排 2. 不設退款及退票,全數收入於扣除開支後全數捐贈華仁一家基金有限公司作支持兩所華仁書院持續發展用途 3. 捐款港幣一百元或以上可獲發出可扣稅用途收據 4. 門票先到先得,售完即止 5. 華仁一家基金有限公司保留一切最後決定權利

司儀:

4 JAN - 梁繼璋 WYHK 73, 林祖輝 WYK 83

我們將重新推出華仁一家百周年信用卡, 卡面煥然一新,帶來更好的迎賓禮物和優惠, 惠及兩所華仁書院和新持卡人。

華仁仔及華仁之友請瀏覽 www.wahyanonefamily.org/credit-card.html 申請新卡。每張新卡,每次簽賬, 都會對華仁帶來莫大幫助。

華仁一家百周年信用卡 和你穿越百年





Father Naylor Movie Project Ideas Sharing







On 16th October, many important Wahyanites appeared in the SAC Room of our alma mater to discuss an important topic: the PSA launching a movie project about our beloved Rev. Fr. Harold Naylor, S. J. Among the Wahyanites speaking was Honorary Advisor to the movie project, Mr. Ng Tin Hoi (69).

The aim of the movie project is to bring out the spirit of Jesuit education to the public through telling the story about Fr. Naylor's life, teachings and anecdotes. Fr. Naylor devoted himself to Wah Yan and this is a great example of Jesuits educating us all with love and teaching us to be people for and with others. An organising committee, as well as some of the essential cast and crew, would be formed from Wahyanites.

The important and pioneering nature of this movie project could not be overstated and would help make a most wonderful and meaningful addition not simply to our school centenary, but also to our reflections on the spirit of education itself. Many speakers echoed a real lesson that Father Naylor always told his outing class students to bow to the bus driver, reminding us to be grateful to those who help us and to be glad to serve in turn. This lesson taught us to be humble and respectful to others, regardless of economical or social status.

The WYKPSA Newsletter is the official quarterly publication of Wah Yan College, Kowloon Past Students' Association, Limited. Members of the WYKPSA are most welcome to offer their ideas, writingsor other works to newsletter@wykpsa.org.hk. Opinions, ideas and comments published here do not necessarily represent the views of the WYKPSA or Wah Yan College, Kowloon.

WYK alumni who wish to join the WYKPSA as members , please send your email to secretariat@wykpsa.org.hk.

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