

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Warwickers @ Home Hong



The newsletter of Warwick Graduates' Association (Hong Kong)
Issue 3/ February 2004



Dear Warwickers,

I am delighted to bring to you the latest edition of our newsletter.

This year is a very important year for WGAHK as it is the 10th anniversary of our association. It is

hard to believe that the association has been going for so long. What an achievement!

It has been my honour to have served WGAHK for the past 10 years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the past and present Executive Committees for putting all the exciting activities together, working to strengthen bonds among graduates and with the University.

We have reached many milestones in the past 10 years but the most significant one I would say is the successful launch of our Scholarship Fund in 2002. WGAHK is the first Warwick overseas alumni association to have launched a Scholarship Fund. Because the amount was relatively small, we only managed to offer it to one candidate. However, we hope through future fund raising activities, we would be able to raise more money and be able to award more well-deserving students. If you would like to make any contributions, please contact Lisa Djeng at scholarship@warwick.org.hk.

I hope we will continue to accomplish new goals in order to fulfill our association's aim which is to promote and strengthen the connection between graduates and the University, bringing both personal and professional benefits to all the members. One thing for sure, your participation is crucial to our success. If you have any suggestions for us, please do not hesitate to drop me an email at chairman@warwick.org.hk.

Wish everyone a fruitful 2004!
Yvonne Leung
Chairman



WGAHK Annual General Meeting and Annual Dinner

The 8th AGM and Annual dinner of the WGAHK (Hong Kong) was held on January 11, 2003 at Luk Kwok Hotel. It was a memorable evening attended by over 80 participants with graduates from different courses and years, including those from full-time and distance-learning programmes, as well as IGDS (MSc Engineering, jointly offered with Hong Kong Polytechnic University). We were delighted to have Sue Beech, Assistant Program Manager of the Warwick Distance Learning MBA and Tsao Chip (BA English & European Literature), now a famous local writer as well as a political commentator to be our special guests for the evening. The highlight of the evening was a talk by Tsao Chip whose witty remarks brought much cheers and lively discussions among those present. The 2003 WGAHK executive committee was elected in the same evening.

Re-launch of WGAHK Website

We are delighted to announce the recent re-launch of www.warwick.org.hk, the official website of Warwick Graduates' Association Hong Kong. It has been redesigned and updated, acting as a place for sharing and providing information for local Warwick graduates. It is also the place where you can learn all about WGAHK, download the membership application form or find out more about our coming events. Check it out yourself!

WGAHK Scholarship

We are delighted to announce Jeffrey Ho as this year's winner of the Warwick Graduates' Association Hong Kong (WGAHK) Scholarship. An award of HK\$10,000 was presented by WGAHK in recognition of his outstanding achievements on Monday 15 September 2003 at the Eighteen Brook Restaurant, Wanchai.

We received a lot of applications for the scholarship this year. There was keen competition as overall the standard of candidates was very high. A panel of judges consist of Professor Christopher Lam, Professor Mike McConville and Ms Lisa Djeng finally selected Jeffery out of five short-listed candidates after a tough debate based on their academic performances, extracurricular activities and references from schools. Jeffrey, who is going to start his first year Economics course this September, impressed the panel as an all-rounded person with in-depth knowledge of history and current affairs.

The scholarship was set up by the Warwick Graduates' Association Hong Kong in 2002. It is the first Warwick scholarship established by local alumni associations outside the U.K. If any of you would like to support the scholarship with donations, please contact Lisa Djeng at: scholarship@warwick.org.hk.



Warwick Students Meet Tung Chee Hwa in London



Checking emails seems to become an integral part of my life after taking up the post as the President of Warwick Hong Kong Society (WHKS). On 17th October 2003, I opened my mail box as usual and found an email of such, "Mr. TUNG Chee Hwa — Chief Executive,

Hong Kong Special Administration Region, requests the pleasure of your company at a reception at Loggia Room, Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park Hotel."

I received loads of junk mails every day and would nearly classify the above email as such. When I had a second thought, I gave a call to the London Hong Kong Office and the whole thing was confirmed after the conversation. After slapping myself enough times to ensure I was truly awake, I reported immediately the situation to the committee and was resolved to have Priscilla accompanying me to the reception on the day.

The meaning behind the invitation was encouraging indeed. It revealed to us that the University of Warwick was highly regarded as an elite university worldwide by business and government bodies. Indeed, not many universities were being invited to the occasion. The event was surely something which all Warwickers should be proud of.



On 10th November 2003, with all our anxiety and excitement, we went down to London as ambassadors on behalf of the University of Warwick. The venue was filled with many familiar faces from the government and business organizations.

After the welcoming speech given by Mr. Tung, we had the privilege to exchange ideas with him directly about the education system and funding in the UK and Hong Kong, and of course the latest economic development and directions of Hong Kong. The whole conversation was warm and pleasant. Our conversation concluded by his strong recommendation to return to Hong Kong for work upon graduation.

The whole night was enjoyable indeed. It was something that many teenagers could never imagine and expect to happen. Both of us will unanimously agree that we both had the feeling of growing up a lot after the event. The occasion also gave us a glance of what would happen to us in future when we were at work. Not far away ahead though.

Jacky Leung
President
Warwick Hong Kong Society



WGAHK Internship Programme



The Warwick Graduates' Association Hong Kong Internship Programme promotes educational and business links between the Warwick University and the Hong Kong business field. We aim to give undergraduates the opportunity to gain practical and theoretical business experience, whilst also developing social and cultural awareness and understanding.

This year was our first year of launching the programme with success. We successfully placed 10 students in a wide range of organisations that reflect each individual intern's interests, career aspirations and academic field of study.

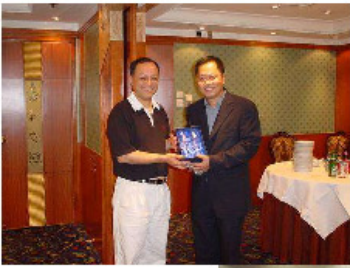
We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all employers who have granted placement opportunities to our students this summer. We look forward to hearing from you as employers who will be interested in this programme.

For enquiries, please contact Ms. Lisa Djeng at 93108833 or scholarship@warwick.org.hk

From the Editorial Team



For this issue, we would like to thank Eastman Cheong, Elaine Hung, Jacky Leung, Lisa Djeng, Lora Tsang, Li Chiu Yu, Manita So, Nancy Chui and Yvonne Leung for their contribution of articles, and Eileen Tsang for her design and artwork. If you would like to contribute an article, or have any suggestions about our newsletter, please write to editorial@warwick.org.hk

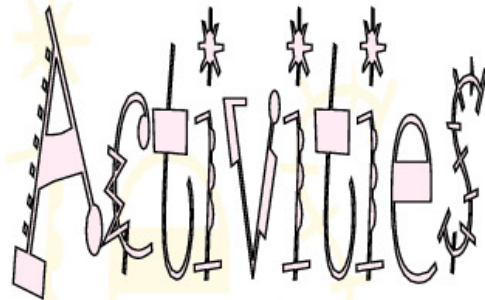


Dinner Talk on Show Business

A dinner talk organised by WGAHK was held on 19th July 2003 at Hangzhou Xin Kai Yuen (Hong Kong) Restaurant. Our guest speaker, Mr. Gary Chan who did BSc in Management Sciences at Warwick in the 1980s, is now the Managing Director of Warner Music Hong Kong Limited. With over 15 years' experience in the show business, Gary is an influential figure in the industry playing a crucial role behind the fame of many local artists. It was a very enjoyable evening attended by over 30 graduates. The event started with dinner, followed by humorous comments by Gary and then a casual and interactive question and answer session.

Experience Sharing at Warwick Pre-departure Reception

On 20 August 2003, a pre-departure reception hosted by the Warwick Hong Kong Office was held at Renaissance Harbour View Hotel for students who were going to commence their studies at Warwick the following October. Five committee members of WGAHK were invited to the reception. Yvonne Leung, Chairman, gave an introduction about WGAHK and Lisa Djeng, Vice-Chairman, made a presentation about the WGAHK Scholarship. Edward Tan, Chris Chu and Natalie Law joined the reception as well and shared their Warwick experience with the new postgraduate students. It was an enjoyable evening attended by around 100 new students and parents as well as some current students.



Warwickers Reaching out Highlights at UK Alumni Reception and Happy-hour with Cardiff Alumni

10 Warwickers joined the UK alumni event organised by the British Council & British Chamber of Commerce on 30th October 2003. The evening was attended by about 150 participants and featured a speech by Mr. David Li, in a cosy cocktail reception setting. There were plentiful opportunities for alumni from different UK universities to mingle with each other. The evening ended on a special lucky note for Warwick when Lisa Djeng, WGAHK Vice-Chairman, won the evening's grand prize: A big bottle of champagne from Berry Bros & Rudd.

Following discussions with the Cardiff University alumni executive committee at the UK Alumni event, Cardiff alumni joined the Warwick monthly happy hour gathering* on 4th December 2003. Altogether 50 people turned up and almost jammed Madison's!

*The Warwick Happy Hour gathering is held on the first Thursday of every month. If you want to be put on the e-mail reminder notification distribution, please write to Nancy Chui at secretary@warwick.ogr.hk



Hiking along Tai Tam Bay

It was that time of year again we went hiking. On 26 October 2003, we took the trail along Tai Tam Bay. Natalie Law, an executive member of the WGAHK, was the tour guide of 17 of us. We started at Tai Tam Road, walking through the tree-shaded catchwater. We chatted. We laughed. We took photos and we enjoyed the scenic views — Tai Tam Harbour on our right hand side and the mountain on our left. While some of us were talking about the luxury Red Hill Peninsula, some were enjoying the performances of water skiers at the Tai Tam Bay. About 2 hours later, we reached our destination — the beach at To Tei Wan. When everyone was thinking this was the end of our hiking trail, we were told that we needed to accept a final challenge, which was to climb up a few hundreds steps before we got to the bus stop at Shek O Road! We were exhausted, but happy. More importantly, we met both new and old friends.



Trip to Sai Kung

On 2nd November 2003, a dozen of former students of Warwick University, headed by Natalie Law, met at Diamond Hill MTR Station at 9am, went on a hiking trip to Sai Kung. We planned to walk around the High Island Reservoir.

Our journey started on the 96R bus to Pak Tam Chung where we began our three-hour hike. The day was bright and sunny. During the trip, we chatted about a range of topics from our common memories of Warwick life to practices of meditation and Tai Chi, while enjoying the picturesque scenery on both sides of the walking trail.

At around 1pm, we arrived at our destination – the East Dam of High Island Reservoir. We looked down from the dam and were amazed at the peculiar rocks and small islands fighting with the waves on one side of the coast and the tranquil, wrinkle-free water reflecting the mountains and trees on the other. Some of us could not help climbing down from the dam and taking pictures of the breathtaking scenes of the rugged shoreline, to show evidence of our hiking achievements.

The trip ended with the sharing of drinks and food at the pavilion on the dam. We said goodbye afterwards, wondering when we could meet again.

Christmas Musical Party

How relaxing it would be to enjoy music with your friends after a long day's work! The musical evening was successfully held on 11 Dec 2003 at Il Concerto in Wan Chai. The environment is warm and cozy with a spacious balcony overseeing the Central skyline. The place is well equipped with different instruments and is a perfect spot for party.

We had an interesting evening which encompassed plenty of yummy delicacies for everyone as well as Karaoke. The highlight of the evening was the piano performance by Nancy together with group singing by the piano. The mini concert had a fine blend of music ranging from Christmas songs, the 60s to pop songs.

The evening ended with an encore song by our committee members. It was a good meet up with all Warwick alumni. WGAHK would like to record our thanks to our graduate Eric Yuen (BSc Accounting and Finance) of Il Concerto for hosting the evening at his beautiful music room.

Lamma Island Trip with Seafood Dinner

On the breezy afternoon of 13 December 2003, Warwickers and their family and friends had a joyful hike on Lamma Island. The journey kicked off with a ferry ride from Central to Sok Kwu Wan. All the way to Yung Shue Wan, the hiking route climbed along the island's blue coast and green mountain ridges. Hikers were enchanted by the spectacular 270-degree view of the bay at sunset. The cozy seafood dinner at the restaurant's veranda that followed marked another highlight of the day. Amidst the sea breeze and laughter, Warwickers enjoyed a genuine taste of the island's speciality.



