

The OLD FREES ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE had an eventful year, even without opportunity to meet as a group. Your committee only met twice (early part of year) but the following activities occurred:

President's Report 2010/11

- 1. Visited Harbin to again meet the Professors of Harbin University and confirm joint interest in an international meeting of Old Frees / Old Penangites / Public Health Proponents in Harbin to share the historical links of our internationally prominent Old Free, Dr Wu Lien-Teh. His museum there has been improved upon and there is now a school, park and road named after him. We can add to the momentum and, also, place Penang (and PFS) on world radar. On 14 April, Mediacorp's Ms Ong Lay Hong delivered a talk to the Singapore-China Friendship Association. Attached is a write up on Dr Wu and I will speak on this at our AGM.
- 2. I also broached the above subject with Penang OFA (photos of visit to President Rajendran and committee, 3 July 2011, attached). They were enthused and will work towards talks at PFS and in Penang on the life and work of Dr Wu. Following a request by the School to fund a wi-fi project, we have indicated to Penang OFA that we will join in to also boost IT training for the students and digitize the archives. Discussions were also afoot on OFA Penang holding joint games/dialogues with the students annually, with ourselves and Selangor OFA joining in.
- 3. Sadly, in March we learnt of the passing of Mr and Mrs JMB Hughes. I attended the memorial organized by OFA Selangor and extended our condolences to the Hughes family via the tele-conferencing. Attached are some photographs as well as possibly last ones we have of our beloved HM.
- 4. Our links with Penang and CM Lim Guan Eng continued with the "Penang Dialogue", assisting Old Xaverians organize on the topic "Manpower" at E&O S'pore office 5 Oct 2010. Our Vice-President, Jeeve, then organized that on "HealthCare" at the Tanglin Club on 11 Aug 2011 (attended by CM). Both were very well attended and received.
- 5. Our accounts are still fairly healthy and treasurer Teik Kooi will report on this.

I will provide more photographs and look forward to a lively exchange of ideas and of more fellowship at our upcoming Friday 21 Oct 2011 AGM at Penang Place Restaurant.

FORTIS ATQUE FIDELIS! Dr Alex Ooi, President. 26 September, 2011.