

NCE68 Serendipity

The following is a journal of recent email communications among the NCE68 Support Team and a few other alumni, following a recent re-union in Hong Kong. What really is interesting are the intensity of camaraderie and the level of genuine innocence expressed in the sentiments.
Please read it and judge it for yourself ...
Be inspired and feel free to share your thoughts.

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2012-02-22 From Daisy Lui (Chan) (England):

Hi Bosco, Michael:

We had a fantastic (re-union) evening last night. Thanks to Daisy Lam and Toomany.

Attached are the (30+) photos taken. I have taken individual photo of each guest. My camera was running out of battery, therefore there were few group photos taken.

The SA Team, I was told to take one, leaving a space so that Bosco can insert Anna Hui's photo to complete Daisy Lam's SA Team (dated back 1968's SA Team).

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2012-02-22 from Man-lee Tao (Hong Kong):

Hi All,

Just to let you know that we had a wonderful evening on 21st and we welcomed back Philip Fong, Andrew Lee, Joseph and Helen Cheung, Joesph Leung, Gorette Chan as well as Daisy Lui. Virginia Pak and Una Chan graced us with their presence--this is the first time they touched home base, and we wish to see them more often. Thanks are due to Daisy Lam for making the phone calls and tracking long lost friends.

Daisy Lui has been so kind as to take photos of each and every one of us and used their names as the file names. So you can now have fun identifying us and refresh your memory with the most recent images of us after our initial meeting 46 years ago!!!

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2012-02-23 from Paul Choi (Hong Kong): Re: Reunion in HK \_NCE Class of 1968

各位羅師兄姐:

弟有幸於席上與各兄弟姊妹們共聚談天話當年，更難得的是能與闊別多年的同舍同學們見面回首昔日溫馨情懷，殊非易事，更能於席間互相慰問別後工作生活；胡兄偉文更掏出昔日同學們之老照片與眾人分享，有人問誰是方文顯？方兄立刻回應我在此。豈料答覆是嗎，何今滿頭髮白，難辨當年相貌，哈哈！

Tennessee..兄與我同席，教會我們健康養生之道，如何吃健康減肥餐：如早餐吃蘋果一個

，麥皮一碗，雞蛋多枚但只吃蛋白....又與 Veronica ,Backy & Betsy Wong ,Elain 林漢超上課時的有趣事。老師的花名(紙扎林)原來是因為如此由來。趣味多籬籬，但只好談到此處暫停了。下次再續。望能藉此拋磚引玉，引來各位兄姊們更多分享！

以馬內利 (神與我們同在)  
蔡慶耀 (南美一棵菜) 敬上

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2012-02-23 From Leonor Sequeira (Hong) (Calgary):

Paul: Well written! Should post this sentiment on our NCE68 Website. 😊

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2012-02-23 From Paul Choi (Hong Kong):

Dear Leonor, Thank you very much for your honour. By the way , do you understand all the Chinese what I wrote there?

GOOD LUCK GOOD HEALTH GOD BLESS US!

Your Little naughty boy in NCE66-68, Paul Choi Hing Yiu.

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(Continued ...)

2012-02-23 From Leonor Sequeira (Calgary):

OK! Paul, do you think I understand the Chinese you wrote? 😊 (Note: It is difficult to do literal translation from one language to another, but I hope I have captured your literary style from Chinese to English.) How did I do? 😊

Like I say, your "piece" can be posted on our Website, just as you said, as BAIT - Catalyst to attract more Cyberspace discussions among old classmates!

(此拋磚引玉，引來各位兄姊們更多分享)

--- Leonor Sequeira , the "foreigner"! 😊施珮璇小妹妹

**** Here it is - your speech in English as I understand it!

Dear Northcote Brothers and Sisters:

I have such great pleasure at the banquet to reminisce about yonder years, and of course, it is not often that I can recall fond memories of yonder years with classmates I have not seen for years. I relish this rare opportunity to have a dialogue about each other's work and daily life; Brother 胡偉文 also shared with us old photos of classmates from the past. Someone queried as to who was 方文顯 , with Brother 方 immediately responding, "I'm here". Despite the response, we marvelled at his head of grey hair, making it difficult to discern his look now from that of the past. Ha! Ha!

Brother Tennessee Leung was sitting with me at the same table, and taught me the path to good health like how to consume fat-free healthy meals; for example, an

apple for breakfast, a bowl of oatmeal, a few eggs but only using the egg white... alongside Veronica ,Becky & Betsy Wong ,Elain Cheung and company recalling the funny anecdotes of Art Lam , 林漢超 and his lessons. So that's HOW this lecturer's nickname, 紙扎林 (Flim-flam Lam) originated!

Tons of interesting chit-chats, but I need to stop now for the time being. Will continue next time. I hope this will serve as bait to attract more fellow brothers and sisters to join the sharing in the nearest future!

Emanuel (The Lord be with us)

Cordially yours, Paul Choi Hing Yiu 蔡慶耀 (The South American Veggie)

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2012-02-23 From Rachel Yim (Vancouver):

咱們羅師 68 班嗎，臥虎藏龍。Leonor 英文老師，略顯一手，翻譯精準，夾帶文采，鼓掌致敬！

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2012-02-23 From John Bosco (Ho) (Foster City):

1) My reaction to the HK Re-union and the new-found 'NCE68 Serendipity':

a. OMG! I stayed away from my email for a couple days and suddenly a deluge of email & photos flooded my mail boxes! I could not resist to stop reading until I completed the thread of email interactions. It was exhilarating to see such simple joyous share of friendship and memories, to the degree of being child-like again! Imagine all those present (in their respectable 60's, age wise) who were willing to have a 'mug shot' taken by one of their own (an amateur photographer) !!?? But it was all in the spirit of We Are Together ('A World of Our Own')!

b. By the time I finished all the email, it was rather late already. I was in a state of emotional high and did not want to respond at once. Instead I went to sleep. And then ... the slumber was all pleasant sweet dreams without interruptions ... The next time I opened my eyes it was 6 hours later !! It was so soothing and gratifying. This is what I called the 'NCE68 Serendipity' effect – accidental pleasant discovery! Thanks to Daisy Lam and Toomany, especially !!

2) Re re-union photos: May I ask Michael to lead the project to sort out all the re-union photos and create a collage for posting on our website please?

3) I plan to showcase some of the playful exchanges from the thread of email exchanges on our Evergreen Northcotian so more NCE68 Sweeties and Buddies can enjoy them. Additional creative angles are welcome !!

Cheers, and be always Young at Heart!

Bosco

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2012-02-24 From Leonor Sequeira (Calgary):

Bosco and the Support Team:

Wow! It's just as well that I get to read this email on a Friday, for I am almost "moved" to tears, trying to read, absorb and reflect on the sentiment-filled content in your "reaction", Bosco.

To add to your sentiments,

- Bosco, you better take it easy on these "exhilarating" experiences, or you could be transformed into a walking zombie in no time because I am confident that there will be more and more NCE Alumni joining activities and becoming more and more active visitors and participants on our NCE 68 Website.
- Daisy and Too Many, indeed, you are both entitled to whatever Honorary Titles our Webmaster, Bosco, will be conferring on you both. As an alumna, I am most appreciative of all the efforts you both have put out, the due diligence already performed notwithstanding, to keep us 60-something Alumni reconnecting, and transporting us back to those fond memories of yesteryears which we are all treasuring more today than we did in 1966-68. It keeps all of us Young at Heart! Age and life have also taught us to appreciate those days of pure friendship more!
- Michael, I am so glad that you are the computer techie who will rise to the challenge of this new assignment from Bosco. Can't wait to see the fruit of your hard work!
One more question to Bosco: Why the phrase of "NCE68 Sweeties and Buddies" ? I assume the alumnae are the "Sweeties" and the alumni are just "Buddies." Aren't our male classmates just as "sweet"? Why can't we coin the phrase, using your line of logic, "NCE68 Sweeties and Honeys" ? Just a provocative question! 😊 (Equal opportunity!)

--- Leonor

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2012-02-25 From Rachel Yim (Vancouver):

Hi, Bosco:

I really liked your term "mug shot".

Imagine the group of retired professionals, waiting in line to have their pictures taken. They all reverted to being at school age, --"do as you are told". Really hilarious !

A very old song which I learned in high school, called 本事, may reflect the

innocence of our NCE 68 bunch back then.

記得當時年紀小，你愛談天我愛笑，有一回並肩坐在桃樹下，風在林梢鳥在叫，我們不知怎麼睡著了，夢里花落知多少。

When we meet again after 40+ years, retired from a lifetime of career building and parenting, we should be allowed to have good laughs of our "simple and naive " days.

May I suggest that we set a page on the website for 那些年...我最懷念的是.....

Rachel

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2012-02-26 From Daisy Lam (Hong Kong):

I like the idea !

2012-02-27 From John Bosco (Foster City):

OK! Watch out on our website in a couple months! We will provide more space for NCE68 self expression! Can you think of a name for this page?

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\*\*\*\* Click the browser "Back" Arrow to go back to the previous page! \*\*\*\*