

# Rotary Club of Wan Chai Scholarship

## -Cambridge Study Trip



### Yuki Chan Ching Yee 5E

First of all, I would like to thank the Wan Chai Rotary Club and my school for giving me this priceless opportunity to attend a three-week Summer English Course in Cambridge. During this trip, not only did I improve my English skills, but I also explored the world.

I was so lucky that I could meet lots of people coming from different countries, including Italy, Russia, Poland, France, and Germany. At first, I was quite shy and I was afraid to talk with them; however after a few chats, I realised that there was nothing to be afraid of. It is my great pleasure to have a chance to learn different languages and know more about different cultures. Right now, I have learnt how to speak "I love you" in different languages and I am so proud of myself -- it is really difficult to pronounce words in foreign languages!

Moreover, I tried different new things and they were absolutely amazing and exciting! For example, I went punting twice, which was a brilliant experience, and I have never tried it before -- that's why I found it really fun! There were many trees near the Riverside and ducks swimming with us. They were so adorable and cute!



Because of this wonderful experience, it was really depressing when I had to say goodbye to my lovely schoolmates. I have to say that this trip is the best trip ever and I didn't even want to return to Hong Kong! So again, may I take this opportunity to thank the Wan Chai Rotary club and POCA Wong Siu Ching Secondary School for providing me with the scholarship -- thank you so much!



### Li Yuk Yu 4B

Given my first air ticket to Europe, I went on the journey to Cambridge. On this journey, I met lots of people from different cultures, experienced numerous new things, all of which have changed me a lot.

In Hong Kong, teenagers are not allowed to go to a disco so going to a disco was really a new experience for me. Yet after experiencing it, I didn't really like it. Inside the disco, the music was very loud and people were dancing close to each other. It was really uncomfortable for us and it was so embarrassing to dance with a stranger. However, when I looked at my friends they were all enjoying the music and dancing happily. I realized that culture plays an important role in shaping a person; like Chinese people tend to be shy and they are not used to showing off but the foreigners are more outgoing and expressive, just like my roommate Giulia, who is a lovely Italian girl. She is very talkative. Although her English wasn't very good, she kept trying to use her 'Italian English' to talk to me. At first when we met each other, it was so embarrassing to stay with her in the same room. She wanted to know more about me so she kept talking to me, but after a long traveling; I was so tired that all I wanted was a good sleep. Later, after we knew more about each other, I became more confident to talk with others a lot. Once, she told me that before she met me, she had thought that Chinese girls were shy, quiet and very polite, but I am completely the opposite: I am talkative and a little bit crazy.

On this trip, I also went to Oxford and London. Comparing those two cities with Cambridge, I like Cambridge more. Living in Cambridge is more comfortable, as it isn't crowded with people and it's so relaxing to punt in the river enjoying the beautiful view of King's College, not like London which is full of people and it was too crowded to walk in London.



However, the most unforgettable memory in Cambridge isn't visiting any colleges or museums, but catching the bus to school or back home. In Hong Kong, public transport is very convenient; we can go everywhere easily. But in Cambridge, the bus seldom arrives at the bus stop on time so if we miss the bus we need to wait for a long time for another one. As both Giulia and I are very lazy, we woke up late and we went to the bus stop late so we needed to run to catch the bus. Sometimes the bus driver was really bad and he wouldn't wait for you to get on, so we had to run to the next bus stop to catch the bus home. I will never forget the joy when we were able to catch the bus!

After the trip, I realized how big the world is and how little I am. It's interesting to know more about others' cultures and languages. It's also fun

## Christy Kwok Suen Hei 5A

It was a precious experience for me to be given the chance to travel to Cambridge. There were a lot of unforgettable moments there, and what impressed me the most is the difference in lifestyle between Cambridge and Hong Kong. There was a lot of grasslands. The parks there usually provide a huge area for people to relax and visit, just like the Botanic Garden. Moreover, there are many animals there, such as the cows besides the King College, ducks and swans along the river where we went punting, which can be rarely seen in Hong Kong.



At school, there were a lot of classmates who came from different countries and they were all very friendly. And I have met a lot of new friends there. Furthermore, I have learnt some short sentences of different languages, like Polish, Russian, Italian, etc. As for the teaching style comparing with Hong Kong, it focused more on group discussions so as to provide a platform for us to communicate in English and express our opinions towards a certain topic.

After the lessons, there were activities for us to participate in every day. The most impressive one was punting. I once thought that punting was very easy and interesting, as it seemed to be. However, the truth is, the pole, which is used for changing the directions, is very long and heavy. Therefore, it is extremely difficult for me to operate. In order to change the direction or to move forward with the pole, I had to push against the river bed. Yet, it is difficult as well because I had to push it in an opposing direction to where I was supposed to turn the boat. Even though it was really tiring after punting, it was undeniably a really wonderful activity as the views around were very beautiful and it was interesting to see some ducks and swans swimming right beside me.

Moreover, I have learnt a lot through this trip as it is a great opportunity to speak English which was become the only way for us to communicate with each other there. Therefore, we had to speak in English all the time so that everyone could understand. Apart from that, I have learnt to be more independent.