



Bishop Ho Ming Wah Association & Community Centre

Registered Charity No. 290398

Patron: The Most Reverend Dr. Paul Kwong, Archbishop of Hong Kong

INTRODUCTION

Bishop Ho Ming Wah Association (BHMWA) is an independent registered charity established in 1984, named after Bishop Ronald Owen Hall, CMG MC. He was Bishop of Hong Kong and Macao (and Bishop of Victoria) for 34 years (1932 -1966). "Ho Ming Wah" was his Chinese name which literally means "Hall that understands the Chinese".

Association Members – At the end of March 2013, we have 80 registered Association Members. The Association holds an annual meeting each year in November. At the meeting, candidates are nominated to be members of the Council that governs the running of the Association and Community Centre are elected.

Mission Statement

BHMWA exists to enhance and improve the quality of life of all residents, particularly the Chinese community, in London through support, coordination, influence, information and enrichment.

The Community Centre of the Association operates in the Lower Crypt of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Our services are offered through membership of the Community Centre. While serving mainly the elderly Chinese living in London, we welcome people of all ages from all communities under our open-door policy with Membership at an annual fee of £8. We are committed to help all those who feel marginalized by language and cultural differences. As at 31st March, 2014, we have 711 registered Centre Members with 89 members having enrolled during the year. 76% of our members are over the age of 60 and 80% are Chinese. On an average, 250 Centre Members come to our Centre each week to our activities and/or services.

OUR SERVICES

The Community Centre is where most of our services are offered and activities held. The Centre opens to Centre Members from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on weekdays, and from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays for the Homework Club of our Neighbourhood Multi Service Project. In the year under review, we have successfully maintained and delivered our existing services and highlights of our achievements include:-

❖ **For promoting healthy life style**

- the Luncheon Club served a total of 4,555 freshly cooked hot meals
- the Tai Chi Class ran 154 sessions with an average attendance of 32
- 97 Line Dancing sessions were run at full capacity of 25 participants per session, and 2 social events were organized
- 6 Health Talks and 12 Chat After Lunch (Discussion Forum) with about 20 participants each session
- 4 Walks for Health with more than 20 on each walk in the Summer



Luncheon Club

❖ **For social cohesion and integration through education & enrichment, we had**

- 40 sessions of English Class with an average attendance of 16
- 43 sessions of Mandarin Class with an average attendance of 37
- 35 Chinese Painting sessions and 2 workshops to display works of art
- 3 Family Outings
- 3 Museum visits
- created a Reading Room where magazines and newspaper are provided



Reading Room

❖ **For providing support to those in need, our:**

- 13 volunteer befrienders of the Befriending Project paid 93 visits to the housebound Chinese
- staff & volunteers on duty provided help for Members who dropped in for the Information and Interpreting Service every day
- Counseling and Listening Service, led by Rev. Paul Lau our chaplain, had started
- work in partnership with Oasis in China Town to run the Homework Club, which is part of our Neighbourhood Multi Service Project (NMSP) for Chinese families that migrated to England recently, started in March 2014



Health Talk

NEW PROJECT

The Neighbourhood Multi-Service Project - to help the Chinese families recently arrived to integrate into local life.

Phase 1: Homework Club (started in March 2014) to help children with their English language skill so to break the barrier and reduce isolation at school.

Phase 2: Parenting support (will start soon) to help parents who do not speak English and not familiar with the British educational system.



Tai Chi Class

VOLUNTEERS

The Community Centre was able to achieve its quality services due to the contributions from the consistent hard work of a number of committed long-term volunteers. During the past year there were 30 registered volunteers who provided a total of over 5200 working hours to help run our services.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Association will continue to strengthen our existing services and build on what we have achieved. We will also maximize the use of our resources and seek opportunities to develop our Befriending Project and, our Neighbourhood Multi-Service Project.

WE ARE DIFFERENT

Christian values and ethos are the driving forces behind the work of the Association and have been part of its attraction to a growing membership. We observe an open-door policy to all, whatever their faith, ethnic or cultural background. We provide a holistic approach, caring for the whole person: body, mind and spirit; seeking to build harmonious relationships; with compassionate and relevant care for those in need.

YOU CAN HELP US

- by joining us as our member,
- by telling your friends about us and encouraging them to become our members and use our services,
- by becoming a volunteer,
- by supporting us financially either with a one-off or a regular donation or donate online by visiting our website'
- by remembering us in your will.

Thank you for reading this. For more information, please visit our website (also designed and administered by volunteers) or contact us by phone or email. You are most welcome to visit us.

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