



10th August 2024

Dear Old Boys,

The New Prizes/Scholarships Honouring Ying Wa "Superheroes"

I am writing to extend an invitation for you to join us in a meaningful initiative to honour the legacy of six extraordinary individuals who have significantly shaped the history of Ying Wa College (Anglo-Chinese College). We propose establishing scholarships in their names to recognize their invaluable contributions to the College's development in different stages. These scholarships will be awarded to students who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and achievement in various fields.

We aim to commemorate the contributions of:

"Superheroes"	Areas of Scholarship
Rev Dr. Robert MORRISON (Founder and President of Anglo-Chinese College)	Core Values (Excellent performance in both academic and conduct)
Dr. William MILNE (Founding Principal of Ying Wa College)	Leadership (Outstanding Leadership)
Dr. James LEGGE (7 th Principal of Ying Wa College)	Cultural Development (Promotion and development of Chinese and Western culture)
Rev. CHEUNG Chuk Ling (Pastor of To Tsai Church and a pivotal figure in the school's development)	Promotion of Christianity (Committed in spreading of gospels and promotion of Christian activities)
Principal SHIM Wai Chong Richard: (English teacher, Sports Master, and the 10 th Principal of the College who played a crucial role in the College's preservation)	Student Ambassadors (Leaders of Student Ambassadors who have excellent performance)
Principal Herbert NOBLE: (Teacher and 12 th Principal of Ying Wa College)	Community Service (Most dedicated in serving the community)

(Please see the enclosed for a brief summary of these superheroes)

Your generous donation will be instrumental in ensuring the success of this initiative, perpetuating the legacy of these "superheroes" of Ying Wa, supporting the future development

YING WA COLLEGE

NO. 1, YING WA STREET, SHAMSHUIPO, KOWLOON, HONG KONG

英華書院

香港九龍深水埗英華街一號

Website: <http://www.yingwa.edu.hk>

E-mail: mail@yingwa.edu.hk



Founded 1818

Principal : Dion Chen

校長：陳狄安先生

B.A. (Hons), PGDE., Prof. Dip. (ECA Mgt.), M.Bus., FRSA.

Principal's Office: Tel: 2336 3388 Fax: 2336 1920

校長室

College Office: Tel: 2336 8838 Fax: 2336 1920

校務處

of your junior brothers and enhancing the solidarity of this “Home of Our Youth”. We would be profoundly grateful for your support.

To contribute to this initiative, please send us a crossed cheque payable to “Ying Wa College” at Ying Wa College, 1 Ying Wa Street, Shamshuiipo. A tax-deductible receipt will be issued afterward.

For enquiry, please do not hesitate to contact me on 2336 8838 or dionchen@yingwa.edu.hk.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your kind support.

Yours sincerely,


Mr. Dion Chen, MH
Principal

The 6 superheroes and their achievements

The achievements of these 6 individuals at the trying times are described in the bicentennial history book of Ying Wa and are briefly summarized below.

Founder

Rev Dr Robert Morrison was the Founder and President of Anglo-Chinese College (英華書院, the Chinese name being pronounced as “Ying Wa Shu Un”, thus the name Ying Wa College as well). Sent by the London Missionary Society (the sole object being ‘to spread the knowledge of Christ among heathen and other enlightened nations’) to China in 1807, Rev Morrison was the first Protestant preacher in China. As the Imperial Qing government forbade Christian missionary work in China, Morrison was under the employ of the East India Company as a translator and had to preach and translate the Bible to Chinese discreetly. In 1816-17, as a translator he accompanied Lord Amherst in his mission to the Imperial Qing court at Peking. His other works included “A Grammar of the Chinese Language “ and “Dictionary of the Chinese Language”. With the support of the London Missionary Society, Dr Morrison founded the College in Malacca in 1818 with the aim of “the reciprocal cultivation of English and Chinese literature and the diffusion of Christianity”. It was also a printing house publishing the Chinese translation of the Bible by Morrison himself and Milne and other works for education, preaching and periodicals about the region. Dr Morrison founded the College with his own savings and with donations raised from the public. When the East India Company’s monopoly on trade ceased in 1833, Morrison became the Chinese Secretary and Interpreter of Lord Napier, the new Chief Superintendent of British Trade for China. He passed away in August 1834 with a sudden and serious illness at the age of 52 and was buried in Macao.

Founding Principal

Dr William Milne was the Founding Principal of Anglo-Chinese College. He was sent to China in 1813 by the London Missionary Society, but could only stay there for brief periods as the Imperial Qing government forbade missionary work in China. He embarked on a seven-month preaching tour in South East Asia. In 1815 he set up the Ganges Mission station in Malacca and started free schools for young children there. He helped Dr Morrison establish the Anglo-Chinese College in Malacca. The foundation stone of the College was laid on 11 November 1818 and by August 1820 the main building was completed for use. His published works included the complete Bible in Chinese (21 volumes, Malacca, 1823) which he co-translated with Dr Morrison, at least 19 tracts, the “Chinese Magazines”, the “Indo-Chinese Gleaner”. In 1822 he fell ill and sadly passed away at the young age of 37, and was buried in Malacca.

Relocation

Dr James Legge was sent to Malacca by the London Missionary Society in 1840 as the 7th Principal of Anglo-Chinese College. Under the direction of the Society he relocated in 1843 the Anglo-Chinese College-cum-gospel station from Malacca to Hong Kong, the Chinese trading port then newly under British rule after the First Opium War. The College continued its mission of education, preaching and printing. He also founded the Union Church in 1844 (first known as Union Chapel at Hollywood Road). He was appointed by the government to chair the newly formed Hong Kong Board of Education which was instrumental in establishing the Central School (now Queen's College) in 1862 and the secular education system in Hong Kong. It must be agonizing to have to close Ying Wa College in 1856 because of civil disturbances, life-threatening hostilities and the looming Second Opium War. The printing business nevertheless continued until 1873 when the facilities were sold to a local press. Dr Legge returned to Britain in 1873 owing to his family's ill health. He was appointed the first Professor of Chinese Language and Literature at the University of Oxford in 1876. He stayed with the University until 1897 when he passed away at the age of 82. His written works included "The Chinese Classics", "Life and Works of Mencius" and "The Religions of China". Legge left a legacy beyond the walls of Ying Wa College.

Revival

Rev CHEUNG Chuk Ling, a young preacher originally from the Basel Christian Church in Ho Yuen, Kwangtung Province, was ordained in 1913 by the London Missionary Society to the pastorate of To Tsai Church. There had been calls from To Tsai Church (the first Chinese autonomous church in Hong Kong founded in 1886 with traceable origin and association with Anglo-Chinese College and Union Church) to reestablish a secondary school some 40 years after the closure of Anglo-Chinese College, but the London Missionary Society was not receptive to the suggestion. However the tide began to turn in 1911 when the University of Hong Kong was inaugurated. The project of establishing Morrison Hall for residential students of the University was completed by the London Missionary Society in 1913. There was a growing need for a secondary school to bridge the gap between elementary and tertiary education for families of Christian faith or background. Rev Cheung actively and ably sought to revive the Anglo-Chinese College. The College was opened to students on 9 February 1914 and would from then on officially known as Ying Wa College, the phono-translation of 英華書院 as mentioned above. Rev Cheung headed the Board of Directors in managing the College with funding from To Tsai Church Church, donations from the public, school fees and government grants while the London Missionary Society provided for the candidate and wages of the post of principal. However the College was almost from the outset continuously plagued with three problems. The lack of self-owned school premises meant that it was at the mercy of high rentals, insecure tenancies and uncertainty over building standards. The College had to move three times within its first three years. There had been three principals in succession and by 1924 none was forthcoming. The government had also threatened to withdraw grants expressing dissatisfaction with Ying Wa's shortage of western staff. The Church could not financially afford to hire a principal to head the College. So the Board of Directors met in November 1924 and sadly had to make the difficult decision to close the College. Rev Cheung

braved on as the destiny of Ying Wa made a little twist as described in the next paragraph. Moreover under his leadership, the College started a primary school section in 1931. He retired from his multifaceted religious work in 1950, including his membership in the Board of Directors of Ying Wa College, though still retaining the position of adviser to Hop Yat Church (renamed from To Tsai Church in 1926 under the Ecumenical Movement). He passed away in 1961 at the age of 84.

Rescue

Mr SHIM Wai Chong, educated in Hawaii and North America first joined Ying Wa College as an English teacher and Sports Master. He came to the rescue when Ying Wa College was on the verge of closing down in 1924. Together with two other teachers he appealed to the Board of Directors to take up the charge of the College themselves for the interim period before a permanent school building became a reality. The College would be run as a private school, but with working relationship with To Tsai Church and the London Missionary Society. The understanding was that the College would be returned to the authority of the church unconditionally once a new permanent school building was completed. Under the headship of Mr Shim (the 10th Principal), the number of students increased; students excelled in sports, especially in basketball competitions, and other extra-curricular activities; many graduates went on to university both locally and overseas. Mr Shim was a keen athlete, and had participated in baseball competitions in the 1923 and 1925 Far Eastern Championship Games. He had also been the Chairman of the Chinese Baseball League and of the Inter-School Basketball League. As to the school premises project, To Tsai Church joined hands with China Congregational Church in establishing a school-cum-church on a new site in Mongkok with funding from both churches, from donations, from loans, and from issuing bonds. However the building work was interrupted by the massive all-out Canton-Hong Kong strike in 1925-26. In 1928, after leading Ying Wa College into the newly completed premises in Mongkok, Principal Shim handed back the operation of the College to the church as previously agreed. In 1929, under the new school constitution, the Church of Christ in China (CCC, formed in the years 1922 to 1927 under the Ecumenical Movement) became the school sponsoring body of Ying Wa College and managed the College with the Board of Directors comprising representatives from Hop Yat Church (renamed from To Tsai Church in 1926 under the Ecumenical Movement), China Congregational (Kung Lee) Church, the London Missionary Society, and several other dignitaries from religious organizations. Then Mr Shim resigned office in 1930 and went into the insurance trade. He settled in Honolulu in his late years, and passed away in 1992 at the age of 90.

Resilience

Mr Herbert Noble was sent by the London Missionary Society to Ying Wa College as a teacher and became its 12th Principal in 1938. During the Japanese Occupation in World War II, he was detained in Shamshuipo Internment Camp. After the war he had to get back to England for a period of recuperation from ill health. He returned to Ying Wa College in 1947 and had since remained its principal until retirement. He was also active in serving the community, as

a member of the Grants School Council, the Board of Education, the Executive Committee of the Alice Ho and Affiliated Hospitals, etc.

In the 1950s he began to take up the burden of rebuilding the College at a new site as the Bute Street Campus had become old and too small for the increasing student population and changing curricula of the day. The project took longer than expected owing to unavailability of suitable sites and inadequacy of funds. He laboriously soldiered on and in 1963, the new school premises at Oxford Road were established to the delight of the teaching staff and students. He was decorated an OBE in the 1963 New Year Honor List. Owing to the deteriorating health, Mr Noble retired in 1964. He passed away in England in December 1964 at the age of 59, shortly after completing his homebound sea voyage via Australia.