



INTRODUCTION

Founded in 1986, the Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand (HKSSH) is celebrating her 10th anniversary this year. Ten years is too trivial in the flow of history, yet the people of Hong Kong have experienced significant changes in the past decade. In the medical field, we saw the blooming of the various subspecialties of Orthopaedics in Hong Kong, the Hospital Authority was established in 1991, the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine was founded in 1993 and the various Colleges were formed. Socially the changes are even more shaking. Perhaps the catalyst for all these changes is the coming of 1997 and the subsequent change of sovereignty. It is prime time we review what we have achieved in the past and plan accordingly for our future. In actual fact the next Council will lead us through two very important milestones in our history: the formation of the HKSSH Company Limited and the 1997.

History not only tells us what happened in the past, more importantly we know where we stand now. We often doubt and our younger successors often ask why are we? And why are we? Perhaps this historical account will give light to our questions.

In this issue we have interesting articles that tell the different facets of the development of Hand Surgery in Hong Kong. It is interesting to go through the stories told by our senior colleagues on how Hand Surgery in Hong Kong has taken shape. It is amazing to go through the list of publications we have generated usually in a team effort. It reflects our dedication for the well-being of mankind. We should all appreciate what we have achieved together and hopefully the next generation will get some inspiration on how to further advance the art of medicine, and in this context, the science of Hand Surgery.

The Editorial Board would like to extend our gratitude to all contributors for their superlative articles and photos. We would like to thank Prof. John Leong, current President of the Hong Kong College of Orthopaedics Surgeons, for an encouraging message. Dr K P Chan provided us with an insight into the very early days. Dr. KT Fu responded enthusiastically to our appeal to contributions from the local orthopaedic community. Our past presidents each contributed their different individual perspectives. Our colleagues in rehabilitation completed the picture with their stories and Dr KY Fung described the events in the Kwong Wah Hospital. Of special note are the interviews by Ms Jessie Leung. As a non-medical person, her presentations certainly add a more lively dimension to our past.

Should all Hand Surgeons also take this opportunity to thank the tremendous support by our other halves who have been waiting patiently for us at dinner or at home! All Hand Surgeons know we owe our spouses a lot that only love can guide us through.

The Editorial Board

Dr. WC Wu, Dr. LK Hung, Dr. CK Lam, Dr. KM Au, Ms. Nora Yung, Ms. Jessica Tse, Ms. Molly Chan and Ms. Jessie Leung*

May 10, 1996.

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