



Trials in November were opened up to overseas horses for the first time, but it was the local stars who stole the limelight in the run-up to December's main event. Collection, ridden by Weichong Marwing, started the fanfare by winning the Cup Trial, then seven days later Fellowship under Zac Purton took out the Mile Trial from Sight Winner

Good Ba Ba. The magic continued when Darren Beadman led *Happy Zero* home by a two-length margin in the Sprint Trial, beating Sacred Kingdom - the world's joint-highest ranked speedster.

The week of the Cup Trial also saw another famous local racing hero, Silent Witness, return to Sha Tin - but this time cast in bronze. The life-sized statue has

with the former champion sprinter's Owners, the Da Silva family, to pay tribute to his contribution in raising Hong Kong's profile in international racing and promote the 'can do spirit' he so vividly portrayed - two of the central themes of the Club's 125th Anniversary programme.







NEVER SAY NO TO PLAY

Parents taking their children to the Club Charities Trust-funded Playright PlayScope in Tai Po for the first time might well be astonished by the treasure trove of games, toys and books available. Even more would be intrigued by the absence of a "Don'ts" section in its rule book.

Instead of limiting children's choice, this innovative and safe play centre advocates child-driven play by encouraging youngsters to explore different activities to their own liking, and more importantly, at their own pace. The first rule Mrs Yeung learnt when she took her four-year-old son to PlayScope was - there is no rule governing play.

"It never dawned on me that saying 'No' to my son too often is 'detrimental' to his development," Mrs Yeung confided. Picking up useful tips and experience from the PlayScope staff, she has now learnt to encourage her son to engage in different games and even invent his own, so as to unleash his full imagination.

By actively participating in their children's play activities, parents like Mrs Yeung can instil positive values in them and shape their budding minds, as well as strengthen the parent-child relationship.

The Trust has donated HK\$2.74 million to Playright Children's Play years. It is estimated that the services provided by the centre can benefit over 23,000 people a year.

萬象遊戲 啟迪心智

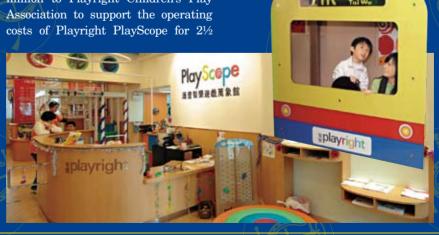
當父母攜同子女首次踏進位於大埔的智 樂遊戲萬象館,看到琳瑯滿目的遊戲、 玩具及書本,簡直是歎為觀止。更令人 嘖嘖稱奇的是,這裡沒有「不准」,只 有鼓勵參與者盡情投入遊樂世界。

來到由馬會慈善信託基金捐助營運 的萬象館,小朋友在優質的遊戲及安全 的環境下,可以無拘無束地參與各式各 樣的遊戲,既開心又益智。陪同四歲兒 子到來的楊太對萬象館讚不絕口, 笑言 最令兒子心花怒放的,是在萬象館內玩 耍時無需循規蹈矩。

楊太亦因此對管教兒子有另一番體 會:「萬象館令我明白,原來經常限制 兒子這樣那樣,又要他怎樣怎樣,反而 會室礙他的發展。」楊太從萬象館的職 員身上,學會怎樣引導兒子參與遊戲, 甚至懂得創作遊戲,啟發兒子無限的想 像力。

透過一同參與遊戲活動,家長像楊 太般可潛移默化地向兒子灌輸正面的價 值觀,激盪他開始活躍的頭腦,同時有 助鞏固彼此的關係。

基金捐款港幣二百七十四萬元予智 樂兒童遊樂協會,支持其遊戲萬象館兩 年半的營運經費,預計每年約有二萬 三千人受惠。



TRAINING PROVIDES FOOD R NEW CAREER PATHS

What's in a cup of cappuccino and a pineapple bun? To Ah Ling and Ah Fung, they offer much more than sensations to the tastebuds; they can also offer a ray of hope for a better life.

Middle-aged former catering executive Ah Ling met repeatedly with disappointment in her job hunting until she enrolled in a coffeemaking course organised by the new FTU Employment Development Service Centre, renovated with a HK\$10 million donation from the Club's Charities Trust. One of some 100 multi-disciplinary full- and parttime training programmes offered by the Centre every year, the course helps people like Ah Ling to acquire recognisable qualifications under the Government's Qualifications Framework, regardless of their skills and background.

Passing the course not only qualified Ah Ling for an examination

organised by UK authorities to become a coffee barista, it also opened a new chapter in her career as she is now thinking of opening up a coffee shop of her own.

To new migrant Ah Fung, another Centre trainee, the trays of mouth-watering pineapple buns and other pastries he learnt to make have proved equally inspiring.





Notwithstanding the hurdles posed by his dialect and junior secondary education, the bakery programme Ah Fung undertook at the Centre has given his confidence a major boost and helped him land two job offers, bringing hopes for a brighter future.

我都做得到!

對很多上班族來說, cappuccino 和菠蘿 包是下午茶時段的夢幻組合;但站在水 吧後為客人準備餐食的阿玲和阿鋒卻視 之為人生的一線曙光,箇中蘊含的意義 比咖啡和出爐麵包的香味更濃。

曾幾何時,人到中年的阿玲擔任食 肆的管理層,失業後在求職苦海跌跌蘯 **蘯一段時間,直至來到工聯會職業發展** 中心,完成了沖咖啡的培訓課程後才重 拾自信,對再就業充滿希望。沖咖啡是 該中心每年開辦逾百個全職及兼職培 訓課程之一,旨在配合政府推行的「資 歷架構 |,幫助遇到類似阿玲處境的失 業人士提升競爭力和生產力。中心獲馬 會慈善信託基金捐款一千多萬港元進行

阿玲畢業後可報考英國咖啡沖調師 的認可專業資格,現正滿肚密圈籌劃創 業大計,開設咖啡店與客人分享沖咖啡 的心得。

同樣在中心找到出路的還有新移民 阿鋒,他在麵包房努力不懈地學習,當 看到親手烘出來的菠蘿包和酥餅令人唾 涎欲滴便心滿意足。畢竟,對鄉音未除 和只有初中程度的阿鋒來説,一盤又一 盤新鮮出爐的麵包,代表着一份自信和 對工聯會的無言感激,全因為這個「練 功房」為他帶來了兩份工作機會,現在 他議價能力高了,還有工可揀呢!

Helping people to help themselves



Help is on the way for resource-strained self-help groups after the Club's Charities Trust undertook to support the Self-Help Development Centre by donating HK\$2.07 million to renovate and equip its Nam Shan Centre in Shek Kip Mei. Four self-help groups moved in at its inception and benefited from the newly-renovated, well-equipped Centre, which not only serves as a base for these groups to serve the community effectively, but also acts as a platform to encourage interaction among them and facilitate experience sharing.

助人自助 造福社群

自助組織資源匱乏,但在弱勢社群之間卻擔當重要角色。馬會慈善信託基金捐款二百零七萬 港元予自助組織發展中心,為其位於石硤尾的南山活動中心進行裝修工程及購置設備。全新 裝修的活動中心設備齊全,在啓用之初已有四家自助組織進駐。中心可供自助組織以此為據 點,有效服務社群之餘,也促進彼此共用資源,交流經驗。