



# 軍信

## ARMY SCENE

84  
ISSUE 期  
SEP - OCT 2018



### 循環再用背後點滴

Recycling Programme –  
Behind the Scenes

「……捐得樂意的人是神所喜愛的。」（哥林多後書9章7節）  
‘...for God loves a cheerful giver.’ (2 Corinthians 9:7)





## 回收物品到哪去？ Where Do the Recycle Items Go?

很多人在執拾家中舊衣及物品時，不想就此丟掉，便會拿到回收站或直接交給慈善機構循環回收。那些舊物會被怎樣處理？能否再用？最終往哪裏去？能否覓得新主人？我們不會特別深究，只知道「它們被處理了」。

循環再用聽得再多，也不代表全面了解。今期軍信訪問救世軍循環再用計劃高級經理、物流中心及家品店的職員，了解循環再用的點滴。適逢救世軍循環再用計劃中心遷往新址，故特別到訪一趟，讓讀者更認識循環再用過程，並讓大家想一想，在捐贈舊衣物及物品時，是在為環保及慈善出力，還是純粹為了不浪費而捐贈，忽略了本身捐贈作回收時應該要注意的一些事情。●

To handle the used clothing and items that we want to remove but feel wasteful to simply throw away – dropping them at collection points or passing them directly to charitable organisations for recycling and reuse could be a nice choice. However, seldom do we ask the questions ‘How are they handled? Can they be used again? Where do they go? Will they find their new owners?’ We may not know the answers except ‘they have been taken care of’.

So much that we may have heard about recycling, and yet it doesn’t necessarily mean that we have a comprehensive idea of what it means. For that, this issue of *Army Scene* interviews Senior Manager of The Salvation Army Recycling Programme, and employees of the Logistics Centre and Family Store on recycling and reuse. We have also paid a visit to the new premises of The Salvation Army Recycling Programme Logistics Centre to show our readers more about the process of recycling and hopefully to inspire the reflection on why we are donating used items: are we donating for environmental protection and a charitable cause, or do we simply want the items being handled and neglect something we should pay attention to before giving them away for recycling? ●

《軍信》雙月刊 Army Scene Bimonthly Newsletter  
第八十四期 The 84th Issue  
2018 年 9 至 10 月 Sep-Oct 2018

出版 Publisher  
救世軍  
The Salvation Army

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今期的封面故事介紹救世軍循環再用計劃和家品店。由於循環再用計劃在社區內隨處可見，因此品牌認受性高，在電視節目甚至電影，也不時看到循環再用計劃的蹤影。

救世軍現時在全球超過 130 個國家和地區服務，為甚麼要從事這項特殊的工作？

主要原因是救世軍循環再用計劃和家品店，正好回應了本軍使命的兩個核心價值：扶貧和作地球的管家。這兩個價值深深植根於聖經，本軍的神學信仰和實踐也強烈闡明這些價值。

### 家品店

舊約和新約聖經都強調與神建立一個正確的關係，將反映出我們與鄰人的關係。舊約聖經有很多敘述都大力鼓勵我們「慷慨解囊」，跟有需要的人分享我們的財富。耶穌以好撒馬利亞人和遇上富有少年官長的比喻，展示出一個期望，就是神透過我們作出愛心行動，使公義得以彰顯。在神學上，我們明白我們的行動是基於這些聖經原則。我們希望家品店能夠讓可動用收入較少的人有賓至如歸的感覺，為他們提供價廉物美的貨品，讓他們有尊嚴地為家人購物的同時，亦能夠幫助別人。

### 循環再用計劃

創世記的敘述清楚教導我們，神是創造、保守、管理天地萬物之主宰，但祂也給我們委以管家的職責。我們有責任照顧地球。我們從多方面以前所未有的方式，未能維持地球和地球資源之間的微妙平衡。我們身為神的創造的管家，這種神學信仰推動我們作出再用、回收、升級再造，以及愛護地球的行動。

這些計劃不但沒有跟本軍的基督教信仰抵觸，更是我們以行動實踐信仰的表現。

Our cover story this issue concerns our Recycling Programme and Family Stores. Because of its high community visibility this Programme has a very high brand recognition and can often be seen in television programmes and even movies.

Why does The Salvation Army now serving in over 130 countries and regions around the world engage in this particular activity?

The primary reason is that our Recycling Programme and Family Stores speaks to two of our core mission values: Poverty Alleviation and Stewardship of the Planet. Both of these values are deeply rooted in the biblical narrative and strongly articulated in our theological belief and practice.

### Family Stores

Both the Old and New Testament emphasise that right relationship with God will be reflected in our relationship with our neighbours. Many of the Old Testament narratives strongly encourage us to be ‘generous’ with our wealth by sharing it with those in need. Jesus’ parable of the Good Samaritan and the encounter with the Rich Young Ruler demonstrate the expectation that social justice is a demonstration of God’s love in action through us. Theologically we understand that our actions are informed by these biblical principles. It is our hope that individuals with less disposable income will find our Family Stores inviting while providing quality goods at an affordable price so they may purchase articles for their families with dignity and the knowledge that they are also helping others.

### Recycling Programme

The Genesis narrative clearly teaches that God is the creator, preserver, and governor of all things but that He also gives us the responsibility of stewardship. We are charged with caring for the planet. In many ways like never before we are failing to care of the delicate balance of the planet and its resources. The theological belief that we are stewards of God’s creation drives our actions to reuse, recycling, upcycling and conservation of the planet.

Rather than contradicting our Christian beliefs these programmes are a practical expression of our faith in action.





▲ 職員收到由品牌捐贈的衣物後，作檢查及分類處理。Our employees conduct checking and sorting on the clothing donated by apparel brands.

## ▶ 循環再用 背後點滴

### Recycling Programme – Behind the Scenes

隨着社會環保意識逐步提高，循環再用亦成為社會一大議題。不少市民將自己家中的舊物資交到回收商循環再用，或捐贈給救世軍等慈善機構予有需要人士，為環保及助人出一分力。然而，公眾意識提高了，卻不代表瞭解回收工作的運作及理念，本文希望能增進讀者的瞭解。

With the rise of social awareness of environmental protection, recycling and reuse naturally becomes a topic that has our attention. As a way to support environment protection and helping others, many citizens pass the used goods at home to recyclers, or donate them to charitable organisations such as The Salvation Army for redistribution to others in need. Nevertheless, an increased public awareness may not mean people are well enough acquainted with the operation and philosophy of recycling. This time we are going to introduce different aspects of the Recycling Programme to show our readers a better picture.

#### 新址回收系統完善

今年，救世軍循環再用計劃物流中心遷往新地點，帶來煥然一新的工作環境。新中心設施更為完善，在中心加設防滑地板及防撞欄等安全設施，以免員工受傷；又增設冷氣系統，地方也更寬敞，讓同事能舒適工作。

儘管工作環境較大、設施更新、更有系統，中心的員工每天還是忙得不可開交，工作量有增無減。據中心統計，2017年4月至2018年3月，救世軍總回收量達到4,239噸，每星期平均收集到約83噸物資。每天，員工在處理物資上需花費很多時間。

救世軍循環再用計劃高級經理何志輝指出：「我們的車隊到各區收集捐贈物品，再運送到中心作有系統的處理，包括分類、檢查及簡單消毒等。經處理後，我們首先會預留部份物資，直接贈予社會上有需要的人，如獨居長者、露宿者、更生人士及領綜援人士等。而剩餘的物資會轉到家庭店（Family Store）作義賣，收益作推廣救世軍社區關懷服務之用。」

#### 為舊物尋找新主人

為每件物品或衣物覓得新主人，並不容易。以電器類為例，檢查過程非常嚴格，從零件到整件家電的外觀及用電效能均不能有遺漏。負責電器回收的標師父及柯師父道：「我們先進行分類，然後檢查，看有沒有零件缺損，之後進行電力測試，電壓符合一定數值、且運作正常才能給其他人再使用。」隨着政府



▲ 標師父收到捐贈的電器後，從安全性能上的檢查、外觀的完整至電壓測試等一絲不苟，極為嚴謹。After receiving the donated electrical appliances, the meticulous Master Bill carries out the rigorous checking procedures, from inspecting the safety level and intactness of the exterior to conducting voltage test.



▲ 每天，救世軍循環再用計劃的車隊到各區收集捐贈物品，再運送到中心作有系統的處理。Every day, The Salvation Army Recycling Programme's fleet of trucks collects donated items from various districts and delivers them to the Centre to undergo systematic processing.

#### New Centre with Well-rounded Recycling System

This year, The Salvation Army Recycling Programme Logistics Centre has been relocated. Not only with a brand new look, the new centre is also better equipped, with additional safety facilities such as anti-slip flooring and guard rails that prevent staff from injuries; and for a better working environment, an air-conditioning system has been installed and the workspace enlarged.

The bigger, more systematic and better equipped workplace with new facilities does not lighten up the workload of the Centre colleagues – They are still busy as ever as the materials they receive keep increasing. According to the Centre's statistics, from April 2017 to March 2018, the total quantity of materials collected by The Salvation Army reached 4,239 tons, i.e. about 83 tons per week, and each day it takes our colleagues a lot of time just on handling these materials.

Mr Ronald Ho, Senior Manager of The Salvation Army Recycling Programme, pointed out, 'Our fleet of trucks collects donated items from various districts and delivers them to our Centre to undergo systematic processing, including sorting, checking and basic sterilisation, and so on. After those steps, we'll first reserve some of the donated goods to be distributed directly later to people in need, such as elders living alone, street sleepers, the rehabilitated persons and CSSA recipients. The rest of the materials will be delivered to our Family Stores for sale, the net proceeds of which will go to The Salvation Army for use across its community programmes.'

#### Finding New Owners for Used Items

It is not easy to find a new owner for each piece of item or clothing. Take electrical appliances as an example – These





▲ 何志輝希望循環再用計劃在推廣循環再用文化時，也能推動大眾環保消費。Ronald hopes that the Recycling Programme can promote the culture of recycling and reuse, at the same time motivate eco-shopping.

推出的「四電一腦」政策，捐出來的電器更多了。每天一車車運過來，讓兩位師父忙個不停，但他們仍臉掛笑容，樂在其中。

對於捐贈家電，師父們還有一個小小提醒：「在新政策推行下，我們已不接收大型電器了。我們歡迎大家捐贈小型且性能良好的家電，讓更多有需要的人受惠。」

家品店每天也收集不少顧客捐贈的物資。以今年遷往新址的太子家品店為例，店舖每日平均收到6袋二手衣物及5箱家品；高峰期曾收到30多袋衣物及接近20箱物品。每天，店內職員會先進行篩選及再處理，這過程每每花費他們一半工作時間，加上要應付日常店舖運作，忙個不停。

高級店舖經理Fanny說：「今年，太子店搬到現址，每天除了附近居民會逛我們的店舖及捐贈物資外，也有不少新的客人，加上環保意識提高了，收到的物資也比以前多了。這些物品很快都會找到新主人。我們每天有新老顧客來尋寶，總會買到心頭好。看著這些舊物能找到新主人，我們倍感滿足。」

能為舊物找到新主人固然是一件開心的事，而循環再用計劃一直有更遠大的目標，何志輝道：「我們希望透過自身力量推廣循環再用文化，也同時推動大眾環保消費，鼓勵消費者在消費前想一想，才決定購買與否，減少不必要的浪費，一起守護大自然。」●

items have to undergo rigorous procedures of checking and testing. From the exterior to energy efficiency, none of the steps can be missed from checking. Master Bill and Master Or are the electrical inspectors responsible for recycling and repair of electrical appliances. 'We'll first sort the appliances, then inspect to see if any parts are missing. After that we'll test their safety. Only those operating with a certain voltage and functioning properly can be given to other people. Following the implementation of the government's regulated electrical equipment (REE) regulation, people are sending more used electrical appliances to the Centre, appliances are delivered to us one truck after another every day.' Although being very busy, the two inspectors always have smile on their faces as they enjoy their work a lot.

About donating electrical appliances, Master Bill and Master Or have a little reminder for us: 'Under the new policy, we can't accept large appliances anymore, but we do welcome small home electrical appliances in working order and in good condition, which will benefit more people in need.'

Our Family Stores also receive many donated materials from our customers every day. Prince Edward Family Store, which has been relocated this year, receives on average 6 bags of used clothing and 5 boxes of household items every single day, with the highest record of over 30 bags of clothing and nearly 20 boxes of other items a day. The store colleagues start the day by first scanning through the donated items before further handling, and very often this single process already take up half of their working hours. On top of the scanning and sorting, they have to cope with the daily operations of the Store, it is not hard to imagine how extremely busy they can be.

'The Prince Edward Store moved to its current premises this year. Every day, apart from people living in the neighbourhood who visit and drop their donated goods at our Store, we also have more new customers. With an increased awareness on environmental protection, we're receiving more materials than before. These donated items find their new owners very soon. Every day many regular customers come search for treasures and they always manage to find something they like. It gives us an extra sense of satisfaction whenever we see these used items find their new owners,' said Fanny, Senior Store Manager of Prince Edward Family Store.

It is no doubt delighting to see used goods finding their homes. However, the Recycling Programme has a higher goal. 'We want to promote a culture of recycling and reuse through our efforts. At the same time we advocate eco-shopping and encourage consumers to think twice before buying in order to reduce unnecessary waste and protect the environment,' said Ronald. ●

## 計劃源於救災 It All Began from Disaster Relief

救世軍於1953年石硤木屋區大火後為該區災民募捐衣物，回收物資。自此，救世軍回收物資的工作令人印象深刻。其後，救世軍於60年代正式開展循環再用計劃，堅持環保與助人並行的理念，為環境及有需要社羣略盡綿力，時至今已運作超過50年。

In 1953, a disastrous fire broke out at the Shek Kip Mei squatter area. The Salvation Army appealed for donation of clothing and collected other materials for redistribution to people in need. Since then, many have been impressed with the Army's recycling work. Later in the 60s, The Salvation Army officially launched its Recycling Programme, unceasingly working for environmental protection and helping others, striving to contribute to the environment as well as the needy community. Today, our Recycling Programme has been operating for over 50 years.



## 捐贈小貼士： Tips on What to Donate:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 可捐的全新及二手的物資：<br>We do accept brand new or used items in clean condition:                    | 不接收的：<br>We do not accept:  |
| 衣服 Clothing   | 皮草 Fur products   |
| 鞋 Footwear  | 二手牀單被褥 Used bed mattresses or beddings  |
| 手袋及配飾 Handbags and accessories  | 二手公仔仔 Used stuffed toys   |
| 玩具 Toys   | 二手內衣褲 Used underwear  |
| 文具禮品 Stationery   | 藥物 Medicine   |
| 書籍 Books  | 食物 Food   |
| 小型家電 (不包括受管制電器)<br>Small home electrical appliances (except regulated electrical equipment) | 中小學教科書<br>Textbooks for primary and secondary schools   |
| 合法版權的軟件<br>Software with copyright  | 雜誌及有淫褻及不雅、暴力和邪靈內容的物品<br>Magazines and items containing pornography and obscenity, violence or evil spirit content   |
| 合法版權的光碟<br>DVD / VCD / CD with copyright  | 受管制電器，包括空調機、雪櫃、洗衣機、電視機、電腦（包括桌上、手提及平板電腦）、打印機、掃描器及顯示器<br>Regulated electrical equipment: air-conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines, televisions, computers (including desktops, laptops and tablets), printers, scanners and monitors |

詳情可瀏覽以下網址 Please visit the following webpage for details:  
[www.salvationarmy.org.hk/recycling](http://www.salvationarmy.org.hk/recycling)



## 支持婦女 Support Women

### 基層婦女手製！ 梔子花布袋送祝福

### Gardenia Bags Hand-made by Grassroots Women

純淨潔白的梔子花代表喜悅、永恆的愛和一生的守候。救世軍與一班來自大埔區的基層婦女，合作創立品牌「梔·伴 Gardenia companion」，以梔子花的花語為理念，透過售賣婦女自製的布袋飾品，讓她們發揮所長自力更生。婦女們收集由社區捐贈而來的布料，親自設計和製作出精美小袋，而袋上的梔子花代表着她們對社區的守護和祝福。歡迎訂購，把祝福分享予身邊親友。

The pure, white gardenia flower signifies joy, eternal love and a lifetime of care, and it is based on this signification that the brand 'Gardenia companion' is named. A brand jointly established by The Salvation Army and a group of grassroots women from Tai Po District, 'Gardenia companion' sells bags and pouches hand made by the women, empowering them to be self-reliant using their skills. The women design and hand make the delicate bags with the donated fabrics collected from the community – the gardenia flower symbol on the bags represents their love and blessings for the community. Order now and share the blessings with your friends and relatives.

#### 查詢 Enquiries :

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救世軍大埔青少年綜合服務  
The Salvation Army Tai Po Integrated Service for  
Young People



## 良心消費 Dignity Purchase

### 荃灣家品店正式營業 Tsuen Wan Family Store is Now Open

救世軍近期在荃灣開設了新的分店，服務荃灣社區，使救世軍循環再用計劃旗下的家品店增至 18 間。新店提供由市民及各大機構捐贈的物資，義賣予有需要人士，當中包括潮流衣物、家品及文具書籍等。有興趣為環保及慈善出一分力的荃灣區及附近居民可見以下店舖地址：

The Salvation Army has recently opened a new Family Store in Tsuen Wan to serve the local community, taking the total number of Family Stores under our Recycling Programme to 18. The new Family Store sells in-kind donations from the community and corporates, including trendy clothing, household products, books and stationeries, etc. Please visit us to support eco-shopping and charity:

#### 救世軍荃灣家品店 The Salvation Army Tsuen Wan Family Store

香港荃灣沙咀道 298 號翡翠廣場地下 A 及 B 舖  
Shop A & B, G/F, Jade Plaza, 298 Sha Tsui Road, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong





## 救世軍（澳門）教育中心推行「小眼睛看學習環境」計劃

### The Salvation Army (Macau) Education Centre Launches 'Learning Environment in Little Eyes' Programme

計劃響應澳門教育暨青年局的「藍天工程」計劃，配合中心支援特殊學習需要（SEN）的方向，首階段招募小學生設計自己理想的學習空間，並於8月26日舉行作品展暨嘉許禮，展出學生們的作品及分享活動成果，讓公眾認識及關注學習環境對融合教育的重要性。是次展出的過百幅作品設計獨特，可見小朋友對自己每日身處的學習環境，有嶄新而獨特的想法。

In response to the 'Blue Sky Project' of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, Macau, the Programme was launched to strengthen the Education Centre's focus of supporting students with special educational needs (SEN). In the first phase of the Programme, primary students were recruited and asked to design their ideal learning environment. Their pieces were exhibited, together with the programme outcomes, in the Award Presentation Ceremony held on 26 August, which helped the public



to better understand and become aware the importance of learning environment to integrated education. Over 100 pieces of unique design were exhibited, showcasing the children's innovative and unique ideas on their daily learning environment.

## 月餅捐贈送祝福

### Moon Cakes Bring Blessings

衷心感謝每位義工朋友、各界熱心人士、企業及機構夥伴捐助逾31,000個月餅，讓愛與喜樂傳遍社區，為有需要人士帶來祝福。救世軍已將籌集所得的月餅贈予轄下各個社會服務單位，讓孤單寂寞的人也能感受節日溫暖。救世軍同時開展「心好月圓中秋行動2018」籌募善款，支持退休人士學習科技、豐富生活，協助有需要的長者改善生活。

Thanks to all volunteers and the generous donation of over 31,000 moon cakes from enthusiastic supporters, enterprises and corporate partners, we were able to share love and joy with the community, bringing blessings to all those in need. The Salvation Army has distributed the collected moon cakes through the Army's various social services units, sharing the warmth of the festival to the lonely ones. At the same time, The Salvation Army has launched the 'Mid-Autumn Festival



Appeal' to raise funds in support of retirees learning technology and enriching their lives, that they can in turn help other elders in need to improve the quality of life.

## 「展翅青見超新星」誕生

### Most Improved Trainees Of the YETP

由勞工處及香港電台合辦的「太陽計劃2018—勁Band展翅青見夢飛行」透過「展翅青見超新星」選舉，選出十位優秀的年輕學員並加以獎勵，鼓勵他們追尋自己的夢想，發熱發亮。今年由救世軍「展翅青見計劃」學員盧俊穎（上圖中）及「就業•起動」計劃學員黃嘉敏（下圖中）榮獲獎項，與此同時救世軍則獲頒兩個「愛心培訓機構獎」。衷心感謝企業伙伴的支持，讓年青人得到栽培！

Every year, 10 outstanding trainees are elected as the 'Most Improved Trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP)' by the 'Solar Project - Dream Journey with the YETP' co-organised by the Labour Department and Radio Television Hong Kong, in recognition of their significant improvements and as an encouragement for the young to pursue their dreams. This year, Mr Lo Chun-wing (Above Middle), one of our trainees of the YETP, and Ms Wong Ka-man (Below Middle), another trainee who has joined our 'Career Kick-start' project, have been presented the awards. Furthermore, two 'Caring Training Body Awards'



have been presented to The Salvation Army. We sincerely thank our corporate partners for their support in cultivating and empowering young people!

## 生死教育講座

### Life-and-death Education Seminar

每個人對「生、老、病、死」都有不同的想法，長者或會因為忌諱，未必願意坦誠向身邊人分享感受；救世軍「完善人生計劃」社工早前就到長者中心與幾百位老友記一同思考生死問題，聆聽他們的心願，打破談論臨終憂慮的禁忌。此計劃將進一步推展社區教育，令社會更關注長者的晚晴需要，讓他們及家人得到更適切的支援和關顧。

Everyone feels differently about birth, ageing, illness and death. While these are parts of the life cycle, some elders may take them as taboos and avoid sharing their feelings on these topics with people around them. Recently, social workers of The Salvation Army Palliative Care in Residential Care Homes for the Elderly project broke these taboos by inviting hundreds of elder buddies in an elderly centre to look at the end-of-life issue and listening to their wishes



on this topic. This project will further promote education in the community to raise public awareness on end-of-life care needs, allowing elderly and their family to receive appropriate support and care.





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## 「拍」出 燦爛人生 — 黎兆明

### The Wonderful Life of a Photographer — Laurence Lai

行行出狀元，以攝影為職業的人有很多，但攝影師開設畫廊售賣自己的作品，Laurence Lai Gallery 老闆黎兆明可算是香港第一人！他最貴的相片賣數萬元一張，依然有價有市。他的客戶由普羅大眾至政經界名人也有，就連哈佛大學的圖書館內也有他的作品，絕對不可以小覷！

Every trade has its masters. There are many professional photographers, but Laurence Lai is probably the first photographer in Hong Kong to have his own gallery to sell his own works. With customers ranging from the general public to political and economic elites, his photos, which can be selling for up to thousands of dollars each, are always marketable. Some of his works can even be found in the Harvard University Library!

年青時，Laurence 已經知道自己擁有攝影和美術天份，擅長拍攝風景和富本地情懷的相片，只是深怕把興趣轉成職業後會變得麻木，所以他並沒有循攝影方向發展，反而選擇入工業學院讀紡織及設計，畢業後發展成衣事業，雖然成功，但工作壓力很大。

Laurence was well aware of his talent in photography and art when he was young and he is particularly good at taking scenery photos and photos with a nice local touch. Worried that he would lose the passion if he turned his hobby into a job, Laurence did not pursue a career in photography. Rather,







▲ 富本地特色的相片，很受遊客歡迎。Photos with a local touch are very well received by tourists.

某個周日，Laurence 往柴灣藍灣半島閒逛，發現那裏有一個藝墟，負責人剛巧是他朋友，知道他是攝影「發燒友」，便問他有沒有興趣擺檔賣相。他抱着嘗試心態答應了，誰知開檔首日反應相當熱烈，帶去的 120 張相片差不多賣光。2000 年他作了人生一個重大決定——放棄成衣生意，當上全職攝影師，在不同藝墟擺檔賣相！

### 從高峰回歸零

2003 年他開始轉攻山頂廣場，由一個車仔檔漸漸擴展至四間商舖，更涉足餐飲業，在山頂廣場開設一所中式食肆。

在事業最高峰時，單靠賣相每年的營業額接近 2000 萬元！可是好景不常，2013 年市場開始逆轉，種種不利因素下，他無奈撤離山頂，事業由高峰回歸至零！

當時 Laurence 已成家立室，每月家庭開支 8 萬多元，收入卻是零，只靠積蓄度日，這樣的日子維持了 9 個月！早於 97 年在大型佈道會決志信主的他，一直都有返教會，遇到如此大的挫折，他學習每天跪下禱告。

he chose to study textile and design in a technical institute. Upon graduation, he started and then ran a successful garments business, but felt that the work was highly stressful.

One Sunday, when walking around Chai Wan, Laurence saw an art bazaar, which he found the person-in-charge was just so happened to be his friend. Knowing Laurence was a photography lover, his friend asked if he was interested to sell his photos at one of the booths. Laurence agreed to give it a try. To his great surprise, his photos were so well received that all 120 photos he brought along were almost sold out on the very first day. In 2000, Laurence made an important decision in his life – he gave up his garments business and became a professional photographer, selling his works at different art bazaars.

### From Peak to Rock Bottom

In 2003, Laurence moved his business to The Peak Galleria, starting out with a sale kiosk, which gradually expanded to 4 shops. He even stepped into the catering industry and opened a Chinese restaurant at The Peak Galleria. At the peak of his business, the annual sales of his photos reached to near 20 million dollars. However, the market began to take a bad turn in 2013 and, together with other kinds of unfavourable conditions, left him no choice but to move out of the Peak – His business literally fell from its peak and hit the rock bottom!

Laurence has been the breadwinner of the family, and the monthly household expenses were over 80K dollars – at the time when he had no income, the whole family could only live off his savings and those days lasted for a long 9 months!



▲ 這類紀實圖片，相當珍貴。Documentary photos are precious records. Here's an example.



▲ 經過歲月磨練，Laurence 把與家人關係放首位。After going through the hard times, Laurence now makes family relationships a priority.

某日他經過中環天星碼頭，無意中發現一個很適合做畫廊的舖位，便主動向業主打聽，可惜租金太貴。於是他大膽向業主提議一個自己能負擔的租金，等了三、四個星期仍未有回音，但他與太太沒有放棄，繼續禱告，最後業主竟然願意以他提出的租金租給他，他憶述知道那一刻開心到喊了出來！

### 重整生活秩序

Laurence 坦言在低谷時也曾埋怨神，為何給了又要取回。經過歲月磨練後，今日他明白神其實很愛他，助他重建正確的價值觀。「那時每天要處理許多瑣事，精力都放在工作上，與人說話時也很急躁。」現時只有一間畫廊，收入雖不及全盛時期多，生活卻比以往輕鬆和平安。

他更利用一己所長和人脈網絡協助多間慈善機構，如與寰宇希望合作回收二手相機送贈低收入家庭，又免費教攝影；與雲彩行動合作回收二手書送贈內地山區小朋友；最近又為救世軍的「Dream Puzzle」計劃擔任評審，向年青人分享創業心得。「以往我以名利行先，現在看重永恆的財富，以基督的愛關心人就是積財於天。」●

Having decided to follow Christ at a large evangelical meeting in 1997 and being a regular church-goer, Laurence, who was then suffering such a huge setback, took a step further and learnt to kneel and pray every day.

One day, when he passed by the Star Ferry Pier in Central, he happened to see a shop very suitable for use as a gallery. He approached and asked the landlord about it, but the rent was way too high. He boldly counter-proposed to the landlord a rent that he could afford, but did not get any feedback for 3 or 4 weeks. Without letting this set back their hope, Laurence and his wife kept praying. In the end they heard from the landlord that he was willing to rent the shop to them at the proposed rent. Laurence recalls the moment he heard the surprising news that he was so happy he actually cried!

### Life Restructured

Laurence admitted that at the lowest point of his life, he did blame God for taking back all that was given to him. After going through the hard times, he now realises that God actually loves him much and has helped him to develop right values all over again. 'Back then, every day my mind was on many trivial matters. I spent all my energy on work and I spoke to others in haste.' Now, although with only one gallery and income incomparable with how much he earned at the height of his career, he enjoys a more relaxed and peaceful life.

Today, Laurence uses his talent and networking to help many charitable organisations. For instance, he works with HOPE worldwide to collect used cameras and give those to low-income families, and he teaches photography skills for free. He also works with the Silver Lining Foundation to collect used books and send them to children in the mountainous areas in mainland China. Recently, Laurence has acted as a judge of the 'Dream Puzzle' project of The Salvation Army, where at the same time he shared his experience of starting a business. 'Fame and wealth used to be my priorities. Now my emphasis is on eternal wealth – by caring about others with the love of Christ, it is to store up treasures in heaven.' ●



足版訪問  
Full version

性格樂觀的 Laurence，相信上天必有安排，「一扇門關了，必會打開另一扇門」。  
A born optimistic, Laurence believes that there is a plan for everything. 'When one door closes, another one opens.'



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