

和陳炳麟做專訪期間,電話響過不停,不是義工來電,就 是記者查詢,訪問也給中斷了好幾次,其實他每天都是這 樣的過日子,忙這忙那,好不容易才能安靜地坐下,談談 如何走,計會工作之路。

他的成長背景是典型的上一輩香港故事,家人於文革時期 被同鄉和叔伯兄弟批門,其後舉家偷渡來港定居,少年時 在煙花之地的灣仔謝要遵生活,天生天養,幸而沒有誤入 歧途,中學畢業後在許多行業待過,包括在銀行、政府和 律師權當文員、盼願。

19.7

「幫到人,又可搵到食」

事實上,與許多社工前輩一樣,陳炳麟年青時根本不 知社工為何物,只知這份工作「幫到人,又可搵到 食」。三十幾年過去,這句說話仍是他的座右銘,而 且次序不變,幫人為先,之後才談自己生計。

陳炳麟對工作的熱線路人皆見,就是2002年時患上鼻 咽癌,在四個月的病發期間也不停工作,早上接受電 療,下午與長者刊物(松柏之聲)的撰稿人和參與服 務計劃的義工聯絡,期間總共接受了三十五次電療, 他都沒有一句怨言,只恨這個病令他與美味蘸肉絕緣。

「病也要過日子,打電話可分散注意力,不用常想着 病。但最影響我的是不能吃離肉,你知嘛,我八歲偷 滾來到香港才第一次吃雞,那口雞肉的味道至今雞 忘,自此便無雞不歡。|





《松柏之聲》

許多人認識與兩觀都是由他主傷的《松柏之聲》開始,一九七六年一 月創刊的(松柏之聲)。可以是全球音句針對長者的中文刊物。創刊 三十多年,經費大部分來自讀者捐款。多年來為長者提供全方位資訊。 陳炳麟說、香港人口老化急速,社會對長者刊物的需求每來愈大,市

透過刊物的渠道宣傳,故對老人刊物有很大的需求。 然而,說到投資生利則是另一回事,說到底,銀髮市場選末成熟,沒 有多少人随意投资長者刊物。《松柏之聲》也在繫苦經營、但作為第 キラテル制度以降で発生的が、ではは必要とは比較電栓等・位性病的に 四代傳入的漢例類仍然堅持下去、更在刊物中明言:「只要我一日主 循,定會竭智盡力維持《松柏之聲》,決不輕易停刊。」

接受三十五次電療

大病初癒,陳炳麟理應好好休養,但電療完畢後他便立即上 班,一星期工作七天,每晚凌晨一時才睡,不是在編輯《松 柏之聲》,就是巡視長者家居維修服務,彷彿工作和生活從 沒有分割。時至今天,病情雖受控制,但後遺症不絕,淚管 經常閉塞,而聽覺和味覺也永久受損。

在聖雅各福群會工作了三十二年,陳炳麟總是諗頭多多,在 緊絀資源中自創各項服務,雖然社會服務有多個類別,但他 只鍾情長者服務·認為能夠使長者有一個有質素的晚年生活

「老人家就像洋燭,煙消玉殞,逐漸失去自顧能力,若是 無依無靠的話就更可憐。無論他們年青時是善是惡,但在 推動社會發展上都有一個位置,老來需要家人朋友的關心, 亦需要社會的關心。」





解決社會問題不只靠政府

然而,他不太喜歡政府資助的服務,認為制肘多多,寧可自 募經費和義工開展新服務,包括統籌長者家居維修服務、收 集及送贈電器給無依老人、出版《松柏之聲》、開辦獨居長 者的殯儀殉葬委託服務,還負責整個機構的企業拓展工作, 協助各項社會服務的宣傳及推廣。只要他一聲令下,就可動 員逾500位義工,當中不乏專業人士和企業老闆。

「社会問題多多、單憑政府不可能解決所有問題、與其不斷 要求政府資助,倒不如盡力發掘社會資源,香港還有許多有

對於近年計福界的艱難處境和年青計工的薪酬待遇不佳的問 題,陳炳麟看得淡然。他説要富貴就不會當社工,社工是使 命感驅動的行業,只要受助人快樂生活,社工才會得到社會 認受和尊重·社會地位提高·待遇自會更好·並非自以為專 業,人家就覺得你專業。

到2009年8月,陳炳麟便屆60歲退休之年,許多人在退休之 前都會作好進備,培養一些消閒嗜好或計劃到處旅遊,但他 未想禍退下來,也沒考慮往美國與於當地定居的兒子團聚, 反而希望有多年實主關係的聖雅各福群會能夠安排工作給 他。

「我還年青,與其呆在家中,不如繼續幫助有需要的老人 家,工作到自己要入老人院才算真正退休。」

Tel: 8107 8324

訪問尾聲,陳炳麟向編輯作出一個他認為 是非常唐突的要求,就是要本刊登出他的

手提電話號碼,希望看到這篇文章的有心 人能夠隨時聯絡他。

「我們負責的許多長者服務、例如家居維修、技體服務、以至理整及磺影等、需要 大量衰工人手和物資、愈多人加入我們的養工行列,就愈多長者能夠得到服務。」 「公開電話號碼可能會對你造成滋養、深夜也有人致電給你、獲你清夢。」記者說。

「少睡一點有什麼關係,十個『白捷』,總有一兩個有心人吧() 面對這樣的一個社工,第有藉口拒絕他。有興趣當義工的朋友,請致電牌兩醫或以

電腦與他聯絡:chanpinglun@gmail.com



The Tireless Social Worker: **CHAN Ping-lun**

C HAN Ping-lun, Manager of the Corporate Venture Department of St James' Settlement, developed various service projects that aimed at improving the living standards of single elderly people in Hong Kong. He is one of the first generation of social worker who serves the community with great passing.

He started out as a bank clerk and messenger of various corporations and later became a social worker in 1976 after completing his study in Institute for Social Work Training, Social Welfare Department. Since then, he never thought of leaving the welfare sector but committed to providing non-subvented services to the disadvantaged elderly. When he was diagnosed with cancer (nasopharyngeal carcinoma) in 2002 and had to stay in hospital for 35 treatments of electrotherapy, he continued to work on his projects, including editing "The Voice" - the first elderly magazine in Hong Kong that Chan is responsible to for years, even harder.

"People try to persuade me not to work that hard because of the cancer. Well, everyone would die. We can't decide how long we are going to live, but we can decide how good we enjoy life in every moment. In fact, I'm not a

Despite facing his own death and various sequelae from the disease, Chan never give up and regards his career as his religion. He even asked for the disclosure of his cell phone number (8107 8324) in this article, hoping those who are willing to offer help to the elderly could contact him directly.

"As most of our projects are self-financed, we have to find sufficient volunteers and community resources to help. One of our social workers' major responsibilities is to do matching between people who desperately need help and those who really want to help." In this sense, Chan feels indifferent to the tough situation of the welfare sector and the unfavourable remuneration claimed by young social workers nowadays. He said if one wants to make a fortune from his or her career, he or she will never choose to be a social worker.

"Social work is a mission driven profession. We will only be recognized and respected by the society if our service users have a happy life. I'm sure we will get a better pay when our social status have been raised and our contributions be recognized. Let's work hard first!" Chan suggested to the newcomers.

Chan will soon come to his retirement age 60 in August 2009. Many people will cultivate various hobbies or prepare travel plans before their retirement. However, he neither thought of his retirement life nor living with his son in the USA. He hopes his longtime employer, St James' Settlement, will offer him opportunities to serve the community.

"I am still young. I'll continue to help the elderly in need until I'm no longer capable to take care of myself and be served in the elderly home," the tireless social worker said.