



轉角人生

廣結志工緣

專訪太魯閣國家公園管理處解說志工許哲齊

Volunteering into a New Horizon

An Interview with George Sheu, Volunteer Interpreter at
Taroko National Park Headquarters

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許哲齊沒想到，15年前的「逃離」契機，
反而換回另一個「故鄉」的溫暖 / 劉榮山攝
The “getaway” 15 years ago has unexpectedly given Sheu another
shelter like home./ by Jung-san Liu



「如今，每回我來到太魯閣，總是有一種回家般的親切感。」太魯閣國家公園解說志工許哲齊感性地說。

一開始只是想讓自己偶爾從繁重的廣告工作中逃脫，許哲齊卻沒想到，15年前的這個「逃離」契機，反而換回了另一個「故鄉」的溫暖。身為廣告創意人的他，在工作領域上總能發揮出所有的自信，但當與大自然相對時，他才發現，比起自然界中的千變萬化，人類的能力是何其的渺小！因而，他收起了原本只想「找寄託、休養」的心態，認真走上這條比廣告還精采的志工路。

解說 窮則變，變則通

跟許多志工一樣，從廣告界跨到自然生態，有許多的事與體驗，許哲齊都得從零開始學習。許哲齊表示，因為自己喜歡說話，所以耐不住只是坐在服務台告訴遊客廁所該往哪裡走？什麼景點該往哪裡去？「所以只要有機會，哪怕只是簡報室的報幕工作，我都會找話題拉近與遊客的距離。」許哲齊笑著說，「由於簡報室的空間、環境真的太舒服，會讓人看到睡著是正常的，因此在影片放映時我總是開玩笑地提醒遊客，等等若旁邊的人睡著了記得幫他蓋條被子，自己打呼的聲音也別太大影響到其他

“Every time I return to Taroko, it always feels like coming home,” said George Sheu, a volunteer interpreter at Taroko National Park (TNP).

Fifteen years ago, Sheu started to volunteer out of a need to occasionally get away from his heavy-loaded job in advertising. But this “getaway” has turned out to give him another shelter like home. Confident as he is as a creative advertiser, Sheu feels the powerlessness of humans when facing the ever-changing Nature. So he gave up on the casual manners he first had, and began to take this volunteer work seriously.

Creative and flexible Interpreting

Like many national park volunteers who at first were not familiar with ecology-related subject knowledge, Sheu had to learn everything from scratch. Due to his talkativeness, he couldn't stand just serving the tourists by simply saying hello and giving directions. “Whenever there's an opportunity, be it an emcee job for a briefing, I'll do everything to get the audience listen and make them laugh,” said Sheu. “For example, as the briefing room is really cozy and sleep-inducing, I'd joke with the audience about making sure to keep their snores down or to put a coat on those falling asleep.” His humor always makes an impression and attracts more tourists



人。」詼諧的語調，自然能加深遊客對他的印象，即使是在不定點時間，只要有遊客進來，許哲齊也很樂意再重新播放影片，隨著播放的次數多了，影片每分每秒的內容，也就深深地記在許哲齊的腦子裡。

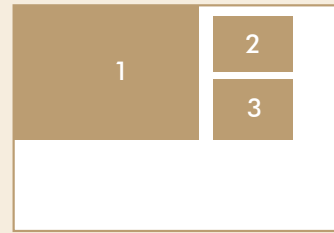
談起第一次帶隊，許哲齊仍記憶猶新。當時才30歲出頭的他，帶的是中央警察大學在職進修的資深警員，令他感動的是，這群年紀與資歷比他還要長許多的警員，不僅在解說過程中用著前所未有的專注力認真聽講，甚至下雨時，還主動替許哲齊撐傘。「我發現，人們在大自然裡相遇時，那些凡俗間的階級眼界都會不自覺消失，這也是我喜歡用山水跟人交朋友的原因之一。」

當然，要出外帶隊解說，對於自然生態的認識總得要有兩把刷子。許哲齊一開始對高山的一切也非十足的了解，特別是要將豐富多樣的動、植物譜系一一詳記於腦海中，還要加以靈活應用與解說，對於非專業出身的他來說，的確不是件容易的事。「起初我也是會強迫自己能多記幾樣就幾樣，但囫圇吞棗的吸收，並沒有真正的助益。所以後來，我要求自己一次上山只認真地記住3~5

back for more video viewings, which in turn helps Sheu remember all the knowledge and facts shown in the videos.

His first volunteering mission, in which he guided a group of senior policemen receiving in-service trainings at Central Police University, is truly unforgettable to him. Much elder than Sheu in his early 30s, they paid full attention to Sheu's interpretation and showed friendliness in so many ways that Sheu feels that "all the hierarchy or gap tends to disappear when people meet in the Nature." "That's one of the reasons I love to make friends through the Nature as a medium."

Being an interpreter and tour guide, of course, requires a certain level of professional knowledge about the Nature and ecology. Starting as a layman, Sheu had had a hard time remembering all the facts about the flora and fauna in the high mountain ecosystem or well applying and interpreting them. "At first I just forced myself to remember as much as I could. But this shallow rote was of limited help. Later I told myself to seriously get to know about only 3 to 5 plant species



1. 在解說時，許哲齊擅用自己的專長，拉近與遊客的距離。
Sheu is really good at building rapport with tourists during his interpreting service.
2. 此植物的名稱就為「一枝黃花」，大自然事物的簡單純粹，也是許哲齊所一心嚮往的人生境界。
The Chinese name of Goldenrod (*Solidago decurrens* L.) means “one single yellow flower.” Sheu hopes that his life could be as simple and easy as the flower and many other things in the Nature.
3. 火炭母草的葉子中間，有狀似被火燒過的V字形斑塊，許哲齊替它取了另一可愛的名稱：臺灣黑熊草。
The leaf of Chinese Knotweed (*Polygonum chinense* L.) is featured by a V-shaped burn-like patch; that's why Sheu nicknamed it “Formosan Black Bear Weed.”

種植物，如此一來，上山10次就能記住近50種，而且這50種是會真正被吸收進腦袋裡的，我覺得這才是有效的學習，之後自然可以加以運用解說。」

知識累積經驗豐富了，再搭配本身的幽默風趣，許哲齊帶隊解說時也很有創意。當遊客問及某種花草的名稱時，他不會立刻回應遊客正確的解答，反而會先問遊客：「你覺得這應該叫什麼名字？」讓原本只想等待答案的遊客，漸漸從「被動」轉為「主動」，由自己去觀察出可能的答案。

許哲齊認為，在並非要進行專業研究的前提下，每種事物的名稱都只是個約定俗成的名字，如果能先藉由簡單貼近的介紹讓遊客加深印象，進一步了解後再去認識正確的名稱，即使初識時所命名出來的跟正式學名有差距，但又何妨？許哲齊舉例，火炭母草的葉子中間，有一道V字型像被火燒過的斑塊，但在介紹時他會先跟遊客說這是「臺灣黑熊草」，讓遊客能先藉由想像認識此植物，會比起一開始就直接告知正確俗名，還來得有趣而印象深刻。

during each of my visit to the mountains. Soon, I've remembered so much, and been able to use them at will in my interpreting,” said Sheu.

With accumulated knowledge and experiences plus his humor, Sheu has become a creative interpreter. When asked by tourists about the name of a certain plant, he'd first ask them: “What do you think should it be called?” guiding the usually passive tourists to actively observe and come up with some possible good answers.

It's Sheu's belief that as long as it's not for the purposes of serious professional studies, an interpreter should have the leeway to first use simple and interesting names to help tourists know and remember the plants before telling them the actual scientific names. For instance, as the leaf of Chinese Knotweed (*Polygonum chinense* L.) is featured by a V-shaped burn-like patch, Sheu would tell tourists that the plant is called “Formosan Black Bear Weed” in his own language. This, Sheu thinks, would facilitate a more interesting and impressive learning experience.

自然啟示 謙卑自省

在太魯閣國家公園 15 年的服務生涯，對許哲齊來說，收穫比付出的還要多。不論是帶隊解說或是支援服勤，每種任務都能得到不同的體認。

「有種植物的名稱是一枝黃花，每次帶隊遇到時，我總會要遊客去試著猜測它的名稱，遊客的回答自然也是五花八門。往往當我公布答案時，大家會對過於簡單的俗名不可置信，這時我便會翻開圖鑑來向遊客證明。」許哲齊說。轉身來看，這也可算是大自然教育的另一種省思，當人們習慣以複雜的角度看待事情，許多事物的真相便往往只是在人們的直觀思考下，被冠上「應該」要有的樣貌，卻因此忽略了事件本身原來可以如此簡單。

15 年來，許哲齊累積了許多對太魯閣國家公園的認識，他重複造訪許多地方，也走了很多一般遊客不會走的步道小徑。然而，太魯閣國家公園大到有太多的地方等著他去探尋，看在眼裡的不僅是園區裡的美好與改變，有些自然現象的發生，也帶給他很深的震撼與感動。

許哲齊永遠記得，多年前某個颱風的前後一週，他剛巧都到了太魯閣，也順便行走砂卡礑步道。步道進去沒多遠的地方有個深潭，颱風前還是個碧綠深邃、民眾戲遊的地方，但颱風後，原來幾公尺深的潭水被鵝卵石填平成一襲淺灘，這樣的力量竟是一夕之間造成的。

這樣的改變，讓他再也不敢對大自然的力量有所輕忽。「在太魯閣的日子裡，我深刻體會到大自然有其運作與療傷的法則，而人究竟有多渺小？每顆石頭都比我們的生命要多上幾萬倍，有時想起世俗的鬥爭，都不免覺得可笑。」

人生窗口 相約續情

多年來，影響許哲齊的除了好山好水，所結識的「好人」也豐富了他的人生窗口，讓他相當珍惜與感恩。

許哲齊提及，葉世文署長是他所經歷過最受人欽佩的太管處處長。「由於當時要辦理合歡越古道踏走的相關活動，在活動之前，志工與工作人員必須先行勘查試走。

Introspection Inspired by Nature

To Sheu, he has received more than he has given during the 15 years of his services in TNP, in which he has obtained different experiences through each task or mission of interpreting or routine duty.

“Every time I introduce Goldenrod (*Solidago decurrens* L.), whose Chinese name literally means “one single yellow flower,” I’d ask tourists to guess its name. They’d give me all kinds of answers, and feel amazed when I tell them the answer.” This example could serve as a lesson of nature education: When people are used to seeing things in a complicated way, they tend to consider what things “should be,” without realizing how simple a lot of things could be or actually are.

Fifteen years of volunteer work has turned Sheu into a veteran in TNP who has set foot in many places and trails most tourists have never been to in the park. To him, TNP is such an unbelievably large park that so many wonders happened to him, touched him and still await him.

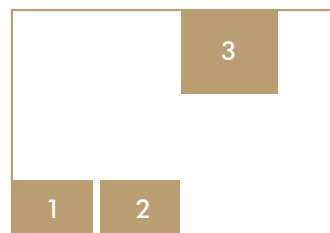
Sheu would never forget the week many years ago when he was in Taroko as a typhoon hit. He walked into Shakadang Trail, and found that a deep pool, which used to be full of water as a great tourist attraction, had turned into a shallow pond almost filled up with pebbles. And all this was made by the typhoon overnight.

Witnessing this huge change, Sheu could never ignore or under-estimate the power of Nature. “During my days in Taroko, I realized the patterns the Nature functions and heals itself, as well as the littleness of humans. It’s really ridiculous when many people are still engrossed in all the fights and desires.”

Lasting Affinity with People

In addition to the mountains and waters he has worked in, Sheu is also grateful to all the memorable people he has met for what he has seen and learned from them.





1-2. 印地安酋長石是許哲齊每次走過必拍的地方。藉由圖中水位的變化，可感受大自然的瞬息萬變的力量。

The Rock of Indian Chief is what Sheu would photo every time he passes by. Through the capricious change of the water level here, one can feel the power of Nature.

3. 時任太管處處長的葉世文署長親力親為，讓許哲齊相當感念與敬佩 / 太管處提供

When Director-general Yeh served as the director of TNP, his hands-on participation in all kinds of matters in the park truly touched and impressed Sheu. / Provided by TNP Headquarters

行走時，簡直是披荊斬棘，許多地方不僅是雜草叢生，有些步道甚至完全崩塌，必須高繞或低切才能走完全程，而葉署長從頭到尾跟隨走完，也因為他親身走過，才知道有哪些問題應要注意，並要求管理單位進行改善。」許哲齊憶道，「最讓我印象深刻的是，後來葉署長必須趕回管理處開會，就由一位巡山員帶著，由關雲山莊上方落差將近200~300公尺的山頭，直接滑衝而下，那時他毫不猶豫的魄力，讓我永生難忘。」

時光匆匆，15年間，許哲齊的人生也有不同的轉變，如今的他在兩年前放下了廣告業的高薪職位，離開繁華的廣告世界，自由接案、寫作，並在數所大學中從事約聘的教學工作，雖然收入少了，但他知足地享受自己所擁有的一切。而青山不改，細水長流，他期許自己能在太魯閣國家公園待到第二個，甚至第三個、第四個15年，因為與太魯閣國家公園所結下的緣，將是他人生中永難割捨的情份。📍

Among them, Director-general Shih-wen Yeh of CPAMI was the most respectable as a former director of TNP Headquarters to Sheu. "We as volunteers and staff members were having a trial trip to Old Cross-Hehuan Mountain Road before an expedition event on it. Conditions of the trail were truly bad, with all the weeds and some road abruptions. But the then-director Yeh finished the whole trip in person, so he could know what problems might occur along the way and how to solve them," Sheu recalled. "Even more impressive was that later when Yeh had to hurry back for a meeting, he just slid down a hillside from Guanyuan Lodge all the way to somewhere 200 to 300 meters lower in elevation. I'll never forget how daring and dauntless he was at the time!"

Sheu's life has changed during the 15 years as a TNP volunteer. He quitted his high-paying job of advertising 2 years ago, and has since become a freelance writer and part-time instructor in some universities. Now he earns less, but enjoys more in a self-content life. He hopes to serve as a volunteer in TNP for another 15 years, and another, and then another. The affinity he has built with TNP will always be part of him and his life, and will never end. 📍

簡介 Profile

許哲齊 George Sheu

許哲齊是資深廣告人，目前為自由工作者。喜愛旅行、登山、自然體驗、攝影及寫作，走訪過美、加、紐西蘭、突尼西亞、阿曼、伊朗等二十餘國。偶有文章發表於報章雜誌，也常受邀至各單位演講。於1996年加入太魯閣國家公園解說志工行列，至今已服務15個年頭。

Sheu used to be a veteran advertiser, and is currently a free-lancer. He takes delight in traveling, hiking, photography, writing and exposing himself to the Nature, and has visited more than 20 countries including the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Tunisia, Oman, and Iran. Sheu occasionally writes articles for newspapers or magazines, and often gives speeches in schools and organizations. He was recruited as a volunteer interpreter at Taroko National Park Headquarters in 1996, and has served for 15 years so far.

