



Breakfast chatter



Weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-T own
District 3292, Club 26776, Chartered 8 Nov. 1989; 'Best Club' in Nepal 2009/2010

May 6th May 12th 2011

Vol. 45 of '10/'11

This week's speaker



"How I see Nepal – comparing the Nepal I see to-day with what I saw 20 years ago".

Lars P. Christensen is the Programme Coordinator of Danish support to Human Rights and Good Governance in Nepal. He is a social and political scientist, who has specialised in governance, institutional development and aid management. Mr Christensen has a broad range of professional experience related to international development cooperation. He has worked extensively with alignment and harmonization of development assistance, and has experience as long-term adviser, short-term consultant, and program manager in both government and non-governmental organisations.

On this occasion Mr. Christensen will share his personal experience on the changes he has seen taking place in Nepal.



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Earthquake information shakes up Mid-Town

This week Mid-Town was happy to welcome as its speaker **Mr. Amod Mani Dixit**, Executive Director, National Society for Earthquake Technology – Nepal (NSET).



Mr. Dixit has a 38-year long history of experience as an engineering geologist and his career covers stints with the Government of Nepal, private engineering consultancy, and also as a visiting professor of engineering geology. In 1994 he founded the **National Society for Earthquake Technology Nepal (NSET)** and has since served as its Executive Director. He has worked extensively in Nepal and many Asian countries, for disaster risk reduction and also for earthquake response.

He spoke to us on this occasion of the hazard of earthquake in Nepal. Nepal's greatest

challenge is apathy and indifference – he told Mid-Town that the great majority of lives could be saved by very simple interventions and preventative measures – securing bookshelves, securing flowerpots, preparing by having 'go bags' ready and so on. Too often people grow complacent, 'It won't happen to me or it won't happen here'. There is a constant need to be vigilant. RC Mid-Town was

"GO BAG" (see www.nset.org.np)

"Jhatpat Jhola" is a rucksack with the following items:
Food with long shelf-life
Water purification tablets
Emergency lights and solar chargers.
First aid kit
Blanket

It's also a good idea to decide beforehand how and where your family will reunite if separated during a quake and to conduct in-home practice drills. Store digging equipment, rope, and get a satellite phone for the office if you can afford it.



very glad of the reminder and thanked Mr. Dixit for his informative talk.

calendar		
date	theme	
May 2011		
May 9	<p>E urope Day of the E urope an U nion (E U)</p> <p>This day has become a European symbol, which, along with the flag, the anthem, the motto and the single currency, identifies the political entity of the European Union. Europe Day is the occasion for activities and festivities that bring Europe closer to its citizens and peoples of the Union closer to one another.</p>	
May 15	<p>The International Day of Families is an occasion to celebrate the importance of families to people, societies and cultures around the world. International Day of Families promotes the importance of a healthy and well-balanced family.</p>	
May 17		<p>Buddha Jayanti or also known as Buddha Purnima is the most sacred festivals of Buddhist. Buddha Purnima (Buddha's Birthday) is celebrated in remembrance Lord Buddha. Buddha means "enlightened one" - someone who is completely free from all faults and mental obstructions. The Lord Buddha is the founder of Buddhism. This day is the birth anniversary of Lord Buddha. It falls on the full moon of the fourth lunar month (month of Vaisakh). This day commemorates three important events of Buddha's life: his birth in 623 BC, his enlightenment, in 588 BC, and his attainment of Nirvana i.e. the complete extinction of his self at the age of 80 in 483 BC.</p>
21-25 May		<p>Rotary International Convention in New Orleans</p> <p>Remember to let PP CK know if you will be attending.</p>
22 May	<p>The United Nations proclaimed May 22 T he International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.</p> <p>Celebrating Forests for People</p>	

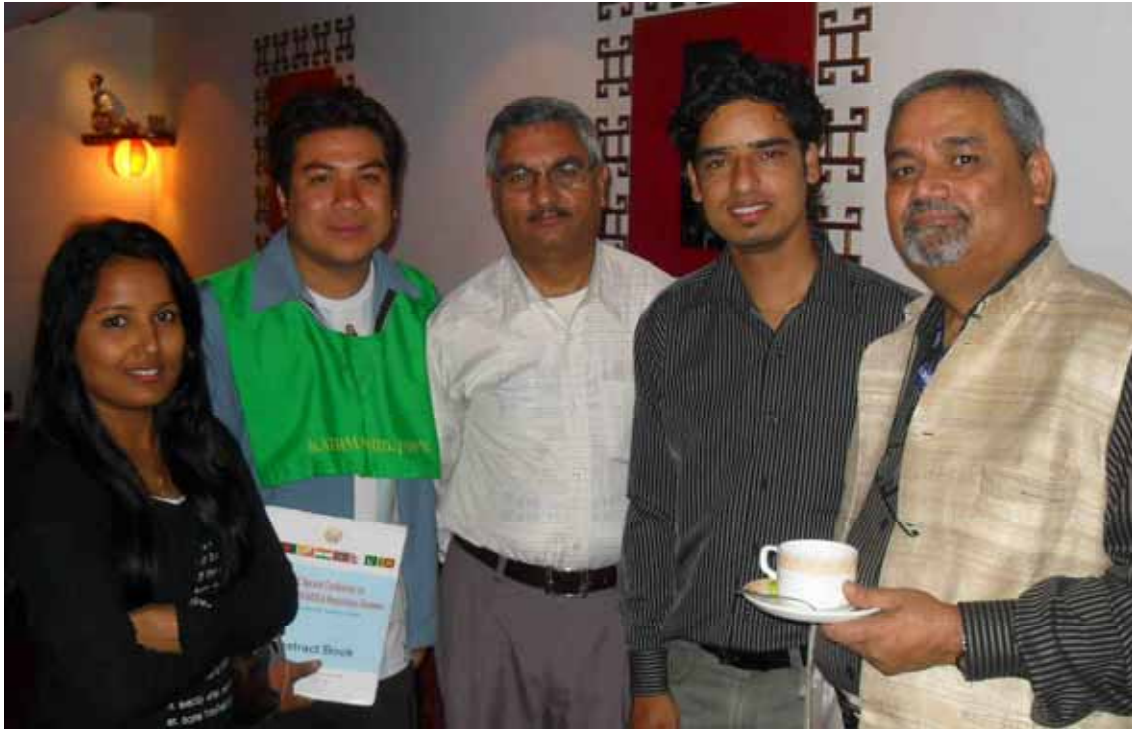
Fellowship





Welcome to visiting Rotarians **Swoyambhu Tuladhar, Kiran Man Singh, Guru Prasad Dhakal, Kumud Tripathy** and others (so sorry, the editor could not get all the names).





Mid-Town was happy to welcome visiting Rotractor **Greeta Chakraborty** from the **Rotaract Club of Biratnagar Downtown** (photo left).



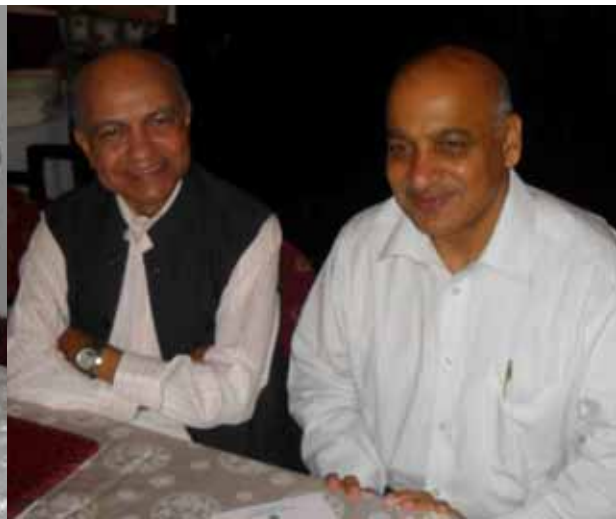
Guest **Lars P. Christensen** shares a cup of coffee with **PE Rtn. Dr. Som**.





The ladies of Rotary share a happy moment with **Mrs. Eleni Spachis** (wife of VP Rtn. HE Dr. Alex).





Mid-town sunshine



A heartfelt **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Treasurer
Rtn, Yo on May 7th (39th b-day?)

Many happy returns of the day.





Mid-Town wishes very good luck to our team headed by **Rtn. Amar** who will be going to Bolzano, Italy on May 10th as part of the team for the **Fire Brigade Project**.



Rtn. Amar received his Paul Harris Fellow pin by **PP Rtn. Ambica**.

Mid-T own sends its hearty congratulations and best wishes to Dhulikhel

Dear DG Tirtha Man ji and **Dr. Ram Kantha**,

The Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town is very proud of the fact that the Vocational Award for Excellence has been given to no less deserving person than you, **Dr. Ram Kantha**. Our heartiest congratulations to you and the fine Dhulikhel.



Our congratulations to our **DG Tirtha Man Sakhya** and the family of late **Rotarian Gopal** dai too for making this Award a reality. The function was carried out with great dignity with the President, Rt. Hon'ble President of Nepal himself present to honor you with as the recipient of the newly set prestigious Award and with RI PE Kalyan Banerjee as an important guest.

I had heard of you and the Hospital since years back but had not the opportunity of visiting it till only this year on 1st January, while doing the Art of Living Course at the Mirabel Resort at Dhulikhel, quite an unusual but none the less appropriate time to visit it. To see with my own eyes the set up was something hard to believe that such a hospital could be build outside Kathmandu and more so in the excellent way it was being run and maintained - something very unlike what we see in Nepal!. Your personal example and dedication has made us Nepalese be proud of the fact that there are some still capable and dedicated people amongst us Nepalese that has the spirit of Rotary "Service above Self". I think you have exemplified that even as a non Rotarian. Congratulations once again.

Regards and best wishes.

Pratap Malla

President Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town 2010-2011.



District Membership Seminar



Last Saturday May 1st, RC Mt Everest hosted the **District Membership Seminar** at Moksh. The seminar was attended by 46 participants. The purpose of district membership seminars is to prepare club and district leaders to support membership activities, such as recruiting and retaining members. The convener was the district governor **DG Tirtha Man Shakya**. The participants were 46 Rotarians who are Club presidents, club membership committee members, district membership development, and district extension committee members, assistant governors, and other interested Rotarians. The discussions centered on membership plans for the year, public image and membership, the younger generation, and service projects. Dignitaries from RI District 3290 included **PDG Amitava Mookerjee** and **PDG Anirudha Ray Choudhary**. A letter of appreciation was presented to **PDG Amitava**.



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Smita Singh

On the lighter side



Please send information/suggestions/photos for the next volume to:

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