



# Breakfast Chatter

Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town  
District 3292, Club 26776, Chartered 08 Nov. 1989



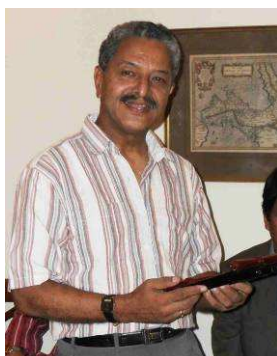
September 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2009		Weekly Bulletin	Vol. 12 of '09/'10
This week's speakers			
No Meeting this week			
Calendar			
Date	Theme		
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	Internationa Day of Peace – "Peace Day"		
	<p><b>International Day of Peace</b> - The United Nations' (UN) International Day of Peace is celebrated on September 21 each year to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflict and promote peace. The International Day of Peace is also a day of ceasefire – personal or political.</p> <p>On the International Day of Peace, people around the world take part in various activities and organize events centered on the theme "peace".</p> <p>It is a day when nations around the world are invited to honor a cessation of hostilities during the day.</p> <p>By creating the International Day of Peace, the UN devoted itself to worldwide peace and encouraged people to work in cooperation for this goal. Since its inception, Peace Day has marked personal and planetary progress toward peace. It has grown to include millions of people worldwide and many events are organized each year to commemorate and celebrate this day.</p> <p>The peace dove flying with an olive branch in its beak is one of the most commonly featured symbols for the day. In Judaism, Christianity, and Islam a white dove is generally a sign for peace. The dove can also represent "hope for peace" or a peace offering from one person to another, hence the phrase "to extend an olive branch". Often, the dove is represented as still in flight to remind people of its role as messenger.</p>		
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	No Breakfast Meeting – Happy Vijaya Dashami		
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	Dashain Festival Tika		
Birthday best wishes to our CP Roop			



It's that time of the year – our Charter President Rtn. Roop will celebrate his birthday on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. In keeping with a tradition that he established many years ago our Charter President donates \$1000 + 10,000Nrs to TRF on this day.

Mid-Town sends their best – and wished our charter president a very long life indeed.

## Delayed appreciation for Rtn. Pratap



Mid-Town IPP Rtn. RR finally had a chance to present a small memento of appreciation to last year's Club Service Director, **Rtn. Pratap**.

IPP RR acknowledged the hard work that Pratap did last year and credited him for having done the lion's share of the work for Mid-Town's 'Best Club' standing. A resounding round of applause seconded the IPPs comments.



## Mid-Town bids good bye



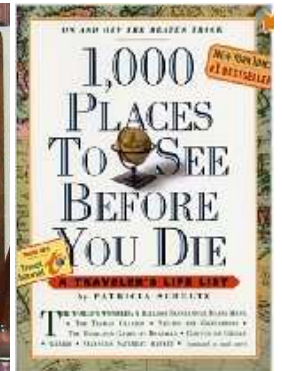
Congratulations and farewell to newly minted Rotarian, **Rtn. Shankar Sharma**, who will soon take up his post as Nepal's ambassador to the USA. As Pres. Subarna noted, he will also be Mid-Town's 'ambassador' to Rotary Clubs in the US. Mid-Town wishes him and his wife all the best for a happy and very successful stay.



## Telling the tall tales



The inspiration for the evening's entertainment came from the *One Thousand and One Nights* and Scheherazade's famed telling of tall tales. Mid-Towners were in full form as they recounted their tales of travel woes and adventures. With several stories of missed or almost flights, of truculent taxi drivers and pesky leeches – of missed opportunities and ironies galore. A hearty applause as the tell-telling came to an end and **Rtn. Kul Chandra** won the prize travel book.



## Vote of Thanks



VP Rtn. Som spoke on behalf of all Mid-Towners when he extended a hearty 'thank you' to Rtn. Alex and spouse Eleni for having hosted this 1000<sup>th</sup> meeting in their beautiful home in Nag Pokhari.

Rotarians and spouses had a great time indeed – the food was gourmet, home-cooked, and delicious and the ambience was extraordinary! Cheers to Alex and Eleni.

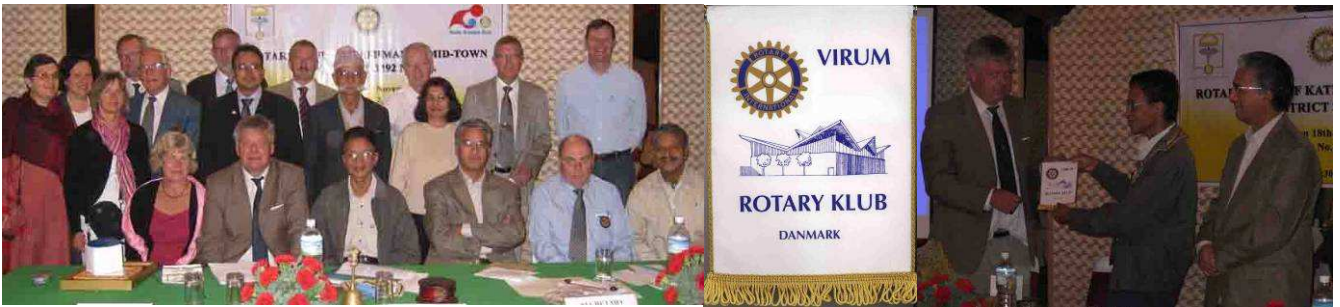




## 'Gift of Sound'

### Up-date on the hearing aid project

Many of you may remember the visit to our Club last October by **Rtn. Dr. Torben Bosen** and some other members of the **Rotary Club of Virum, Denmark**. On that occasion Rtn. Dr. Torben donated many hearing aids. What has happened since then?



The good news is that over the past year RC Mid-Town has been in touch with the Chhatrpati Free Clinic, where an ex-army brigadier is in charge of the **Free Ear Clinic**. These photos give an idea of the efforts in the distribution of the hearing aids. Mid-Town looks forward to continued collaboration with RC Virum on the 'Gift of Sound' project so that many underprivileged people can continue to benefit.



## Work for the spouses

Last week **PP Arun** turned over a check for 125,000 Nrs. This is money was left over from the Mid-Town's spouses' projects from years ago. Perhaps with some intention the check is made out in the name of Joystna Joshi (wife of our President Subarna) – Joystna will hopefully be able to revive these activities and put this money to good use.





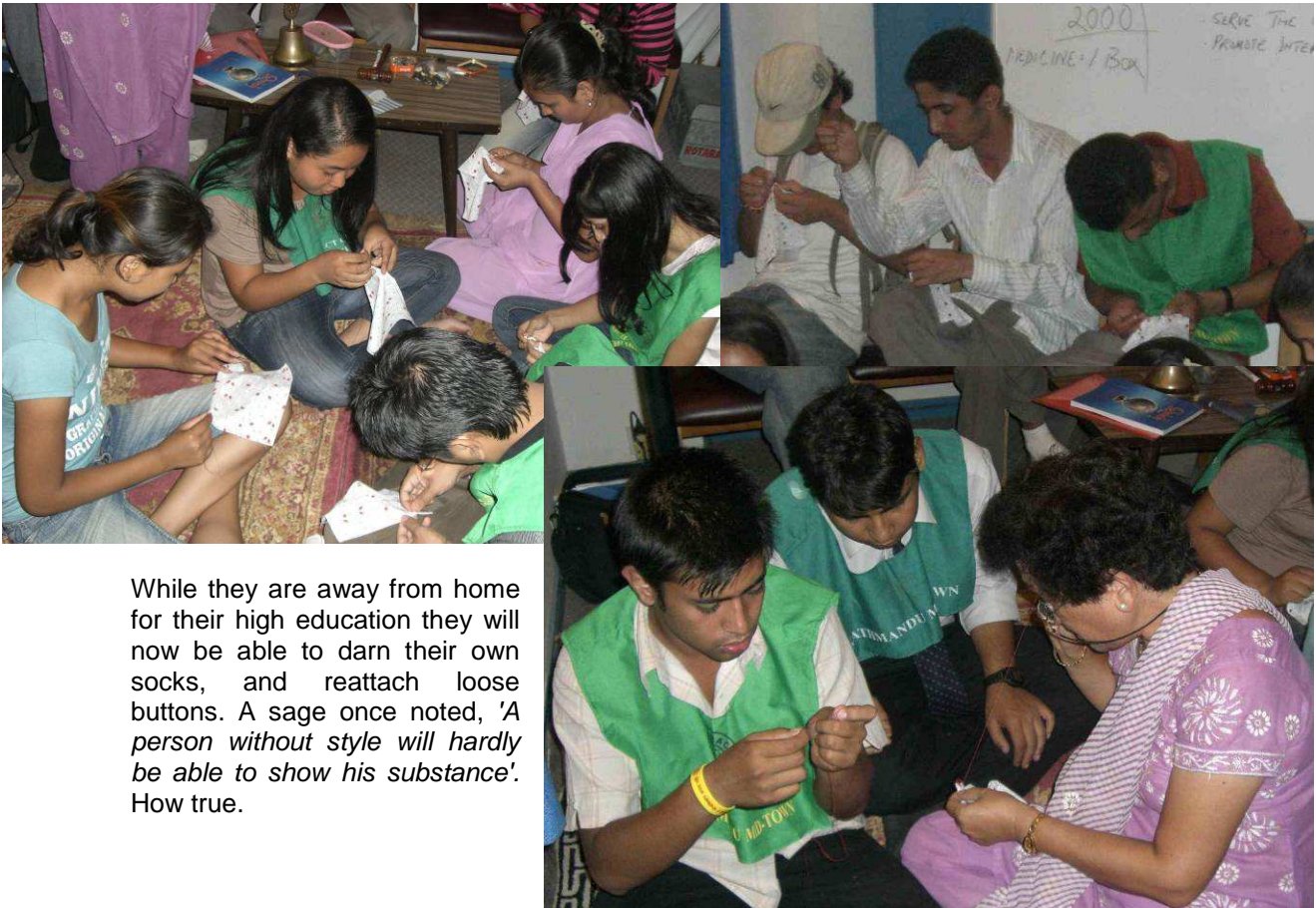
### *Rotaracts learn life skills*

Mid-Town's Rotaracts continue to be as intrepid as ever. Last week they learned life skills as PP Dr. Lekha conducted training sessions in both the measurement of blood pressure.



On 7th Sept 2009 - Rotaracts of Kathmandu Mid-Town had a special training session in learning the science of measuring blood pressure and an equally important life skill: learning the art of basic needlecraft. Both the genders participated wholeheartedly and with keen interest. At the next meeting a surprise award is awaiting the winner of the participant in the needlecraft session.

These Rotaracts are well on their way to becoming independent young adults. They will now be able to help middle-aged parents and elderly grandparents with blood pressure measurements.



While they are away from home for their high education they will now be able to darn their own socks, and reattach loose buttons. A sage once noted, 'A person without style will hardly be able to show his substance'. How true.

## *Financial update from the RI general secretary*

### *Good Financial News from RI*

Rotary International News -- 8 September 2009 (adapted) read the whole article at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

Dear Rotarians,

While we wait for Rotary's independent auditors to complete the audit of Rotary's 2008-09 financial statements, preliminary results indicate that Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation have **weathered the recent financial crisis with less damage than we had feared**. RI's investment losses dropped from over US\$26 million in February to approximately \$12 million for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2009.

As the stock market recovers, gains continue to offset the unrealized losses and the Rotary Foundation Trustees **reinstated an additional \$2.3 million in Matching Grant funds** for 2009-10, an action that will strengthen Rotarians' humanitarian efforts this year.

Other factors are also encouraging. Small membership increases in 2008-09 have strengthened our dues base. In addition, contributions to the Foundation, excluding the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Google Foundation grants, reached record levels in 2008-09 and remain strong this year. Both of these developments speak to the intrinsic value of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation as a force for good in our world. While the worst of the economic crisis may be past, the recovery remains slow and painful. In a world marked by high unemployment, mortgage foreclosures, and failing businesses, Rotary service is needed now more than ever. The RI Board, Foundation Trustees, and Secretariat staff are all working to protect the resources that help to make this vital service possible.

Sincerely,

Ed Futa

RI General Secretary



# Homeward bound

SABHYATA TIMSINA



**Newly trained midwives are returning to their villages to help people**

The project is the brainchild of German Rotarian Hartmut Bander, who worked with Rotary Club of Kathmandu-Midtown and Darmstadt Bergstrasse. He started the project after witnessing the dilapidated state of health posts in rural Nepal.

The objective is to empower villagers to help themselves so they won't have to depend on the largesse of government or NGOs. Says project contact person C.K. Golcha, "The problem with sending city dwellers to help out in villages is that they cannot adjust to the environment there. But if you train locals, their love for their birthplace will drive them to go back and do something productive."

The first batch of graduates are all set to return to their villages. Shy and self-conscious when they first arrived in Kathmandu, they're now

brimming with self-confidence and eager to make a difference. Project manager Rajaram Joshi notes, "The graduates feel they don't need to stay in Kathmandu to earn money."

Rina Thakali of Jomsom confirms this, adding, "We are privileged to have been given this opportunity. And we cannot wait to give something back." The girls will continue to receive support once they're working back in their villages. Pariyar, for instance, will be sent back home with Rs 1,26,000 and all the necessary equipment to start up a mother-child health clinic. The interest on the amount will help Pariyar sustain herself and maintain the clinic.

The Rotary Club plans to train many more midwives and run similar projects in other parts of Nepal. With national maternal mortality rates still unacceptably high, a local effort such as this will have positive impacts right across the country. ●

## Mid-Town Humor



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

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