



Breakfast Chatter



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

February 10 th , 2009	Weekly Bulletin	Vol. 29 of '08/'09
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This Week's Speaker

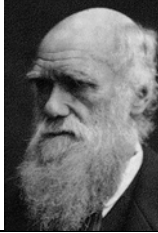





Dr. Alexander Spachis

Minister-Counsellor Charge d'affaires a.i. European Union,
Delegation of the European Union Commission to Nepal,
will speak on the EU's role in Nepal.



Calendar

Date	Theme
Feb. 12 th	200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin Charles Robert Darwin (12 February 1809 – 19 April 1882) was an English naturalist who realised and demonstrated that all species of life have evolved over time from common ancestors through the process he called natural selection. <i>"There is grandeur in this view of life.... from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being evolved."</i> Charles Darwin, <i>On the Origin of Species</i> . 
Feb. 13 th	Dr. Alexander Spachis Minister-Counsellor Charge d'affaires a.i. European Union Delegation of the European Union Commission to Nepal (see above)
Feb. 14 th	 Valentines Day! Mid-Town's Climbing Wall Outing Mid-Towners and families are invited to a fun morning at the climbing wall. Join us at 11 AM. lunch will be served. Please inform Rt. Jo if you will be attending. How to get there: Take the small road behind the Malla Hotel that leads to Thamel Chowk; about mid-way down this road look for a sign that says 'Asian Trekking' and 'Consulate of Belgium'. Parking is limited. Maybe park at the Hotel Malla and walk. If you get lost call Jo Logghe at: 9851032785
Feb. 23 rd	104th Anniversary of the first Rotary club meeting on 23 February 1905 (see below)
Feb. 23 rd	Maha Shiva Ratri
Feb. 28 th	Preventative Health Camp – LELE. Date tentative – details to follow.
March 6 th	 Joint meeting with Mid-Town Rotaracts
March 8 th	 International Women's Day International Women's Day (8 March) is an occasion marked by women's groups around the world come together to celebrate their Day, they can look back to a tradition that represents at least nine decades of struggle for equality, justice, peace and development.
March 13 th	Naveen Mangal Joshi , a water resources engineer who has 30 years working experience in the field with talk about this past summer's Koshi barage.
March 20 th	Club Assembly
March 27 th	Ms. Neeva will talk on "Stress Management & Art of Living".
April 3 rd -5 th	First District Conference of Rotary International District 3292, Nepal, Venue: Nepal Academy, Kamladi

Speaker of the Week

Discoverer of the Rufous-vented Prinia speaks to Mid-Town

Dr. Hem Sagar Baral, who is Nepal's first and only holder of a PhD in ornithology, spoke to us this week on the discovery of a new subspecies of bird at Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (KTWR) of east Nepal.

Dr Hem Sagar Baral recently led a team of experts who assessed the taxonomic status of the bird and recently declared as hitherto undescribed new subspecies of Rufous-vented Prinia.



Dr Baral said, "this is a subspecies currently found only in Nepal." He further added, "Discovery of a new taxon from Koshi Tappu which is one of the most bird watched areas of the country indicates the possibilities of finding more new species, understanding birds and their conservation needs even greater in the future". Ornithologists call this ground-breaking research work. The other two subspecies of Rufous-vented Prinia are found in Pakistan in the west along the tributaries of Indus River and Assam in the east along the Brahmaputra river systems. The newly described bird shows somewhat intermediate character between the two and appears to form a link between the two. It is also interesting that it is found in the Ganges river systems which is the major river system in between the other two river systems.

Photo above. The bird was identified as Rufous-vented Prinia bringing Nepal's total bird list to 862 species. The bird is known as *Prinia burnesii* to scientific community. The new taxon from Nepal is referred to as Nepal Rufous-vented Prinia *Prinia burnesii nipalensis*.



Grants News

RAVENNA



The Rotary Foundation acknowledges receipt of MG application

Through Rtn. Navyo and Rtn. Pratap Mid-Town was happy to know that TRF has acknowledged the receipt of the MG RC Ravenna - RC Kathmandu Mid-Town - Lele.

TRF says, "Thank you. Your e-mail was received by The Rotary Foundation Contact Center for

response. Your Matching Grant application for school enhancements in Nepal is being forwarded to the Grants Processing Team. There should be a response from them in the near future".

Mid-Town is also doing a WSC project with RC Ravenna and the photo shows the Head Master MR. Nabin Thapa of Saraswati SH School in Lele, briefing Rtn. Maurizio Montanari and his team from RC Ravenna on the school building. In the background is the second floor that is being constructed with the WCS grant.



Historic Moments — Rotary's 104th anniversary

Rotary International News — 4 February 2009

The first four Rotarians: (left to right) Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram Shorey, and Paul Harris. Rotary Images During the first Rotary club meeting on 23 February 1905 in Chicago, Paul Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Hiram Shorey, and Silvester Schiele met to talk about their personal experiences. Harris then unfolded his general plan for their club meetings.



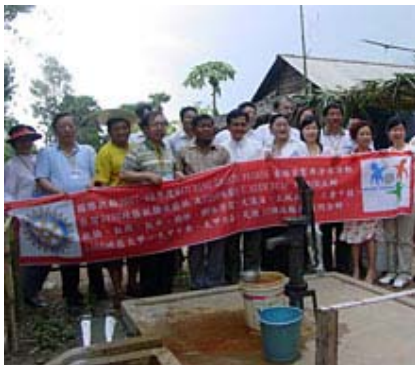
This was the simple beginning of the world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago. It was created because of Harris' wish to capture in a professional club the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth. The Rotary name derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

Rotarians continue to take pride in their history. In honor of that first club, Rotarians have preserved its original meeting place, Room 711 in Chicago's Unity Building, by re-creating the office as it existed in 1905. For several years, the Paul Harris 711 Club maintained the room as a shrine for visiting Rotarians. In 1989, when the building was scheduled to be demolished, the club carefully dismantled the office and salvaged the interior, including doors and radiators. In 1993, the RI Board of Directors set aside a permanent home for the restored Room 711 at RI World Headquarters in the Chicago suburb of Evanston.

Rotary International News

Cambodian, Taiwanese clubs team up for clean water

By Peter Schmidtke Rotary International News — 5 February 2009 (adapted)



Rotarians from Cambodia and Taiwan celebrate a Matching Grant water project in Cambodia. Photo courtesy of the Rotary Club of Panchiao North, Taiwan A US\$22,700 water project is giving more than 350 households in northwestern Cambodia clean water from 80 hand-operated pump wells. Fourteen clubs in districts 3350, 3460, and 3490, which cover parts of Cambodia, Taiwan, and Thailand, and a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant have supported the effort.

Villagers using the wells, the last of which were drilled in December, previously obtained water from rivers and ponds. Less than 40 percent of rural Cambodians -- and less than 10 percent of the poorest half of the country's rural population -- have access to clean, potable water, according

to the Cambodian Ministry of Planning.

The project also taught villagers how to maintain the wells and educated them about the health benefits of clean water. The Siem Reap Angkor club provided training through radio broadcasts and direct visits. This month, the international sponsor clubs are holding a free medical service camp, which means that District Governor-elect Chin-Hsien Lee, of the Rotary Club of Panchiao North, Taiwan, and other Rotarians will spend a long day bouncing along remote roads to reach a dozen wells built through the project. When the driving becomes too rough, they will hike.

For the two-year-old Siem Reap Angkor club, which supervised a local drilling company's work during construction, the effort brought both challenges and rewards. "During the rainy season, we had difficulty transporting equipment to villages, but we all did our best," Prom says. "Our members are very committed."

Mid-Town welcomes Rotarians from Alaska



Mary Jeannine Rohlfing (far left), Past President of RC Anchorage East and Linda "Jay" Jackson (middle), Honorary Member of RC East Anchorage Rotary, visited Mid-Town this week. Mary and Jay are in town to meet different Rotary Clubs and get to know people. 'Seeing id believing'. Both Mary and Jay are enthusiastic fundraisers – this is Mary's first visit to Nepal but Jay is an 'old hand' who has been honoured on different occasions for her good work here in Nepal and through her NGO "Helping Hand for Nepal". In

2004 Jay was awarded the US Ambassador's Community Service Award/Nepal; in 2003 she was the first recipient of "Women Helping Women" Award, Soroptimists International, and in 2001 she was honored by Nepal's Prime Minister for humanitarian work; over the years she has received many many other awards and has been recognized for the good work she is doing.

Helping Hand for Nepal (HHN) alleviates poverty and suffering through Nepali requested projects in medicine, education, and water supply. HHN accepts special one-time-need projects. Recognizing the need for sustainable development, HHN works directly with Nepal. www.hhnepal.org



Mid-Town Humour



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

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