



Breakfast Chatter



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

November 25th, 2008

Weekly Bulletin

Vol. 19 of '08/'09

This Week's Speaker


Trafficked Children in Our Neighborhood

Helen Sherpa will share with us the problem of internal trafficking in Nepal, the issues and some of the options and challenges Nepali society has to address this problem. Trafficking into Nepal's entertainment sector is a cause of concern to women activists, NGOs, human rights groups, international donors, foreign embassies and businessmen. As Nepal grapples with how to regulate this industry while protecting jobs and economic investments this will be an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the trafficking issue and how we might respond.

Helen Sherpa has worked with development agencies addressing health and education issues in Nepal for 15 years. Over this time she has been closely involved with programs to address trafficking of Nepali women. Her work has given her unique insights into the changing face of trafficking in Nepal and the emergence of domestic trafficking. She currently works for World Education which has been supporting programs to address the needs of trafficking victims.



Calendar

Date	Theme
Nov. 25 th	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
Nov. 27 th	In the USA Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November; it is an annual American Federal holiday to express thanks for one's material and spiritual possessions. Most people celebrate by gathering at home with family or friends for a holiday feast.
Nov. 28 th	Speaker: Ms. Helen Sherpa, "Trafficked Children in Our Neighbourhood"
Nov. 29 th	Mid-Town Charter night dinner at Hotel Shangri-la – book your tickets today!
Dec. 5 th	Speaker: Dr. Narayan Thapa "Cleft lip and palate surgery" (tentative)
Dec. 12 th	Visiting Rtms. Martin Buitink and Atjo Westerhuis will discuss their Shechen Clinic project.
Dec. 19 th	Speaker: Francois of Himalayan French Cheese will talk about making cheese in Nepal
Dec. 26 th	Christmas break - no meeting.
Dec. 15 th	First deadline 2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England, 21-24 June (Register early for the convention to take advantage of special pricing!)
Dec. 29 th	International Day for Biological Diversity
January 2009	Mid-Town Family Pot Luck Cook-off Contest. Details to follow.
June 21-24 th	 <p>If you haven't been back to Birmingham since the 1984 convention, you may not recognize this former industrial town. Now a lively canal city known for its outstanding shopping and dining, Birmingham — or Brum, as the natives call it — underwent a dramatic facelift in the 1990s. The transformation resulted in a modern, more pedestrian-friendly city that retains traces of its medieval and Industrial Age roots.</p>

RI President Visits Nepal



The RI President visited Nepal last week amidst much fanfare. President Dong Kurn Lee was feted at a gala dinner attended by hundreds of Nepali Rotarians at the Solatee Crown Plaza Hotel on Monday Nov. 17th.

DG Dr Tika Man presided on behalf of Rotary Nepal and District 3292. First Lady Rajani Vaidya was on hand to present Mr. Lee with a Nepali Pashmina shawl – the photo at left shows Mrs. Lee appreciating the fine gift and thanking Rotary Nepal.

President Lee congratulated Nepal on having achieved District 3292 and extended his good wishes. The Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town was presented with a Certificate of

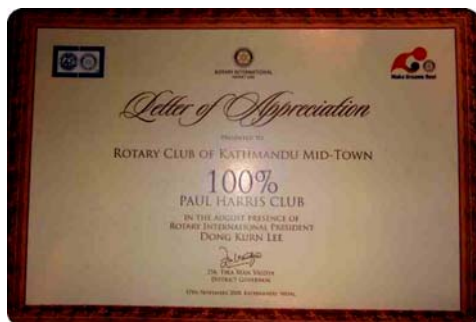


Appreciation for being a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club. Mid-Town President Rtn. RR graciously accepted on behalf of Mid-Town (photo below).

CP Roop and PP Mani enjoyed one of the evening's lighter moments with RI President Lee and DG

Tika Man Vidya (photo above) and everyone had a good and very memorable evening. The following day President Lee addressed the Rotary Foundation Seminar.

What was on the Letter of Appreciation?



The certificate reads, "Letter of Appreciation presented to the Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town 100% Paul Harris Club. In the august presence of Rotary International President Dong Kurn Lee. Dr. Tika Man Vidya 17th November 2008, Kathmandu, Nepal.





Dear fellow Rotarians,

As a father of four and grandfather of five, I have been fortunate to have spent many years in the company of children. When raising our own children, my wife, Young, and I worked hard to give them what all children need most: a loving, safe, and stable home. Our children were our first priority, and we made sure that they always had nutritious food, appropriate clothing, quality medical care, and a good education. We knew very well how fortunate we were to be able to do this. We were grateful that

we never had to say to our children, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing to eat tonight," or "I'm sorry, but we can't pay your school fees."

When I was a child, Korea was a poor country, and there were many children who went to bed hungry at night and had no school to go to in the morning. As a Rotarian, I know only too well that there are still far too many children in the world without the absolute essentials: food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and education. And as a Rotarian who is also a father, I consider all of the world's children to be my responsibility.

When I see my own grandchildren - happy, healthy, and enrolled in good schools - I cannot help but think of the millions of children who do not have so many advantages. I think of the children who have too little to eat and only dirty water to drink. I think of the children who are sick with diseases that could have been prevented and those who will have nowhere safe to sleep tonight. And I think of the children, millions of them every year, who won't live to see their fifth birthday.

*December is Family Month. It is a time to focus on our families, to involve them in our Rotary service, and to challenge ourselves to do even more for those in need. Because there are so many families and so many children waiting for our help, we, as Rotarians, cannot look away. We cannot and will not rest until all children, everywhere, have the chance for a long and healthy life. We will not rest until we *Make Dreams Real* for every child in every home where there is hunger, sickness, and want. As Rotarians, we can do no less.*

*Dong Kurn (D.K.) Lee
President, Rotary International*

ANM Picnic at Godavari



The 43 girls hosted through Mid-Town's 3H Grant (Health, Hunger and Humanity) in the ANM (Assistant Nurse/Midwife) program had a wonderful time last Saturday at a picnic held in Godavari at the Botanical Gardens. The girls fall into two groups. The older girls have already had 12 months of training and will completed their training by June. The second group had just started. Once the girls complete their training, they will also have lectures on micro-credit and orthopaedics. PP Rtn. CK and Rtn Rajesh (RC Mount Everest) (photo left) were also on hand to celebrate the day with the girls.



Close-ups

Interviews with ISA

The girls are mostly from small villages in the remote areas of Far West Nepal. Their homes are in villages a few days walk outside of the main centers in Humal, Jumla, Mustand, Dolpa, etc.. While the younger girls were shy and self-conscious the girls who had been in Kathmandu and in the program for 12 months showed a remarkable self-confidence. They were unanimous in telling me that they enjoyed life in Kathmandu and really liked everything about it – there is nothing you can't get here! they told me. They also told of the things that they had learnt and that they were anxious to return to their villages to help. One of the older girls said that her father had died of what she now understands to be a curable ailment because of lack of modern medical care – the local village herbalist had done his best with local knowledge but more was needed. It was inspiring to spend an afternoon with these happy and chatty girls who are well on their way to becoming tomorrow's community leaders.

Rotary's fight against polio comes "Full Circle"

Contact: Petina Dixon 847-844-3054 or at petina.dixon@rotary.org, RI News -- 24 October 2008 (adapted)

Evanston, IL (20 October, 2008)— "Full Circle," a thought-provoking exhibition of photographs centered on Rotary's final stand against polio took place last week at the Menier Chocolate Factory art gallery in London.

The fight against polio was illustrated through the photographs of London polio survivor and advocate Gautam Lewis, who traveled to his birthplace of Kolkata, India to immunize children against the disease. The massive global undertaking of polio eradication led by Rotary and its partners was further developed through the images of photographer Jean-Marc Giboux, who has documented the battle against polio in its remaining strongholds of India, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan throughout the past decade.

Abandoned after contracting polio at age three, Lewis spent two years living at Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, followed by two more years of operations at the Rehabilitation Centre for Children. Lewis was later adopted by Dr Patricia Lewis, a dual national (UK/Ireland) nuclear physicist, and raised in New Zealand and London— his life developing in stark contrast to his days as one of India's poorest children. After learning about Rotary's work to eradicate polio, he became inspired to help Rotary end the disease forever.

The weeklong photo exhibition, jointly organized by Rotary International and Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI), was attended by more than 350 people. More than 100 people attended the launch reception, including the High Commissioner for Pakistan, representatives from the World Health Organization, DFID, Sightsavers, The Stroke Association, and the UK Department of Health. To date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$700 million toward eradicating polio, a figure which will rise to more than US\$850 million by the time the world is certified polio-free. Rotary members have helped immunize over two billion children in 122 countries and are currently working to raise US\$100 million more to match a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in the same amount. The general public can participate at www.rotary.org/endpolio.



Mid-Town Humour

Quotes of the week

"He who has not forgiven an enemy has never yet tasted one of the most sublime enjoyments of life."

*Johann Kaspar Lavater (1741-1801),
Swiss-born German Physiognomist*



"Always forgive your enemies - nothing annoys them so much."

Oscar Wilde, Irish writer (1854-1900)

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

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