



Breakfast Chatter



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

November 11th, 2008

Weekly Bulletin

Vol. 17 of '08/'09

This Week Club Assembly

Report by Mid-Town's Committee Chairs



Membership Committee Chair:
PP Ajay Sthapit



Club Administration Committee Chair:
Jo Logghe

Service Projects Committee Chair:
Pratap Malla



Events Management Committee Chair:
PP Komal Chitracar



The Rotary Foundation Committee Chair:
..Saroj Shrestha

Club Public Relations Committee Chair:
Navyo Eller



AG Rtn. Anil Shrestha will join us for the meeting.

Calendar

Date	Theme
Nov. 14 th	Club Assembly
Nov. 17 th	The Rotary Foundation Seminar with RI President Dong Kurn Lee Time: 3pm, Venue: Soaltee Hotel Crown Plaza, Registration: Rs.2000 per person, Fellowship Dinner will follow after the program, Host Clubs: RC Patan, Baneshwor and Butwal
Nov. 18 th	Stewardship Training Seminar, Time: 8:00am to 9:00am Venue: Ashok Party Palace, Patan Dhoka, Registration: Rs.500 per person (includes breakfast and lunch) Host Club: Patan Durbar Square. Please confirm your participation by 15th of Nov.
Nov. 19-20-21	Eye camp in Hetauda. Mid-Towners are encouraged to attend. If you can share a ride or if you need a ride please coordinate with PP Rtn. Mani.
Nov. 20 th	Inauguration of eye hospital in Hetauda.
Nov. 21 st	No meeting
Nov. 22 nd	Note: the Charter Night celebration has been postponed to the following week.
Nov. 25 th	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
Nov. 28 th	Speaker: Ms. Helen Sherpa, "Trafficked Children in Our Neighborhood"
Nov. 29 th	Mid-Town Charter Night at Hotel Shangri-la. Details to follow.
Dec. 26 th	Christmas break - no meeting.
Dec. 29 th	International Day for Biological Diversity
January	Mid-Town Family Pot Luck Cook-off Contest. Details to follow.

Rotaract Lottery Brings Clean Water to Bagmati Slum Dwellers



On October 26th Mid-Town's intrepid Rotaracts were out and about again promoting their concern for "Clean Water". On this occasion they visited a Bagmati slum area where Rtr. Anil coordinated the program and discussed the benefits of clean drinking water with the nearly 70 families who attended the programme. The dignitaries present were: PE Rtn. Eileen and Rtn John Heasley (RC Troy Michigan), PP Dr Chandra Lekha Tuladhar (RC Mid-Town) and Mr Rajesh Adhikari (ENPHO). Mr Rajesh Adhikari explained how the SBL filters work and how to maintain them. Mr Indra Gurung (executive member of the Bagmati Slum Development Committee) stressed the importance of hygiene and need to use the filter as directed and to replace the filters when they break.

There was a lively and enthusiastic moment at the end of the programme when the Rotaracts held a lottery (photo below) to distribute 10 Solutions Benefiting Life (SBL) filters. The happy faces of the winners were a great satisfaction to all the Rotaracts and Rotarians who participated and bode well for the continued use of the filters.

What are SBL filters? SBL filters are similar to the 'candle' models but faster and cheaper. The ceramic filters are produced by local potters and can be produced cheaply. The water is poured into the top compartment and flows through the filter into the bottom reservoir chamber. The filter is a colloidal silver impregnated ceramic base which not only filters sandy residue but also kills bacteria.



The Rotary Club of Virum

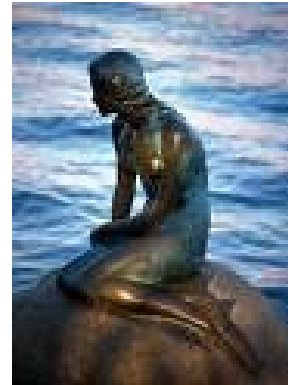


Fourteen members of RC Virum and their spouses visited Mid-Town. Over the past two weeks this group has had a chance to trek in Nepal and to meet some of its people. For many in the group this was a first visit to Nepal and they had many interesting and enthusiastic observations to share and stories to tell. As we discussed the upcoming visit of the RI President to Nepal, Rtn Per told that the RI president had also at one time visited Denmark and that he had graced RC Virum with a special visit. They showed a video that highlighted Denmark and Copenhagen.

This is a return visit for Dr. Torben Boesen who headed the team. Rtn. Torben is an ENT specialist in Denmark and he told Mid-Town that research shows that hearing loss can

affect relationships, school performance, job productivity, and emotional well being. For children and adults who have a hearing loss, selecting the most suitable hearing aids can be the critical factor to enjoying life to its fullest. A study shows that in Nepal over 2.7 million people suffer from hearing loss and that over 70% of these are school age children. The

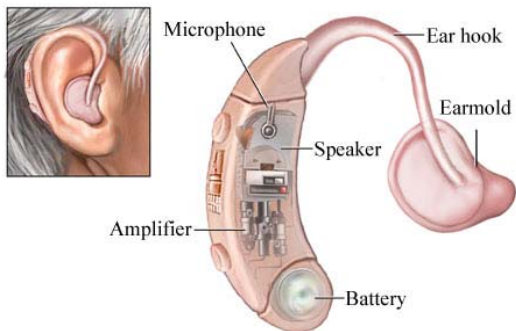
special gift he brought to Nepal and donated to Mid-Town is 200 hearing aids (complete with ear molds and batteries). He explained that he could gift these hearing aids to Nepal because people in Denmark were upgrading to more high tech digital models. Dr. Boesen told us that he was happy to donate these through Rotary who would ensure that they would benefit the most needy. Before the meeting Dr. Boesen fitted two visitors to Mid-Town with hearing aids and explained to members the most common causes of hearing loss.



RC Mid-Town, through Rtn. Pratap and PP Rtn. Dr. Lekha, will work with a local ENT doctor to ensure that the aids go to needy people and that they are properly fitted and maintained. This is in the process of being established – details of how and when hearing aids will be distributed will be made available as soon as the process has been formalized. Please let us know of any needy people who are in need of a hearing aid.

How does a Hearing Aid work?

Hearing aids consist of:



- A microphone, to pick up sound.
- An amplifier, to make the sound louder.
- A speaker, to deliver the sound into the ear.
- Batteries, to power the hearing aid.

End Polio Now exhibit opens

By Dan Nixon, Rotary International News -- 30 October 2008 (adapted)

Samuel Owori, Uganda, RI representative to the UN Economic Commission of Africa and a member of the African Regional PolioPlus Committee (left at top) and Henry Kyemba, Uganda, RI representative to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, check out the End Polio Now exhibit unveiled 27 October in the lobby of Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA. At bottom: RI President Dong Kurn Lee welcomes visitors to the opening of the exhibit. *Photos by Alyce Henson/Rotary Images*

Rotarians have traveled by car, bicycle, boat, even camel to immunize children around the world against polio.

Their stories and the global initiative to eradicate the crippling disease are compellingly told in the exhibit "End Polio Now," unveiled on 27 October at Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA. "This exhibit serves as a reminder to those who live in a polio-free world about the suffering of those who do not," Rotary Foundation Trustee Vice Chair Ron Burton told the gathering at the exhibit's unveiling.



On hand were the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation, Major Donors, Rotary representatives to the United Nations, and the senior adviser in the Global Health Program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Cheryl Scott, as well as the media.

Burton called the exhibit "a tribute to the will and determination of the world's 1.2 million Rotarians" in raising hundreds of millions of dollars to help vaccinate two billion children against polio, promoting and participating in National Immunization Days, and raising more than \$4 billion from the public sector through advocacy with governments.



"This exhibit tells their story, a story of perseverance and hope in the face of financial, political, technical, and geographic obstacles," Burton said.

The story unfolds on the exhibit's 12 large panels, with titles such as "Mobilize to Immunize," "Rotary Responds," "Tracking the Wild Virus," and "A World without Polio." Also featured are a continuous DVD presentation and a display case containing a few of the numerous awards that Rotary has received in

recognition of its leadership role in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Two other cases feature items used to promote and carry out National Immunization Days, such as a Rotary volunteer's cap, a Kick Polio Out of Africa soccer ball, a PolioPlus banner, and a cold box for transporting oral polio vaccine.

US\$100 Million Challenge

The exhibit's last panel highlights Rotary's [US\\$100 Million Challenge](#) in response to the Gates Foundation challenge grant for polio eradication. Visitors can use an electronic kiosk in front of the panel to donate to the fundraising challenge. "We have brought the world closer to the end of a disease and to the achievement of the fourth [UN] Millennium Development Goal: reducing child mortality," said RI President Dong Kurn Lee. "Rotary is committed to ending polio and to building the healthier, safer, and more peaceful world of which we all dream."

RI General Secretary Ed Futa joined Lee in cutting a ribbon to officially open the exhibit.

"This exhibit will be installed here for the coming five years," Futa said. "We will be updating it as contributions to Rotary's US\$100 Million Challenge continue to come in and as the number of polio-endemic countries decreases. "We hope that school groups and other community members will view the exhibit and learn more about the problem of polio and Rotary's work to eradicate the disease," he added.

Mid-Town Bids 'Bon Voyage and Adieu' to Rtn. Peter Clawson



Mid-Town is sad to bid farewell to long time Rotarian Peter Clawson. Rtn. Peter and wife Kay are taking up residence in Bangkok, Thailand to be with their daughter Tory and her family.

Peter has been a part of our Club for the past eight years and has served in several



different capacities including, most recently, International Service Director. Peter brought his extensive experience of several decades with Rotary to bear on his work with Mid-Town and was always ready to share a cheerful anecdote from his vast experience. Mid-Town will truly miss his cheerful disposition and his gracious bonhomie. Mid-Town wishes Peter and Kay all of the best for a happy future in Thailand.

What was in the package?



Mid-Town presented Rtn. Peter with a small token of appreciation. The box is a small wooden chest of Tibetan inspired design. This and many other boxes and chests of adapted Tibetan art are available from *The Kathmandu Gallery* (photo by Rtn. Pramod).

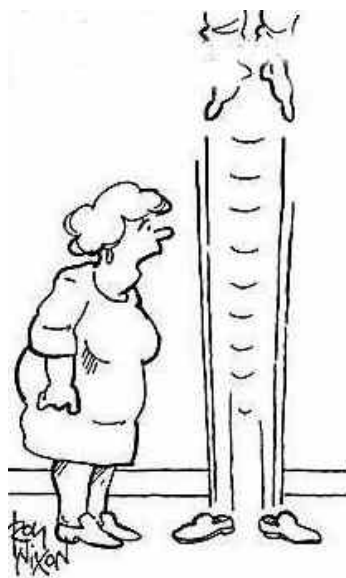


On the Lighter Side

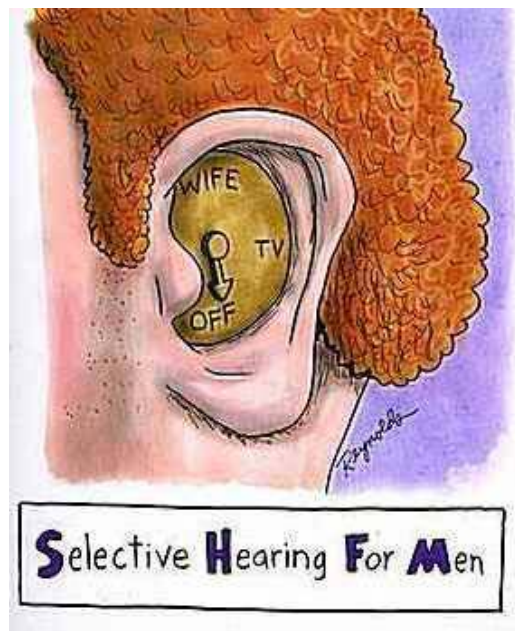
Hurry

'Hurry' is a lovely word. The wind hurries.
The clouds hurry, the waves hurry out on the water. Time hurries.
Why does time hurry?
Because it has to get a move on.
Why does it have to get a move on?
Because there is so much it has to do.
Where does time hurry to?
Silence.
What is time?
A long silence.
Is that all hurrying is?
Yes, exactly. That is all hurrying is.

(by a well-know Danish poet, translated and read by PP Dr. Torben Boesen, RC Virum)



"DID YOU REMEMBER TO GET A NEW BATTERY FOR YOUR HEARING AID?"



Selective **H**earing **F**or **M**en

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

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