



# Breakfast Chatter



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





February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009      Weekly Bulletin      Vol. 31 of '08/'09

## This Week's Speaker



H.E. The Ambassador of Malaysia to Nepal,  
H.E. Dato' Ilankovan Kolandavelu, will speak on  
*'Malaysia's Experience with Nation Building'*

## Calendar

Date	Theme
Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup>	H.E. Dato' Ilankovan Kolandavelu, (see above)
Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Preventative Health Camp – LELE. <b>Rtn. Dr. Rabindra</b> will be on hand to help screen patients for hypertension and to give counseling. <b>Rtn. Dr. Neil</b> of Healthy Smiles will do hands-on preventative dental care training. Mid-Towners are encouraged to attend – come and make this a really successful day for Lele. Please register with Rtn. Pratap if you will be attending or if you can share transport. 
March 6 <sup>th</sup>	 Joint meeting with Mid-Town Rotaracts
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	 <b>International Women's Day</b> 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 <sup>th</sup>	Club Assembly and visit by Distric Governor Rtn. Tika Man Vidya
March 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Naveen Mangal Joshi</b> , a water resources engineer who has 30 years working experience in the field with talk about this past summer's Koshi barage.(not confirmed)
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	 First District Conference of Rotary International District 3292, Nepal, Venue: Nepal Academy, Kamladi
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Presentation by GSE team.
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Ms. Neeva will talk on "Stress Management & the Art of Living".

## Greetings from East Anchorage, Alaska



Rtn. Linda 'Jay' Jackson and PP Mary Jeannine Rohlfing from RC Anchorage East, Alaska, USA visited Mid-Town a few weeks back and have now sent their banner. The banner depicts a prospector 'panning' for gold, recalling the early days of Alaska during the gold rush. Note that today's 'gold' is the Rotary wheel!





Last week's speaker was none other than renowned Kathmandu personality, Ms. Barbara Adams. Barbara first came to Nepal as a freelance journalist in 1961 and has been here ever since. She is a journalist and writer whose five decades in Nepal have seen many interesting changes – she shared her thoughts and concerns with us this week. She remains deeply concerned and committed to Nepal and is determined to be here for the long term. She spoke to us on this occasion about her deep concern for both the people and the environment of Nepal,

especially the Kathmandu Valley. In the hurry to get from 'old' Nepal to 'new' Nepal many people have been forgotten – she implored us to remember them. Barbara also shared the good news that she has just become a Nepali citizen and the Club gave her a warm round of applause.

## RYLA 2009

### *RYLA in March*

**What is RYLA?** Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is one of Rotary International's nine structured programs designed to help clubs and districts achieve their service goals in their own communities and in communities abroad, fostering fellowship and goodwill in the process.



RYLA events are intensive training programs for youth ages 14-30. A seminar, camp, or workshop, generally 3-10 days in length, organized by Rotarians at the club or district level. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards RYLA's goals are to: demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth and to provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders as well as to encourage leadership of youth by youth. RYLA publicly recognizes young people who are providing service to their communities.

In 2009, the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) -2009 Nepal are being organized jointly by RC Dillibazar, RC Jwalakhel Manjushree, RC Patan South East, RC Rajdhani, RC Thamel and RC Tripureswor.

RYLA, which is held for students in the 18 – 20 years age group will be held this year on **26<sup>th</sup> March– 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009** at Little Angel School, Hattiban, Lalitpur, Nepal.

If you are interested in suggesting a candidate please contact the RYLA S Secretariat at the Rotary Library, Thapathali, Kathmandu, Email to : Rtr. Mahesh Bir Bajracharya : Rotary Office [rotary@ntc.net.np](mailto:rotary@ntc.net.np), or RYLA Organizing Committee Chairperson: Rtn. M.K. Jha Email: [mkjflight@hotmail.com](mailto:mkjflight@hotmail.com), with cc to RYLA Organizing Committee Chairperson: [mkjflight@hotmail.com](mailto:mkjflight@hotmail.com), and RYLA Organizing Committee member secretary: [rw@rwilson.wlink.com.np](mailto:rw@rwilson.wlink.com.np), and RYLA District Chairman: [yyexport@mos.com.np](mailto:yyexport@mos.com.np)

## Mid-Town inaugurates Lele's 'Rotary Computer Room'

On Feb. 20 2009, the "Rotary Computer Room", was inaugurated at the Shree Saraswati Higher Secondary School in LELE. District Program coordinator PP Rtn Siba Bhakta Rajbhandari (RC Patan) and Mid-Town President RR Shrestha cut the tape jointly.



Kathmandu Mid-Town (through the donation of 1,000 \$USD by "Licensed to code.com" (Bruno Malla's IT company in San Francisco).

As the computers had been fitted three months back, awaiting inauguration, the students were already familiar enough to give a demonstration of the computer skills. The accompanying club members were impressed with the skills the students had acquired in so short a time.

The students and teachers were proud to show off their well laid out computer room. RC Patan donated twenty new computers (through direct donation of a Rotary Club in the USA). The computer furniture was donated by RC



## Wall Climbing

### *Mid-Town and Rotracts Scale Great Heights*



Last Saturday Mid-Town was hosted by **Asian Trekking** and Rtn. Jo to a fun morning of rock climbing. A dozen or more Rotracts were happy to show their skills and even a few Rotarians ventured. Others were just happy to enjoy the lunch! Thanks to Rtn. Jo for organising and hosting the event!





## *Rotary Alumni Celebration to address world's problems*

By Jennifer Atkin (adapted)



Photo right. Jean-François Rischard, author of *High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years to Solve Them*, will speak at the Rotary Alumni Celebration. Photo courtesy of Jean-François Rischard

In the classic Western film *High Noon*, Gary Cooper faces an imminent showdown in a tense community. To Jean-François Rischard, author of *High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years to Solve Them*, it's a perfect metaphor to convey the urgency of the global challenges we currently face.

"We must take the best minds in the world and help them become agents for global problem-solving," says Rischard, who will be the keynote speaker at the Rotary Alumni Celebration taking place 20 June in Birmingham, England.

As an Ambassadorial Scholar at Harvard Business School in 1974-75, Rischard had one primary goal: to obtain a position at the World Bank. "I could think of no better spot to be, because it was so central and so influential" in helping 150 countries improve their standard of living, he explains.

A native of Luxembourg, Rischard had been teaching at the University of Aix-Marseille, France, having already earned degrees in law and economics. But inspired by then-World Bank President Robert McNamara, who is credited with shifting the bank's focus toward poverty reduction, and with help from the Rotary Club of Aix-en-Provence, he headed off to Harvard for an MBA.

Rischard then began a 30-year career at the World Bank in Paris, rising to become vice president for Europe, which put him in charge of developing new partnerships and initiatives with the bank's biggest shareholders. His multidisciplinary background and international experience helped prompt Rischard to write *High Noon*, a short, highly accessible book that has since been translated into 15 languages.

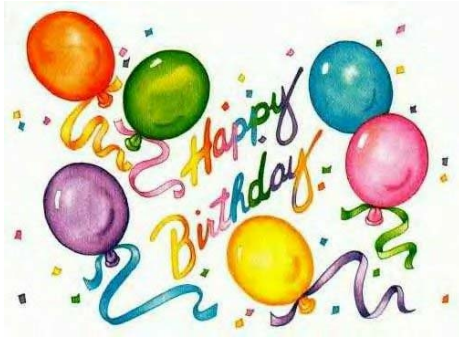
In the book, Rischard describes 20 critical global problems that he believes cannot be solved by individual nations or existing international institutions alone. He groups these problems into three categories: Issues involving the earth's resources, such as global warming and water shortages; humanitarian issues such as disease and poverty reduction; and regulatory issues involving trade and labor. Since the book's 2002 publication, Rischard says, "the problems have all gotten worse."

To solve them, Rischard proposes a model of global issue networks involving experts from governments, nongovernmental organizations, and the business world working together on a specific issue. What these networks might look like and how they could operate will be a subject for discussion at the Rotary Alumni Celebration. Attendees are encouraged to read *High Noon* in advance in order to fully participate in roundtable discussions and a question-and-answer session with Rischard; the first 50 Ambassadorial Scholar and Group Study Exchange team member alumni to [register](#) for the celebration will receive a free copy of the book.

Because most Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars have cultivated a global citizen mindset, Rischard notes, they are in a unique position to address global issues. "Regardless of their specialty, Ambassadorial Scholars should consider themselves to be global problem-solvers first, because through Rotary they have had the chance to develop skills at the global level," he says. "We are short on global problem-solvers."

Although time is running out, the problems we face are not insurmountable, Rischard stresses. Gary Cooper emerged triumphant in *High Noon*. So too, perhaps, can we.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY Sergeant-at-arms



A BIG Happy Birthday to Mid-Town's Sergeant-at-arms, Charter Member, Rtn. Werner Blaser, whose birthday comes on the last day of the month.

Mid-Town wishes you  
'many happy returns of the day'!

## Mid-Town Health Camp at Lele

### *Request for Good Participation on Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup>*

Programme at LELE on **Sat. 28 Feb. 2009**. Be at in the lobby of the Hotel de l'Annapurna by **9:30 am** for departure to LELE. More information at the upcoming Friday meeting.

Health Camp with both a Dental Preventive Care Workshop by Rtn. Dr Neil and Hypertension Monitoring by Rtn. Dr. Rabindra.

AND

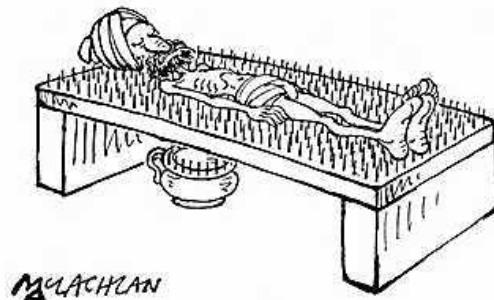
Foundation laying for MG # 66963 LELE drinking water supply project. President RR will lay the foundation stone, "silya nas", jointly with the eldest man in the Wada, Mr Prem Bahadur Thapa, age 95 years., at the "muhan", site of the water source at top of the hill.

A delicious " Ban Bhoj" will be served after the camp. (Tentative timing 3 pm.)

Return to Hotel Annapurna: (Tentative 4:30 pm.)

Please plan to participate!

## Mid-Town Humour



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

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