



# Breakfast chatter



Weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town  
District 3292, Club 26776, Chartered 8 Nov. 1989; 'Best Club' in Nepal 2009/2010

April 14<sup>th</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup> 2011

**DOUBLE ISSUE**

Vol. 42-43 of '10/'11

## Next week's speaker

### Open Source Software

Mid-Towner **Rtn. Rabi Karmacharya** will talk on Open Source Software. I will give information about what OSS is, how it works, and why it is a better (and cheaper) alternative to proprietary software packages like Windows and Office. I will also give a demonstration of Ubuntu - that works similar to Windows, but has a better architecture that does not even require users to install anti-virus software.





## Mid-Town News

### Out with the old and in with the new



On Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup> Mid-Town held its last Board Meeting of 2010-2011- this was also the first of Board Meeting of 2011-2012. There was an almost audible sigh of relief when Pres. Pratap felicitated his outgoing Board and ran through what all had been accomplished during the year. The accounts are in good order and the year-end paperwork has been completed! The new Board is ready to get to work come July 1<sup>st</sup>.

calendar		
date	theme	
A pril — Magazine Month		
April is Magazine Month, a time to celebrate the global network of Rotary's official magazines, which provide valuable information to 1.2 million Rotarians.		
28 April	<p>The Queen's Official Birthday,</p> <p>also known as "the Queen's Birthday" is the day on which the birthday of the monarch of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth Realms is officially celebrated rather than the actual day of the current monarch's birthday. The exact date of the celebration varies from country to country, and only marks the real birthday of the sovereign by coincidence (the current monarch, Elizabeth II, was born on 21 April 1926).</p>	
29 April		<p>Wedding of Prince William of Wales and Kate Middleton</p> <p>The wedding of Prince William of Wales and Kate Middleton is scheduled to take place at Westminster Abbey on 29 April 2011. Prince William, who is second in the line of succession to Queen Elizabeth II, first met Middleton in 2001, while he and Middleton were studying at the University of St Andrews</p>
24 April	<p>E aster is a holiday that Christians celebrate. It is a holiday to celebrate when Christians believe that Jesus Christ is said to have returned from the dead. Christians believe that Easter is the holiest day in the year. Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday, following the first full moon, following the first day of spring.</p> <p>Some people who are not Christians celebrate the beginning of Spring at Easter. The word, "Easter" comes from the ancient German word, <i>Eastre</i>, Goddess of the Spring.</p>	

26 April	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jewels of Newar Art</b></p> <p>Inauguration by <b>Dr. Dina Bangdel</b>, Tuesday 26th April 2011 at 5:30 pm. The exhibition will continue till May 15 2011</p> <p>Lecture Series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29 April 2011: A talk by <b>Dr. Dina Bangdel</b> "In the Legacy of Arniko: Newar Paubha Painting in the Past and present" at 6PM</li> <li>• 1 May 2011: A talk by Master Artist <b>Uday Charan Shrestha</b> "The Use of Oil in Traditional Paubha Painting" at 6PM</li> <li>• 8 May 2011: A talk by Master Statue Maker <b>Bijay Ratna Shakya</b>: "Ancient Lost Wax Process Method of Statue Making" at 6PM</li> <li>• 9 May 2011: A talk by Master Artist <b>Deepak Joshi</b> "Paubha Painting and Spirituality" at 4 pm</li> </ul> <p>Limited Seats RSVP – tel. 4218048 Venue: <b>Siddhartha Art Gallery</b>, Baber Mahal Revisited, Kathmandu</p>
29 April	<p>Mid-Towner <b>Rtn. Rabi Karmacharya</b> will talk on Open Source Software (see above)</p>
29 April	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cultural Studies Group of Nepal</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">on <b>Friday 29th April at 09:30 a.m.</b> at the Shanker Hotel in Lazimpat</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Botanical Expeditions in Nepal</i></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">by <b>Dr. Mark Watson</b></p> <p>Dr. Mark Watson is a taxonomic botanist who specializes in plants from the Himalayan region and China . Since 1991 he has worked at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, first on the Flora of Bhutan, then on Flora of China and now heads the Flora of Nepal project.</p> <p>Botanical expeditions are crucial in documenting and understanding plant diversity and Mark has participated on many expeditions to remote areas in China and Nepal.</p> </div> </div>
21-25 May	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p><b>Rotary International Convention in New Orleans</b></p> <p>Remember to let PP CK know if you will be attending.</p> </div> </div>

## Last week's speaker



Mid-Town was happy to welcome MARK ARNOLDY, Executive Director of **Naya Health**.

Mark is an experienced social entrepreneur in global health and nutrition. As an undergraduate, he launched NepalNUTrition to produce and distribute a life-saving fortified peanut butter for malnourished children in Nepal. Mark talked about his experience in Nepal as a Fulbright Scholar and on his use of innovative business models to provide treatment for malnourished children. He will be in Nepal until July 2011



## Mid-Town News



### Welcome to a new member

Mid-Town was happy to welcome as member **Lt.Gen. (Retd.) Krishna Narayan Singh Thapa**. PP Ambica did the honors and on this same day Rtn. Thapa also became a Paul Harris Fellow.

Gen. Thapa has served in many important positions both in Nepal and abroad, most recently he was as Chief of General Staff and second in command of the Nepal Army. He is decorated

amongst many other decorations by the Gorkha Dashin Bahu First Class.

Now that he is happily retired, General Thapa likes to use his experiences for the service of Nepal, by way of community and social services. He is also a critical observer of the security situation of the country and has written articles and given interviews on the security issues.

He is married to Mrs. Eu Hazur Thapa, daughter of late Maj. Gen. Sovag Jung Thapa of Nucksal, Kathmandu. They have two married daughters. Both General and Mrs. Thapa are keen golfers and play regular golf at Gokarna Resort Golf Club in Kathmandu.



## Fellowship

This week **VP Rtn. Dr. Alex Spachis** brought greetings from the **RC Glyfada, Greece**.



A welcome to the incoming assistant governor **Rtn. Lt. Gen (Retd) Phatteh B Limbu** (RC Kastamandhap) visited Mid-Town this week (photo right). We look forward to having him as our **AG** for the coming Rotary 2011-2012 year which begins July 1<sup>st</sup> 2011.



Mid-Town was happy to extend a heart welcome to our old friend **Rtn. Dr. Sumitra Manandhar** (RC Yala) (left).



**Rtr. Samir Nepal** (photo centre), looks forward to his year 2011-2012 as President of the Rotaract Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town.

**PP Gopal** and **PP Mani** share a happy moment with **Rtn. Navyo**.

**Pres. Pratap** and **Treasurer Rtn. Yo** took the opportunity of a few minutes before the meeting to take care of some last minute business.







**PP Niranjan** was happy to join us for the last Club Assembly of the 2010-2011, as was **DG Nominee PP Yogendra**.



**Rt. Remy (RC Borken, Germany)** joined us for this Club Assembly in the company of his 'sasu' **PP Rtn. Ambica**. RC Borken has been a great supporter of RC Mid-Town, they have supported our **Ramkot project** for many years as well they have performed many other good works in Nepal. Most notably RC Borken annually subsidise more than 80% of the cost for the surgical anaesthetics for the **Sushma Koirala Memorial Hospital in Sanku**.



**PP Komal** shared a happy chat with **AG Rt. Nanda Ram Bidya**. Web master **Rtn. Navyo** and **PE Rtn. Som** look forward to next year's activities.



Newly minted **Rotarian Gen. Krishna Thapa** was happy to join in a cup of coffee with incoming **AG Rtn. Gen. Phatteh Limbu** and **Mid-Towerns Rtn. Saroj** and **Rtn. Rabi**.



Thank you and Bon Voyage

On behalf of all of Mid-Town Rtn. Yo thanked **Pres. Rtn. Pratap** for the excellent he has done this year. On behalf of Mid-Town she also thanked **First Lady Nabina** for having given her valuable backup support. Mid-Town gave a resounding round of applause to the Mallas.

The President and the First Lady are off for a five month long holiday to visit friends and family. We wish them all the best for a restful and enjoyable time. We look forward to welcoming Rtn. Pratap back in mid-September when he should be well rested and raring to go on more projects.





## More Mid-T own News

It was also a happy occasion to felicitate Mid-Towners for their good deeds throughout the year. **PP Ambica** was felicitated for her continued all-round support of Mid-Town and for MPHF, **Rtn. Yo** for her activities as Club Treasurer and for her very generous support of lending the bus for the Mega Health Camp, **Rtn. Kul** for PHF, and **Rtn. Sharmila** for MPHF and for

her generous support of the Mega Health Camp through her activities with Help Nepal.







## District news



The Rotary District Conference took place April 8-11, it was inaugurated by the **Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Jhlnath Khanal**. Many Mid-Towner **Rotarians** and **Rotractors** took part and so did the visiting **GSE team** from Connecticut and Massachusetts **District 7890** headed by **Rtn. Barbara Spiegel** (photo below in red).



Mid-Town participated by submitting a poster on its activities for which it was awarded 'second runner up'. Congratulations to everyone who participated.



**PP Ambica** was celebrated at the District conference by the entire District 3292 as a '**woman of substance**' and Mid-Town can certainly vouch for that! Big congratulations from all of us.







## District news

### Safe drinking water for better health and hygiene

**The** Rotaract Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town donated **37 SBL Filter** (Skilled Benefiting Solution) to 37 Micro Credit Families of Areshwor VDC, Sitapaila, Kathmandu. These filters should help to control water borne diseases in the community. **PP Rtn Dr. Chandra Lekha Tuladhar** explained the essence of filtering/purification of water and the importance of safe



drinking water as well as how to operate the filter to the women and community members. The micro-credit families were selected by Manushi Micro Credit Organization and so the representatives from the same organization were also present in during the program. Besides distributing the filters for clean and



safe water, soap was also distributed and the Rotaracts lead by **Rtr. Pres. Anil Chaudhary** demonstrated proper techniques of hand washing. Our Canadian visiting **Rotarian Jaclyn Bork** also took part.



Rotary International News  
&  
Mid-T own News



Closure letters from RI

**From: The Rotary Foundation - Grants Communication**  
**Sent: Friday, 29 January, 2010 9:54 AM**  
**Subject: Matching Grant #66963 - Closure Letter – MC**

Dear Rotarians Malla and Lawrence,

Thank you for submitting the final report regarding Matching Grant #66963, to help provide 3 reservoirs and 14 taps for clean drinking water to the community in Lele - Village in Bagmati Anchal, Nepal. Your cooperation in fulfilling this requirement is greatly appreciated. As all required information has been included, the Foundation will mark the file as closed.

Sincerely,

Colleen Odonnell,  
Grant Coordinator, Humanitarian Grants Staff

=====  
**From: The Rotary Foundation - Grants Communication**  
**Sent: Monday, 28 February, 2011 8:22 PM**  
**Subject: Matching Grant #63246 Closure Letter - RS**

Dear Rotarians Malla and Nothnagel,

Thank you for submitting the final report regarding Matching Grant #63246, to help provide school supplies and uniforms for girls in villages around Gorkha and Lamjung, Nepal. Your cooperation in fulfilling this requirement is greatly appreciated. As all required information has been included, the Foundation will mark the file as closed.

Sincerely,

Laura Bradley  
Grant Coordinator, Humanitarian Grants Staff

## A letter from friends at the Rotary Club of Ravenna



### ROTARY CLUB RAVENNA

**Il Presidente**

To the President of RC Kathmandu Mid-Town  
Pratap Malla

Subject: Wes grants in favour of Lele village

Since 2007 RC Ravenna has started a collaboration with RC Kathmandu Mid-Town in order to develop projects to improve life conditions of people in Nepal.

After the visit in March 2008 of a team of members, RC Ravenna decided to promote two projects in favour of Lele village:

- 1) a M.G. project, with the contribution of RC Moscow International, concerning the supply of facilities at Saraswati Secondary High School, the construction of toilets for two heritage sites and the realization of a basket ball court for the young people of the village.
- 2) a WCS project concerning the completion of a new school-room building for Saraswati Secondary High School

Unfortunately in consequence of the global economic crisis in 2008-2009, Rotary Foundation was not able to finance the M.G. proposed by RC Kathmandu Mid-Town and RC Ravenna. Therefore another WCS project with a reduced budget, concerning only toilets and basket-ball court, was carried out by the two clubs with still the contribution of RC Moscow International.

In last November 2010, a group of Rotarians from RC Ravenna visited Lele village and had the opportunity to check the excellent work done by Lele Rotary Community Corp under the guidance of RC Kathmandu Mid Town. Every item was fully completed and well working.

On behalf of RC Ravenna we express our satisfaction for the results achieved in both WCS projects.

Finally let us signify our thankfulness to RC Kathmandu Mid Town, to Lele RCC and to Lele people for the extraordinary warm welcome that Ravenna Rotarians received.

We can really say that *a new bridge between two continents has been thrown.*  
Ravenna, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Giambattista Chiarini  
President 2010-2011  
RC Ravenna

Handwritten signature of Giambattista Chiarini in purple ink.

Maurizio Montanari  
Project leader  
RC Ravenna

Handwritten signature of Maurizio Montanari in purple ink.

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## On the lighter side



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

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