



# Breakfast Chatter



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

January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009      Weekly Bulletin      Vol. 27 of '08/'09

## This Week's Speaker

### *Joint Meeting of RC Kathmandu Mid-Town and RC Balaju*

Our clubs have been fortunate to get the a WCS project to help the Cerebral Palsy children at SGCP (Self Help Group of Cerebral Palsy /Nepal) through the Nepal Disability Program of Rotary. The guest speaker will be Rtn. R.R. Pande of RC Balaju.

## Calendar

Date	Theme
Jan. 26 <sup>th</sup>	 <p><b>Happy Chinese New Year!</b> <b>岁次 2009 己丑</b></p> <p>By the Chinese Calendar 2009 is the Year of the Ox, also known by its formal name of Ji Chou. 2009 is Year 4706 in the Chinese Calendar.</p> 
Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Cultural Studies Group of Nepal Annual Membership Event Invites you to a presentation on '<b>Protecting Everest</b>' by Dawa Steven Sherpa (son of Rt. Jo). Wednesday 28 January 2009 at 6.00 PM at the Shanker Hotel in Lazimpat. Dawa Steven Sherpa, internationally acclaimed as a Climate Witness and young conservationist, will be giving a presentation on the impact of climate change on Nepal's mountain environment and mountain communities.</p> 
Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup>	 <p>Dr. Hem Sagar Baral is Nepal's first ornithologist and Chief Executive Officer of Bird Conservation Nepal will talk to us on the discovery of a new sub-species of Rufous-vented Prinia in Nepal.</p>
Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>	 <p><b>!!!!!! Note: change of date !!!!!!!</b></p> <p><b>Mid-Town's 'Climbing Wall' Outing</b></p> <p>Mid-Town Rotarians and Rotaracts and families are invited to a fun morning at the climbing wall. Join us at 11 AM. lunch will be served after climbing.</p> <p><b>How to get there:</b> 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 '<i>Asian Trekking</i>' and '<i>Consulate of Belgium</i>'. Parking is limited. Maybe park at the Hotel Malla and walk. If you get lost call Jo Logghe at: 9851032785</p> 
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	 <p>Rotary District Meeting – the 1<sup>st</sup> District Meeting of new District #3292!</p>

### *Kenny says 'Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands'*

By Arnold R. Grahl, Rotary International News -- 19 January 2009 (adapted)

RI President-elect John Kenny announces the 2009-10 RI theme, *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands*, to incoming district governors at the 2009 International Assembly. Photo by Alyce Henson/Rotary Images

The 2009-10 RI theme acknowledges the important role individual Rotary clubs will play in shaping the future of Rotary.

RI President-elect John Kenny unveiled the theme, *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands*, on Monday during the opening plenary session of the [International Assembly](#), an annual training event in San Diego, California, USA, for incoming district governors.

"The future of Rotary will not be shaped at RI headquarters -- it will be shaped in each and every Rotary club," Kenny said, "because it is for each of us -- as Rotarians -- to do what is necessary to keep Rotary strong."

Kenny acknowledged the foundation established by past Rotary leaders and laid the responsibility for building upon that success on every Rotarian.

"Each one of us is standing on the shoulders of generations of Rotarians past, and it is our responsibility to determine Rotary's future," Kenny said.

"The goals we set, whatever our action plan, it is in our hands to accomplish or not," said Kazeem Mustapha, governor-elect of District 9125 (Nigeria).

"Everybody has to be involved."

Chuck Cicchella, governor-elect of District 6710 (Kentucky, USA), likes the theme's emphasis on the future. "I have always had a strong desire to nurture along young people. It's vital to us."

Kenny emphasized that every Rotary club is and must be autonomous.

"Everything begins and ends with our clubs," he said. "Our clubs can and do work together; they work through their own districts, in cooperation with other clubs and districts, and with the support of our Foundation."

"But at the end of the day, everything that we accomplish is done through the strength of our



clubs. And so each club must have autonomy to serve where and how it can serve best."

At the same time, Kenny highlighted the importance of the RI Strategic Plan, adopted by the RI Board of Directors, as an essential tool in providing continuity.

"The plan is designed to strengthen and proclaim the core values of Rotary: service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership," Kenny said. The training sessions for incoming governors during the weeklong assembly are all tied to some component of the strategic plan, and a final group discussion on

Saturday will seek to tie all the pieces together and show the future district leaders how to take the strategic plan to the club level.

Kenny concluded his remarks by sharing a favorite saying from his homeland, Scotland: "We must look beyond our own parish pump."

"It means that we must look beyond our own home and our own community," Kenny said. "We must look beyond our own needs, and we must be aware that ours is only one community, of one country, of the many communities and countries in this world."





## *Slam Dunk!*

One more dream realized. The basketball court at Mangal Higher Secondary School has now finally been completed. Some of you may remember that construction on this court was started in 2000 and has been pending ever since then. Major funding on this project was from RC Landshut Germany with the shortfall by PP Giridhar Manadhar and PP Dr Chandra Lekha Tuladhar. Congratulations to everyone who helped on this project. Mangal HSS sends a big 'namaste'.

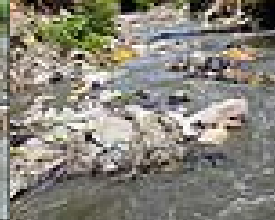
## *Sanshetana's Multi-purpose Hall*

Work on the completing of the open multi-purpose hall at Sanshetana Primary School, Dhobhighat is now under way. Major funding is being provided by Japan with help from PP Shoji Azuma D2680 WCS Chair 2007-2009 (Japan) – please note that this is the same Rotarian who helped us to construct the toilet complex earlier this year. Rotary is not immune to the global economic crisis and this project was also unfortunately hit. The shortfall due to the increase in the price of materials is being graciously funded by Rotarians of the Rotary Club of West Ottawa/District 7040 who, in spite of economic hard times have worked hard to 'Make Dreams Real' for Nepalese children and for Mid Towners. Thanks to all!

## *Bagmati Shanti Dwellers*

More than 20 000 people live in slums of Kathmandu in the shanty towns that have sprung up along the Bagmati River over the past two years. Some families have simple houses made by bricks but many have nothing more than ramshackle shelters of bamboo and tarpaulin. Mid-Town's new undertaking is the

'Slum Areas of the Bagmati River Banks' project headed by PP Rtn. Lekha and our intrepid Rotaracts. You may remember that earlier this year they helped to bring toilets and education on safe drinking water to this same area. Now they are taking up the cause of helping school children. "This shanty town situation may be temporary, but children should have their education!", says PP Lekha. Rotaracts have helped to refurbish the existing school to make it more comfortable for the children. PP Lekha tells us that this is just the beginning of many activities that are planned. Rotarians are encouraged to visit and join Rotaracts in upcoming activities. Come and give us a hand!.







## *Bill Gates announces new US\$255 million grant for ending polio*

By A. R. Grahl and Dan Nixon (adapted); RI News 21 January 2009

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded US\$255 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio, bringing the total committed by Rotary and the Gates Foundation to \$555 million.

"Rotarians, government leaders, and health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to get us to a point at which polio afflicts only a small number of the world's children," Gates said. "However, complete elimination of the poliovirus is difficult and will continue to be difficult for a number of years. Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication."

In response to the new \$255 million Gates Foundation grant, Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds. In November 2007, RI received a \$100 million Gates Foundation grant, which Rotary committed to match by raising \$100 million.

The \$255 million grant is one of the largest challenge grants ever given by the Gates Foundation and the largest received by Rotary in its 104-year history. Rotary will spend the grant in direct support of immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which is spearheaded by RI and its partners.

## *In Memoriam*



## *Remembering Robert Engles*

RC Kathmandu Mid-Town extends its heartfelt condolence to the family of PP Robert Engles (immediate family and the Rotary family). His untimely sad loss is deeply regretted.

The Rotary Club of Landshut /Germany has been a true friend of the Nepalese children through RC Kathmandu Mid-Town (Rotarians and Rotaracts) since 1993. PP Robert Engles, was a Rotarian who was a very good friend of Mid-Town. He came to Nepal often and he regularly visited all the project locations in which RC Landshut participated. He was the guest of



honour at the handing over function of the Landshut School building (in Thaiba) and also participated in many other functions which were part of the "Real Happiness in Helping the Nepalese Children" project. He always took a keen interest and a real joy in meeting the children and in seeing the good progress that they were making.

Mid-Town worked on many projects in collaboration with RC Landshut. Many of these projects were aimed at allowing children to achieve their dream of attending secondary school and beyond. The high schools that were helped include: Phulchowki Higher Secondary school; Thaiba/Jana Sewa Higher Secondary school; Paanga/Mangal Higher Secondary School; Kirtipur/Auronodaya Higher Secondary School; and Pharping. Primary schools that benefited include: the Sanchetana School in Dhobhighat; and the Moti Binayak School in Dholahiti.

All of these schools and their families also extend their sincerest sympathies and condolences.

## *May his Soul Rest in Peace*

The family of Rtn. Robert Engles tells us that *in lieu* of flowers or other donations Robert had indicated that he would be delighted if donations were made to the 'Sozialfond Rotary Club Landshut', HypoVereinsbank Landshut, BLZ 743 200 73, Account No. 6010242663, Reference: Dr. Robert Engels. Thank you.

*Mid-Towners enjoy a fun-filled evening of good food and fellowship*



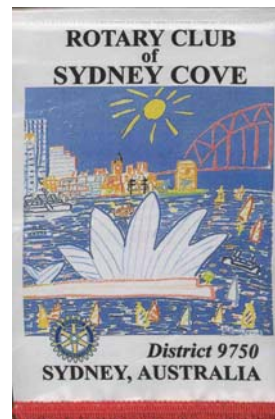
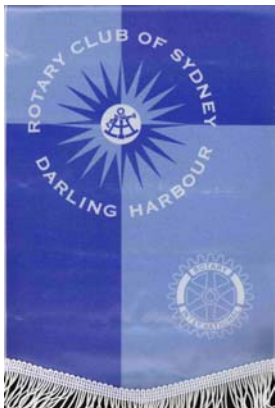
On Friday last, Mid-Towners enjoyed a great evening together – everyone pitched in to bring the most delectable dishes. While it was not officially a ‘cook-off’ contest – we can all agree that everyone who attended ‘won’. Asterix and Obelix had obviously been hard at work to prepare the most delicious wild boar dish ever! Thanks to all of the spouses and everyone who worked hard to make this event a good success. A special thanks to Rtn. Jo who was the chief organiser and to Rtn. Anand who was a gracious host – good humouredly offering his entertaining space - and the use of his trusty inverter that kept us all in the light until the power returned.





## Mid-Towners Abroad

PP Rtn. Jyotsna was recently in Australia and made contact there with both RC Darling Harbour and RC Sydney Cove (who meet on a ship). Keep travelling and enjoy the extraordinary Rotary fellowship to be found everywhere in the world.



## Mid-Town Humour



"Tonight, an in-depth look at what each of us can do to help conserve electricity."

Please send information/suggestions/photos for the next volume to:  
Breakfast Chatter editor: Dr. Isabella C. Bassignana Khadka at email: [isa@mos.com.np](mailto:isa@mos.com.np)