



Breakfast Chatter



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

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This Week's Speaker



'Britain's Brigade of Gurkhas'

A talk by Defence Attache Nepal, Comd. BGN. Director GWS,
Colonel R. J. J. Ellis.





Col. Ellis says, "I am delighted to have returned to service with the
Brigade of Gurkhas after nearly eight years away."

About the speaker:

Colonel Jeremy Ellis has held a number of military appointments in the UK, Germany, Hong Kong and Nepal. He commanded his Squadron as a Major in Northern Ireland and his Regiment as a Lieutenant Colonel during the handover of Hong Kong. He has held his present triple-hatted appointment as the British Defense Attaché, Commander British Gurkhas Nepal and Director, Gurkha Welfare Scheme since the end of Jan 2005. Colonel Ellis is married to Fiona. They have two daughters, Rebecca (26) and Hannah (23). He retains a keen sporting interest and is an enthusiastic combat gardener.



Calendar

Date	Theme
2009	<p>The International Year of Astronomy 2009 celebrates the first astronomical use of the telescope by Galileo — a momentous event that initiated 400 years of astronomical discoveries and triggered a scientific revolution which profoundly affected our worldview.</p> <p>The vision of the IYA2009 is to help the citizens of the world rediscover their place in the Universe through the day and night time sky – and thereby engage a personal sense of wonder and discovery.</p> <p>The aim of the IYA2009 is to stimulate worldwide interest, especially among young people, in astronomy and science under the central theme "The Universe, Yours to Discover".</p> 
Jan. 1 st	  <p>Happy New Year 2009!</p>
Jan. 2 nd	'Britain's Brigade of Gurkhas' a talk by Colonel R. J. J. Ellis (see above)
Jan. 23 rd	Mid-Town Family Pot Luck Cook-off Contest. Details to follow.
Feb. 6 th	 <p>Dr. Hem Sagar Baral is Nepal's first ornithologist and Chief Executive Officer of <i>Bird Conservation Nepal</i> will talk to us on the discovery of a new sub-species of Rufous-vented Prinia in Nepal.</p>



Sydney Rotarian killed in Mumbai attacks

By Ryan Hyland (adapted)
Rotary International News -- 3 December 2008

Photo right. Sydney Rotarian Doug Markell was among those killed in the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India. *Photo courtesy of Rotary Club of Sydney*

Doug Markell, 71, who was among more than 170 people killed in the terrorist attacks in and around Mumbai, India, on 26 November.

Markell, who was a member of the Rotary Club of Sydney, New South Wales, was vacationing in India with his wife, Alison, when attackers laid siege to the Taj Mahal hotel where they were staying. Markell was fatally shot by gunmen as he attempted to escape the hotel with his wife, who was injured by the gunfire. She is reported to be recovering at the Australian Embassy in Mumbai.

In a solemn and emotional meeting on 2 December, Patricia Harrison, president of the Sydney club, read condolences from other Rotarians and a letter from his family to grief-stricken club members.

"We're deeply hurt and shocked that such a wonderful man was taken from us in such a dreadful way," Harrison says. "Doug was such a kind and generous man. He always had a smile on his face. We are going to miss him greatly."

Markell, a Rotarian since 1983, was the managing director and owner of Zions Systems, an office supply company. A merchant banker and successful businessman, he was nearing retirement.

He was also a committed community activist and served as councilor for Woollahra, an eastern suburb of Sydney from 1991 to 1995. His service included a year as deputy mayor.

Harrison said Markell will be remembered for his unwavering commitment to helping others.

"He was the epitome of Service Above Self," says Harrison. "There aren't enough people like him around."

Harrison said the Sydney club will initiate an ongoing project named in Markell's honor.

The club has received many e-mails from Rotarians worldwide expressing their condolences.

"Doug was the man who ensured that my engagement with members was efficient and consistent," says Chris Joscelyne, a past president of the club, in an e-mail to club members. "He was a dedicated Rotarian who worked behind the scenes to ensure the success of community service projects, never seeking any kind of acknowledgment from his peers, while making practical and generous contributions of his time and money."

Manjit S. Sawhney, a past district governor from New Delhi, says Markell was "a hallmark of a true Rotarian."

"Our heart goes out to all the families who have lost their near and dear ones," Sawhney says in an e-mail to the club. "We, from the Rotary Club of Delhi South Metropolitan and District 3010, are with you in this hour of grief."

Tasty French Cheese is Now 'Made in Nepal'

Mid-Town speaker Francois Driard attended business school in Paris and Barcelona, and worked for 3 years as a journalist, interviewing people, compiling reports about direct investment opportunities in developing countries. This work took him to 30 countries. After that he thought about things a bit and thought that he should settling down. So, he considered Nepal where he had already been about 15 times and had lived for some time as a teenager. He built a house and then thought that farming would



make sense because he wanted to live close to nature and close to cheese even more since he missed it a lot. He bought a few cows and went back to Switzerland where he learned the art of making raw-milk cheese in the style of 'tome de Savoie'. ...and the rest, as they say, is history... Francois regaled Mid-Town with the trials and tribulations he underwent in the setting up his cheese enterprise. He now owns seven cows and has a broad customer base especially among the ex-pat community in Kathmandu who seems to enjoy it so much that he has not been able to keep up with the demand for his tasty cheese. Francois assured Mid-Town that in the new year there should be an ample supply – Mid-Town welcomed the news and there were many gracious offers of wine should he bring the cheese!

You can see the web page at [http:// www.himalayanfrenchcheese.com](http://www.himalayanfrenchcheese.com) and taste the cheese on sale at The European Bakery (Balutar, across the street from the Rastra Bank), Herman's Bakery (Kupondole) and Delicias (across the street from 'old' Bhat Bateni).

Mid-Town Humour

McHUMOR.com by T. McCracken



Good resolutions are simply checks that men draw on a bank where they have no account.

~Oscar Wilde

Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbours, and let each new year find you a better man.

Benjamin Franklin

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

~Bill Vaughan

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

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