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Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East
TUNG FENG



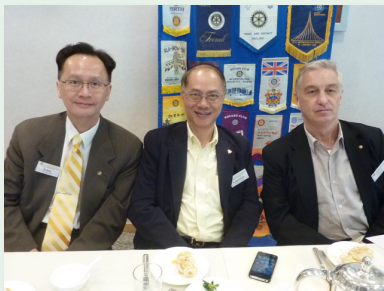
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LAST WEEK'S PROCEEDINGS - 19 NOVEMBER 2014



A regular meeting, this was not the largest gathering of recent months of our club, however, it was a warm and lighthearted affair within which we enjoyed a birthday, plus some insights into the Hong Kong property market. President Norman rang the bell at precisely 1.10pm and the meeting was declared open. Chairman for the meeting was Stephen Liu, and began by welcoming everyone and also by welcoming back PP Laurence Chan who has been away for the past month combining several journeys including a cruise. He looked happy, well and relaxed because of it.



Next up we had a birthday boy, who was none other than Eddy, and as the cake was presented, Rotarian Chris was invited up to lead the

birthday song. It was not all good news on the day however and we were somewhat alarmed to hear that PP Hubert had been in hospital with a broken arm sustained while horse riding. Naturally there was much concern as to his health, and we all wish him a speedy recover. It was debated as to when he would be fit for golf and Chairman Stephen remarked that he would need a special single-arm handicap! Well, sometimes you need to look on the lighter side. Get well soon PP Hubert!

After the usual announcements were made, in light of our involvement with Youth Outreach, Rotarian Chris then shared a new TV commercial which his company has helped make for Youth Outreach to raise their awareness among the public in the hope of encouraging more donations in the future.

It was then time for Chairman Stephen to introduce the guest speaker for the day, who is an old friend of his, WK So, who was here to offer us a 'Brief Discussion on the Hong Kong Housing Market. WK So began by outlining the key factors affecting the property market in Hong Kong as follows:

- 1 Supply
2. Demand
3. Interest rates
4. The economy

He gave an overview of the various figures relating to the supply of new flats in Hong Kong and total number of

units in relation to the population. Also reviewing lending rates and total transactions in recent years. In general, he said he does not expect to see any sudden drop in prices in the coming few years.

During the presentation Mr So offered insights on the property trends of recent years, as well as his thoughts on how things will shape up in the coming years based on the current environment. He also touched on his views regarding commercial property and offered expert advice to those keen members who asked questions after the presentation.

Chairman Stephen then thanked the speaker and also announced the good news that we are soon to welcome him as a member to our club. So look forward to more advice on the property market in future. And with that, it was exactly 2.10pm when Chairman Stephen closed the session and invited all members to rise, toast and then join in a group photo in our usual manner.



THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

香港東區扶輪社週報

Club 16340 District 3450 Chartered on 06 April, 1954 by Charter President

PDG (Uncle) John Yuen

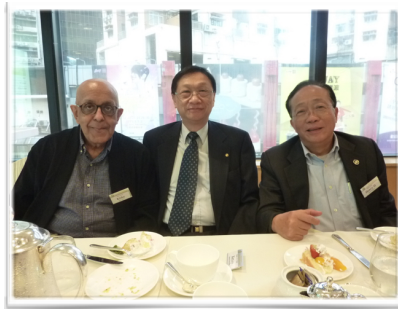
SPOTLIGHT ON: W.K. SO



Mr. So graduated from Hong Kong Baptist University where he received his masters degree in Civil Engineering from Sheffield University of UK. He is a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers. He was awarded Honorary University Fellow by Hong Kong Baptist University in Year 2013.

He had worked in Hong Kong, Singapore, Taipei and the Philippines in civil engineering work and mass transit work. He set up his own company in the early 1990s, involving in property development and construction and in the same decade 1990s was development advisor to the Chairman of SHK for difficult projects. Now his concentration is property investment and development, mainly in Hong Kong and also in China.

Mr. W. K. So has been approved by the board of HKIE to be admitted to our club as new member, so, subject to no objection by our members, his induction will take place and we will be delighted to be seeing much more of him.



ROTARY DAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS HIGHLIGHTS THE STRENGTH OF PARTNERSHIPS

To strengthen their 69-year-old partnership, leaders from Rotary and the United Nations met this month in New York City for Rotary Day at the United Nations. The two organizations began working together with the aim of maintaining peace after World War II. Today, the relationship has evolved to include humanitarian work in areas like gender equality, child and maternal health, and disease treatment and prevention.

While the UN's Millennium Development Goals are set to expire in 2015, its leaders are preparing for an even more ambitious humanitarian agenda of eradicating extreme poverty by 2030, said Amina J. Mohammed, special adviser of the UN secretary-general on post-2015 development planning, speaking at the event.

The UN considers those living on less than \$1.25 per day to be in extreme poverty. Around the world, 1.2 billion people fall into this category.

"We have the resources in the world to deal with the issues we have today," said Mohammed. "We need to find a way to unlock that." She added that building strong partnerships with organizations that share a similar vision will be crucial to solving the global issues that are related to extreme poverty. As proof of the power of partnerships, Mohammed cited the polio eradication work of Rotary and its [global partners](#).

Describing that work, Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair John Kenny, in his address to the meeting, said, "we persist, we overcome challenges, we make progress -- and we do not yield."

Nina Schwalbe, principal health adviser for UNICEF, noted that the skills honed in fighting polio -- such as identifying the people an infected person has come into contact with, known as "contact tracing" -- can be used "as a model to make advances in other global health issues," such as Ebola.

Nigeria's government stopped its recent Ebola outbreak largely by employing the strong health care systems it had put in place to tackle polio, said Schwalbe. Extreme poverty can be eliminated, insisted Mohammed, but infrastructure must be improved, and not merely through ad hoc projects scattered around the world. Eliminating extreme poverty, she said, requires making sure girls

have access to education and addressing other forms of gender inequality.

"Women and children are the world's greatest untapped resources. Helping them is the quickest way to end poverty," said Nana Taona Kuo, senior manager for [Every Woman Every Child](#), an initiative of the UN secretary-general. "When women and children are healthy and strong, entire economies grow."

By reaching decision makers, Rotary can play a critical role in civil society, said Kuo.

ROTARY LEADERS CALL ON MEMBERS MAINTAIN THEIR DEDICATION

Ed Futa, dean of the Rotary Representative Network and a past Rotary general secretary, called on Rotary members to maintain their dedication to polio eradication while working with partners on humanitarian causes.

He said that Rotary members can't rest simply because polio has been 99 percent eradicated. "It's like running the New York marathon -- if you don't cross the finish line, it's like that marathon never happened for you, because it didn't count in the records. We must cross the finish line. It's eradicate it all or nothing."

In addition, Futa challenged Rotary members to work for peace. "When it comes time for creating peace, who should we send? We're sending you," said Futa. "Each of us can do it and must do it."

Rotary members work in behalf of the global community, not themselves, said Futa. "This is what the UN building is trying to extract from each one of us. As Rotarians, we're the ones who are going to answer the call," he said.

Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang agreed. He asked participants to convey what they've learned from Rotary Day at the United Nations to their friends. "Create a much brighter world," he added.

[Read more about Rotary's role in the formation of the United Nations](#)
[Learn more about what took place at the Rotary Day at the United Nations](#)

By Antoinette Tuscano
Rotary News
21-NOV-2014



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ The Rotary Happy run is scheduled on Nov. 30, 2014 at Shatin. Over 60 participants from the HKIE family will participate.
- ❖ The AGM of RC of HKIE will be held on Nov. 26, 2014. Notice has been served via email. Please arrange your schedule to attend the AGM and elect the officers for 2015-16.
- ❖ District golf is scheduled on Dec. 19. This year is very special, we are playing the game with Lions Club. There are only limited flights available, please register with Pres. Norman asap.
- ❖ The 3rd next Care Visit is scheduled on Dec. 6th morning. Members who wish to join the visit, please register with PIC

THE LAST LAUGH

WHY WOMEN'S BRAINS ARE CHEAPER

In the hospital the relatives gathered in the waiting room, where their family member lay gravely ill. Finally, the doctor came in looking tired and somber.

"I'm afraid I'm the bearer of bad news," he said as he surveyed the worried faces.

"The only hope left for your loved one at this time is a brain transplant.

It's an experimental procedure, very risky but it is the only hope.

Insurance will cover the procedure, but you will have to pay for the brain yourselves."

The family members sat silently as they absorbed the news. After a great length of time, someone asked, "Well, how much does a brain cost?"

The doctor quickly responded, "£5,000 for a male brain, and £200 for a female brain."

The moment turned awkward. Men in the room tried not to smile, avoiding eye contact with the women, but some actually smirked.

A man unable to control his curiosity, blurted out the question everyone wanted to ask,

"Why is the male brain so much more?"

The doctor smiled at the childish innocence and explained to the entire group, "It's just standard pricing procedure. We have to mark down the price of the female brains, because they've actually been used."

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Jonathan Lamport

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Peter Hall
Y. K. Cheng
Henry Chan
Hubert Chan
Eric Chin

Club postal address : P.O.Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, Hong Kong
Meeting Venue : Regal HK Hotel, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Meeting Schedules : Every Wed. 1st week at 7:30 pm. Other weeks at 12:30 pm
Website : <http://hk.ie.rotary3450.org/>
Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubHKIslandEast>