

**WEEKLY
BULLETIN
VOL. 47 No.4
28th July, 1999**

**Act with
Consistency
Credibility
Continuity**

YEAR 1999-2000

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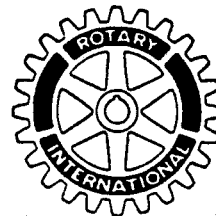
Bulletin Editor
PP Rob Fielding

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**Our 46th Year of
Rotary Service
Chartered : 6th April,
1954
by Founding President, the late
PDG (Uncle) John Yuen**



東風



TUNG FENG

香港東區扶輪社週報 THE ROTARY CLUB OF
HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

What Happened Last Week

Last week we were honoured with visits from three Rotarians - Peter More of Westwood Village No. 5280, our sister club in Los Angeles; Kevin Brady from Seoul, and Benny Ratnani from Hong Kong North East.

The two lovely ladies who graced our tables were Ates' secretary, Stephanie, and the speaker's assistant Joey Chan from KCRC.

T.K. Ghose introduced his guest, K B Prabhu.



BIRTHDAY BOYS

Robin Hearder and Andrew Shek were both 21 years old, and received gifts from President Desmond and a rip-roaring rendition of the Birthday song from Kishu.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Rotaract Club of HKIE will hold its 14th inaugural dinner on 7th August, 6:30 p.m. Those of you wishing to attend should contact Kishu.

SERGEANT REPORT

Sergeant Jason informed us that 27 members were present and that \$2100 had been collected.

HIGHLIGHT

Chris Howe introduced the speaker, Mr. Ian Thomas, Director of the West Rail Project, KCRC. Mr. Thomas has had a long and distinguished career in the engineering and construction field, 23 years of which have been in Hong Kong.

Mr. Thomas explained that out of a population of 6.6 million people in Hong Kong, 13 million individual journeys were made daily. 80% of these were by public transport, and 30% of this was by rail. The development of the railway network had been given priority by the Government so as to cater to a growing need for transportation and to reduce pollution.

He outlined the history of railway development in Hong Kong, from the construction of the first Peak Tram in the last century, through the single line steam train railway, the electrification and double tracking of the KCR, the construction of the MTR, the LRT and the Airport Railway. KCRC has now moved into Project Management, and the development of the West Railway was one of five priorities. Stretching from Kowloon, through the Kam Tin valley and onto Tuen Mun, it would be completed in 2003. It would serve the fast growing area of NW NT, and an estimated daily patronage of 340,000 was expected to grow to 500,000 by the year 2011.

In addition to the transport and environmental benefits, the West Rail would bring extra housing onto the market, and provide more employment opportunities. It would also be one of the quietest railways in the world.

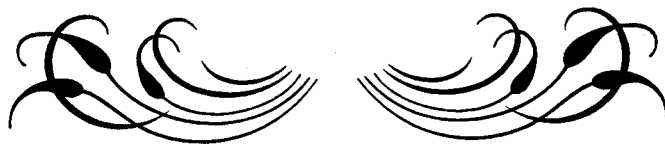
In response to questions from members, Mr. Thomas explained that the routing of the West Rail Project had taken into consideration proximity to heavily populated areas and minimal disruption to private properties. In all, only 589 families had been rehoused.

Mr. Thomas also reassured members that the Octopus ticket could be used on the West Rail; and that safety doors would be a feature of the platforms.

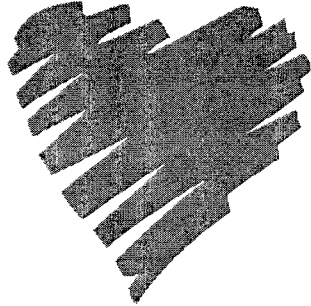
PP. Rob Fielding thanked Mr. Thomas in the customary manner.

CLOSING

President Desmond closed the meeting with a toast to Rotary International coupled with the Rotary Clubs of Westwood Village and Seoul.



Rotary Information



Joint efforts of two Interact clubs bring joy to Russian youth

Past District Gov. Carolyn Jones' involvement with two Interact clubs started by accident, but has blossomed into a relationship of service and goodwill. During a speaking engagement in District 5330 last year, Jones caught the attention of the Interact Club of Temecula Valley, California, with the mention of her district's ongoing Children of Russia Project. Recently, she inspired another group of Interactors, closer to home in her native Alaska, to become involved in the same project using a literacy angle. The response from both clubs was overwhelming.

"These Interactors are so energized," Jones said, "and they share my interest in helping kids."

The California Interactors first decided to collect baseball caps, 450 in all, and send them to Jones, who would distribute them to Russian children in hospitals, hospices and orphanages. Next, they organized a clothing drive for the same purpose. Meanwhile, Interactors in Juneau, Alaska, amassed 100 Dr. Seuss children's books, from "The Cat in the Hat" to "Oh, the Places You'll Go." The books, along with several read-along Dr. Seuss books with audiotapes, activity books and crayons, were intended for Jones to read and give to the children at different facilities during her visit. Additional donations from three Rotary clubs in Juneau bought 10 funny hats to wear while reading at story hour.

Silvia Ramirez, president of the Temecula Valley club, was chosen to join Jones on her four-week trip to western Siberia in April and present the donated clothing to the children on behalf of her club. Everywhere they stopped, the two Rotary ambassadors read to the children, most of whom do not understand English.

"We read to our babies, and they don't understand us either, but they love it," Jones said. "What small children do understand is attention --- being held, the warmth of our voices, the coloured pictures and fanciful hats."

Rotary Information

Brazilian club spurs companies to improve literacy programs

A Brazilian Rotary club has been credited by local firms with inspiring them to improve, and, in some cases, establish, workplace literacy programs through its Vocational Service project, "Education at Work." The Rotary Club of Marilia-Pioneiro, Sao Paulo, launched the project, largely a promotional campaign, which included bringing diverse businesses together to discuss the necessity of eliminating illiteracy.

Jose Geraldo, director of Marilan, a good processing company, aid he set out to establish learning space for a workplace literacy program after meeting with Rotarians and other firms. Marilan started the process by determining the educational level of its workers, along with the type of instruction they would need. In February, the firm dedicated a building where classes would be held and hired teachers and student teachers. Now, workers attend class every day, from noon to 2:30p.m., appropriate to the grade level at which they left school.

Another local company, Sasszaki, became involved after the Marilia-Pioneiro Rotary club's intercession. Sasazaki had offered education and basic literacy courses for years, but vowed to improve its program after meeting with Rotarians. It did so through "Telecurso 2000," a program in which the use of television monitors is incorporated. According to Sasazaki, 460 of its 1,500 employees have not completed primary school. More than one-third of those employees now attend class prior to starting their shifts.

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK:

At Frederick's of Hollywood, a husband wants to buy his wife the sheerest lingerie he can find.

This is \$200," says the saleswoman, showing him an item.

"I want one that's more sheer," says he.

"This one is \$350," she says.

"Sheerer than that," he replies."

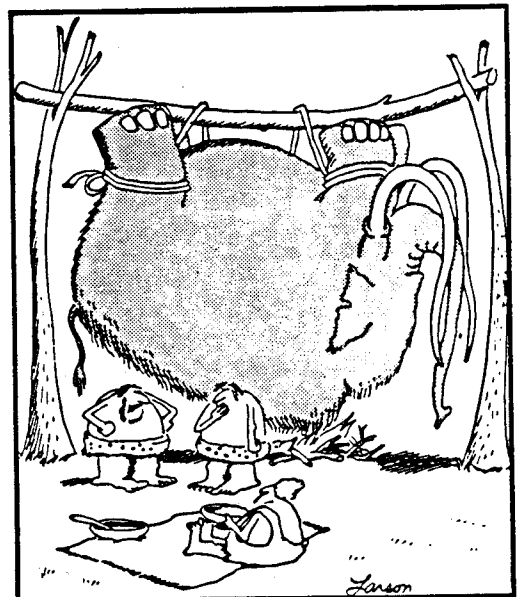
This is the sheerest we have. It's \$500."

"I'll take it," he says.

The man goes home to his wife and shows it to her, saying, "Go put this on and come down to model it for me."

She goes upstairs, opens the box and thinks, "This thing is so see-through that he won't even notice if I'm wearing it or not. I can take it back for a refund and he won't know the difference." So she comes down wearing nothing at all and strikes a seductive pose for him. "So, how do you like it? She asks.

He looks at her for a moment and says, "Well, you'd think for \$500 they would have ironed the thing."



"What? ... You mean no one brought the buns?"

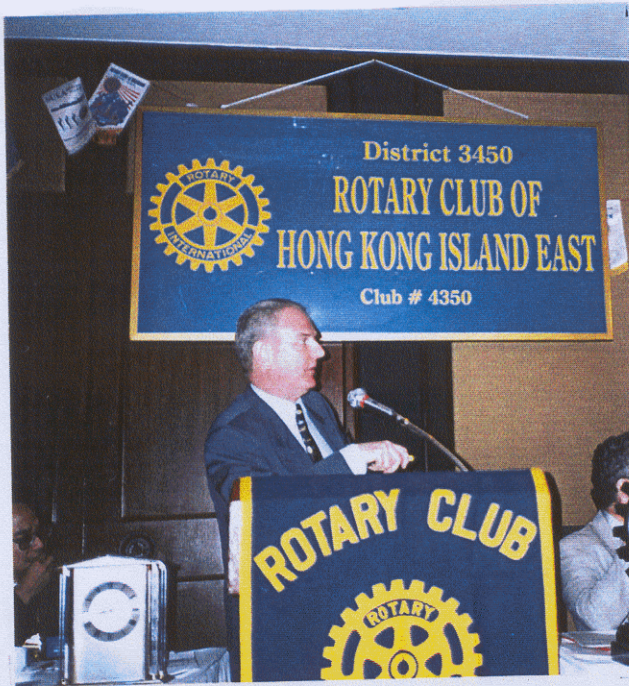
Club's postal address : P.O. Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, HK
Make-up cards to : Miss Elsa Li, Rm 1021 Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Road,
Hong Kong. Fax : (852) 2827 5086
Bulletin Materials to Rtn Rob Fielding Fax (852) 2774 5067

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Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East meet each
Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in Excelsior Hotel.
Club 4350 - District 3450 of Rotary International

TUNG FENG

香港東區扶輪社週報 THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST



Speaker Ian Thoms reassures PP John that he will be able to use his Octopus card on the West Rail line.



Pres. Desmond giving best wishes to Club members.



Rtn. Peter K More from our Sister club Westwood Village in Hollywood enjoying the company of PP John & charming visitor.

Visitors & guests to the Club, 21 July, 1999



Rtn. Henry & Benny takes care of a special guest.