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What Happened Last Week

President Stephen started the meeting with a special welcome to AG Peter Tse and the delegation from Rotary Club of Peninsula South. PE Chris then formally introduced the visiting Rotarians and quests:

- IPP Prativa Ghose from Rotary Club of Calcutta Park Point, India
- Ms Soheri Ghose, daughter of IPP Prativa Ghose
- Rtn Derick Lums from Rotary Club of Blackburn, Buruug
- Rtn Angela Hui from Rotary Club of Peninsula South
- Rtn Selena Bin from Rotary Club of Peninsula South
- Rtn Bessy Ho from Rotary Club of Peninsula South
- Rtn Willian Chan from Rotary Club of Peninsula South
- PP W H Fok from Rotary Club of Peninsula South

Sergeant Eddy reported that there were 15 members present and the collection was \$600.

President Stephen reported that at its meeting held on 10 September the Board approved the budget for this Rotary year and accepted the resignation of PP Baker who had been suffering from health problems. IPP Taj then gave Rotary information. He talked about the Rotary Foundation and urged members to support the Foundation by taking part in the Paul Harris Fellow Program. Members may choose to make a lump sum donation of US\$1,000 or pay by instalments of US\$100 a year. He pointed out that 60 per cent of the fund raised would go to the district fund for use in the District.

President Stephen announced that PP John, Rtn. Jason, Rtn. Clark and he himself had already committed to support the PHF program this year. PP Hubert also put up his hand to take part.

President Stephen then introduced our speaker, Mr Patrick Lin, Senior Manager-Stamps & Philately of Hong Kong Post. The topic of his talk was "Philatelic Development in Hong Kong - Past Events and Future Trends". Stamp collection has always been a popular hobby of many people in Hong Kong. In the period from 1996 to 1998 there was a sudden surge in the demand for stamps, especially the memorable and special stamps, and there was widespread speculation of these stamps. The value of



THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

香港東區扶輪社週報

Club 4350

District 3450

Chartered on 6 April, 1954 by Charter President PDG (Uncle) John Yuen

the special stamps for the Establishment of the HKSAR sold was over \$500 million. The demand for stamps came back to the normal level in 1999 and since then has been growing in a healthy rate.

Mr Lin told us that to sustain public interest in stamp collection the Hong Kong Post has produced many stamps with very creative and interesting designs and has been very active in recruiting new collectors among the youth and in both the local and overseas markets. They have produced stamps with new and trendy designs to target different market segments: such as the gold and silver stamp sheetlet for the Chinese market, stamps that one can add colour on for the children, stamps jointly issued with China and Australia for the Dragon Boat Festival for the overseas market and stamps with hologram and with photo of movie stars for the casual collectors. The Hong Kong Post also has prudent stamp issuing policy to add value for the collectors: such as only 8 new issues a year, special stamps are sold for only 6 months and the sales would be announced 12 months after issue. The Hong Kong Post has started accepting orders for the special stamps to be issued in 2002. The stamps would include special themes such as painting of horses, Hong Kong arts collection, cyber industry in Hong Kong, stamps jointly issued with China and Canada, Beijing-Kowloon through train, rocks of Hong Kong and special Christmas stamps.

PP George thanked Mr Lin for a most informative and interesting speech and President Stephen closed the meeting with a toast to RI coupled with Rotary Club of Peninsula South.



Rotary Information

Salt Lake City conference fires up Rotarians for Global Quest

Nearly 600 Rotarians from 12 countries joined RI President Richard "Rick" D. King for the second North American Presidential Conference, held 30 August-1 September in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. The three-day event, which included opening remarks by Utah Governor Michael Leavitt, emphasized the importance of increasing membership through Rotary's Global Quest.

Rotarians learned about membership strategies from Rotary leaders including Kenneth Boyd, chairman of the Membership Development Executive Steering Committee, and Allan Frumkin, RI Membership Zone Coordinator. Attendees participated in workshops that focused on extension, retention, membership development, and the Presidential Citation program. In addition, Rotarians were inspired by best-selling author and motivational speaker Stephen Covey, author of The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. Covey challenged participants to create a "mentoring organization for all civil society." He added, "A life of service is the rent we pay for living on this earth. The underlying needs of people are to live, to love, to learn, and to leave a legacy."

Gordon B. Hinckley, president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, commended Rotary on its efforts to eradicate polio. "Scientists have produced the vaccine, but you have made it available in many areas of the world. The entire world is indebted to you," he said. Hinckley pledged US\$100,000 toward Rotary's polio eradication effort, provided that the amount is matched by Utah Rotarians. This amount is in addition to an earlier contribution of \$250,000 to the PolioPlus program.

At the closing ceremony, President King encouraged Rotarians to support the Global Quest and bring in new members: "There is greater need for Rotarians than ever before. It is up to each of us to build Rotary and make a difference."

President King attends 90th anniversary of Belfast club

Rotary International President Richard D. King joined more than 200 Rotarians and guests on 24 August in celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Belfast, Northern Ireland. Other senior Rotary leaders who attended the event included RIBI

(Rotary International in Britain and Ireland) President David Liddiatt and Governor Robert Warren of District 1160.

"It is a great privilege to be a member of the world's oldest and most distinguished service club," the RI president told Rotarians from across Britain and Ireland, who attended the anniversary dinner at Belfast's Europa Hotel. "Rotary has been a gift in my life — an opportunity for doing good that I want to share with others. As the needs of communities change, Rotary will work to meet those needs."

"The visit of a president of Rotary International is a major event for Rotarians and it is fitting that the visit coincides with the celebration of 90 years of service by Rotarians to the people of Belfast," said District Governor Warren.

Established in 1911, the Rotary Club of Belfast was one of the first Rotary clubs to be formed outside North America, where Rotary was founded nearly a century ago in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Towards A Better Understanding (TABU), the club's conflict study and resolution project, is easily its most widely known effort. Established in the 1980s as a means to break down barriers in war-torn Northern Ireland communities, TABU has grown into an international mission to eliminate prejudice while fostering humanitarian goals. Annually, the program alternates between sending Northern Ireland students to the United States and sending American students to Northern Ireland. On these trips, students learn ways to dismantle walls between people, particularly young people, and how to reconcile differences.

Rotary in Thailand celebrates anniversary with stamp issue

Every time Thailand residents post or receive a letter, chances are high that they are learning something about Rotary. It all started with an idea floated by Rotarians to the Communications Authority of Thailand, the agency that oversees the country's postal system.

Then, timed to coincide with the start of the new Rotary year, the agency launched a nationwide issue of a commemorative postage stamp on 1 July 2001. Featuring a portrait of His Royal Highness Prince Purachatra, the founding father of Rotary in Thailand, the stamp celebrates 70 years of Rotary in the country. The prince served as charter president of the Rotary Club of Bangkok, Thailand's first Rotary club, in 1930, and later as governor of District 3350.

"Since last year when we held a major event to celebrate 70 years of Rotary in Thailand, we have received a lot of exposure in newspapers and on television," he said. "But this is the biggest free public relations bonanza of the century for Rotary. It will increase the visibility of Rotary and make our job of attracting new members easier."

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Not long after his marriage, Joe Jr and his father. Joe Sr. met for lunch.

"Well, son," asked Joe Sr, "how is married life treating you?"

"Not very well, I'm afraid," sighed Joe Jr. "It seems I married a nun."

"A:nun?" his father questioned.

"That's right," moaned Joe Jr. "None in the morning, none at night, and none at all unless I beg!"

Joe Sr nodded knowingly and slapped his boy on the back a couple of times.

"Why don't we all get together for dinner tonight and have a nice talk?"

Young Joe smiled, "Say, Dad, that's a great idea!" "Fine," replied Joe Sr, "I'll call home and tell the Mother Superior to set two extra places."

A doctor and his wife are having a fight at the breakfast table.

The husband gets up in a rage and says, "...and you are no good in bed either." He then storms out of the house. After sometime, he realizes that was a nasty thing to say to his wife and he decides to make amends by ringing her on the phone. She picks up the phone after many rings and her irritated husband says, "What took you so long to answer the phone?"

She replied, "I was in bed."

"In bed this late! Doing what?" he asked.

"Getting a second opinion," she replied.

Q: What did the blond say when she found out she was pregnant?

A: "Are you sure it's mine?"



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Pres. Stephen addressing the luncheon audience..



Rtn. Derick Lums (Blackburn, Buruug) exchanges banner with Pres. Stephen.



Visiting Rotarians from Peninsula South.



VP Chris entertains IPP Prativa Ghose (Calcutta) and her daughter.



Group photo of Sept 12, 2001.



ADG Peter enjoys the company of Visiting Rotarians From Peninisula South.



PP Rob entertains a prospective new member – Heron Chan.



A happy threesome: Rtn Kenny, PP George, and VP Henry.



Three in a row: Rtn Denny, Rtn Francis and PP Hubert.



Rtn Malcolm and Rtn Raymond enjoys the visit from Rtn Derick.