

**WEEKLY
BULLETIN
VOL. 47 No.15
13th October 1999**

**Act with
Consistency
Credibility
Continuity**

YEAR 1999-2000

President
Desmond Cheung

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Tajwar Shadikhan

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Stephen Liu

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Ates Yucel

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PP John Kwok
PP Tim Lui

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Rotaract Club Advisers
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Joseph Chan

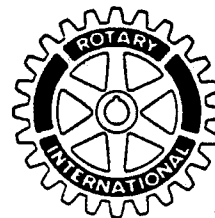
Bulletin Editor
PP Rob Fielding

Fellowship Chairman
Lewis Fung

**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

The meeting was opened on time by President Desmond, and he welcomed all members, guests and visitor.

Rtn Chris then performed the official welcoming to:

Rtn Robin Andrews (Hong Kong)
Kevin Chiu (PP Hubert)

Rtn Rudy was first to make several announcements:

- The Christmas party for the children at the Victoria School for the Deaf will be held on 12 December at the University of Science and Technology.
- The Club project of donating 12 PCs to schools in Tuen Mun will be completed by November this year. Thanks go to Rtn Stephen for his company's donation of these surplus computers.
- Presentations related to the Vocational project will be made on 22 October at CityU.

Secretary Ates was next to speak. He reminded members that the next Board meeting would be held at the Park Lane Hotel, 6:30 p.m.

Rtn Stephen announced that contact had been made with a Rotary club in Taiwan through our sister club, Osaka Jonan, in order to assist the victims of the recent earthquake. Although no official request has been made for assistance yet, it is intended that the donations for October will go to this cause.

PDG Uncle Peter was called on to deliver the Rotary Information this week and he had some very interesting news to convey. Apparently, he has a home address so long that the Rotary central computer hasn't enough memory space to store it. Or maybe he moves around so often that the computer can't keep up with him!! Whatever the

reason, he informed members that he hasn't received his Rotarian magazine for months. After making enquiries about this problem, he was informed that it is not possible to have an address with greater than two lines. Further enquiries revealed that other members with addresses longer than two lines are continuing to receive their Rotarians. So, Uncle Peter is really excited about this and intends to get to the bottom of this mystery. Further instalments will follow.

President Desmond then introduced the Open Forum and called on members to comment on DG Dipo Sani's suggestion that we should consider bringing women into our club. Secretary Ates was first to speak on this issue. He supported having ladies in the club because, in his view, membership should be based on commitment and ability rather than gender. He advised that present members would notice no difference in the way the club is run when women are present.

PE Tajwar was against forcing the issue if there was a reluctance from a significant number of present members: "Why force square pegs into triangular holes?" He said that, in his opinion, he does not presently see any great enthusiasm amongst members to bring ladies into the club.

PP Rob said that there was nothing preventing a member proposing a female for membership, but if there was any objection to the proposal, then it should be rejected on the basis that it is more important to look after the wishes of those who are already members than to satisfy the aspirations of potential members.

Rtn Tony, an ardent fan of ladies of all kinds so long as they are not members of HKIE, made the important observation that his protection in these matters, PP Con was not present and further discussion should be suspended until his attendance.

Finally, our only visitor for the day, Rtn Robin Andrews from RC Hong Kong, said that his club also tackled this issue about three years ago and it was rejected. However, since then the policy was reversed and they now have about 15 female members in their club. He said that their presence doesn't seem to have made any difference to the meetings. However, he said that each club is different, and his brief observation of HKIE suggests that we are a smaller club and there are members of long standing with strong views on this issue. He advised that if the fellowship amongst men was strong and secure, then we should consider long and hard the policy on admitting women before we changed anything.

To get some indication on support or otherwise on this issue, President Desmond asked for a show of hands to see who supported changing the current policy. It appeared that the supporters for a change were in a minority.

To close the meeting, President Desmond proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Hong Kong.

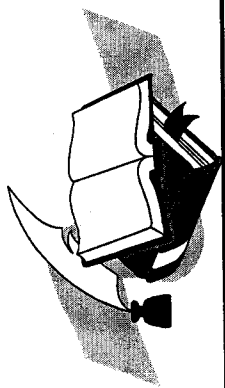


Notice

We missed you on 6th October 1999!!!

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Team 1 | Chellaram, Manolo |
| Team 2 | Lamport, William |
| Team 3 | Lai, Robert; Wong Sam |
| Team 4 | Chen, Andrew; Leung, George YK; Ghose, T.K.;
Kilis, Danny; Leung, George; Li, David |
| Team 5 | Ling, Tommy; Luy, Henry; Narain, Kishu; Yao, John |
| Team 6 | Chan, Joseph; Chan, Paul; Phillip, Malcolm |

Please makeup!!!



Rotary Information



Rotary International 國際扶輪
District 3450 (Hong Kong & Macau) 3450 (港、澳) 區

DIPO C. SANI

District Governor 1999-2000

ROTARY 2000: ACT WITH CONSISTENCY, CREDIBILITY, CONTINUITY
扶輪 2000 年：持恆、持守、持續的行動

September 29th, 1999

President Desmond Cheung
Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East,
Morrison Hill Post Office,
P.O. Box 47064
Hong Kong

Dear President Desmond,

It was indeed a pleasure visiting with your club today. I want to thank you for the warm hospitality shown to my district officers and me.

It was also a pleasure to meet with you and your team and to have a chance to go over the 1999-2000 plans and objectives with them. It was good to note you have taken a lot of effort to try and ensure that your club has a balanced program for the year. I want to specially congratulate you on your club's relief efforts for the victims of the Turkish earthquake. It was a job well done.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention several points that you may like to work on:

(a) As discussed a membership growth program this year for your club is very important and would produce results. I think with the help of your members you should have no problem reaching your target of 54 members.

(b) Please also continue to encourage your members to support the Rotary Foundation by participating in the Paul Harris Fellows program.

I am sure with the help of your Assistant Governor Lawrence Lam and your past presidents- you will no trouble achieving all your goals that you have set for this Rotary year. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you best of luck for this Rotary 2000 year as you act with consistency, credibility and continuity.

With best regards,

Yours in Rotary
DiPo C. Sani
DiPo C. Sani

CC: DGE John Wan
AG Lawrence Lam



Suite 510, Ocean Centre, Canton Road, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon Tel: (852) 2735 6460, 2735 3437
九龍沙咀康樂道海中心510室 電話：(八五二) 二七三五 七九七二 傳真：(八五二) 二七三五 六四六零 二七三五 三四三七

New Address:
91 Archbold Road
Lindfield, N.S.W 2070
Australia
9,9,99

Mr. Ates Yucel
Secretary Rotary Club of HK Island East
P.O. Box 47064
Morrison Hill Post Office
Hong Kong

Dear *Desmond*

As spoken I am returning to my native Australia and my Sydney Address is given above.

I would therefore be grateful if you could grant me a leave of Absence from active attendance of HK Island East. I will be sending make-up cards back to you as there are several Rotary clubs around my area and I would hope to find one that will accept me.

I have really enjoyed my time in HK Rotary and will particularly miss the friends and the enjoyable company at your meetings. My son is a lawyer who is staying in Hong Kong and we will be back for holidays.

Yours in Rotary,

Robin

Robin Hearder

Cc Pres Desmond Cheung (Fax 2810 4133)
PE Tajwar Shadikhan
PP John Kwok
PDG Peter Hall
Miss Elisa Li

President's Report

Dear Members,

Hi! Time for my report again.

Firstly, I would like to exhibit a letter from DG Dipo, in which he thanked us for our club's hospitality towards him and his team during their visit.

Secondly, I also got a letter from Robin which I also exhibit. Please note his address and keep in touch with him.

At the board's meeting last Thursday, the following matters were decided :

- (1) A website to be set up for our club by the beginning of the new millennium.
- (2) Uncle Peter's Golf Tournament. This will take place on 19th November 1999 at Fanling. All golfers please note this prestigious event. There will be IPP's NIGHT in honour of IPP C. Y. following the Golf Tournament.
- (3) Club Assembly will follow 5th board meeting on 4th November 1999.
- (4) Election for next Rotary Year's board of directors will take place on 15th December 1999.
- (5) Each team will be asked to introduce one member to the club. PP John Kwok will be in charge of this.

In view of the current economic situation, I have proposed to drop the Annual Ball for this Rotary Year. In place thereof, there shall be a fund raising event (probably a film premiere) with cocktail/dinner. So your money will be spent on a worthwhile cause. More details later.

I heard that Baker is not well. I am sure that he will be delighted to know that we care about him. Please show your concern.

Taiwan Earthquake. It is proposed that a separate red box be placed for donation from this week until the week ending 25/10/99 at our regular club meetings.

Lastly, please respond to Malcolm's call for introducing speakers to our club meetings. The attraction of the speakers directly affects attendance and it is a small effort on your part which will make a huge difference to the club. Do help!

President Desmond

Hard slap to a helping hand



Kevin Sir

Few organizations do as much selfless good work as Rotary. The global service group has no politics, except good fellowship, and preaches no sermons, apart from urging members to help their communities. But now, because of a silly misunderstanding, there seems to be an appalling misconception about Rotary among some Chinese officials.

Let's hope this can be swiftly straightened out; China and Rotary are made for each other. The organization has a vast and influential global membership of businessmen and professionals. A strong Rotary presence in China could be of enormous benefit to the country.

The misunderstanding in Shanghai which has caused concern to Rotarians here and abroad should be dealt with immediately.

There is one obvious figure who could instantly wipe away the notion that Rotary is somehow a dangerous presence. Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa knows well the important role Rotary fills in our community. By taking an active stance he would be doing a good turn to a key global business organization and to China. He should explain to the authorities in Beijing and Shanghai that Rotary is a not only harmless in a political sense, but a very active force for progress.

The current situation is almost laughable. There was a recent incident in Shanghai in which a junior official in Pudong seemed to mix-up Rotary with the banned Falun Gong sect. Two more difference bodies, it would be hard to imagine.

But this led to an unpleasant series of incidents in which a group of Rotarians from Seattle were harassed and embarrassed while in Shanghai.

This farcical occurrence was made worse because the folks from Seattle were visiting China to hand over a significant amount of money to the Chinese Red Cross. Yet instead of being thanked, they were threatened by clumsy law enforcement officials.

Compounding this is a ruling of startling childishness from Rotary's global headquarters in Illinois. It has ordered Rotarians in China not to organize themselves into clubs. The American-based group has also threatened other clubs, including Hong Kong, not to co-operate with Rotarians struggling to operate in the mainland.

If China has any doubts about Rotary, all it has to do is look at the organization in Hong Kong and Macau where 48 active clubs have 1,700 members.

Here's just a few of China programmes that Rotarians in Hong Kong carry out ...

- Every year, a Study Exchange brings five Chinese doctors here to look at the latest medical technologies. It also sends five of our medical experts to China.
- Over the past decade, Rotary has built more than 250 schools all over China.
- In 1997, one project was to build water storage tanks in remote areas without running water.
- Under its Ambassadorial Scholarships, it has sent numerous Chinese students to universities overseas.
- Residents of Zhoi Lin in Jiangxi got \$850,000 this year to rebuild village houses and a school



TUNG FENG

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



Visitor, Robin Anderson (HK) gives advice on female members in his club.



Our only visitor with Club executives at the meeting, 6 October, 1999.