



Tung Feng

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What Happened Last Week

President Taj opened the meeting and asked PE Stephen to introduce visiting Rotarians : PP MK Chan of Rotary Club of Hong Kong Harbour and PP Nicholas Pirie of Rotary Club of Hong Kong South, who was also our speaker. President Taj then introduced his guest, Dr Carl Fung.

PE Stephen was the S.A.A. and he announced that he received a handsome donation from the birthday boy, Treasurer Jason, and the total collection was 1,450. PP John Luk led the birthday song for Treasurer Jason.

PP John Kwok announced the results of the golf tournament for Uncle Peter's Cup. President Taj was the winner and he also got the prize for the longest drive. The 1st runner up was PP Andrew Chen and there were two 2nd runner up: PP David Li and PP John Kwok. PE Stephen won the prize for the closest to the pin. Uncle Peter got a prize from PP John Kwok for some good thing he did on the day.

Rtn. Kishu announced that the RYLA this year was a big success and the closing ceremony would be held this Sunday. The Rotaract Club of Lingnan University would have their 10th Inaugural Ceremony on 24 March and the District Assembly of Rotaract Clubs would be held on 1 April in Macau. Members interested in these functions should contact Rtn. Kishu for more information.

PP Rob Fielding formally introduced our speaker : PP Nicholas Pirie of Rotary Club of Hong Kong South. PP Nicholas is a barrister, specialising in Insurance and Commercial matters. He has been a trustee of the Christian Children's Fund Inc, Chairman of the RSPCA and a Board Member and Trustee of the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services. He is very active in community services.



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

PP Nicholas Pirie's talk was about a project his Club did to help lepers in China. Leprosy is a disease in which the skin becomes rough and thick with small round hard whitish pieces, the flesh and nerves are slowly destroyed and fingers and toes drop off. The disease is not very infectious and is spread by mucus contact and poor wound treatment. With the right medical care it can be cured. In China there are over 700,000 lepers and the number is growing at over 10 per cent compound each year due to lack of medical care and poor living conditions. The areas most in need are in the South West part of China.

He showed us some pictures of the people suffering from this disease and the poor conditions they were in. To help improve the living conditions and medical care for the lepers, PP Nicholas and his team had set up three support centres in Maigoo, Lai Bo and De Chay, very remote places with no or poor road access, and helped in building roads, clean water supply, power supply, schools in these areas. He appealed to members to provide financial help to sustain the work of this project. To sponsor a leper would cost as little as \$500, to provide basic nursing care for 100 lepers would only cost \$5,000, \$10,000 could build one km of road, \$25,000 could build a tent with dry flooring, \$35,000 could build a toilet with septic tank, \$75,000 could build a nursing station. Clothes are always welcomed.

PP Nicholas Pirie told us that this very worthwhile project has helped improve significantly the membership and attendance of his Club. All members are keen to take part in this project and help improve the life of the forgotten people. He also believed that starting a major program like this would help the re-launching of Rotary in China.

PP Hubert thanked PP Nicholas Pirie for sharing his experience in this very meaningful project which clearly demonstrated the spirit of service of Rotary.

President Taj closed the meeting with a toast of the Rotary Club of HK South.

Rotary Information

Technology awareness seminar energizes Rotarians

Information technology enthusiasts from four U.S. districts and several other countries attended the first Rocky Mountain Rotary Technology Awareness Conference (RMRTAC) in Denver, Colorado, USA, on 28 October.



Our speaker PP Nicholas Pirie of HKSouth talking about leprosy in China.



Birthday boy, Hon. Tres. Jason receiving his birthday present from Pres. Taj.



Uncle Peter, Pres. Taj and three PP's : Nicholas Pirie (HKS), M.K. Cheng (HKHarbour) and John Kwok of our club.



PDG Peter Hall Golf Tournament Prize Presentation



PP Andrew settled for 1st Runner-Up.



Pres. Taj was the winner of Uncle Peter's Cup 2001.



Pres Taj also received the longest drive award.



PP John Kwok & PP David Li were the joint winners for the two 2nd Runners-up.



There is always one for Uncle Peter who won the booby prize.



PE Stephen received the closest to the hole prize.

Attracting more than 150 Rotarians, the conference was the culmination of efforts by communication officers in districts 5440, 5450, 5470 and 5110 and members of the RI Technology Task Force to create awareness about the importance of information technology to the goals and future of Rotary. Technology Task Force Chairman Tom Todd was a guest speaker.

The conference organizers said that they were motivated by President Frank Devlyn's call to Rotary clubs and districts to embrace information technology as a tool to build a stronger and more efficient Rotary, as well as four years of feedback from Rotarians who attended similar meetings in the past.

"At various training events including President-elect's Training Seminars (PETS) and district assemblies, participants were consistent in their critiques," said conference organizer Gary Fletcher, co-chair of District 5450 Internet Committee. "They wanted longer sessions, more information, and more opportunity to learn how to use these new technologies."

In sessions spread over eight hours, Rotarian trainers from the United States and New Zealand discussed topics highlighting the relevance of the Internet and other forms of electronic communication to Rotary service. Harriett Schloer, director of communications for District 5110 and Web master of President Devlyn's Web site, was the keynote speaker. She delivered a powerful message about how indispensable information technology is to Rotary.

RI Board takes action

At its May 2000 meeting, the RI Board amplified its policy on extension to non-Rotary countries. The Board has long stated that Rotary clubs are not to be organized in communities in isolated places until definite requests for Rotary clubs come from those communities. It now adds that such extension work is only to be carried out by clubs and districts in the vicinity or neighboring country and only after consultation with and permission of the Board.

In another action, the Board renamed the Rotary Award for World Understanding the Rotary Award for World Understanding and Peace. The award will honor a non-Rotarian or an organization for outstanding achievement consistent with RI's ideals. The awardee will receive a crystal flame, scroll, and US\$100,000 from The Rotary Foundation for a project of the recipient's choice. Refer to Notices & Reminders for information on the nomination process for the first award, which will be given at the 2001 RI Convention.

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Once upon a time, there was a frog who lived in a lake all by himself. He had been given special powers by a witch. One day, he finally ventured out of the lake to get his first glimpse of the world outside. He was surprised to see a bear chasing after a rabbit and he called out to them to stop.

He said to both of them, "I am a magical frog and since you are the first two animals I have ever seen, I am going to grant you both three wishes. You will each take turns using them and you have to use them now.

The bear (being greedy) went first. "I would like every bear in this forest to be female, except for me." A magical sound and it was done!

Then the rabbit's turn. "I would like a riding helmet." This confused both the frog and the bear, but after a magical sound, there was a helmet!"

It was the bear's turn again. "I would like every bear in the neighbouring forest to be female." Another magical sound and it was done!

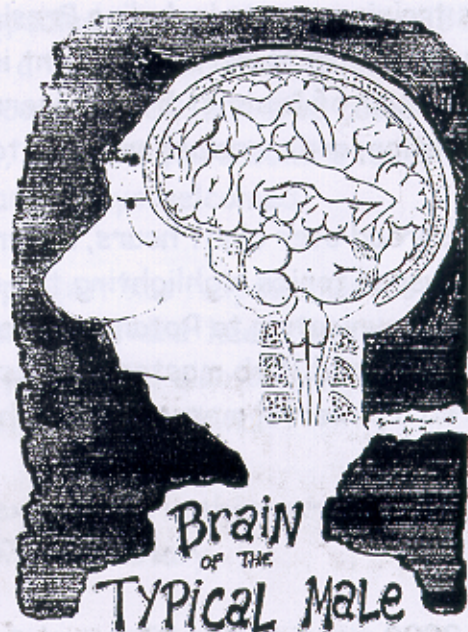
The rabbit went again. "I would like a motorcycle."

Both the frog and the bear wondered why the rabbit didn't just ask for a lot of money with which he could buy himself a motorcycle, but after a magical sound, there was the motorcycle!

The bear took his last wish. "I would like all the bears in the world to be female except for me." A magical sound and it was done!

The rabbit then put on his helmet, started up the motorcycle and said, "I wish the bear was gay," and took off in a cloud of dust.

For the next two weeks, we will examine the neural make-up of the two genders.



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ROTARY CLUB OF HK ISLAND EAST MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 12: 30 p.m. AT
EXCELSIOR HOTEL, CAUSEWAY BAY