



# Tung Feng

VOL. 48 No.42

16<sup>th</sup> May 2001

## What Happened Last Week

President Taj opened this meeting by welcoming the visitors and guests, then by inviting Rtn Eddie to make the introductions:

Rtn Joseph Orr (Causeway Bay)

Rtn Sheryl Yan (Causeway Bay)

Mr. Raymond Li (PP George)

President Taj then invited PP George and Rtn John Yao to come out so that their birthdays could be acknowledged. Rtn Clark led the birthday song.

There were many announcements at this meeting, beginning with Rtn Malcolm: He reported that at the last Board meeting, approval was given to fund a Community Service project for \$44,000. This money will be donated to the Samaritans to enable them to paint two buses for one year, to advertise their counseling service for people contemplating suicide.

VP Chris gave a brief report on the success of the recent Annual Dinner in which HKIE participated. He said that he would report later about the financial result when this had been completed.

PP John gave a report on the recent visit of members from the Rotary Club of Makati North.

President Taj announced the proposed return trip to Makati North on 18 July and advised that there would be offered special fare rates using a charter flight.

Finally, PE Stephen reminded members about the District Assembly to be held at the Miramar Hotel on 12 May. He asked members to consider attending the District Installation function on 6 July at cost of \$450 per head; and announced that members from our other sister club, Osaka Jonan would be in town on 13 May.

Sergeant Lawrence reported that there were 24 members present and \$1,360 had been collected.



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 highlight of the meeting was the speaker, Mr. Wilson Chan who spoke on his company, U-Drive. He began by advising that his company was a one-stop service for motorists and companies running fleets of vehicles. They were established in 2000 as a subsidiary of the Forefront Group. Currently, their membership is about 8,000, with a target of 14,000 by the end of 2001.

The benefits of membership include:

- Discounted fuel
- Packages on repairs and maintenance
- A distribution of service centres for convenience of repairs
- Preferential insurance coverage
- Finance packages for purchasing new vehicles
- Their own credit card
- Telematic services: this embraces installation of a device that maintains constant communication between the clients' vehicles and a central control. This enables the control to call for assistance immediately the vehicle is stolen or involved in an accident; to constantly up-date the vehicle's location and the route travelled; and to monitor the vehicle's usage in order to take charge of maintenance.

At the completion of question time, Mr Chan was thanked for his presentation by Rtn Malcolm.

To close the meeting, President Taj proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Causeway Bay.

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## *Rotary Information*

### *Hong Kong students gain work experience through district's project*

One hundred fifty Hong Kong University (HKU) students have enrolled in the Work Shadowing Scheme, launched on 14 March as a pilot project of District 3450 and the university. The South China Morning Post newspaper also is a sponsor of the project.

Aimed at helping university students develop a better understanding of the occupations they aspire to, the scheme is administered by the Career Education and Placement Centre (CEPC) at the university. According to District 3450 Governor John Wan, who planned the project together with Louisa Li Wan-tung, the center's director, the Work Shadowing Scheme will run through summer.





# Tung Feng



Vol. 48, No. 42

10<sup>th</sup> May, 2001

Speaker, Mr. Wilson Chan  
from U-Drive.



Pres. Taj, supported  
by Rtn Clark,  
congratulates  
PP George &  
Rtn John V  
on their birthdays.



Guests & visitors  
to the club on  
9<sup>th</sup> May, 2001



Billed as the first of its kind, the scheme provides HKU undergraduates a foretaste of their future jobs by bringing them together with 50 to 60 Rotarian professionals on a one-to-one basis at the work place. The 150 students currently enrolled understudy their mentors for 16 hours stretched over a one-month period. During this time, each student shadows a guide (Rotarian) to meetings and meals as well as stays in the office, to watch him work and to ask questions, without being intrusive.

"This scheme differs from most mentoring programs," said Wan-tung in a recent *South China Morning Post* article. "[It] focuses on on-site observation rather than talks between Rotarians and students." The scheme also contrasts sharply with most internship programs because it offers students an opportunity to experience the work of senior management.

At the end of the month, both guide and shadow will report on the project through a structured evaluation form to be reviewed by a steering committee consisting of representatives from the Career Education and Placement Centre, District 3450, and the *South China Morning Post*. If deemed a success by the committee, the scheme will form the basis for a longer project.

"I think this is a great project as it is very much hands-on. It also directly benefits the community, especially the new generation," said District Governor Wan. "At the same time it offers the Rotarians a very rare chance to look into what they are doing through the shadows who function as a mirror. It also enhances the image of Rotary in the district."

### ***Western Pacific region is certified polio-free***

The Western Pacific was officially certified polio-free on 29 October by the Regional Certification Commission for Poliomyelitis Eradication during a summit meeting hosted by Rotary International, the Japanese government and the World Health Organization (WHO). It is the second WHO region to achieve this status after the Americas were declared polio-free in 1994.

Home to approximately 1.6 billion people comprising one-third of the world's population, the Western Pacific region comprises 37 nations and geographical areas, from China in the north and west to New Zealand in the south and French Polynesia in the east. The last confirmed case of polio in the region was in 1997, a two-year-old girl in Cambodia.

According to WHO, more than 100 million children in the Western Pacific were immunized against polio each year between 1994 and 1998. Rotary's non-political status as a non-profit service organization helped by allowing its volunteers to reach children and make permanent inroads to countries like China, North Korea, Myanmar, Cambodia and Vietnam.

To date, Rotary has contributed US\$37.5 million to the Western Pacific region and some \$378 million to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. By 2005, Rotary will have committed approximately half a billion dollars.



# LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Here's one contributed by PP John: George and the Priest

George loves the race track. One day he was there betting on the ponies and nearly losing his shirt when he noted a priest who stepped out onto the track and blessed the forehead of one of the horses lining up for the 4<sup>th</sup> race. Low and behold, this horse - a very long shot - won the race.

George was most interested to see what the priest did before the next race. Sure enough, he watched the priest step out onto the track as the 5<sup>th</sup> race horses lined up, and place his blessing on the forehead of one of the horses. George made a beeline for the window and placed a small bet on the horse. Again, even though another long shot, the horse the priest had blessed won the race. George collected his winnings and anxiously waited to see which horse the priest blessed for the 6<sup>th</sup> race.

The priest showed, blessed a horse, George bet on it, and won! George was elated.

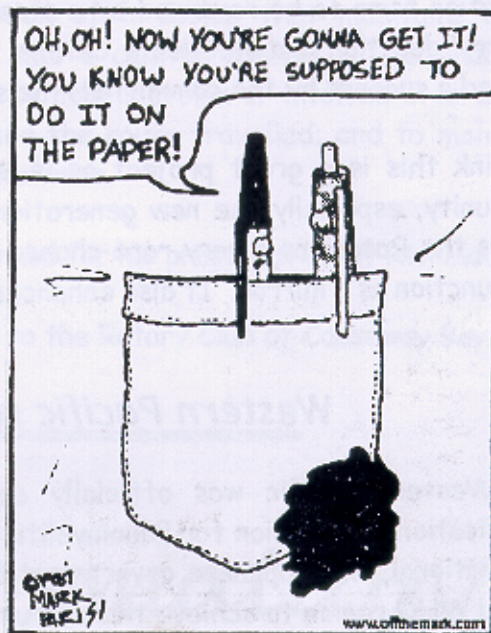
As the day went on, the priest continued blessing one of the horses and it always came in first. George began to pull in some serious money and, by the last race, he knew his wildest dreams were about to come true. He made a quick stop at the ATM and withdrew every cent he owned, and awaited the priest's blessing that would tell him which horse to place the bet on.

True to his pattern, the priest stepped out onto the track before the last race and blessed the forehead, eyes, ears

and hooves of one of the horses. George placed his bet - every cent he owned - and watched the horses come in dead last.

George was dumbfounded!! He made his way to the track and, when he found the priest, he demanded, "What happened, Father? All day you blessed horses and they won. The last race, you blessed a horse and he lost. Now I've lost my life savings, thanks to you!"

The priest nodded wisely and said, "That's the problem with you Protestants ... you can't tell the difference between a simple blessing and The Last Rites!"



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