



# Tung Feng

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## What Happened Last Week

President Taj opened the meeting with a warm welcome to PP Edwin and reminded those who had invited guests to the Annual Function to make their payment to the Treasurer as soon as possible. He told members that our Sister Club, Rotary Club of Makati North, had given us some T-shirts during their visit to us a few weeks ago and each member could pick up one on their way out.

There was no visiting Rotarians and Rtn. Clark introduced his guest, Mr Ken Yung. S.A.A Lawrence report that there were 20 members present and the collection was \$1,100.

President Taj then led the birthday song for Rtn. Bill and followed by PDG Peter's announcement. Uncle Peter informed us that the Rotary Academy would be held on 16 June at the Medical Academy at Aberdeen, which is for past presidents and incoming presidents. President asked Uncle John Kwok and PE Stephen to attend.

PP Rob introduced our speaker, Dr. Stephanie Kumaria, Director of the Samaritans, Multi Lingual Suicide Prevention Service. The Samaritans is one of the three Suicide Prevention Services in Hong Kong and is the only one that operates in both Cantonese, English and Mandarin. Our Club had sponsored two bus-body advertisement for the Samaritans.

The Samaritans was founded by Chad Varah in 1953 in the United Kingdom and the Hong Kong branch was set up in 1973. It offers listen therapy to anyone going through crisis and contemplating suicide and provides emotional support for the lonely and depressed, through telephone calls, e-mail, and face to face talk.

Dr. Kumaria told us that in the last decade over 9,000 people committed suicide in Hong Kong. They were people at all age and in every segment of the society. Including the family and friends of these people over 90,000 people were affected and it could be up 500,000



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

people touched. The most common ways for people to kill themselves are hanging, jumping over buildings, and burning charcoal. The most common reasons for committing suicide are loss of job, loss of love, loss of esteem, loss of health, and loss of face, and it all comes down to loss of hope.

The Hong Kong office of the Samaritans operates 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. It has eight volunteers and handles over 280,000 telephones a year. More volunteers are needed. Mrs. Kumaria asked those who are interested in becoming a Samaritan or have any ideas on how to sell suicide prevention to contact her and she handed some leaflets for members' information.

PP CY thanked our speaker and President Taj closed the meeting with a toast to R.I. and HKIE.

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## Rotary Information

### *Success plus market decline take toll on Foundation programs*

Rapid growth in humanitarian grants programs coupled with a sharp drop in investment income prompted the Rotary Foundation Trustees to restrict or temporarily halt several Foundation humanitarian and educational programs supported by the World Fund at their April meeting.

The Trustees placed a moratorium on new 3-H Grants applications, as of 1 July 2001, until funds become available. Applications that have already been received are not affected. They halved the budget for Group Study Exchanges, as of the 2002-03 Rotary year, meaning districts will send a team every other year, with the exact timing agreed upon by the district governors-elect of the two paired districts so as to have each paired team travel in a different but consecutive program year. And the Trustees also restricted Grants for Rotary Volunteers to Rotarians only, effective 1 July 2001.

Matching Grants applications increased by a whopping 49 percent over the previous Rotary year, exhausting this year's budget. Some 2,300 applications that had yet to be approved will need to be resubmitted for consideration in the 2001-02 Rotary year. For the convenience of Matching Grant sponsors, a renewal form has been developed to facilitate



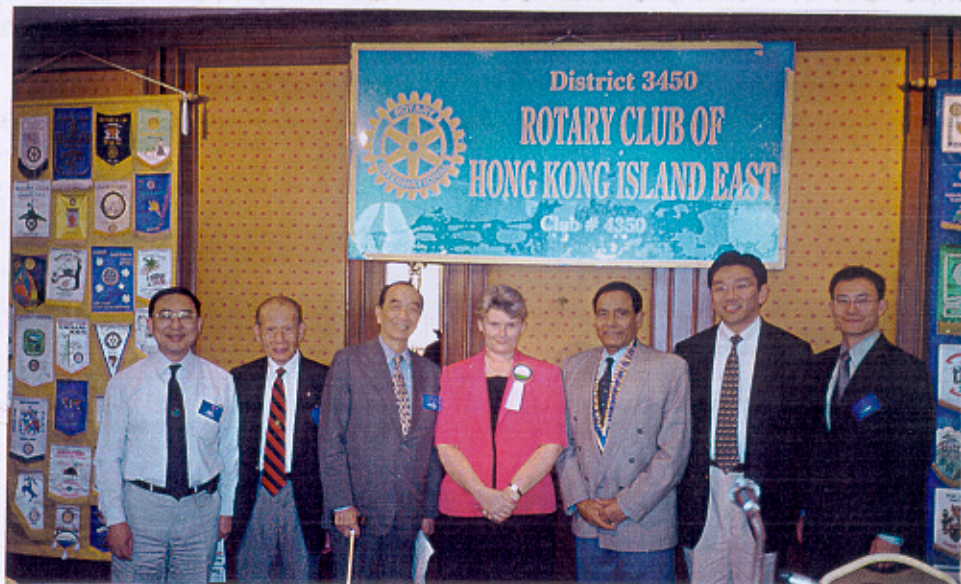
PDG Peter and Pres. Taj with Dr Stephanie Kumaria, our speaker.



Dr Stephanie Kumaria talking about the work of the Samaritans.



President Taj: "Happy Birthday, Bill."



Our speaker and guests.



It's nice to be at the head table !



Rtn. Henry helped entertaining  
Rtn Clark's guest, Mr Ken Yung.



Birthday Boy Rtn Bill  
Waiting for his birthday song.



Conversation among Rtn Henry, Rtn Alex and Rtn Kenny would not be far  
from golf and racing.

the process and will be available download from the Rotary Web site. Until this year, all qualifying applications were able to be approved, as a result of unusually high investment income. This income has annually supported an average 32 percent increase in applications in each of the past five years.

While the Trustees are gratified to see the increased interest of clubs and districts in Foundation programs, they recognize that their ability to meet the financial demands of this expansion needs to be further examined, which resulted in the current and temporary program changes they made. In addition, the Trustees will review the status of the operating reserve at their June meeting, and a study group has been appointed to review the structure of the Humanitarian Grants programs.

The Trustees urged Rotarians, clubs, and districts to increase their Annual Programs Fund giving in order to meet programmatic demands. They also agreed to re-examine the Foundation's Humanitarian Grants program, after a record 4,255 Avoidable Blindness and Matching grants were received this year.

### *The Rotarian gets a makeover in April*

If the April issue of *The Rotarian* looks a bit different to you, don't blame your imagination. The publication's editors have chosen April, officially designated as "Magazine Month," to roll out a redesigned magazine.

*The Rotarian* offers a contemporary, stylized look that is more compelling to readers, advertisers and prospective Rotarians. The editors have also updated the editorial content, introduced two new columns and will offer more symposiums and profiles of successful Rotarians and club projects.

First published in January 1911 as *The National Rotarian*, *The Rotarian* has a long tradition of editorial excellence. Seventeen Nobel Prize laureates, 19 Pulitzer Prize winners, and many world statesmen including Winston Churchill and Mahatma Gandhi have contributed to its pages.

While the magazine's look may have changed, its mission remains the same: to bring news of official RI policies; messages from the RI president; highlights of RI Board and Rotary Foundation Trustee decisions; the information of club projects around the world and stories about The Rotary Foundation. The publication also serves as a forum and voice for Rotarians, and provides informational articles on topics of general interest.

# LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

The Sixth grade science teacher, Mr. Choi, asks his class, "Who can tell me which organ of the human body expands to 10 times its usual size when stimulated?"

Q: What do elephants use for vibrators?  
A: Epileptics.

Nobody raises a hand, so he nominates the first student who looks his way.

"Sally, which organ of the human body expands to 10 times its usual size when stimulated?"

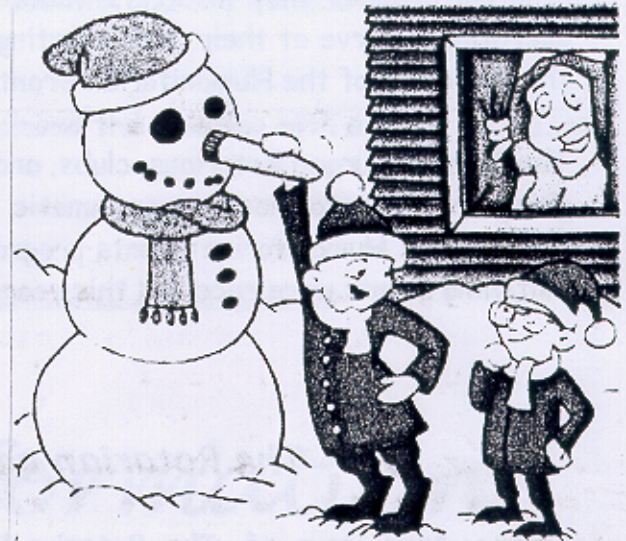
Sally stands up blushing furiously: "Sir, how dare you ask such a question. I'm going to complain to my parents, who will complain to the principal, and you will be dismissed!"

Mr. Choi is shocked by Sally's reaction, but undaunted. He asks the class the question again, and this time Peter raises his hand.

"Yes, Peter?" says Mr. Choi.

"Sir, the correct answer is the iris of the human eyes," says Peter.

"Very good, Peter. Thank you." Mr. Choi then turns to Sally and says, "Sally, I have three things to say to you: First, it's clear that you have NOT done your homework. Second, you have a DIRTY mind. And third, I'm afraid you're going to be sadly disappointed someday."



"I couldn't find any carrots for the nose, so I grabbed this from my mom's drawer..."

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