



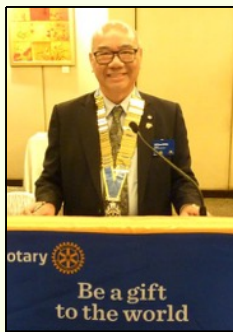
# 東風

**Rotary**  
Club of  
Hong Kong Island East  
**TUNG FENG**



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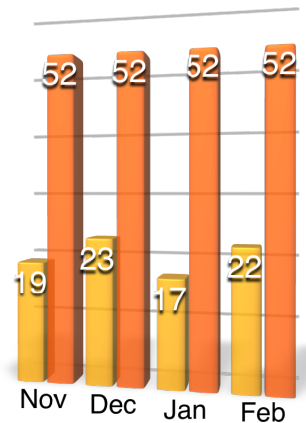
## President's Message - From the heart



During my past year as President, it's sometimes hard to know how well I am doing in the eyes of the members. I try my best and hope that my efforts serve the club well. Last week at our regular luncheon, birthday boy Kishu spoke a few kind words about me as President that were very well appreciated, and I want to say thank you to him here. It means a lot to me to hear such words from an experienced and respected member of our club. Kishu is one of the most senior members of HKIE, and he joined the Rotary 34 years ago. He has been a truly supportive member throughout the years, and to this day joins the club services like electric household appliance delivery, elderly home visits and happy luncheons etc. He is always concerned about the member attendance we get during regular luncheon meetings. We are very honoured to have the senior members like Kishu in our club, they are our treasure. Please join me to give solute to all of them.



■ Avg. Attendance  
■ Members



**REDBOX COLLECTION**  
08 JUNE \$900

THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST  
香港東區扶輪社週報  
Club 16340 District 3450 Chartered on 06 April, 1954 by Charter President  
PDG (Uncle) John Yuen

## SPOTLIGHT ON - Introduction to Economic Diversity in Germany



Speaker Lisa Büttner is a Rotary Foundation Scholar, so her heart is very much with Rotary and she had contacted us to come and do a talk for our club. We welcomed her and it was well worth it because she gave a fascinating insight into her country of birth, outlining first the key regions across Germany and what they stand for. She talked about the changes since reunification, and what challenges and opportunities this has brought to the country over the years, feeding us some key facts and figures.

Some key points included:

*Efficiency:* Despite the common cliché that German people are hard workers, statistics on the [average annual hours actually worked per worker](#) show that Germans actually work the least hours of any OECD country!

*Beer:* German people are the second biggest consumers of beer in the world (after the Czechs), with an average of 107 litres per person per year in 2010 (or 0.30 l per day). There are more than 1,200 breweries producing over 5,000 brands of beer.

*Autobahn:* The German *Autobahn* is the oldest motorway network in the world (first section completed in 1932), as well as one of the densest (12,000 km for a country of 357,021 km<sup>2</sup>). It is also the only one in Europe to have no general speed limit.

*Recycling:* Germans are among the most avid recyclers. According to a BBC survey, Germany had the third highest recycling rate (48% of waste recycled), only just surpassed by its Swiss and Austrian neighbours.

Berlin is of course the biggest city in Germany and probably the most known. This is where the government is but also numerous start ups. Despite being famous for a lot of headquarters of big companies, Berlin is not a productive centre in Germany. It is rather characterized as a creative pool with a lot young and upcoming branches. Berlin attracts numerous tourists as well, of course, not only as the capital but also due to its history. There are several places where one can still see the wall that divided Germany in two countries. Very popular for Chinese tourists is the largest shopping mall in continental Europe is the [KaDeWe](#) (*Kaufhaus des Westens*) in Berlin, with over 60,000 square metres. Over 300 bunkers and hundreds of kilometres of underground tunnels built during the Nazi-era still remain under the modern city of Berlin - although mostly inaccessible due to crumbling and floods from water tables. The biggest train station in Europe opened in Berlin in 2006. According to [World City Millionaire Rankings](#), the Frankfurt urban area has more millionaires per capita than in other city surveyed worldwide. Munich comes second.

**Automotive industry: Germany is one of the world's largest car producers** – selling 5.9 million cars in 2011. Top-selling car brands like Porsche, Mercedes, Audi and BMW have production centres in southern Germany.

In 2005 Germany produced approximately 35% of the world's wind energy. There are over 20,000 wind turbines off the coast of northern Germany, the largest of which reach 200 metres in height. Germany is a leader in climate and energy policies – it made a decision in 2011 to decommission all nuclear power stations (then producing around 18 percent of electricity consumed) by 2022 and to replace them with renewable energies and new storage for green electricity.

Lisa did also talk about some of the challenges Germany is now facing, including an ageing population and shrinking workforce, as well as how to integrate the millions of migrants who have now arrived in the country. After the talk she answered a number of questions from the interested members and guests present.

### About the speaker

Lisa Büttner was a scholar of The Rotary Foundation for her Master Studies. She born in 1987 in Eastern Germany, and grew up on the Baltic Coast. She has a Bachelor degree in Cultural Science, and Master in International Studies. Her work and study experiences include countries such as Portugal, Sweden and Denmark, and she has been working in international relations for non-profit networking organisation BVL International.



## Last week's Proceedings - 08 June 2016

Due to an expected lower attendance we moved the meeting to Alto 88 this week (although in the end the numbers were not bad). President William rang the bell and commenced to welcome our guests, and this week we had several. Starting with PP Grace Yeung from RC of Causeway Bay who had brought her friend Mr. Kevin Wong. We also had a surprise visitor, Rtn Hailey Choi, from RC of Berkley, California, who was on a trip and decided to drop in and see us. As well as our guest speaker this week who was Lisa Büttner from Germany. Great also to see some welcome returnees, including PP Andrew and Rtn Leo. Birthday boy was Rtn Kishu and he invited President William to lead his birthday song. P William asked SAA Andy to announce Red Box takings which came to \$900. There is something



about the warm cosy atmosphere of Alto 88 that always gives us a nice experience (as well as excellent food). P William asked PE Chris to introduce guest speaker Lisa, who then gave us a good overview of the economic situation in Germany, which was received with great interest and there was some hearty discussion. Afterwards PP Heman was invited to thank the speaker before we all joined to toast RC Causeway Bay, RI and HKIE, before joining together for our group photo.



## Out & About

### The One International award ceremony

DGE Eric and PE Chris were among our members attending The One ceremony at the Holiday Inn Golden Mile last Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. As usual it was a glittering affair to celebrate the work of the four Finalists, all of whom were selected because of their devotion to the cause they have chosen to work for in their own lives. The winner of The One 2016 was Dr Rajendra Dhamani,



who runs a shelter for abandoned women in India with his wife. These two

amazing people now house around 150 women, plus almost 20 children, providing food, shelter, education, love, medical attention and a sense of family. In India, women who have been raped are often abandoned by their families as being worthless and are left to fend for themselves. Dr Dhamani and his wife take them in and basically save their lives. As the one winner, he received a cheque for US \$100,000 to fund his work. PE Chris was invited on stage to join PP Brian Hodgson of



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### From President William:

- Today is the first of my last 4 meetings, another 3 to go after today. I am happy to finish my presidential year without encountering any serious problems.

- RI President Ravindran arrived in HK for a brief visit on Monday June 6<sup>th</sup> for 3 days will be leaving today (Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>), I am honored to have been there to join the party to meet and welcome him at the airport.

## THE LAST LAUGH

A man who was having heart trouble went to the doctor to see what his options were. Naturally, the doctor recommended a heart transplant. The man reluctantly agreed, and asked if there were any hearts immediately available, considering that money was no object.

"I do have three hearts," said the doctor. "The first is from an 18-year old kid, non-smoker, athletic, swimmer, with a great diet. He hit his head on the swimming pool and died. It's \$100,000. The second is from a marathon runner, 25 years old, great condition, very strong. He got hit by a bus. It's \$150,000. The third is from a heavy drinker, cigar smoker, steak lover. It's \$500,000."

"Hey, why is that heart so expensive? He lived a terrible life!"

"Yes, but it's from a lawyer. It's never been used."



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**Club postal address** : P.O.Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, Hong Kong  
**Meeting Venue** : Regal HK Hotel, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong  
**Meeting Schedules** : Every Wednesday at 12:30 pm  
**Website** : <http://hkie.rotary3450.org/>  
**Facebook** : <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubHKIslandEast>