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THE WATERFRONT

THIS IS THE WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KUCHING CENTRAL, KUCHING, SARAWAK, MALAYSIA; ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3310; CHARTERED ON 23RD DECEMBER 1986.

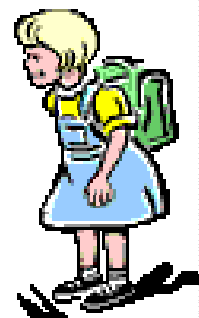
WEEKLY LUNCHEON MEETING AT 6PM EVERY THURSDAY (EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS) AT THE RIVERSIDE MAJESTIC HOTEL, KUCHING, SARAWAK, MALAYSIA

September is New Generations Month



As you may be aware, the take-up of students from RIBI to school year exchange has in recent years been very poor. In the next twelve months the number of in-bound students to 29 districts is likely to be as low as 10 students, reflecting the very small number of outbound students from

RIBI.



The RIBI Youth Exchange Officers appreciate that this lamentable situation needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency. A new web site, designed by a student to appeal directly to young people, was launched early in the year and, to encourage more clubs to become involved in the school year programme, several seminars for Club Youth Exchange Officers will take place over the next few months.

One of the reasons for the low take-up by students from Great Britain, and in particular from England and Wales, is the nature of the educational system. Students are now subject to a testing regime throughout their school career. This reaches a crescendo in Years 11, 12 and 13 with external public examinations taken twice in each year. University places and future careers depend on student attainment of high results in these examinations.

Students are not prepared to consider a year's exchange until they have completed their school career at the end of Year 13. As a result they are 18 years of age and possibly nearing 19 years. These students in increasing numbers are taking a "gap" year before they start university, but many do not wish to use their year for school year exchange.

INSIDE

- 1 Rotary Basics publication
- 2 RI Convention, Brisbane
- 3 Bario Dental project
- 4 The Rotary Calendar

Indeed some are considered too old to be accepted on a school year programme in a number of Rotary districts.

Those who attended last year's EEMA conference may recall the example of Ruth Chubb who went to Kota Kinabalu, Sabah in D 3310. Although she was on a school year exchange and had a pre-university place in Malaysia, Ruth did not go to school. She stayed with host families and had a counsellor, as would any Rotary School Year Exchange student. But, as she has problems with languages and would have been unable to cope with the lectures in Malaysian, she undertook a series of vocational opportunities, notably working with orphans on a volunteer basis. She also took up a series of speaking and reporting engagements and assisted in many Rotary Club and District 3310 activities.

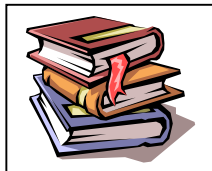
RIBI Youth Exchange appreciates that in order to attract young people into the programme it needs to offer something different to the many organisations specialising in GAP opportunities for young people. Through Ruth, District 3310 has provided us with a superb example of the sort of vocational opportunities which appeal to young people and provide an alternative "gap" year experience. Opening up the rules of the programme to incorporate vocational training or experience will, we feel, increase the chances of encouraging young people from Great Britain and Ireland to become Rotary Youth Exchange students.

We would like to hear from other Districts who find themselves in a similar situation and who would be interested in developing a vocational exchange model, which, whilst fulfilling the objectives and ideals of Rotary, would add a new dimension to the Rotary Youth Exchange programme.

(extract from Rotary News Group)

Rotary Basics available now

A new resource to help clubs better educate their members about Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation is now available from the RI Secretariat. Entitled *Rotary Basics*, the eight-page publication covers Rotary history, programs, principles, and structure, as well as some notable service projects. This compendium of Rotary information first appeared in the August 2002 issue of *THE ROTARIAN* magazine and is also being published in many regional magazines. It has been reprinted in nine languages and is available in lots of 20 for US\$10 from the RI Publications Order Services at RI World Headquarters by phone: 847-866-4600 or fax: 847-866-3276, or via the online catalog at <http://shop.rotary.org/catalog/>.
Courtesy: Rotary Newsbasket



A personal invitation to the 2003 RI Convention in Queensland's sunny capital by R.I. President Bhichai Rattakul

I'm pleased to invite you to join your fellow Rotarians from around the world in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, for the 2003 Rotary International Convention, to be held 1-4 June. This most important Rotary gathering of the year will provide Rotarians the opportunity to gather in superb fellowship and exchange ideas and share experiences of Rotary service. As always, the convention offers something of interest to everyone: informative and interesting plenary sessions, captivating guest speakers, project and program workshops, fantastic entertainment, and the always popular House of Friendship. All events will be held at the recently completed Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, conveniently located adjacent to the South Bank Parklands and just minutes from the city's central business district.

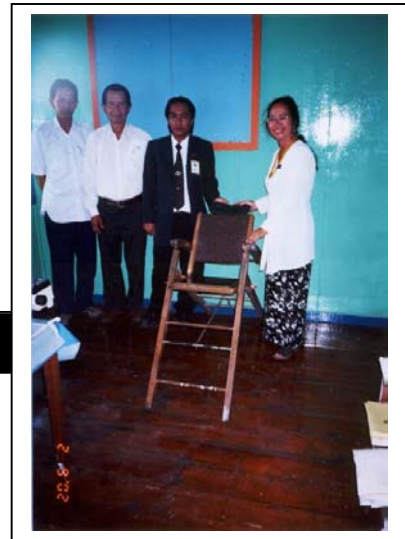
Bhichai Rattakul, R.I. President

BARIO dental project

I was in Bario on 2 till 3 Sept 2002 to attend the launching of the Bario Telecenter. While I was there, I met Lucy Bulan (our contact and as well as the principal of SMK Bario) and requested her to bring me to the clinic where our club is supposed to help them buy tools for the dental clinic.

including dental treatment). However, the only thing that I find connected to the dental treatment is only an old dental chair. They don't have any dentist tools at all. I have therefore taken 2 photos of the dental chair for you. The only dental treatment

that the Bario people can get is only tooth extraction. Tooth filling is not able to be done because they don't have the tools. Therefore a portable tooth filling tool is something that is needed and in my conversation with Rtn Thomas Ngu on 7 Sept at the 2nd Club Assembly, he has infact found the supplier for such portable tool.



The chair where patients seeking dental treatment will seat in Bario. From Right to Left: Lucy Bulan, Clinic officer, David Labang (spouse to Lucy).



I am also pleased to know that a total of RM8,000 has been raised (RM2000 from R.C. of Oerskog, RM3000 from our club, RM3000 from Rtn Thomas Ngu, RM1000 from Rtn Lim Keng Yaw). As I have mentioned during the Club Assembly, I have contacted Assistant Governor Jake Ngu in Miri and informed him of this project. He would speak to President Sukhdev of Miri club and that he requested that our President or Community Service Director gets in touch with Sukhdev. You may want to contact AG Jake Ngu at 019-8850607 or ngujake@pc.jaring.my.

(article by AG. Andre Suharto)

Rotarians celebrate achievements, ponder future at Barcelona convention

More than 19,000 Rotarians traveled from 147 countries to attend the 93rd RI Convention in sunny Barcelona, Spain, on 23-26 June. The event opened with remarks from RI President Richard D. King, who focused on the increased need for organizations such as Rotary in the face of wars and tragedies.

"The world looks to us for direction," he said. "And why not? We are the most dedicated, energetic, and committed citizen-leaders that the world has ever known." President King then presented a Rotary Award of Honor to U.S. humorist and humanitarian Jerry Lewis.

For the first time this year, the programs of Rotaract, Interact, RYLA, and Youth Exchange had their own "mini conventions" during convention week. In the past, these meetings had been held prior to the convention. Participants enjoyed a host of fellowship and entertainment activities including dancing and festivities at the El Pueblo Espanol, a Spanish village; an evening fiesta featuring local delicacies; and a lively performance by Jerry Lewis at the closing ceremony. *(Courtesy: Rotary Newsbasket)*



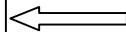
Birthdays & Anniversaries

13		Kho Ping / Caroline Vong
25	Henry Poh	
26	Andre Suharto	
29		Kamil Misuari / Nancy

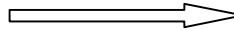
Glimpses of moments with DG Mike Parry & Dawn.....



Fellowship luncheon at AG Andre's residence



At the Children Cancer ward of the Sarawak General Hospital



WHAT'S ON- IN THE ROTARY CALENDAR?

	<i>WHAT</i>	<i>WHERE</i>	<i>WHEN</i>	<i>CONTACT</i>
1	<i>Fellowship outing to Damai</i>	<i>Holiday Inn Damai Beach</i>	<i>28-29 Sept'02</i>	<i>PP. Abel Chieng</i>
2	<i>Charter Installation of R.C. of Petra Jaya officiated by the Right Hon. Chief Minister of Sarawak</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>29 Oct'02</i>	<i>PP. Abel Chieng</i>
3	<i>INTER-ROTA Assembly</i>	<i>Holiday Inn Damai Lagoon</i>	<i>8-10 Nov'02</i>	<i>PP. Frankie Yang</i>
4	Election of office bearers	TBA	Nov-Dec 02	Rtn. Cecil Yong
5	Joint District Conference	Genting Highlands	13-15 Dec.'02	PP. Chieng Lee Ching
6	Submission of District Awards & Presidential Citation	N/A	28 Feb 2003	Rtn. Cecil Yong
7	<i>Pan Borneo</i>	<i>Lahad Datu, Sabah</i>	<i>6-9 Mar'02</i>	<i>PP. Abel Chieng</i>
8	District Assembly	Eden Hotel Johor Bahru	April'03	PP. Chieng Lee Ching
9	2003 Rotary International Convention	Brisbane, Australia	1-4 June 2003	PP. Bobby Chai
10	2004 Rotary International Convention	Osaka, Japan	23-26 May 2004	TBA
11	<i>2005 Rotary International Convention</i>	<i>Chicago, Illinois, USA</i>		<i>TBA</i>

Notes: Events printed in italic bold are new events which have just been included in this issue. TBA= To Be Announced.