



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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APRIL IS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

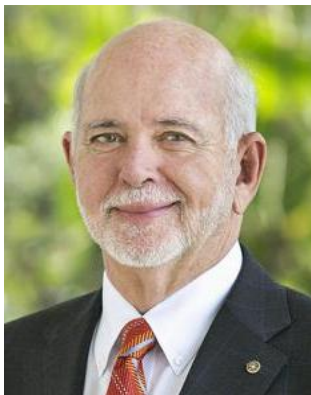
Today (Apr. 2): **Ruth Lee** - Pathfinder Youth Centre Society
Next Week (Apr. 9):

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Apr. 12-14		District 5050 Conference	Tulalip Casino & Resort
Apr. 27	7 pm – 9:30 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall
Jun. 21		Installation of 2019/2020 Executive	

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Every two minutes, somewhere in the world, a woman dies from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. And babies whose mothers die within the first six weeks of their lives are far more likely to die themselves than babies whose mothers survive. As I've traveled around the world as president of Rotary, I've met families for whom these aren't simply tragic statistics. But I've also met people who are devoting

themselves to helping mothers and children — and because of them, I'm hopeful. And because many of those people are Rotarians, I'm also proud. April is Maternal and Child Health Month in Rotary, so it's a perfect time to tell you about some things Rotarians are doing that will make you proud too.

Last fall, I paid a visit to a hospital in the town of Jekabpils, in Latvia. It's a modern hospital, and the doctors and nurses there are caring, dedicated, and skilled. But despite all their hard work, the maternal mortality rate at the hospital had remained stubbornly high, due to a factor that was beyond their control: a lack of vital diagnostic equipment and even basic items like incubators.

And that's where Rotary came in. Twenty-one clubs from around the world joined forces for a global grant that provided what the hospital required. And in September, when I walked into the maternity ward there, I saw state-of-the-art equipment, and I met patients who were getting the care that they needed — and that every mother and child in the world deserves to have.

In Brazil, club members worked with fellow Rotarians in Japan on a global grant project that dramatically increased the capacity of an overstretched neonatal intensive care unit. New incubators, monitors, and other equipment have enabled the local hospital to save many more babies' lives each year.

And in Mongolia, a vocational training team from New Zealand organized instruction in emergency response techniques for doctors and midwives, set up a program that taught midwives modern best practices, and researched and wrote a culturally relevant childbirth education manual. Between 2013, when the team first went to Mongolia, and 2017, the neonatal mortality rate in the country fell from 11.2 to 9.1 per 1,000 births, and the maternal mortality rate has decreased as well.

That's what I mean when I talk about transformational service, and it's what Rotarians do best. Because of our networks, which span the globe; our community presence, which allows us to see what's most needed; and our expertise, which encompasses countless skills and professions, we're able to serve in a manner that has no equal. And we're able to *Be the Inspiration* as we help those who need us most.

Barry Rassin
President 2018-19

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Past President Adrienne Dale opened the meeting, Betty Levens led the anthem and Lynda Lawrence gave the invocation.

The district assembly was attended by Ineke Boekhorst, Deborah Hyslop, and Libby Nelson. We hope to have 5 people next year.

The T-shirt sign up list is going around today. Please let us know ASAP if you want one.

Quote:

April 27th is the wine Festival. Dave reports that ticket sales are going well. We are hoping that each member can sell 4 tickets.

Brenda Jenkins is organizing volunteers.

Happy & Sad:

Lynda Lawrence has been away visiting her dad.

Patrick is happy to be able to bike to work and had a great paddle from Hope down to Kilby on a very much slimmed down Fraser river.

Brenda Jenkins: She had to spend time with her hubby without cell service on their drive up to Lac La Hache.

Ineke: Despite having been to the district assembly 12 times, she found it informative and worthwhile.

Matt Debruyn: very pleased to be back in BC after a cold and rainy winter down south. Desert flowers were awesome.

Eric Mollema: Eric collected all his spare change from between the seats of his old truck as he always does when he buys a new one – and donated it to Rotary.

Mystery Greeter:

Surprise! It was me (**Patrick**).

I think I managed to shake everybody's hand not knowing I was the man of the minute. Silly fellow!

Speaker: **Laurie Anderson** – His trip to China

Hey Kids! It is time for a historical pop quiz from the year 1979!

Was the most important event of 79 that the Shah of Iran was deposed in favour of the Ayatollah Khomeini?

Perhaps you might think that it was the scandal as the venerable YMCA in the UK sued the Village People over their song of that name?

Wong again! It was a young lawyer by the name of Laurie Anderson, who went all the way to China to discover what the man in the street was wearing in Peking that year. Turns out it was the same thing worn by the men in every city in China for the previous 30 years – the famous Mao suit. Worn by Mao, immortalized by Dr. Evil. Laurie modelled it today complete with cap and red star accessories.



He gave a singularly interesting account of his 3 week adventure with great pictures to the middle kingdom only a year after the big noses were allowed back in.

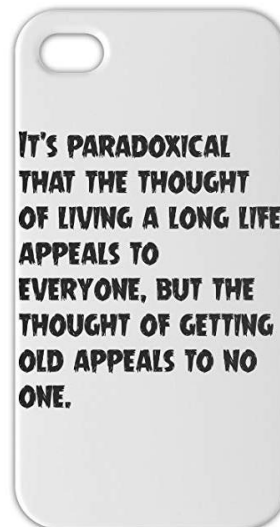
In 1978, Chinese citizens faced many restrictions that we would find onerous, but were quite normal from a historical perspective going back centuries. No internal migration or emigration and personal choices were restricted. In 2012, China provides the most international tourists at about 150 million spending \$250 billion a year.



They visited prisons, law schools and city planning offices and all the now usual tourist sites. Flights were dodgy and the train from Shanghai to Hong Kong was steam powered. This train trip in particular was like a travel back in time as most Chinese people were still subsistence farmers. Rice paddies, night soil, and water buffalo figured prominently.

Travel to China wouldn't be complete without being accosted by a student wanting to practice his English. Laurie and the student compared notes about their lots in life, their prospects, and information about their respective countries. The young man was somewhat guarded in his answers as reprisals for speaking against the state or getting too cozy with a foreigner could be anticipated.

Thanks for a great talk Laurie!



Closing quote:

Submitted by Patrick O'Brien