



Charter Granted August 7, 1961

# SOUTH WIND

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BANGKOK SOUTH



DISTRICT NO. 3350

The Pan Pacific Hotel 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, 952 Rama IV Road, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500, Thailand.  
Luncheon Meetings: Every Friday 12.15 p.m. at the Pan Pacific Hotel Tel : 0 2632-9160 Fax : 0 2632-9161.

**President** Andrew MacPherson • **President Elect/Membership** Mark Butters  
**Immediate Past President** John Quamby • **Vice President** Prasobsook Thawilvejjakul  
**Vice President** Manu Mekdhanasarn • **Secretary** Nick Pisalyaput • **Rotary Foundation** Leo Alexandersen  
**Fund Raising** Mike Ellis • **Communications** Gareth Marshall • **Administration** Michael Doyle • **Service Treasurer** Jon Plate • **Projects** Rudy van der Hoeven • **Sergeant-at-arms** Thanakorn Telan

**Today:** Rotarian Frank Crocker - Clean Drinking Water Schools  
**Next Week's Program: Constitution Day = No Meeting**

No 3379

rotarybangkoksouth.org

03 December 2010

## HE Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty India Ambassador India, pluralist ethos and its imprint

His Excellency, Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty graced our annual Indian Luncheon and mesmerized those lucky enough to hear his talk with a fascinating account of India's colorful history now reflected in its pluralist ethos and the imprint this is making in South East Asia.

Beginning his talk, His Excellency stated quite clearly that pluralism is one of the leading defining characteristic of the Indian nation and the Indian society. *"Pluralism,"* he stated, *"is an acknowledgement of diversity. We can say it is the guiding principle which permits the peaceful coexistence of different interests, convictions and lifestyles."*

His Excellency then skillfully led us through 5,000 years of Indian history, beginning with earlier waves of peoples coming into India, including the Greeks, Kushans, Hun, Arabs, Persian, Turks and Mongols, who over time lost contact with their places of origin and underwent an extensive proc-



cess of indigenization which has brought about India's characteristic diversity and composite cultural traditions. Turning to religion, His Excellency discussed how it is also part of the nation's cultural landscape and identity, not only as the birthplace of some of the world's great religions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism, but its long history as a home to every major religion.

From Judaism, which arrived over 2,000 years ago, to Christianity thought to have arrived with Saint Thomas in 52 AD India has welcomed every religion to reach its shores. This he added included the Zoroastrians or Parsis some 1,000 years ago followed by Islam

700 years ago brought to its shores by Arab traders.

Moving from religion, he continued his illustrations with a brief note about the *"staggering array of ethnicities, tribe and communities in India,"* running into a 40-volume anthology and reflected in the 17 languages found on an Indian banknote. Also touching on politics, he provided more examples of India's incredible plurality.

In drawing his talk to a close, he concluded his remarks with his observations that the landscape of ASEAN is always evolving and is an on-going experiment in pluralism as the many and different peoples of the region continue to consider and successfully meet challenges as natural partners in a common quest.

Although a complex topic, His Excellency, with his obvious love for his topic, eloquent manner and carefully crafted and presented speech, proved to be an intriguing insight into a fascinating nation from a new and fresh perspective.



◀ P Andrew and Rtn Volker trading secrets...



Ask Rtn Ron...



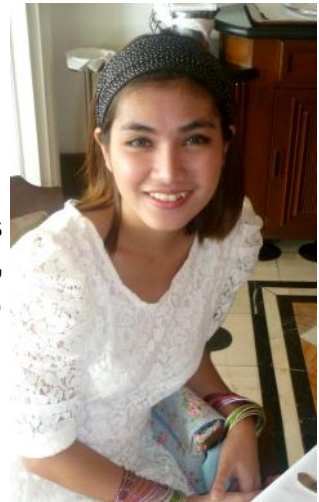
◀ PN Mark Butters, Rtn Junior, P Andrew and Rtn Ravi, this week's Cosmos winner getting ready for some great Indian food



Rtn Geoffry and his Ann



Yet another good day for Banners...



▶ Cosmos Academy, Khun Pooh...





## Rotary Club of Bangkok South Nominations for the Board of Directors 2011/2012



**President  
Mark Butters**



**President Nominee  
Nick Pisalyaput**



**IPP  
Andrew MacPherson**



**Vice President  
Michael Doyle**



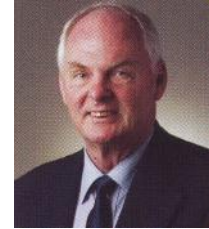
**Vice President  
Prasert Mangkornkarn**



**Secretary  
Dana Caron**



**Treasurer  
Adrian Topham**



**Sergeant at Arms  
Rudy van der Hoeven**



**Director  
David Record**



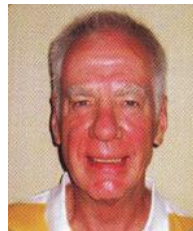
**Director  
Dean Outerson**



**Director  
Jon Plate**



**Director  
Dougie Riach**



**Director  
David Armstrong**



info@PacificOrientationProperty.com  
[www.PacificOrientationProperty.com](http://www.PacificOrientationProperty.com)  
 Tel. +66 2 653 0805

### PLANNING AN EVENT?

CORPORATE MEETINGS, TEAMBUILDING, GALA DINNERS,  
 TRANSPORTATION AND CORPORATE CELEBRATIONS  
 SUCCESSFULLY ARRANGED BY DIETHELM EVENTS.



For information and assistance with your event, please contact  
 David Barrett or Natthakarn Chanhomani at DIETHELM EVENTS.  
 Tel 02 660 7266  
 Email [events@diethelmevents.com](mailto:events@diethelmevents.com)  
 Or visit us at [www.diethelmevents.com](http://www.diethelmevents.com)



## Khun Prakai's Club Almanac

No 3379 3 December 2010

### Happy Birthdays

Manu Mekdhanasarn (11 December)  
Prasob Snongjati (15 December)

### Wedding Anniversary Greetings

Geoffrey Carter (02 December)  
Rakesh Sodhia (02 December)  
David Record (06 December)  
Michael Doyle (07 December)

Attendance for 26 November 2010: 46%  
Present 25, Make-up 13, Absent 41, Leave 4, Exemption 27:  
Total 110

### Visiting on 26 November 2010

#### From Abroad

Shajimon Stephen (Koothattukulam Central, India)

#### Invited guests

Gareth Knight  
Vasuki  
Michael Welter  
Alexandra

#### Introduced by

Tim Cornwall  
PE Mark Butters  
PE Mark Butters  
Ron Livingston

#### Make-up Credit

Club History 25/11/10: PP Maarten Worp, PE Mark Butters,  
Dean Outerson



## Club Calendar

10 December 2010 (Friday)  
Constitution Day

**No Meeting**

17 December 2010 (Friday)  
**Ladies Day/Sister Louise**

**Nick Henley**

**Creating insanely great  
customer experiences**

**22 December 2010 (Wednesday)**

Christmas Dinner  
Dusit Thani Hotel

24 December 2010 (Friday)  
Christmas Eve

**No Meeting**

31 December 2010 (Friday)  
New Years Eve

**No Meeting**

07 January 2011 (Friday Lunch)  
PP John Quarmby  
New Year's Predictions

### 2010-2011 RCBS Delegation Visits

Thursday, 24 February 2011 @ Noon  
RC Bangkok @ Grand Hyatt Erawan  
Thursday, 28 April 2011 @ 19.30  
RC Sathorn @ Holiday Inn Hotel, Silom Road

Tuesday, 24 May 2011 @ Noon  
RC Bangkok @ Grand Hyatt Erawan

### South Wind Editorial Team

Tim Cornwall (Editor), Jim Fowler, David Armstrong, Gary  
White, Jamie Cumiskey, Gareth Marshall  
Suggestions, comments or content to  
[southwind@rotarybangkoksouth.org](mailto:southwind@rotarybangkoksouth.org)

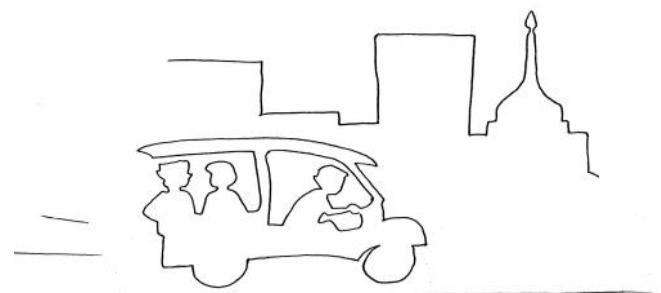
### Biggest lies ever told...

I'll respect you in the morning.  
You get this one, I'll pay next time.  
My wife doesn't understand me.  
Trust me, I'll take care of everything.  
Drinking? Why, no, Officer.  
It's not the money, it's the principle...

I am getting a divorce.  
I never inhaled.  
I'll call you later.  
It's only a cold sore.  
Of course I love you.  
I never watch television except for PBS.  
...but we can still be good friends.

### South Mouth

She means nothing to me.  
I gave at the office.  
Don't worry, he's never bitten anyone.  
Upgrade by the end of the year.  
I've never done anything like this before.  
Now, I'm going to tell you the truth.  
It's supposed to make that noise.



After Rotary... scoot over to Cosmos  
Academy for an educational afternoon...