



# LET'S BLOG

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## 給扶輪社捐款抑或三塊朱古力和一條香口膠 Rotary Versus Three Chocolate Bars and One Pack of Gum

到海外旅遊時，我通常會帶着幾十個外國硬幣回家，那些是相當重的物件，故我有一大瓶從世界各個角落所蒐集回來的硬幣，我通常喜歡到從未到過的地方旅行，很少會重回舊地，故此家裡的外國硬幣愈集愈多。

近年來，航空公司和機場開始有放置捐款信封或箱子，要求人們捐贈他們多餘的硬幣給信賴的慈善機構，如聯合國兒童基金會、扶輪社或奧比斯，但是，在先前的旅行期間，我極之不情願奉獻我的硬幣，反而我會選擇在機場花掉這些硬幣購買糖果或朱古力吃，雖然我填飽口腹，但是始終對自己的所作有點兒內疚。

When I traveled abroad, I usually came home with a dozen or so foreign coins. Those were pretty heavy stuff. And now I have a large jar full of coins from various corners of the world. Since I usually like to travel to new places and rarely visit places I already visited, I ended up having more and more foreign coins at my home.

In recent years, airlines and airports started to have collection envelopes or boxes asking people to donate their spare coins to a creditable charity such as UNICEF, Rotary or Orbis. However, I had been quite reluctant to give my coins away during the previous trips. Instead, I opted to spend the coins on candies or chocolate bars at the airport. Although I felt good about my stomach, I was just a little bit guilty about what I had done.





有一次當我在布里斯班機場有個多小時等候轉機期間，和平常一樣，我身上有大量在昆士蘭整個星期旅行中剩餘的硬幣。我在機場商店隨處逛，並發現我有足夠的錢購買三塊朱古力和一條香口膠。稍後我看到一張扶輪社捐款箱的海報，上面有一對貧窮孩子的眼睛注視着我，那時我大堆的硬幣就往捐款箱投進去了。

我最初對捐款給扶輪社抑或買朱古力和香口膠之間未能下定決心。朱古力可能味道很好，但我已嚙了許多，而且我也需要減少幾磅肉。當我想到在世界上可能會有需要這幾個硬幣用來買米糧，以供他或她整個家庭多活一天之需時，我就在決定捐款給扶輪社抑或買朱古力和香口膠的抉擇上，因多次進進出出商店而浪費了整個等候轉機的時間。

當宣佈登機入關的時間到了，我考慮到那瓶在我客廳的硬幣是完全無用的時候，我決定從口袋中倒空所有硬幣，投進了扶輪社的捐款箱中，之後帶著比吃了三塊朱古力和一條香口膠更快樂的心情上機去。

I got over an hour to kill waiting for transfer at the Brisbane airport. As usual, I was stuck with a handful of Australian coins left over from my week long stay in Queensland. I browsed around the airport stores and discovered that I had enough coins to buy 3 chocolate bars and 1 pack of gum. Then I saw the poster hanging over the collection box of Rotary, with the eyes of a needy child gazing at me; and the huge pile of coins that's already in the collection.

I couldn't make up my mind between Rotary and 3 chocolate bars and 1 pack of gum. The chocolate bar probably taste pretty good, but I already had a lot of those and I also needed to lose a few pounds. There are people out there who need the coins for a bag of rice so his or her entire family could survive for another day. So I ended up spending the entire waiting period walking in and out of the store, trying to choose between Rotary and chocolate bars.

When the announcement for boarding finally came, I thought about the jar full of coins sitting there in my living room, totally useless. I pulled all the coins from my pocket and emptied them into the Rotary collection box, and walked up to my airplane feeling much better than eating 3 chocolate bars and 1 pack of gum.

