





December 24, 2021 | Volume 58 Issue No. 12

Founded on June 6, 1930 | Proud of our Heritage, Committed to our Future Lifetime Achievement Award Winner for 'Best Bulletin in District 3310'



President Louis & Board of Directors wish all Members Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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What's ahead? Don't miss the forthcoming events and Birthday / Anniversary celebrants and more...

In Focus

Accomplishments & Achievements of Honorary Member (HM) Past President (PP) Bhagwan Melwani



HM PP Bhagwan Melwani

In celebration of HM PP Bhagwan Melwani's 98th Birthday (13th December), the Club would like to highlight some of the accomplishments and achievements which took place during his term as President during Rotary Year (RY) 1975/1976.

Following are extracts taken from the Club's 60th Anniversary Book:

The Club's Major Project for that year was to help the Samaritans of Singapore renovate their new premises at Block 110, New Bridge Road. A sum of \$32,266 was raised and donated to them. The Samaritans of Singapore moved to their new premises on 15th February 1976.

The Joint Presidents' Meeting was initiated for the first time, the presidents and secretaries of all the Rotary Clubs in Singapore met once a month. The purpose of such a meeting was to share information and to liaise on Rotary activities in Singapore.

Community Service

Blood Donations – Two blood donation campaigns were organised exclusively for Club members.

Boat Cruise – A 3-hour boat cruise was organised for 100 underprivileged boys and girls.

Singer Sewing Machine Scholarships – 10 scholarships were given to help poor girls attend a full-time course.

Book Loan Scheme – was instituted with 9 schools taking part.

Visits to Homes – 3 homes (Little Sisters of the Poor, St John's and Yew Tee Home for the Aged) were visited and "ang pows" and food were distributed.

Vocational Service

Talks on Classification – Several stimulating talks and discussions were held to encourage and foster high ethical standards in businesses and professions.

Four-Way Test – Half a million book markers with the Four-Way Test on one side and a metric conversion table on the reverse were distributed to schools.

Seminar on "The Aim and Objectives of Rotary"- A combined seminar was organised. It was well attended, with active participation from Interactors and Rotaractors.

Courtesy Awards on "Dignifying the Human Being"- To foster tis, courtesy awards consisting of a certificate of commendation, a cheque of \$100 and a personal gift were presented to:

- A bus conductor who showed exemplary conduct in his work;
- A policewoman found sweeping the road of broken bottles; and
- A hospital amah who had a long record of distinguished service.

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In Focus

Accomplishments & Achievements of Honorary Member (HM) Past President (PP) Bhagwan Melwani... contd.

International Service

Rotary Foundation Scholarship – Miss Sylvia Tan, sponsored by our Club, was the successful applicant.

"Rotary in Singapore"- A pamphlet had been prepared and was in its final stages before production.

ASEAN Ideals – A subcommittee was formed to formulate ways in which ASEAN ideals could be disseminated to the people of the region and Singapore in particular.

Youth Service Committee

Establishment – This committee was formed following a directive of the Board of Directors 1975/76, in view of the increasing importance attached to youth. The late PP Leow Jwee Meng was requested to head this committee.

Rotary Ann – Lady Advisor to Interact Club – Rotary Ann Susanah Prinz became the first lady advisor to an all-girl Interact club in CHIJ.

Youth Week – Youth Week saw the presence of four young Singapore gold medal winners at the last SEAP Games as our guests at the Club's luncheon Meeting.

Elocution Contest – a successful Elocution Contest was held in March.

Painting Competition – The Leslie Rayner Children's Painting Competition was held at the Toa Payoh Garden with some 250 participants.

District 330 Ninth Interact Conference was held at The Singapore Conference Hall from 2nd – 4th April 1976 and was hosted by all the Interact Clubs in Singapore. The organising Chairman was Interactor Aziz Bin Yusof of the Sang Nila Utama Secondary School. He was also the District 330 Interact representative. The guest-of-honour was Mr Chai Chong Yii, Senior Minister of State for Education.



Remembering the celebration of HM PP Bhagwan's 95th birthday – photo courtesy of PP Perlita Tiro

23rd Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2021-2022 held on 8.12.2021

OPENING REMARKS

Honorary Secretary Jessica Lim called the meeting to order and invited President Louis Lim to start the proceedings.

President Louis welcomed members, prospective members and visiting Rotarian, PP Charlie Panday from Rotary Club of Reservoir Hills in South Africa who was invited to address the Club. PP Charlie was looking forward to meeting members face to face before he leaves Singapore on 12 January 2022.

President Louis then called on members to join him in a toast to Rotary International.



President Louis Lim

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS!

President Louis advised that PP Dr Yap Lip Kee had kindly put himself forward to serve the District as District Governor for Rotary Year (RY) 2024/2025. He added that the Club has not had a District Governor since Honorary Member (HM) PDG Dr Ivor Thevathasan (in RY 2004/2005). President Louis advised that the official result would be known shortly. He called upon PP Lip Kee who advised that the ballot results were challenged, however the results would be officially announced by DG Dolly Yeap. PP Lip Kee warmly thanked members for the support and faith in him.

President Louis called on members to join him in a round of applause for PP Lip Kee.



PP Dr Yap Lip Kee

CLUB'S MAJOR PROJECT

President Louis reminded members of the Club's Major Project for this Rotary year (RY 2021-2022), the Share-a-Pot@Home programme which would impact many lives. He called on members' support and contribute to the Major Project which would benefit the old and frail.

CLUB'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

President Louis reminded members that the Club's Annual General Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 15th December which would be for members only. He highlighted the key issues which would be presented at the AGM namely:

- Formal adoption of President Nominee Rtn Dr Chan Siew Luen (President for RY 2023/2024)
- Introduction of Board of Directors for RY 2022/2023
- Election of Board of Directors for RY 2022/2023
- Adoption of Financial Statements for RY 2020/2021

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23rd Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2021-2022 held on 8.12.2021

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH GUEST SPEAKER: DR DALE BARKER TOPIC: HOW CAN CLIMATE SCIENCE HELP SINGAPORE PREPARE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE?

President Louis called upon moderator Rtn Suhaimi Zainul-Abidin of the Club's 9th Fireside Chat to introduce the Guest Speaker, Dr Dale Barker.

As the Director of Center for Climate Research Singapore (CCRS), Dr Dale Barker provides strategic direction, oversight of the centre's weather/climate science activities, and engages with senior stakeholders in the national/international weather/climate community.

Dr Barker has extensive experience in data assimilation research, use of observations in Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP), and regional climate reanalysis. He led the WRF data assimilation programme at the US National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado (1999-2009). Between 2010 and 2018 he led the scientific development of the first EU-funded European



Guest Speaker, Dr Dale Barker

regional reanalysis. In his previous role before joining CCRS, Dr Barker was the Associate Director for Weather Science at the Met Office, leading 200 staff working in meteorological R&D and the research-to-operational transition of global/local NWP, ocean/wave forecasting, air quality, and atmospheric dispersion systems.

Dr Barker is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society (FRAS) and Royal Meteorological Society (FRMetS). He is a visiting professor at Reading University UK, an NCAR affiliate scientist, previous member of WMO/WWRP's mesoscale weather forecasting WG, and chairs the scientific advisory committee for the new KIAPS Korean NWP system.

Prior to his presentation, Dr Barker gave some information on the CCRS and its objectives. In his talk, Dr Barker noted that climate change has been described as an existential crisis for Singapore. He added that there were already clear signs the climate is changing rapidly with increasing reports of extreme/intense weather, retreating glaciers, sea-level rise, etc being a regular feature of the news. Recent major reports e.g. the Aug 2021 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) WG1 report and meetings (e.g. COP36 in Glasgow last month) also keep climate change in the minds of governments and citizens alike.

Dr Barker noted that climate science has come a long way since the 1800s when it was first predicted that changes in the composition of the atmosphere might lead to warming. He advised that today's climate scientists make use of a vast range of observations and expensive climate models to make detailed predictions about the future climate. However, Dr Barker noted that perhaps the biggest uncertainty was not in the climate science itself, but in how humans will respond to the 'climate emergency'. Dr Barker talk will give a brief overview of how climate scientists make their predictions, and results from latest projections to inform a discussion about what the implications are for Singapore, both now and in the future.

The fireside chat session saw a number of members posing questions to Dr Barker who gave clear and succinct replies. To close the session moderator Rtn Suhaimi, on behalf of the Club, thanked Dr Barker for his sobering presentation, and called on members to give a resounding round of applause.

24th Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2021-2022 held on 15.12.2021

OPENING REMARKS

Honorary Secretary Jessica Lim who gave a welcome to the Club's 24th meeting and called on Sergeant-at-Arms Rtn Dr Claus Dusemund to remind members of the meeting's house-keeping rules, before inviting President Louis to chair the meeting.

TOAST

To raise a toast to the Rotary Club of Jurong Town and to Rotary International, President Louis called on Director of Public Image Rtn Ranga Somanathan.



Rtn Ranga Somanathan

CLUB'S MAJOR PROJECT

President Louis called on members to support the Club's Major Project for this Rotary year (RY 2021-2022), the Share-a-Pot@Home programme. He advised that the target for the project was to raise \$108,000 however less that 50% of this amount was raised. He called on members to help raise the funds for this Major Project.

GUEST SPEAKER: ROTARIAN SURESH KEERTHI TOPIC: ROTARY MEMBERSHIP – RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

To introduce the Speaker none other than our member Rtn Suresh Keerthi, President Louis called on a relatively new member, Rtn Imane Jamal Eddine. Rtn Imane noted that Rtn Suresh did not require an introduction as his illustrious career and purpose were inspirational. In fact, Rtn Imane added that she was inspired by Rtn Suresh to join the Club with his guidance, leadership and mentorship.

Rtn Imane advised that Rotary has been embedded in Rtn Suresh's DNA, since both his parents were Rotary Presidents in India. He was also Charter President, of a Rotaract Club at an Engineering College in the late 60s. In February 1999, he joined the Club, proposed by late Rtn K.S. Mehta. His interest in Rotary was to use the



Rtn Suresh Keerthi

global platform to serve the community of underprivileged and less fortunate. Rtn Suresh started the Computer Literacy Program for Adults (CLPA) in Community Centres and had support of local MPs and 200 Interactors to train 1500 adults to use computers n change their lives. Project adopted later by IDA Govt. In 2002 under VSC, he ran the Rotary Youth Social Entrepreneurial Challenge (RYSEC) a workshop to teach social impact, sustainability and social enterprise to students. He has mentored and motivated leader, Jane Lee team of Singapore Women Everest Team (SWET). They submitted Mt Everest on May 20, 2009, and in 2011, again mentored Dr Rasappan to raise funds and summited Mt Everest.

Rtn Suresh was a member of Entrepreneur of the Year award committee (EYA) since 2000 and Chairman for 4 years, introduced ethics criteria to this award. In ISC, Rtn Suresh was involved with India projects and external Fund collection. He was the Rotary advisor for several schools under YSC.

In the year of joining, received the "Rotary President Special Award" in 2001. (unique distinction for a new Rotarian). Subsequently, in 2002, received the prestigious "Rotarian of the Year Award" for CLPA project.

24th Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2021-2022 held on 15.12.2021

GUEST SPEAKER: ROTARIAN SURESH KEERTHI
TOPIC: ROTARY MEMBERSHIP – RECRUITMENT & RETENTION (continued)

Rtn Suresh was nominated for "President Nathan Volunteer of the year award". In 2014 was awarded "District Outstanding Rotarian" and "Leadership for Vocational Service Award and District award for PR & Branding for the club, as Vice President (VP) for PP Perlita Tiro. Was Chairman of RCS Student Loan Fund", and collected old debt of S\$70,000. He was for 2 years, the President of District Alumni Network (DANG) for Singapore. For recognition of his Rotaract contribution to Engineering college of leading a sustainable project; was presented by President of India, the "Distinguished Alumni Award for Social service to society" in 2014. In Rotary year 2020-21 was also VP to IPP Dinesh Sharma and Director of The Rotary Foundation and Membership. He received in June 2021, the District Governor's special award as District Champion for Club membership. He is also a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) Major Donor level 2.

Rtn Suresh advised that when he was asked to take on the appointment of Membership Chair by IPP Dinesh, he started to look at the data and past analytics and gave an age analysis of membership. He noted the stagnancy/decline in membership and gave some reasons for this. He highlighted the way forward for the renewal and rejuvenation of the Club was to seek younger members and to change the perception of Rotary as well as create visibility at community level. Rtn Suresh took the opportunity to thank Rtn Sonali Sinha for her creation of a Club booklet which was very helpful with membership recruitment.

Rtn Suresh spoke of the ways in which the Club provided visibility as well as the reasons for candidates to choose the Club. He further explained the Club's recruitment process ensuring that the candidates were aware of the commitments with frank and open discussions. He gave updates of the Club's members data on average ages and diversity as well as profiles of the recruited members. He advised the engagement and participation plans leading to retention of members.

To conclude his presentation, Rtn Suresh highlighted Rotary International's (RI) Action Plan and added that everyone was responsible to grow membership, but they must know about R I and the Club. Following, Rtn Suresh's talk, the floor was opened for comments and queries. (A copy of Rtn Suresh's presentation is available from the Secretariat.)

To extend the Club's vote of thanks, President Louis called upon PP Perlita Tiro, who noted that there were many buzzwords nowadays, such as sustainability, diversity, growth and training which applied to Rtn Suresh. She added that he had moved the Club to a different level and his work was unrivalled and passionate as seen from his fantastic presentation. PP Perlita thanked Rtn Suresh for his efforts, adding that he put the past presidents in hard work to speed up the evaluation and Rotary information so that candidates could be inducted as early as possible.

PP Perlita further added that due to his innovative steps, Rtn Suresh received an award for having the most growth in the region and in the District. She called on members to extend a big thank you to Rtn Suresh.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) for Rotary Year 2021-202 held on 15.12.21

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) PROCEEDINGS

President Louis Lim called the AGM to order with a quorum present at 7.55pm, after guests and visiting Rotarians had left the meeting held earlier.

Formal adoption of President Nominee Rtn Dr Chan Siew Luen (President for RY 2023/2024):

There were no nominations received and PN Dr Chan Siew Luen was formally adopted as President for Rotary year 2023/2024.

Introduction of Board of Directors for RY 2022/2023

President Louis invited PE James Lee who introduced his Board of Directors for Rotary year 2022/2023 as follows:

Vice President Rtn Thomas Wolf

Honorary Secretary Rtn Imane Jamal

Honorary Treasurer Ankit Khandelwal

Community Service Committee (CSC) Director Rtn Sonali Sinha

Vocational Service Committee (VSC) Director Rtn Jacqueline Koh

International Service Committee (ISC) Rtn Varun Gulati

Youth Service Committee (YSC) Director Rtn Mukundan A P

Membership Engagement Director Rtn Vineet Iyengar

Membership Events Director Rtn Ong Ting Yong

Membership Recruitment Director Rtn Francesco De Liva

Public Image Director Rtn Ranganathan Somanathan

The Rotary Foundation Director Rtn Jessica Lim Phin

Director Rtn Andrew Roberto Mankiewicz

Immediate Past President Louis Lim

President Elect Dr Chan Siew Luen

Election of Board of Directors for RY 2022/2023

President Louis formally called for the election of the Board of Directors for RY 2022/2023 as introduced and declared them as elected with no objections.

Adoption of Financial Statements for RY 2020/2021

President Louis called upon IPP Dinesh Sharma who gave a brief presentation prior to the adoption of the financial statements for RY 2020/2021. He spoke of the main focus of the Club's administration and finance and its current status. He further shared the status of the Club's Major Project 2020/21 and the recommendations proposed for consideration by the Board of Directors 2021/22.

IPP Dinesh called upon Honorary Treasurer RY 2020/21 Rtn Manish Tibrewal who presented the audited accounts which were circulated to members earlier. There were no queries on the statements which were then formally adopted as presented, proposed by PP Paliath Mohandas, and seconded by President Louis.

President Louis thanked members for their participation and closed the AGM at 8.30pm.

Mark Your Diary

Birthday Celebrants

RC sends best wishes to Birthday celebrants:

Claudia Huegel Saeed Khan

Raj Rajkumar

Tina Tang

Xerxes Medora

Suresh Keerthi

HM PP Alfred Wong

Debasree Chakrabarti

Roland Jossi

Dr Don Chen

Anniversary

RC sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants:

Dr Tim & Jutta Philippi
Tan Ching Khoon & Bee Lian
Ramu & Jeeveetha Arivuvel
Ingo & Stefanie Kleinschmidt
Matei & Sejin Iurascu
President Louis & Amabel Lim
Gerard & Margit Vinluan
Sylvia Chung & Bronnie Tse
Dr Don & Yve Chen

Committee Meetings

All Service Committee Meetings will be held on Thursdays from 7.00 to 8.00pm

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Thursday, 6 January 2022

VOCATIONAL SERVICE:

Thursday, 13 January 2022

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE: Thursday, 20 January 2022

YOUTH SERVICE:

Thursday, 27 January 2022

This Meeting

5 January 2022 From 7.00 to 8.30pm

Speaker: Mr Alper Almelek

Topic: Innovative Leadership: Developing an Environment of Collective Creativity

BOOK OF HUMOUR





A full set of 3 editions – Book of Humour, Best of Humour & Bank of Humour, come in a beautifully designed box housing this set for only \$25.00

Please order a few sets of books for the Gift of Life Project, and place your orders with: ISC Chair Rtn Varun Gulati varun.rotary@gmail.com

Next Meeting

12 January 2022 From 7.00 to 8.30pm

Speaker: Mr Hugh Lim, Executive Director, Centre for Liveable Cities, Ministry of National Development

Topic: Making Singapore Liveable in the era of Climate Change

Coming Rotary Events

<u>December</u>

Disease Prevention & Treatment Month

January

Vocational Service Month

<u>February</u>

Peace & Conflict Prevention / Resolution Month

March

Water & Sanitation Month

April

Maternal & Child Health Month

May

Youth Serviced Month

<u>June</u>

Rotary Fellowships Month

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendship?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



The Guide to Daily Living

Before doing the things we want to do, consider first, the Precepts of the guide. Ask ourselves these 4 questions and act upon them:

First: Have I spent some time in self-examination?

Second: Have I spent quality time with my family?

Third: Have I given my best to my work?

Fourth: Have I given some time to someone near and far?

The Guide, in fact, encompasses the 4 parts of the Object of Rotary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021/2022

President Louis Lim

Immediate Past President Dinesh Sharma President Elect James Lee

Vice President Dr Chan Siew Luen

Vice President Ronald Wong Hon. Secretary (Administration) Jessica Lim

Hon. Treasurer (Finance) Narasimhan Narayanan

Directors

Chair, Community Service Peter Brock Sonali Sinha Chair, Vocational Service Chair, International Service Varun Gulati Chair, New Generations Service Mukundan A P

Chair, Public Image & PR Ranganathan Somanathan

Chair, Membership Subhash Pritmani Chair, The Rotary Foundation Chong Zhi Cheng

Chair, Fellowship Francesco De Liva

Chair, Digital Technology Colin Miles Chair, Environment & Sustainability Louisa Lee



