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2024 Rotary International Convention

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Convention Host
Hospitality Night

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24.1.24

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

In Focus

Rotary International Convention Host Hospitality Night

By: Rtn Ong Ting Yong, Public Image Director



Rtn Ong Ting Yong

There has been some text messages and queries circulated on the District Chat Group regarding the Rotary International (RI) Convention Host Hospitality Night Event scheduled for 27 May 2024.

As requested by District Governor Nominee (DGN) Dr Shahul Hameed, following are Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about Host Hospitality Night (HHN) for Clubs, for your information.

What is Host Hospitality Night (HHN)?

Host Hospitality Night is an exclusive ticketed event organized by the Host Organizing Committee (HOC) of the Rotary International Convention for registered delegates. It's an opportunity for delegates to experience the local hospitality of the host city. It is a ticketed event at USD\$95 per person, with more information available on the HOC website.

When is the HHN?

HHN will take place from 6pm on Monday, May 27, 2024 during RI Convention week.

Who is the Organizer of the HHN?

HHN is organized by the HHN subcommittee of the RI Host Organizing Committee, led by DGN Dr Shahul Hameed.

How many delegates are expected to attend HHN?

Based on past conventions, we anticipate approximately 4,500 overseas delegates to sign up for HHN. Mostly because the expected take up rate for past HHNs is about 15% of total number of delegates. If we are expecting 30,000 delegates, that will be about 4,500 sign-ups for HHN. It is mostly the logistics challenge that the HOC agreed on the Clubs Hosting Model way back in June 2023.

However, some Rotarians have expressed interest to host small groups in their homes.

HHN Committee may consider this nearer the date and after taking into account the paid-up registration numbers.

How do Overseas Delegates register and pay for this event?

Overseas Delegates can register and make payments through the RI Convention HOC website/portal <https://rotarysingapore2024.org/events/>

As HHN is a pre-paid ticketed event, there will be no on-site registration or payment options available.

How will HHN at RI Convention Singapore be different?

Unlike traditional HHN events hosted in homes or smaller venues, the Singapore Convention will feature 8-12 large venues across Singapore, such as hotel ballrooms, restaurants, and special events venues, to accommodate the expected 3000 Overseas Delegates and 750 Local Rotarians/Guests.

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In Focus

Rotary International Convention Host Hospitality Night... *contd.*

What is the role of Rotary Clubs in Singapore for HHN?

The Host Organizing Committee envisions Singapore Rotary Clubs as the primary hosts for each of the 8-12 HHN venues. These clubs are encouraged to invite other Rotary Clubs in Singapore, as well as those from District 3310, to participate as co-hosts or joint hosts.

How are the Primary Host Clubs selected?

While all Rotary Clubs in Singapore are encouraged to be involved, larger clubs will initially be approached as Primary Host Clubs. These clubs can then reach out to other local clubs and those from District 3310 to join as co-hosts or joint hosts.

At this point, only the 6 largest Clubs in Singapore, based on Membership numbers on 1 July 2023, have been officially approached to organise an event each as Primary Host Club. These are:

RC Singapore
RC Singapore West
RC Sentosa
RC Marina City
RC Queenstown
RC Raffles City

More Clubs will be approached once we have a better idea on the registration numbers.

Registrations on the online portal opened about 1 month ago.

As of today, we have about 200 paid registrations for this event.

How many guests can there be at each Venue? How are the Venues chosen?

The capacity of each venue will vary, but they are expected to host between 250-400 guests in total, including Overseas Delegates and Local Rotarians/Guests. The HHN subcommittee, with support from the Singapore Tourism Board, has a short-listed list of venues for consideration, and venue bookings and deposit payments will be coordinated by the HHN subcommittee.

How are the Overseas Delegates assigned to each Primary Host Club (and to each Venue)?

The HHN subcommittee will handle the assignment of Overseas Delegates to Primary Host Clubs and venues. Clubs can indicate preferences for hosting specific delegates if they have Sister Clubs or Rotary Friends among them. However, all Overseas Delegates must register and pay USD\$95 for HHN tickets in advance.

Please encourage Sister and Partner Clubs Rotarians to sign up for this event through this website. Please indicate "RC Singapore" as their "Affiliated Rotary Club" in Singapore. The HHN Committee will assign them to RC Singapore's Event. It will be on a first come first served basis. We already have a number of registrants from China, Japan, Taiwan, Nigeria, India and Philippines indicating RC Singapore as the affiliated Rotary Club.

<https://rotarysingapore2024.org/events/>

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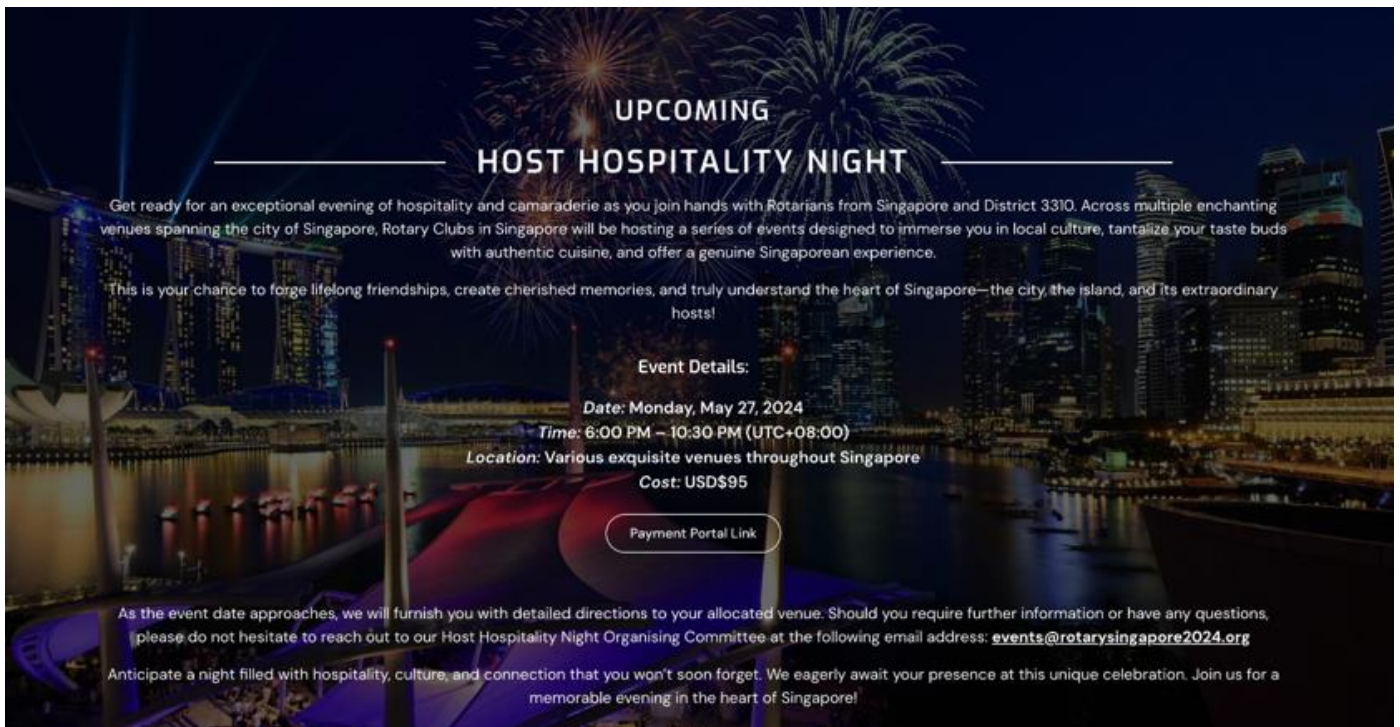
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In Focus

Rotary International Convention Host Hospitality Night... contd.



**UPCOMING
HOST HOSPITALITY NIGHT**

Get ready for an exceptional evening of hospitality and camaraderie as you join hands with Rotarians from Singapore and District 3310. Across multiple enchanting venues spanning the city of Singapore, Rotary Clubs in Singapore will be hosting a series of events designed to immerse you in local culture, tantalize your taste buds with authentic cuisine, and offer a genuine Singaporean experience.

This is your chance to forge lifelong friendships, create cherished memories, and truly understand the heart of Singapore—the city, the island, and its extraordinary hosts!

Event Details:

Date: Monday, May 27, 2024
Time: 6:00 PM – 10:30 PM (UTC+08:00)
Location: Various exquisite venues throughout Singapore
Cost: USD\$95

[Payment Portal Link](#)

As the event date approaches, we will furnish you with detailed directions to your allocated venue. Should you require further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Host Hospitality Night Organising Committee at the following email address: events@rotarysingapore2024.org

Anticipate a night filled with hospitality, culture, and connection that you won't soon forget. We eagerly await your presence at this unique celebration. Join us for a memorable evening in the heart of Singapore!

Photo Album - Food From The Heart event held on 20.1.24...



All smiles from Rtn Varun Gulati & family



Thumbs up from Rtn Vinit Sarangdhar & recipient



Rtn Vineet Iyengar with a friendly feline



Fellowship after the food distribution

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Meeting Report

26th Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023-20234 held on 24.1.2024.

Opening Remarks & Welcome

Sergeant-at-Arms Rtn Dr Don Chen called the meeting to order and invited President Dr Chan Siew Luen to commence the meeting. President Siew Luen extended a special welcome to District Governor Elect Dr Yap Lip Kee and called on Rtn Hayden Hughes who welcomed the following Guests and Visiting Rotarians:

Guests:

Family Members of Rotarians:

First Lady Patricia Wang, Dr Rachael Yap, Mrs Irene Henedige & Dr Claus Rettig

Speakers - Ms Christine Tan, Ms Rachna Sampayo and Ms Geraldine Tay

Mr Andrew Ng

Mr Zhu Shi En

Major Francis Ng, Mr Thangaraj Muthu, Mr Shaun Roache, Mr Caesar Walasa &

Mr Manish Agarwal

Visiting Rotarians:

PP Svein Dolven – RC Oslo

Rtn Peter Clements – RC Melbourne

Rtn Tanvi Sawant – RC Panaji Riviera (Goa)

Rtn Fan Tan Smith – RC Terra Linda (San Francisco Bay Area)



Rtn Hayden Hughes

Toast

Toastmaster Rtn Atul Merchant invited PP Svein Dolven to address the Club. PP Svein joined the Oslo Club in 1981 and served as President in 2008/09. The club started 19 other Rotary clubs in Norway as well as a club in Stockholm. PP Svein added that the club has several projects to supply energy to Ukraine.

Rtn Atul added that Singapore with a population close to 6 million has about 25 Rotary Clubs, however Oslo has a population of about 600,000 people but with 40 Rotary Clubs. Another interesting fact which Rtn Atul shared was that our Club will be celebrating its centennial in a couple of years, while the Oslo Club celebrated its centennial last year, and he was proud to raise a toast to the Rotary Club of Oslo coupled with the toast to Rotary International.



Rtn Atul Merchant

Exchange of Banners



President Siew Luen presented the Club's banners to Rtn Fan Tan Smith (left) & Rtn Tanvi Sawant

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Meeting Report

26th Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023-20234 held on 24.1.2024.

President's Announcements

- Who's Who Directory 2023-2024 – Members were requested to inform the Secretariat at rtyinfo@rotary.org.sg of any changes or updates to their particulars and to provide updated (preferably coloured) photographs, by 6 February 2024.
- Community & Youth Service Committees (CSC/YSC) will hold a joint meeting on 25.1.24 at 6.45pm at the premises of =Dreams, a potential CSC/VSC project partner.
- Club's Chinese New Year celebrations on Wednesday, 7 February from 7.00pm onwards at the Churchill Room, Tanglin Club. Highlights include a talk by Fengshui Master, Mr Samuel Lim on "The Chinese Zodiac Fengshui for 2024", Lion Dance and Face Changing performances, Calligraphy, tossing of Yu Sheng and Moutai wine, sourced by PP Mark Wang. Members are requested to register early.
- World Understanding & Peace Day Dinner video produced by Rtn Sarah-Tabea Sammel was shown, and members were reminded to register for this event to be held on 23 February at Goodwood Park Hotel.
- Swimmarathon – On 29 March (Good Friday) from 9.00am to 6.00pm at Sports Lifestyle Centre, 3500A Bukit Merah Central, S159837. This year's event will be teamed together with Singapore Aquatics, with a special appearance from Singapore Olympian Joseph Schooling and classes for disadvantaged children will also be conducted. Major Project Chair, Rtn Pauline Teo will announce the different modes for members to contribute towards this fund-raising event.

Guest Speaker Series

Speaker: Ms Christine Tan, 2023 Artisan Award Winner

Topic: "Toki & Kintsugi – Healing & restoring lives through pottery"

President Siew Luen called on Rtn Hulya Ucer who introduced the Speaker, Ms Christine Tan, the joint Winner of the Artisan of the Year Award in 2023. Ms Tan is the Founder of Awful Grace, a charity which works with prisoners and their families, and at-risk youths, in addition to other disenfranchised communities. She is a clinical counsellor and traumatologist.



Speaker, Ms Christine Tan



Pres. Siew Luen presents the Artisan Award Trophy to Ms Christine Tan

She spoke of the programme which was introduced to the Singapore prisons in 2017 and was ongoing, as well as in homes for youths at risk. She pointed out the pottery pieces presented were from the inmates with their permission. She noted that the Award was not just her achievements but was an Award for those in prison as well.

Ms Tan invited her special guest, Mr Andrew Ng who underwent the programme while he was in prison. Mr Ng shared his incarceration experience and the Toki formation and Kintsugi transformation techniques of the programme. He spoke of his personal journey and how Ms Tan and her team assisted him and other prisoners through rehabilitation and rebuilding their lives, and how each pottery piece represented a story. He added that Awful Grace believed in true care not only in prison, but continues with inmates

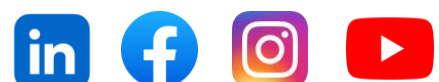
when they leave prison, which was the most challenging part of their reintegration. To conclude, Ms Tan gave a brief overview of the Awful Grace organisation and thanked the Club for the Award which, she added, was an affirmation of their efforts.

On behalf of the Club, Rtn Jacqueline Koh extended the vote of thanks to both Ms Tan and Mr Ng.

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Meeting Report

26th Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023-20234 held on 24.1.2024.

Speakers: Ms Rachna Sampayo & Ms Geraldine Tay
(experienced HR Practitioners)

Topic: “Countering Workplace Discrimination”

President Siew Luen reminded that at last week’s meeting, members participated in a Privilege Walk and there was a cliff hanger and so at this meeting, both Ms Rachna Sampayo and Ms Geraldine Tay will present the concluding piece on that Privilege Walk.

As some members were not present at the last meeting, President Siew Luen called on Rtn Gabriele Rettig to reintroduce the Speakers, Ms Rachna Sampayo and Ms Geraldine Tay.

Ms Rachna gave a summary and reflection of last week’s Privilege Walk, adding that some questions were confronting for some members, and there were different perspectives. She added the good news was that the session created good conversations and a buzz, and that was the intention; to be aware of unconscious bias and willing to talk about it and to do something about it. Ms Rachna stated that the Privilege Walk was designed to raise awareness of biases and various forms of privilege and to appreciate the diversity of individual backgrounds. She added the purpose of that exercise was to have the opportunity to identify and reflect on both obstacles and benefits experienced in our lives; with the outcome to learn to recognize how power and privilege could affect our lives, even when we are not aware of it happening. She defined Unconscious Bias as when we make judgments or decisions on the basis of our prior experience, our own personal deep-seated thought patterns, assumptions or interpretations, and we are not aware that we are doing it. Ms Rachna shared some instances of unconscious bias in her life, and gave further unconscious bias examples.

Following Ms Rachna and Ms Geraldine’s talk, members participated in a 10-minute activity at their tables, in identifying and sharing some common biases which they have seen occurring, as well as exploring strategies to address these biases. Ms Rachna noted the importance of bringing the unconscious bias to the front and to address it because of the impact in our lives, particularly if you have a position of power to be aware of these biases. Next steps, which she indicated was to identify biases, use strategies to counter bias and call out unconscious bias when encountered in others.

Ms Rachna mentioned the legislature that Singapore will be proposing a workplace fairness law aims to strengthen social cohesion, and suggested members to be familiar with this legislation.

Vote of thanks was extended by PN Sonali Sinha who thanked Ms Rachna and Ms Geraldine for bringing this topic to life, particularly having the Privilege Walk which brought out some differences and making it a piece of conversation.



Pres. Siew Luen presents the Club’s tokens of appreciation to Ms Rachna Sampayo and Ms Geraldine Tay

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Meeting Report

26th Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023-20234 held on 24.1.2024.

Photo Album of the Weekly Meeting on 24.1.2024...



Table discussions in identifying and sharing some common biases which they have seen occurring, and exploring strategies to address these biases.

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Birthday Celebrants

RCS sends Birthday greetings to celebrants this week:

Yogesh Dodani for 29 Jan
Sunny Loh for 29 Jan
HM Jimmy Shaw for 2 Feb
PP Dr Peter Wyss for 4 Feb



Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

RCS sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants:

Hitansh & Tulika Vij for 5 Feb



This Meeting

31 January 2024

**3rd Club Assembly
And District Governor
Dr John Chan's Official Visit
to the Club**

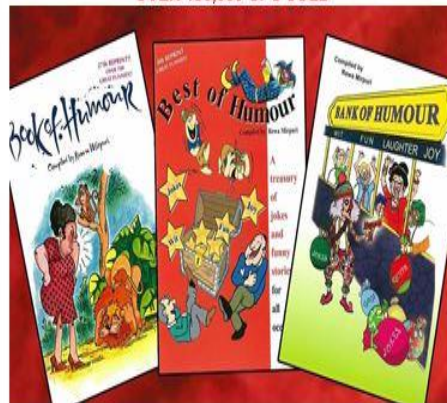
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Next Meeting

7 February 2024

**Club's Chinese New Year
Celebrations**

Programme: Talk by Fengshui Master, Mr Samuel Lim on "The Chinese Zodiac Fengshui for 2024", Lion Dance & Face Changing performances, Calligraphy, tossing of Yu Sheng and Moutai wine tasting.

Coming Rotary Events

January – Vocational Service Month

February – Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

14 Feb – Meeting cancelled in view of Chinese New Year festivities

21 Feb – Meeting cancelled in lieu of WUPD dinner on 23 Feb.

23 Feb – World Understanding & Peace Day (WUPD) / Rotary's anniversary.

March – Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month

7-10 Mar – District Training Assembly @ Johor Bahru

29 Mar – Swimmarathon

April – Environmental Month

May – Youth Service Month

17-19 May – 33rd District Conference @ Kuching

25-29 May – Rotary International Convention, Singapore

27 May – Host Hospitality Night

31 May – The Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA) presentation

June – Rotary Fellowships Month

22 Jun – Installation of the 90th President & Board of Directors

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:

1. Have I spent some time in self-examination?
2. Have I spent quality time with my family?
3. Have I given my best to my work?
4. 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 2023/2024

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 Vice President
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 Hon. Treasurer (Finance)
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 Sergeant-at-Arms

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 Ronald Wong
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