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DG Dr John Chan's Official Visit

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

In Focus

Getting to Know District Governor (DG) Dr John Chan



District Governor
Dr John Chan

-Extracts from July 2023 D3310 Newsletter

District Governor Dr John Chan has been a Rotarian since 1994 when he joined the Rotary Club of Kuching and became the youngest president of the club at the time serving the term 2000-01. He is committed to uniting Rotarians of all ages, their families, and friends to create lasting change worldwide, within communities, and within themselves.

Here's a little excerpt of his plans -

Increase Our Impact: Vocational service is the bedrock of Rotary and is indeed the best way to create a lasting impact on the community by doing what we do best. Inclusivity is paramount, valuing every vocation's contribution.

Expanding Our Reach: Our aim in Rotary is not to just tick off the projects we've done but to mindfully execute them so that they are fully immersive and reaches deep into every recipient.

Enhance Participant Engagement: We are all different, turn this diversity into our strength. Understand each other better, know what makes our fellow Rotarians tick and use that passion to drive our vision forward.

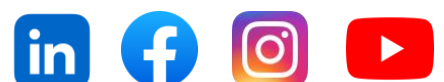
Highlights from his Rotary Journey:

- Setting up of the **KAS-Rotary-NKF Dialysis Centre, Kuching** in 2001 catering to the hardcore poor in and around Kuching.
- Was the first batch of **RLI Faculty member** in the District and continue to be actively involved in training of future Rotary leaders.
- Organizing Chair of the long-term tree planting project, **Rotary Preserve Planet Earth Project-Mangrove Tree Planting** at Kuching Wetland National Park, a collaboration with Chemsain and Sarawak Forestry Department in 2018.
- Was responsible for onboarding OCBC as a corporate partner for the **OCBC Rotary Run** from 2016 to 2018, giving Rotary significant publicity.

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Save our Forests! Save Paper & Print only if absolutely necessary.



In Focus

Getting to Know District Governor (DG) Dr John Chan... *contd.*

The Other Side of Dr John Chan

He's a chemist! He holds a Bachelor in Science with Honours degree and Doctorate in Chemistry from Monash University, Australia.

Why did you choose chemistry?

I wanted to follow my father's footsteps and have always been intrigued by the way in which science explains the many unknowns.

How has being a chemist helped you in your journey as a Rotarian?

The practice of Chemistry had enabled me to appreciate how the environment can affect the livelihoods of communities necessitating the need for conservation. I have been involved in numerous rural water supply projects in determining the suitability of the water source, ensuring that the water is safe and treatable. My laboratories have also been carrying out regular analysis for many of the non-profit dialysis centres in Kuching on a pro bono basis for many years. Being a Chemist has given me much satisfaction in contributing through my vocation.



**The only constant in life is change. It is no different in Rotary.
Let us help one another adapt to this change and enjoy this journey together.**

District Governor Dr John Chan



« The Chan Clan

Meet our District Governor's family and they have Rotary in their blood. His father was a Rotarian and they grew up knowing how good it feels to be able to do something for others for nothing in return.

Having been a part of the Rotary family a huge portion of his life, it is no wonder why Rotarians are his best friends. The same blood runs in their body and we are all a big extended family.



Dr John is a huge fan of – Golf! He's been known to convince many members of his club to pick up the game as well!



“We are all different. Turn this diversity into our strength. Understand each other better. Know what makes our Rotarians tick and use that passion to drive our vision forward.”

News from Overseas

PP Perlita Tiro attends RC District 5320 District Leadership Forum – 9.1.2024



PP Perlita with D G Roy Jefferson

PP Perlita Tiro was invited to the District Leadership Forum of District 5320 which consists of over 50 Rotary Clubs and Rotaract Clubs in Los Angeles, California. The meeting focused on youth, including meaningful highly funded RYLA programs (conducted jointly with Rotarian mentors) and a Master's scholarship worth US\$40,000 in the UK. Some 150 Rotarians, mostly PDGs, DGEs, Presidents and PPs attended the meeting.

As guest of District Governor Roy Jefferson and PP Ernie Delfin of 100-year-old Club RC Huntington Beach, PP Perlita shared about RC Singapore's iconic projects involving the youth in 2023.

These were our yearly Interact Leadership Training Course (ILTC) for about 200 Interactors and training of 12 Singaporean teens to Germany by Dortmund Football team. She also mentioned our Inter-District projects such as:

- 1) our Rotaractors conducted in the Philippines training on sex education and livelihood projects for countryside girls and
- 2) with Hong Kong Rotaractors who participated in Beach clean-up project in Singapore.

PP Perlita also managed to promote attendance to the forthcoming RI Convention in Singapore in May 2024. She also attended the 14 December 2023 meeting of RC Huntington Beach where she exchanged banners.

Meeting Report

District Governor (DG) Dr John Chan's Address at the Club Assembly – 31.1.2024



Before inviting DG Dr John Chan to address the Club, President Dr Chan Siew Luen noted that while this was DG's official visit, he was no stranger to the Club having visited on the first meeting/club Assembly of the Rotary year – perhaps an indication of how special the Club is in the District! He added that they had a fruitful meeting earlier and DG John was informed of the Club's progress, activities and plans.

Indeed, DG John mentioned that not only was the Club special, but that the venue was special too, as his father was a Singaporean and during his school days, being from a poor family, worked as a kitchen hand at the Tanglin Club. Ending his narration, DG John added that his father was proud to be able to return to Tanglin Club and have a meal, and now he was back, as well, as Governor. DG John noted that the Club has a special President too, and was told that President Siew Luen works half a day in his clinic and the other half as President. He thanked President Siew Luen for his contributions, noting that he had a Dr. in front of his name, and half a day to spare and he should be in line to serve as Governor!

DG John advised that when he travels and visits clubs, one of the reasons would be to check on clubs, however, with Rotary Club of Singapore, he comes to learn. He noted the Club's projects covered all areas of Rotary and were truly impressive and impactful not only in Singapore but beyond as well. He noted the generosity of members and fund-raising in the Club was not a problem. He further learnt that being wealthy was different from being generous and he thanked all members for being generous, which was why the Club is what it is today. In particular, DG John cited that Honorary Member Mohan Vaswani and DGE Dr Yap Lip Kee who are Arch Klumph members, inspired him and he decided to take the lead and he will be donating the DG budget of US\$31,000 to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and he hopes members would continue to contribute to TRF. He thanked members in advance and hoped members will continue to give as much as last year.

Lastly, DG John highlighted the District Conference which would be held a week earlier than the Rotary International Convention from 17 to 19 May with the hope that Rotarians from outside the District to attend prior to the R I Convention. He described the various programmes at the District Conference.

President Siew Luen called on IPP James Lee to extend the Club's vote of thanks to DG John.

Meeting Report

Photo Album of DG Dr John Chan's Official Visit on 31.1.2024...



DG Dr John Chan meets with Board Members



IPP James Lee extends the vote of thanks



President Siew Luen presents to DG John with Club mementos – an umbrella, t-shirt & cap



DG John reciprocates with his gift



Members and guests with DG Dr John Chan



Mark Your Diary

Birthday Celebrants

RCS sends Birthday greetings to celebrants this week:

PP Dr Peter Wyss for 4 Feb



Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

RCS sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants:

Hitansh & Tulika Vij for 5 Feb

Jash & Devanshi Mahipal for 6 Feb

Elizabeth Chee & John Lau for 6 Feb

Atul & Bella Merchant for 8 Feb

Ira Mehra & Narinder Kapoor for 9 Feb



This 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.

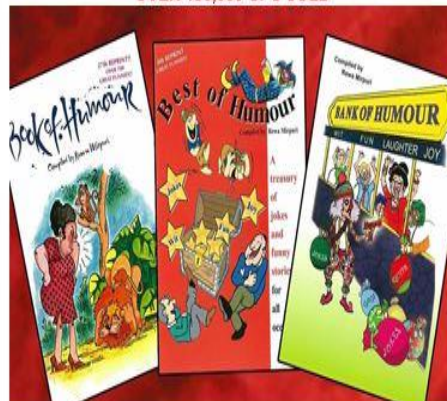
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Next Meeting

14 February 2024

Meeting cancelled in view of Chinese New Year Festivities



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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Immediate Past President	James Lee
President Elect	Tom Wolf
Vice President	Frank Pao
Vice President	Ronald Wong
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Vocational Service Committee (VSC) Director	Vineet Iyengar
International Service Committee (ISC) Director	Rupesh Agrawal
Youth Service Committee (YSC) Director	Louisa Lee
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Director of Meetings & Conventions	Raj Kumar
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