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CREATE HOPE



## **Art in Transit – Vocational Visit**

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# In Focus

# **Art in Transit - Vocational Visit**

We are pleased to feature the following two articles on Vocational Service Committee's Art in Transit programme which took place on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 from 10.00am to 12.00pm.

Art in Transit - A 2-hour tour covering art in the MRT stations.

The Art in Transit program presents site-specific artworks that reflect the cultural and historical heritage of the area and its community. The Northeast Line artworks are a novel attraction that evoke the past character of each neighbourhood and provide the means to better understand the many changes which Singapore has experienced over the decades. Aside from showcasing the artworks in each station, the tour also highlights architectural and engineering anecdotes, and reveals Singapore's urban planning at its best.



Rtn Vineet Iyengar

#### - Vocational Service Director Rtn Vineet Iyengar

**Art in Transit** - a walking tour of the art and sculpture in Singapore's subway stations was an eyeopening experience, led by Mae Anderson, chairperson of Art Outreach, a non-profit dedicated to promoting art appreciation in Singapore. Organised by Rotary Club of Singapore, it was a funfilled opportunity for members to explore their own city.

The tour showcased original artworks by artists who created site-specific works designed to highlight the history and culture of the various neighbourhoods.

Fabulously insightful and a richly rewarding experience that reinforces Singapore's mindboggling attention to detail and foresight in planning public spaces- the fact that several of Singapore's 90 rivers have been accommodated INTO the subway designs, is just one incredible example.

Thank you, Vineet (Iyengar), for bringing this very engaging afternoon to our members.

And a special thanks to Indi (Tulsi) for hosting us at his Thai restaurant, Red Ginger - phenomenal food!

#### - Mrs Seema Shah (wife of Rtn Sanjeev Shah)



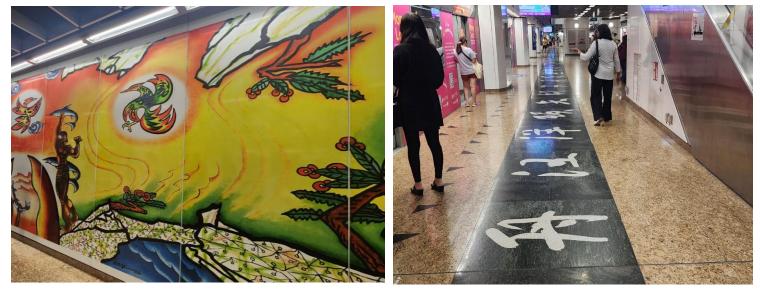
Mrs Seema Shah



## In Focus Photo Album of Art in Transit Vocational Visit...



Members and their families assembled at the MRT station



Artworks highlighting the history and culture of various neighbourhoods



## **In Focus** Photo Album of Art in Transit Vocational Visit...



Ms Mae Anderson highlighting the amazing mural

Rtn Indi Tulsi with his adorable children



Sumptuous food and fellowship at the Red Ginger Restaurant



## **Meeting Report**

#### 31st Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023-20234 held on 27.3.2024.

#### Welcome of Guests

Upon opening the meeting, President Dr Chan Siew Luen invited Rtn Jeff Rajeck to welcome guests of members and visiting Rotarians:

#### Guests:

First Lady Patricia Wang, Mrs Irene Hennedige, Mrs Dolores Low, Mrs Zerin Medora, Mrs Amanda Lee, Mrs Fancy Pao and son Conrad, Mr Raoul Alwani (son of Rtn Rajan) Ms Chan Wai Ching and family – Mr Leong Sow Koon, Genievive & Kane Speaker Mr Ng Kok Song and his guests–Ms Sybil Lau, Mr Paul Lau, Praveen Ramesh & Ye Kai Mr Kishin Aswani, Ms Linda Lin, Ms Sheryl Guan, Mr Jack Sim, Mr Kuan & Ms Lia

#### Visiting Rotarians:

PP Vicky Soo – E-Club of 3310 Rtn John Wilson – R C Bideford Bridge, UK Rtn Cameron & Mary Harper – R C North Suffolk, USA

#### Interactors from Interact Club of Sembawang:

Chin Yi Xian, Calix Chua Zheng Xuan, Yap Yuan Yuan, Kayven Lim Jia Teng, Terence Zhang Lecheng, Mattias Kon, Tan Beng Yang & Natalie Eng

#### Toast & Exchange of Banner

President Siew Luen called on Rtn Shari S R who advised that present at the meeting was visiting Rtn John Wilson from Rotary Club of Bideford Bridge which was formed in 1986. It has 47 members and is one of 3 Rotary Clubs in Bideford. Rtn John was invited to address the Club, and he advised that while he was visiting his family, he was originally born in Singapore as was his father and grandfather! He felt that it was like coming back home and thanked members for the warm welcome. Members raised a toast to Rotary Club of Bideford Bridge coupled with the toast to Rotary International.

#### President's Announcements

- Membership Learning Seminar on Saturday, 6.4.24 from 2.00pm to 5.00pm at 15 Beach Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Room 1A, S189677. Newer members from the last 3 years are encouraged to attend this seminar to be educated about Rotary and what can be done in the organisation. Please register early at https://shorturl.at/fjx68
- Meeting Programme for April 2024 3.4.24 Speaker HE Allaster Cox, Australian High Commissioner; 17.4.24 Memorial for HM PP Dr Patrick Chin & Speaker Mr Ashish Wadhwani from IvyCap Ventures Advisors; 24.4.24 Speaker Dr Daniel Fung, CEO of Institute of Mental Health and the Club's Hari Raya celebrations.

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Rtn Shari S R



# **Meeting Report**

#### 31st Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023-20234 held on 27.3.2024.

#### Swimarathon 2024 Programme

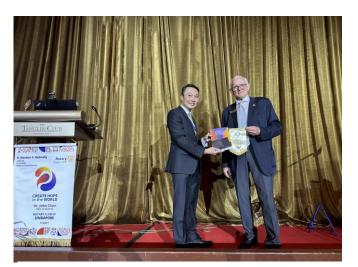
Major Project 2024 Chairperson Rtn Pauline Teo provided a programme for the Swimarathon to be held on Good Friday, 29.3.24 at Sports Lifestyle Centre, 3500A Bukit Merah Central (S 159837) from 7.00am to 5.00pm.

Rtn Pauline highlighted the participation of Olympic gold medallist Mr Joseph Schooling and that Senior Parliamentary Secretary (SPS) Mr Eric Chua's presence at the event. It was also noted that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would be signed between the Club and Singapore Aquatics in collaboration of future swimarathons. She further gave a summary of projected number of laps as well as estimated funds raised as at 27.3.24.



Rtn Pauline Teo

#### Banner Exchange





President Siew Luen exchanging gifts and banners with Rtn John Wilson from RC Bideford Bridge (right) and Rtn Cameron Harper from RC North Suffolk (photo on the left)

#### Entertainment by Interactors from Sembawang Interact Club

The Club was pleased to have a team of Interactors from Sembawang Interact Club at the meeting, seen here with Rtn Mukund A P and Hon Secretary Suzanne Ng (standing).

Members appreciated the musical entertainment provided by Interactors Yap Yuan Yuan, Calix Chua, Kayven Lim and Terence Zhang.

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# **Meeting Report**

#### 31st Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023-20234 held on 27.3.2024.

**Distinguished Guest Speaker Series** 

Speaker: Mr Ng Kok Song

#### Topic: Sovereign Wealth – What it means to the citizenry

President Siew Luen invited PP Stan Low to introduce the distinguished speaker, Mr Ng Kok Song. PP Stan noted Mr Ng's humble family background however through hard work and innate intelligence, he worked his way up and received the Public Service Commission scholarship to study physics at the University of Singapore, and received his Master of Science from Harvard University. Mr Ng joined public service and embarked on a 45-year-long career in managing funds – from the Finance Ministry and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) to sovereign wealth fund GIC, where he played a key role in the investment of Singapore's foreign reserves as chief investment officer. He was the founding chairman of the Singapore International Monetary Exchange (Simex) which was incorporated into the Singapore Exchange (SGX). He is highly regarded and was a Presidential candidate in the country's recent Presidential Elections.

In his opening remarks, Mr Ng recounted how he was given the opportunity with zero knowledge of stocks and bonds to eventually becoming the Chief Investment Officer of GIC. Mr Ng noted that whatever he has done was due to the opportunity which the country gave him and to his mentors particularly to Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Mr Goh Keng Swee and Mr Hon Sui Sen and others.

Mr Ng shared his views about Singapore's reserves which he added, was discussed in Parliament recently, that might be contentious issues in the coming General Elections. He advised that his entire career was spent in helping to invest Singapore's reserves. He gave his reasons for standing as a candidate of the elected President and shared his perspectives why the reserves make such a huge difference for Singapore.

Mr Ng elaborated on four reasons why Singapore should still continue to accumulate reserves. Firstly, the contingency of the risk of war, when the nation's sovereignty is at stake citing current situations in Ukraine and the past invasion of Kuwait. He added the impact of war would be devastating. Secondly, the need to save for a rainy day, he added that in the last 15 years there were two economic emergencies – the global financial crisis of 2008 and the COVID crisis of 2020 and recounted his insights from his own experience and noted the country was fortuitous to have able leaders. Thirdly, Mr Ng

noted the advantage of having a stable and strong Singapore Dollar (S\$), with one of the highest savings rates which earns more in foreign exchange that leads to accumulation of reserves. However, Mr Ng added that the stability of the S\$ should not be taken for granted, and shared his involvement in repelling an attack on the S\$ in 1985 and the successful intervention. The fourth reason, Mr Ng stated for the accumulation of reserves was as a manifestation of values that defines us as a society, which should be cherished for our country to endure and prosper. Mr Ng answered questions posed to him from members.

Rtn Dr Denis Hew extended the Club's vote of thanks to Mr Ng for his excellent talk.

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Mr Ng Kok Song (right) receives the Club's mementos from

**President Siew Luen** 



Speaker, Mr Ng Kok Song





# Mark Your Diary

#### **Birthday Celebrants**

### RCS sends Birthday greetings to celebrants this week:

Terry Lobaton for 1 April Walter Yeo for 4 April Nick De Boursac for 5 April Rajpal Sethi for 6 April PP Paliath "Mohan" Mohandas & Ivan Lew for 7 April



#### Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

#### RCS sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants:

Hena Hoda & Gautam Hazarika for 3 April PP Dr Oliver & Irene Hennedige for 6 April



#### **This Meeting**

#### 3 April 2024

**Speaker:** His Excellency (H E) Allaster Cox, Australian High Commissioner to Singapore

**Topic:** Singapore – Australian relations in a strategic context

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#### **Next Meeting**

10 April 2024

Meeting cancelled in view of public holiday – Hari Raya Puasa

#### **Coming Rotary Events**

<u>April</u> – Environmental Month 6 Apr – Membership Learning Seminar

**10 Apr –** Meeting cancelled in view of public holiday, Hari Raya Puasa

<u>May</u> – Youth Service Month 17-19 May – 33<sup>rd</sup> District Conference @ Kuching 25-29 May – Rotary International Convention, Singapore 27 May – Host Hospitality Night

<u>June</u> – Rotary Fellowships Month 22 Jun – Installation of the 90<sup>th</sup> 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**

President Immediate Past President President Elect Vice President Vice President Hon. Secretary (Administration) Hon. Treasurer (Finance) Community Service Committee (CSC) Director Vocational Service Committee (VSC) Director International Service Committee (ISC) Director Youth Service Committee (YSC) Director **Director of Environment** Director of Technology **Director of Meetings & Conventions** Public Image & Public Relations Director Major Project Chair The Rotary Foundation (TRF) Director Membership Director Sergeant-at-Arms Sergeant-at-Arms

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