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Lifetime Achievement Award Winner for 'Best Bulletin in District 3310'



President's Appreciation Night & Final Meeting for Rotary Year 2023/2024

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President Dr Chan
Siew Luen

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Meeting – 12.6.24

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the forthcoming events and
Birthday / Anniversary
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In Focus

Vote of Thanks to President Dr Chan Siew Luen



PDG Dr Philbert Chin

Following is an extract of the Vote of Thanks to President Siew Luen delivered by Past District Governor (PDG) Dr Philbert Chin at the final Club Meeting held on 12.6.24.

It is a tradition of the Rotary Club of Singapore that at the end of the Rotary year, at the last meeting of the Club, a Senior Rotarian is invited to propose a vote of thanks to the incumbent President for the work in serving as President of the Club.

This year, however, I have had the privilege of reading the contents of the souvenir programme, I was pleasantly surprised to learn of the tremendous work done by all the Service Committees of the Club. I am so impressed that I have decided to alter the usual procedure in that I wish first to propose a vote of thanks to all the members of the Board of Directors of the Rotary Year 2023-2024 first. May I ask all of you to be upstanding and join me in thanking members of the Board of Directors for their contributions, in doing "Service Above Self". To member of the Board, Thank You!

And now, to the quiet man, who had done great things quietly, and his Lady who has supported him in a very quiet way.

Siew Luen graduated as a dental surgeon from the National University of Singapore in 1989, and until the year 2018, he has devoted in upscaling himself in his dental profession associating himself with the work of the Dental Council of the Ministry of Health. During this period, he became a fully qualified Oral & Maxillofacial surgeon. He joined the Dental Medical Council and became its Chairman from 2006 to 2018. In the Ministry of Health, amongst other things, he was the Co-Chair, Dental Fee Benchmark Committee. And, in the National University of Singapore, he was an adjunct Senior Lecturer. It was only in the year 2000, that he came to know about Rotary, I believe through Past President (PP) Dr Oliver Henedige and joined him in a project trip to Marbel, Philippines. Then, 16 years later, PP Oliver Henedige got him interested in Rotary and proposed him as a candidate in the Rotary year 2016.

For the first 2 years, he did nothing, except attending and observing on how the Club is run. In the year 2018 and 2019, he became International Service Director, the next year, Community Service Director, followed by Vocational Service Director and Major Project Chair. And, in the year 2021 to 2022, Vice President. Then, President Elect and President.

As President, he is known as a very quiet person, meticulous and efficient, also known to be first in and last out and with perfect attendance in meetings and projects.

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In Focus

Vote of Thanks to President Dr Chan Siew Luen... *contd.*

So, there you are, the Rotarian of the Rotary Year 2023-2024, and this is his last meeting.

May I ask all of you to join me to thank him and his dear wife, Patricia, remembering the saying, “behind every great man, there is a greater woman”. For their significant contribution to the growth of our Club – the Rotary Club of Singapore!



A standing ovation! “Thank You” President Siew Luen & First Lady Patricia for your wonderful contribution to the Club!

Meeting Report

38th & Final Weekly Meeting for Rotary Year 2023/2024 held on 12.6.2024.

Opening remarks

The meeting was called to order by Sergeant-at-Arms Dr Don Chen who invited President Dr Chan Siew Luen to take the Chair.

Major Project for Rotary Year (RY) 2024/2025

President Siew Luen invited incoming Honorary Secretary Rtn Pauline Teo to present the Major Project for RY 2024/2025 – Teen Challenge Rotary Program (TCRP), on behalf of PE Tom Wolf who was attending the meeting online. Rtn Pauline introduced Global Teen Challenge, a non-profit organisation that helps men, women, boys and girls in every nation to find freedom from addictions and life-controlling problems, founded in 1960 in USA. The organisation has over 1,400 affiliate centres in 129 nations, which has a 70-80% success rate. Teen Challenge Singapore (TCS) collaborates with Singapore Prison Service in a faith-based residential rehabilitation for drug abusers and ex-offenders. Rtn Pauline spoke of the secret of Teen Challenge success was in its faith-based and football programmes.

She advised that the Club's Major Project would raise funds for the TCRP and to build the Rotary Stadium and help reduce the five-year return-rate-into-prison of drug abusers in Singapore by 50%. Rtn Pauline added that the total funds to be raised would be S\$500,000 and described how the programme would Serve to Change Lives. The Club would raise S\$250,000 will be matched by the Government. The Incoming Board unanimously voted to support this project and the first fundraising would be held at the Installation on 22.6.24.

Questions were posed PP Peter Tan and PDG Dr Philbert Chin and were replied by Rtms Pauline as well as IPP James Lee who were familiar with the project. It was noted that maintenance of the football pitch would not be recurrent and Teen Challenge would continue to maintain it. However, the Club would have naming rights for the field.

President Siew Luen called for a vote for the Major Project 2024/2025, no objections nor abstentions were received, therefore the project was approved for adoption.

Welcome

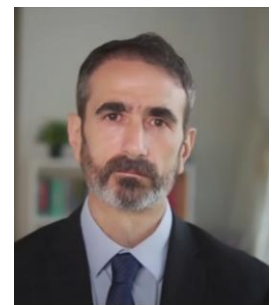
Rtn Shaun Roache officially welcomed guests of members and visiting Rotarian

Guests:

1st Lady Mrs Patricia Chan, Dr Rachael Yap, Mrs Irene Henedige, Mrs Bianca Nagrani, Mrs Janet Phua, Mrs Shirley Tan, Mrs Li Phing Nandi, Mrs Lily Patel, Mrs Geeta Iyengar (Rtn Vineet's mother), Ms Elizabeth Roache (daughter of Rtms Grace & Shaun), Mr Eddy Handaja, Mr Clifford Low, Ms Melinda Yon, Ms Celeste Yim, Ms Eva Lee Xiaoqing, Mr Zhang Feng, Mr Ayyappa Peteti, Mr Thangaraj Muthu, Mr Anthony, Ms Selina Tan, Ms Esther, Mr Sammin, Mrs Bernie Ng Interactors Clara, Kayven Yuan Yuan, Beng Yang, Mattias Kon, Ong Hui Lin, Natasha, Kennise,

Visiting Rotarian :

Rtn Jennifer McCarthy – RC Victoria, British Columbia



Rtn Shaun Roache

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Toast & Exchange of Banners

Toastmaster Rtn Jeff Lim called on members to join him in a toast to Rotary Club of Victoria (British Columbia) coupled with a toast to Rotary International.



Banner exchange with visiting Rtn Jennifer McCarthy from RC Victoria



PP Mark Wang presented banners from RCs Taipei Luminous, Kowloon & Beijing



Rtn Sylvia Chung presented a banner from RC Ekaterinburg, Russia

Presentation of Paul Harris Fellow Recognitions

President Siew Luen had the pleasant task of presenting the following members with their PHF recognitions:



Photos from the left: President Siew Luen presented PHF recognitions to Rtns Suresh Hathiramani (PHF +6 pin), Gaby Rettig (PHF +1 pin), Rajan Alwani and Ng (JD) Jun Dong (PHF certificate & pin)

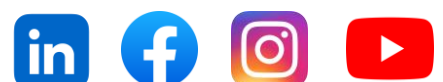
President's Announcement

President Siew Luen advised that the last US\$35,000 was needed to meet the Club's Global Grants funding for this year and called for members' support. He added that for every PHF contributed that that evening, he would present each donor with a RI Convention shirt/jacket. (By the end of the evening, the US\$35,000 was pledged.)

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Meeting Report

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Appreciation of Heroes of RY2023/2024 – Sung and Unsung

President Siew Luen took the opportunity to thank many members who have guided and supported him in Rotary, following are extracts from the comments he made during the meeting:

PP Dr Oliver Hennedige



So, the first person that I want to thank is my proposer, PP Dr Oliver Hennedige.

He invited me to Marbel for the cleft lip and palate mission in 2000 but I didn't catch the Rotary bug till 16 years later. In 2016, thanks to the perseverance of PP Oliver invited me to Rotary.

PP Mark Wang



I spent much of my first year as a RINO (Rotarian In Name Only). Attending some meetings when convenient, never donated any time talent or treasure.

My path changed when PP Mark became PE. He needed to fill his Board and he took a chance on a rookie who doesn't travel, sing, dance or smoke, and made me his ISC Chair, something that he regrets till this day. Nevertheless, I need to thank him for giving me a chance to serve on the board.

Dr Rupesh Agrawal



As ISC Chair, I learnt from my predecessor, Dr Rupesh, whom I took over from.

He brought me to Nepal and showed me the ropes. Years later, when I became President who better to be ISC Chair than Dr Rupesh!

I am grateful that he agreed to serve again as ISC Chair this past year.

PP Deepak Nagrani



Then PP Deepak came along and invited me to be his CSC Chair. At that point, I had no experience in CSC and I told him that I am neither ambitious nor hardworking but I am game if he was ok with me doing an old folks outing event every once in a while.

PP Deepak is a master negotiator, he agreed but eventually drove me hard that we were doing something like 1-2 events a month.

VP Frank Pao

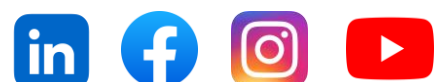


Last year, someone asked me what I want my year of presidency to be remembered for. My reply, I want it to be forgettable. Let me explain. In Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Mark Anthony said, "*the evil that men do lives after them, the good is oft interred in their bones.*" So, I reckon if nobody remembers what happened this year, I would have done good. But my Board had different ideas. They told me, "let's make it a great year!" VP Frank Pao was constantly quietly egging me on to go an extra mile. He spearheaded the Distinguished Speakers' series and kickstarted it with the French Ambassador who recently became our Honorary Member.

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Appreciation of Heroes of RY2023/2024 – Sung and Unsung... contd

Raj Kumar P S



The idea of having Ambassadors and High Commissioners speak to our Club gained popularity and Conventions and Meetings Director Raj Kumar went on the hunt for the top diplomats in the country. Over the course of the year, we had 8 Ambassadors and High Commissioners speak in our Club.

Doubling up as Conventions Director, Raj hit a home run with the Host Hospitality Night (HHN). From the feedback of the visitors, our HHN was indeed the best show in town.

PP Stan Low



With so many top diplomats coming into our Club, we needed a senior Rotarian who himself looks like a top diplomat. A special position, Diplomatic Corp Liaison, was created and who better to take on that role than the distinguished looking PP Stan.

Chong Zhi Cheng



To elevate the prestige of the meeting befitting of receiving top diplomats, we moved our meetings from the Raffles Room upstairs to the Churchill Room. The usual minimum spend in Churchill room is \$11k. We negotiated it down to less than 3k through the expert guidance.

The Club is fortunate to have our own member as President of the Tanglin Club.

PDG Dr Philbert Chin



We made the move from lunch meetings to dinner meetings in 2019 and never looked back. Until this year. We brought back one lunch meeting a month to great success. Attendance of lunch meetings had been similar if not better than most dinner meetings. Special thanks to PDG Philbert for his perseverance in insisting on lunch meetings. But my thanks to PDG Philbert is not for making lunch meetings happen again. It is his dogged determination and bending the world to his will that is such an inspiration to me and whenever I think of something as impossible, I think of him and it becomes possible.

Keizo Fujitake



As a relatively new member, I am grateful for the more experienced Rotarians for agreeing to serve on the Board. Keizo as Treasurer, always put his money where his mouth was. He crunched the numbers and said that we can afford to charge 16 meetings for 42 meeting and was willing to put his own skin in the game by jointly underwriting any losses with me.

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Appreciation of Heroes of RY2023/2024 – Sung and Unsung... *contd*

PP Paliath “Mohan” Mohandas



However, doing this requires a good understanding of the club’s constitution and bylaws. To ensure that we do not run afoul of the rules, PP Mohandas was our go to resource person on all things constitutional.

Vijai Parwani



Understanding the rules is one thing, but writing the rules requires an astute legal mind and our ever-dependable pro bono legal eagle is Rtn Vijai Parwani, transcribing our intentions into legally legitimate sentences.

Suresh Hathiramani



Another senior member who came onboard was Suresh Hathiramani, an eco-warrior came on board as Environment and Sustainability Director and taught me a lot about the E&S matters. It has been a real privilege getting myself acquainted with the sustainability sphere through him and it is largely to his credit that my climate change denying tendencies were finally put to rest.

Suzanne Ng



Over the last few years, I sponsored a few members into our Club. Remembering that I that I only became a contributing member after I got a place on the Board, I recruited my sponsees, onto the Board.

Suzanne, an old friend of more than 30 years, was my honorary secretary in the NUS Students’ Union when I was president in 1988/89. We fought many battles together as student unionists, though we were ideologically opposed, she was rather bourgeoisie and I, a borderline communist. Our NUSSU group thinks she is masochistic for reprising her role as my honorary secretary 36 years on.

Dr Don Chen



Priveen Santakumar

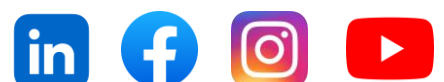


Our Sergeants-at-arms are important in helping us run our meetings and I enlisted the help of another two sponsees of mine, Dr Don Chen and Priveen Santakumar.

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Appreciation of Heroes of RY2023/2024 – Sung and Unsung... *contd*

Louisa Lee



Next, I will shamelessly take credit for having sponsored the Singapore RI Convention Host Louisa Lee, who served as Youth Service Director.

VP Ronald Wong



VP Ronald Wong is on vacation today, he was a great resource especially when it came Youth Service matters but more than that, he provided the Board with the breadth of experience, having being in the Club longer than I have.

Wilson Widjaja



On behalf of YSC Chair Louisa, I would like to specially thank Rtn Wilson Widjaja for his special contribution to the Youth Service Committee.

Andy Mankiewicz



Way before Louisa, there was Andy Mankiewicz. The go-to person whenever we need a dignified Master of Ceremony. Andy was the voice of the Club in most of our installations in recent years and of course, the recent Host Hospitality Night.

The Ricky Gervais of Singapore!

Lionel Otsuka



When planning the major project back in 2021, I had wanted to introduce a technology component into the project and needed someone with the expertise without having to pay for it. In Rotary, we do so by sponsoring him into the Club.

Director of Technology Lionel Otsuka's presentation of the augmented reality equine assisted learning program received extensive airtime on national television in all languages as well as all major broad sheets.

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Pauline Teo



In real life major project itself was run by Major Project Chair Pauline Teo who did such a great job that the major project fundraiser Swimarathon was made redundant, as we finished fundraising before the fundraiser even started. Nevertheless, she ran a fantastic Swimarathon in collaboration with Singapore Aquatics with Olympic Gold Medallist Joseph Schooling in tow, raising funds for VSC's ISCOS' Skill Assistance and Subsidy Scheme.

PP Perlita Tiro



T K Chew



Jeyanthi Krishnan



Why was the Major Project fundraising so successful this year? Other than the generous donations from our members, special recognition goes to several members who organized fundraisers – PP Perlita, Rtn T K Chew & Rtn Jeyanthi

Vineet Iyengar



VSC were helmed this year, by Director Vineet Iyengar, aka First Gentleman Nominee, who has brought existing projects like ISCOS's SASS to greater heights and introduced new initiatives with Sree Narayana Mission. A minor trivia, the idea of paying for a fixed number of meetings to attend all was actually Vineet's brainchild though Treasurer Keizo was the one who made it possible.

Dr Denis Hew



Toshio Omiyama



Toby Lim Hui



On behalf of VSC Director Vineet, I would like to thank Rtns Dr Denis Hew, Toshio Omiyama and Toby Lim for services rendered to Vocational Service Committee through the year.

Leonard Ong



Fundraising for the ISCOS was done primarily through the Swim marathon and special recognition need to be given to major donors Rtn Claus Dusemund (who is having some fun with Komodo dragons now) together with PE Tom and Pak Mohan.

Special mention also to Rtn Leonard Ong who together with his sons swam 160-180 laps. Members might not be aware that Leonard was a former national water polo player.

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PP Alan Tan



Vocational Service Committee is the committee with our two iconic awards. For the sixth consecutive year, PP Alan Tan has served as Co-chair of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award with great distinction.

Hulya Ucer



The other award, the Artisan of the Year award, was very ably convened by Rtn Hulya Ucer, who despite being a relatively new Rotarian, was able to bring the award to new heights. Hulya is overseas today and I will pass this token to her when she comes back.

PN Sonali Sinha



Community Service Director (CSC) and President Nominee Sonali will have the honour of serving on 7 boards consecutively; she served on four consecutive boards and is set to serve on the next three boards, as PE, the President and IPP. When she takes on the role of president next year, she will be the second lady president in our 95 year history.

Hitansh Vij



A significant CSC project that culminated in this year is the Cricket program for guest workers and leading the team with CSC Chair is Rtn Anindya and Rtn Hitansh.

Ong Ting Yong

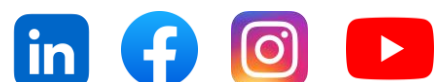


Next, Director of Public Image Ong Ting Yong, the person who is destined to be Rotarian of the Year because his father named him such is not eligible for the title despite sharing the same acronym. Rotarian Ong Ting Yong, or ROTY, is an indispensable figure in our Club today. Anyone who wants to form a committee of any kind will have him first on their list. Often mistaken by outsiders as a son of one of our Rotarians, this Gen Z Rotarian has been instrumental in putting our club on social and mainstream media.

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Ankit Khandelwal



As we wind down the year, there is still one last fundraiser. TRF Director Ankit and the CRFC would like to appeal to all members to donate the last 35k to the annual fund. This is to ensure that beneficiaries of the 21 global grant projects that we have this year get what we say we are going to give them. While not very visible sometimes, the TRF Director is the club's number one beggar.

PP Tapan Rao



The Club Rotary Foundation Committee (CRFC) is an important though not very visible committee. Under Chairmanship of PP Tapan, it has expanded its membership to all members who wish to learn more about the foundation and serve in the committee. Incidentally, PP Tapan may not remember this, but he was the one who gave me the Rotary Information session before I became a member.

DGN Dr Shahul Hameed



To add to the powerhouse that is the CRFC is DGN Dr Shahul Hameed who has to date gotten us more than 170 Global Grants. His Rotary achievements need no introduction but what many do not know is that we have been friends for almost 40 years and had served together in various committees together over the years and so sometimes, some of our friendly banter veiled in sarcasm and rhetoric may seem antagonistic but is all in good fun.

Varun Gulati



Other than Annual Fund and Global Grants, an integral part of the Rotary Foundation is End Polio Now. As fringe event of the RI Convention, the International Tennis Fellowship of Rotarians organised a tennis fundraiser before every convention for End Polio. This year, Rtn Varun Gulati is the organiser of the tennis fellowship that spanned five days and raised \$6,000 for our Club's End Polio commitment.

Sean Leas



Suresh Keerthi



Subhash Pritmani



Membership is the core of Rotary. Without members, Rotary has nothing. The Membership Director Sean Leas has his work cut out for him and with his travel schedule, it required a well-oiled machinery and he has indeed built one that has resulted in 13 new members inducted for the year with several more in the pipeline. He is assisted by two super star past membership directors Rtns Suresh Keerthi and Rtn Subhash Pritmani.

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IPP James Lee



Membership matters lead me to the Membership Classification and Development Committee. For the newer members, this is the committee that is made up of Past Presidents and is chaired by the Immediate Past President. IPP James did a sterling job this year as gatekeeper-in-chief, sifting through the many prospective members to ensure a good fit. But IPP James' contribution goes far beyond being the Chair of MCnD. He is flying our Club flag high as the District Learning Facilitator and may well be the next District Governor from our Club.

Jasbir Koh



This year our club took the lead once again in the World Understanding and Peace Day Dinner. While this was meant to be a project by the 23 clubs in Singapore, much of the work fell on many of our members, Rtn Raj, PN Sonali, Rtn Ting Yong, and many others. Special mention goes to Rtn Jasbir Koh for her tireless efforts in editing the WUPD magazine. Currently, she is feeding Komodo dragons together with Rtn Claus Dusemund's and PP Jimmy Ooi's families.

Sissi Goh



This year, we tried our hand at something new. TEDx talk. The convenor of our TEDx Tanglin Road is Rtn Sissi Goh, who painstakingly vet through the speakers and liaising with TED for publication of the talks on the TED's platform.

Linda Lim



All the work that we are doing would not have been possible without the support of our world class secretariat. I want to thank Linda for her unwavering support to all our Club's endeavours, over and above the call of duty. It is rare to have a young lady with her kind of dedication and capability and we are most fortunate to have her. This is perhaps the late PP Dinesh Sharma's greatest legacy, finding and hiring her.

Bernadette Ng

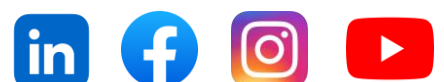


Our club has a long history of good fortune when it comes to staff. Bernie served us with distinction for 30 years before she retired and even in her retirement, she answered to my call for help and returned to help us whenever we need her. Such dedication to the cause of Rotary has no doubt has an influence on Linda who, like Bernie will serve the club for the next 30 years.

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HM Mohan Vaswani



From the day I joined Rotary, I learn that there is a Superman in our Club. Mild mannered and unassuming, like Clark Kent, but when the going gets tough, he puts on his red cape and swoops down to save the day.

None other than our Honorary Member Mohan Vaswani!

DGE Dr Yap Lip Kee



As my term approaches the end, PP Deepak Nagrani asked me what I am going to do on 1 July. Suddenly, my WhatsApp messages will slow to a trickle, nobody will call me anymore and my Rotary email will dry up. You will have withdrawal symptoms, he said. For that, I want to thank DGE Dr Yap Lip Kee for giving me life after the presidency.

Next year, I will be busy with the District Conference as the Organising Chair. Remember to mark this date down: Bali 16-18 May 2025.

PE Tom Wolf



While the end is near, like what the Americans say, “it ain’t over till the fat lady sings”. I have two more weeks to go and I look forward to vacating the podium for PE Tom Wolf and going back to sit in the audience and enjoy the fine dining in Raffles Hotel.

PE Tom has been an excellent PE throughout the year supporting all the programs that we put in place. In return I promise to be an excellent IPP and to support him in his efforts to bring our Club to greater heights.

Thank you, President Siew Luen!

Upon closing the Meeting, VP Frank Pao conducted a “mini-coup”, since he could not make President Siew Luen dance or sing!

VP Frank added that after such a lovely evening, members wanted to show how they felt and as a token of appreciation have penned their best wishes on the R I Convention shirt. VP Frank requested President Siew Luen to accept this token and to remove his jacket, shirt and tie and use the gifted shirt instead. After some negotiations, President Siew Luen kept his shirts on!



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Mark Your Diary

Birthday Celebrants

RCS sends Birthday greetings to celebrants this week:

Bharat Mandloi for 21 June
PE Tom Wolf for 23 June
Dr Hoon Sing Keow for 27 June
Edward Loy for 28 June



Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

RCS sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants:

PP Mansoor & Maria Hassanbhai for 19 June
Klaus & Lisa Duss for 19 June
Dr Denis & Mely Hew for 26 June
Jamshid & Zerine Medora for 27 June
Leonard Ong & Yee Fuang for 30 June
Grace & Shaun Roache for 30 June



This Meeting

19 June 2024

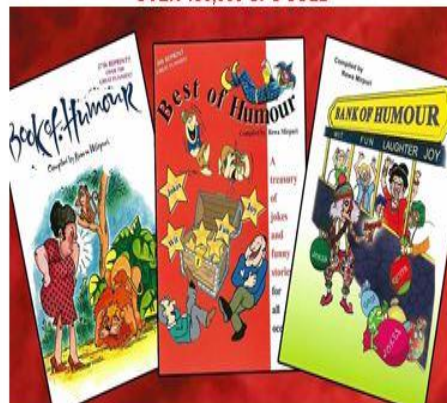
**Meeting cancelled
In lieu of the
Installation of the Club's
90th President
& Board of Directors**

HAVE MANY LAUGHS AND HELP THE NEEDY

BOOKS OF HUMOUR
(PUBLISHED BY ROTARY CLUB OF SINGAPORE)

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Next Meeting

26 June 2024

**Meeting cancelled
In lieu of the
Installation of the Club's
90th President
& Board of Directors**

Coming Rotary Events

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.

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