

# Rotary CROSSROADS

by Rotary Club of Singapore

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



#### 4 December 2024 | Volume 61 | Issue No. 19



## PAGES



**Go-Karting Fun(d)**raiser

04

06

11

Nominations Open for Artisan of the Year Award 2025

The 17<sup>th</sup> Weekly Meeting

**VSC & YSC Joint Meeting** 

**Upcoming Events** 

# Go-Karting Fun(d)raiser

Members of RCS joined an adrenaline-pumping evening at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Go-Karting Fun(d)raiser, hosted by the Rotary Club of Queenstown. Held on the evening of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at the KF1 Karting Circuit, this muchanticipated event brought together eight Rotary clubs in a spirited display of camaraderie, friendly competition, and a shared commitment to giving back to the community.

Representing RCS were Rotarians Jeff Lim, Hitansh Vij, and Chong Zhi Cheng, along with Zhi's son, Matthew, who brought youthful energy to the team. The circuit buzzed with excitement as Rotarians and supporters geared up for a night of fun and fundraising.

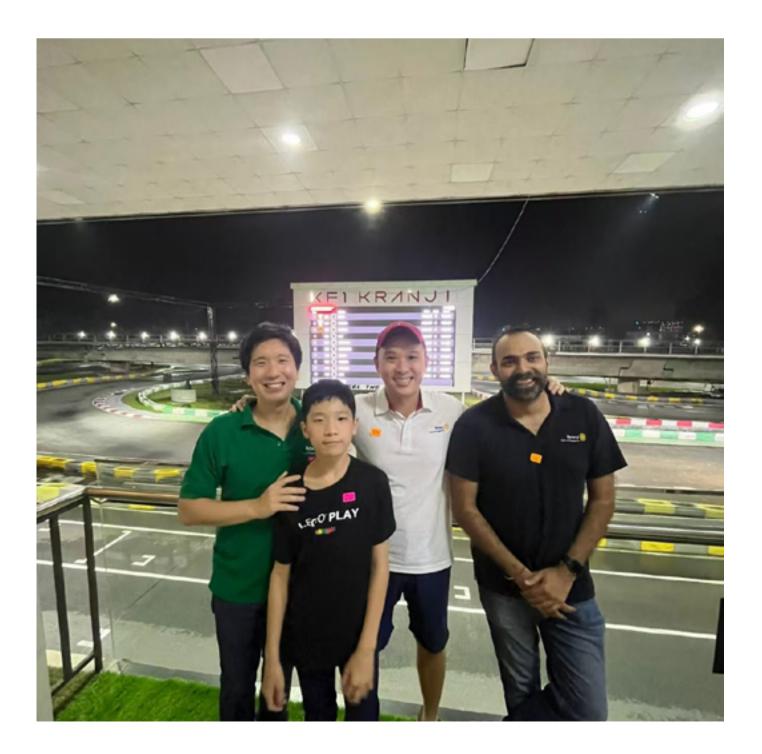
While the competition on the track was fierce, the real winners of the night were the communities that will benefit from the collaborative fundraising efforts of the participating clubs. RCS was proud to play its part in this successful event and extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Queenstown for their excellent organization.

We look forward to next year's Fun(d)raiser and hope to see even more RCS Rotarians joining in the action!

#### By Rtn Chong Zhi Cheng













ARTISAN OF THE YEAR AWARD 2025

## **Calling for nominees**

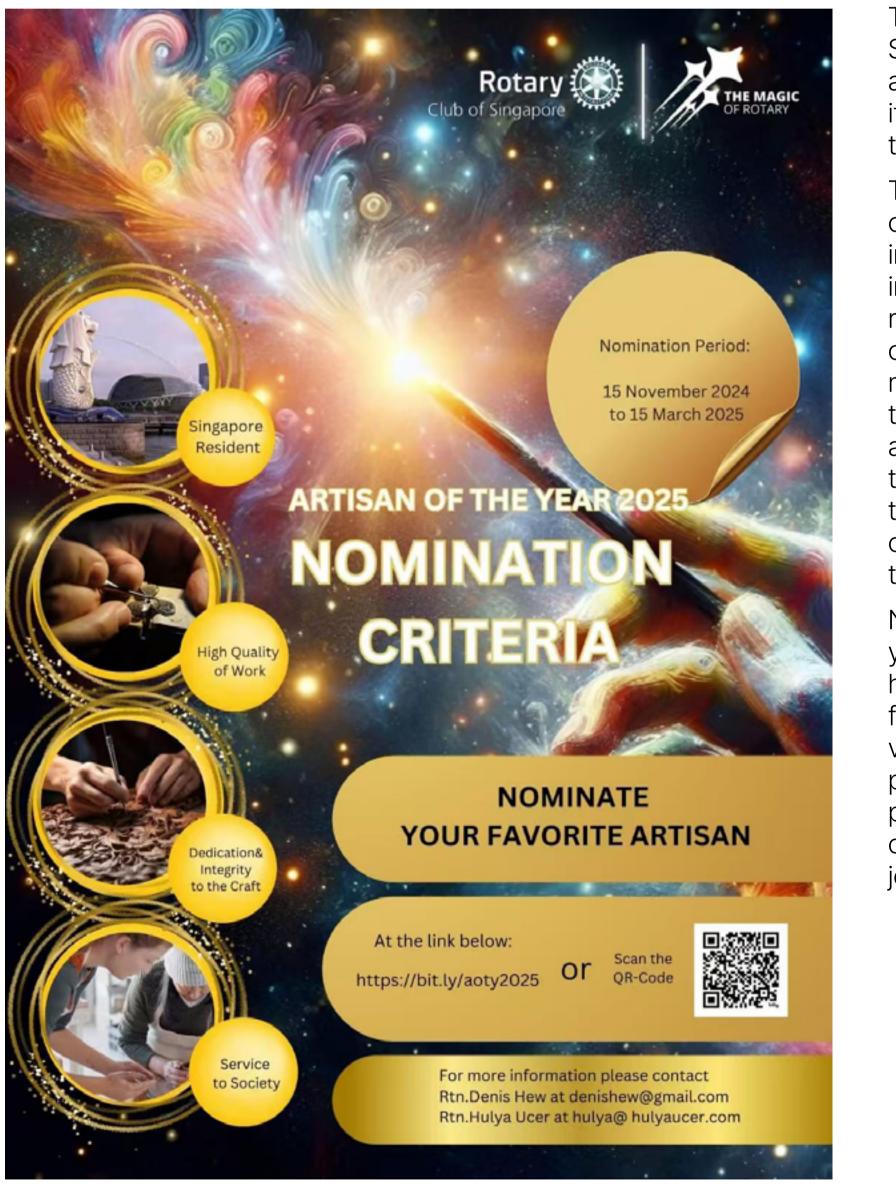
For details, please check our website www.artisanoftheyear.org





## Nominations Open for

## Artisan of the Year Award 2025



The Rotary Club of Singapore is proud to announce the launch of its prestigious Artisan of the Year Award 2025.

This esteemed award celebrates skilled individuals excelling in vocations that require exceptional craftsmanship and mastery of hand-based techniques. Nominees are evaluated based on their talent, dedication to their craft, and their contributions to society through their work.

Now in its twelfth year, the award has honored artisans from a wide range of vocations, including pottery, painting, music, photography, batik art, classical dance, and jewelry making.

# The 17<sup>th</sup> Weekly Meeting

#### **WELCOME OF GUEST**

Rtn Thangaraj Muthu



### **ROTARY TOASTS**

Rtn Hitansh Vij



Rotary International



#### **EXCHANGE OF BANNERS**





Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Singapore

#### **Dr Bettina Fanghänel**

## The strategic partnership between Singapore and Germany

Germany and Singapore as like-minded partners are working towards a growing interconnection between Europe and the Indopacific region. How can bilateral relations be further deepened? What opportunities for future collaboration exist? Ambassador Dr. Bettina Fanghänel will explore strategies for building a longterm partnership between Germany and Singapore.



#### **Rtn Divika:**

We were graced with the presence of distinguished Ambassador of Germany to Singapore, Dr Bettina Fanghänel, as our guest speaker at the weekly Rotary meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup>.

Dr Bettina started her presentation by highlighting the longstanding bilateral partnership between the two countries, which started since Singapore gained independence in 1965, and will complete 60 years next year.

The two nations might appear to have differences in size, history, and more. But in reality, they share a great deal of similarities in terms of values and a commitment to fostering peace, stability and prosperity in an increasingly interconnected world.

Especially amidst global challenges, bilateral collaboration remains ever-important.

At the recent G20 summit in Rio de Janiero, Singapore's Prime Minister, Lawrence Wong and Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz formally elevated the relationship between the two nations to a strategic partnership.

Dr Bettina shared with us five key pillars of the strategic partnership between Germany and Singapore, namely:

- Political and security cooperation
- Economic and trade relations
- Climate action and energy transition
- Research and technology
- Education and cultural exchange

Dr Bettina illustrated the tangible aspects of each of the five pillars, such as how Germany is Singapore's largest trading partner in Europe, and Singapore is Germany's key partner for economic relations with the whole of Southeast Asia.

Both countries benefit from strong trade flows and their respective positions as gateways to the European Common Market and the ASEAN region.

She also shared how the partnership will continue to set benchmarks in sustainable practices for climate leadership and economic opportunities, and will equip the next generation with skills to tackle challenges, ensuring a steady pipeline of talent and innovation.

Dr Bettina provided the example about how the Germany-Singapore Business Forum will support businesses in exploring new ventures in fintech, manufacturing and sustainable infrastructure.

She also shared how both countries recognise the importance of digitalisation, sustainability and technological advancement for future growth and have found common ground: Germany, with its Industrie 4.0 initiative, and Singapore, with its Smart Nation initiative.

The questions posed by the audience covered many crucial topics including Germany's transition away from coal and nuclear energy to alternative sources, labour shortages, an aging population, the impact of geopolitical conflict in the EU region, and an impending Chinese EV growth.

Dr Bettina's responses were positive and clear about Germany's position, and instilled a sense of appreciation in the partnership with Singapore.

### "In the end, you need an engine that works and that you can rely on, and you can always find that in Germany."

— Dr Bettina when asked about the future of EVs in Germany

The last question posed by the audience asked Dr Bettina to share policy that she will take back to Germany. She iterated that Singapore displays an openness to learn from others and implement where it makes sense, and this is something wonderful that other nations can be inspired by.



#### Rotary Crossroads 9



## **VSC & YSC** Joint Meeting



The VSC – YSC Joint Meeting took place on November 28<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm at Just BrewIN. Members from the Rotaract Club of Rotary International District 3800, Philippines, also participated in the meeting.

During the YSC segment, students from the Interact Club of Sembawang and the Rotaract Club of Singapore City shared updates on their ongoing projects. One notable initiative is Project Plus+, a collaboration between the Interact Club of Sembawang and Football Plus. Another key project is Butterfly Effect, a partnership with SPARKS Bukit Canberra and Sembawang Library. This project involves storytelling sessions on public health, aimed at children aged 5-12, held once a month on Saturday mornings at each location. The project's objectives include analyzing the effectiveness of a structured educational outreach program on myopia progression, as well as supporting underprivileged youths in managing their eyesight with limited parental supervision.



#### Rotary Crossroads 10

Additionally, Ms. Ng Hau Yee from JA Singapore introduced the organization, which was founded in the U.S. in 1919. JA Singapore is one of the world's largest non-profit organizations focused on educating students in entrepreneurship, work readiness, and financial literacy.

Next, Ms. Jo-Anne Looi from NeuGen presented the topic "Empower a New Generation to Break Free," introducing their Tuition & Enrichment Programme. The programme aims to support 170 students by 2025, with a mission to build longterm relationships and provide proactive interventions to help students thrive.

During the VSC segment, we introduced the core VSC team members of RCS and provided updates on key projects, including the SNM Pilot Project and the ISCOS-RCS Partnership.

Overall, it was an engaging and productive evening, and everyone enjoyed the meeting.









# Upcoming Events

### AGM

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> December, Wednesday

AOB Deadline: 4<sup>th</sup> December

Submission Email Address: charlotte.goh@twofo.org

#### **Annual General Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Formal adoption of President Nominee Rajkumar PS (President for RY 2026/27)
- 2. Formal adoption of Board of Directors for RY 2025/26
- 3. Adoption of Financial Statements for RY 2023/24
- 4. Any Other Business



Deadline: December 4, 2024

Submission Email Address: charlotte.goh@twofo.org

## **YOUR VOICE, OUR FUTURE**

Submit your AOB for the upcoming AGM!

- Have an idea to improve our community service?
- Want to propose a new initiative?
- Have a concern you'd like to address?

#### WHO'S WHO DIRECTORY FOR RY 2024-25

Deadline by 9<sup>th</sup> Dec

Submission Email Address: rtyinfo@rotary.org.sg

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> December, Friday

**Time:** 6:00 PM

Venue: Kawita & HM Mohan Vaswani's residence at 11 Ewart Park, Singapore 279744

We will be having our annual tradition of Christmas Celebration on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024, Friday at Kawita & HM Mohan Vaswani's residence at 11 Ewart Park, Singapore 279744.

As with every year, all Service Committee Meetings will be held from 6:00 PM onwards, after which we proceed with dinner, Christmas festives & fellowship.

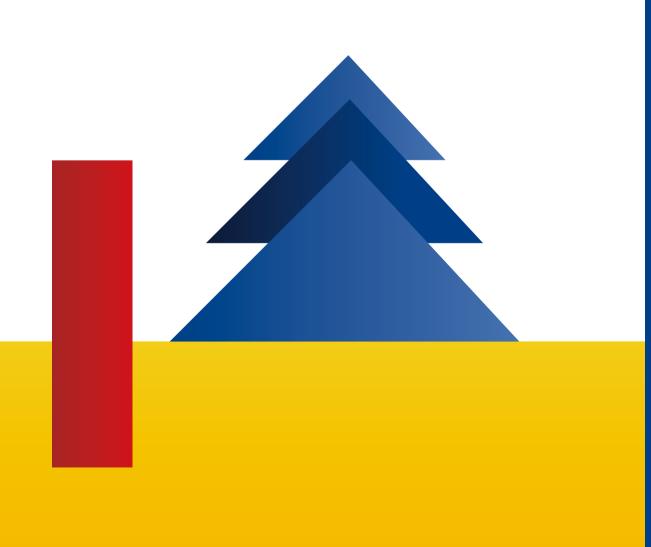
We would appreciate it if you could confirm attendance at your earliest convenience, for catering & logistical purposes.

All members, spouses & family may register for the Christmas celebration via the google forms:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScGs45kZ5Ag3bRuopa5KyMxq3-Hq8Pen1oolfQxHasdverczQ/viewform?usp=pp\_url

We would like to thank Kawita and HM Mohan Vaswani for hosting this event, & opening up their place to us for this joyous occasion.

We look forward to seeing you there!



## 95<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF DIRECTORS & DISTRICT GOVERNOR HANDOVER

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2025

**Time:** 6:30 PM

Venue: The Grand Ballroom at The Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore



Early Bird Price \$218/pax (till 28 Feb 2025)



Regular Price \$238/pax



#### Link: https://bit.ly/2025rcsinstallation

#### Advertisement Opportunities



- Back Page \$6,000
- Inside Front/Back Cover \$3,000
- Premium Page (Opposite Messages & Profiles) –
- \$1,500 Full Page \$1,000
- Half Page \$500

Align your brand with the values of service and community impact while reaching a highly engaged audience. Don't miss out on this exclusive opportunity!

### JOINT PRESIDENT EVENT - WORLD UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE DAY

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2025 Time: 7:00 PM Venue: Fullerton Hotel



## World Understanding and Peace Day



#### **The Four-Way Test**

Of the things we think, say or do:

01. Is it the **TRUTH**?

02. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

03. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

04. 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 24/25**

President Immediate Past President President Elect Tom Wolf Dr. Chan Siew Luen Sonali Sinha Jens Rübbert Inderjit Singh Tulsi Ankit Khandelwal Pauline Teo Navaneeth Rajkumar Perumal Rajkumar Denis Hew Chng Weilong Keizo Fujitake Subhash Pritmani **Ronald Wong** Linda Lin Ong Ting Yong Tapan Rao Stanley Low Gabriele Rettig Colin Miles Suresh Hathiramani Sarah Tabea Jeff Lim

Vice President Vice President Hon. Treasurer (Finance) Hon. Secretary (Administration) **Director - International Service Director - Community Service Director - Vocational Service Director - Youth Service Director - The Rotary Foundation** Director - Major Project **Director - Membership** Director - Public Image & PR Director - Meetings/Events Chair of CRFC (Global grants) Chair of EYA (Entrepreneur of the Year Award) Chair of Standing Committee - Speaker Director - Technology Group Selection Director - Environment Group Sergeant-at-Arms Sergeant-at-Arms

#### **CORRESPONDENTS / CONTENT CREATORS**

Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.06 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.07

Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.08 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.09 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.10 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.11

Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.12 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.13 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.15 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.17 Rotary Crossroad I Volumn 61 I Issue No.18 Director Colin Miles PP Stan Low Prospect Deepu Joseph Director Suresh Hathiramani Rtn Yogesh Dodani Director Linda Lin Rtn Varun Gulati Rtn Varun Gulati Rtn Vinit Sarangdhar Rtn Shari Sr Rtn Allard Nooy Rtn Jeff Lim Rtn Rajesh Prabhakaran Rtn Rajesh Prabhakaran Rtn Francesco De Liva

### **SUPPORTED BY**

### TWO Creative Media Team (Singapore/Guangzhou) on a Pro-bono basis

CHAIR Director Linda Lin





