

Rotary CROSSROADS

by Rotary Club of Singapore



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our Heritage, Committed to our Future
Lifetime Achievement Award Winner for
'Best Bulletin in District 3310'



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RC Pandan Valley Installation



The 42nd installation dinner of the president and board of directors was held on 24th August, 2024. The event was graced by DGE Dr Shahul, who attended as the Guest of Honor. The evening included a formal ceremony where the new leadership team was officially inducted, followed by inspiring speeches that celebrated the club's achievements and outlined the vision for the year ahead. Members and guests then enjoyed a celebratory dinner, marking the start of another promising chapter for the club.



CRFC Committee Meeting

At the recent CRFC committee meeting held on August 27, 2024, several key sub-committees were established, each with dedicated chairs to lead the initiatives. These sub-committees and their respective chairs are as follows:

- a. EREY & PHF Sustaining Members: Rtn Subash Pritmani
- b. Fund Raising for Annual Fund: Rtn Suresh Keerthi, Co-Chair Rtn Keizo Fujitake
- c. Grants & Stewardship: DGE Dr Shahul Hameed, Co-Chair PP James Lee
- d. Endowments & Major Gifts: DGE Dr Shahul Hameed
- e. End Polio Now: Rtn Varun Gulati
- f. Communication & Information: PE Sonali Sinha
- g. Education: Rtn Ankit Khandelwal

Members of the Club are encouraged to join the CRFC committee or any of these sub-committees. This is an excellent opportunity to deepen your understanding of The Rotary Foundation and Global Grants, and to contribute to meaningful service initiatives.

By President-Elect (PE) Sonali & Past President (PP) Tapan

ROTARY TOASTS

By Rtn Kishin

TO Rotary International

The 7th Weekly Meeting



INTRODUCTION TO HONORARY MEMBERSHIP



High Commissioner of Australia - His Excellency **Allaster Cox**



High Commissioner of Rwanda - His Excellency **Jean De Dieu Uwihanganye**

PP JAMES PRESENTING A PLAQUE OF APPRECIATION FOR RC SINGAPORE BY RC CAUAYAN.



WELCOME OF GUEST

By Rtn Grace Roache





Institute Professor, Singapore
Institute of Technology

Prof. Tan Thiam Soon

“

Building a new coastal eco-system against sea level rising-challenges and opportunities

Climate change is leading to a gradual rise in sea level around Singapore each year, presenting a significant threat to the low-lying island nation. Gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges will create opportunities for developing effective solutions. Prof. Tan Thiam Soon will talk about a mitigation plan for Singapore, the key drivers for use of unwanted soils and the schematic for the containment structure.

”

RISING SEA LEVELS – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Our distinguished guest speaker at the Club's dinner meeting on 28th August was Professor Tan Thiam Soon, past president of the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) and presently SIT's inaugural institute professor.

He holds a BEng. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Canterbury and obtained his post graduate doctorate also in Civil Engineering from the California Institute of Technology. Prior to joining SIT, he was with the NUS for 26 years.

Prof Tan's main research interests are in land reclamation and deep excavation technology. Besides receiving numerous educational and professional awards, Professor Tan also holds two very important appointments being that of Deputy Chairman of the Building Construction Authority (BCA) of Singapore and a directorship at the Land Transport Authority.

With such distinguished professional achievements, one was expecting the substance of his talk to be serious and technical but in fact it was quite the opposite. Prof Tan was able to convey the message of an otherwise serious and worrisome topic into an easy to understand and hope filled presentation.

The inclusion of the term 'opportunities' in the title of the talk was at first puzzling and confusing. How could one expect opportunity from an occurrence as dire and ominous as rising sea levels? A few minutes into the talk, our speaker explained in simple terms that sea levels will slowly rise, and this cannot be avoided given the level of global warming that has already taken place and the melting of ice sheets that has already occurred in Greenland, Antarctica, and the Himalayas. Hopefully, he said this sea level rise would be gradual and could be halted and even reversed in 30-40 years with sufficient effort and determination.

With the knowledge and technology presently available at our disposal (he cited the case of Netherlands as a living example), we need to work on solutions right now that would be applicable to the widely differing geographies of the low-lying areas of the world. He emphasized that sea level rising is a very democratic occurrence and will not spare any country in any corner of the globe, rich or poor. Islands and countries with little hinterland like Singapore are going to be more affected and hence need to find quicker and more practical solutions. He cited the case of large coastal cities with scarce land and water resources being the most at risk. The threat of freshwater resources being contaminated by sea water was the most worrisome for these cities.

He then quickly turned the page to the subject of opportunities and gave us a picture of a series of modern marine vistas encircling our island homeland with parks and tree lined boulevards in place of what in our imagination would have been a drab concrete embankment to keep the sea water at bay (pun intended). He spoke of the revival of coastal mangroves in the less populated areas and diverse types of coastal developments that could also be used to block the sea water in a more constructive and practical way.

Prof Tan's knowledge of land reclamation in the Singapore context has given him a clear vision of the possibilities that exist for Singapore. His intimate knowledge of the soil condition in Singapore gives him a unique perspective of the cost-effective solutions that could apply for this island nation. His experience of Singapore's deep tunnel excavation programme gives him added confidence that a solution is possible for Singapore and many other large coastal cities. He imagines these cities responding to the challenge of rising sea levels by building breezy marine vistas at the water's edge where none existed before and the distinct possibility of creating offshore floating homes as a way to overcome scarcity of land in land deficient cities.

Prof Tan took questions at the end of his talk and ended the evening on a comforting and encouraging note. Anyone ready to book your housing plot on the sea off Changi beach? That day may not be far away.

Suresh Hathiramani

Director, E&S Group





VOTE OF THANKS

By Director of Environment
Suresh Hathiramani





Help the Children Malang



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to put forward the 2024 edition of our Club's Annual Basic Education Project in Malang & Batu in Indonesia first started 2010.

The Help the Children (HTC) 2024 Project focuses on addressing the educational needs of primary school children from low-income families in the Malang and Batu areas in Indonesia.

Many of these families live below the poverty line, with monthly household incomes under US\$60. Household sizes are typically large, often comprising three generations, with numerous children per household. Unfortunately, parents in these households struggle to support even the basic educational needs of their children.

The main objectives of HTC 2024 are to assess the needs of these school children, identify barriers to education, and empower parents, teachers, and students to overcome these barriers.

Specifically, we aim to uplift and enhance education for 1,500 primary school children living below the poverty line in Malang and Batu, Indonesia.



To achieve our goal, we have provided essential school-going resources to 1,500 students from up to 60 Schools thus reducing truancy and improving school attendance by removing the barrier of affordability for education.

Also on 31 August 2024, a new school bus was donated to Bhakti Luhur Orphanage in Malang, thanks to the generous birthday gifts of HM Mohan Vaswani. The donation was made on behalf of the Rotary Club of Singapore, Rotary Club of Kuching Central, Rotary Club of Malang Central, and the IshK Tolaram Foundation. Plans are already in motion for a second school bus donation, set to be delivered within the next 12 months, funded by the same sources.

The cost for sponsoring a Child for this Project is USD\$125 for 1 year. This will provide the necessary school going items including books, bags, stationery, shoes and uniforms. The total project budget is US\$187,500.

Thank you all Donors! Special thanks to IshK Tolaram Foundation (Chairman Mohan Vaswani), Taiwan Rotary D3490 (DG JSC) and Hua Qiao Foundation (Board Rep Harry Wong)



DGE Dr Shahul Hameed

Project Lead

HTC 2024



Key information:

1. Head of Delegation: President Tom Wolf, RC Singapore
2. Special Guest: District Governor, Dr Yap Lip Kee, D3310
3. Host Clubs Project Partners: RC Malang Central , RC Batu D3420
4. Special Guest: District Governor, Suzana Chandra, D3420
5. Our Hosts: Honorary Member Mohan Vaswani & Spouse Kawita Vaswani
6. Trip and Project Coordinators: Rtn Varun Gulati & District Governor-Elect Dr Shahul Hameed
7. International Clubs and Supporting Project Partners: RC Singapore, RC Malang Central, RC Singapore East, RC Rizal West, RC Kuching Central, RC Marina City, RC Jurong Town, RC Makati, RC Urban Kuching, RC Taipei Hua Qiao Foundation, RC Batu.



CSC Event - Kopi with Seniors



Director Rajkumar:

KOPI WITH SENIORS: A HEARTWARMING OUTREACH EVENT BY ROTARY CLUB OF SINGAPORE

On 31st August, the Rotary Club of Singapore orchestrated a delightful event, "Kopi with Seniors," that resonated deeply with everyone involved. Members, prospects, interactors, and a group of 20 wheelchair beneficiaries from the Society of the Aged Sick came together spontaneously for a heartwarming gathering at a nearby coffeeshop.

For the wheelchair beneficiaries, many of whom have strict dietary restrictions at their care facility, this outing was a truly special experience. One beneficiary expressed their gratitude, saying, "Thank you so much Rotary Club. Today I was able to consume some of my favorite food. It means a lot to me."

This event not only provided a break from their usual routine but also brought immense joy and fulfillment to the seniors, creating lasting memories. The seamless execution of the event was credited to the invaluable expertise and dedication of Rtn Pauline Teo, who played a crucial role in ensuring that every moment was filled with warmth and connection.

The Rotary Club of Singapore looks forward to more such impactful community engagements, continuing to spread happiness and uplift the spirits of those in need. Stay tuned for more heartwarming initiatives and join us in making a difference in the lives of the elderly in our community.

We would also like to thank Rtn Atul Merchant for his contributions of 30 Goodie Bags for the seniors.



For those who couldn't attend, they still supported by sponsoring meals for beneficiaries at \$10 per meal. Our Interactors and Rotaractors were also there to assist on the day. Here is the list of participants and meal sponsors:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Director Raj | 9. Rtn Grace | 17. PP Louis Lim |
| 2. Rtn Jeyanthi | 10. President Tom | 18. Rtn Jash |
| 3. Henry (Jeyanthi's husband) | 11. HM Mohan Vaswani | 19. PP Peter Tan |
| 4. Thangaraj (prospect) | 12. PP Deepak | 20. Rtn Vimal |
| 5. Rtn Kishin | 13. DG Dr Yap Lip Kee | 21. Rtn Rupesh |
| 6. Rtn Vineet | 14. Rtn Vivek | 22. Rtn Deepu |
| 7. PE Sonali | 15. PP Tapan | 23. Rtn Ankit |
| 8. Rtn Shaun | 16. HM Uttam | |



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	Tom Wolf
Immediate Past President	Dr Chan Siew Luen
President Elect	Sonali Sinha
Vice President	Jens Rübberth
Vice President	Inderjit Singh Tulsi
Hon. Treasurer (Finance)	Ankit Khandelwal
Hon. Secretary (Administration)	Pauline Teo
Director - International Service	Navaneeth Rajkumar
Director - Community Service	Perumal Rajkumar
Director - Vocational Service	Denis Hew
Director - Youth Service	Chng Weilong
Director - The Rotary Foundation	Keizo Fujitake
Director - Major Project	Subhash Pritmani
Director - Membership	Ronald Wong
Director - Public Image & PR	Xavier Lee
Director - Meetings/Events	Ong Ting Yong
Chair of CRFC (Global grants)	Tapan Rao
Chair of EYA (Entrepreneur of the Year Award)	Stanley Low
Chair of Standing Committee - Speaker	Gabriele Rettig
Director - Technology Group Selection	Colin Miles
Director - Environment Group	Suresh Hathiramani
Sergeant-at-Arms	Sarah Tabea
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jeff Lim

CORRESPONDENTS / CONTENT CREATORS

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Director Colin Miles

PP Stan Low

Prospect Deepu Joseph

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