Rotary CROSSROADS

by Rotary Club of Singapore









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9 July 2025

FIRST WEEKLY MEETING

Bridging the Digital Divide: How We Can Shape a Digitally Inclusive Singapore

By PIPR Vice Danielle Jiang

The first lunch meeting of the Rotary Year featured none other than Mr. Douglas Goh of the IMDA Digital Society Advisory. Mr. Goh opened his presentation by introducing the lesser-known division of IMDA, the Digital Society Advisory, which focuses on equipping Singaporeans with essential digital skills for an increasingly digital future. He began by reminiscing about the division's previous collaboration with the Rotary Club Singapore (RCS) in 2021 during the pandemic, where members actively helped hawkers at Alexandria Village adopt digital tools to enhance their businesses through group buys and social media promotion.

The core of Singapore's digital inclusion strategy, as explained by Mr. Goh, rests on three fundamental pillars: accessibility, proficiency, and community engagement. He emphasized that the government cannot achieve digital inclusion alone and requires strong partnerships with industry experts and community leaders who often possess deeper insights and capabilities.

The Digital for Life movement, as presented by Mr. Goh, operates with a dual purpose: empowering Singaporeans to embrace digital technology as a lifelong pursuit while helping them adopt these tools to enrich their daily lives. This movement addresses four key areas: digital access, literacy, wellness, and future readiness, covering all

segments of society from youth to seniors.

In discussing current initiatives, Mr. Goh detailed several successful programs, including mobile access schemes for seniors aged 60 and above, digital access support for low-income households, and subsidized plans through telecommunications companies. The Digital Skills for Life curriculum has been particularly successful, reaching 337,000 seniors through the Senior Go Digital program and convincing 60% of hawkers to adopt e-payments.

The implementation approach, as described by Mr. Goh, employs four distinct pedagogical techniques tailored to different learning styles. These include one-on-one guidance, which has proven particularly effective with seniors who often prefer learning from digital ambassadors rather than family members, hands-on practice sessions, group learning opportunities, and digital clubs for peer learning.



Mr. Goh concluded his presentation by outlining various ways organizations and individuals can participate in the movement. These opportunities range from becoming partners and conducting digital CSR activities to sharing expertise and applying for DFL fund projects. He emphasized that the movement has already garnered support from over 300 partners, funded 43 projects, and raised more than 14 million dollars, benefiting approximately 400,000 people.

The presentation sparked engaging questions from the audience, particularly regarding project proposals and screen time guidelines for young children. Mr. Goh addressed these questions by emphasizing the importance of impact and reach in project proposals, and discussing the evolving nature of digital guidelines, suggesting a focus on building trust and understanding rather than strict restrictions.

Throughout the presentation, Mr. Goh maintained that the initiative's primary goal is to ensure no Singaporean is left behind in the digital transformation, emphasizing the importance of making digital skills accessible and relevant to all segments of society. His presentation demonstrated IMDA's commitment to creating an inclusive digital society where technology enriches lives rather than creates barriers.



Register your interest to join the DfL movement



Scan to register!









A VIBRANT START:

First CSC Meeting of the 2025-2026 Rotary Year

By Rtn ST Sammel

10 July 2025 - The CSC (Community Service Committee) kicked off the 2025–2026 Rotary year with energy and purpose at its first meeting held on Thursday, July 10. Hosted in the elegant Function Room at Water Place, 173 Tanjong Rhu Road, the evening brought together Rotarians, guests, and passionate speakers in a spirit of community and collaboration, under the leadership of CSC Director Rotarian Varun Gulati.

Attendees were welcomed with a delightful dinner fellowship starting at 6:30 pm—a warm prelude to the meeting that officially began at 7:00 pm. The room buzzed with enthusiastic conversation and a renewed commitment to serving the wider community.

Two inspiring guest speakers set the tone for the year ahead. Daryl Toh, Executive Director of FRCS AAC, shared insights into upcoming speaker engagement programs designed to uplift and educate elderly communities, with a focus on community learning. Following him, Jean-Paul from MAD Cash introduced their innovative financial literacy initiatives aimed at empowering underprivileged women through practical tools and knowledge.





The CSC committee then presented their ambitious program lineup for the new Rotary year. Leading the charge is the much-anticipated return of "Vision For All," a community eye examination project helmed by Rotarian Dr. Rupesh Agrawal. Scheduled for July 26, 2026, this impactful will provide medical screenings for up to 60 migrant workers in Singapore. In addition to thorough checkbeneficiaries will receive spectacles and participate in an eye health education session-making a meaningful difference in their quality of life.

Alongside new projects, the committee is proud to continue one of its regular community efforts: the "Food From The Heart" food distribution run. This ongoing initiative resumes on Saturday, July 19, 2025, continuing its mission to bring food and care to those in need.

Further, CSC has discussed ongoing as well as long-lost projects to review how to better service the community.

The evening was a resounding success—full of inspiration, practical plans, and a shared commitment to service. With such a promising start, the CSC is clearly poised to make a significant impact in the year ahead.







TKGIC INSTALLATION

By YSC Director Mukundan Paramashivan and Rtn Liesa Desisca

30 June 2025 - The Interact Club of Tanjong Katong Girls' School (TKGS) hosted its Installation Ceremony for the Rotary Year 2025–2026 with a vibrant display of youthful energy, creativity, and purpose. Set in the school's Performing Arts Studio, the event brought together students, educators, and Rotarians to welcome a new cohort of Interactors who are ready to lead with heart and innovation.

This year's theme, "Creativity Meets Community," served as a poignant reminder that the most powerful change often begins at the intersection of imagination and service. The ceremony celebrated not only the induction of new leaders but also the spirit of collaboration and creative problem-solving that defines the Interact movement.

The event was graced by Guest of Honour President Sonali Sinha, whose stirring speech encouraged the Interactors to push boundaries, think differently, and act with compassion. She emphasized that the leaders of tomorrow must not only dream boldly but also remain grounded in service to the community.

Rotarian mentors and leaders lent their support with their presence and words of encouragement. Among them were Youth Service Director Mukundan A P, TKGS IC Advisors Rtn. Jeyanthi (Membership Director), Rtn. Lynn (Youth Service Committee Treasurer) whose dedication to youth empowerment was evident in their heartfelt engagement throughout the event. Their presence underscored Rotary's unwavering commitment to nurturing future-ready leaders through mentorship and community-building.

The event also paid tribute to the invaluable contributions of Teacher Advisors Mrs. Sng-Tang Yilin and Mr. Ganesh, whose steady guidance and mentorship continue to be the backbone of TKGS Interact Club's vibrant journey. Their role in shaping student leaders behind the scenes is an enduring testament to the school's ethos of holistic development.



From the opening address to the symbolic passing of the torch, the installation ceremony radiated optimism and unity. As the newly appointed Interact Board pledged their service, the message was clear: this generation is not just ready to take charge—they are ready to reimagine what service looks like in a changing world.

With "Creativity Meets Community" as their guiding light, the TKGS Interact Club is poised to lead with innovation, empathy, and a deep-rooted commitment to making a meaningful impact.

This event capped a weekend of meaningful engagement and celebration. No visit to Kuching would be complete without savoring its culinary treasures. As Anthony Bourdain once declared in A Cook's Tour, "I am a Sarawak laksa junkie... there's nothing else like it." The rich flavors of Kuching's food scene added an unforgettable layer to the trip, complementing the warmth and spirit of the Rotary gathering. The trip to Kuching was more than an event—it was a testament to the bonds of Rotary fellowship, the elegance of shared purpose, and the joy of coming together in a city as vibrant as its people.





RC KUCHING CENTRAL INSTALLATION

By Rtn Deepu Joseph

Sarawak Sojourn: Rotary Unites for Rotary Club of Kuching Central's Grand Installation

5 July 2025 - A memorable trip brought members of the Rotary Club of Singapore to Kuching, Sarawak, for the grand installation of President Pauline Pui and the New Board of Rotary Club of Kuching Central for Rotary year 2025-26. Some senior Rotarians quipped the weekend was reminiscent of a 'Mini-District-Conference'! The event, a highlight of the new Rotary year for RCKC, radiated warmth, elegance, and camaraderie, uniting senior and young Rotarians alike in a shared celebration of service and fellowship.

The journey to Kuching was marked by authentic hospitality extended by local hosts. President Pauline Pui, alongside her husband, Past President Frankie Ong, District Rotary Foundation Chair PP Ng Yaw Hua and other Senior Rotarians personally greeted visiting Rotarians and guests at Kuching Airport, setting a welcoming tone to the weekend. This heartfelt reception, extended by Kuching and Sarawak-based Rotarians, left every visitor with a lasting impression of genuine warmth.

The installation ceremony itself was a massive affair, elevated by the presence of distinguished guests, including past district governors including our own IPG Lip Kee and other Senior Rotarians like Past Presidents Stan Low, Tapan Rao, Mark Wang, James Lee, Louis Lim, Siew Luen Chan and Frank Pao. District Governor Shahul, a proud member and past president of the Rotary Club of Singapore, presided as the chief guest to install President Pauline Pui and her board for the 2025–2026 Rotary year. DG Shahul delivered a strong message in his quintessential flair calling for the district to unite to serve. His presence marked this as his first major event in his role, adding significance to the occasion.



The Rotary Club of Singapore was further represented by our newly minted President Sonali Sinha, President-elect Rajkumar, and board members Vineet Iyengar and Ting Yong, and our participation underscored the strong ties between the clubs. A total of 14 RCS Members attended the Installation. Beyond the formalities, the event sparkled with light-hearted moments. Group laugh yoga and pickleball events brought bursts of joy, fostering connection among attendees. Several International Sister and Partner clubs were represented from far and wide — from Japan to Taiwan to the Philippines to Thailand. Besides the formal installation, the days became vibrant with informal fellowship dinners and lunches unfolding simultaneously across the weekend.

A standout fun part was the post-installation karaoke night which stretched until 2AM in the morning, filled with laughter, music and grooving, also showcasing depth of talent amongst us. The following day, on Sunday morning, District Governor Shahul Hamid led a well participated end-polio walk, a powerful highlight that rallied Rotarians and guests in support of a vital cause.

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RC MANILA AND RC MAKATI INSTALLATION

By PIPR Director VJ Africa

3 July 2025 - RC Manila celebrated its 106th anniversary last 3 July in truly spectacular fashion with the installation of the RC Manila Board and the RC Manila Foundation Trustees. Rtn Nick Locsin kindly hosted us in a VIP table alongside our overseas friends from RC Bangkok and RC Kowloon East.

A highlight of the evening, aside from the enchanting serenade of the Rotary Chorale, was listening to the moving speech of President Atty Raoul C. Creencia. His words echoed the massive hall: This is our Destiny. This is our Legacy. This is Rotary.

Not to be outdone, last 11 July, RC Makati celebrated its 60th anniversary with an action-packed (think Mission Impossible with a Rotary twist) and musical extravaganza. The audience was captivated with powerful speeches from freshly minted DG Atty Reggie Nolido (D3830) and President Eddie Galvez.

The evening was capped off with multiple dance numbers from the Board and their "Anns". Of course, our very own Past President Keith Harrison and First Lady Rachel shined in their explosive performance. A true treat at the end was the live band that had the whole ballroom rocking and bopping to classic dance hits.

It was a genuine honour and a privilege to represent our Club in both sister club Installations!











RC KGF PRIME INSTALLATION

By YSC Director Mukundan Paramashivan

Celebrating Leadership and Fellowship at the Installation of Rotary Club of KGF Prime's 6th President

6 July 2025 - The Rotary Club of KGF Prime, District 3191, hosted a grand installation ceremony for its 6th President, Rtn. Naveenan A.P., at the prestigious King George Hall, Cosmopolitan Club. The event was a true testament to Rotary's spirit of service, fellowship, and leadership, bringing together distinguished Rotarians, business leaders, and community influencers.

Chief Guest Rtn. Ravindranath M. (District Secretary, Kolar IT Corridor Zone), Installation Officer Rtn. Anil Gupta (District Governor Elect 26-27 RI-3191), and Guest of Honour Rtn. Mukundan Appadurai Paramashivan, Youth Service Director – Rotary Club of Singapore, graced the occasion with their inspiring presence.

During the ceremony, Rtn. Mukundan Appadurai Paramashivan was honored with a special Honorary Membership Frame, recognizing his exceptional leadership in chairing and conducting a large-scale blood donation drive across 17 villages around KGF, resulting in the collection of 716 vials of blood. This achievement showcased his ability to mobilize communities and deliver impactful humanitarian initiatives within a short span of time.





OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

THE FOUR WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1.1s it the truth?
- 2.1s it fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build goodwill and better friendship?
- 4. 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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Ng Jun Dong



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