



NOTES OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF ROYAL HUA HIN (RCRHH) WEEKLY MEETING: 12th June 2018

Time: 1200h-1300h

Location: Amari Hotel

Attendance:

Members: 13

Guests: 8

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| • Christina Walker | - | By Rtn Helmut Schepers |
| • Udai Rai | - | By P.Birger |
| • Nigel J Hardy PP RCBS | - | Guest Speaker |
| • Tassanee Hardy RCBS | | |
| • Margarita Wesenhagn | - | By PN Napa Keawtem |
| • Jack Wesenhagen | - | By PN Napa Keawtem |
| • Irene Sanglhand | - | By Rtn Henry Roos |
| • Terry Burge | - | By PE Brian Anderson |

The President opened the meeting and following the Thai National Anthem SAA Pascal introduced the guests above.

The President ran through upcoming events, all of which are publicised on Club Runner.

- June 14th: Rotary Club Hua Hin President's Installation Evening – Grand Hotel.
- June 16th: MCC Rotary Evening Avani Hotel. *(Sec Note: postponed until 28 Jul 18)*
- June 19th: No Meeting (Board Meeting)
- June 23rd: Rotary Club of Bangkok South Installation Evening
- June 26th: Next Rotary Year – PP/PE Brian
- June 30th: Rotary Club of Patong Beach President's Installation Evening
- July 3rd: No meeting
- July 7th: RCRHH Installation Dinner at Amari

The President then installed a new member to the RCRHH, Udai Rai, known to most as the owner of Picasso Tailors. Udai's wife Wassana is also the current President of RC Hua Hin, our Sister Club, thus he is fully aware of the workings of Rotary. Following the presentation of his certificate and badge by P Birger Rexed and PN Napa Keawtem, Udai said a few words including the fact that as a youngster, his headmaster had the 'Four Way

Test' on a wooden plaque in his school, and these words were indelibly printed in Udai's memory and he impressed the meeting by quoting all four.

The President then introduced the guest speaker, PP Nigel Hardy of Rotary Club of Bangkok South, who spoke about the 'Thai Fishing Industry in Crisis'. *(Sec note: it is hoped to have a full transcript of Nigel's talk added in due course, there follows a precis).*

Nigel explained he had spent most of his adult life involved in the seafood industry in Thailand and Australia. He said Thailand's fishing industry has gone from being a net importer of seafood in the 1950s, to becoming the No 3 fishing nation in the world in 1998-99, followed by a decline so that by 2004 they were No 10. A decline that continues today.

Thailand has a very long coastline, 3650 KM in total, and its fishing industry is largely an artisanal one, and fish provided mainly for subsistence, about 40% of the protein for a large percentage of the population comes from fish.

It was only in the 1950s, 60s when Germany helped introduce Otter Board Trawling that catches increased dramatically, although latterly this method has caused much damage to the seabed within the Gulf of Thailand, which is very shallow, 130-250 feet deep. The other issue is the constant trawling of juvenile fish, which is destroying the 'next generation' and reducing numbers.

Nigel then went through some detailed statistics on canning, especially of tuna, and advised that the tuna industry currently imports some 800,00 tonnes of the fish to feed the 47 canneries operating today.

He talked of the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated aspect of the industry, which is helping its decline. He covered over exploitation of Thai waters, sanctioned intrusion into neighbouring countries without permission and problems with the labour market due to the nature of the work involved. It is not a lack of regulations causing the issues within the industry, but a lack of will to enforce them. Politics, personal influence & greed have been major contributors, by people who fail to see the peril they are putting the industry in.

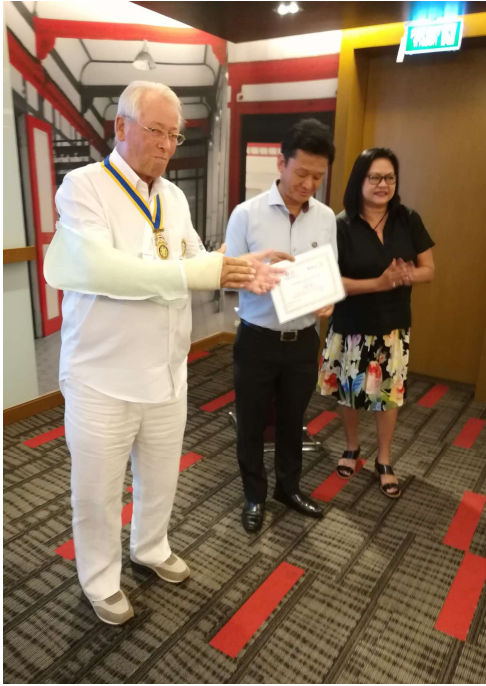
He summarised by saying there is a positive future for the industry in Thailand, but only if the country turns down the right road of controls and discipline, the wrong turn could lead to disaster and possible financial ruin. Enforcement is key.

Following PP Nigel's very detailed and interesting presentation P. Birger presented him a certificate of appreciation from RCRHH.

Meeting closed at 1300h

MDH/Sec

See below for a selection of photographs from the meeting.



P Birger & PN Napa install Udai Rai



**PP Nigel Hardy Rotary Club of Bangkok South
Thai Fishing Industry in Crisis**