



WEEKLY MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF ROYAL HUA HIN – AMARI HOTEL
TUESDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2022

DAVID WATSON – ROYAL COAST REVIEW

Present: 33
Members: 25
Guests: 8

SAA Rick Rees opened the meeting with the National Anthem.

The following guests were introduced:

Patrick Meier –	Switzerland
Manfred Hechler -	RC Pattaya
Roger and Carol Ward –	RC Aireborough UK
Boel Eklund -	RC Stockholm
Jonathan Schultz -	Guest of Benjamas
Nuchsara Lekkul -	Guest of Benjamas
David Troxell -	Guest of Alan Brown

P Phil welcomed everyone and began by discussing club sustainability. We have 53 members a full board of directors, yet no one to replace him as President in 2023-24. This is something that needs serious consideration. He also reminded everyone to collect their Rotary and EREY badges if they had not done so.

Phil briefly talked about ongoing projects the REC, Thai Voices, Water Safety and Environmental. Members are needed to help manage these projects and to become involved. We also now need ideas and suggestions for new projects or good causes no matter how small.

Phil showed a video to be uploaded to you tube to help with PI that had been produced by Abert Labermeir.

Phil then gave a brief overview of Rotary International urging people to log into My Rotary and navigate the site. He explained that the PETS will be held in Ratchaburi and that Rotary International President Shekar Mehta will be visiting Thailand at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Bangkok. 24-25 June will also see the District Assembly in Phuket.

Phil then ran through upcoming events:

1 Mar 22	-	Fellowship evening – Paul Grab's House
3 Mar 22	-	Lunch at RC BKK South to celebrate Gen Sayud's 100 th birthday
8 Mar 22	-	Weekly Meeting - Henrick Fagersson - Spine Clinic
15 Mar 22	-	Board Meeting
22 Mar 22	-	Jane Calder - Save The Children International
29 Mar 22	-	No Meeting

Phil introduced the guest speaker David Watson, Royal Coast Review one of our preferred media partner.



www.ropyaslcoastreview.com

Facebook: royal coast review

David thanked RCRHH for the opportunity to speak and explained that the Royal Coast Project covered Prachuap Khiri Khan to Petchaburi overcoming the split in Provinces between Cha-Am and Hua Hin.

David explained the RCR tried to tell stories about people and things happening in Hua Hin and has received excellent support from the CEO of Banyan Resort. He displayed a collage of pictures and stories that had been covered quite recently. He tries to cover between 6-10 stories a day on Facebook and link any of particular importance to his web site. His editorial policy is to ensure stories are relevant to local people. During the recent lockdowns stories have dried up and constant references to the virus are now boring people, thus he tries to keep stories fresh and interesting.



David said his sources were various, but actually attending something is the obviously the most effective and makes it a personal experience. It is also important to translate into Thai for the local people to understand too. Opinions too are important and he tries to gather views on important local decisions such as the proposed Casino in Hua Hin. Healthy debate is important.

David also covers local emergencies such as floods, fires, arrests etc, but steers clear of personal tragedy stories. A photograph makes a news story, sometimes very poignant, he showed a powerful picture of a

handgun next to a child's plastic toy truck with the headline A Gun is Not a Toy. Silly or human pictures also attract attention.

RCR supports many local activities and organisations, not necessarily just charities, the Sailing Club, golfing events, power racing, marathons are all such stories he has covered.

David will now be focussing on prioritising Hua Hin as a tourist destination and will be working on a YouTube channel all about the people and places of and in Hua Hin.

David has often featured and supported the RCRHH in his media stories and looks forward to a continued working relationship with the club.



Following questions lunch was served and the raffle was drawn and the bottle of wine won by Hanne Haakansson and 'presented' by Sec Martin Harrison!