



WEEKLY MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF ROYAL HUA HIN – AMARI HOTEL
TUESDAY 25th JANUARY 2022

MUTSUMU ADACHI – SANG FOUNDATION.

Present: 28
Members: 21
Guests: 7

A/SAA Martin Harrison opened the meeting with the National Anthem.

The following guests were introduced:

Michael Bedwell –	Former Rotarian - UK
Patrick Meier –	Switzerland
Roger and Carol Ward –	RC Aireborough UK
Boel Eklund -	RC Stockholm
Stefano Carrera -	Guest of Paul Grab
Mutsumi Adachi -	Guest speaker

President Phil welcomed everyone and the first business of the day was to formally induct two new members.

- Les Miles from the UK
- Rini Busschers from the Netherlands

They were each presented with their certificate and official Rotary badges and welcomed by the President, their sponsor IPP Brian Anderson for Les, Phil for Rini and Alan Cooper Membership Chairman.



Phil explained that the RCRHH has eight standing committees and a number of sub-committees. Treasurer Peter Wydler has prepared an organogram of the structure and members on each committee.

Phil ran through each and asked that if any members were interested in joining one of them to please make contact.

	Committee	Chairman	Number on Committee
1.	Rotary Foundation	Michael Kehnscherper	1
2.	Service Projects	Napa Keawtem	4
	<i>Environment S/C</i>	<i>Brian Anderson</i>	<i>1</i>
	<i>Water Safety S/C</i>	<i>Alan Cooper</i>	<i>5</i>
3.	Administration	Torsten Voigt	4
4.	Fund Raising	Michel Zuber	7
	<i>Golf Tournament S/C</i>	<i>Michel Zuber</i>	<i>8</i>
5.	Membership	Alan Cooper	1
6.	Youth Services	Benjamas Uamsa-Ard	3
7.	Public Image	Phil Lawrence	5
8.	Education	Keith Humphries	8
	<i>Thai Voices Web Site S/C</i>		<i>8</i>
	<i>Rotary Education Centre S/C</i>		<i>3</i>

Rotary Around the World

Phil talked about the Rotary International President Elect Jennifer Jones from Canada, the first female to hold the office. Her theme for 2022-23 will be 'Imagine Rotary Fulfilling Big Dreams'. Phil is looking forward to working with her as President during his next term of office.

Upcoming Events

- 1st February - Fellowship Evening - Mr. Ton's Bistro
- 8th February - John Laroche – Phoenix Aviation
- 15th February - Board Meeting
- 22nd February - David Watson – Royal Coast Review
- 1st March - Fellowship Evening – Paul Grab's House

Speaker



Phil then introduced the guest speaker, Mutsumi Adachi founder of the Sang Foundation.

Since May 2021 the Sang Foundation have delivered over 14,400 cooked meals, drinks and have distributed used clothes & home goods from Cha Am to the Pranburi area. In addition, the Sang Foundation are fully committed to environmental projects.

Sang means light in Sanskrit and in Thai and in the quest for a cleaner and greener globe and a crystal-clear ocean, 'Sang' is literally translated as 'light' in Thai and will continue to ignite the creation of love and care for our beloved mother earth for the generations to come.

The Sang Foundation was created to raise public awareness that plastic waste is now at a critical level and more and more marine animals are painfully dying because of our addiction to plastic. We are here to spread the message that this does not need to happen - there are alternatives to plastic.



Mutsumi began by giving an explanation of Bobo (which is a French child's expression for pain in the stomach) a large whale 11 metres long created in the form of a tent into which much plastic and waste is placed to educate people how whales and marine life are being affected and numbers reduced due to the amount of ocean debris. Mutsumi explained Bobo has been invited to various environmental conferences, schools and universities to follow an educational programme of development and understanding. Mutsumi herself is a diver and has personally witnessed the destruction of coral reefs and marine life.

Sang have also been involved in charity work, attending schools and other events and putting on creative activities, this has included the ASEAN Ocean Conference in Phuket where children were invited to express their understanding of the problems through art and creative works. Trashion is also the new fashion and clothes were designed from some of the waste recovered from the ocean at Bangkok University.

Mutsumi has also partnered with Alliance Francais where lectures, films, art displays, craft works and games formed a part of the awareness raising event.

Mutsumi explained Sang Foundation is committed to building a green community and are an all-sustainable organisation. During the pandemic Sang have been working with Action Aid, distributing 'Rescue Packs' - a food package to the needy and poor. They are also committed to reversing climate change and raising awareness of the problem, attending the Change Lives Festival and receiving sponsorship from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce for THB 3million.

Sang have also been involved in food distribution locally and operate from Cha-Am to Pranburi, all the food is wrapped in grease paper and tied with cotton and they have held a number of fund-raising events in Hua Hin and Bangkok where enough funds were raised to run the foundation for a further year.

One sorry side effect of the pandemic and lack of work has been an increase in Domestic Violence in Thailand with many families living under one roof, alcoholism, drugs and underage pregnancies have all increased too. In January this year Sang held a 'Kids Day' in Hua Hin where clothes, toys, food, shoes were donated and redistributed to the needy. There was also music and art classes to entertain those present. They are always looking for these second-hand items to be donated.

Mutsumi explained they receive support from Surf Radio, Royal Coast Review, Monsoon Valley and numerous restaurants and hotels in the city. Sang has no staff, no premises and no general expenses they rely purely on a pool of volunteers who can be called upon.

Mutsumi concluded by explaining that she is a Japanese Buddhist and appointed as a Dai Risshi (High Vinaya Master) in the Buddhist Priesthood.

Following questions President Phil Lawrence and Treasurer Peter Wydler presented Mutsumi with a donation of THB 20,000 toward her foundation and its work.

