



WEEKLY ZOOM MEETING REPORT OF ROTARY CLUB OF ROYAL HUA HIN
TUESDAY 10th AUGUST 2021 1800h. JUNGLE AID UPDATE – WAYNE DAVIS

Attendance - 16

Members - 13

Guests - 3

Guests:

IPP Reny Frighetto – RC Noble Park-Dingley Australia

Stephanie Maltman – UK

Wayne Davis - Speaker

President Phil opened the meeting with the Thai National Anthem. He then welcomed the guests as above to the meeting.

Phil confirmed that zoom meetings would continue until further notice due to current lockdowns in Thailand.

As the Olympics had only recently finished, Phil gave some interesting statistics about the games in Tokyo.

- US Tops medal table for sixth time in the last seven games
- Japan's third place with 58 medals is the joint best with the Tokyo Olympics in 1964
- UK won 67 medals and is there second best performance at an overseas Olympics
- Australia return to the top six in the medal table for the first time since 2008
- Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand and Brazil all had their best ever summer games
- This was the first time a German team did not feature in the top six since re-unification in 1990
- 22 world records were broken down from 27 in Rio
- 12 year old Kokona Hiraki Japan became the youngest person to win a medal with Sky Brown UK at 13 the second youngest. Both medals were won in the ark skateboarding event.

Phil then gave an overview of some recent activities and projects undertaken. The live radio broadcast with Surf 102.5 on 1 Aug had gone well with Phil and PP Napa attending. There had been some technical glitches, but it was hoped to overcome these when the event is repeated in the future.

On 9 Aug Phil and Napa had attended the Mercy House Foundation and presented two laptops and headsets to assist the children with their home online schooling due to the ongoing pandemic.



Phil explained a protocol for Zoom meetings was needed to enable them to operate smoothly, to include:

- Try and be on time for meetings as you will only miss the fun
- Please mute your microphones to avoid any background interference
- Please mute your phones to avoid any background interference
- If you wish to make a point, or ask a question please use the hand emoji or raise your hand to let the speaker know.

Phil then ran through future meetings and events:

11 th August	Presentation to Red Cross Hospital 1400h
13 th August	Presentation of PPE with RCHH at Hua Hin Hospital 1100h
17th August	Board Meeting
24th August	Historian Stephanie Maltman – Firemen Remembered
31st August	Roger and Carole Ward small loans to Asian Countries
7th September	Live music fellowship
14th September	Insurance for Ex Pats Tom Thompson
21st September	Board Meeting

Phil introduced the guest speaker, Wayne Davis from the charity Jungle Aid (JA).



- From Canada his wife Yumi from Japan and they have a Daughter Sakura 6
- Graduated Bachelor of Commerce and Business Administration, University of British Columbia 1984
- Left Canada in 1986 and lived in Australia, Japan, Hawaii and Philippines before settling in Hua Hin
- Retired, avid cyclist and enjoying life with his wife, daughter, rescue dog Bella and a never-ending list of chores and projects around the house
- Lived in the Philippines before Thailand and active in post typhoon disaster relief
- Joined Jungle Aid 3 years ago as Logistics Coordinator and subsequently took over as Area Manager for Bang Saphan.

Wayne introduced himself and thanked RCRHH and Noble Park, Dingley, Australia for their recent donation towards the new, much needed vehicle to enable access to the remote villages.

JA currently support four villages near the Thai Myanmar border, Bon Kaeng (Krachan National Park), Pala -U Noi, Pala -U Village and Bang Saphan. Many of the families are Karen speaking and lived in these border communities (*which are often national skirmish areas between Burmese and Thai troops*) for several generations, yet have no formal identity in Thailand. Therefore, unless a status is achieved there is little opportunity for employment or education outside of their village life.

They sponsor 21 students from these villages and provide medical care, food donations, maintenance of facilities and educational support for children. The students currently come from a range of backgrounds and ages and attend various educational facilities both locally and Nationally.

He explained JA is a Thai Foundation Charity, meaning donations are tax deductible, thus encouraging companies to make legitimate donations. Volunteers receive no pay and some main donors are volunteers too.



Access to the villages can be difficult with one being 1½ miles off a main road and access by a bridge. Support has been provided in many ways, providing medical supplies, nurses, food, education and a water supply, by laying a pipeline from a waterfall some distance away.

Wayne explained a house has been rented by JA away from the village to enable 42 children to reside more safely, attend school and learn the Thai language. JA deliver 450kg of rice a month and the villagers are always very appreciative, especially when the volunteers go in person as they take special treats such as chicken, pork, mung beans, laundry detergent etc.

Donated clothing, pots and pans are a priority for the villagers, with any 'fancy' items not suitable being sold off at a flea market to raise more funds. Merchants who enter the villages charge exorbitant prices for items and so these items are well received.



The way JA conducts business has evolved during the pandemic and in addition to the villages, has been involved in several feeding programmes, providing food bags for needy members of the local community. They have also had to deliver goods to the villages by arranging a local rendezvous and transferring items from one vehicle to another without physical contact.

Thankfully donations have continued to come in during the pandemic with Take 5 donating THB240,000 following a golf tournament and many more anonymously. Fundraising events and demonstrations are also held, albeit difficult at present.

Questions followed and a discussion on volunteers being allowed to undertake voluntary 'work' in Thailand. Napa explained Rotary had received an official government exemption and JA may be able to do the same?

Phil thanked Wayne for his informative talk and finally an online raffle was drawn for a bottle of wine, won by Napa and duly presented.

