



# Rotary crossroads

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## Yayasan Prima Unggul Performance

### 1 IN FOCUS

What kind of world do we want to live in? –  
By Rtn Dr Irina Francken

### 4 LAST WEEK

Report of Wed 17 Oct  
Evening Meeting

### 7 MARK YOUR DIARY

What's ahead? Don't miss the forthcoming events and Birthday / Anniversary celebrants and more...

## What kind of world do we want to live in?

By: Rtn Dr Irina Francken



*Rtn Dr Irina Francken (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) with Yayasan Prima Unggul performers*

What kind of world do we want to live in?

That is the question which is confronting all of us today. Our lives are still wracked by economic inequality, social strife and environmental catastrophe.

We cannot continue to live like that. It is a great need to change the situation.

We talk a lot about poverty and under-privileged children and health. We try to help in various ways and invest our time, knowledge and funds. We certainly doing well, and we are happy about our activities.

Do we measure of an action's benefit to society? This question becomes more important and we must shift this question to the center of our mind.

Can education fight the poverty? The answer is yes but...can we do more?

Travelling around Asia in various countries and advising private schools in various programs I found one unique school in Jakarta. It was "WOW" factor discovery. It is different from any other project I knew, participated and wrote about. I could not stop myself to go to that school and learn more.

When I came to the school I was surrounded by the large family of friendly students of different age. They also looked different as they come from different provinces of Indonesia. They came to Jakarta to this school from low-income families...Under-privileged children...Yayasan Prima Unggul (YPU)

YPU has a mission to create independent individuals arising from under-privilege children. Through employing national education system through home-schooling and entrepreneurship-based education system, YPU creates independent individuals, giving positive impacts to the society.

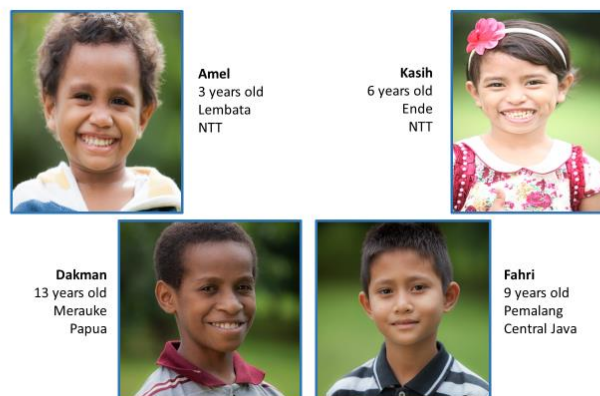
It was painful to listen to personal stories of children and why they have been moved to Jakarta from Ambon and Flores, from Sumatra and some other remote islands of Indonesia. But seeing them living as one big family I knew the mission serves the purpose.

The poverty cycle is broken and the mentality "to be poor" has been changed. Studying through home schooling system and in Open University, children are proactive and creative in their learning process. Students at senior level teach their juniors. YPU has no employee, hence students must take care of themselves and each other, including feeding the younger children, given them a bath, and others. One distinct difference at YPU is teaching children to

## In Focus

be financially independent through operating YPU's business units by themselves. YPU's business units are able to finance 70% of the children livelihood. YPU has several business units such as catering, performing arts, training center, and others. Is not that unique? It certainly is.

I had delicious food prepared by the students, we made music by playing different instruments, we were dancing and singing. It was an amazing experience! When I was leaving YPU, these lovely kids asked me to help them to perform outside of Indonesia. They did not ask for money!!! They asked me to give them a chance to perform in some Rotary events. I liked that approach – “please give us a chance...we have plenty of opportunities around us...we must realize an opportunity to perform...”



CAN WE GIVE THEM A CHANCE? – I had great support from President Mark and Secretary Connie – “Why not to invite them to Kuching for Pan Borneo? Let's all Rotarians from Singapore help YPU to come to Kuching”. I wrote to PDG Andre and the Pan Borneo Meet Committee – and got the answer “YES”.

The YPU group will perform at the Welcome Dinner and Governor's Banquet. The chance has been given.

We need some funds to bring this group from Jakarta to Kuching and cover their travel and accommodation expenses.

My fellow Rotarians, let's collect funds to help this group of young performers. Impact of entrepreneurs are powerful allies and we should support their efforts! You can submit your donations the Club's website [www.rotary.org.sg](http://www.rotary.org.sg) and indicate that the donation is for “Pan Borneo event donation for Yayasan Prima Unggul”.

We total amount needed is SGD 5,488.00. Some contributions have been made and the remaining balance is SGD 3,738.00. *The spread sheet of expenses is available upon request (just send me email: [irinafrancken@gmail.com](mailto:irinafrancken@gmail.com) and I will send you information).*

Information about **the 30th Pan Borneo Meet and Share the Rotary Experience**. If you want to learn more about Rotary and exchange ideas on all aspects of the Rotary movement, you need to attend the PAN BORNEO MEET.

You will enjoy a weekend away in a fabulous world class hotel (Riverside Majestic Hotel Kuching) with fantastic food and entertainment (2 – 4 November 2018).

Participating in a Joint Project, undertaken by all the BORNEO clubs.

A tradition of the annual Pan Borneo Meet with a Pan Borneo Joint project being carried out by the hosting club.





# Coming Events...


Presidents of Rotary Clubs in Singapore proudly present

## World Polio Day 2018 SG

Guest of Honour **DG Henry Tan**  
District 3310 Governor

24 October 2018 Wed 12:30pm  
The Tanglin Club

Tickets at SGD50  
Please register through your Club President  
Registration closes on 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018



Speaker:  
PDG Michael Yee

Guest Speaker:  
Dr William Tan on  
"Adversity to advantage"

Join fellow Rotarians from other Rotary Clubs in Singapore as we participate in World Polio Day:

The Meeting highlights as follows:

- RC Singapore will be the hosting club, at the usual lunch meeting venue, expanded to accommodate up to 80 participants;
- Rotary End Polio update by PDG Michael Yee
- Talk by Dr William Tan, inspirational polio victim and athlete
- \$50.00 per participant, including lunch
- \$10.00 per End Polio Pin, into the Sunshine Box

Co-Organizers: Rotary Club of Tanjong Pagar & Rotary Club of Singapore jointly with  
Rotary Club of Novena  
Rotary Club of Sentosa  
Rotary Club of Shenton  
Rotary Club of Singapore North



**Rotary**  
District 3310

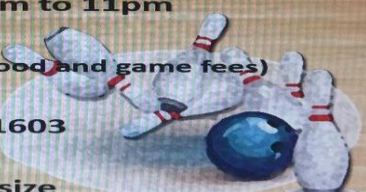


Join us for

## ROTARY DISTRICT 3310 INTER CLUB BOWLING

Saturday, 10th November 2018, 6pm to 11pm  
SRC Esplanade Bowl

**\$50/pax** (Inclusive of souvenir t-shirt, finger food and game fees)  
4 bowlers per team  
R.S.V.P. to Whai Yih @ 96211603  
By 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
Please provide your T-shirt size



**Please contact VP Rajkumar P Suppiah to register**

## Update on The Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA)

**REMEMBER:** This is the 30th EYA celebration of the gold standards - the standards of entrepreneurship and a legacy for future generations. Gala Dinner at the Ritz Carlton Hotel where the winners will be announced

- Date: **22 November at 7 pm**
- Rotary Club of Singapore will have 2 tables at this event. Cost: \$180 per person
- Rotarians who wish to participate, please advise the Secretariat.



3 | Crossroads



# Last Week

## Last Week – Report on Wednesday Evening Meeting – 17 October 2018

### OPENING REMARKS



PP Tan Chin Ngiap

Acting Sergeant-at-Arms PP Tan Chin Ngiap invited President Mark Wang to take the Chair. President Mark Wang warmly thanked Vice President Hassan Moosa for chairing the last meeting whilst he attended The Entrepreneur of the Year Finalists Presentation held during the same afternoon. President Mark also welcomed the Guest Speaker, Associate Professor Dr A. Lee Gilbert to the meeting.

President Mark briefed members on the recent Help the Children 2018 project held from 12 to 14 October which saw 1,277 students receiving financial and school going materials support from several Rotary Clubs as well as from IshK Tolaram Foundation. A full report of the project will be published shortly in the bulletin.

### WELCOME

The welcome of Guests of members and Visiting Rotarians fell to Rtn Carlo Van Den Akker:

#### Guest

Dr Ganesh Ramalingam

#### Visiting Rotarians

President Jona Pang – Tanjong Pagar

President Jack Ayyappan - Novena



Rtn Carlo Van Den Akker

### TOAST & EXCHANGE OF BANNERS



*As there were no overseas Rotarians at the Meeting, Toastmaster Rtn Dr Hans Schniewind invited members to raise a toast to Rotary International*



*President Mark called on PE Deepak Nagrani to receive the banners from RCs Surabaya and Surabaya Central which were presented to him at the recent visit for Help the Children project*



# Last Week

## INDUCTION OF A NEW MEMBER

President Mark had the pleasant duty of inducting the first lady member to the Club – Rtn Aarti Nandlal Wadhwa was introduced by proposer, Rtn Uttam Kripalani. Rtn Uttam advised that Rtn Aarti grew up with Rotary as many of her family members were Rotarians and she was looking forward to having the same relationship with Rotary. Rtn Aarti's classification is "Real Estate: Finance" and she was recommended to join both the Youth and Vocational Service Committees. Rtn Aarti's personal particulars will be circulated to members shortly.



*From right: President Mark, Rtns Aarti Wadhwa & Uttam Kripalani*

## CHALLENGE FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINEE 2021-22

President Mark advised that a selection was made by the District for the District Governor Nominee 2021-22 (for PP Dolly Yeap from Rotary Club of Kulai) and that a challenge was received from sister club, Rotary Club of Muar for PP Saravanan Krishna. He added that the Club supported the challenge as a more democratic process as both candidates were wonderful candidates.



## MEETING VENUES

President Mark stated that efforts were being by Board Members to look at other possible Club weekly meeting venues with the view to boost meeting attendance. He highlighted that both Hon. Treasurer Horst Hagemann and Hon. Secretary Connie Ho (photo - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> from left) visited the Rotary Club of Pandan Valley at its meeting at the Grand Hyatt Hotel and would also look at the meetings held at Conrad Centennial Hotel.

## COMING ROTARY EVENTS

President reminded members to support the following Rotary Events:

**World Polio Day 2018 Luncheon Meeting** – Wednesday, 24 October at the Raffles Room, The Tanglin Club:

President Mark advised that the Guest of Honour is none other than DG Henry Tan. The meeting programme would include End Polio update by PDG Micheal Yee and Guest Speaker Dr William Tan, inspirational polio victim and athlete who will speak on the topic "Adversity to advantage".

**30<sup>th</sup> Pan Borneo Meet 2018** – from 2 – 4 November at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching, Sarawak.

Register at [www.rotarydistrict3310.com](http://www.rotarydistrict3310.com)

**Rotary District 3310 Inter Club Bowling** – Saturday 10 November from 6pm to 11pm at SRC Esplanade Bowl.

Cost \$50 per bowler. Contact: VP Rajkumar P Suppiah for further details.

**The Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA) Gala Dinner** – Thursday 22 November at 7pm at Ritz Carlton Millenia Singapore, Marina Bay, 7 Raffles Avenue. Cost \$180 per person. Contact the Secretariat for tickets.

5 | Crossroads



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email: [rtinfo@rotary.org.sg](mailto:rtinfo@rotary.org.sg) Website: [www.rotary.org.sg](http://www.rotary.org.sg)

Save our Forests! Save Paper - Print only if absolutely necessary.



# Last Week

**Speaker:** Associate Professor Dr A Lee Gilbert,  
Nanyang Business School

**Topic:** *“From Belief to Success – learning from Asian Start-ups”*

Rtn Dr Hoon Sing Keow was called upon by President Mark to introduce the Speaker, Associate Professor Dr A Lee Gilbert. Rtn Sing Keow advised that Dr Gilbert earned his doctorate from Northeastern University in Boston, writing and defending a dissertation based on his field work, entitled “Planning for International Information Technology Transfers.

At Harvard Business School, he served as Fellow for Future Information Systems Faculty, while researching, writing, and teaching cases. In Asia, he led Executive Education for the new Institute of Systems Science at the National University of Singapore, and later joined the Nanyang Business School, where he led two innovative MBA programs: International Business and Management of IT.

Before starting on his presentation, Dr Gilbert advised that he was grateful to Rotary for the scholarship he received which enabled him to graduate. Dr Gilbert advised that his presentation would focus on some young Asia-based companies, and explore factors that would help them succeed, and those that threaten their continued existence.



*Speaker, Dr Gilbert (left)  
with Rtn Sing Keow*

In his presentation, Dr Gilbert highlighted ten startups which he studied, and then moved on to a deeper analysis of three of these firms, to understand the main obstacles they faced and how they overcame these barriers.

To conclude his talk, Dr Gilbert called on members to play the role of potential investors, and apply a simple checklist that should help in deciding on which of these young firms we should place our bet. Following a brief poll of members’ opinions, Dr Gilbert graciously answered questions from members.



*From left: President Mark, Dr Gilbert & Rtn Bala*

President Mark called on Rtn Bala Venkatesan who warmly thanked Dr Gilbert for his presentation which gave a wonderful perspective as well as his sharing of knowledge of start-ups.



# Mark Your Diary

## Birthday Celebrants

There are no Birthday celebrants this week.

## This Meeting

### 24 October 2018 World Polio Day Inter-City Rotary Meeting

**Reception Desk duty:** PP Chiang Shih Fang, Dir. Manish Tibrewal  
**Sunshine Box:** VP Rajkumar P Suppiah, Paul Phua

**Programme:** Rotary End Polio update by PDG Michael Yee & Talk by Dr William Tan, inspirational polio victim and athlete

## Next Meeting

31 October 2018

**Reception Desk duty:** Directors Drs Rupesh Agrawal & Chan Siew Luen  
**Sunshine Box:** PP Jimmy Ooi & Mandy Pascual

**Speaker:** Ms Damayanti Shahani, Founder & Managing Director, Principium Consulting Pte. Ltd.  
**Topic:** "BridgeAble – Accelerating Social Impact"

## Anniversary Celebrants

RC sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants this week:

Renate Noessler & Mr Guenter Stockmann

Toshiya & Atsuko Kimura

Dr Ekkehard & Dorothea Wiek

Siva Kumar & Vidya Gopal

## Community Service Meeting

Community Service Committee Meeting will be held on:

**Date:** Thursday, 1 November

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Venue:** To be advised

**Hosts :** To be advised

## Coming Rotary Events

October  
**Economic and Community Development Month**

**24 October** – World Polio Day 2018 at The Tanglin Club @ 1.00pm

November

**Rotary Foundation Month**

**2-4 November** – 30<sup>th</sup> Pan Borneo Meet 2018

**10 November** – District 3310 Inter City Bowling at SRC Esplanade Bowl from 6.00 pm to 11.00pm

**22 November** – The Entrepreneur of the Year Award Presentation at Ritz-Carlton Hotel

December

**Disease Prevention & Treatment Month**

**3 December** – RC Taipei's Charter Celebrations

**14-17 December** – Mission to India

**14-16 December** – District Rotaract Conference at Oasis Bay Resort, Johor

**20 December** – Christmas Fellowship

## Youth Service Meeting

Youth Service Committee Meeting will be held on:

**Date:** Thursday, 25 October

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Venue:** YWCA Singapore, 6 Fort Canning Road, Fort Canning Lodge, Hope & Faith Room, Level 3, S179494

**Hosts :** Rtn Uttam Kripalani, Hon Secretary Connie Ho & President Mark Wang



BE THE INSPIRATION

7 | Crossroads







## The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendship?
- 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:

**First:** *Have I spent some time in self-examination?*

**Second:** *Have I spent quality time with my family?*

**Third:** *Have I given my best to my work?*

**Fourth:** *Have I given some time to someone near and far?*

The Guide, in fact, encompasses the 4 parts of the Object of Rotary.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018/2019

President	Mark Wang
Immediate Past President	Keith Harrison
President Elect	Deepak Nagrani
Vice President (Public Relations)	Hassan Moosa
Vice President (Membership)	Rajkumar Perumal Suppiah
Hon. Secretary (Administration)	Connie Ho
Hon. Treasurer (Finance)	Horst Hagemann
<i>Directors</i>	
Chair, Community Service	Dr Rupesh Agrawal
Chair, Vocational Service	Ronil Sujan
Chair, International Service	Dr Chan Siew Luen
Chair, New Generations Service	Dr Hoh Sek Tien
Director (Club Rotary Foundation)	Manish Tibrewal

