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March Is Water & Sanitation Month



Rotary 

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Water, Water!
Needed Everywhere!
By: HM PP Raymon
Huang

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10.3.21

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

In Focus

Water, Water! Needed Everywhere!

By: Honorary Member (HM) Past President (PP) Raymon Huang



HM PP Raymon Huang

Imagine if you had to trudge across unfriendly terrain and sometimes hostile environment to get to a polluted river, wash up, brush your teeth, and then scoop up a big bowl of that water, and balance it on your head all the way home three or four miles away. Everyday. Sometimes several times a day. This happens daily to a lot of womenfolk in the Third World countries. And the polluted water brought back – for drinking, cooking and washing. Maybe to us such a scenario is quite unimaginable.

Then there is the other equally, if not more disturbing question – sanitation. It is a health-related issue of great importance. In many under-developed places, poor sanitation seems to be the norm. Sanitation as such is absent. Put together with the use of polluted water, the resulting ravages of water-borne disease can be disastrous.

So, is help being extended to improve the situation? A situation which in this day and age should not exist in the first place. The United Nations, the World Health Organisation, and countless voluntary organisations are extending a helping hand. So is Rotary, in a big way.

Rotary International has made it a special effort to be spot-on whenever possible – to help prevent a potential explosion of diseases caused by the combination of polluted water and poor sanitation. Each year RI has selected a special month to specifically address this issue. This Rotary Year, it is the month of March, which is dedicated as **“Water & Sanitation Month”**!

Water is something we must have – everyday! Sanitation is something we must do – everyday! They are, together, a life necessity – everyday! And not just water, but clean water. Not just sanitation, but good sanitation. The danger of serious water-borne disease resulting from dirty water and bad sanitation is of real and great concern. Now, to add to all that is the presence of the Covid-19 pandemic. Good hygiene is an absolute pre-requisite.

Rotary says: “Clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life.”

Rotary does: “Through water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programmes, Rotary’s people of action mobilise resources, form partnerships, and invest in infrastructure, and training that yield long term change.” A legendary example: The oft quoted happening in Lebanon. When all 24 Rotary Clubs there banded together, overcoming religious, political and cultural divides, to provide clean water to all public schools in the country. It was a huge project. It was done with partnerships with World Vision, UNICEF and the Red Cross. It was Rotary-initiated, with The Rotary Foundation right behind it.

In Focus

Imagine the amount of goodwill and understanding generated by such efforts. Imagine the “Service Above Self” banner headlines Rotary received. This is happening in many places in the world where and when clean water, good hygiene and good sanitation are needed. We who are blessed with good things and facilities everyday do not often give them second thought. But the friendships and the bridges of brotherhood that we build in extending our helping hands are immeasurable.

I recall our Club’s own projects in providing clean water and good sanitation in India, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia. I recall the gratitude and the smiles and the laughter of the beneficiaries – in particular the school children. In Krabi, Thailand, especially, where we provided the school with a water-filtration “plant”. At last, clean water, after all these years of collecting rainwater in a huge tub. This exemplifies what this “**Water & Sanitation Month**” is about – bringing health and happiness to the formerly deprived.

Once again, I quote:

“Clean water, sanitation and hygiene education are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life.”

“WORLD ROTARACT WEEK”

March 11-17, 2021

It commemorates the 1968 chartering of the first club, in North Carolina, USA.

During the week, Rotaract Clubs are asked to partner their sponsoring Rotary Clubs in service projects and to try to sponsor a new Rotaract Club.

Meeting Report

33rd Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2020-2021 held on 10.3.2021

OPENING REMARKS



SAA Rtn
Vineet Iyengar

Sergeant-at-Arms (SAA) Rtn Vineet Iyengar greeted everyone a warm evening on a warm day, and requested all to ensure that they were on mute until the Q&A and fellowship sessions. He further reminded all present of the usual meeting rules before inviting President Dinesh to start the meeting.

President Dinesh called the 33rd Club meeting to order and welcomed Honorary Members, Past Presidents, members, prospective members and guests. He warmly welcomed His Excellency (H E) Mr

William Hodgman, the Australian High Commissioner to Singapore, who would be speaking a little later in the meeting.



President Dinesh Sharma

TOAST TO ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



Rtn Tom Wolf

Toastmaster Rtn Tom Wolf called on members to join him in a toast to the prestigious organisation whose target is to make the world a better place for all - to Rotary International!

HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Vocational Service Committee meeting will be hosted by Director Dr Chan, details of the Zoom meeting would be circulated to members;
- Reminder was received from Chair of the KS Mehta essay competition, Rtn Uttam Kripalani on the competition which was launched last week. The competition is opened to Interactors and the closing date is 31 March 2021.



Rtn Brigitte
Holtschneider

BOARD RESOLUTION

President Dinesh informed members of the resignation received from Rtn See Mee Lee as President Elect (PE) for Rotary year 2020/21 due to unforeseen issues which required her to return to Malaysia. In view of the limited time till the installation and coming PETS mandatory participation, President Dinesh advised that he approached PN Louis Lim who in true Rotary spirit, agreed to accept the position of President for 2021-2022 from 1 July 2021, in the interest of the Club. An emergency Board Meeting was called, and the following resolution was adopted:

Board Resolution – To fill the vacant position of President Elect (PE) for the Rotary Year 2020/2021 with Rtn Louis Lim. Reference to the Club's Bylaws, article 1, section 3

As PE Rtn See Mee Lee resigned from her position as PE due to personal reasons, it is resolved by the Board to fill the vacant position with Rtn Louis Lim. Rtn Louis Lim has given his consent.

President Dinesh further called on members' consent to the Board Resolution which was accepted by members present. He added that senior members have conveyed their support for PE Louis and thanked him for accepting the position of President of the oldest and largest Rotary Club in the District.

President Dinesh invited PE Louis to address members and he took the opportunity to thank members and called for their support.

Meeting Report

33rd Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2020-2021 held on 10.3.2021

UPDATE ON MAJOR PROJECT 2020-2021

President Dinesh gave an update of the Club's Major Project to provide kitchen equipment at the new premises of Willing Hearts, details of which have been presented by the Major Project Chair, Director Dr Chan Siew Luen.

President Dinesh advised that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with Willing Hearts on 9 March 2021. He added that there was a delay in the project due to the late signing of premises lease with the government. He added that the Club's fund-raising would start soon.



Around the table (clockwise from left to right): Founder Mr Tony Tay & President Mr Teh Eng Hua (from Willing Hearts), Rtn Subhash Pritmani, Major Project Chair Director Dr Chan Siew Luen, President Dinesh Sharma & Rtn Tom Wolf

INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

President Dinesh called on Membership Chair, VP Suresh Keerthi to introduce the new member, Rtn Sean Lim Wee Kee. VP Suresh advised that he and Rtn Sean's proposer Rtn Rajeev Mukul have known one another for more than 25 years. Bruno Pinto Massote, Narasimhan Narayanan (Nara) and Marcelo Duarte Monteiro before inducting them to the Club.

Rtn Sean Lim Wee Kee

Place of Work: EC-Council

Classification: Learning & Development: Cybersecurity

Recommended Committee: Community Service (CSC)

Proposer: Rtn Rajeev Mukul

Mentor: PP Stan Low



Rtn Sean is a Malaysian and Singapore permanent resident. He is the EC-Council's Chief Operating Officer as well as Chief Revenue Officer and has over 18 years of experience in the training and education industry.

Among his many interests which he and his wife, Michelle, enjoys are cycling, badminton, deep sea fishing and photography. Rtn Sean is also an avid cook and a good baker.

Upon his induction, Rtn Sean stated his pleasure at being admitted to the Club and has gotten to know several members including PPs Stan Low and Sajjad Akhtar. He added that his life has been dedicated to mentoring/coaching/training and education and was ready to serve and be of service to the Club.

Meeting Report

33rd Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2020-2021 held on 10.3.2021

KYFR KNOW YOUR FELLOW ROTARIAN



KYFR speaker Rtn Allard Nooy joined the Club on 2 December 2020. He is originally from the Netherlands and was educated at ETS, College of advanced Technology in Electrical Engineering; B. Sc. In Engineering Management; MBA in International Business; Advanced Finance and Advanced Business Leadership Programmes. Rtn Allard's career has taken him from Netherlands to many countries and he has lived in

Vietnam, Hong Kong, Shanghai, New Delhi and finally in 2013, he arrived in Singapore. He is the Chief Executive Officer of InfraCo Asia.



Rtn Allard Nooy

Rtn Allard spoke of his varied interests such as cooking and organizing gourmet dinners, international travel, tennis, golf, swimming, competitive offshore sailing, skiing and Villa Baan Asan – a development project which he and his wife undertook in Koh Samui. Besides being a member of the Club, Rtn Allard advised that he was on the Board of the International Project Finance Association (IPFA) and Co-Chair, BritCham Singapore Energy & Utilities Community. Rtn Allard shared some slides of the various aspects of his life.

GUEST SPEAKER: HIS EXCELLENCY (HE) MR WILLIAM HODGMAN

TOPIC: PRIORITIES OF THE AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN SINGAPORE

President Dinesh welcomed HE Mr Hodgman, the Australian High Commissioner to Singapore and called upon Hon Secretary Brigitte to formally introduce him.

HE Mr Hodgman served in the Parliament of Tasmania from 2002 until 2020, including as the State's 45th Premier between 2014 and 2020. He is a career politician and has held various Ministerial positions in the Tasmania Parliament, and was recently the inaugural Chair of the Australian Business Growth Fund. HE Mr Hodgman holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Tasmania.



HE Mr William Hodgman

HE Mr Hodgman spoke on the inauguration of the Australian Business Growth Fund to support new businesses. He highlighted various priorities and added that firstly he would represent Australia's interests here and to build and further strengthen the relationships between the two countries. He noted that there were also opportunities available as the world adapts and emerge from this crisis particularly in the digital realm and cited the World Digital Agreement which was undertaken to equip the two countries for a post Covid recovery. HE Mr Hodgman spoke of other areas of collaborations with regards to sustainability, food security, education and other industries.

President Dinesh called upon PP Mark Wang who on behalf of the Club thanked HE Mr Hodgman for his updates, insights and priorities as the Australian High Commissioner on how to promote trade and investment and the social causes which we are all in together. Lastly, PP Mark warmly welcomed HE Mr Hodgman and his family coming from one big island to this small island.

CLOSING REMARKS

President Dinesh highlighted that including the Board Resolution of the new President Elect, the Board passed another resolution to form the Nominating Committee to find the President Nominee. He added that the Nominating Committee would be reinstated comprising PPs Stan, Mohan, Chin Ngiap and Tapan and would include PE Louis, IPP Deepak and himself. He further requested PE Louis to nominate his Board as soon as possible and thanked everyone for their attendance, before closing the Meeting.

Last Week

34th Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2020-2021 held on 17.3.2021

OPENING REMARKS



SAA Rtn
Jean-Philippe Lionnet

Sergeant-at-Arms (SAA) Rtn Jean-Philippe Lionnet welcomed members to the 34th weekly meeting and reminded them of the usual house-keeping rules. He then handed the meeting over to President Dinesh who welcomed our Honorary Members, Past Presidents, guests, fellow Rotarians and prospective members.

President Dinesh was pleased to welcome to the meeting visiting Rotarian PP Ramesh Chari as well as the Guest Speaker, Mr Colin Downie from WildHearts Group.



President
Dinesh Sharma

TOAST TO ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



Rtn Francesco De Liva

President Dinesh called on new member Rtn Francesco De Liva who raised a toast to the Rotary Club of Bangalore Orchard coupled with the toast to Rotary International. We learnt that the club has about 80 members and is a 100% Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) Club.

Later in the meeting, President Dinesh invited PP Ramesh Chari to address the Club. PP Ramesh has completed 25 years in Rotary and was pleased to advised that he introduced Rotary to Rtn Ravishankar Dakoju who recently spoke to the Club. He further spoke of the two focus projects of the Bangalore Orchards clubs which are the spectacle and book banks.

2ND HYBRID CLUB MEETING

President Dinesh noted that following the 1st hybrid meeting with the World Understanding and Peace Day meeting held on 23.2.21, members were looking towards having physical meetings and therefore the second hybrid meeting will take place as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 31 March 2021

Time: 7.00pm to 8.00pm (dinner will be served) Meeting starts at 8.00pm to 9.00pm

Venue: The Pavilion, 4th Level, Conrad Centennial Singapore

Dinner cost - \$58.00 nett per person (upon registration)

Dress code: Business attire

Members who are unable to attend the physical meeting, can log in on Zoom from 7.45pm

MAJOR PROJECT 2020/2021

President Dinesh reminded members of the Club's Major and appealed to members for their contributions. He called on Major Project Chair, Director Dr Chan Siew Luen to give further updates.

Rtn Siew Luen introduced the Major Project Committee members and showed a video on the project for beneficiary Willing Hearts which has the objective to increase the number of meals to 20,000 a day for the needy. The project would raise \$166,220 towards the cost of kitchen equipment for the new premises at Telok Kurau. It was noted that an MOU was signed with Willing Hearts on 9 March 2021. Rtn Siew Luen called on members for support and hoped to see the donations towards the Major Project coming in.



Last Week

34th Club Meeting for Rotary Year 2020-2021 held on 17.3.2021

KYFR KNOW YOUR FELLOW ROTARIAN



President Dinesh called upon KYFR speaker none other than PP Alan Tan who joined the Club on 28 February 2001.

PP Alan advised that he was introduced to Rotary by previous member Goh Bock Seng, but he was not too active then in the Club due to business commitments, although he added, that was no excuse for non-attendance! Nevertheless, PP Alan stated that Rotary gave him a different perspective of life and he met very good and kind-hearted Rotarians whom he learnt a great deal. Particularly, PP Alan shared no matter how busy you are with your business - one should not forget about doing good for mankind.



PP Alan Tan

PP Alan added that he was in the food catering business and in 2013, he was awarded The Entrepreneur of the Year Award and was approached by PP Dr Shahul Hameed to take on the position of Club President. Although he had not served as a board member, PP Alan added that he became very involved in Rotary and the Club once he became President Elect. He treasured his Rotary experience, and recounted his visit to the Rotary Eye Hospital in India and the happy working relationship with his Board Members, such as Rtms Brigitte and James Lee who were his Vice Presidents, and took the opportunity to thanks all his Board Members again.

GUEST SPEAKER: MR COLIN DOWNIE

TOPIC: GLOBAL SOCIAL IMPACT OF WILDHEARTS GROUP

President Dinesh called upon Rtn Nirmal Singh to introduce Mr Colin Downie who is the Sales and Partnership Director at the WildHearts Group, a social enterprise group dedicated to launching companies that through their activities and profits deliver entrepreneurship education and microfinance globally. He is a founding member of the WildHearts Group, where his extensive experience and skills in entrepreneurialism, sales and business development have helped to build the WildHearts Group from zero customers, into a multi-million pound organisation now delivering social impact across 40 countries.



Speaker, Mr Colin Downie

Mr Downie added that he was familiar with Rotary as his father is a proud Rotarian in Scotland, and very much aware of what Rotary brings to the community. He started his presentation by highlighting some of the accreditation received from such organisations as United Nations Global Compact and B Corporation. Mr Downie highlighted the impact that WildHearts Group through championing financial inclusion in the developing world and social mobility in the UK and beyond. He showed a few videos of the WildHearts Schools programme such as “Micro-Tyco” as well as programmes which empower female entrepreneurs globally. He added that S\$9,300 spent with WildHearts transforms 20 lives through its social impact programmes.

President Dinesh invited Community Service Director Rtn Dr Irina Francken to extend the Club’s vote of thanks to Mr Downie. Rtn Irina noted that it was very interesting listening about social enterprises and the figures presented about WildHearts were absolutely amazing. She warmly thanked Mr Downie for his presentation and for leaving his contacts for follow ups.

Mark Your Diary

Birthday Celebrants

RC sends best wishes to Birthday celebrants:

Amit Chatterjee

Lisa Gwee

Raj Vaswani

Anniversary

RC sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants:

PP Mark & Tracey Wang

MM & Lily Patel

PK & Sapna Walia

Dr Ganesh & Lisa Ramalingam

Committee Meetings

All Service Committee Meetings will be held on Thursdays from 7.00 to 8.00pm

YOUTH SERVICE:
Thursday, 25 March 2021

This Meeting

24 March 2021
From 7.00 to 8.30pm

Speaker: Rotarian Ranganathan (Ranga) Somanathan

Topic: Impact of the Pandemic on Consumer Behaviour and Media Habits

Next Meeting

31 March 2021
From 7.00 to 8.30pm

2nd Hybrid Meeting

At Conrad Centennial Hotel

Speaker: Ms Cheryl Chung, Programme Director, Executive Education Singapore Futures, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Topic: Technology and Governance - How They Evolve

Coming Rotary

March

Water and Sanitation Month

29 Mar to 5 Apr – PETS

April

Maternal and Child Health Month

18 Apr to 27 Apr – DISTAS

May

Youth Service Month

21 to 23 May – District Conference

June

Rotary Fellowships Month

19 Jun – Installation of the 87th Board



GIFT OF LIFE

Children with cardiac problems to get help from Rotary's District 3300 & 3310

A full set of 3 editions - Book of Humour, Best of Humour & Bank of Humour, come in a beautifully designed box housing this set for only \$25.00

Please order a few sets of books for the Gift of Life Project, and place your orders with:
Hon. Member Rtn Rewa Mirpuri @
tel: 6241 9157 or
email: rewamirpuri@gmail.com

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?



Rotary Opens Opportunities

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 2020/2021

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| President | Dinesh Sharma |
| Immediate Past President | Deepak Nagrani |
| President Elect | Louis Lim |
| Vice President (Membership) | Suresh Keerthi |
| Vice President (Digital Technology) | Colin Miles |
| Hon. Secretary (Administration) | Brigitte Holtschneider |
| Hon. Treasurer (Finance) | Manish Tibrewal |
| <i>Directors</i> | |
| Chair, Community Service | Dr Irina Francken |
| Chair, Vocational Service | Dr Chan Siew Luen |
| Chair, International Service | Varun Gulati |
| Chair, New Generations Service | Dr Ganesh Ramalingam |
| Director (Public Image & PR) | Sonali Sinha |

