



# Rotary crossroads

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*Proud of our Heritage, Committed to our Future*

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*Paul Koh*

## Rotary Swimarathon 2017

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Rotary Swimarathon  
2017

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2017 Meeting

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

## Rotary Swimarathon 2017

*By: Vocational Service Chair, Rtn Balasubramanian Venkatesan*

The Rotary Swimarathon was completed on Saturday 30 April 2017; it was hugely successful with a fabulous turnout by swimmers from various segments of society – total of 149 swimmers did a combined 3804 laps!

Sports Lifestyle Centre was very gracious in permitting the complimentary use of their facilities for the second year running.

There was great collaboration with Youth Service Committee (YSC), thanks to YSC Chair Rtn Adnan Ansari for mobilising the Interact volunteers from various institutions – more than 50 volunteers took charge of logistics and supervision of the event with great efficiency.

Guest of Honour, Mr Melvin Yong, Member of Parliament for Tanjong Pagar GRC was very enthusiastic and made an effort to speak to various members, guests and Interact volunteers.

Various teams of swimmers as well as members of the public, helped to achieve and hugely exceed the target of laps. Special thanks to Rtn Paul Koh for his tireless support of high class photographs of the event throughout the day, as well as Luke Tan, son of Rtn K K Tan, who was responsible for the coordination and supervision of the efforts of the volunteers.

The event raised nearly \$35,000 for beneficiaries Samaritans of Singapore and End Polio programme, which fell short of the target set. But it was understandable given the Charity Dinner held the previous evening, thus resulting in donors getting spread out to various events.

It was an outstanding event in terms of participation and should be an annual fixture as part of our fund-raising efforts.



*Members and guests with the young team swimmers*



## Rotary Swimarathon 2017...contd



*Mr Yong with members and guests*



*Guest of Honour, Mr Melvin Yong addressing the crowd*

*Some of our Club's swimmers....*



*PN/ISC Director Mark Wang*



*President Garry Taylor*



*Dr Claus Dusemund*



*Rtn Terry Lobaton*



*Hon Secretary Louis Lim*



## Rotary Swimarathon 2017...contd



*Great fellowship – Rtns Asheesh Khaneja, VSC  
Dir Bala Venkatesan, James Lee (l to r)*



*Lending support to the event... Rtns Asheesh, Hassan  
Moosa, Yong Poh Shin & Suresh Keerthi (l to r)*



*Ms Koh Hui Ping (in blue) did a staggering 154 laps!!*



*Relaxing after the swim...*



*Rtn Hassan (back) with the Interact volunteers*



*Some of our marvellous volunteers*

# Last Week

## Last Week – Report on the Wednesday Meeting – 24 May 2017

### OPENING REMARKS & WELCOME OF GUESTS AND VISITING ROTARIANS

President Garry Taylor warmly welcomed the Speaker, none other than our very own Rtn Suresh Hathiramani. He then called on Rtn See Mee Lee to extend the welcome to the following guests and visiting Rotarians.

#### Guests

Ms Vera Chan  
Mrs Koshu Chanrai (HM PP Murli's daughter)  
Mr Nikhil Hathiramani (Rtn Suresh's son)  
Mrs Priti Mahtani (wife of new member Dr Suresh Mahtani)  
Mr Gabriel Teo

#### Visiting Rotarian:

Connie Ho - Shanghai  
Nobuyuki Matsumaru – Tokyo Jyosa  
Kelly Wheeler – West Pearl Harbour Honolulu



*Rtn See Mee Lee*

### TOAST

Toastmaster Rtn Steven Nichols invited visiting Rtn Kelly Wheeler to address the Club. Rtn Kelly advised that her club is the newest club in Hawaii – not quite 90 days old! It has 20 members and are currently working to provide community service to the local schools. Rtn Kelly added that she met with International Service Director, Rtn Mark Wang at the recent medical mission in China and that it was her first visit to Singapore.



*From left: Rtns Steven, Kelly & Pres Garry*

### PRESENTATION OF BANNER

President Garry presented a Club banner to Rtn Kelly who advised that her club has yet to decide on a club banner. However instead of a club banner, Rtn Kelly gave a gift of chocolate covered macadamia nuts to President Garry.





# Last Week

## CLUB'S WEBSITE STORIES

Incoming Vice President Andy Mankiewicz advised that he would be looking at the Club's Public Relations portfolio and was organising a new Club's website. He called on members to provide "stories" of some Club projects of the past six months with photos or videos which could be used for the website. Rtn Andy added that the write up could be a few paragraphs of about half a page.



*Rtn Andy Mankiewicz*

## PAUL HARRIS FELLOW (PHF) RECOGNITION



*Rtn Patel with Pres Garry*

President Garry was pleased to call upon Rtn M M Patel to come forward to receive his Major Donor Level 1 pin which was received from The Rotary Foundation.

We warmly thank Rtn Patel for his generous giving to The Rotary Foundation.

## MAJOR PROJECT 2016-2017

President Garry called on PDG Dr Philbert Chin who appealed to members to support the Club's Major Project. He advised that for the Major Project to succeed, it has been a tradition and culture for every member of the Club to contribute to the Major Project. He added that unfortunately, over the years this has not been the case. PDG Philbert noted that the Club chose and voted for the Samaritans of Singapore (SOS) as the beneficiary of the Major Project this year. He advised that everyday, one person commits suicide, particularly children, and the Club's goal to raise \$500,000 would go towards a training centre. PDG Philbert called on members to support by contributing at least one PHF which would go towards a Global Grant for the Major Project and tax exemption would be available.



*PDG Dr Philbert Chin*

## INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS



*President Garry presenting the Club's Membership Kits to Rtns Tina (left) & Dr Suresh*

President Garry called on Rtns See Mee Lee and M M Patel to introduce their candidates, Rtns "Tina" Tang Ming and Dr Suresh Ramchand Mahtani respectively.

Rtn Tina's classification is "Real Estate" whilst the classification given to Rtn Dr Suresh is

"Medicine: Family Practice". Both new members were recommended to join the Youth Service Committee.

# Last Week

**Speaker:** Rtn Suresh Hathiramani

**Topic:** *“Are Diamonds a Store of Value or an Investment?”*

President Garry called upon Rtn Dinesh Sharma to introduce Speaker, Rtn Suresh Hathiramani. Rtn Suresh has over 40 years of working experience in various industries having worked in India, Indonesia and for the past 36 years in Singapore. He is the Managing Director and principal shareholder of Facets Singapore Pte Ltd, one of South East Asia’s leading diamond and jewellery wholesale companies.

He has served as president of the Diamond Exchange of Singapore (DES) twice from 2002 to 2006 and again between 2010 and 2014. Presently he holds the position of Hon. Treasurer of the DES. He has also served as a member on various committees in jewellery related organizations in Singapore and abroad including as Chairman between 2011 to 2016 of the Trade and Promotions committee of the World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB), an umbrella organization that unifies the functioning of 28 diamond bourses worldwide. He holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) degree in Physics from St. Xavier’s College, University of Mumbai. He is also a trained diamond grader.

Rtn Suresh is known for his passion on environmental matters and he is involved in nature conservation efforts in Singapore and Indonesia. He is an active Club member and has served as Vocational Service Chair in Rotary year 2006-07 and Vice President under PP Dr Shahul Hameed during 2013-14.

Rtn Suresh started his presentation by adding that his classification talk was long overdue! His talk comprehensively covered the history and an overview of diamonds which led to a greater appreciation of diamonds. He also covered aspects of mining, physical properties, industrial uses and grading of diamonds. He made a case for diamonds being a store of value with the keyword being “portability”. He noted that the favourable factors for diamonds far outweighed those against it. Rtn Suresh’s talk also attempted to answer the 2 most frequently asked questions about diamonds, i.e. are diamonds a good investment and have the prices of diamonds gone up recently.

To conclude, Rtn Suresh noted that diamond’s allure has endured across all wealthy and developed societies. He added that diamonds are long term stores of value, some greater, some lesser and there was no “use by” date nor go out of fashion; making them rewarding investments which bring strong emotional links with past and future generations.

In his vote of thanks to Rtn Suresh for his very enlightening talk, Rtn Uttam Kripalani recalled a song sung by Marilyn Monroe called “Diamonds are a girl’s best friend” and added that should Rtn Suresh wish to distribute any samples – members would happily echo Marilyn Monroe’s song and make diamonds their best friends!



*Speaker, Rtn Suresh Hathiramani*



*Rtn Dinesh Sharma*



*Rtn Uttam Kripalani*

# Mark Your Diary

## Birthday Celebrants

**RC sends Birthday greetings to celebrants:**

1 June – Vice President Jasbir Koh

## Anniversary Celebrants

**RC sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants this week:**

30 May – Edward & Deirdre Loy and Ronil & Reshma Sujan

## Community Service Meeting

**Community Service Committee Meeting will be held as follows:**

**Date:** Thursday, 1 June

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Venue:** Singapore Polo Club, 80 Mount Pleasant Road, S298334

**Hosts:** Rtns Haider Nawaz & Kimio Somemiya

## This Meeting

**31 May 2017**

**Reception Desk duty:** Dr Claus Dusemund, Anant Jain

**Sunshine Box duty:** Sunil Kalra, Terry Lobaton

**K S Mehta Award and Presentation to Winners**

## Vocational Service Meeting

**Vocational Service Committee Meeting will be held as follows:**

**Date:** Thursday, 8 June

**Time:** 7.30pm

**Venue:** To be advised

**Host:** Hon Secretary Rtn Louis Lim

Queries, comments and articles request can be sent to [rtvinfo@rotary.org.sg](mailto:rtvinfo@rotary.org.sg)

## Next Meeting

**7 June 2017**

**Reception Desk duty:** PP Dr Yap Lip Kee & Dr Claus Dusemund

**Sunshine Box duty:** Horst Hagemann, Xerxes Medora

**Speaker:** Ms Zai Miztiq, Founder, MiztiQ International

**Topic:** "She broke her spine but not her"

## Coming Rotary Events

June  
**Rotary Fellowships Month**

**1-4 June** – Interact District Conference

**10-14 June** – R I Convention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

**24 June** – Installation Dinner, Pan Pacific Ballroom







## 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.

**ROTARY  
SERVING  
HUMANITY**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016/2017

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