

# THAILAND Rotary

โรตารีประเทศไทย [www.rotarythailand.org](http://www.rotarythailand.org)

English issue



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## Feel the energy





# FEEL THE ENERGY

OF INNOVATION AND TRADITION

Taipei, Taiwan  
12-16 June  
[convention.rotary.org](http://convention.rotary.org)  
#Rotary21

## ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will :

- 1) Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
- 2) Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- 3) Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
- 4) Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians
- 5) Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities, report any suspected harassment, and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment



## President's message

HOLGER KNAACK, November 2020



Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends,

We all know Rotary's tremendous power to transform our communities and ourselves. However, in every community, people have been left out, and we have not made a strong enough effort to reach them.

The RI Board of Directors is taking action to make Rotary more welcoming and diverse. We formed a task force to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion to help clubs attract new members regardless of gender, race, religion, age, or other factors. This will help us speed up the change we all want and need. The selection of Jennifer E. Jones as Rotary president for 2022-23 — the first woman to lead our organization — is another step in this direction.

At the grassroots level, clubs drive inclusion and diversity. Alia Ali — who serves on the board of directors at the Big West Rotaract Multidistrict Information Organization and is a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards alumna and past president of the Rotaract Club of Surrey-Newton, British Columbia — offers her perspective.

I still remember the relief I felt as a RYLA participant four years ago. I had finally found my people: people who cared as much as I did. All over the world, Rotary has the same heart. We serve our communities and take action where others feel paralyzed by the size and scope of a problem.

Let's continue that spirit, especially when the conversation is difficult. Racism, prejudice, and discrimination take on different forms but exist in every country, in every city, and in every person. How do we root it out?

As a diversity, equity, and inclusion consultant, I help organizations create a culture that empowers and attracts everyone using the power of empathy. When we feel with others as if they were ourselves, we cannot hold prejudice in our hearts. When every child reminds you of your own child, when every woman or man reminds you of your mother or brother, you start seeing the world differently.

We can apply The Four-Way Test through the lens of empathy. Are we building goodwill and friendship with everyone in our area, including women? Are things fair and beneficial to people of all ages? Who has to make choices that you don't have to make?

I made a heartbreaking choice between Rotary and my religion when a Rotary convention was held during Rama-dan. I wondered: When we ask if this is fair and beneficial to all concerned, did that not include me as a Muslim? Would the convention ever be held over Easter? Only by asking difficult questions can we begin the work of creating a more inclusive and diverse Rotary.

We already connect so many people across the world. Imagine the possibilities when we bring even more people along for the ride. That's the future of Rotary I want to see: one where we are unstoppable in our service, relentless in our kindness, and intentional in the change we want to see.

Rotary has a big enough heart. If we open our door wider, we might find a lot of interesting people with new voices and new perspectives. We already have a variety of clubs offering different styles, cultures, and opportunities — and those who do not feel welcome in any particular club might be great candidates for new clubs created on different models. It's important that we make sure every new Rotary member is a good fit for their club. Rotary Opens Opportunities through diversity.

HOLGER KNAACK  
President, Rotary International



## President's message

HOLGER KNAACK, December 2020



Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends,

As I look back on 2020, I reflect on how our lives have changed. The global COVID-19 pandemic brought pain and loss to many of us. And for almost all of us, our daily lives, family time, and work also changed this year. But we've made it to the end of this difficult year, not on our own but by reaching out to one another, as we always do in Rotary. With each passing year, I become prouder of our organization.

I will choose to remember 2020 as a year of great change and strength for us; Rotary didn't stop, despite the pandemic. We removed obstacles, found new ways to connect, and embraced new approaches to service, such as online projects and virtual fundraising. I have invited two Rotarians to share their stories about how Rotary grew stronger this year.

When the pandemic shut everything down, our emerging e-club was already providing digital service, including internationally. Fourteen U.S. women and I, members of multiple Rotary clubs, were using WhatsApp to mentor women entrepreneurs in rural Costa Rica, helping them to grow their ecotourism business, RETUS Tours [the subject of the magazine's May cover story, "Nature & Nurture"]. The project has grown, with 30 Rotarians now providing consulting and help with the RETUS website and social media. Most importantly, we continue building relationships and empowering these women to transform their own lives, and we are doing it online. I've even helped one of the women, Rosa, prepare a presentation in English for an online international conference. While our engagement with the Costa Rican women still requires some hands-on activity, the most transformative impacts haven't had to be in person. — Liza Larson, Rotary E-Club Engage and Rotary Club of Plano East, Texas.

I was president of my club when COVID-19 hit, and many members didn't yet have Zoom. Only 10 of our 53 members participated in the first Zoom meeting during the pandemic. I thought that reaching out and getting guest speakers from around the world to engage our members would help. Many Rotary leaders, a Rotary Peace Fellow, and even RI President Holger Knaack visited virtually and spoke to our club. Meeting attendance improved, while we reduced running costs by cutting out meals. Some members who worked outside our city and had missed our meetings even rejoined us. Registering our online meetings on My Rotary enhanced contacts with clubs across the world, and the joint meeting addressed by Holger attracted more than 300 visitors. We also raised more funds as members and visitors contributed to our projects. To continue being flexible for all, we are now offering hybrid meetings. For me, 2020 has been the best year in Rotary as I've made many new friends. — Blessing Michael, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt North, Nigeria.

These stories should give us all reasons to be optimistic about Rotary in the year ahead. We are not just surviving; we are gaining strength. We are discovering how resilient our organization truly is. We are seeing for ourselves how Rotary Opens Opportunities — even during pandemics — to grow, connect, and engage our members and the communities we serve.

From our home in Ratzeburg to yours, Susanne and I would like to bid you and your family the warmest of season's greetings. We can't wait to see the good things that 2021 will bring.

HOLGER KNAACK  
President, Rotary International





### Invest in the future through the Foundation

In the early 1870s, a genius toiled in his laboratory, driven by a vision to improve life through technology. After many failed attempts, by 1880 Thomas Edison had perfected a new light bulb that could be produced on a mass scale.

When someone pointed out to him that he had tried and failed 10,000 times before succeeding, he responded that he had merely found 10,000 ways it wouldn't work!

Just like Edison, The Rotary Foundation is driven by a vision for a better world. And we, too, remain determined and creative in the face of setbacks.

Earlier this year, our vital polio immunization activities had to be temporarily paused to ensure that the polio eradication program did not contribute to the COVID-19 pandemic. And so we adapted: The polio-fighting infrastructure that Rotary helped build was enlisted to assist in the response to COVID-19 in many vulnerable countries, as we had done before during outbreaks of Ebola, yellow fever, and avian flu.

Thankfully, we resumed polio immunization activities in July, having first taken all precautions to protect frontline workers and communities.

During these challenging days, our business — reaching out to people in distress — is not business as usual. The way we prepare and deliver projects and the methodology we use need to change. And the way we communicate what we do also must change.

The success of our global grants model is unmistakable. At its introduction in 2013-14, the Foundation awarded 868 grants worth over \$47 million. By 2019-20, the number of approved grants had risen to 1,350, worth over \$100 million. While the number of grants shot up by more than 50 percent, and funding by 123 percent, corresponding Annual Fund contributions showed only a 5 percent increase, and that's troubling.

To reach those who need us, to spread the love that our Foundation brings, we will need to rise to this challenge and work together to meet our funding needs. Mother Teresa once said that if we want a message of love to be heard, it has to be sent out. To keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it.

The Rotary Foundation offers the best opportunity I know for us to invest in a better future for communities around the world. Your generosity today and throughout this year is the oil that keeps our grants burning bright, reaching the ones who need us most.

K.R. RAVINDRAN  
Foundation Trustee Chair





Humankind is our business

On a foggy Christmas Eve in Victorian London, the old miser sits at his desk. Bitter and disillusioned with the world, Ebenezer Scrooge has only one interest: his bottom line. He declines his nephew's invitation to Christmas dinner, refuses to support the poor and deprived, and reluctantly grants his underpaid clerk, Bob Cratchit, time off for Christmas Day.

After he arrives home, strange things begin to happen. Jacob Marley, his deceased business partner, appears as a ghost tethered to a chain, telling Scrooge to change his self-centered ways, lest he meet the same fate.

That is the premise of A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens' classic tale of a man's transformation from hardened recluse to generous humanitarian. To me, it offers valuable lessons for all, regardless of belief or time of year.

In one of my favorite passages, a spirit magically transports Scrooge to the Cratchit household. There, he sees his clerk from a new vantage point, observing a humble but heartfelt holiday gathering. Scrooge then understands that gifts like friendship, family, and gratitude can't be recorded into any ledger. By the end of the story, Scrooge has learned the most important lesson of all: that as long as we are still alive, it's not too late to devote ourselves to serving humankind.

The year-end holidays are upon us. It is a time of giving and sharing, but it is not limited to our loved ones. It is also for the people we have never met and will never see, for those who are not so fortunate as we and could use a helping hand. The miracle of giving that Scrooge discovered on Christmas Eve is exactly what The Rotary Foundation does 365 days a year.

Our Foundation serves simultaneously as charity and performer in the field; Rotarians are on the ground, volunteering their skills and business expertise in support of grants that are funded by you. In this way, we carry out some of Rotary's most important work, such as protecting mothers and their babies and helping communities recover from the shocks of COVID-19.

Please remember The Rotary Foundation during this season of generosity. Remember that your gifts to the Foundation amplify our work in all areas of focus. They are perpetuated, not just today but long after we are gone. And the Foundation will continue to work its miracles in service to others tomorrow as long as we keep supporting it today. On behalf of The Rotary Foundation Trustees, I thank you for sending your generous contribution before 31 December.

K.R. RAVINDRAN  
Foundation Trustee Chair



# Editorial

PP.Vanit Yotharvit, D.3360

Fellow Rotarians,

Among the crisis, there is a conflict in all dimensions at the same time, Incompatibility in society Impairs the happiness of all of us. Many times, we choose to listen to music to help us immerse ourselves in the melodies and lyrics. Many times, the song has empowered us to face obstacles without discouraging.

This magazine Probably to all of you at the time of the new year. Therefore, I would like to present “The Lemonade Song” The Lemonade Song from Pink Martini to everyone.

*Well you couldn't be good, if you've never been bad.  
You couldn't keep cool, if you've never gone mad.  
You couldn't be glum, if you've never been glad.  
And lemons give you lemonade.*

*If you don't do the work, you'll never get paid.  
If you don't have the crowd, there's no parade.  
It may be trite, and I know it's clichéd.  
But lemons give you lemonade.*

*\*\*\*The glass is half full of sweet champagne.  
Some say it's half empty, what do they know?  
Why would you whine about the rain, when you could  
lose yourself inside a rainbow?*

*Without the climb, you don't get the view.  
Without the crime, you won't have a clue.  
There is no rhapsody, without the blue.  
And lemons give you lemonade  
\*\*\**

*Somebody's pain, is somebody's pleasure.  
Somebody's trash, is somebody's treasure.  
Somebody's ugly, is somebody's lovely.*

*And lemons give you lemonade.*

In real life, diversity, views and ways of thinking are normal. Any action that will result in it is normal as well. Alone, rules or regulations cannot create love and faith. Confidence in the organization comes up by doing. The Sacrifice of All of Us Rotarians as “People of Action”

Yours in Rotary  
PP.Vanit Yotharvit



*Pink Martini  
(History)*



*The Lemonade  
song*



*Amado Mio  
(Thai song)*

*Pink Martini is a band formed in 1994 by pianist Thomas Lauderdale in Portland, Oregon.*

*The group members called it Small orchestra A variety of forms Covering music genres such as classical, pop, Latin and jazz, the lead vocals are China Forbes and Storm Large.*

*The band consists of dozens of musicians, songs in 25 languages (including Thai songs), concerts and acts with Symphony orchestras across Europe, Asia, Greece, Turkey, the Middle East, North Africa, Australia, New Zealand, South America and North America.*



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*(Note: These captions are from the English article  
“Taipei Rising” in the November 2020 Rotary magazine.)*

*(Cover) Visitors ascend a staircase inside the National  
Palace Museum which houses an incomparable repository  
of Chinese art and ancient artifacts.*

*(Table of Contents Page) The colorful iconography of  
its temples permeates Taipei culture.*





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PP.Jantane Tienvijit (3360)

### Columnist

PP.Dr.Busabong Jamroendarasame,  
(3360)

### Advisor

PDG.Anurak Napawan (3360)

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### Editor, English vision

PP.Apisak Jompong (3360)

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### Contact

c/o Rotary Centre in Thailand 75/82-83, 32/Fl., Ocean Tower II, Soi Wattana,  
Asok Rd., Wattana, Bangkok 10110

Tel: 02-661-6720 Fax: 02-661-6719

Email: [magazine@rotarythailand.org](mailto:magazine@rotarythailand.org) ,

Website: [www.rotarythailand.org](http://www.rotarythailand.org)

Mobile: 085-822-4442

[v.yotharvut@rotarythailand.org](mailto:v.yotharvut@rotarythailand.org)

## Rotary Information

PDG.Somphop Thirasan  
Rotary Club of Kanchanaburi



# "Rotary three person"

To put on the Rotary pin on the collar to get attention from people then you will have a chance to introduce Rotary. This is truly "*Rotary Opens Opportunities*"

It was another day to travel to attend the 2020-2021 Rotary Club President and Rotary Club Committee Board Installation ceremony. While passing through the evening market at Chukadon junction, Mueang Kanchanaburi district. I was thinking of the street vendor's curry with hot rice, just think about this food it made me joy already. This curry or in Thai "*kang-ka-ree*" is original from India. The foreigner like it so much but do not know the name so they called it curry. Then, Thais call it after the foreigner but with Thai accent as "*Ka-ree*" In similarly, the name Chukadon junction which is told that during the Great East Asia War the Allied Army sent many planes to bombard at this point. As a result, they name the area Chukadon which mean you cannot hide from the bombard.

Arrive at the hotel where the event is held, sit for a while the ceremony begins in a typical Rotary way. The senior was invited to toast for Rotary and followed by district governor respectively. Community leader and honour guests who are not Rotarian were also invited to join the ceremony. They asked why do we have to toast for Rotary Three Rotary? I was stunned for a while and try to remember if there are any sentence talk about three Rotary. Then, I remembered when we all stand up and lift up our glass to toast for Rotary International. Due to the noise and the speaker not loud enough so they could not hear clearly for the last sentence "Rotary international" but they heard Rotary three person instead which it sounds similar to Thai word as "Rotary three person"

It reminded me of when I was in Yangon, Myanmar. I went out for sightseeing and see so many pagodas. A former Myanmar Military Ambassador U-Aung Kin explained that Buddhists in Myanmar believed that building a pagoda to worship would receive merit. In the meanwhile, it is also a trick for non-Buddhists when they see these pagodas, they would ask what this is. Then they will have the opportunity to explain the principles and teachings of Buddhism, and they believe that if they persuade someone to become a Buddhist, it will be a greater merit than building a pagoda.

However, in according to the question, it gave me the opportunity to share the history of Rotary. The founder, Paul P. Harris was born in Wisconsin. Then moved to Chicago to work in law. Together with three friends, Silvester Sheel, a coal merchant, Gustavus Low, a mining engineer, and Hiram E. Choray, a tailor, they meet for community service activities. Rotary established on February 23, 1905. As a result, the meeting of Paul and his three friends was the starting point for Rotary. If only Paul Harris but, without these three friends, it would not have been Rotary today. Therefore, these three people are also important.

Introducing people to be a member of the Rotary club, probably don't have to speak much but to do a simple trick like put a Rotary pin on the collar, to get attention from people then you will have a chance to introduce Rotary. This is truly "*Rotary Opens Opportunities*"

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## Article

PP. Busabong Jamroendararasame, Ph. Dr.,  
Rotary Club of Phayao



# The passing time will become more understanding

Several years ago, I chat with a Japanese friend, he said, you know, D. 3360 has a lot of DDF which not used. It surprised me and do not understand. As we felt the opposite, we do not have enough DDF in our district. So, I was inspired to study for more details on DDF. And after gathering and analysing the numbers, there are many things that are interesting.

DDF (District Designated Fund) is like a specific currency used within The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, (TRF) cannot use elsewhere. DDF comes from money donated by Rotarians. Three years ago, and returned to the district where Rotarians belong. The district will manage these moneys for how will it be used in the service project. If we compare the DDF in each district, 3330, 3340, 3350 and 3360. It found that there very few more or less different.

TRF allows the use of DDF in District Grant without contributions not more than half of the existing number. If used it in a Global Grant, the Global Grant will contribute one-fold. The crucial rule is there must be a foreign partner of not less than 30 percent of the fund size. And must request at least 15,000 DDF. In total, there will be no less than 30,000 US \$ for project funds. Therefore, DEF is an important resource in doing service project and it will be even more important when TRF no longer contribute to the cash donated in the project. The difficulty lies in collecting DDF and finding a partner.

The epidemic of COVID-19 has had a profound impact on the lives and well-being of people around the world. It is highly motivated by Rotarians to seek support for many anti COVID-19 programs, up to 30 percent. And TRF also supported by reducing the rule by do not use foreign partner but can use our own DDF. As a result, It added more priority to the project and quickly approved. At the same

time, TRF has provided a Disaster Response Grant for every club to provide defensive gear. In order to prepare for New Normal Life. For example, Singapore use a lot of DDF to supply alcohol gel, Mask and face shield. In Japan they join 7 districts together using DDF for providing mask and face shield. The opportunity for service project opened this year, especially for the prevention of COVID-19. The Rotary club can come up with many service projects. So, don't give up the opportunity.

“ DDF (District Designated Fund) is like a specific currency used in The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, (TRF)”

Many clubs pay more interested in DDF. They wanted to know how much do they have as well as to bring out DDF to use for the benefit. They also wanted to accumulate it more and save it for later. In each district not much difference. And when analysing the numbers, it finds that there is diversity as describe below:

The first group (minority) had a lot of DDF because there are many members donate and they also have major donors. This group usually has the ability in applying for a grant. So, they could be

benefit as much as they wish to manage DDF., that is the more they have the more they can spend.

The second group has a reasonable amount of DDF. They gather many clubs together for the benefit for applying grant. If they support one another and cooperated, it will also be benefit as wishes.

And the other group does not have DDF. Or have a very little amount, which is not enough to use. Or event use it as part of DDF fund. It shows that the District must educate and strengthen their knowledge and pay attention so that, they can use DDF as a tool for service project.

However, there are many details in the Rotary Foundation, it will have to repeat it again and again. Must have experience, be motivated, have time to study, and concentrate. As a result, the passing time will become more understanding.





TAIPEI RISING  
Convention 2021

# Taipei rising

Sacred temples, cloud-busting skyscrapers,  
mountain getaways, incomparable food, and  
a dazzling nightlife: Welcome to Taiwan's  
dynamic capital city, home of the 2021  
Rotary International Convention

by Susie L. Ma  
photography by An Rong Xu

THAILAND  
**Rotary**  
funhikowen.www.rotarythailand.org

10 November - December 2020



It emerged from the ocean mists about 500 years ago, a lush Asian isle covered in green forests and punctuated by tall mountains. No matter that it had a civilization and a culture already centuries old. To the Portuguese sailors exploring uncharted seas, it was something entirely new, and it looked like a paradise. They gave it a name that soon began to appear on mariners' maps: Ilha Formosa — beautiful island.

The name stuck, though the island of Formosa, about 100 miles east of the coast of China, is known today as Taiwan. It is also considered one of the Four Asian

Tigers, a quartet of Far East economies that took off in the late 20th century and continue to expand in the 21st. For Taiwan, the seat and symbol of that miraculous growth is its capital, Taipei, a city that blazes 24/7 with an inextinguishable vitality — making it a perfect setting for the 2021 Rotary International Convention, whose theme is Feel the Energy.

This is a long-awaited moment for Taiwanese Rotarians, who chartered their first club, the Rotary Club of Taipei, in 1948. Seventy-two years later, Taiwan has nearly 900 clubs and about 35,000 Rotarians. Its 12 districts will serve as hosts for the 2021 convention from 12 to 16 June. “The Taiwanese Rotarians have been preparing to put on this convention for five years,” says Kenneth M. Schuppert Jr., the convention chair. “They have a great deal of pride, and they’re intent on making the convention a showcase for their city and their country.”

A member of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama, Schuppert served as the aide to Past RI President Gary C.K. Huang, a member of the Rotary Club of Taipei since 1976. Schuppert and his wife, Lynn, a member of the Decatur club who served as the aide to Huang’s wife, Corinna, have

visited Taipei several times. They are eager to return. “The city of Taipei is so interesting,” Schuppert says. “You’ve got all these modern buildings, with beautiful, ancient temples interspersed among them.” He extols the city’s vibrancy (as epitomized by its night markets), its cleanliness, and its many natural wonders, from its “pocket parks” to its nearby mountain trails.

Schuppert also raves about the food — and in doing so, he’s far from alone among visitors to Taiwan. Even the simplest meal is an occasion — a time for friends, old and new, to enjoy one another’s company and the island’s varied cuisine. Schuppert has some advice for Rotarians who are invited to dine as the guest of a Taiwanese host. “Don’t empty your plate unless you really want more,” he says. “When you think the meal is over, it’s probably not. More will come.”

Schuppert also touts the friendliness of the Taiwanese people and recommends that visitors attending the 2021 convention rely on local Rotarians to introduce them to the wonders of Taipei. In the following pages, you’ll see that we’ve done exactly that. We gathered tips from nearly a dozen Rotary members and Rotaractors who are well acquainted with the city. Our tour begins with an unlikely must-see destination that was also near the top of Schuppert’s list: the subway. (Meet some of the members of Rotary who showed us around at “Taipei personalities: Five of our tour guides,” page 15.)







*The tallest building in the world when it was completed in 2004, Taipei 101 is an engineering marvel, built to withstand → magnitude 9.0 earthquakes.*

available in English and help desks in each station staffed by attendants who speak English. Trains are frequent and run on time. Convention goers will receive a free pass to travel on the trains as part of their convention packet, making it simple and convenient to get to the Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, the home of the Taipei convention, which has its own MRT station.

### TAKE AN ELEVATOR UP

One sight you literally cannot miss is Taipei 101, the skyscraper that dominates the city's skyline. Named for its 101 floors, it was the tallest building in the world from 2004 until it was surpassed by Dubai's Burj Khalifa, which was completed in 2009. At 1,667 feet tall, it towers above the rest of the city — and nearly every Rotarian we spoke with mentioned it as an essential stop on any tour of Taipei.

Some say the tower resembles a pagoda, while others think it looks more like a stalk of bamboo. Taiwan is prone to earthquakes and typhoons, so Taipei 101 was designed to withstand a magnitude 9.0 earthquake and boasts an enormous, 728-ton tuned mass pendulum-style damper shaped like a gold ball that helps stabilize the building in high winds. (The damper is visible from the 87th to 92nd floors.)

The elevator ride from the fifth to the 89th floor takes only 37 seconds. There is an indoor observatory on the 89th and an outdoor one on the 91st. Last year the building management opened the 101st floor, previously reserved for VIPs, to the public; entry to the outdoor viewing platform requires wearing a safety harness. Tickets to the observatory decks are sold online or at the tower for about \$20.

Before or after you visit the top floor, stop on the lower floors to shop at the high-end stores or grab a bite to eat (Din Tai Fung, Taipei's legendary dumpling house, has an outpost here; its smaller, original restaurant is on Xinyi Road). If you prefer your meal with a view, there are also restaurants on the 85th and 86th stories.

## EXPLORE

### TAKE THE MRT

In any new city, a visitor's first order of business is to figure out the best way to get around. In Taipei, the answer to that question is the Mass Rapid Transit System. As Rotarian and Rotaractor Julie Chu explains, the MRT is more than just a means of getting from one spot on the map to another.

Chu was born in Taipei, but she spent most of her youth living abroad. When she returned as a 25-year-old, she knew little of her native city. "I had to explore Taipei as a foreigner," Chu explains. "I spoke the language, but a lot of things were alien to me. The MRT was how I relearned my home city." She rode the MRT into different ethnic neighborhoods, such as Little Manila. She rode it to the ocean in one direction and to the mountains in the other. She took it to the end of the Red Line where the Tamsui River opens into the sea so she could catch the sunset, hear live music, and walk along the coast. She took it to the Maokong Gondola, the cable car she rode up to the teahouses and plantations in the village of Maokong. The trains run underground in the city center, but some

*Taipei's easy-to-navigate Mass Rapid Transit System has extra accommodations for people with disabilities and for women traveling at night.*



of them travel above ground outside of downtown, giving Chu a chance to get reacquainted with the Taiwanese countryside.

Chu also appreciated the MRT for more practical reasons. Stations have special waiting zones for women traveling at night, and those areas have extra security. The system also accommodates passengers with special needs: When Chu was traveling with a fellow Rotarian who had a broken leg, the MRT offered a special escort to help. As Chu and Schuppert both note, the hallmark of the MRT is its cleanliness. No eating or drinking is allowed in the stations or on the trains. Even the bathrooms are spotless — the one at the MRT station near Chu's home boasts of fresh flowers. Chu passes along a great tip: She sometimes pops into MRT stations to use the restroom, and the station attendant will often let you in for free if you say that's all you're there for.

The MRT is easy to navigate, with maps



SOME SAY THE TOWER  
RESEMBLES A PAGODA;  
OTHERS THINK IT  
LOOKS MORE LIKE  
A STALK OF BAMBOO.







"YOU'VE GOT  
ALL THESE  
MODERN BUILDINGS,  
WITH BEAUTIFUL,  
ANCIENT TEMPLES  
INTERSPERSED  
AMONG THEM."



#### TAKE A HIKE

While a trip to the top of Taipei 101 is the best way to catch 360-degree views of the city, Rotaractor Vickie Tso likes taking in the skyline from the top of Elephant Mountain (one stop from Taipei 101 on the MRT), particularly at night. The climb to the top of Elephant Mountain involves 600 steep but well-maintained steps.

Taiwan is a mountainous island, and hiking is a popular pastime among locals. Tso also recommends Yangmingshan National Park at the northern tip of the island, easily accessible via bus, taxi, or car. The park has numerous hiking trails, waterfalls, meadows of calla lilies, dense forests, and open grassy plains dotted with cows. Tso says to plan to stop for a meal or a snack while at Yangmingshan; there are cafes and restaurants in and around the park, some offering panoramic views of the city.

Rotarian Koji Fukuhara prefers to hike a smaller mountain called Guanyinshan, whose summit can be reached in about an hour or less. At the end of a rigorous hike, Fukuhara rewards himself at one of the restaurants near the mountain with a meal of urn chicken. A popular dish in Taiwan,







*A sensory and religious experience, Lungshan Temple (far left, two top photos) honors folk deities and three systems of belief; at the northern tip of Taiwan, Yangmingshan National Park (near left, top and bottom) is a wilderness experience not far from Taipei's urban bustle; a section of the Taipei Zoo showcases animals indigenous to Taiwan, such as this Formosan rock macaque.*



it's so named because whole chickens are basted, then roasted in clay urns, once to cook the chicken and then again at a higher temperature to crisp the skin. "It's very juicy and salty," Fukuhara says, "and you eat it with side dishes, soup, and beer."

#### TAKE A DIP

The sulfur hot springs in Taipei are popular with tourists, but for locals, they are a way of life. "Some of my friends like to go every day, in the morning or evening," says Tony Chang, past governor of District 3500 (which has since split into Districts 3501 and 3502). "It's a social activity."

The hot springs range from around 95 to 115 degrees Fahrenheit. Chang explains that there are springs for every preference and budget, from public bathhouses that are inexpensive or free to luxury spa resorts. Some facilities have open-air bathing, while others offer indoor pools. You can go all in with a swimsuit or merely dangle your feet in the warm water.

In Taipei, among the best known are the Beitou Hot Springs and the springs within and around Yangmingshan, which is home to dormant and active volcanoes. Chang's favorites are about an hour from Taipei in Jiaoxi: "It's a small town close to the eastern coast," he says. "You can go to the open-air hot springs at the resorts and hotels there, where you will be surrounded by mountains and forests and can see the ocean. It's very beautiful."

## Taipei personalities Five of our tour guides

#### Koji Fukuhara

The 2020-21 secretary of the Rotary Club of Taipei Typhoon, Fukuhara is the secretary of the Taiwan-Japan Rotary Goodwill Association.



#### Yen-Shen Hsieh

After more than 40 years in the electronics manufacturing business, Hsieh is usually referred to by his many Rotary friends as "PDG Electronics."



#### Paul Kuo

Past District Governor Kuo raves about the oyster omelets found in Taipei's night markets. "The oysters are very fresh," he says, "and people love the sweet and sour sauce."



#### Pauline Leung

A past co-chair of the American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei's travel and tourism committee, Leung hopes the convention will draw the most visitors ever to Taiwan for a single event.



#### Elyse (Yi-Chen) Lin

A member of Rotary and Rotaract clubs, Lin also serves as one of two Rotaract advisers making Rotaract-related recommendations to the RI Board of Directors.





## TAKE IN 7,000 YEARS OF CHINESE CULTURE

"We have so many places to go in Taipei," says Catherine Hsieh, the wife of Yen-Shen Hsieh, past governor of District 3480 (which has since split into districts 3481 and 3482). "There's the beach, the mountains — but the National Palace Museum is a treasure."

The museum contains nearly 700,000 Chinese artifacts dating as far back as 5000 B.C.E. With so many things to see, Hsieh — a member and former president of the museum's docents association — recommends starting with the jade collection, which includes delicate carvings of animals, figurines, vases, and jewelry. Its most famous piece, and arguably the most valued item in the museum, is a priceless depiction of a head of bok choy carved from a single piece of green and white jade and known as the Jadeite Cabbage. (In a city celebrated for its food, it's no surprise that another popular piece in the museum's collection is a rendering of braised pork belly carved from jasper. That one is called the Meat-Shaped Stone.)

*From top: Dihua Street is a lively and historic marketplace, while the National Palace Museum is a "treasure," says Catherine Hsieh.*



*Hot springs' temperatures can reach 115 degrees Fahrenheit — and the facilities range from inexpensive bathhouses to luxurious spas.*







## FOR LOCALS, THE HOT SPRINGS ARE A WAY OF LIFE

Taiwan often recommends a visit to Lungshan Temple. In a city dotted with temples, he says, “this one is special.” Founded in 1738, it’s one of Taipei’s oldest temples, and it acknowledges various folk deities and three belief systems: Taoism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. In the courtyard, people toss red crescent-shaped pieces of wood as they seek to foretell their futures.

Paul Kuo, past governor of District 3522, says not to miss the Taipei Zoo, especially if you’ve brought your kids to the convention. His favorite spot is the Formosan animal area, which features animals indigenous to Taiwan. One of them, the Formosan black bear, is a symbol of pride for the Taiwanese. From the zoo, catch the gondola to Maokong, where you can enjoy scenic views and a respite from the city below.

Pauline Leung, secretary general of the Host Organization Committee for the 2021 convention, recommends taking a stroll down Dihua Street, a historic trading district filled with markets, teahouses, art galleries, and traditional architecture. The Xiahai Chenghuang (City God) Temple houses more than 600 statues of Chinese deities.

Vickie Tso recommends the bike paths along the Tamsui and Keelung rivers. Renting a bike is easy: You will find rental kiosks for the Taipei Bike Sharing System, informally known as YouBike, near MRT stations, tourist attractions, and elsewhere throughout the city. Credit cards are accepted — and renting a bike costs a mere 30 cents for 30 minutes.

In many ways, a bicycle is the ideal transport to explore Taipei and its environs. As you pedal around this vibrant city and its verdant countryside, you will see for yourself why those awestruck Portuguese sailors dubbed this unexpected apparition in the South China Sea *Ilha Formosa*. After five days — or more — in Taipei, feeling the energy of the Rotary Convention and the city, you may even come up with a new name for this island paradise: *Isle Be Back*.

The museum’s renowned bronzeware collection includes a set of bells from as early as the 13th century B.C.E. and ritual vessels inscribed to commemorate military actions, marriages, and land grants from as far back as the ninth century B.C.E. You can also see the Emperor’s Treasure Chests, a collection of items for the exclusive use and entertainment of the imperial family and court; it includes an elaborately carved hollow ivory sphere with other carved spheres nestled within.

The museum also contains paintings,

calligraphy, and clothing, and beautiful celadon and Ding ware pottery. Hsieh recommends planning on three hours to see the main attractions. There is an admission fee (about \$12), but tours are free and offered in English.

### TIME TO ACT LIKE A TOURIST

Though our Rotaractor and Rotarian tour guides highlighted unexpected destinations, they didn’t overlook some of Taipei’s better-known sites. Past District 3450 Governor Eric Chin, who lives in Hong Kong but visits

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*A Boston-based writer, Susie L. Ma last profiled the Rotary Club of Five Points RiNo in Colorado for the January issue of the magazine.”*



## EAT

# Dumplings to doughnuts

## A gastronomic tour of taipei

**Night markets:** Raucous, energetic, and endless fun, Taipei's night markets are a feast for the eyes and ears as well as the stomach. While food is the main draw, the markets also sell clothing, shoes, souvenirs, and toys, as well as provide entertainment, such as carnival-style attractions, video games, and fortunetelling. The markets open as early as 4 p.m. — and stay open as late as 1 a.m. The destinations mentioned most often by our Rotary tour guides were the Shilin and Raohe night markets.

The food, mostly small dishes, is casual, but that doesn't mean it's not first-rate: Several dozen vendors in Taipei's night markets were recognized by the Michelin Guide in 2020. The lines can be long at the most popular stalls — but that's a sure way to find the best food. Some stands have tables and stools for diners, but most people eat while walking through the market (or take it to go and eat at home). The dumplings, noodles, and buns will be familiar to foreigners, as will other edibles, such as fried foods and foods on sticks — though often with a Taiwanese twist, like flattened fried chicken cutlets as big as your face and skewered fried milk balls. Try the soft, steamed white buns called *gua bao*, which are filled with braised pork belly; flaky savory scallion pancakes that can also be turned into sandwiches with egg or meat; and oven-baked buns filled with juicy pepper steak. There are fresh fruit juices; papaya milk and other creamy concoctions; and, of course, bubble teas of all flavors filled with chewy tapioca balls. For a sweet ending, look for mochi, a sweet, chewy rice cake that is served boiled or grilled and sometimes with shaved ice.

Paul Kuo's favorite night market food is an oyster omelet, a crispy egg pancake filled with oysters and topped with a sweet and sour sauce. Rotarian and Rotaractor Elyse (Yi-Chun) Lin recommends stinky tofu, a fermented bean curd with a strong smell that is beloved by Taiwanese people. Another unique night market dish favored by locals is called pig blood cake, made of, yes, pig blood and sticky rice that's formed into rectangular shapes, dipped in a pork soy broth, and rolled in peanut flour with cilantro and served on a stick. Lin describes it as a chewy, sticky, salty treat — and her absolute favorite night market delicacy.

**Dumplings:** In Taipei, dumplings are everywhere. For the absolute best, Past District 3500 Governor Hong Shue Chen and his wife, Rita, who is also a Rotarian, recommend Din Tai Fung (Taipei has a number of locations, but expect a wait; check wait times at [dintaifung.com.tw/eng](http://dintaifung.com.tw/eng)). It's famous for its *xiao long bao*, or soup dumplings — when you bite into one, flavorful broth seeps out of the delicate skin. Pork is the most common *xiao long bao* filling, but Din Tai Fung offers other variations, such as pork and crab roe or green squash and shrimp. The menu features other types of dumplings, pot stickers, and wontons as well, along with steamed buns, noodles, soups, rice dishes, vegetables, and even dessert, such as *xiao long bao* filled with sweet red bean paste or chocolate. "If you come to Taipei and don't go to Din Tai Fung," says Pauline Leung, "then you haven't really been here."

**Hot pot:** Sharing food in Taiwan is a bonding experience, and one of the best ways to do this is hot pot — typically an all-you-can-eat affair with hundreds of choices. It starts with a kettle of broth that's kept simmering on burners at the table. Vegetables, thinly sliced meats, seafood, noodles, tofu, and dumplings arrive in separate dishes; diners make their selections and cook them in the broth, creating a flavorful soup. Diners eat straight from the pot, dipping the cooked ingredients into a variety of offerings and garnishes, such as soy sauce, hot sauce, peanut sauce, sesame oil, barbecue sauce, cilantro, and garlic. Many Taiwanese like to add a raw egg. Some restaurants offer individual pots, while others feature a big communal pot, often split in half, with one side for spicy broth and the other for a milder brew. There's a beauty to sharing hot pot. "Even if we did not know each other before, after we share hot pot we become friends," explains Paul Kuo's wife, Cecilia.

**Breakfast:** Taiwanese breakfasts can range from a sit-down meal with steamed rice and hot soup to coffee and a roll from a bakery. "Our food has so many influences from different Chinese regions, even at breakfast," says Julie Chu. "We have buns or doughnuts from the northern part of China, and rice and porridge from the south." Morning cuisine also shows the influence of the West: You may see pasta with black pepper sauce or even hamburgers on the menu at some breakfast joints. Chu's favorite breakfast is *dan bing*, a crepe with a thin layer of egg that's served rolled up. "You can get it anywhere, anytime; it's fast, and you can add toppings like tuna, ham, and veggies." Another of her favorites is a baked scallion bun, with the scallions incorporated into the dough or sprinkled on top. Finish breakfast with a cup of lightly sweetened milk tea, served hot or cold. Milk tea was the basis for the first bubble teas, which originated in Taiwan.

**Food courts:** That's right: Department store food courts in Taipei are legitimate food destinations, offering groceries, packaged specialty foods, hot meals, and desserts. Leung recommends heading to the Xinyi district, which has a number of high-end shopping malls with excellent food courts (including one in Taipei 101). She also says to check out Sogo, a department store chain popular in Taiwan (the food courts are on the lower level). At the Sogo location in Taipei's Daan district, you can slurp a bowl of ramen, eat your fill of Chinese dim sum, ruin your diet with fancy cakes, or simply stop at a bakery for a bun and coffee or tea.

**Convenience store food:** Rotaractor Vickie Tso, a French-trained pastry chef and a graduate of the International Culinary Center in New York City, is a big fan of Taiwan's convenience stores. She often pops into a 7-Eleven to buy postage stamps or concert tickets, send and receive packages, and pay her electricity bill. But, she says, it's also a great place to pick up breakfast, lunch, coffee, or a snack. Tso enjoys the savory tea eggs, which have been steeped in a soy sauce and tea mixture. One of her childhood favorites is dried ramen noodles that are broken into pieces, seasoned with a flavor packet, and eaten uncooked, like crunchy chips. For breakfast she often chooses *fan tuan* — a sticky rice roll traditionally filled with pickled radish and greens, egg, and pork — and *mi jiang*, a peanut-flavored rice milk.



## Our District



Thai Rotary Foundation – The Disaster Assistance Fund of Rotary International District 3340 and the Rotary Club of Nakhon Ratchasima provide relief to the flooded Boplaa Community, Moo 12, in Muang Pak Tambon, Pak Thong Chai District, Nakhon Ratchasima province. They gave survival kit bags to 180 families on October 21, 2020.

## Editorial

### Editor-in-Chief

PP.Vanit Yotharvut (RC.Maesai, D.3360)

### Editor

PDG.Juthatip Thamsiripong  
(RC.Pra Pathom Chedi, D.3330)

Rtn.Dearrs Piboolwatthanawong  
(RC.Magkang, D.3340)

PP.Trong Sangswangwatana  
(RC.Bangkok Suwanabhum, D.3350)

PP.Dr.Natthanin Sestawanich  
(RC.Phrae, D.3360)

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## District Conference @ Taiwan

### President's Representative

#### *Stories from Visitors to Taiwan*

*In this issue, the editorial staff will introduce you to 5 Thai Rotarians who were impressed with Taiwan.*

*Four are Past District Governors from the 4 districts in Thailand who were assigned to represent Rotary International President at the District Conferences of various districts in Taiwan.*

*And lastly, the Rotarian who was a Thai government's representative to promote investment in Thailand among Taiwanese investors.*

*These Rotarians have an interesting story to tell other fellow Rotarians about the people and culture of Taiwan. Let's meet all 5 of them now!*



PP.Jantane Tienvijit,  
Rotary Club of Lanna



#### PDG.Quanchai Laohaviraphap, District 3330

PDG.Quanchai Laohaviraphap was assigned to represent Rotary International President, John F. Germ, at the District Conference of District 3470 held in Yunlin, Taiwan from 3 to 5 March 2017.

According to PDG.Quanchai, Yunlin located in the central part of Taiwan is the hometown of Teresa Teng, a well-known singer among Thai people. Once he arrived at Taoyuan Airport in Taipei, he was welcome by DG.Jack Chi-Feng Hsieh of District 3470 along with his Ann and District 3470 Committee members. Then, the group traveled to Yunlin and joined the dinner party organized by the District. They all stayed at the Sun Hao International Hotel. The next day, they went to the auditorium of the Yunlin University of Science and Technology where the District Conference was held. This is one of the largest universities in Taiwan with over 9,500 students.

"The District Conference in Taiwan that I attended was very well organized. For example, Rotarians from each club in the same area were seated in order together. When the MC introduced each club, Rotarians stood up in line from the front to the back of the conference room, looking beautiful and neat. In addition, the agenda were appropriately set. Rotary International President representative was highly honored at this District Conference. This was evidenced by the motorcade that picked me up from the hotel to the Conference venue. It was adorned with both Thai and Taiwanese flags. Once we arrived at the university, the District Governor and his Ann as well as the District Committee members lined up to welcome me. I walked on the red carpet laid from the car to the Conference Room. While I was walking, Rotarians on both sides of the carpet smiled at me, clapped their hands for me and greeted me warmly. As soon as I entered the room, every Rotarian stood up and clapped their hands until I sat down. I felt highly honored. Taiwanese Rotarians were disciplined. Every time I gave an address on stage, they would be quiet and attentive. Before I went to Taiwan, I asked District 3470 how many of their Rotarians could understand English. The answer was about 25 per cent. Therefore, I sent all of my written addresses in English to them in advance so that they could translate them in Taiwanese. When I actually spoke, English appeared on one side of the room while Taiwanese was shown on the other side.

PDG.Quanchai added that he made a good impression on more than 2,000 Taiwanese Rotarians in the auditorium by introducing himself for about 3 minutes in Mandarin. He studied Mandarin in primary school and practiced it with a Taiwanese teacher in Thailand. The attending Rotarians were impressed by his language ability and gave him a standing ovation after he finished his speech.

"Taiwanese Rotarians are really eager to attend the District Conference, and more than 2,500 Rotarians out of 3,000 in District 3470 joined. This is a really high number when compared with that of other countries I attended or heard of. The population of Taiwan is a little over 23 million, but there are more than 30,000 Rotarians, again a very high number when compared with other countries'. The best practice that I would like to recommend Rotarians in Thailand to follow is the attention given to the speakers on stage during the District Conference. Many times, we invited people from outside including governors or heads of government units to join us and give a speech. However, our Rotarians talked and did not pay attention resulting in a bad image for Rotary. I joined a district conference in Australia once and noticed that the Rotarians there were quiet and listened attentively to the speakers too. I'd like to see Rotarians in Thailand following the good discipline of other countries."

In November of the same year, PDG.Quanchai was invited by Rotary International Director Federic Lin who was the convener of Rotary Institute in Taipei, Taiwan, to act as Training Leader of the Governor Nominee Training Seminar for district governor nominees from Zone 6B, 7A and 10B. That's when he went to Taiwan for the second time in 2017.

PDG.Quanchai said that he went to Taiwan several times, and each time he had an opportunity to travel around and visit many nice places like the Sun Moon Lake, the old gold mine of Jiufen Village, Yehliu Geopark, Taipei 101 Building, and Gu Gong Imperial Palace Museum. Taiwanese food is clean and delicious, and the street food offers variety. The living expenses in Taiwan are not high, and shopping is fun at the well-known night markets like Ximending and Shilin.





**PDG. Somchai Chiaranaipanit,  
District 3340**

PDG. Somchai Chiaranaipanit was assigned to represent Rotary International President, Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, to attend the District Conference of District 3510 in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, from 19 to 20 April 2008.

PDG. Somchai explained that Kaohsiung is located in the south of Taiwan. District 3510 was one of the six districts of Rotary in Taiwan at that time with 3,500 Rotarians. The District Governor was DG. Su-Ming Chen or Steve. PDG. Somchai and his Ann flew to Taiwan with Eva Air, Taiwan's Airlines. The ticket received from RI was for an economy class. "When we checked in, once the staff knew that we would attend a Rotary function, we were moved up to a business class without us requesting them to do so. We were both surprised and happy at the same time as we were well taken off during the flight. When we arrived at Kaohsiung Airport, DG. Steve led more than 20 leaders of District 3510 to welcome us with a big banner. He introduced us to our assistants, a dentist and his wife along with a personal photographer, also a Rotarian. I asked him why we needed a photographer. He said to relieve us off the worries as he knew we would want to have good photographs as well.

Since we arrived one day before the event, we were shown Rotary activities and Kaohsiung University where many Thai students were studying. In the evening, DG. Steve held a private party to welcome us and invited many Past District Governors and senior Rotarians to join the event. Some of them worked in Thailand before whereas others visited Thailand very often. Luckily, my wife and I could speak some Mandarin, so we felt at ease with them. One of the things they remembered about Rotary in Thailand was PRIP. Bhichai Rattakul who's well known and well respected in Taiwan.

The District Conference was held at a huge conference room in the center of the city. I believe it belongs to a government unit. 2,500 Rotarians, one of the highest numbers, registered for this Conference. The opening ceremony was grand with an orchestra from Kaohsiung University playing music. The Thai national anthem was played beautifully. As RI President representative, I had to give addresses informing the participants about Rotary International, and mentioning about the organization of the District Conference. I used English instead of Chinese as I felt I was not fluent enough in the language. What I was impressed with was that over 2,000 members who were there in the room listened attentively and were very quiet. There was a translation on the screen in Chinese for those who could not understand English. I noticed that the participants stayed on for both days of the Conference. For each program, a different pair of MCs, one man and one woman, would come on stage and make the announcement. The host told me that each club would send a pair of members to be the MCs, and all of them tried very hard to show their ability. They came in beautiful, elegant outfits. This also included the MCs for the evening entertainment who performed very professionally. He told me that this was the way to build new MCs for the District. As for the conference topics, there were many small breakout rooms. Each room was vibrant with a lot of attendees. The evening entertainment was perfectly organized with modern and traditional Chinese music and performances. The highlight of the evening was when DG. Steve went on stage with his 96-year-old mother and his family. He talked highly about his mother who took very good care of him and educated him even though they were poor in the past; otherwise, he could not have come this far. It's very touching and showed the Chinese culture of respecting the parents. I noticed that many people in the audience wiped their tears during his speech. Another thing that seemed to be the culture was to say thank you to all the attending Rotarians. During the farewell lunch,

the District Governor walked around and toasted with all the participants. Without doubt, I had to walk around with him and toast with Rotarians sitting at almost 200 tables. Imagine how much beer I had to drink!"

During the last part of the event, there were lucky draws for the participants. The first prize was two round-trip tickets from Taiwan to the USA, and the second prize was a 40-inch television which was about 50,000 baht at that time. There were also other prizes including computers which were all expensive items. I asked about the budget for buying all these prizes, and was told that it came from the registration fee of about 2,500 baht per person and from the various sponsors. However, there was a condition that only those who were present could win the prize. In summary, the District Conference was very well organized. Participants gained a lot of knowledge and friendship. I heard that the Taiwanese government helped support the conferences of all Rotary districts too. In addition, each year district governors in Taiwan are invited to meet the president. "Rotarians in Taiwan were friendly and honored us particularly when we could speak some Chinese. On the day we returned to Thailand, DG. Steve brought us the last gift which was a beautiful album of myself and my Rotary Ann. It captured all the activities from the first minute we arrived in Kaohsiung until the last day. It included still photographs and 4 CDs. We were so impressed with it. When I returned to Thailand, a Rotarian in this district won a 40-inch television, but he requested to exchange it for 50,000 baht. After that, he donated that amount to District 3340 to help "Master Damp", an orphan in Khon Kaen who had to drink water from the sewage due to his poverty. It was one of the stories I mentioned in my address. Based on my once-in-a-life-time experience meeting Taiwanese Rotarians, I found them to be strong and friendly, and there's a lot about Rotary we can learn from them."



**PDG. Chaivai Poonlapmongkol, District 3350**

PDG. Chaivai Poonlapmongkol was assigned to represent Rotary International President, Ian Riseley, at the District Conference of District 3461 held in Taichung, Taiwan from 23 to 26 March 2018.

According to PDG. Chaivai, Taichung is the third largest city of Taiwan, and is about 200 kilometers from Taipei, the capital. When I went there, District 3461 was District 3460 and had just been divided into District 3461 and 2462. This was because District 3460 had over 4,000 members. Besides District 3460 being divided into 2 districts, there were 2 other districts that were also divided into 2 districts. As a result, Taiwan now has 12 districts. When they held their district conference, they use an auditorium like a sports indoor stadium to accommodate thousands of members. Their conference was well organized and orderly. They collected the district conference registration fee and the annual due from all Rotarians. This means each Rotarian registered for the conference. Besides meetings, there were also many performances. Those who did not perform would support expenses. Rotarians' performances including Chinese operas were beautiful and very professional. And to welcome RI representative from Thailand, a Thai classical dance was performed.

For the District Conference of District 3361 that year, the District Committee invited Taiwan's President Cai Yingwen to be the keynote speaker. It made the Conference grand. PDG. Chaivai, RI President Representative, was warmly welcome as if the President came himself. PDG. Chaivai was asked to walk from the back to the front of the room with members and their spouses standing and clapping their hands to welcome him. The host prepared an assistant/translator from Mandarin to English and a Rotarian photographer to take photographs during his entire trip. Once the conference was over, the photographs were compiled



# District Conference @ Taiwan

## President's Representative

### *Stories from Visitors to Taiwan*

PDG.Quanchai Laohaviraphap,  
District 3330

PDG.Somchai Chiaranaipanit,  
District 3340

PDG.Chaivai Poonlapmongkol,  
District 3350

PDG.Vivat Sirijangkapattana,  
District 3360

into an album and sent to him. He still keeps the album for memory until today.

On this trip, PDG.Chaivai also met past district governors in Taiwan who were governors in the same year as he was, and went for training together in San Diego, USA. He was warmly welcome and was happy to meet those familiar faces. Until today, these governors have kept in touch via Group Line and made appointments to meet at various Rotary functions such as each governor's district conference, regional and international meetings including Rotary Institute or RI Convention. At these meetings, he experiences for himself the warm fellowship of all Rotarians from around the world.



**PDG.Vivat Sirijangkapattana, District 3360**

PDG.Vivat Sirijangkapattana was assigned to represent Rotary International President, K. R. Ravindran, at the District Conference of District 3500 in Hsinchu, Taiwan, from 15-17 April 2016.

PDG.Vivat explained that he arrived in Taiwan on 15 April 2016 and was welcome at the airport by District Governor of District 3500. At 18.00 hours, he was invited to a reception where more than 200 guests joined. These guests included Past District Governors and their spouses, Rotarians and their spouses as well as guests of Rotarians. At the front

of the event venue and on the large stage stood the 10 x 18 meter photographs of PDG.Vivat and his Ann. During the party, he was invited to express his feelings as the first Chinese Thai RI President Representative to attend the District Conference of District 3500 in Hsinchu, Taiwan. He was bestowed the honor of presenting Arch Klumph Society (AKS) medals to 14 donors and 93 major donors before a speech to honor them and a photograph session. After that, he enjoyed the performances with great lights and sounds and excellent fellowship.

In District 3500, there were 5,743 members. PDG.Archie was the biggest donor, and he was District Governor during 2003-2004. (RI President that year was Jonathan B. Majiyagbe and his theme was Lend a Hand.) He's a governor in the same year as PDG Sermak Piyathamsiri of District 3330, PDG.Charn Chanlongsawaitkul of District 3340, PDG.Associate Professor Dr.Saowalak Rattanawich of District 3350 and myself", said PDG.Vivat.

The District Conference of District 3500 began on 16 April 2016 at 8.40 hrs. in the city's Indoor Stadium and was attended by 3,400 Rotarians. "The opening ceremony was grand, and I was really impressed. Fellow Rotarians and their spouses stood up clapping their hands to welcome me and my Rotary Ann Sujin while shouting the word "Thailand". We walked over 100 meters before stepping on the stage. The meeting started at 9.35 hours, and I was honored to give 2 addresses – the morning address from 10.20 to 1040 hours and the afternoon address from 13.10 to 14.30 hours. On the second day of the Conference – 17 April 2016, I gave the 3rd address with the following key contents:

During the past 2 years, Rotary in Taiwan had great achievements which Rotarians should be proud of. This was a result of their dedication and unity that led to 3 outstanding global achievements:

1. Taiwan expanded Rotary districts from 8 to 12, an increase of 4 districts; therefore, Chinese would become one of Rotary official languages. Before this, Japan and South Korea were allowed to use their own language as an official language.

2. This year, District 3500 had 14 AKS donors of \$250,000 each, totaling \$3,500,000

- a. This year, District 3500 had 93 major donors of \$10,000 each, totaling \$930,000

This added up to \$4,430,000 or Baht 141,760,000 (at the exchange rate of 32 baht per 1 dollar.)

- b. There were also Global Grant projects.

- c. There were also District Grant projects.

3. As for membership, 127 clubs were set up and 5,902 members were increased.

With the information PDG.Vivat studied and prepared for his address about the achievements of District 3500 at this Conference, he satisfied the audience. Rotarians there were delighted, and all smiled happily. They all applauded for the success of District 3500 and Rotary in Taiwan.





**Rtn. Rayrai Raksilpkij**  
**Director of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office**

Rtn. Rayrai Raksilpkij, a member of the Rotary Club of Lanna Chiang Mai, District 3360, received an order to perform an official duty of Director of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Taiwan on 10 September 2019. Rtn. Rayrai explained that there are 4 staff at this office, and she's the only Thai. The other 3 are local staff. The main duty of this office is

to organize various activities such as seminars, Door Knocking/One-on-One Meetings and exhibitions to persuade Taiwanese investors in the industrial group, which is Thailand's target, to invest in Thailand. It also aims at building networks with both the public and private sectors involved with economy and investment so as to achieve its goals.

Before joining this office, Rotarian Rayrai worked at BOI in Chiang Mai which was responsible for persuading local investors to take advantage of the various benefits. It also helped solve problems and ensure that both Thai and international investors comply with all the steps correctly. In addition, BOI in Chiang Mai's duty was to provide convenience for the investors to operate business and fully use their rights and benefits. However, in Taiwan her duty is more of marketing in order to compete with other countries that try to persuade Taiwanese investors to invest in their country such as in Vietnam, Indonesia or the Philippines. Therefore, she needs to find ways to meet the target investors. If the Taiwanese investors are interested in investing in Thailand, they will make an appointment or walk in directly as Thailand's BOI Office in Taipei is well known and recognized for its good service.

For tourism in Taiwan, Rotarian Rayrai said that we can travel on our own along the routes of the public transportation like MRT or buses. We can study about each important and interesting place in Taipei from the reviews. This includes Gu Gong National Museum, Madame Chiang Kai-shek's house, Chiang Kai-shek's memorial, Sun Yat-Sen, Lee's House, Yangmingshan National Park, Wooden Library, Beitou Hot Springs, Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf. We can also buy a one-day trip to visit other places outside Taipei such as to Yilan to see the Milk Sea or to Turtle Island. The tour rate including transportation and lunch is about 1,200 baht. We can go to Hualien, walk along the short trail at Taroko National Park and drive over the highest hanging bridge in Taiwan. On this trip, the bus takes 2.5 hours to get to the destinations, visit all the places on the program and 2.5 hours to get back. The tour rate is only 700 baht. Another trip is the

High Speed Train down south to Kaohsiung which takes only 1.34 hours. Before World War, this town was occupied by Britain; therefore, there's western architecture built from 1879 to be seen. We will also see contemporary art there including old warehouse docks that were turned into rest areas. Even though places in Taiwan are not that beautiful, and there is less variety in nature and culture than in Thailand, we will be impressed with their service.

For exercising, we can walk, run or bike in many public parks built by the government. There are a lot of big trees on all the streets providing shade and oxygen. This may be a compensation for Taiwanese people particularly those who live in condominiums or apartments in Taipei or big cities. The price of accommodation in Taiwan is rather high, so every morning until evening we will see a lot of people coming out to use the public areas to relax, exercise and meet other people. The areas around the rivers and canals are reserved for the public to use. We can bike along the rivers or canals all over the country. Everybody has an equal right to use the roads particularly pedestrians. Therefore, footpaths are big, and there are marks on the roads for people to walk or bike. Bike rentals depend on the distance, starting at 5 baht. It's quite popular for its convenience. There are a lot of places we can rent a bike. It's safe, inexpensive and good for exercising.

In her opinion on Taiwan, Rotarian Rayrai said that Taiwan is one of the countries recognized for its control and prevention of COVID-19. The success was not from luck, but from the cooperation of various sectors including the medical teams, the government, the private sector and the public in general. All united to fight against the pandemic. It could be that they learned an expensive lesson when SARS spread in 2003, so they were alert from the very beginning of the pandemic. Taiwan thinks of its people first. An example was during the Panic Buying of the facial masks, the government supervised the manufacturing and distribution. From the cooperation with the private sector to find medical equipment and with the experts in technology, medical supplies and commerce, Taiwan could produce sufficient facial masks from the beginning. The cooperation between the government and the private companies was an important partnership called Team Taiwan. Once the masks were enough for local people, Taiwan could donate these medical supplies to other countries affected by the virus. This allows us to see another side of Taiwan – its dedication to the public and social contribution. Large business leaders in Taiwan often make donations in various forms to support innovation research and development, education, public health, hospital construction or religion. It's one of the 7 factors that has made Taiwan a Tiger of Asia.





D.3330

## Editorial of District 3330, RI



PDG. Juthatip Thamsiripong  
Rotary Club of Pra Pathom

Hello Fellow Rotarians,

Welcome to the 3rd issue of Rotary Thailand Magazine for the year 2020-2021. We all know that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought many difficulties to our lives and living under this condition is rather difficult. We can notice that there are smaller crowds wherever we visit; however, we, the people, are still in it to fight against these challenging times together and hope that things will get back to normal. But who knows when? Anyhow, the best solution for now is stay within ourselves, smile and find the best way for us and the business to survive.

I hope my fellow Rotarians will remain patient, stay with Rotary and use the fellowships for the good of ourselves, families and friends. And, remember, we are friends within our own clubs, our districts, our country and all around the world. I hope that next year the world will still connect and the door of opportunities will open. Let's keep our hope up and fight together it, SHALL WE?

## Moving forward, Together

P.Patchara Chanphungsuk  
Rotary Club of Maneekan



Since the COVID-19 outbreak from March 17th, 2020, hospitality industry in Kanchanaburi has been directly affected by the government lockdown order imposing to all businesses that had high risk of spreading the pandemic. Unfortunately, many hotels had to halt their operations, laid off their workers and refunded all pre-booked rooms and facilities. At that time, people were afraid of traveling and all restaurants provided only take-out services. Department stores closed their doors by 10:00 p.m. and streets were literally deserted. There were no foreign visitors as they used to. Traveling across provinces became painful; travelers had to go through check-point after check-point and be screened by either police officers or army personnel or local guards. And worse, international aviation were suspended; also, Thai and Myanmar border-crossing was tightened. Kanchanaburi is located by the border and relies on tourism. And it was very much like the final nail in the coffin when a lockdown order from the Governor and the Provincial Disease Control Commission was announced. Cross-border travelling, cross-border trades and an operation of Tawai Hot Spring Special Economic Development Zone, were shut-down. However, a few hotels tried to stay afloat by reducing their employees by as much as 70% i.e. from 200 to 60, due to a lack business from tourists.

With a concern that the closure of hotels had caused difficulties for the lives of a number of employees and their families, Dr.Theerachai Chutiman, Mr.Wichai Lorsiri, and I, together with the private sectors and the Rotary Clubs, initiated a relief project for affected people by donating 1,000 meal boxes per day and also handed out instant foods for a month. At the same time, hygienic facial masks were in high demand and out of stock, we, Rotarians and our partners made and delivered them to the people in need.

After months of strictly following the government safety protocols, the hospitality industry in Kanchanaburi showed some positive signs in September and October; tourists started arriving from other provinces. The industry also received government assistance through soft loans and loan/mortgage payment delay. Their employees also received financial assistance from the Social Security Fund.

Hotel business in general has to adjust or follow the government safety measures accordingly i.e. social distancing, wearing face mask, and using/providing hand sanitizers throughout dining and living areas. It should also change its marketing approach by providing monthly stay along with daily occupancy and offering discount. On the operational side, downsizing, adjusting of employment (temporary VS permanent workers) and carefully and strictly monitoring hotel supplies are good practices and strategies for the survival of the industry in the New Normal.

Lastly, I hope the success in research and development of COVID-19 vaccines will allow us to resume a normal life in the not too far future.



## New Normal



### **"Another Part of the Volunteer Doctor"**

*P.Somchai Thepcharoennirund  
Rotary Club of Ratchaburi*

I have been with the Rotary Club of Ratchaburi since 2012. Due to my workload as a director of Ratchaburi Hospital and its network back then, I could occasionally join social service activities with the club. After my retirement, I decided to participate the club's activities on a full time basis. Gratefully, I was elected as the club's president for the year 2020-2021.

In mid-2020, I began my work as a volunteer doctor of Prachanukul Ratchaburi Medical Clinic and the Prachanukul Ratchaburi Foundation, founded in 2000 by Dr.Decha Kitprayoon, my former superintendent and the former director of Ratchaburi Hospital.

With a sufficient donation from many generous people, the treatment and medication at this clinic was free of charge. I worked with five experienced volunteer nurses every Thursday and Saturday. It was my greatest honour to be part of this service activity for the people of Ratchaburi and neighbouring provinces.

By the end of 2018, I returned to my health examination duty for Tuesday and Wednesday shifts assisted by 20 professional nurses and multidisciplinary nurses stationed at the 5th branch of the Hua Hin Hospital located 20 km from the Hua Hin city .This branch was a member of "Happiness and Less Worry" network, initiated in 2016 when I was the director of the Hua Hin Hospital. Later on, due to very tight schedule of other doctors, I was the only one on duty for examinations. Sometime later, the schedule was filled by doctors from Hua Hin Hospital.

In early 2019, I returned to the duty as examination doctor of Wetchakarm Prachanukhroh Medical Clinic, a branch of Ratchaburi Hospital administrated under the universal healthcare network of "Happiness Near Your Home" project, a hospital reach-out program. Since 2010, as the director of the Ratchaburi Hospital, I was scheduled to go out and see my patients in Ratchaburi Municipality every Friday.

I was so proud to work with my ex-colleagues again. On January 7th, 2020, it was my great honour to work as the general examination doctor for the Tuesday and Wednesday Shift at the Hua Hin Red Cross Station in Commemorative to the King, Office of Relief and Healthcare Service, and Thai Red Cross Society. The daily shifts at the 5th branch of the Hua Hin Hospital were filled; therefore, I had an opportunity to work with the nurses who had graduated from my former medical school at Chulalongkorn University. Working with the network of "Happiness and Less Worry" had not only allowed me to feel grateful for knowledge obtained and reminded me of the experience as the director of Hua Hin Hospital, but had also made me proud of working as the volunteer doctor of the Thai Red Cross Society.

In my opinion, Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self" is the most significant aspiration for my forever happiness in devoting myself for working as a volunteer doctor. I considered it as one among many of the various efforts of people in devoting themselves to social services.

# D.3330

Rotary Club. International Organization



Baan Klong Prasong School, Klong Prasong Sub-district, Krabi Province is a small size school with 46 students, 2 teachers, and no janitor. It is located on an island, where the ferry boat is the only means of traveling to and from the mainland. School buildings are now decrepit. The school director brought students' crafting keychains, batik clothes, and as well as his vision and direction of school improvement to the Rotary Club of Krabi for their consideration. After the club weekly meeting, it has decided to support the school and its products.

July 30th, 2017, the District Governor, President of the Rotary Club of Krabi, Leung Krabi, Ao Luek, as well as 120 club presidents across the country, attended the opening ceremony of the new dock. After that event, the Rotary Club of Sulsan Yuro from South Korea, came for a visit and also provided some funding for bathrooms' renovation. The project was completed and handed over to the school on April 9th, 2018.

With the kind supports from the Rotary, the school has gradually and continually improved an academic

With gratitude, the school has accepted the spirit of Rotary International as the principal for the building of its students as a valuable human resource that voluntarily devote themselves to the benefit of societies without any expectation of profit

In collaboration with the School, the Rotary Club of Krabi, Rotary Club of Leung Krabi, Rotary Club of Ao Luek, and club presidents across the nation, the products were exhibited and sold to the Southern Rotarians gathering at the Merry Time Hotel and Krabi Province and at the Banlong Buri Hotel, Surat Thani Province, as well.

Afterwards, the club presidents paid a visit to the school and offered some financial support for school improvement and a boat dock, which was designed by Ajarn Suthep together with Krabi Technical College. On

achievement for its students. Miss Nanthida Rodkerd, a 6th grade student (2018) was the winner of the Late King's Award as the best student in the small primary school category. The school was also granted the Late King's Award in the best small primary school category. These awards were assuring parents' confidence in choosing this school as the desirable academic institution for their children. Enrolment at this school has been on an increase year after year.





#### Rotary Club of Hat Yai

October 15th, 202 : President Aphinya Lub-kritchakhom and fellow Rotarians handed over sports equipment to Songkla Phatthana Panya ( Koh Yor), Songkla Province.



#### Rotary Club of Suphannikar

October 14th, 2020: President Doljai Jongpanitch and fellow Rotarians organized a vocational program, teaching crafting of cloth keychains at the members of the Youth Detention Center.



#### Rotary Club of Krabi

October 16th, 2020: President Thanitachom Boonrungsakulkaew together with DG.Chalermchaat and Rotary Ann PP.Nittaya Chan-in, PDG.Dr.Pheera and Rotary Ann Past President Janjira Farmphaiboon, and fellow Rotarians, delivered the passenger pavilions to the communities in Krabi Province.



#### Rotary Club of Pha Pathom Chedi

September 28th, 2020: President Sasiyapatch Sri-onlert and fellow Rotarians in collaboration with the Groliar International, Co.Ltd and Past President Ratthananthorn Tangjui distributed books and educational materials to 34 Nakhon Phathom community school students' interested in English proficiency, EQ and IQ .



#### Rotary Club of Maneekarn

October 8th, 202 : President Patchara Chanphuengsuk and fellow Rotarians gave out educational materials to the Myanmar, Karen, and Thai nationals of Baan Hindard School.



#### Rotary Club of Thawarawadee

October 27th, 2020: President Kullaphaphorn Natheethanathip and fellow Rotarians donated English-Thai Dictionaries and notebooks to the students of Wat Nongpho School, Kamphaengsaen District, Nakhon Phathom Province.





Rtn. Deara Pibulwattanawong  
Rotary Club of Magkang

Fellow Rotarians,

It is worth helping disadvantaged from a part of our life. This is the rotarians' way who work with their rotaries. When you give more, you take more than. But all you taken is happiness.

Many projects of District 3340 are affected from COVID-19. This crisis made us to adapt themselves to new normal and also to face the new challenge.

Finally, we do hope we can pass all treats and reach the goals to help our target group.

## Moving forward, Together

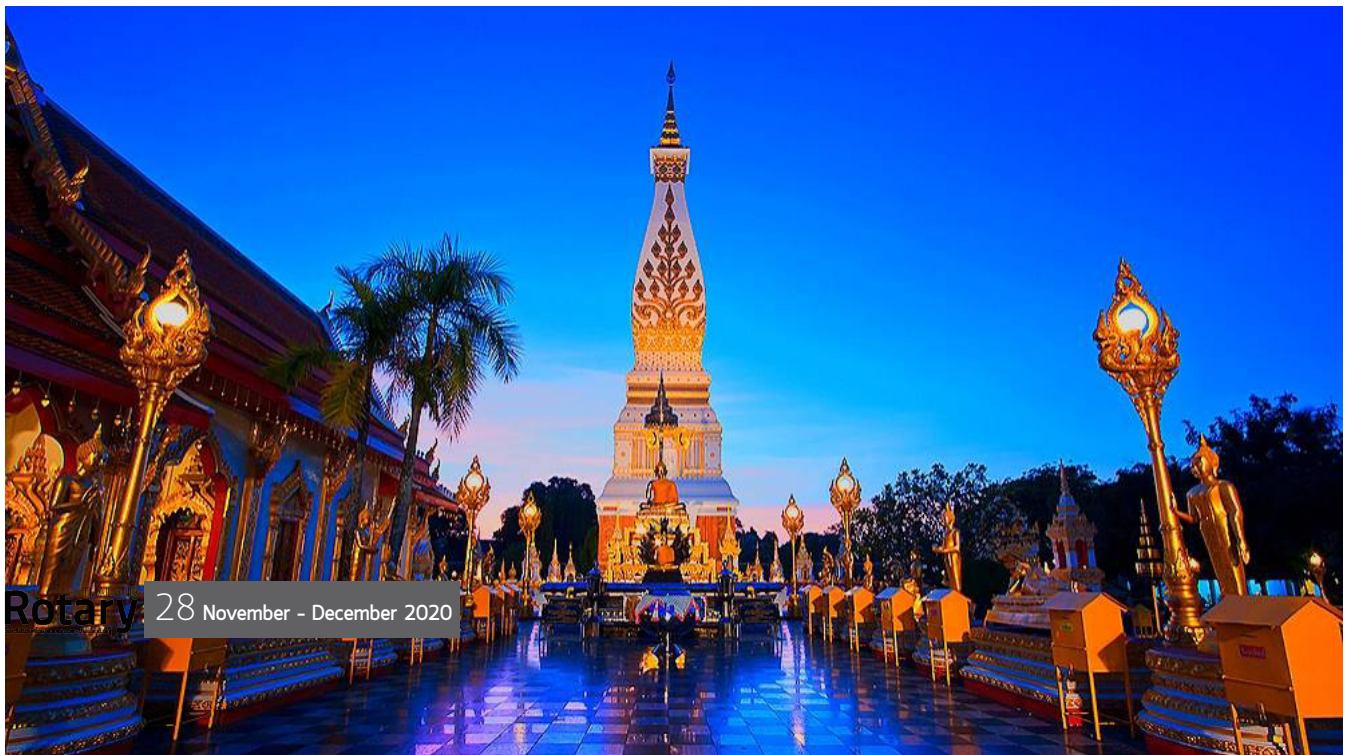
AG. Suthasinee Sakdarpitak  
Rotary Club of Nakhon Phanom

### Nakhon Phanom, City of nature

I am as the Assistant of District Governor of District 3340 zone 14 in the term of 2020-2021, Rotary Club of Nakhon Phanom. Nakhon Phanom are many natural attractions with good atmosphere. There are many well-known temples in Nakhon Phanom not only Phra That Phanom but also many Phra That followed all seven birthdays.

1. Phra That Phanom for Sunday
2. Phra That Renu for Monday
3. Phra That Srikhun for Tuesday
4. Phra That Mahachai for Wednesday (day)
5. Phra That Marukha Nakhon for Wednesday (night)
6. Phra That Prasith for Thursday
7. Phra That Tha Uten for Friday
8. Phra That Nakhon for Saturday

The new attractions in Amphoe Muang such as 3rd Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge, Naga Monument, Naga Tunnel (the biking route along Mekong river), Friendship Village Museum (Ho Chi Minh), Provincial Governor's Residence Museum, Saint Ann – Nongsaeng Church, Waling Street, New hotels and coffee shops. At this moment, Nakhon Phanom turns to Special Economic Province. This reason makes more tourists to visit here as the slogan said "sleep Nakhon Phanom one night life long one year". All rotarians who are interested in getting more information can visit Tourism Authority of Thailand website or office. We need to help together in this crisis.





## New Normal



### Next step for...

PP.Kijja Teachasirithanakul  
Secretarial committee  
District 3340

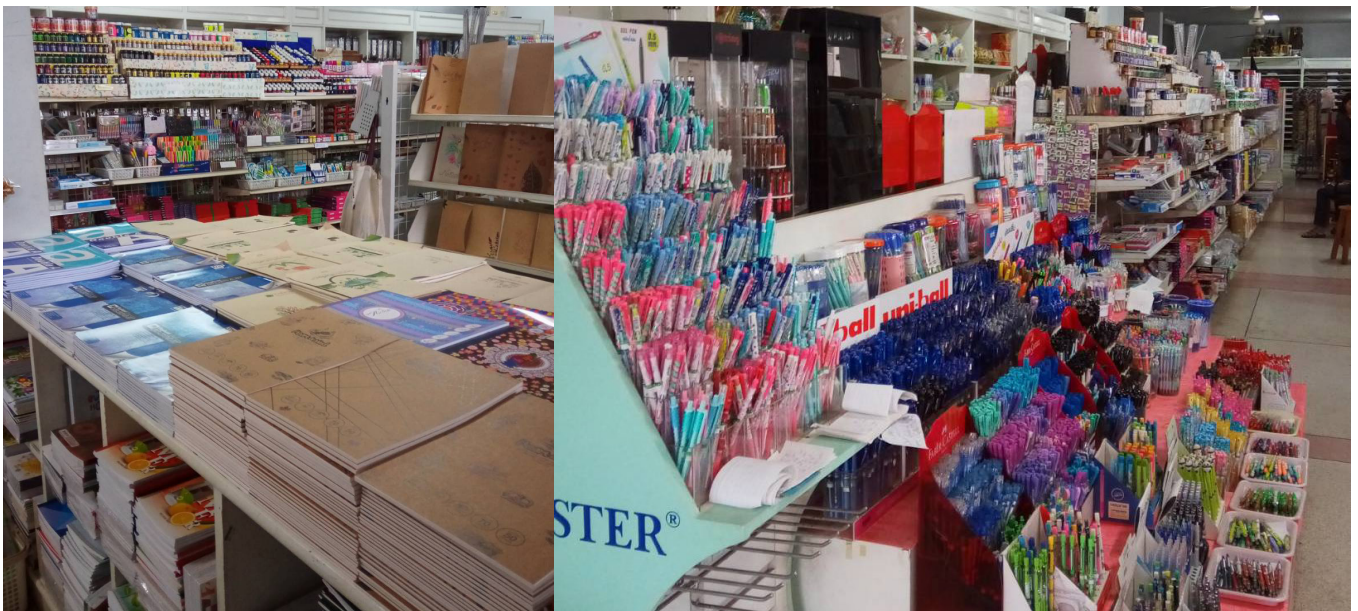
I was born in Ubon Ratchathani with the family run stationary business called “Ubon San” where I am responsible for Ubon Ratchathani branch at this moment.

This is our household business generated by my father. There are many customers to serve especially Ubon Ratchathani branch. Moreover, the other target group of our customer is government sector.

There is a big impact from COVID-19 attacked us like many businesses starting from university schedule postponement, online class made declining of our volume. We have to adapt our traditional service to new normal; for example, screening the customers to put mask, register themselves, take the temperature, get alcohol get before entering our shops.

**FROM THE CRISIS, THIS BRINGS US  
TO REDUCE ALL COSTS AND EXPENSES  
AS MUCH AS WE CAN TO SURVIVE  
AS LONG AS WE WILL.**

From the crisis, this brings us to reduce all costs and expenses as much as we can to survive as long as we will. We believe that we all rotarians pass our same crisis together with our strong intention. We try to do the best to adapt the business model by applying technology to manage, cutting any unnecessary expenses. I believe that we will bridge over by our own ways at the end.





PDG.Thongchai Lortrakanon

President of sub-committee,  
International Rotary, Youth Exchange 2020-2021

# Youth Exchange District 3340 Project with Taiwan



I have got involved with Rotary Youth Exchange since 1991 as the parent who offered my children to join the program. Afterward, I became to be committee, president, consultant and many duties both inbound and outbound chair with the variety of countries in Europe, United States of America, South America, Australia, and Asian countries.

In the part of Asia, Taiwan is one of country to exchange from 1994. Some years was one exchange student and some years were two students because the students were pay less attention. In the past 2-3 years, the number of exchange students trends to increase because the previous exchange students from Taiwan support the youngsters with much more information and suggest them to choose Taiwan. Chinese is the most language used for reading and writing in the world about 3,000 million people. Many people used Chinese language to communicate instead of English language at the present

in the aspect of economy, politics, society and way of life. In addition to Chinese language, the exchange student have more English skill because of social activities.

The tradition of Asian culture such as a strong discipline, more generous, more compassion and sincerity can be founded obviously with Taiwanese rotarians. The district of 3340 gain more friendship, brotherhood, happiness, enjoyment via family and a various kinds of environment including many fields of knowledge. It is a good memorable between our two countries to keep our strong relationship forever.

The committee plans to visit Taiwanese rotarians at the event of Taipei Taiwan Rotary Convention 12 – 16 June 2021 to fulfill moral support each other.





เตรียมพบกับ  
อีกครั้ง

# คุณทอง โบราณ 5<sup>th</sup> โรตารี มาราธอน 2021 14 February

Presented by  
**Rotary**  
Club of Magkang



FunRun และ Mini



Half และ Full

Finisher



หน้ากากผ้า  
เพื่อใช้ในงานทุกคน

วิ่ง...เพื่อมอบขาเทียมให้ผู้พิการได้เดินอีกครั้ง

ระยะทาง	FunRun	MINI	HALF	FULL
ค่าสมัครก่อน 1 ธ. 63	500.-	600.-	700.-	900.-
เวลาปล่อยตัว	05.30 น.	05.00 น.	04.00 น.	02.00

รับอุปกรณ์การแข่งขันโดยการจัดส่งเท่านั้น หากท่านต้องการรับด้วยตนเองจะต้องมารับที่  
โรงแรม เดอ ปรีนเซส อุดรธานี ระหว่างวันที่ 15-30 ธันวาคม 2563 เท่านั้น

สมัครด้วยตนเองได้ที่

โรงแรมธารบุรี, โรงแรม เดอ ปรีนเซส อุดรธานี และ ร้าน ดอยคำ (ใกล้โรงเรียนเซ็นแมร์)  
หรือที่ [www.rotarymagkang.org](http://www.rotarymagkang.org) สอบถามรายละเอียดที่ 089-7113870 และ 081-3600360



## Rotary Club of E-club District 3340

We held on the ceremony to transfer the special breathing apparatus for the new born babies who face a breathing crisis to Prapokklao Hospital, Chanthaburi Province, from Global Grant code GG#2097897 in associate with Daegu – Eighty Eight Rotary Club, Korea and also Rotary Club of Bangkok Siammin as well as Rotary E-club Dolphin Pattaya International in the amount of 2,857,022 Thai Baht or US\$ 92,162.



## Rotary Club of Kantaraluk and Rotary Club of Silom

The Governor of Wimon Khachintaksa, presided over 4 hemodialysis machines valued at 2 million baht to Kantharalak Hospital at the New Hemodialysis Unit, Building 2.

This project, Rotary Kantharalak, was launched in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Silom District 3350 and the Rotary Club in Hawaii, In the United States with Mr.Nipon Kijpaibunchai Rotarians Dr. Banthoon Lawaratanakorn, Director of Kantharalak Hospital, Mr.Saksinkulbutdee Public Health, Kantharalak District, Doctor, Nurse, Elderly Club Merchant committee Representatives from Kantharalak Municipality and members of Distruct 3340 joined

D.3350

## Editorial of District 3350, RI



PP. Trong Sangswangwatana  
Rotary Club of Bangkok Suwanabhum

Dear fellow Rotarians,

We meet again in the 3rd issue of this year. In this issue we are emphasizing Taiwan as RI Convention will be held there. District 3350 wants to show the history of our relationship between the club in Taiwan and the first Thai speaking club Rotary Club of Dhonburi. This club also went on to sponsor Rotary Club of Bangkok Bangna whose members are largely Taiwanese and use Mandarin at the club meeting.

This issue's new normal article is presented by PP Jongkoldee Pongsri, Rotary Ann of District Governor of the year when COVID-19 struck. She went everywhere with him as First Lady while their daughter went to the US as exchange student. She herself works in the travel business one of the industries very heavily hit by the country lockdown of Covid-19. Do read her story.

For the travel story in this issue I chose Petchaboon because it is the site of Club president - District Governor meeting#2. The trip includes planting trees, awarding medical equipment, and water tanks. This is good opportunity to hold a New Year party. Do check out the highlights of places to visit.

I take this opportunity to wish you all happiness and joy of the season, please stay safe.

## Moving forward, Together

PP. Kitthanate Vasukiatchareon  
Rotary Club of Sriratham

### Wat Phasornkaew, stunningly beautiful temple on the Khao Khor mountain



We have organized the Club President - District Governor meeting # 2 for District 3350 on 18 to 20 December at the Imperial PhuKaew Hill Resort, Khao Khor, Petchaboon, together with 'Winter Wonderland' party for Rotarians and followers to enjoy this local alternative to Switzerland.

In doing a service project upcountry, DG.Somsri Mekthon said that we should have a project that benefits the community we are visiting. So we have organized 3 projects – a. **donation of medical equipment** to monitor vital life signs and oxygen level in the blood to Lomsak hospital; b. **planting 200 cocoa trees** ; c. **donating 5000 litre water storage tank** to Wat Phasornkaew.

Wat Phasornkaew is located on a mountain top surrounded by a ridge of mountains. There is a cave on the mountain where locals have seen shining light floating in and out of the cave which they consider auspicious, like a visitation from Buddha's relics. This gave rise to the name 'Phasornkaew' (mountain ridge which hides the shining light). Inside the temple is decorated with mirrored mosaic, made from bits of Benjarong and other local ceramic pieces arranged in very simple but attractive designs. This place is a huge tourist attraction.

**The main stupa Chedi Prathat Phasornkaew Sirirajdharmnimit** was built to commemorate King Bhumibol's 60th year of his reign. The stupa holds Buddha's relics given by the Late Supreme Patriarch of Thailand.

**Maha Viharn Pra Buddhachao 5 Pra Ong** is a uniquely designed Buddha statue that looks like 5 statues made to commemorate King Rama 9 - 85th birthday. This viharn is a focal point in this temple.

**The Sala Pra Yok Khiew** houses a green jade Buddha statue in the mode of defeating the Mara. This is a Chiang Saen art, with a width of 65 inches, carved from a single jade. The head of the Buddha contains a Buddha's relic donated by the Late Supreme Patriarch.

*This is where we will plant the 200 cocoa trees – on the mountain slopes below this Sala. All of you on this trip will help to plant the trees. This is great merit where you will plant goodness which will germinate in this holy site.*





*Editor: Please talk about your role of being Rotary Ann to the District Governor during the COVID-19 crisis?*

COVID – 19 is a situation that grew and expanded extremely fast until it became a worldwide pandemic. Very high numbers of infections and deaths caused great losses to humanity until we had to change our normal behavior to a ‘new normal’ to enable us to live safely.

At the beginning of COVID-19 crisis we thought we will shortly overcome the situation. But the Thai experience gradually turned very serious and people followed the situation very closely. Everyone was filled with a fear of the unknown, until we were unable to do anything. What kept us moving was the realization that many other people are suffering greater difficulties during this crisis. This realization brought us to consider what we can do to relieve their suffering.

The first issue was hygiene and prevention of the virus spreading. We see Rotary Club of Bangkok-Ratanakosin teaching how to make hygienic cloth mask where the RCC group came to teach interested participants. Cloth mask were also made and offered to those in need at various sites. At that time hygienic masks were very expensive, the early projects were donation of cloth mask and cleansing gel to numerous communities in need. We tried to promote safety precautions according to hygiene and being responsible towards others in society. People are offered advice about how to keep themselves safe.

Many people suffered from loss of income and job loss. This gave rise to “Happiness cabinet project”. Clubs with RCC communities put them up in their community ground, givers put offering in the cabinet, and people in need take the offerings. This enabled many families with earning loss to be able to manage to feed themselves. Some clubs began vocational training to train those sitting at home at possible new ways of earning a living. District 3350 also offered medical equipment to hospitals fighting COVID-19 which are in need. This project also empowered and energized our hardworking medical staff and their assistants.

*Editor: I understood that at that time your daughter was a Rotary Youth Exchange student in the USA.?*

At the time my daughter was living in Santa Rosa, California. As parents we were worried. But in the worry we also felt comforted that she was with Rotarians. In Rotary, the youth exchange students are looked after by the host, and by the club and the district in the USA and in Thailand. With this crisis we were able to improve and upgrade our communication skills and could follow the situation closely. When the epidemic began to reach crisis point, we asked our daughter to return two months early. Everything was smoothly arranged by District 3350 and District 2500 and the embassy. Finally our daughter returned to Thailand, was in 14 days quarantine, at Ambassador Jomtien, Pattaya, and all went well with Rotary fellowship.

*Editor: What about your travel business? How was it affected?*

During the ‘New Normal’ Mod Tour had to adjust to the new situation. The most important is the need to offer confidence to travellers that our safety precautions are effective. We have to offer them detailed information about the travel, the hotel, places of interest that we plan to visit that safety precautions are being taken care of. We are fortunate that every sector had taken this precaution, strictly following all regulations and guidelines. Travellers thus have the confidence to plan their travel.

I, myself have to adapt to the new normal. I have to walk past the fear of the unknown, have the presence of mind to plan ahead, develop new skills, develop my capability and that of others around me to use in a responsible manner. I also do projects benefitting the local community, together with other clubs during the crisis. All this time, I must strictly follow the hygienic safety rules, and not let my guard down.

## Relationship between Thailand and Taiwan

PP.Vilai Chensy  
Rotary Club of Dhonburi



## Relationship between District 3350 and clubs in Taiwan

*Editor: Please tell the history of sister club relationship between Rotary Club of Dhonburi and Rotary clubs in Taiwan.*

We have to go back 50 years ago, around 1969-70 when Rotary Club of Dhonburi had been set up 11 years. At the time we had no sister clubs. The board of that year approved our club to sign sister club relationship with Rotary Club of Taipei North, Taiwan.

Communication was a problem in those days. We had very little contact. Then in 1995 we had a member who regularly visit Taipei. He took the opportunity to attend their club meetings. He became friendly with a senior member of the club. Both of them agreed to offer wheelchairs to handicapped persons in Thailand. This was the ignition and since then both clubs have donated wheelchairs almost every year. This was done in the shape of WCS grant, matching grant and lately global grants. The type of projects expanded into satellite dishes for education in the Northern Thailand, building school toilets in rural schools, distributing dictionaries, assisting children with mental disabilities, books for school libraries, incubators for infants in several hospitals. Apart from community development projects in Thailand, we have participated in suicide prevention projects for three years in Taiwan, learnt to appreciate this project, and have started similar project in Thailand. Thus you

can see that in the 50 years of sister club relationship, both clubs enjoyed the happiness of being sister clubs, which also greatly benefited our communities and society in many ways.

In February 2020, just before the country lock down from COVID-19, Rotary Club of Taipei North came to visit Rotary Club of Dhonburi to celebrate 50 years of sister club relationship. Members of both clubs gave importance to friendship and relationship indeed.

*Editor: I understood that Rotary Club of Dhonburi set up the first Mandarin speaking club in Thailand.*

Yes, in the year 2000 we sponsored Rotary Club of Bangkok Bangna whose members were Taiwanese business people living in Bangkok. This club has many sister clubs in Taiwan. Rotary Club of Bangkok Bangna grew into a strong club over the past 20 years. There were at the forefront of the District in contribution to Rotary Foundation, and one of its members PDG.Jason Lim became an outstanding District Governor.

Actually many clubs have contacts or sister clubs in Taiwan. They probably have good experience. I hope we continue to have good relationship with clubs in Taiwan so that Rotarians in both countries can continue to Open the door to opportunities for our society and country.





District Governor meets club presidents Meeting 1 – at Paibun’s Grilled Chicken Restaurant, Sing Buri Province. Of the 135 people who attended this meeting, there were nine district governors, 70 club presidents from Group 116, 13 assistant district governors, and 44 members of the district committee and interested Rotarians.



Training for Interact Club Committees in Rotary Year 2563-65 – at Wat Ratchabophit School, 350 Interactors and 52 honored Rotarian guests attended. They were divided into seven rooms to build increased understanding of and inspiration for being Interactors.



Rotary Club of Bangkok Kluaynamthai – organized a fundraising activity, “Mini-Golf Competition Opens Opportunities to Create Happiness” at the Baiyoke Sky Hotel, Floor 18, to buy, after expenses, 100 tube pillows for bedridden patients and support other community service activities.



The Rotary Club of Bangkok Vibhavadi – organized a ceremony to hand over used plastic bottles (PET bottles) to be recycled into lengths of woven cloth for Buddhist monks’ robes in the project “Kho Khai (egg) Kho Khuad (bottle) Reducing Plastic Waste in the Community” at Wat Chak Daeng, Samut Prakan province. The club exchanged chicken eggs for plastic water bottles from the Phatchapha and Thung Song Hong communities.



Rotary Club of Sathorn – organized career training for disabled people as part of a Global Grant. The special lecturer was PP.Nittaya Laksanawisit from the Rotary Club of Bangkok Banglamphu under royal sponsorship. Volunteer teachers also came to help teach vegetarian cooking to nearly 60 deaf children at the School for the Deaf, Nakhon Pathom province.





PP. Dr. Natthanin Sestawanich  
Rotary Club of Phrae

Dear my fellow Rotarians,

Hello, dear Rotarians and magazine readers. In this issue, we present you the activities between D3360 and Taiwan as we have many ongoing projects from our good partners. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to show some projects that Taiwan has done with the Rotary Club of Wiang Kosai and Rotary Club of Maesai.

And there are articles introducing many attractions you have never experienced. In addition to these articles, Mrs. Chutima Kerddecho, the spouse of DG.Somchai Kerddecho, presented her point of view towards the New Normal reflected the perspective and experience of their official visits. After that, I would like to present some significant projects of D3360 that have been successfully handed over along with some sample photos of People of Action from the Rotary Club of Wiang Kosai. I sincerely hope that you will have enjoyment and get new ideas to continue your service.

*PP. Rangsee Ruansorn*  
**Moving forward, Together** Rotary Club of Nakhonping Chiang Mai



### Recommended attractions in Phrae

**Wat Nakuha** is a temple that is unique in nature, surrounded by mountains, trees and rice fields. It is one of the seven famous fresh breath sources in Thailand. There was a bamboo bridge laying to connect with the cave in the mountains and the temple. The bridge was 1.9 meter in width and 300 meter in length. There was a large Buddha image sitting cross-legged. When you reach the temple area, we recommend you to take photos at the bamboo bridge in the middle of the rice field and make a wish from the Buddha image.



### Phra That In-Kwang

(imitated) It is in Doi Pha Sawan, Chalerm Phra Kiat Rama 9. The area was calm and sacred. The air was pure and good for inhaling the pure air at sighting spots. Phra That In-Kwang

(imitated), the largest Buddha image in Thailand, Footprint and Sila Bankhuha Cave. And there are many more attractions to visits. Don't forget to stop by to pay respect to Phra Wimon Kitjaporn, Acting Abbot of the temple. He has compassion and he has informative story of the temple to tell.





## New Normal



PP.Chutima Kerddecho  
Rotary Club of Chiang Mai

Almost a year has passed, I think everyone understand the meaning of the word “New Normal” very well. Most will see it as a negative because of the economic damage and lifestyle that has to be completely changed. For myself, at the beginning it was panic as well, but today I have looked at these events more positively and that they are normal and not as a problem. In my personal view, I would like to share experiences as follows.

1. There is absolutely nothing permanent in this world. Live life with care and only rely on yourself.

2. Helping and supporting each other have been more explicated and show of compassion for fellow human beings than ever before.

3. During my time at home, I have more “time” to be with myself and my family, and “time” to stop! I have time to stop and review myself. I used to originally focus on working in a highly competitive career that was full of stress. But now I have a much better quality of mind. “Money” is no longer the answer to life because of that we are still alive, not hurt, not sick or bankrupt was considered the luckiest thing.

Finally, I would like to encourage our fellows who are still suffering because of the terrible storms of life from this event. Be encouraged to fight against obstacles, “time” and “adjust yourself as quickly as possible” and stop thinking over about them. In order to solve the problem, do not give up, fight and move on.

May all of you live happily, have fun in the style of “New Normal”.

## Friendship, Thai relations with Taiwan



### Flavored coffee with Rotary

PP.Vanit Yothavut, Maesai Rotary Club

The cold wind from the top of mountain scattered around you, you needed to tighten your jacket, sipped some hot coffee, smelled the fragrant aroma in your hand that helped keeping you warm. The scenery in front of you made you smiled while over looking the mountain range from Doi Pha Mee. The trees were continuously stretching down to the fields that were turning colour to gold at Wiang Phang Kham or Mae Sai District. The scenery was so beautiful to watch.

Just less than ten minutes from the Mae Sai district, we arrived at the top of the mountain at Ban Pha Mee which was a traditional Akha community. The main occupation was agriculture in the form of a shifting plantation. The place became part of the world famous as Golden Triangle for opium farm until there was a Royal Project to promote forest plantation and agriculture on high mountains. From the image of the green forest interspersed with the coffee plantation in front of you, I cannot imagine that used to be a deforested and based of the opium plant before.

Akha people set up communities according to ancient wisdom by choosing a position that was a ridge on the top of the mountain to protect thmself from beasts and enemies. This had to be in exchange for the difficulty in finding a source of drinking water. They might have to go far down in the valley or at the foot of the mountain.

From its ideal location with coffee production Making Ban Pha Mee become a tourist attraction with both coffee shops and homestays. It was frequented by many people. Finding water sources to be used in daily life was the essence of the community. There was a mountain waterworks bringing water from the creek on the top of the mountain that was higher up a longer pipe to reach the village. However, during summer, there was not enough water. They had to purchase water and transported from the district below.



D.3360

Friendship, Thai relations with Taiwan



In celebration of the 35 years of the Mae Sai Rotary Club, in collaboration with the Chang Hua Central Taiwan Rotary Club, a clean water project for Pha Mee Village has been organized. It was a project that provided additional storage tanks for use in the dry season. There was a house consisting of a complete set of equipment in water production, and the system could make drinking water for sale as well.

In addition to the community having drinking water throughout the year, it reduced the burden of purchasing and supplying water for consumption. The filtered water from the top of mountain was also an important part of the brewing of this coffee shop on Doi Pha Mee.

Sipping and smelling the fragrance of dark coffee, we “People of Action” were part of the happiness that everyone would receive every time when they came up and sipped coffee on Doi Pha Mee.



## The Miracle of Friendship

### Mr.Sompong Sangboonyanithi

### The Rotary Club of Wiangkosai

In 2007, Wiangkosai Rotary Club was invited by the Phitsanulok Rotary Club to sponsor a youth exchange group from Taiwan. This was a 2-week joint project with Ming Song Rotary Club, District 3470, Taiwan.

Fortunately, Phrae had an elementary school that taught Chinese. It was a second language taught in school and the club members also the keyperson in running the school. Therefore, he sponsored the Taiwan Exchange Group and arranged the foster families, prepared for school activities and arranged atrip to various places. It was an exciting story to the school and the community.

I believed that the experiences that children received this time being told to parents and members of the Ming Song Rotary Club. In the following year, the Rotary Club of Wiang Kosai was approached as a sponsor club to manage this project. It was a pleasure to create great opportunities for children to learn about the culture living with a host family and traveling to various places. While the project has been coordinated, it provided an opportunity to exchange ideas with members of the Ming Song Rotary club. From Rotary activities and relationships evolving, there were two more projects in the

following year and then, it was discontinued. However, both clubs still had good strong friendship. Many times, the members from Taiwan travelled to Thailand. We were so welcoming, taking good care and providing facilities. When we went to experience Taiwan, we received good care that was an unforgettable experience.

Ten years have passed, but the good relationship between the clubs has remained uninterrupted. In 2019, the Wiangkosai Rotary Club recently asked Ming Song Rotary Club to become an international sponsor in the Global Grant for the Dialysis Program for Phrae Hospital. The existing machine has been used for more than 10 years, it was damaged and could not be used fully, which affected the treatment of patients

The Rotary Club of Ming Song relentlessly responded to support and continued to monitor us to complete our projects as soon as possible. Because if it's done one day faster, we'll save another day's sick lives. Until this time, a year has passed, all 4 of the blood purifiers are helping at least 4-6 people a day. Let's count how many people have survived each year because of these machines.

From a small story of exchange students leading to saving thousands of lives each year with the sharing of fellow ideals from abroad. The was based on the so-called friendship, it might be said that all this is a miracle of friendship and would not be exaggerated.





**The Rotary Club of Nakhonping, Chiang Mai together with the The Rotary Club of Buddhachinnaraj**

Led by Dr.Phuseeth Thanachet and P.Jitpiman Uprakham joined in the service activities “Bright Eyes Project” to give away eyeglasses as well as providing eye protection knowledge and 4 major eye diseases to 200 villagers in the community of Wat Nong Hua Yang, Tha Thong Subdistrict, Mueang District, Phitsanulok Province.



**Chiangkam Rotary Club, Chiangkhong Rotary Club, Nakhon Thoeng Rotary Club** with Government agencies and villagers in Chiangkam District organized a service activity to release fish at the end of Buddhist Lent Day, in addition to the fish release activity, there was also an activity to give alms to the monks, almhouse, eyeglasses service to the elderly. The activity was to raise money to improve and develop the Lao River in front of the 100-year health garden. The activity arouse people to join, made merit and helped to develop Chiangkam District



**Rong Kwang Rotary club and Song Rotary Club** organized a charity of fish release activity and volunteer activities at a pier of Wat Rong Khem, Rong Khem Subdistrict, Rong Kwang District, Phrae Province



**The Rotary Club of Chiangsaen** participated in receiving water filters and providing installation instructions at Huay Kiang School and Ban Rai School, Chiangsaen District, Chiang Rai Province.



**The Rotary Club of Wiangkosai**, led by P.Janjira Suwankit, held the installation ceremony for the Interact Club of Nareerat School, Phrae Province. DG.Somchai Kerdech and spouse, PP Chutima Kerdech presented there as the chairman of the ceremony. Charter President Kanokphich Suwannakit and 37 members of the Interact Club presented at the ceremony on October 19, 2020 to receive their grate honour. On this occasion, the club members donated a coffin and miscellaneous items to Suan Pa Monastery. Phrae Provincial Governor, Dr. Kanpremiep Chitanon and his group joined in the merit-making activities at the Suan Pa Monsatry, Moo 8, Na Phun, Sub-district, Wang Chin District, Phrae.



# WE'RE BUILDING THE FUTURE OF ROTARY

## A bold plan, for and by People of Action

Rotary is charting a new course to a stronger, more effective and vibrant future. At the center of the effort is our Action Plan: a multi-year strategic roadmap that will help us become the Rotary we want to be—and the Rotary the world needs us to be. The Action Plan builds on the remarkable capabilities we've developed in our own professional lives and careers, and it plays to our strengths as leaders, as clubs, and as a global community of people of action.

To create our plan, we looked at data, membership projections, and emerging social trends. And we listened to Rotarians, Rotaractors, and others who shared their hopes for the future of Rotary and told us we needed to:

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Be more nimble and open to new ideas and faces, so we can evolve along with demographic and social changes

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Gather and use data more rigorously to improve programs and make a lasting impact on humanitarian needs

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Capitalize on new technologies and provide more enriching, engaging, and accessible experiences, so more emerging leaders will connect through Rotary

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We assessed what it would take to move from where we are now to where we want to be. Our Action Plan is ambitious—and achievable.



# The Action Plan's Four Priorities

PRIORITY 1.  
**INCREASE  
OUR  
IMPACT**

PRIORITY 2.  
**EXPAND  
OUR  
REACH**

PRIORITY 3.  
**ENHANCE  
PARTICIPANT  
ENGAGEMENT**

PRIORITY 4.  
**INCREASE  
OUR ABILITY  
TO ADAPT**

## Want to know more?

Take action with us to help create Rotary's future.  
Visit [rotary.org/actionplan](https://rotary.org/actionplan) to get started.



## Rotary Centre in Thailand



### PDG. Nakarin Ratanakitsunthorn Rotary Centre of Thailand Translation Committee

*Rotary Thailand Magazine requested an interview with PDG. Nakarin Ratanakitsunthorn, Rotary Club of Prakanong, who currently holds the position of chair of the translation subcommittee (Translation Committee) of the Rotary Centre in Thailand and is also the chair of the District 3350 Rotary Foundation Committee. He spoke to us with a warm smile, which is always his identifying characteristic.*

*RTM: Translation is an important principal function of the Rotary Centre in Thailand. How does the translation committee do it?*

The first thing that I do is that I recruit a translation subcommittee that has the right qualifications and experience. Apart from being the chair, there is also PDG. Charn Charlongsawaitkul, PDG. Wichai Maneewacharakiat, PDG. Somphop Theerasan, PP Phanu (Hope) Yoshmetha and Khun Danucha Bhumithaworn, who are the main powers in translation, and I also invite groups who can advise us such as PRID. Dr. Saowalak Rattanavich, PDG. Krit Indhewat, PDG. Alex Mavro, PDG. Prawit Rojkajonmapalai, and PDG. Anurak Naphawarn. But, we have to accept that the Rotary Centre has a lot of translation work, emphasizing urgent translation work that is completed quickly.

*RTM: This year, what kind of translation work is there?*

In the past, RI would send English documents for officers and club committees that we would translate. RI had a budget to support the printing of documents, but now, RI will update the content in the Learning Centre, and there is no budget for us. We therefore have to work hard. Khun Danucha has to wait to check in the Learning Centre herself to see whether or not there are changes in order to gather the information to make a book and have it printed before the Multidistrict PETS training. Right now, it's urgent to do this group of handbooks to give the presidents-elect and their club committees before (the training). This is rather hard work, and we must use our Rotary Centre budget. We will try to complete this work before the end of the year.

Apart from this curriculum that we are currently translating in the Learning Centre, there are also Assistant Governor Basics, which has 13 sub-topics, and District Committee Basics, which has seven sub-topics. We have already completed translations of many sub-topics and we are translating those that are left. Another group of documents that the Centre just completed translating and designing the pages is for the Youth Exchange Handbook, which the District 3350 YE committee also came to check, and another title is the Voice and Visual Identity Guidelines, for which the translation is complete and the pages are being designed.

*RTM: During these two years, what things would you like to adjust in order to support the needs of members?*

RI needs to have Rotarians enter and study from the Learning Centre. We therefore need to urgently translate topics important to us first, for example, The Rotary Foundation, image, and membership, that are three basic subjects.

Apart from this, there is the matter of translating Rotary vocabulary that our entire Centre has done but has not updated for a long time. Thus, I plan that we will update the various vocabulary words and print the additional new vocabulary as quickly as possible.

*RTM: Is there another issue that you would like to communicate to Rotarians?*

I would like you to help us do the public relations to have Rotarians visit the website of the Rotary Centre because we make a lot of effort and spend a lot of time on translation to meet the need of increasing the knowledge of Rotarians. To enter the website, you will type [rotarythailand.org](http://rotarythailand.org) or Rotary Centre in Thailand. When you have arrived at the website, there will be various menus such as Rotary in Thailand, handbooks/documents, magazine, or Learning Centre, for example. For the update of newly translated documents, we also have a showplace on the website, which is like a good library where Rotarians can learn. You don't have to wait for the district to arrange a seminar on each topic. There is information and pictures that are very good, but there is only a small group of Rotarians who are interested in visiting the website. So I would like to leave this issue with you.



## Jennifer Jones

to be 2022-23 Rotary president



**Jennifer E. Jones**, a member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, has been nominated to become Rotary International's president for 2022-23, a groundbreaking selection that will make her the first woman to hold that office in the organization's 115-year history.

Jones says she sees Rotary's Action Plan as a catalyst for increasing Rotary's impact. "As we reflect upon our new strategic priorities, we could have never envisioned that our ability to adapt would become our North Star during what is inarguably the most profound time in recent history," Jones said in her vision statement. "Silver linings rise out of the most challenging circumstances. Using metric-driven goals, I will harness this historic landscape to innovate, educate, and communicate opportunities that reflect today's reality."

As the first woman nominated to be RI president, Jones understands how important it is to follow through on Rotary's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement. "I believe that diversity, equity, and inclusion ... begins at the top," Jones said. "For us to realize growth in female membership and members under the age of 40, these demographics need to see their own reflection in leadership. I will champion double-digit growth in both categories while never losing sight of our entire family."

Jones is founder and president of Media Street Productions Inc., an award-winning media company in

Windsor. She was chair of the University of Windsor board of governors and of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce board of directors. For her service, she has been recognized with the YMCA Peace Medal, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and Wayne State University's Community Peacemaker Award, a first for a Canadian. Jones holds a Doctor of Laws (LLD).

A current Rotary Foundation trustee, Jones has been a Rotary member since 1997 and has served as RI vice president, director, training leader, committee chair, moderator, and district governor. She played a lead role in the organization's rebranding effort by serving as chair of the advisory committee to strengthen Rotary's brand. She is co-chair of the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee, which aims to raise \$150 million for polio eradication efforts. Jones recently led the #RotaryResponds telethon, which raised critical funds for COVID-19 relief and was viewed by more than 65,000 people.

Rotary International Jones has received Rotary International's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service. She and her husband, Nick Krayacich, are members of The Rotary Foundation's Arch Klumph Society, Paul Harris Society, and Bequest Society.

— RYAN HYLAND

## A Message from the Chair of the Rotary Centre in Thailand

PDG.Vivat Sirijangkapattana



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Many of you probably already know well that the Rotary Centre in Thailand, apart from having the job of helping and facilitating in various ways the districts and Rotary clubs in all four districts, also has many other tasks. One of these is publishing the Rotary in Thailand magazine. I consider it very fortunate that we presently have PP.Vanit Yotharvut, Rotary Club of Mae Sai, who sacrifices his time and dedicates himself to the position of editor-in-chief, and with his capable team, has markedly developed our Rotary magazine both in its appearance and its substance. The result is that surveys of reader satisfaction with Rotary in Thailand magazine done by both the Rotary Centre itself and the Rotary International team that conducts surveys of every edition of the Rotary magazine in the world received very satisfactory results in the measured criteria. This is something that confirms the quality of our magazine is good.

Apart from that, the items that received the exact same results from the two surveys are: there are readers who are interested in reading the magazine in the online format at a rate that is equal to those who are interested in reading it in print (the usual way), which shows that we can see the change in behavior of the increasing number of readers who are modern. Thus, in this way, in order to have the Rotary in Thailand magazine able to respond to the needs of its readers who want to be able to read the magazine anywhere at any time (that they are able to connect to the Internet), the board of directors of the Rotary Centre in Thailand at the meeting on September 29, 2020 (a meeting held online) approved a motion for the development of an application for the Rotary in Thailand magazine that could be opened on a computer through a website and on various mobile devices. PP.Aphisak Jompong, Rotary Club of Mae Chan, was appointed to learn about the possibility of developing this application. We can expect that this will be another step in the development of the Rotary in Thailand magazine. I believe that within this Rotary year 2020-2021, Rotary in Thailand magazine will be able to be read through online systems in the form of an application. It will be a way for readers to choose what is more convenient and modern.

Lastly, I would like to express my appreciation to the editorial staff, the work team, and those who have a role in managing the magazine Rotary in Thailand, including every member of the council of advisors, who have a role in making our magazine Rotary in Thailand continually develop well.

Yours in Rotary,

(PDG.Vivat Sirijangkapattana)  
Chair, The Rotary Centre in Thailand

## Number's Rotary Data source [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org), 1 November 2020 (1 July 2020)

District	3330	3340	3350	3360	Total
Members	2,364 (2,289)	1,379 (1,336)	3,116 (2,860)	1,439 (1,411)	8,298 (7,896)
Clubs	101 (101)	63 (63)	118 (116)	69 (69)	351 (349)



A photograph of two individuals, a man and a woman, engaged in planting a young tree. The man, on the left, is wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt with a Rotary logo, dark pants, and a wide-brimmed hat. He is using a shovel to work the soil around a newly planted sapling. The woman, on the right, is wearing a blue short-sleeved shirt, dark pants, a white baseball cap, and sunglasses. She is crouching down, holding the base of the sapling. The background is a lush green field with trees. The text "TOGETHER, WE Inspire" is overlaid on the image.

# TOGETHER, WE Inspire

## **The Rotary Club of Wiangkosai**

President Chanchira Suwannakit and club members have organized the project "Build a Beautiful World with our Hands." They planted trees for the fifth time by arranging the planting of inthanin trees, which are a symbol of Mae-Jo University, at the Mae-Jo University, Phrae campus in Rong Kwang District, Phrae Province.

**Rotary**



**PEOPLE OF ACTION**



**END  
POLIO  
NOW**



**End Polio**