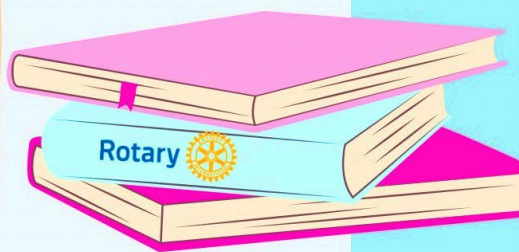


Rotary Essentials

A Guide for New Members

and Enthusiasts



Key points

Getting to know Rotary	2
Rotarians and Rotary clubs	5
Rotary in Thailand	7
Key Rotary events and milestones in Thailand	8
Maps of District 3330, 3340, 3350 & 3360	11
Thai Rotary Districts Foundation	12
Rotary Centre in Thailand	13
Our jobs	14
Rotary International Fiscal Agent in Thailand	16

GETTING TO KNOW ROTARY

Rotary organization is made up of three parts : clubs, Rotary International, and The Rotary Foundation that work together to make lasting change in the communities and around the world.

CLUBS

Rotary clubs consist of professionals and leaders who meet regularly to engage in community service. They foster connections, personal growth, and are ideal for those seeking friendship and meaningful service opportunities.

Rotaract clubs are made up of young professionals and university students. They provide a space for those aspiring to become effective leaders, employing innovative solutions to address challenges while enjoying service and professional development activities.

Rotary and Rotaract clubs unite dedicated people to exchange ideas, build relationships, and take action. The heart of Rotary is our dedicated members, who share the ideals of service, friendship, diversity, integrity, and leadership.

Rotary and Rotaract members around the world aim to create lasting, positive change in their communities and beyond by strengthening their connections through services. Club membership offers opportunities to develop essential skills such as public speaking, project management, and event planning, while also meeting inspiring people from local and global communities to collaborate on impactful service initiatives.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary International supports Rotary clubs worldwide by coordinating global programs and initiatives.

Rotary



Rotary is a global network of neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. This aligns with *Rotary's mission: We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.*"



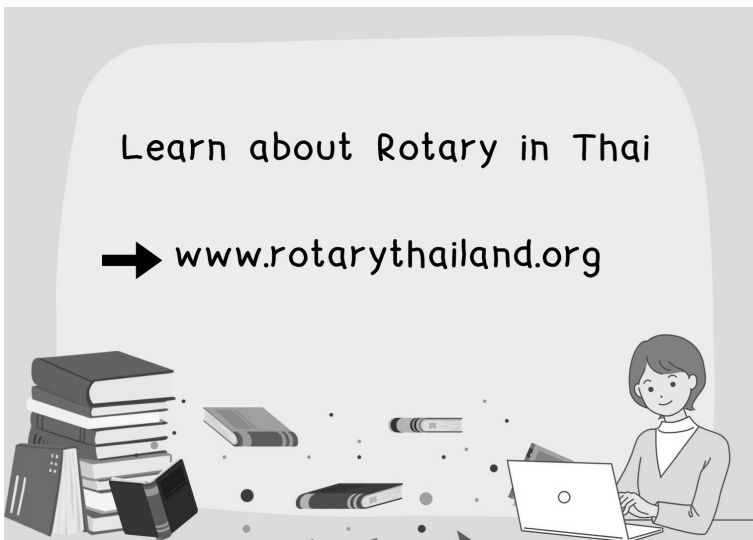
Guided by Rotary's vision—" Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves," Rotary values diversity and celebrates the contributions of people of all backgrounds, regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

The Rotary Foundation is a nonprofit organization supported by voluntary donations from members and benefactors. These contributions fund humanitarian projects ranging from local service projects to global initiatives.



Since founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. Donations from members enable the Foundation to eradicate polio worldwide, establish Rotary Peace Centers, fund grants for clubs to carry out meaningful projects. This is aligned with its mission, **“The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty”**.

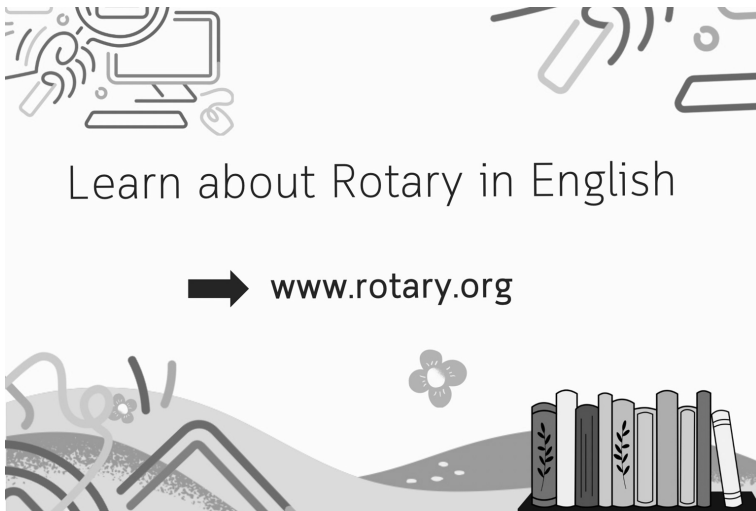


ROTARIANS AND ROTARY CLUBS

Rotary is a service organization consisting of business professionals and leaders from around the world who dedicate themselves to serving humanity, promoting ethical standards in all professions, and fostering goodwill and peace globally.

Rotary is the world's first service organization, founded on 23 February 1905, in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Rotary clubs hold meetings at least every two weeks in various formats, including in-person gatherings and online sessions. These meetings provide opportunities for building friendships and engaging in activities that benefit humanity, communities, and the world.





Rotary welcomes members of all genders and diverse backgrounds, known as **Rotarians**, who are dedicated to service. There are over 1.1 million Rotarians worldwide, with more than 36,000 clubs across 200+ countries and geographical regions. Rotarians are required to pay membership fees as follows:

- **Rotary International dues:** USD 41 per half-year (for 2025-26)
- **District dues:** Determined by each district (all 4 districts set it at THB 1,100 per year)
- **Club dues:** Set by individual club based on mutual agreements.

Rotarians plan and carry out impactful projects in various areas, including humanitarian efforts, education, cultural exchange, and peacebuilding. These initiatives offer opportunities to experience local communities and engage with global society, fostering connections and mutual understanding.

ROTARY IN THAILAND

Two decades after Rotary was founded in Chicago, USA, on 23 February 1905, the organization began expanding into Southeast Asia. The first Rotary club in the region was established in Kuala Lumpur in 1928 by Rotarian James W. Davidson, Rotary Club of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, who was assigned by Rotary International as special representative for the formation of Rotary clubs in the Orient. Over two years, he successfully founded seven Rotary clubs in the Federation of Malaya before traveling to Thailand.



PDG H.R.H. Prince Purachatra
Rotary Club of Bangkok,
Thailand



Rtn James W. Davidson,
Rotary Club of Calgary,
Alberta, Canada

Rotarian James W. Davidson had been granted an audience with His Royal Highness Prince Purachatra in Bangkok to seek his permission to discuss the possibility in forming a Rotary club in Thailand, laying the foundation for Rotary's presence in the country.

KEY ROTARY EVENTS AND MILESTONES IN THAILAND

- 1930 His Royal Highness Prince Purachatra was impressed with the ideal of Rotary, and thus the first Rotary club was founded on 17 September 1930, namely: "Rotary Club of Bangkok"; chartered on 28 November 1930, with 69 founding members of 15 different nationalities. The founding meeting was held at Phayathai Palace (now becomes Phra Mongkut Army Hospital, Rajvithee Road), whereas H.R.H. Prince Purachatra was installed as Charter President.
- 1955 On this occasion of 25th Anniversary of Rotary in Thailand, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great accepted the role of Patron of Rotary in Thailand. Additionally, Luang Sitsayamkan, club past president, successfully translated the Rotary International Constitution and Bylaws into Thai for the first time.
- 1958 The second Rotary club in Thailand, namely: Rotary Club of Dhonburi, which was the first Thai speaking club, was established and Phya Mahai Sawan was elected as charter president.
- 1980 To commemorate 50 years of Rotary in Thailand, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great and Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, the Queen Mother, graced the celebration at Amporn Palace. Past District Governor Nelson Alexander welcomed Their Majesties on behalf of Rotary. Additionally, the Rotary Club of Dhonburi, in collaboration with the Bangkok Post and the Communications Authority of Thailand issued a special Rotary stamp as a keepsake for the anniversary.
- 1990 Rotary in Thailand celebrated the 60th anniversary on 17 September 1990 by constructing the Sangkita Sala in the Sanam Rat area of Suan Luang Rama IX Park.

- 1992 Rotary International approved the division of Thailand's districts from two (Districts 335 and 336) to four. This restructuring officially took effect on 1 July 1992. Along with this change, Rotary International modified its district numbering format from three-digit codes to four-digit codes, assigning Thailand's districts as: District 3330, District 3340, District 3350 and District 3360. Additionally, the Rotary Centre in Thailand was established in the same year.
- 2000 Rotary Thailand's 70th Anniversary: A special celebration and service activities were held to commemorate the occasion. That year, the Rotary Club of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, was officially welcomed into District 3350. Additionally, two new clubs were established: Rotary Club of Bangkok-Suriwong, conducting meetings in Japanese and the Rotary Club of Bangkok-Bangna, conducting meetings in Mandarin Chinese.



- 2012 Thailand captured global attention among millions of Rotarians as it hosted the Rotary International Convention on 6-9 May 2012 at IMPACT Muang Thong Thani. The official registration of 33,104 attendees from around the world.



First Thai President of Rotary International
Thailand's first Rotarian to serve as President of Rotary International was H.E. Bhichai Rattakul, who led the organization under the annual theme "Sow the Seeds of Love."



2025 The territory of Rotary in Laos was reassigned from District 3360 to District 3340, aiming to improve coordination and facilitate joint activities, effective on 1 July 2025.

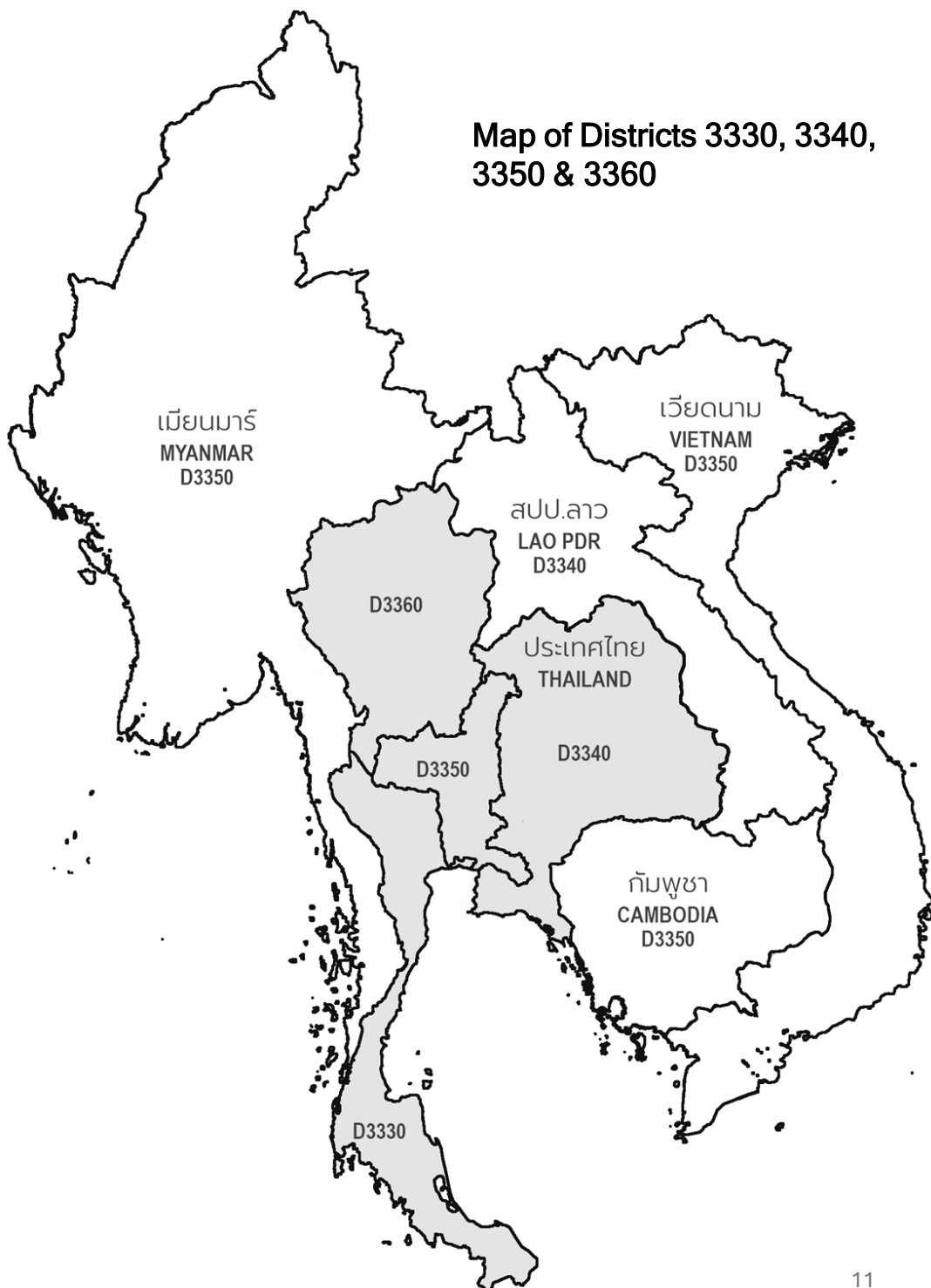
TERRITORY OF ROTARY CLUBS IN OUR 4 DISTRICTS (as of July 1, 2025)

Rotary Clubs in Thailand are divided into four districts based on geographical areas:

- **Rotary District 3330** – Covers southern and western Thailand.
- **Rotary District 3340** – Covers eastern and northeastern Thailand, as well as Laos.
- **Rotary District 3350** – Covers central Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam.
- **Rotary District 3360** – Covers northern Thailand.

As of 1 May 2025, there are **365 Rotary Clubs** in 4 districts with **8,138 Rotarians**.

Map of Districts 3330, 3340, 3350 & 3360



THAI ROTARY DISTRICTS FOUNDATION

The Thai Rotary Districts Foundation was legally registered on 26 September 1995 as a legal entity of Rotary clubs in Thailand. In addition to legally owning the office of the Rotary Centre in Thailand, one of the foundation's primary goals is to promote and support Rotary clubs in conducting community service activities.

Currently, Mr. Noraseth Pathmanand; who was Rotary International director in 2005-07, serves as the Foundation chairman, alongside 12 board members representing the four Rotary districts.



ROTARY CENTRE IN THAILAND

What is it? and how it helps you out?

The Rotary Centre in Thailand acts as a coordination hub for the four Rotary districts: Districts 3330, 3340, 3350, and 3360. It was established by the resolution of the district conference over 30 years ago and officially began its operations on 1 July 1992.

Currently, the centre is located on the 32nd floor of Ocean Tower 2, Soi Wattana, Asoke Road, Bangkok, in an office space jointly purchased by Rotarians and Rotary friends. Since its establishment, the centre has belonged to all members, with legal ownership under the Thai Rotary Districts Foundation.

The Rotary Centre provides a wide range of services both within Thailand and internationally, assisting clubs and districts in various community service activities.

The centre is currently chaired by Mr. Niwet Kunavisarut, Governor of District 3340 (1992-93) from the Rotary Club of Chanthaburi. The governing board consists of 27 Rotary leaders from across Thailand, including current and incoming district governors from the four Rotary districts who serve as ex-officio board members.



Liaise with Rotary International, clubs, and districts abroad

Produce and distribute documents/books to facilitate districts and clubs

Provide services to Rotarians for convenience

Maintain a library and archive items, information, and records of Rotary history

Translate key Rotary documents and courses

Rotary
The

Centre In Thailand

Provide guidance,
knowledge, and
information about
Rotary, such as
online operations
(My Rotary)

Provide
meeting room
services

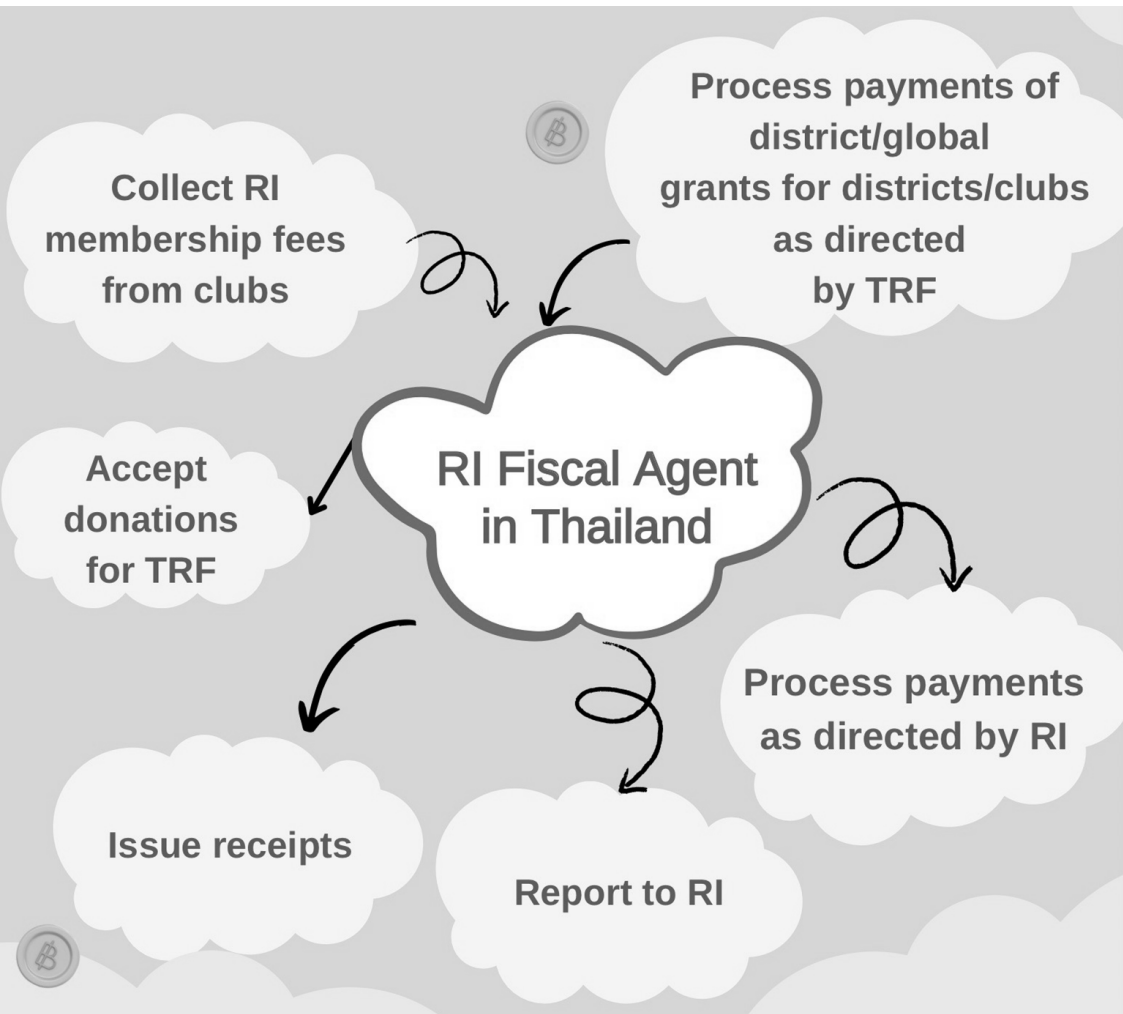
Produce and
publish the
Rotary Thailand
magazine

Promote Rotary
activities

Coordinate
with various
organizations

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FISCAL AGENT IN THAILAND

The Rotary International Fiscal Agent in Thailand was first appointed in 1998 to manage the collection and safeguarding of Rotary International membership fees and donations to The Rotary Foundation within Thailand.





Rotary Centre in Thailand

75/82-83, 32 Fl., Ocean Tower II

Soi Wattana, Asoke Rd., Wattana, Bangkok 10110

Tel. 0 2661 6720-1

Email: info.rotarythailand@gmail.com

www.rotarythailand.org

01-525-EN

Rotary Centre in Thailand