

THAILAND Rotary

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English issue



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40th Anniversary

Rotary Thailand Magazine, 1983 - 2023

Rotary





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- 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

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

R. Gordon R. McNally, September 2023



Peace in practice

The International Day of Peace takes place 21 September. The United Nations General Assembly declared this a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

It is not enough, as People of Action, to simply avoid making war. If we are to Create Hope in the World, we must aggressively wage peace.

Where can we begin? There are countless armed conflicts around the world, and the global population of displaced people is higher than ever. The opportunities are nearly limitless, but the cycles of violence and hardship seem endless.

My advice is to start small but think big. I look to Rotary members in Pakistan and India for inspiration.

In March 2020, about 50 Rotary members from Pakistan met about 50 Rotary members from India at Kartarpur Sabib, a shrine in Pakistan. The sanctuary honors Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, a religion practiced in both countries. Tensions between the two countries barred many religious pilgrims from India from visiting the shrine. That is, until Pakistan opened a visa-free pathway to them in 2019.

Earlier this year, Rotary members from opposite sides of the border again met at the shrine, this time with about twice as many participants.

Any work toward building peace needs to be brave and bold. What these Rotary members have done is just that. The Pakistani government took an important step toward peace when it admitted Indian pilgrims to the Kartarpur Sabib shrine, but Pakistani Rotary members took the next step when they welcomed Rotary members from India as friends and family. That is Positive Peace at work.

These peacebuilders did not stop there. Club representatives at this year's meeting signed twin club certificates to recognize their long-term commitment to continue to learn from one another and to work together on more peacebuilding efforts, and they have held joint meetings via video chat.

The importance of communicating with and learning from another culture cannot be overstated, and Rotary is making it even easier to reach out and make these connections. One way of engaging in cross-cultural dialogue and building relationships across borders is through virtual international exchanges that build on our current programs and make them more accessible.

A virtual exchange uses online platforms to connect people from different parts of the world so they can share their traditions, priorities, values, and more. Virtual exchanges can serve as a window to another part of the world through activities such as teaching a digital cooking class, learning a new language, or even designing service projects with a global impact.

These online chats have the potential to inspire new connections and more respect between societies. Taking that knowledge and using it to better the lives of our fellow human beings is the next step.

Let's see where it takes us.

R. GORDON R. MCINALLY
President, Rotary International

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

R. Gordon R. McNally, October 2023



Mental health and your club

Dear fellow Rotary members,

The World Health Organization designates 10 October as World Mental Health Day, and with Rotary placing a special focus on mental health this year, I would like to help answer the question posed to me most often when I travel to meet members: How can my club get started?

There are some wonderful examples of Rotary members taking action already. In the Philippines, the Rotary Club of Tiaong-Hiyas held a 12-week health challenge for mothers in the community to promote some baseline health screenings and coaching on a healthier lifestyle.

By the end of the challenge, the mothers had a special bond and decided to form a Rotary Community Corps called Ilaw ng Tahanan (“one who lights up the home”) with the goal of involving more mothers in health education and wellness support — and later youth services, teen pregnancy prevention, and help with unhealthy substance use. Almost a year later, the RCC is preparing to open its own health center where mothers can come for peer-to-peer support.

Another strong example is in Colorado. In the fall of 2021, a small group of stakeholders from the Rotary Club of Highlands Ranch formed the Rotary Clubs of Colorado Endowed Fellowship for Pediatric Mental Health, which enhances the ability of Children’s Hospital Colorado to recruit and train pediatric psychiatry providers and allows the hospital network to make additional appointments. This increases access to mental health care for children and decreases provider shortages.

Since then, the project has brought on new supporters and is now fully funded with a \$500,000 endowment. Investment income from this endowment will support a fellow — a psychologist or psychiatrist — at Children’s Hospital. A new fellow will be named every one to two years, beginning spring of 2024. Over time this will create a cohort to bolster the mental health workforce, treating kids from all 64 Colorado counties and neighboring states.

There are many more great mental health project stories on the Rotary Showcase, and I invite you to share your experiences as you begin your own projects. Also, please reach out to mindhealth@rotary.org with any thoughts or ideas you would like to share about mental health in the Rotary world.

On 10 October, I will host a Facebook Live event, when we will recognize World Mental Health Day and further explore how Rotary members can begin this journey. But I would like to leave you with one way every Rotary member can make a difference.

Right now, there is someone you know in the Rotary world — in your club, from a project you’ve worked on, in a Rotary Fellowship or Rotary Action Group — who could use a little more of your time and attention. Rotary is this great gift of global friendship, and that also means being there for each other.

Discovering the human connections that bind us is what we do through our membership every day. It’s what Rotary has always been about, and we can build on it by helping each other find peace at home.

We need to learn how to ask not just “How are you?” but also “How are you really?” By doing so, Rotary can continue to Create Hope in the World.

R. GORDON R. MCINALLY
President, Rotary International

RI TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Barry Rassin, September 2023

Create your Rotary moment

When was your Rotary moment? It's when you realize that being part of Rotary means more than just showing up for a meeting, when you discover you are part of something that changes the lives of others as it changes yours.

I will never forget the moment when I learned about Daniel, a Haitian child. Rotary Foundation Trustee Greg Podd, who at the time was serving with me on an RI committee, had been trying to get Daniel on a plane for urgent heart surgery through the Gift of Life program. But Daniel couldn't get the visa to travel, and doctors had given him only months to live.

When Greg told me this, I remembered that Gift of Life was operating in Haiti and we could do the surgery there. This was on a Wednesday. Greg helped get ahold of Daniel's medical records. The Gift of Life surgeon I knew — who visited only once or twice every month — happened to be in Haiti. By Thursday, the surgeon had looked over the medical charts and told us that he could repair Daniel's heart but said he was traveling soon. We had to get Daniel to a medical facility by Friday morning.

Daniel and his parents rode 90 minutes on a scooter through the bumpy roads of rural Haiti to get to the facility, and the surgeon successfully performed the procedure. Thankful, Greg and I moved on to other projects.

A few months later, I got an email with a picture of Daniel. I will never forget his smiling face, despite the foot-long scar running down his chest, and what he wrote: "I know you helped me. You saved my life. Thank you."



On behalf of Daniel and countless others, I am passing along that gratitude to all Rotary members who have helped or will help this year.

The beauty of Rotary, especially with The Rotary Foundation, is that we can create these Rotary moments anytime. Just reach out to others in Rotary and discuss our work. Our caring network, our dedicated volunteers, and available resources will take care of the rest.

If two people can make such a difference, imagine what we can accomplish by working together in larger groups through The Rotary Foundation. Picture the impact of clubs within a district joining forces for a Foundation district grant to boost literacy, or two districts from different parts of the world transforming a community through a water, sanitation, and hygiene global grant.

If you haven't discovered your Rotary moment yet, keep searching. Serving Rotary through our Foundation is a great place to find it, and it will change your life.

BARRY RASSIN
Foundation Trustee Chair

Barry Rassin, October 2023



Our goal is in sight

On 24 October, we renew our commitment to our top humanitarian goal for World Polio Day.

This year, let's remember a young health worker in Pakistan known as Bibi Marjana (Miss Marjana). She braves the snow and cold in the mountains to vaccinate 84 children in rural areas, visiting each home, often miles apart.

Marjana is one of the thousands of frontline workers in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and outbreak areas I consider heroes in the final push to end polio. The work they do, coupled with the vision of our partners and the support you give, are moving mountains.

With Rotary's partnership, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative is aggressively pursuing two key goals from its 2022-26 strategy. First, we aim to halt wild poliovirus type 1 transmission. This year, only six cases have been documented as of this writing. Could this be the year we see the last of these poliovirus cases? We're cautiously optimistic that it might.

Second, we aim to report the final case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2, or cVDPV2, in outbreak countries. About 80% of cVDPV2 cases last year occurred in subnational areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, and Yemen. We must implement tailored strategies to stop the virus in these areas.

Other challenges persist, including political tensions, security risks and access issues, and the lasting effect of the pandemic in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Despite these challenges, we are making progress. Poliovirus strains are diminishing, as is the number of

affected regions where polio once prevailed. A new vaccine we have introduced reduces the incidence of the circulating vaccine-derived virus type 2.

Rotary is the organization that had the audacity to take on a global effort to protect children everywhere from disability or even death due to polio. We must have the tenacity to see it to the finish line.

What can you do to help us get there, you ask? Join or initiate a PolioPlus Society in your club or district and engage all members in this historic moment. And don't forget that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation continues to amplify Rotary's donations to polio eradication with a 2-to-1 match for every dollar.

You can also advocate the cause of polio eradication with governments to secure political and financial support and promote Rotary's leadership role in all media.

Like Marjana marching up the mountain, we have our goal in sight, and we will keep going until we get there.

BARRY RASSIN
Foundation Trustee Chair

Editorial

PDG Chalermchat Chun-In



The Editorial team

would like to ask everyone to donate their hardcopies of past Rotary Thailand magazines published from 1983 until 1987 to be kept in the Rotary Centre Library as a valuable legacy of Rotary in Thailand.

Sawasdee Krab and Dear all Readers,

This Rotary Thailand magazine you are reading is issue number 208, of the 40th year in which we have prepared content and images regarding the development of this magazine from its inception toward progress and stability up to now. In this edition, we have also presented photos of all former editors to recognize and express our gratitude for their services over time.

I would like to ask all Rotarians in Thailand to please share this pride as Rotary Thailand magazine belongs to all of us. Through it we can continuously get knowledge and the latest news and we have always shared our good experiences and inspiration throughout the past four decades. Thanks to every past Editor in Chief, the editorial teams, and staff for continuously creating and inheriting the production of Rotary Thailand magazine up to the present.

In addition, there are many interesting stories in this issue, such as the “Rotary Information” article from a new Rotary member who has proudly conveyed the strength of Rotary and has impressively demonstrated their actions in words, and I want you to read all of them. Furthermore, the co-editors of the four districts have presented information about the exchange students’ activities in each district. All four districts have continuously and strongly performed those activities which have been well-presented through content and images. We all know that the responsibility for exchange students requires quite a lot of physical and mental energy, being driven by determination and patience. I wish to admire and encourage you all in your strong and determined roles.

Lastly, may I invite all of you to support the production of our Rotary Thailand magazine by placing advertisements or public relations content in the magazine and you can choose to publicize it on the back cover or inside page. It is a great opportunity to promote your business or display your club's activities prominently.

PDG Chalermchat Chun-In
Editor in Chief – Rotary Thailand magazine



For those interested in advertising in future Rotary Thailand magazines, please scan the QR code for more details.



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Rotary Information

By Rtn Dr. Luethaipat Pimonsree
Rotary Club of Phayao Peafowl, District 3360



**Assistant Director of the Innovation
Learning Institute University of Phayao
and Advisor to the Rotaract Club of Phayao University**

Wonderful Power of Rotary

“It’s incredible to experience the profound energy of Rotary all around you.”

This sentence encapsulates my recent journey where I had the opportunity to share the tales of my experiences at the Rotary International Convention 2023 in Melbourne and the insights gained from observing Rotary’s work in Australia from 25 May to 10 June 2023. This experience was shared with DG Dr. Wathit, Rotary Ann Somsamai Tangrapeelear, and PP Ratsami Pithakmanokul during their visit to the Rotaract Club of Phayao University.

Becoming a new Rotary member and serving as an advisor to Phayao University’s Rotaract Club filled me with a sense of pride. Little did I know that the Rotary experience would prove to be profoundly impactful. Attending the RI Convention 2023 and representing Yea Rotary Club as a guest speaker alongside two fellow travelers was a delightful surprise. Our journey took us to Melbourne where our esteemed advisor Dr. Tipp warmly greeted us. His role in our global community service initiatives is significant and his support has been invaluable.

Despite our thorough preparations for the trip, we encountered a minor setback when we lost our way on the way to the convention venue. Google Maps led us in circles for an hour. However, a kind-hearted lady noticed our predicament and asked, “Are you heading to the RI Convention 2023? I can guide you there!” It was a remarkable moment when we realized that the small Rotary pins on our shirts had the power to connect us with people from different countries, leading to wonderful interactions, pin exchanges, and the sharing of contact information.

The scale and enthusiasm of the event were overwhelming, with over twenty-thousand Rotary members from across the globe converging in one place. What was truly remarkable was the atmosphere of unity and shared purpose. Everyone we met, despite being strangers, felt like old friends. The Convention showcased the power of international solidarity and the common belief that selfless service transcends personal interests and can make the world a better place. Together, we can transform the world.

I am proud to be part of the Rotary family and to have experienced the Wonderful Power of Rotary. The event was filled with various activities, exhibitions, meetings, and opportunities for learning and exchange. As relatively new members of the Rotary family, having joined just three years ago, we couldn’t help but

wonder why we hadn’t become members earlier. The experiences were immense and incredibly rewarding, igniting our passion to contribute and serve as mentors to young people, students, and the youth of the Rotaract Club, allowing them to explore this vast and diverse world.

Our work in conserving Thai peacock and foliage has drawn significant interest from various Rotary clubs, particularly the Yea Rotary Club, which generously offered us the opportunity to be guest speakers. It was a remarkable experience as some of their members are quite elderly, with ages exceeding 90 years. During our visit, we had the honor of meeting with Mr. Davis and Dr. Tipp, as well as receiving some exciting news that in December 2023, both of them along with the Yea Rotary Club are planning a trip to visit the Rotaract Club at Phayao University. Additionally, we are proud to announce our ongoing collaboration project with DG Dr. Wathit; *the Wonderful Power of Rotary.*

Before returning to Thailand and leveraging the power of the Rotary network, we had the opportunity to meet with the Royal Thai Consulate General in Melbourne on two occasions. On the second occasion, the Honorary Consul of Thailand in Melbourne Ms. Tessa Sullivan graciously invited us to her home for dinner. During our discussions, we explored various dimensions of Thai and Australian urban development with a particular focus on Rotary’s philanthropic work. This includes the selfless commitment to humanitarian causes and the sharing of professional expertise with members and communities, all driven by a spirit of camaraderie. We aim to foster enduring collaborative growth among organizations and businesses under the principles of truth and fairness, transcending gender and benefiting all.

This destiny trip has made me a firm believer in the “Law of Attraction”. Although we were uncertain about the destination, we knew we had friends and colleagues to accompany us on this journey. The Wonderful Power of Rotary was more than just a slogan, it was an experience that strengthened our faith in Rotary’s ability to inspire positive change.

"Looking back to yesterday, CREATE HOPE in the WORLD"



By PDG Dr. Virachai Jamroendararasame
Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator
2023 - 2024, Region 12

Rotary International designated 24th October as "World Polio Day" to help create worldwide awareness and understanding for the eradication of the polio virus that causes early death and physical disability in children. PolioPlus is Rotary's highest priority project that was started back in 1985 and has helped more than 20 million children, or 99.99%, to remain free from infection with the polio virus. Currently, only 0.01% of infections remain in only two countries; Pakistan and Afghanistan. This final stage is the most difficult period of the project and Rotary International expects polio to be eradicated by 2026.

Many of us still remember that no children in Thailand and neighboring countries have been sick with polio since the year 2000 (accredited by WHO). Therefore, we do not have a polio vaccination campaign for children. Several years ago, there was news that a child was infected with the polio virus in Myanmar, causing great awareness in the country. They feared that their children would become sick with polio again, but they were finally able to control the situation. This has caused Thai people to not pay attention to polio for many years, including the new generation of Rotarians in Thailand who have no experience in this matter. But Rotary International continues to encourage Rotarians around the world to join in the PolioPlus campaign continually to raise awareness and support for polio eradication. Especially donating money to the PolioPlus Fund and doing activities on World Polio Day allows the community to understand and participate with donations as well.

**WORLD
POLIO DAY
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For the children's situation near our homes, we think about the minorities on the Thailand-Myanmar border in the Khun Yuam district of Mae Hong Son province. It is the Karen ethnic minority (Karenni), which has a population of approximately 250,000 people with about 8,000 children, including 300 young children under the age of six who have never received any injections or vaccinations, including the polio vaccine. The effort to build immunity against disease for more than two years has been affected due to the continuous conflict and fights in the region. If they are sick with polio, we are at risk of an outbreak easily into our country as border crossings have become so easy these days. Assistant Governor Sandii Lwin of the Rotary Club of Yangon in District 3350, is Rotary's National PolioPlus Chair in Myanmar (2018 - 2023), and is well aware of the children's safety. Therefore, we coordinated with the Karenni Nurses Association (KNA) to request help from Rotary. They initiated the project "Development & Implementation of a Catch-up Immunization Program in Conflict - Affected Areas in Eastern Myanmar" and applied for funding from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in June 2023, and finally in September the funding was received from the PolioPlus Partner Fund in the amount of 1.029 million Thai baht, with the vaccination program scheduled to start from October - December 2023.

This is good news for the descendants of the Karen people and all Thai people as well. Let us jointly encourage and support by donating money to the PolioPlus Fund for our children and neighbors, including conducting joint activities on World Polio Day according to Rotary International's guidelines.

(* Read the full article at www.rotarythailand.org)




A season of heat, fire, and floods

In a time of climate disasters,
Rotary members step up to help

By Etelka Lehoczky

*During a sweltering heat
wave in Greece in late July,
wildfires immolated
a hillside in the village of
Vati on the island of Rhodes.*



Ioannis Chalikias recalls the July wildfires that ripped through the island of Rhodes, Greece, where he makes his home.

“The effects of climate change are now evident here as well,” says Chalikias, a member of the Rotary Club of Rhodos, Greece. “The increase in temperature, combined with the strong winds, did not allow the fire department to put out the fire immediately. The hot ground rekindled the fires. As a result, they spread to a very large part of the island.”

This summer saw people around the globe enduring similar experiences, and researchers say that heat waves like the one in Greece and increased wildfires globally are more likely with climate change. Record temperatures triggered or worsened wildfires from North America to North Africa, while unusually heavy rains caused extreme flooding from Central Europe to the Pacific Rim. Scientists agree on the ultimate cause of many of these disasters. An analysis released in late July by World Weather Attribution, an international group of researchers, linked extreme temperatures in the southwestern United States, southern Europe, northern Mexico, and China to human-induced climate change.

“The anomalously high temperatures during this year’s summer, which broke records in several places, would have been highly unlikely in a world without climate change,” says Mariam Zachariah, a research associate with the Grantham Institute for Climate Change and the Environment at Imperial College London. “For the case of rainfall extremes, we now see unusually high amounts of →

rainfall during shorter periods triggering landslides and flash floods — again consistent with our knowledge that a warmer atmosphere can hold more moisture and therefore lead to heavier showers.”

Around the world, Rotary members have felt the effects. In Tucson, Arizona, a record-breaking string of 53 days over 100 degrees made it dangerous to go outside.

“The heat is by far different from every other summer I’ve been here,” says Kirk Reed, a member of the Rotary Club of Catalina (Tucson). “I went on a short bike ride one morning, but I got dizzy and kind of lost consciousness. I made it home, but I don’t remember the last mile.”

Rotary President Gordon McNally and Foundation Trustee Chair Barry Rassin addressed the situation in an August letter to members.

“July 2023 was the hottest month in recorded history by a wide margin — and perhaps it’s time that we sent a disaster condolence letter to our ailing planet,” they wrote. “But this is not a message of defeat and despair. The Rotary world has stepped up in this time of crisis to offer immediate relief.”

Rotary members across the globe have taken action to aid victims of extreme heat, wildfires, and floods. Here’s how.

Greece

Three successive heat waves triggered deadly wildfires in Greece this summer, killing at least seven people. On the island of Rhodes, more than 20,000 were forced to evacuate. Members of the Rotary clubs on Rhodes immediately sought ways to help.

“The fire started in the center of the island, which was rather far from the main town, which is in the north,” says Vassia Moutafi, president of the Rotary Club of Rodos-Kolossos. “Fortunately, we had one member, an agronomist, who traveled to the areas where the fire was. One of the first things he told us was that the firefighters needed more hoses and other equipment.”

Not only were the firefighters running low on hoses, but many of the ones they were using had been damaged by the heat. The Rotary members got specifications for new hoses from the firefighters, ordered the hoses, and delivered them to the places around the island where they were most needed. They also donated a range of other firefighting equipment,

The Rotary Foundation supports disaster relief and recovery efforts through grants from the Disaster Response Fund. Contribute at rotary.org/donate.



From left: The Rotary Club of Rodos-Kolossos, Greece, donated these fire hoses; in Pakistan, a villager uses bamboo, mud, and lime to build a home.

including gloves, masks, shovels, and sprayers that can be worn like a backpack to put out smaller parts of the fire, club member Ioannis Achladiotis explains.

Then the members turned their attention to helping the thousands of people displaced by the fires. “It was amazing how all the volunteers acted as one big family and one team,” Moutafi says. “This was from all age groups, including young people from 14-15 years old. It was a combination of social media and word of mouth — just picking up the phone and calling each other.”

Some volunteers helped set up shelters and transported people there on buses and boats. Others provided such necessities as beds and bedding, toiletries, food, and medicine. Club members who were doctors and social workers donated their services as well. The Rotary clubs of Rhodos and Rodos-Kolosos have also started two fundraisers that have raised more than \$10,000. The members didn’t forget the island’s animal population, especially its beloved native deer. They set out food and water and tried to guide the animals toward safe areas.

“Physically and mentally, our members have dedicated themselves to doing everything possible,” Moutafi says. “I feel very proud.”

Pakistan

Last summer Pakistan saw massive flooding that killed at least 1,700 people and left millions more without homes. A third of the country was under water at one point, and the economic toll was in the billions. This year, more flash flooding has resulted in the deaths

of more than 200 people.

Rotary clubs across the country have taken the opportunity to not just rebuild destroyed villages, but to build them better. Their Smart Villages program has erected shelters, upgraded water and sanitation systems, and improved health and hygiene facilities for hundreds of families. By August, the program had reached six villages in all four of Pakistan’s provinces. The plan is to complete 20 villages, providing support to 2,000 families, by June 2024 and then construct 200 more over the next five years.

“Our members in Pakistan thought this to be an ideal opportunity to influence change in our villages,” says RI Director Muhammad Faiz Kidwai, a member of the Rotary Club of Karachi Karsaz. “We are targeting people who really had nothing before. This has crushed them.”

The new buildings are designed to have zero carbon impact. Instead of carbon-heavy materials like concrete, they are constructed of bamboo, mud, and lime, and they are elevated above ground level to help withstand future flooding.

“The shelters are not just resilient to disasters, but environment-friendly too,” Kidwai says. “The best part is that the labor was provided by the villagers themselves. They built these shelters to improve themselves.”

Korea

In Korea, more than 40 people died and more than 10,000 were displaced by heavy rains and landslides in July. The devastation was spread across the country — but fortunately, so is Rotary.

In Geumsan County, about 50 members from four Rotary clubs in

District 3680 cleaned up a restaurant that had been buried in silt from a mountain landslide, while in Bonghwa County, about 50 members from five Rotary clubs in District 3630 visited homes that had been affected. Some of them spent seven hours at two homes destroyed by landslides, removing furniture and household items, cleaning inside the homes, and clearing away piles of dirt that had accumulated outside.

“The actual scene of the damage was much worse than the pictures show,” says Jong-il Kim, secretary of the Rotary Club of Bonghwa. “It was dangerous and scary because the houses were about to collapse, but we carried out the work carefully to ease the worries of the residents a little.”

In the city of Cheongju in the North Chungcheong province, there were numerous casualties due to a flooded underpass and severe damage caused by waist-high water. Members of the Rotary Club of Cheongju-Musim spent about six hours cleaning out flooded homes and a store. Later, at the request of local officials, members of five Cheongju-based clubs gathered at an egg farm and helped dispose of 2,000 eggs that had fermented due to heavy rain.

“The residents told me that they were so grateful that we came, and that it gave them the courage to go on with their lives,” says Joung Ho Kim, president of the Rotary Club of Cheongju-Musim. “But their faces were still filled with worry, and I can’t help but think of ways to help them in the future.” He urged more Rotary members to get involved in flood recovery to give people hope and courage.

Algeria

The forested region around the Algeria-Tunisia border is prone to fires. Even so, the wildfires that have erupted in recent years have been unprecedented. During the summer of 2021, they blazed through some 250,000 acres of land in Algeria and killed 90 people, making for one of the worst fire seasons in the country's history.

"Those fires spread quickly, helped by strong winds. There were many casualties," says Abderrahman Ali Khodja, a member of the Rotary Club of Alger Espérance. "Thank God, there were no victims among Algerian Rotarians."

For eight months, Ali Khodja's club provided essential support to the village of Igreb, in the Djurdjura Mountains. The fires devastated the village.

"We took charge of a landlocked village of 800 inhabitants. It was totally ravaged by the flames," Ali Khodja says. "The population lives essentially from olive growing, oil processing, and the sale of olive oil. They have lost almost all their olive trees. It's their only source of income."

First, the club gave out food and hygiene products. As winter approached, they donated blankets and heaters. Then they organized the distribution of building materials and donated six sewing machines,

enabling 30 women to be trained in sewing.

"When we finished the action and saw the happy villagers, it was an intense moment for us," Ali Khodja says. "The joy of the women sewing outfits for their children brought tears to our eyes. What happiness, what pleasure to give a little joy to those who need it."

Additional reporting by Seoha Lee.



From left: An onlooker inspects a house destroyed by a landslide in Korea; a 2021 fire left a devastated landscape near the village of Achelouf, Algeria.

Heat wave relief

What can hot countries teach us about keeping cool?

As global warming — driven by our use of oil, gas, and coal — spawns more deadly heat waves worldwide, here is a look at what countries around the world do to stay cool.

Think light colors

We know that white clothing is cooler on a hot day. Similarly, using light-colored roofing material or painting roofs white can help hold down the heat inside buildings.

In steamy Indonesia's industrial buildings, "cool roofs" are being used to drop indoor temperatures for workers by up to 18 degrees, heat experts say.

In hot South Asian nations like India and Bangladesh, painting roofs white is becoming far more common too, particularly in those neighborhoods where many residents struggle to afford air-conditioning or to pay the power bills to run fans.

It could also be time to ditch sweltering black tarmac surfaces. During the Summer Olympics in Tokyo in 2021, the marathon route was covered in light-colored reflective paint to try to keep temperatures bearable for runners.

Los Angeles also has experimented with painting streets white.

Seek out shade

As we all know, it's cooler in the shade, so adding sun canopies to exercise areas and public squares and creating shadier parks, streets, and pathways can help people as they go about their daily activities. In some of its public areas, Tel Aviv in Israel has installed light-colored fabric sunshades that can also carry lightweight solar panels. These illuminate the squares at night, making them safer and more attractive to use round-the-clock.

Medellin in Colombia has created a "green corridor" system designed to allow many residents to get where they're going on foot or by bicycle largely in natural shade. The city now has 30 green corridors of trees and other vegetation that provide an interconnected 12-mile network of shady routes.

Try low-cost cooling

In countries not used to heat waves, few people have air conditioners, and for those on limited budgets, even running lots of fans can be expensive. But low-energy, low-cost options can cut heat.

In sweltering eastern India, some families cool their homes using jute sacks soaked in water and arrayed on their tin roofs or hung in doorways. Many also leave clay jugs of water outside on hot days to assist those passing by.

In the Indian city of Ahmedabad, a pioneering heat action plan triggers a wide range of measures when temperatures hit dangerous levels, including deliveries of water to areas where supplies may be unreliable.

In places newly experiencing hotter temperatures, it's crucial to plan ahead to ensure that water and power supplies are available. In cities

short of water, spray parks can be a more water-efficient way to cool people than pools.

Subsidize keeping cool

As global temperatures rise, cooling is increasingly recognized as a service that is as essential as winter heating.

In New York, city officials have responded to worsening heat waves by distributing cooling systems to low-income seniors. The city also is petitioning the state government to give poorer families financial aid to pay summer utility bills, just as some now receive help for winter heat. It is also considering setting a maximum permitted indoor summer temperature for rental properties, as it sets a minimum level for winter.

Meanwhile, Berlin is launching a "heat aid" program for its homeless residents that provides free showers, sunscreen, and drinks.

Pick up the phone

Older people, the very young, and people with pre-existing health conditions or disabilities can be particularly vulnerable, as can residents of communities with little access to parks or cool spaces. Heat experts say that simply checking on vulnerable neighbors during hot periods can help keep them safe.

In some Australian cities, Red Cross workers make calls to vulnerable people on hot days and dispatch emergency services if those calls go unanswered. Buenos Aires reaches out to older residents with phone calls and texts.

*This article was originally published on **Context.news**, powered by the Thomson Reuters Foundation.*

People of action around the globe

By Brad Webber

3 of 5

Share of Belizean children under age 15 who live in poverty



Belize

Since 2014, members of the Rotary Club of Seminole Lake, Florida, have ventured on service trips to Belize with a focus on the welfare of children: constructing school playgrounds and providing educational assistance, clothing, and medical screenings. “The kids had a recess period but little for them to do,” says David Buzza, a past club president. Three years ago the club forged ties with the Rotary Club of Belmopan, Belize. In February, Rotary members helped construct a seventh playground in Belize and helped hand out 1,500 pieces of new clothing, along with toiletries and backpacks. The Florida Rotarians added to the Belmopan club’s existing wheelchair distribution project with a May shipment of 30 wheelchairs.



United States

The Indian River Lagoon along Florida’s Atlantic coast is home to some 3,500 plant and animal species. In January, District 6970 and the Rotary clubs of New Smyrna Beach and Edgewater introduced a tide pool exhibit in the Marine Discovery Center in New Smyrna Beach. The display is home to horseshoe crabs, sea stars, sea urchins, hermit crabs, marine snails, and other small oceanic creatures. “Having that opportunity to see the animals up close is a very engaging experience,” says Chad Truxall, the center’s executive director. “It’s been fun for us to have this additional tool to share the story of the Indian River Lagoon.” A district grant provided \$20,000, the New Smyrna Beach club devoted \$10,000, and the Edgewater club another \$5,000 toward the cost of the exhibit, representing just a portion of the financial and volunteer contributions Rotarians have made to the marine center over the past decade.

98
Endangered and threatened marine species found in U.S. ocean waters



Canada

The pandemic's toll on older people struck especially close to home for the Rotary Club of Cornwall Sunrise in southeastern Ontario. "Until COVID, our club met at a seniors residence, and the need for the residents to be able to get out was made clear to us," says club member Elizabeth "Bette" Miller, a past governor of District 7040. To ease the isolation of the town's older population, the Cornwall Sunrise club teamed up with the Rotary Club of Cornwall and their city government to introduce Seniors on Wheels tours on three-wheeled cycle rickshaws. Volunteers pedal seniors around on seasonal tours along the St. Lawrence River. "The trishaw is used primarily by local seniors who would otherwise be unable to enjoy the beautiful scenery," says Miller, whose club contributed an initial CAD\$3,000 (US\$2,500) for the project. "The routes for the trishaws follow the bike paths with stops at points of interest, many of which are projects Rotary has partnered on with the city." Volunteers and their passengers covered a cumulative 300 miles last year.



16%

Portion of Canada's seniors who say they experience social isolation

Rotary
Club of Cornwall Sunrise

Rotary
Club of Cornwall



United Kingdom

Some people will walk through fire for a good cause — literally. More than 50 participants hotfooted across wood embers during a fire walk charity event in April sponsored by the Rotary Club of Newton Abbot. The sizzling jaunts, to taiko drumbeats, raised more than \$11,000 through sponsorship pledges for charities. The club brought in a professional fire walking company to stage the event. Organizers offered a "motivational psychology fear-busting seminar" before the challenge. The secret? Walk in a controlled, fast manner, says Past Club President Phil Millichap. He and 2022-23 Club President Jeremy Newcombe were among the Rotarians who put their feet to the fire. "Top tip: If you fall over, which one lady did, get up quickly," Millichap advises.

Rotary
Club of Newton Abbot

900 - 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit

Ideal temperature for fire walking coals

India

In Visakhapatnam, along the Bay of Bengal, Rotary members launched an innovative plastics recycling and youth employment project. Participants from the nonprofit India Youth for Society collect plastic bottles from drop-off locations and beaches and process the plastics into small chips that are sold to recyclers. The nonprofit's goal is to make the operation self-supporting. About eight young people were working on-site as the processing plant scaled up production in June, and as many as 25 people eventually could work at the facility. The roughly \$120,000 project is supported in part by a global grant sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Lake District Moinabad, India, and Naperville Sunrise, Illinois, with contributions from other Rotary clubs in the United States and India. Among its accolades is an award from the American Academy of Environmental Engineers & Scientists. "I wanted to get the academy's feedback and make [the project] more robust using their suggestions," says Prakasam "Prakash" Tata, a retired environmental engineer and a member of the Rotary Club of Naperville, Illinois. "But lo and behold, I heard, 'You won the grand prize.'"

Rotary
Club of Lake District Moinabad

Rotary
Club of Naperville Sunrise

450 years

Estimated time for a plastic bottle to degrade



4

Decades of Progress

The Evolution of Rotary Thailand Magazine

“The long and enduring journey has passed, and the unwavering path forward... never ceasing.”

distinguished for their commitment to knowledge and the advancement of the Thai language edition of Rotary magazine, and the official local publication. Rotary Thailand magazine has played a pivotal role ensuring that Rotary clubs in Thailand have a formal magazine to keep us informed about Rotary stories, both local and international, while fostering a sense of community and awareness among our members.

In addition to disseminating current news and knowledge about Rotary, our magazine serves as a medium that encapsulates the historical background and evolution of Rotary in Thailand. It encompasses the Rotary International movement and The Rotary Foundation. Furthermore, it delves into the linguistic evolution, Rotary terminology, organizational culture, and the perspectives of both current and elder members. For those seeking to explore the rich narrative of Rotary spanning the past four decades, Rotary Thailand magazine stands as a comprehensive source, revealing a myriad of stories and insights that are truly unparalleled.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of [Rotary Thailand magazine](#), and we would like to take this opportunity to recount the enduring journey of the magazine through the past seasons. We aim to share the rich history and remarkable progress of the magazine with our esteemed editorial board, comprising 11 individuals

Origins and History

Past District 3360 Governor Dr. Sumin Prurgsiganont recounted that Past District Governor Dr. Kidchai Yingsey dreamed of having a magazine in the Thai language. Recognizing that Rotary in Thailand could advance even further without the hindrance of the English language, PDG Dr. Kidchai proposed the idea during the annual District Conference of the former District 335 at the Ambassador Hotel in Bangkok. The proposal was met with approval, leading to the inception of Rotary Thailand magazine. The first issue was distributed to all clubs during the District Training Assembly of District 335 in Kamphaeng Phet and subsequent issues were published every three months.

Over the steadfast journey of four decades, numerous stories have unfolded along the path of the magazine's existence in each passing year.



The Milestones

1983

- The inaugural edition of the magazine was published as Vol. 1, No. 1 in July 1983. It was titled “Rotary - The Quarterly Magazine of Rotary Clubs in Thailand” – without an English language title.

1985

- PDG Dr. Pratueng Kongkham (District 335) submitted a request for approval from Rotary International to officially recognize Rotary Thailand magazine as the official publication for the district in Thailand.
- The translation of messages from the President of Rotary International occurred for the first time.

1987

- Rotary Thailand magazine received official local magazine certification on 1 June 1987. At that time, Thailand had two Districts; D335 and D336.

1988

- The magazine commenced as a bi-monthly publication – starting with the first issue available in the library.

1990

- The magazine Vol. 7, No. 31 was the first issue published entirely in English. This marked the inaugural use of English for communication with Rotary clubs worldwide. Approximately 2,000 copies were published and sold at 25 Thai baht each, as mentioned in the Public Relations column in the August 1990 edition.

1992

- The transition to a quarterly publication started with the collaboration of the Matchon Company Limited (Vol. 10, No. 44).

1993

- Magazines were dispatched to clubs in large packages due to the issue of not having the current names and addresses of the members.

1994

- Magazines were delivered to all Rotaract and Interact clubs.

1996

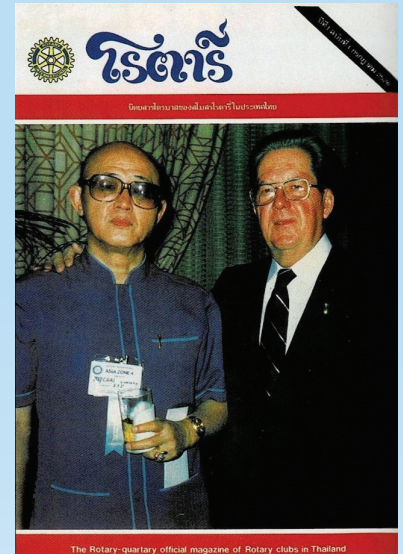
- Rotary Thailand hosted the 1996 Asia Regional Conference and information about this conference was detailed in the issue of October 1996 - January 1997.

1997

- The leadership program, a new initiative by Rotary, was introduced to the district and enhanced the district's organizational structure by appointing Assistant Governors and announced in Vol. 15, No. 63, July 1997.

1998

- Matchon published its last issue of the magazine. During the preceding two years, Matchon had a contractual agreement with Rotary, which Rotary paid 120,000 Thai baht per issue. Matchon had the right to sell advertisements and bear the profits or losses. However, Rotary covered the postage costs.



Cover image of Rotary Thailand magazine (1st issue)

Vol 1, No. 1, July 1983. The District Director Governor of D335, Dr. Kidchai Yingsey is photographed alongside Rotary International President, William E. Skelton. (Vol.14, No. 62, April 1997)

“At the Council on Legislation in 2019, the proposal to cancel the various regional Rotary magazines was presented but received disapproval from the assembly.”

1999

- Translation to English summaries were introduced alongside Thai articles.

2000

- A special edition was published to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Rotary in Thailand, featuring rich content on the history of Rotary in Thailand in Vol. 17, No. 76, October - December 2000.

2002

- The appointment of the general editorial board and district editors was set up for the first time.
- In celebration of Mr. Bhichai Rattakul's position as the first Thai President of Rotary International, the magazine produced four issues of the Rotary booklets. Additionally, the website www.rotaryinthailand.org was established, and the 2001 Manual of Procedure was published in the Thai language. Rotary International supported the publication and distributed a copy to each club.

2005

- The message from the President of The Rotary Foundation was published for the first time in Vol. 22, No. 99, July - August 2005.

2006

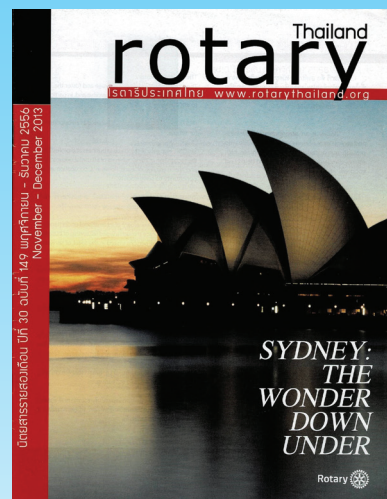
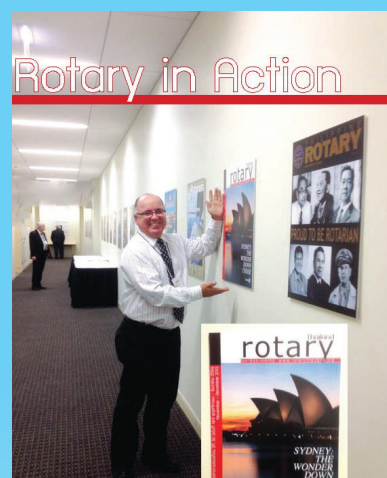
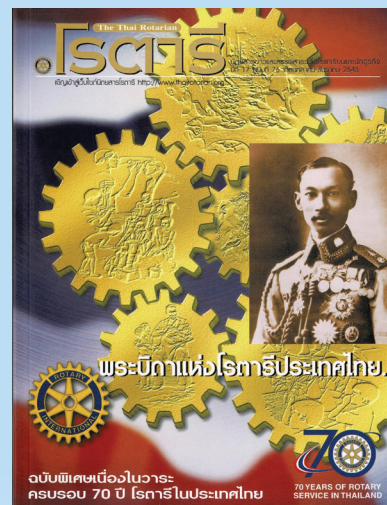
- Bilingual publishing of issues in Thai and English commenced.

2008

- The magazine's office was relocated to the Rotary Centre in Thailand, with the Centre's officers taking responsibility for packaging and delivering the magazine to all members.

2009

- A seminar was held for the editorial boards and executives of Rotary magazines worldwide. A key resolution was that 50% of the content in the magazines must feature stories and articles related to Rotary, with some topics specified by Rotary International.



Cover image of the magazine selected for display at the global Rotary International office during the worldwide Rotary Editor conference in Evanston, Illinois, USA.

2010

- The magazine was published in four colors throughout its entirety, featuring content in both the Thai and English languages.
- Rotary International began to lessen the content requirements for the magazine, specifying only certain topics such as messages from the Rotary International President, messages from The Rotary Foundation President, and any other essential articles or stipulated content.
- Rotary International supported the production costs of the “Rotary Primer and Rotary Basics Booklets”, as a supplement in the magazine.



2011

- The local Magazine License Agreement - formerly known as the Publishing Agreement - was initiated in September 2011. The Editor in Chief signed the agreement jointly with the President of the Rotary Centre.

2012

- Rotary in Thailand hosted the Rotary International Convention for the first time, and the magazine published special features both before and after the convention in Vol. 29, No. 139, March - April 2012 and No. 140, May - June 2012.



2013

- The magazine entered the digital realm with an online presence on the Rotary Centre’s website, www.rotarythailand.org.

2015

- The magazine transitioned to fine, earth-friendly paper, making it thinner and lighter than before. This not only eased readability but also reduced transportation costs by four Thai baht per issue, a practice that continues to this day.

2016

- The magazine was divided into two sections; Global and Local. The Global section included content from Rotary International, while the Local section covered stories from all four districts.
- The editorial team included four Assistant Editors for each district and a translation team proficient in both Thai to English and English to Thai.
- QR Codes were introduced for online reading of the English edition of the magazine.

- The online English edition of the magazine was initiated with content translated from the entire Thai edition in Vol. 33, No. 165, July - August 2016.



2017

- Rotary Thailand hosted the Regional Rotary Magazine Editors' Seminar for Asia-Pacific at the Rotary Centre in Thailand on 1 - 3 November 2017 in No. 173, November - December 2017.

2019

- Some initiatives began to establish a network for exchanging news among editors in the Asia-Pacific region. This led to form a global network of editors during the editors' conference, named the Global Media Network, to foster content-sharing and showcasing the evolution of magazine formats across various regions worldwide.

2020

- An exemption was granted for both Rotary Thailand magazine member fees and Rotary Centre dues for a period of one year. This initiative aimed to assist members across all four districts during the severe outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Rotary Centre's board of the administrative committee approved the development of a mobile application for the Rotary Thailand magazine – "Rotary Thailand Magazine Application".
- The RI "Rotarian" magazine changed its title to "Rotary" in September 2020. However, the Thai edition of the magazine continued to use the country-designated name "Rotary Thailand" since the Thai calendar year 2003.

2022

- The headline of the Rotary Thailand magazine in No. 200, May - June 2022 became an inspiration for global magazine networks. There were adjustments made to ensure alignment and consistency across the network of magazines worldwide.
- In a presentation at the Asia-Pacific Regional Magazine Editors' Meeting in Bangkok, it was emphasized that the practice of Rotary magazine setting content for regional magazines is not suitable. The suggestion was for regional magazines to determine their own content, as each region has unique needs and one size doesn't fit all. The recommendation is to follow a model where local magazines set their content – "For Local by Local", and once the content is of high quality, opportunities should



be provided for articles from local magazines to be featured in the Rotary magazine – “By Local to Global”. This approach has been implemented with the introduction of a new column in Rotary magazine, featuring articles from local magazines, starting in the May 2022 issue Vol. 200, No. 11.

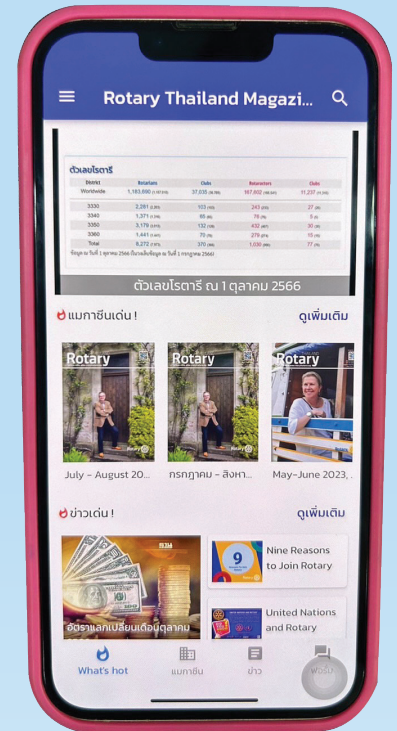
2023

- The Rotary Thailand magazine application has been developed and is now fully operational. Members can conveniently read both Thai and English versions of the magazine on their mobile phones through the application.

Conclusion

Rotary Thailand magazine has been facing challenges continuously. Originally, it was the sole medium through which Rotary International communicated with club members, but today, various media have come in, changing people’s behaviors in receiving information. There are many options in social media, including Facebook, websites, webinars, and Instagram. Additionally, the habit of reading books has declined.

The presentation of the magazine must adapt to the present-day world while maintaining the standards of being a local magazine of Rotary. The Rotary Thailand magazine has continuously striven to compete with itself. Currently, there are published Thai-language magazines for those who enjoy tangible reading. Simultaneously, for those who favor technology, the content is accessible on the website www.rotarythailand.org or through the Rotary Thailand Magazine Application, available in both Thai and English editions.



All information and images were obtained from Rotary magazines in the Thai language and are available in the library at the Rotary Centre in Thailand. Some materials were graciously provided by the private library of Past President Dr. Pisan Yantrisingh of the Rotary Club of Chainat for which we express our sincere gratitude.

Install the magazine application for mobile reading



QR Code for iOS



QR Code for Android

Editors in Chief from the Past to the Present

Editor in Chief 1983 - 1992



"For over 10 years, more than 40 issues of the Rotary Thailand magazine have been produced. We were able to publish them on time, and we had a consistent readership and received encouraging letters regularly." – PDG Dr. Sumin Prugsiganont (D3360)

(From an interview with PDG Dr. Sumin Prugsiganont on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Rotary Thailand magazine)

Editor in Chief 1992 - 1996



"Being a Rotarian no matter what the position is, we can also provide benefit to our society. To be a good Rotarian you must be one who is ready to give at all times." PDG M.L. Opas Kanchanavichai (D3350)

(From the interview with two former editors of Rotary Thailand magazine, Year 14, Issue 62, April 1997)

Editor in Chief 1996 - 1999 and 2002 - 2004



"I have served as an editor for two terms, totaling five years. I am delighted with the magazine's progress, and I hope it continues to thrive." – PDG Chow Nararidh (D3350)

Editor in Chief 1999 - 2002



"When I was an editor, I intended to broaden the awareness of the "value" of Rotary clubs. To reach people who are not Rotarians, we have tried to add more non-Rotarian content and articles as we expected to receive public attention.

On this occasion, I would like to congratulate and pay my respect to the Editors in Chief on their success of the anniversary of '40 years of Rotary Thailand magazine'" – PP Kittti Isariyaprasa (D3350)

Editor in Chief 2004 - 2006



"Rotary Thailand magazine is a document that is inscribed as evidence. It indicates the movement of service activities by Rotarians in Thailand as well as important history for every district that shares information that is beneficial to society."

– PDG Manit Wongsuryrat (D3330)

Editor in Chief 2006 - 2008



"I would like to congratulate everyone on the progress of our Rotary Thailand magazine that has made further progress until today, the 40th anniversary of Rotary Thailand Magazine"

– PDG Somboon Karnjanolarn (D3330)

Editor in Chief 2008 - 2010



"Rotary Thailand magazine has passed a great length of time for 40 years. It has always served as a communication channel that has performed its duties very well. Even though the world and communication technology have changed, our magazine will continue to stand strong and stable forever."

– PDG Som Indra-Payoong (D3340)

Editor in Chief 2010 - 2014



"From the words of Professor Silpa Bhirasri, 'You don't read books. What do you know?' I believe that Thai Rotarians should study and learn more about Rotary. The Rotary Thailand magazine is an excellent source of knowledge for us."

– PDG Chamnan Chanruang (D3360)

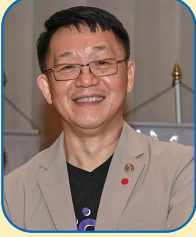
Editor in Chief 2014 - 2016



"I would like to congratulate Rotary Thailand magazine for 40 years of publicizing the ideals of Rotary and it perfectly reflects the work of all four Rotary districts. The magazine also updates the content and format all the time. Excellent."

– PDG Pornchai Boonsaeng, M.D. (D3330)

Editor in Chief 2016 - 2022



"Proud to be a part of the magazine. The magazine has been with Rotary Thailand for 40 years."

– PP Vanit Yothavut (D3360)

Editor in Chief 2022 - 2024



"Forty years of Rotary Thailand magazine – it has been highly valuable and we will continue with stability and good development."

– PDG Chalermchat Chun-In (D3330)

D3330

Editorial of District 3330



PDG Paikit Hoonpongsimanont
Rotary Club of Tubtiang

Dear Rotarians,

It's time again to meet all the readers every two months in this publication of the Rotary Thailand magazine. This bimonthly issue covers the September - October period of Rotary Year 119. I am pleased to share an interesting Rotary program implemented in District 3330, which is well known as the best youth promotion program. A lot of parents, both Rotarians and non-Rotary members, sponsor their children to experience life abroad each year. Of course, I'm talking about the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. District 3330 currently sponsors outbound students to experience life abroad. Meanwhile, the district welcomes inbound students from different countries around the world to stay with host families in Thailand. The interesting details are presented in this issue.

In addition, the diversified initiatives conducted in District 3330 represent the fact that all Rotary clubs no matter the size, implement community service projects following Rotary guidelines. Finally, I would like to wish all readers good health and strength. May you be happy to serve our beloved community, and I look forward to meeting you again in the next issue.

Rotary Youth Exchange Program District 3330



PDG Mani Wongsuryrat
Chair, District 3330 Rotary
Youth Exchange Committee

A child's dream of being an exchange student to study abroad is considered to be one of their greatest dreams. The Rotary Youth Exchange Program (RYEP) means much more than just learning languages. It is a chance given to students to live with voluntary host families. The students can learn the culture of different countries around the world and exchange cultures with each other. Not only the English-speaking countries are listed, but a variety of choices are also offered such as countries in Europe including France, Germany, Spain, Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands, Italy, Belgium and Portugal, and the Central and South American countries of Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, etc.

The main objective is to build up a better understanding, leading to world peace. Therefore, RYEP focuses on cultural exchange and the way of life in different countries. The main advantages other than language achievement are self-development, leadership skills, public speaking, and self-rational expression.

Personnel involved in the RYEP at both the district and club levels, including the host family, must present a criminal background inspection by the Royal Thai Police. This inspection is one of the key qualifications to take part in the RYEP. Next, the sponsoring or host Rotary clubs must set up an organizational structure consisting of the club president, youth exchange club officer, treasurer, and president-elect, who attended the district youth exchange seminar regarding their roles and responsibilities. The youth candidates are requested to attend the outbound orientation before entering the RYEP abroad. All Rotary districts around the world are requested to be accredited by Rotary International in order to sponsor or host a youth exchange.

What are the important requirements?

1. The prevention of all types of abuse and harassment
2. Life and health insurance meeting the specified minimum amount



3. The organization's establishment as a legal entity with educational purposes

4. The insurance of corporate reputation risk

5. The training seminar for club youth exchange officers, applicants, guardians, host families and club counselors

When any district passes the above-mentioned criteria for certification, Rotary International lists those districts as accredited districts, which can implement youth exchange activities among the certified districts around the world. The district governors and chairs of the district youth exchange committee will be notified of the list of certified districts. If a certified district conducts youth exchange activities with a non-certified district, the certification will be revoked. The Rotary Youth Exchange Program not only emphasizes safety from all types of abuse and harassment but also the cultural and traditional learning opportunities of the certified countries.

International conferences are necessary for networking among youth exchange chairs and committees from different Rotary districts around the world and the conferences are held four times every year as follows:

1. The Rotary International Pre-Convention is held for networking among the chairperson or youth exchange committee from different Rotary districts. This pre-convention lasts for two days prior to the Rotary International Convention.

2. NAYEN: The North American Youth Exchange

Network Conference is held and mainly hosted in rotation by the United States of America, Canada and Mexico.

3. EEMA: The Europe, Eastern Mediterranean and Africa Conference is hosted in rotation by the countries in the EEMA region.

4. ABUI: Associação Brasileira de Intercâmbio de Jovens is the Brazilian exchange conference.

Currently in Asian countries, Taiwan is taking the lead in the initiative to hold an Asian conference soon. The representatives from District 3330 regularly attend the first three conferences and the district sponsors 20 to 35 students to study abroad each year. However, the number of students participating in the program all over the world has decreased since the pandemic. The success of youth exchange lies with all parties involved. The host family is the key point, and they must have a proper understanding of their duties since they are with the young people at all times.



Activities of District 3330



Rotary Club of Hua Hin organized a practical training program on solar cell maintenance and sustainable use for 2,400 households at Beuangnakorn Subdistrict Administration Organization, Hua Hin, Prachuap Khirikhan province on 20 August 2023.



Rotary Club of Proud Nakhon, in collaboration with Honda Sri Nakorn Company and various partner organizations, conducted a blood donation activity for the Thai Red Cross at Honda Sri Nakorn Company, Hua It Market, Nakhon Si Thammarat province on 21 August 2023.





Rotary Club of Nakhonpathom of District 3330, along with District 3690, led by District Governor of 3690, DG Shin Dong-seon, PDG An Hee Jin, and their team, organized joint activities between District 3690 and District 3330. These activities were led by DG Dr. Chatchawal Telavanich, P Kittipat Thongphun, Ms. Patcharin Noopasuk, PP Rahong Prae-Ut,

PP Patawee Susantitaphong, PP Dr. Chatchawal and Rotary Ann Ratchanee Wongwiwatwaitaya, PP Tamnan Chusanatus and other members. They carried out various activities at Banphailom School in Bang Len district, Nakhon Pathom province to improve the school's operation by painting the entire school and provided water filtration equipment and tables and chairs for the school worth 2 million Thai baht from 24 - 27 August 2023.



Rotary Club of Chor Sritrang, Rotary Club of Trang and private sector organizations donated 147 pairs of eyeglasses for the elderly in the "Project for the Disadvantaged and Economically Challenged" in Thung Khai, Yantakao, Trang province on 31 August 2023.

Rotary Club of Phuttamonthon, in collaboration with the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Bangkok and lead by PP Chaowalit Thonoi, donated 3 computers, and PP Parinya Boonsongcharoen and PP Thapath Boonsongcharoen supported the construction of a 5x20 meter concrete road in front of the entrance to Wat Suwannaram School, Phutthamonthon, Nakhonpathom province on 1 September 2023.



D3340

Editorial of District 3340



PP Puttitorn Patthanasintorn
Rotary E-Club of
District 3340

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

This magazine is the second issue of this Rotary year with the motto “Create Hope in the World”. Rotary’s ideal of service is based on the Five Avenues of Service. One of the Five Avenues of Service is International Service. This important service promotes understanding and peace, and supports the Rotary Youth Exchange Program which helps to develop international partnerships. Peace-building through the YE Program is a very longstanding project. Exchange students live, study and observe all facets of another culture in a foreign country. They gain new experiences, new visions and new friends in different countries. It is considered that these chances to meet others from around the world would normally be rare.

Besides the YE Program, this issue also showcases some of the Rotary clubs’ services in District 3340, i.e. the Empowering Girls project, the Mother and Child Hygiene project, as well as other public health and medical projects. Every service provides benefits to each community.

Rotary Youth Exchange Program District 3340



By PDG Siri Eiamchamroonlarp,
Chair, District 3340 Rotary
Youth Exchange Committee

Rotary Youth Exchange in District 3340 is proud to be involved with Rotary International to further international understanding and goodwill through youth exchanges over the past 30 years. The YE program has carried on for so long and is still very popular among our four districts. Every year more than 7,000 young people from around the world participate in exchanges to encourage engagement, goodwill and friendship in all levels of family, districts and countries. According to his speech at the Rotary Centre in Thailand, past RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar 2005 - 2006 said that “If all of the students in the world would take the chance to participate in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, this world wouldn’t have any conflict or war.”

The outcome of the YE program obviously reveals the students’ achievements when they can get better jobs, remain in a good relationship with the host family during their stay and keep in touch with them until now. It is friendship that forms relationships through the ideal of Rotary.

In this year 2023 - 2024, there are 26 participants in the YE program both inbound and outbound from various countries that currently bond to one another. This is the second year since the COVID-19 pandemic and the number of participants is expected to increase so that our youth will have more opportunities for exchanges.





Twenty-six Inbound Students are currently residing in District 3340 and they are from Canada, the United States, Japan, Germany, Taiwan, France, Mexico, Spain and Brazil for 2023 - 2024.



Twenty-six Outbound Students are currently studying in Canada, the United States, Japan, Germany, Taiwan, France, Belgium, Mexico and Spain for 2023 - 2024.

The factors for a successful exchange program are the attitudes of all parties, especially the youth, their commitment, and their families involved with the exchanges. The reason is that the exchange lasts for only one year. If they are not prepared enough, especially in terms of language, it will take more months to adjust themselves than it normally should. By the time they might be comfortable, it could take more than half a year of the exchange period. By the time they get through any hardships, they might have to pack their bags and get ready to return home. Therefore, the subject of language is an important factor with the success of any exchange.

All four districts in Thailand work on the YE program covering the entire country. If you are interested, please contact your local Rotary club for advice and protocol. Participation in strengthening good friendships and reducing conflict starts from us. Comparing the YE students to individual raindrops, Rotary clubs can work together so they all will become a stream, then a river and eventually turn into an ocean. At that point, peace will finally be achieved. When we think about it, we are happy. If we put it into practice, our happiness doubles. Rotarians can realize that we have done good in the world. It is our ideal of Service Above Self.



Twenty years ago, the Rotary Club of Nakorn Ratchasima helped a YE student travel abroad and as an alumni of the YE Program, he is a new generation member of the Rotary Club of Nakorn Ratchasima. At present, he is the Club President, and has been the Secretary, Sergeant-At-Arms, and Club Service, except for DG Viroj Piphatchaisiri and Immediate Past President Annop Suntana (far left) who have not been youth exchange students.

Activities of District 3340



“Lighten Future, Build Discipline, Love Saving” was the motto of the Empowering Girls’ program. It was an activity that concerned money saving held on 13 September 2023 by 17 Rotarians and three exchange students of four Rotary clubs: **Rotary Club of Muang Klung**, **E - Club of District 3340**, **Rotary Club of Chanthanimit** and **Rotary Club of Chantaboon**. They encouraged 106 children at Kwian Hak School in the Khlung district of Chanthaburi province to learn how to save money by giving some Thai baht coins as the fund base with the budget of 5,000 Thai baht to drop to the piggy bank. By doing such an activity, it would empower the children to be aware of saving at a young age.



The **Rotary Club of Amnat Charoen** led by P Sawas Theampongpiroj and members donated 10 scholarships (THB 1,000 each) and 144 sacks of premixed rice, clothes, soft dolls, sports equipment, toys and electric fans to Bandong Yang School and Nong Nok Hoh Child Development Center. Total of students were 138. They were welcomed by the Municipal president, school director, teachers and children’s parents. Both donors and receivers were so happy.



Rotary Club of Chantaburi participated in the ceremony to hand over hospital equipment for the project “Reactivate Heart, Regain Life” including Automated External Defibrillators (AED) together with an oxygen pulse fingertip oximeter at the value 1.7 million Thai baht to five hospitals. The project was initiated by **the Rotary Club of Prakanong** who oversaw the Global Grant #2342901 and the Rotary Club of Chantaburi also joined with a DDF donation for such hospital equipment to Laemsing Hospital in Chantaburi province on 25 September 2023.





Rotary Club of Panasnikom An air mattress and household utensils were given to a bedridden patient, age 94 of Banchang subdistrict, Panasnikom District in Chonburi province.



Rotary Club of Namphong, P Lakkhana Hanpradit and club members associated with the village health workers of Ban Nakoo gave some wheelchairs to those who needed help in Nong Kung subdistrict, Namphong District of Khon Kaen province.

Rotary Club of Magkang hosted a “Youth Volunteer Program” to give the children of Ban Udon Thani (Udon Thani Home for girls) some snacks and something for personal use as well as entertainment. In attendance were 36 youth volunteers to learn the Rotary way of community service. The activity was intended to inspire them for other service programs in the future.



Rotary Club of Trat lead by P Opchoey Tangbursuwan collaborated with the **Rotary Club of Kaen Koon** lead by P Burapong Voraraktra and gave four CPR training manikins valued at 13,200 Thai baht to the Training division of the Boonchueyleur Rescue Foundation to deliver CPR training to students and adults.



D3350

Editorial of District 3350



PP Trong Sangswangwatana
Rotary Club of Bangkok
Suwanabhum

Dear Fellow Rotarians and Readers,

I have been asked to focus on exchange students in this issue of the Rotary Thailand magazine. These are the students we call Youth Exchange or YE, because this is the period when LINE and Facebook are full of pictures of students leaving or arriving (OUTBOUND and INBOUND YEs). You will see many pictures of Thai Rotarians seeing off their kids at the airport, or holding up posters with names of their arriving YEs who are foreigners who have just arrived.

As editor, I am proud to present articles on the Youth Exchange students of District 3350. Beginning with the meaning of YE from the pen of the Chair of Youth Exchange students, followed by articles from longtime subcommittee members, and stories by parents and guardians of these kids. Whether this project will flow smoothly or face problems, find out for yourselves in these articles. I have read it and praise the committee members for their dedication. I understand better now what it means to host a YE student.

We will meet again in the next issue.

PP Trong Sangswangwatana
Tel./LINE ID: 0816122340
E-mail: trongs3350@gmail.com

Activities of District 3350

Rotary Club of Bangkhen: Rotarians gave a warm welcome for two Inbound Exchange students, one from Germany and the other from Brazil. They have already enrolled in Mattayaomsuksa 6 of Samsen Wittayalai School.



Rotary Club of Bangkok Dhonburi 50: Rotarians sent Khun Baitoey off to Taiwan. She is an Outbound Exchange student and will enjoy new experiences for 10 months.



Rotary Club of Singburi Veerachon: Rotarians gave Miss Leticia, an Inbound Exchange student from Germany, a warm welcome on 20 August 2023.



Rotary Youth Exchange Program, District 3350



AG Napaskamon Promopakorn
Youth Exchange Program Chair
and New Generations Service
Exchange Program Chair

What & How? Let me tell you about it.

Did you know that there are approximately 8,000 to 10,000 Rotary Youth Exchange students each year?

It starts from students applying for an exchange program through a Rotary club to allowing the club Youth Exchange Committee to interview and get to know the students and their families before submitting them into the program. Once the applications are submitted, the District Youth Exchange Committee will further investigate the qualifications of the students through written examinations and interviews, and then the names of those qualified to go on an exchange will be announced.

The exchange can only take place if two Rotary districts have made a contract to send youth on exchange for one academic year, approximately from 1 August until June of the following year. YE Committee members must, therefore, build friendships and find districts to exchange with us through the International YE Conferences and the YE Pre-Convention prior to the RI

Convention every year. From these events, we make friends and have a lot of districts interested in exchanging with us.

Once an exchange contract has been made, committee members from both districts must work together from receiving and submitting application documents and various details until the day the student receives the Guarantee Form to apply for a visa to travel. When the Guarantee Form is received, the district that will receive the student must begin contacting the student, including the host family, host clubs, and club counselors, and begin sending e-mails to introduce themselves and discuss traveling dates. During that time, a contract and various requirements from the Host district will be sent to the students and their parents to sign. There will be the matter of disclosing personal information to relevant persons and various requirements of the receiving districts. When the students and parents sign the document and receive the visa approval with a set travelling dates, then the exchange begins. During the period of one year from being selected until departure, there will be various activities and training to prepare those involved throughout the year.

It takes more than one child to go on an exchange trip. It takes a lot of effort and sacrifice of Rotarians' time and money of both in our country and in the country where our children will travel. To make this project a success, we as YE Officers believe that we are creating a better world without war through this Youth Exchange program.

"Peace is Possible", one student at the time.



PP Ruangkhachee Nitteranon
Rotary Club of Angthong
Committee, Youth Exchange
Program, District 3350

I am a YE committee member of District 3350 acting as the Area committee taking care of YE students in many provinces. I have experience taking care of Inbound YE students from many countries for more than 30 years.

I understand and always solve problems by connecting hosts, club counselors and schools to make sure all YE students can stay happily, safely and learn Thai culture. They were impressed and convinced their parents, relatives and friends to come visit Thailand later on, even if they might possibly not be choosing Thailand as their first choice, which usually comes after Taiwan, Japan, South Korea or the Philippines. But after five to six months in Thailand, they often fall in love with the country even if the climate is warm and humid, but Thais' characteristics impress them as well as tourist spots and Thai cuisine.

Before YE arrives in Thailand, we must have our outbound YE along with their parents and club counselors contact the inbound YE, to ensure their safety and peace of mind. By communicating both ways until the day they arrive at the airport, we always have a big sign to welcome them as a VIP guest and bring all inbound YE to meet together and have them present their countries, get them involved in activities, and make sure they understand basic Thai language before their orientation session.

With the district, I will always ask about any issues among hosts and YE and try to solve the issues before any conflicts or misunderstanding might develop. Each YE might be lovely, naughty, picky or too playful. We always try to keep them on track before they start to get out of control. Sending YE back home before the term's end is considered a total failure.

Therefore, by keeping in touch and always talking to hosts, clubs and schools will make the exchange successful and there will be more exchanges coming in the future.



Rotary Youth Exchange Program District 3350



Inbound Orientation on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at Miracle Grand Convention Hotel, Vibhavadi Rangsit Road, Bangkok.



Mrs. Kornkaew Chaisuwanrak
Host Club:
Rotary Club of Singburi Veerachon

Host years 2015 - 2024 YE in care of host families

1. Gabriella Turgante, Brazil, year 2015 - 2016
Thai name: Yada, we are the 1st host family
2. Emile Anthony, USA, year 2016 - 2017
Thai name: Ake, we are the 3rd host family
3. Chia-Wei Hsiang, Taiwan, year 2017 - 2018
Thai name: Chai, we are the 1st host family
4. Chen-Shun Hsu, Taiwan, Year 2018 - 2019
Thai name: Bruce, we are the 3rd host family
5. Swanny Guilanme, France, year 2022 - 2023
Thai name: Bai Mon, we are the 2nd host family
6. Leticia Holzportz, Germany, year 2023 - 2024 (now)
Thai name: Namwahn, we are the 1st host family

Differences that YE students have to learn

1. Language: For Inbound YE and Thai language, they will learn and keep practicing and as for some YE, Thai is their third language and it is also difficult to pronounce and write.

2. Food: Thai people eat rice mainly and most of the food is hot and spicy. Most YE have to adapt to this as their main meal at home is not rice and mostly bland.

3. Living: Thailand has a totally different and outstanding culture that exemplifies Thai characteristics.

4. Dressing: Most Thai people wear clothes to cover up, and different from other countries.

Summary

Inbound YE students for the most part, can adapt themselves to host families very well. In terms of language, they try so much to learn and practice, whereas, in terms of food, some might have problems with spicy food but it's usually not the main issue.

In terms of apparel, they can understand the need for conservative clothing. YE boys and girls might have differences sometimes but normally there are no main issues, and we take good care of them no matter what gender they are. In terms of their relationships, we should always ask teachers how they get along with friends but mostly we haven't found any conflicts. Most of them were all lovely.





Rtn Ladapa Attarungroj
Rotary Club of Siquare

I have four kids living in Chainat province, and I'm a member of RC Siquare in Nakhon Sawan. A friend had introduced me to this YE and so I became a member and sent my eldest son to Brazil, batch 39, and now my second son is in the USA, batch 41, in Colorado.

In the meantime, as my son is now in exchange, I also have a chance to host inbound YE from France. I was so worried because I cannot speak English but my kids help with the communication until the host term ends.

Early this year, I became a host instantly without prior notice, knowing very briefly when I met this YE from France, and after a talk, he decided not to stay. I was a bit sad as I didn't have the chance to take care of him but understood his reasons, so I asked my sister in Nakhon Sawan to take care of him. He was happy and not that hard to deal with as others have said. They only needed time to adjust themselves to understand each other better.

The second one was an American. This one, and we were the third host, seemed to have some problems. Some of the club

members asked if I would be able to help hosting him. After listening to what conflicts they have had, I said 'yes' but asked them to make sure that he wanted to move, and if he did not agree, then we would not force him. In conclusion, he agreed to move and I had my eldest son help talking with him about what worried him and we adjusted ourselves until the host term ended.

If you ask me, was it hard to take care of YE? I would say, not at all. It depends on how you take care and communicate. My family is quite a big and extended family and we go everywhere together. What my sons ate, they ate too. Weekends we went out and we observed what he liked and what he didn't like. We never left them alone at home. Sometimes they asked to go out and meet friends and we brought them out. If they asked for permission to stay overnight with friends, we had to make sure the family they stayed with was all right and safe. We never said no.

As parents if we were too worried and overprotective, they might feel uncomfortable. From my side, I would not agree with everything but I would have an agreement before we stayed together. Anywhere they want to go, they must tell us first and if it were safe, we would let them go. We take care of them as if they were our own kids. We make sure they know we love them and they should know that they can be happy and comfortable with us.

Most issues would arise from communication. From their point of view, some have said that other YE have chances to go here and there, like going to Bangkok, and asked why they did not. Other than that, there was nothing serious that happened.



PP Pranee Wattanavorawit
Rotary Club of Siquare

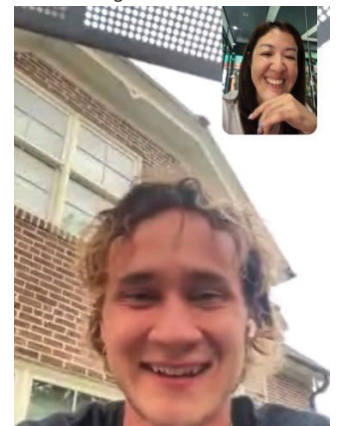
I'm PP Pranee Wattanavorawit, aka "Mae Toom" and last year I was the host for two YE students. One was from North Carolina in the USA, named Stockton Gabriel Ware with Thai name Pok Pong, 19 years old and a very mature US citizen. He was very self-confident and would do things without disturbing hosts but everything he did, he would ask for permission and remained behaved.

The second one from Santander, Spain was Pablo Feijoo Cano with Thai name, Thanon and 17 years old. We related to this YE more because he was always happy and smiling, and he could easily get along with anyone. His family characteristics were very similar to our family, so he said he did not feel any difference and so happy to stay home with us.

Being a YE mom is so special. Talking, communicating, languages, everything was new and challenging for our families. My English is not very good and to tell him something or when

he needs something, we sometimes used hand languages. Soon, they could all adapt themselves and speak Thai very well. They had so much to talk about. We went to try many activities like boxing, going to gym, swimming, watching movies and attending concerts, and everything was very enjoyable. We would always go everywhere together as a family, no matter bad or good. Even when he was sick, a host mom like me was so worried but his own family was not worried at all, trusting us that we would choose the best things for their son and that we would take the best care of him. After that, his family also came from Spain to visit our family and travel in Thailand.

Ten months was all that YE spent in Thailand and when it was time to go home, no one wanted to go home. This host mom cried so hard, I miss him dearly but he always keeps in touch with our family even after he was already back in Spain for three or four months. He's still sending us pictures and messages and calls us constantly. Thank you to Rotary for giving me this chance to host these two YE students.



D3360

Editorial of District 3360



PP Dr. Natthanin Setavanich
Rotary Club of Phrae

Dear Rotarians.

In this magazine, the editors agreed to highlight the Youth Exchange program that Rotary International has supported for a long time. Some of the youths who have participated in the past have already grown up and become our proud Rotarians. This is because these young people understood the objectives of Rotary International very well and knew what Rotarians do for our community. This is another project that inspires people and has had a great impact on increasing Rotary membership.

In District 3360, we have a Rotarian who serves as the Youth Exchange Chairman with the appointed committee. The team promotes various activities related to YE and I would like to present their work and accomplishments through the Chairman of the YE Committee in District 3360.

We have introduced significant projects of D3360 in the past two months. This issue is very special and we provided a Rotary Information column. Therefore, I would like to present a significant project from the Rotary Club of Phayao Peafowl who participated in the Rotary International Convention 2023. We hope that everyone will be inspired and get good ideas through what we have presented in this magazine.

See you next time.

Rotary Youth Exchange Program District 3360



By PP Siriluck Chaiyawong
Chair, District 3360 Rotary
Youth Exchange Committee

In 2022 - 2023, District 3360 hosted 11 Inbound exchange students who arrived in Thailand in August 2022. After four months, one Inbound student had health problems and personal difficulties in adapting to the environment and culture and had to return home earlier than expected. Therefore, there were 10 remaining Inbound students who stayed until the end of the YE period. They all learned the culture and various arts such as basic Muay Thai boxing, folk dances, greetings according to Thai tradition, living according to the Buddhist way and many more.

In 2023 - 2024, District 3360 has 12 Outbound students who are our young ambassadors bringing Thai arts and culture to the world. Especially, the unique culture of the northern Thai region is presented worldwide. In Thailand, there are similar cultures throughout the country, but each district has its own unique characteristics, causing foreigners to identify them through our exchange students. This year's Outbound exchange students have been gradually departing since the end of July.





On 19 - 20 July 2023, the YE Program of District 3360 held the Pre-departure & Welcome Rebound Seminar. This year, we had 11 Outbound students who received the opportunity to exchange and explore the world. One young person was sent to Germany, two to Belgium, two to Brazil, two to Mexico, one to France, and three to the United States of America. There are 12 Inbound students from different countries as mentioned above and one additional student from Taiwan.

The activities on 19 - 20 July were a good chance for the Rebound students to meet with the Outbound students and share their experiences of the exchange program. The Rebound students would also test the Outbound students' language proficiency and their readiness to travel abroad.

In addition, as the Outbound students would be travelling away from their families for nearly a year, the program organized activities according to the Buddhist way by inviting the monks to give sermons and give

blessings to the students. These YE events have given children the opportunity to express their gratitude to their parents before traveling abroad.

On 18 - 20 August 2023, we had an orientation for Inbound exchange students. They had the chance to meet, discuss, and build good relationships between exchange students and the program committee. They learned important basic knowledge of northern culture and customs. This was to prepare them in adjusting themselves to people, school, and the host families and the activity helped to relieve the problems of entering a new culture.



Activities of District 3360



Rotary Club of Phitsanulok with the help of the Thai Red Cross Society of Phitsanulok organized the 11th blood donation activity under the project "2nd Year organizing blood donations of another 1 million cc toward the second million". Received were 99 units equal to 39,450 cc which were given to Buddhachinnarat Hospital to continuously help those in need. In total, donations were received at 800,160 cc as of 6 September 2023.



Rotary Club of Song together with the **Rotary Club of Nakhonping Chiang Mai**, the **Eye Service Foundation**, the **Rotary Club of Chiang Mai North** and the **Rotary Club of Rong Kwang** organized the joint Rotary Project "Ta Sai" (Clear Visible Eyes) by fitting glasses for the elderly in the district of Song. Two hundred and twenty interested people participated in the project at the Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine Center of Song Hospital in the Song district of Phrae province on 9 - 10 September 2023.



Rotary Club of Phrae lead by P Thongchai Sirikitphinyokun and members participated in the mobile medical unit activity in Phrae Hospital at Ban Wang Pueng School in Phai Thon subdistrict, Rong Kwang district, where the club provided meals for the doctors, nurses, hospital staff, and local village health volunteers who checked and treated patients. Also thanked were members from the Rotary Club of Wiangkosai who joined the activity by supporting coffee and drinks on 10 September 2023.

Rotary Club of Chiang Mai Nawarat lead by P Nipawan Sathumanasphan and members built a water retarding dam in addition to what has already been done at the Samoeng Tai subdistrict, Samoeng district of Chiang Mai province. Despite rain and difficult travel routes, it was not an obstacle to their intention and determination to do so for the community on 15 September 2023.



Thailand Plogging, one-hour Plogging can make a big difference! **Chiang Mai Rotary Club**, lead by P Karn Thamprasert and members participated in a garbage collection activity during Plastic Reduction Week. A total of 266.25 kilograms of waste was collected, starting at the Kruba Srivichai Monument Square in Chiang Mai province on 17 September 2023.



Rotary Satellite Club of Wiang Kosai - Phrae Nakhon lead by CP Pakin Innajai, AG Saranya Kitpinyo, P Sgt. Kittisak Khueanphet and club members donated an intravenous delivery solution machine (syringe pump) and an air mattress to Nong Muang Khai Hospital in Phrae province on 20 September 2023.

Translation of Documents



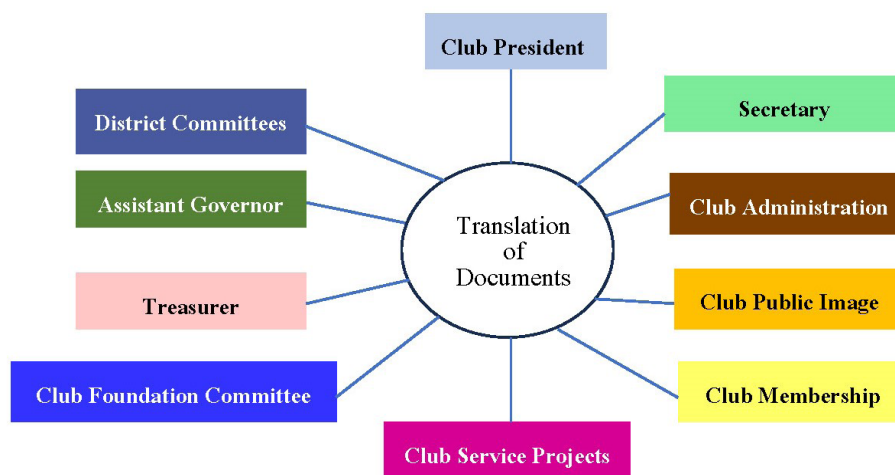
PDG Nakin Ratanakitsunthorn
Chair, Translation Committee,
2022 - 2024

// Today, Rotary International emphasizes the importance of online learning. There are fewer printed documents or manuals because the focus has been changed to allow members to learn various stories, both according to their roles in the club, in the district, and learning according to their interests. Therefore, the courses have been prepared in Rotary's Learning Center to present to all members online. However, the courses are in English so they may not be fully understood by some Rotarians in Thailand. //

The Document Translation Committee of the Rotary Centre in Thailand considered that various courses should be translated into Thai so that members can learn on their own more conveniently. However, those courses are interactive online courses, and the Rotary Centre cannot do that part by itself arbitrarily. We have coordinated with Rotary International to request the translation of various courses in the Learning Center into Thai language and that has been approved by Rotary International. The translation is now in process and we believe that we will have various courses in the Thai language in My Rotary's Learning Center soon.

The Translation Committee has translated the manuals of Club Officers, Assistant Governor and District Committees and other different courses that are required for each position according to their learning plan. In translating the courses for download, the scenario portion will be omitted, and the book format will be as similar to the courses in the Learning Center as possible, both in Thai and English. You can find these at www.rotarythailand.org.

In the first phase, the various courses that were translated are the basic duties for the Club President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the five Committees including the Assistant Governor and District Committees.



For example, the learning plan for Club Presidents and various topics have been translated as follows:

Club President

- Get Ready
- Managing Club Business
- Working with Your Club Leadership Team
- Rotary's Action Plan and You
- Best Practices for Engaging Members
- Rotary Foundation Basics

The Club Foundation Committee and various topics have been translated as follows:

Club Foundation Committee

- Get Ready
- Working with Your Club Leadership Team
- Protecting Personal Data
- Leading Effective Committees
- Rotary Foundation Basics

In addition, the Translation Committee is translating the learning plan for the Grant Management Recertification 2023 - 2024 which is suitable for those interested in applying for Global Grant projects. However, we do not only translate courses, but also other documents such as Interact guides, etc. If there are other courses or any document that you are interested in, please contact the Rotary Centre for assistance.

Translation Committee of the Rotary Centre in Thailand

Advisor: PRID Prof. Dr. Saowalak Rattanavich

Chairman: PDG Nakarin Ratanakitsunthorn

Committee members: PDG Somphop Thirasan

DGE Apisak Jompong

AG Srifa Siriudomseth

AG Phanu Yoshmetha

Rotary Centre Chair's Message

PDG Somphop Thirasan



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

It is with great joy and immense pride that each and every member of Rotary clubs in Thailand joins hands to support and develop our very own Rotary magazine in Thailand. This year marks the 40th year of our magazine's publication, which has been a platform for coordinating understanding, disseminating information on various activities, and translating articles from the Rotary International magazine into Thai language since the pre-online communication era.

The editorial team of our Rotary magazine in Thailand, along with the dedicated Boards from each term, have invested their time and effort wholeheartedly to bring forth this magazine in the best possible manner without regard to the exhaustion it might have entailed. Today, the magazine is delivered to our members as scheduled with up-to-date interesting articles, a mobile application for convenient reading, and an English edition connecting us with Rotary International.

On behalf of the Rotary Centre in Thailand, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the editors of Rotary Thailand magazine, especially in the years of 2023 – 2024. I would like to thank PDG Chalermchat Chun-In, along with the entire team, for taking care of our magazine, ensuring it's on par with any other nation and, of course, the biggest thanks go to all fellow Rotarians who have supported us throughout our history. Happy 40th anniversary to the Rotary Thailand magazine!

PDG Somphop Thirasan

Chair the Board of Directors for the Rotary Centre in Thailand

Rotary Membership

Data source: www.rotary.org

As 1 October 2023 (1 July 2023)

District	Rotarians	Clubs	Rotaractors	Clubs
Worldwide	1,183,690 (1,157,010)	37,035 (36,789)	167,602 (166,541)	11,237 (11,310)
3330	2,281 (2,203)	103 (103)	243 (233)	27 (26)
3340	1,371 (1,316)	65 (65)	76 (76)	5 (5)
3350	3,179 (3,013)	132 (128)	432 (407)	30 (30)
3360	1,441 (1,441)	70 (70)	279 (274)	15 (15)
Total	8,272 (7,973)	370 (366)	1,030 (990)	77 (76)

เพื่อน้องเรียนรู้

งานเบิกวิทยาคม อ.ท่าช้าง จ.ลพบุรี

- สโมสรโรตารีพระนารายณ์ลพบุรี
- สโมสรโรตารีลพบุรี
- สโมสรโรตารีบ้านหมี่
- สโมสรโรตารีพระรามศวรลพบุรี

TOGETHER, WE

LEARN

The Rotary Club of Lopburi, together with the Rotary Club of Pranarai Lopburi, the Rotary Club of Banmi, and the Rotary Club of Pramasual Lopburi, collaborated to provide educational resources to students at Banberkwitthayakom School, Tambon Thawung, in Lopburi province.

They donated an IQ development book set, reading corner equipment, and a computer set with tables and chairs.

Rotary



PEOPLE OF ACTION

“เรามองดูด้วยตา แต่มองเห็นด้วยสมอง”

การเห็นภาพคมชัดทุกระยะในสิ่งแวดล้อมที่อย่างเป็นธรรมชาติที่สุด รู้สึกสบายที่สุด คือความสามารถด้านการมองเห็นของวัยหนุ่มสาว แต่เราเริ่มสูญเสียความสามารถนี้ไปตั้งแต่วัย 40 ทำให้ประสิทธิภาพการทำงานที่ต้องใช้ความคิดลดลงอย่างรวดเร็ว รู้สึกเหนื่อยล้าได้ง่าย เมื่อต้องทำงานกับหน้าจอคอมพิวเตอร์ หรืออ่านหนังสือ อาการนี้เรียกว่า สายตาวัยระยะใกล้

แว่นสายตาชนิดชั้นเดียว และสองชั้น แม้ช่วยให้มองเห็นภาพระยะใกล้ได้ดีขึ้น แต่หากเพลาอมองไกลกว่าจุดโฟกัสบ่อยๆ อาจมีผลทำให้สายตาวัยระยะใกล้เพิ่มขึ้นก่อนวัยอันควร จึงมีการพัฒนาเลนส์แว่นตาโปรเกรสซีฟหลายชั้นไว้รองรับต่อที่มองเห็นชัดในหลายระยะ และถนอมสายตาได้ดีขึ้น แต่ต้องฝืนปรับตัวนาน ใช้งานยาก ความคมชัดต่ำ จนต้องฝืนเพ่ง ทำให้รู้สึกไม่สบายตา ภาพบิดเบี้ยวด้านข้างสูงมากจนรู้สึกไม่เป็นธรรมชาติ การเปลี่ยนแปลงกำลังเลนส์ไม่นุ่มนวล โฟกัสภาพได้ช้า และไม่ได้มีการรับประกันคุณภาพที่ชัดเจน

ไอซอพติก เป็นศูนย์สร้างแว่นตาโปรเกรสซีฟอัจฉริยะ 3 มิติ เฉพาะบุคคลอย่างยั่งยืน ตามพฤติกรรมการใช้สายตาจริง ที่แตกต่างกันของผู้ใช้แต่ละคน ให้ภาพคมชัดทุกระยะในสิ่งแวดล้อมที่ใสสบายตลอดทั้งวัน เหมือนแว่นตาเป็นส่วนหนึ่งของร่างกาย ปรับตัวง่าย เพิ่มพลังสมองได้อย่างก้าวกระโดด สนุกสนานกับการทำงานได้มากขึ้น แต่เหนื่อยน้อยลง เหมือนได้กลับเป็นหนุ่มสาวอีกครั้ง ไม่ว่าผู้ใช้ จะมีอายุเท่าไรก็ตาม รับประกันความพึงพอใจในการใช้งานจริงสูงสุด 6 เดือน

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เลยสถานทูตจีน 30 เมตร ติดกับ อาคารตลาดหลักทรัพย์แห่งประเทศไทย
เปิดวันพุธ - วันอาทิตย์ เวลา 10:00 - 19:00 น.



ปรมาจารย์โบบี

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