



Berita Pudu



BOD RY 2013-14

www.rotarypudu.org.my

The Weekly eBulletin of the
Rotary Club of Pudu
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
RI District 3300

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Date : 3rd March 2014
Issue No : 32

Berita Pudu

PROGRAMME FOR TODAY

Speaker: PDG Dr Paul Lee
Subject: Interact Leadership Training Seminar

On Duty

Duty Table: Rtn Steven Ho
Fellowship: Rtn Mok Sin
Finemaster: Rtn Loo Ming Chee
Introducing: PE Daisy Chiu
Thanking: PDG K B Lee

Rotarians' Birthdays (March)

1st – PP Leong Choy Ying
7th – PP Dato' Dr Lee Hoo Teong
11th – Rtn Chinniah Arumanadan
12th – PP Richard Liew

PROGRAMME FOR NEXT WEEK

Speaker: Rtc Kevin Nair and Rtc Erwin Lee
Subject: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

On Duty

Duty Table: Rtn Elaine Tan
Fellowship: Rtn Steven Chiew
Finemaster: Rtn Asok Kumar
Introducing: Rtn Patrick Lee
Thanking: Rtn May Lim :

Spouses Birthdays (March)

3rd – Ann Veronica (Rtn Robert Tan)
13th – Ann Siew Kien (Rtn Roy Sreenivasan)
17th – Raja Azma (PP Dato' Muslim Ayob)
22nd – Ann Evelyn (PP K H Low)

Wedding Anniversaries (March)

2nd – Rtn Steven Ho and Ann Fanny
9th – PP Phang Poke Shum and Ann Carol
10th – PP Datuk Y K Chew and Ann Adeline
17th – Rtn Chinniah and Ann Chanra
30th – Rtn Jeffrey Yap and Ann Catherine Foo

CLUB DIARY OF EVENTS – MARCH 2014

Date	Time	Programme	Venue
Sat, 1 st Mar	10.00 am	International Understanding Day	SMK Sri Sentosa
Sat, 1 st Mar	3.00 pm	Rotaract Board of Directors Meeting	Elilal Restaurant, KL
Mon, 3 rd Mar	12.45 pm	Weekly Meeting	Hotel Sentral Pudu
Tue, 4 th Mar	6.30 pm	Incoming Club Service Committee Meeting	Residence of Rtn Jeff Yap
Wed, 5 th Mar	6.30 pm	48 th Installation Committee Meeting	Crystal Palm Seafood
Thurs, 6 th Mar	6.30 pm	Outgoing Membership Development Meeting	President Alex's Office
Thurs, 6 th Mar	7.30 pm	Outgoing Club Service Committee Meeting	President Alex's Office
8th -11th Mar 2014		Tri Sister Clubs Fellowship	Bangkok
Mon, 10 th Mar	12.45 pm	Weekly Meeting	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
Tue, 11 th Mar	6.30 pm	Incoming Youth Service Committee Meeting	Bukit Kiara Club
Wed, 12 th Mar	6.30 pm	Outgoing Youth Service Committee Meeting	Bukit Kiara Club
Wed, 12 th Mar	7.30 pm	Outgoing/Incoming Community Service Comm	Bukit Kiara Club
Mon, 17 th Mar	12.45 pm	Weekly Meeting	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
Tue, 18 th Mar	6.30 pm	Incoming International Service Comm Meeting	Selangor Club, Bkt Kiara
Wed, 19 th Mar	6.30 pm	Outgoing/Incoming Vocational Service Mtg	Bukit Kiara Club
Wed, 19 th Mar	7.30 pm	Outgoing International Service Comm Meeting	Bukit Kiara Club
Sun, 23 rd Mar	8.00 am	Interact Leadership Training Seminar (ILTS)	SMK Methodist, KL
Mon, 24 th Mar		Weekly Meeting postponed to 26 th March 2014	
Tue, 25 th Mar	6.30 pm	Incoming Board of Directors Meeting	Bukit Kiara Club
Wed, 26 th Mar	6.30 pm	Weekly Meeting / Joint Meeting with RC Cheras	Bankers Club, KL
Thurs, 27 th Mar	6.30 pm	Outgoing Board of Directors Meeting	President Alex's Office
Sat, 29 th Mar	9.00 am	Career Opportunities in the Hospitality Industry – Vocational Service	Berjaya University College of Hospitality, KL
Mon, 31 st Mar	6.30 pm	Weekly Meeting / Joint Meeting with RC Damansara, RC Kelana Jaya and RC Titiwangsa	Shangri-La Hotel, KL

EDITORIAL

There was a guy that was born with cancer. A cancer with no known cure. He was 17 years old and could die at any moment. He was always at home, under his mother's care.

One day he decided to go out, even if it was just once. He asked his mother for permission and she agreed. Walking down his block he saw many stores. Stopping at a music store he looked in and saw a very pretty girl of his own age and he walked in. He walked up to the counter where the girl was. She smiled at him and asked "Can I help you with anything?"

The guy could only think that it was the most beautiful smile he had ever seen and stuttered, "Well, hmmm, I'd like to buy a...". He grabbed the first one he saw and gave her the money.

"Do you want me to wrap it?" the girl asked. The guy said yes and the girl went into the back room to wrap it. The guy took the wrapped CD and walked home. From that day on he visited the music store every day, and each day he bought a CD. And each day the girl wrapped them up and the guy stored them unopened in his closet.

He was a very shy boy, and although he tried he couldn't find the nerve to ask the girl out. His mother noticed this and encouraged him.

The next day the guy set out for the store with a determined mind, like the previous days he bought a CD and the girl wrapped it as usual. While she was busy he left his telephone number on the counter and rushed out of the store.

The following day the guy didn't visit the store, and the girl called him. His mother answered the phone, wondering who it could be. It was the girl from the music store! She asked to speak with her son and his mother started crying. The girl asked her what was the matter. "Don't you know? He died yesterday." There was a long silence on the phone.

Later that afternoon the guy's mother entered his room to remember her son. She decided to start with his closet, and to her surprise she saw a big pile of unopened CDs wrapped in festive paper. She was curious because there were so many of them, and she opened one. As she tore open the package she noticed a slip of paper that said: "Hi! You're cute, I would love to meet you. Let's go out some time. Sophie"

The mother started crying as she opened another, and another, and another. Every single CD contained a slip of paper that said the same.

Don't wait to show those special people the way you feel. Tomorrow could be too late.

*Warmest Regards.
Mike Tung*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"The man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read."

— Mark Twain

Combating illiteracy has been a major focus of Rotary International – and for good reason. UNESCO estimates there are over 800 million illiterate adults in the world and about two-thirds of them are women. Therefore Rotary designated the month of March as the Literacy month.

Rotary International has established a Literacy Resource Group, a network of Rotarian volunteers who support and encourage Rotary Club and district participation in literacy activities worldwide.

Adopt-a-Library (AAL) is one of the programs I come across which a Rotary Club may promote Literacy for example:

A Rotary Club partners with their local school or municipal library, and police department and engages local business to sponsor the project. They purchase a "Treasure Chest" and fill it with small toys through finds raised either from a fundraiser for the project or from local business sponsors. The "Treasure Chest" is placed in the library, open for all to see, and children are invited to register with the librarian.

When a child has read 10 books, they are permitted to choose a toy from the "Treasure Chest". The child will undoubtedly see more than one toy that they want and will be encouraged to read 10 more books. Proof of the actually reading of the books and their degree of difficulty is at the discretion of the librarian.

The important part is to make reading fun. The learning will follow. Prizes may be handed to the children in different age groups by the police and Rotary members.

Source:

<http://www.fightingcrime.ca/index.php/initiatives/rotary-club>

What a great idea...

In Pudu, typically in the Month of March we conduct our once a year Interact Leadership Training Seminar (ILTS) to disseminate Rotary information amongst our Interact Leaders. This year is no exception and our PDG Dr Paul Lee will kick start the month by promoting Rotary Literacy with our very own Rotarians on March 3, 2014.

We thank you PDG Paul Lee for your tireless contribution to Rotary and our Club.

*Alex Chang
President
RY 2013-14*

PUDU NEWS

Record of Meeting on: 28th February 2014

Guest Speaker 1: HE Ong Keng Yong, High Commissioner of Singapore

Subject: The ASEAN Economic Community and Sustainable Development

Guest Speaker 2: HE Constantin V. Nistor, Ambassador of Romania

Subject: Romania- Facts and Figures

Visiting Rotarians

Name	Club

Guests

--	--

Statistics

Guests	-
Visiting Rotarians	-
Club Members	8
Total Present	8

Collections:

Birthdays/Anniv/Fines	
Paying Diners	
Raffles & Others	
Total (RM)	

CLUB PROCEEDINGS

Acting Sgt-At-Arms Rtn Laura Lee called the meeting to order at 6.45 pm on behalf of President Alex Chang and President Judy Chong. She welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests.

There was no fine session

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) The International Understanding Day of the Interact Club of SMK Sentosa will be held on Saturday, 1st March 2014 at 10 am.
- 2) The weekly meeting on Monday, 3rd March 2014 will be held at Hotel Sentral Pudu. KL

INTRODUCING SPEAKER 1

PP Janice Lee of RC Bandar Utama introduced the guest speaker HE Ong Keng Yong, High Commissioner of Singapore, who presented a talk on the subject "The ASEAN Economic Community and Sustainable Development."

THANKING SPEAKER 1

President Alex Chang thanked HE Ong Keng Yong for a very educational and interesting presentation. He commented that ASEAN with a population of 600 million people will soon be an economic powerhouse in the world. President Alex and President Judy then presented mementos to HE Ong Keng Yong.

INTRODUCING SPEAKER 2

PP Janice Lee of RC Bandar Utama introduced the guest speaker HE Constantin Volodea Nistor, Ambassador of Romania, who presented a talk on the subject "Romania – Facts and Figures"

THANKING SPEAKER 2

President Judy Chong of R C Bandar Utama thanked HE Constantin Volodea Nistor for a very insightful and interesting presentation. She reiterated that Romania is well endowed with rich natural resources. With very conducive investment policies, trade between Malaysia and Romania has increased over the years. President Alex and President Judy then presented mementos to HE Constantin Volodea Nistor.



Venue of our Joint Meeting with RC Bandar Utama at The Club @ Bukit Utama

HE ONG KENG YONG'S TEXT



ASEAN Economic Community & Sustainable Development

High Commissioner Ong Keng Yong



Key Strategic Vision for an ASEAN Community

- To build a more connected, resilient and competitive region, living in peace and prosperity
- For strength in unity, as an integrated ASEAN can compete better and more comprehensively in the global economy



The ASEAN Economic Community

- Aim was to string and integrate various systems and national policies together at the regional level, to make it more comprehensive, efficient and effective
- Overall implementation rate of the AEC Blueprint stands at 79.4% as of July 2013



The ASEAN Economic Community (cont'd)

- Virtually free flow of trade-in-goods, tariff-free
- Integration of trade-in-services is slow moving but some positive developments
- Strengthened foreign investors' confidence
- Developed greater resilience in the face of global economic crises
- ASEAN is more connected to the major economies than ever before

ASEAN's Sustainable Development Agenda

- The ASEAN Vision 2020, adopted in 1997, called for:
"... a clean and green ASEAN with fully established mechanisms for sustainable development to ensure the protection of the region's environment, the sustainability of its natural resources and the high quality of life of its peoples."
- Hanoi Plan of Action (1999 – 2004): 15 specific, time-bound ASEAN initiatives to protect environment and promote sustainable development
- Further defined along 10 priority areas based on Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
- ASEAN Community Blueprints, adopted March 2009



14th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment, September 2013

- Environment Ministers adopted ASEAN Joint Statement on the Implementation of Sustainable Consumption and Production in ASEAN
- ASEAN Members committed to continue / increase existing exchange of experience, information and best practices

HE ONG KENG YONG'S TEXT



5th ASEAN-UN Summit, October 2013

- UN was eager to work with ASEAN in implementing a "bold new sustainable development agenda"
- According to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, poverty eradication should be the "priority", and sustainable development the "guide and principle"



Current Sustainable Devt Initiatives

- **Emission of greenhouse gases:** Several ASEAN Members have announced voluntary mitigation targets
- **Deforestation and trans-boundary haze:** ASEAN Leaders agreed to develop a haze monitoring system
- **Urbanisation:** "Environmentally Sustainable Cities" drive



Current Sustainable Devt Initiatives (cont'd)

- **Biodiversity:** Launch of the ASEAN Biodiversity Centre to promote regional conservation of biodiversity
- **Coastal and Marine Environment:** Efforts include developing "standards" for sustainable practices
- **Sub-Regional Projects:** Heart of Borneo & Greater Mekong



Climate Change and Food Security

- Projection that by 2100, there would be a 4.8 degrees Celsius rise in mean annual temperature, and a 70 centimetres rise in mean sea level in the region
- Food security would become an issue, eg. estimated decline of up to 50% in rice yield potential



Deforestation and Transboundary Haze

- ASEAN has a massive 25 million hectares of peatland, which accounts for 60% of global tropical peatland
- Unsustainable agricultural practices and forest management, like land clearing by open burning, have created serious problems like trans-boundary haze

Other Challenges

- **Urbanisation** – Attendant urban environmental degradation as well as considerable strains on natural resources
- **Biodiversity** – Pollution, logging, illegal wildlife poaching and trading, land clearing, etc.
- **Water** – Poor irrigation systems, water pollution, and unsatisfactory sanitation management



HE ONG KENG YONG'S TEXT



Looking Ahead

- **Enforce rules** for the protection of the environment
- **Increase information sharing** among environment and conservation agencies
- **Work closer with Dialogue Partners** in areas like agriculture



Looking Ahead (cont'd)

- **Strengthen our food security**, including by building more resilient and robust supply and value chains at all levels
- **Pursue policies** which promote inclusive economic growth and alleviate poverty



Conclusion

- As we go about our Community-building efforts, we must always be mindful of the importance of sustainable development and environmental protection
- This is to ensure that our concerted endeavours to build an integrated and successful ASEAN Community today would be enjoyed by our future generations



Thank you.

SPEAKER'S CV



HE Ong Keng Yong

Ambassador ONG Keng Yong is High Commissioner of Singapore to Malaysia based in Kuala Lumpur. He was previously Ambassador-At-Large in the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Singapore's Non-Resident Ambassador to Iran. From 2008 to 2011, he served as Director of the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. He was Secretary-General of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) from January 2003 to January 2008.

Mr Ong started his diplomatic career in 1979 and was posted to the Singapore Embassies in Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and the United States of America. He was Singapore's Ambassador to India and Nepal from 1996 to 1998. From September 1998 to December 2002, he was Press Secretary to the then Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Goh Chok Tong. At the same time, Mr Ong held senior appointments in the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts, and the People's Association in Singapore.

Mr. Ong graduated from the then University of Singapore with a LLB (Hons) and the Georgetown University (Washington DC, USA) with a MA in Arab Studies. In 2008, he was Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre on Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus in the School of Oriental and African Studies in London.

AMBASSADOR NISTOR'S TEXT



Romania in Europe



Romania

National Day - 1st of December



Romanian Parliament



•Romania derives from the Latin *romanus*, meaning "citizen of Rome"

- The Tărtăria tablets are three tablets, discovered in 1961 by archaeologist Nicolae Vlassa at a Neolithic site in the village of Tărtăria (about 30 km (19 mi) from Alba Iulia), in Romania.
- The tablets, dated to around 5300 BC, bear incised symbols - the Vinča symbols - and have been the subject of considerable controversy among archaeologists, some of whom claim that the symbols represent the earliest known form of writing in the world.

AMBASSADOR NISTOR'S TEXT

Romania

Traditional costumes from Bucovina



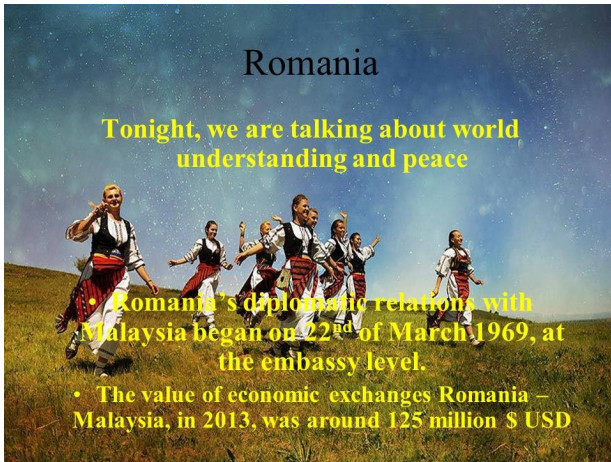
Romania
Carpathian mountains



Romania

Tonight, we are talking about world understanding and peace

- Romania's diplomatic relations with Malaysia began on 22nd of March 1969, at the embassy level.
- The value of economic exchanges Romania – Malaysia, in 2013, was around 125 million \$ USD



Romania
Black Sea

A possible gate for the Malaysian palm oil in Europe



CURRICULUM VITAE
CONSTANTIN VOLODEA NISTOR

Personal Information

Date of birth: January, 25th 1950
Place of birth: Buzau, Romania
Marital status: Married, 2 sons

Work experience

1972-1979 Ministry of Tourism
1979 Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1979-1981 Second Secretary, Embassy of Romania to Philippine
1981-1990 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Asia Department
1990-1995 Counselor/DHOM, Embassy of Romania to Republic of India
1995-1997 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Asia Department
1997-1999 Counselor/DHOM, Embassy of Romania to the State of Kuwait
1999-2003 Charge d'Affairs, Embassy of Romania to the State of Kuwait
2004-2011 Ambassador, Embassy of Romania to the State of Kuwait
2011-2012 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Asia Department
2012 Ambassador, Embassy of Romania to Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is a long presentation with 32 slides. We don't have enough space here. So, for the full presentation, please view it on the Club website.

CLUB MEETING ON 28 FEBRUARY 2014



Pres Alex and Pres Judy Chong At the Top Table



Not mixing ahh...



HE Ong giving his presentation



A memento for the High Commissioner



PP Janice Lee introduced both speakers



HE Ambassador Nistor giving his presentation

CLUB MEETING ON 28 FEBRUARY 2014



A memento for Ambassador Nistor



One for the album



Another one for the album



Autistic children's orchestra



"Our talented singer will sing for us..."



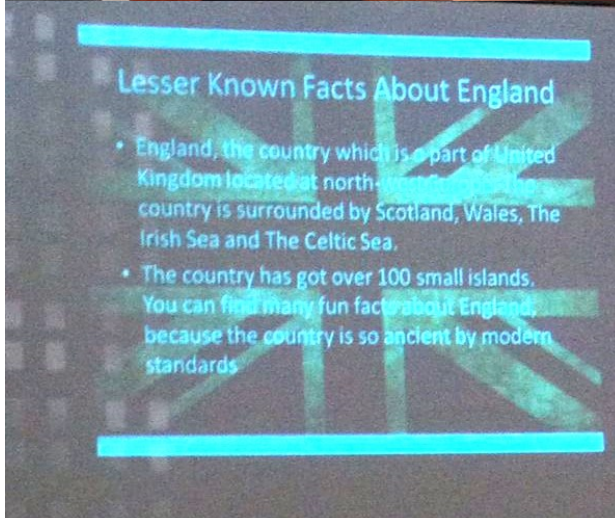
Bravo, that was wonderful

COMMITTEE MEETING



Board of Directors' Meeting on Wednesday 26 February, 2014

INTERACT EVENT



CLUB & DISTRICT DIARY OF EVENTS - FUTURE

Date	Time	Programme	Venue
8 th -11 th Mar 2014 Sun, 23 rd Mar 2014 Sat, 29 th Mar 2014	8.00 am 9.00 am	Tri Sister Clubs Fellowship Interact Leadership Training Seminar Career Opportunities in the Hospitality Industry - Vocational Service 80 th R I District 3300 Assembly	Bangkok SMK Methodist, KL Berjaya University College, KL Royal Bintang Resort & Spa, Seremban
25 th -27 th April 2014			GSC Pavilion, KL Shangri la Hotel, KL Shangri la Hotel, KL Sutera Harbour Resort & Spa, Kota Kinabalu.
Sat, 3 rd May 2014 Fri, 23 rd May 2014 Sun, 22 nd June 2014 21 st - 23 rd Nov 2014	10.00 am 2.30 pm 7.00 pm	RC Pudu Charity Premiere 'Spiderman II' Rotarian/Teacher Advisors High Tea RC Pudu 48 th Installation Night 2014 Kota Kinabalu Rotary Institute	

INVITATION

Feb 26, 2014

Dear President Alex

We have had a District 3450 District Conference just last weekend. Our very own annual anniversary is less than 1 month away. We do apologize for the belated formal invitation. Enclosed herewith please find the invitation for our anniversary. We have prepared some very interesting program to entertain your visit including tours to some of Hong Kong outlying islands. We hope some of your members can come and enjoy the weekend with us.

Yours in Rotary

PP Douglas

International Service Director



Rotary
Club of Hong Kong Harbour

Rotary Club of Hong Kong Harbour
27th Club Anniversary Party
March 22, 2014
7 pm
B1 Ballroom, Regal Hongkong Hotel

Dress Code: Chinese attire
R.S.V.P.: PP Grace Yen Mark Tong
T: 9430 1628 6494 4828
email: gyen.rotary@gmail.com mtong.china@gmail.com

香港海港扶輪社
二十七週年慶祝晚宴
二零一四年三月二十二日(星期六)
富豪香港酒店地庫一樓宴會大廳舉行
晚上七時正恭候

服飾：中式
恕乏介催：嚴中明前社長 唐嘉文社員
T: 9430 1628 6494 4828
email: gyen.rotary@gmail.com mtong.china@gmail.com

DISTRICT NEWS

[rotary3300] Re: Dengue Awareness

rotary3300@googlegroups.com on behalf of Teoh Kwan Swee <teohks27@gmail.com>

Sent: Thu 20/2/2014 12:10 PM

To: District 3300

More than 12,000 people in Malaysia have been infected with dengue fever so far this year, representing a four-fold increase compared to the same period last year.

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia is waging an all-out war against an on-going dengue outbreak that has claimed 25 lives this year.

This is the deadliest outbreak of dengue fever in Malaysia since 2010.

More than 12,000 people have been infected so far this year, representing a four-fold increase compared to the same period last year.

The worst may not be over. The country's health minister warns that it may take at least four weeks before the situation stabilises.

Also known as break bone fever because of severe muscle and joint pain that comes with it, dengue fever is a flu-like illness, spread by the *aedes aegypti* mosquito.

Despite fumigation by local councils - including the use of the biological agent called BTI for the first time - to curb the spread - the death toll continues to rise and government hospitals are inundated by dengue patients.



Malaysian Health Minister Dr S Subramaniam said: "The situation is quite worrying and critical because every week we are having approximately 2,000 cases being reported.

"We have analysed all these steps which we are taking

and to see their efficacy. So today, I've instructed all these seriously affected districts to have dual fogging continuously for four weeks at a stretch. We want to bring down the density of mosquitoes and larvae sites."

While appealing for calm, the health minister confirmed that a vaccine against dengue may be imminent.

Dr Subramaniam said the vaccine is currently in the final phase of clinical trials in several countries including Malaysia; and Kuala Lumpur may receive it before anywhere else.

"Studies showing that they are quite useful (for strains) 1, 3 and 4. (They are) very effective. For (strain) 2, (it is) not so effective, but once this multi-centre trial is completed within the next two years or so, then we'll be in a position to see whether we can make it marketable and available for use on a vaccination, as a control mechanism."

Just as the vaccine is being tested on all four existing strains of the virus Den 1, 2, 3 and 4, a new variant known as Den 5 has emerged in the East Malaysian state of Sarawak though there's no evidence of it being transmitted to humans.

Scientists have urged the public not to be distracted by the new strain of virus because for the first time in three decades, they are inching closer towards finding a lasting cure for a deadly virus that has the potential to infect up to 100 million people each year.

Until a vaccine is commercially available, a multi-pronged approach scientists say is needed. While fogging is certainly one way to go, **the public must also do their part to eliminate the breeding grounds for mosquitoes.**



DISTRICT NEWS

From: Baskaran Syamala <swe_tha@hotmail.com>
Date: Fri 21/2/2014
Subj: **Interesting Ideas on Extension**
To: Rotary3300

Dear Rotarians,

As we look into ways and means of increasing membership in Rotary, I have (come) across two clubs from India who have devised innovative thinking in chartering new clubs.

The first club is RC Aurangabad West (Dist 3132) where the charter members are ex-Rotaractors and their membership is limited to only ex-Rotaractors. They are a very active club with wide ranging projects and with 9 Interact clubs and a Rotaract club; and the only Early-act club in the Indian subcontinent. They are here in our District now, with their Interactors on an IYE program and currently being hosted by RC Bandar Sungai Petani.

The second club that comes to my mind is RC Indore Professionals of Indore (District 3040.) This club was formed to cater for children of Rotarians only. This is meant for those who love Rotary but do not want to join

the clubs where their parents are members. When we were in Indore with the District Rotary Friendship Exchange team two months ago, they were part of the team that took part in the program. In fact, the current District Governor of 3040, Nitin Dafria comes from this club.

The idea of Satellite club is another interesting proposal that we should consider seriously. In towns or areas where there are only a handful interested in Rotary but not enough to form a club, a satellite club could be started to cater for them. We should nurture and not kill their interest for being short in numbers. The members of the satellite club must be affiliated to an existing Rotary club. In due course, when these clubs gain strength and meet the necessary requirements, they could in turn apply to become a full fledged club.

New approaches and ideas should be welcomed and encouraged in our efforts to get more to join Rotary. Please share with us if you have read or come across any other interesting methods or concepts used to form clubs. It would be very helpful for us in our job of Extension.

Warm Regards
Baskaran.

From: Bindi Rajasegaran <bindi3300@gmail.com>
Date: Wed 26/2/2014
Subj: **Polio-like illness found in California children**
To: Rotary3300

Dear Rotarians,

A new **polio-like illness** has hit at least 20 children in California in the past 18 months, according to reports compiled by state public health researchers and neurologists from Stanford and UCSF.

The **American Academy of Neurology** released a **brief study** Monday describing cases of sudden paralysis in five of the children. The cases suggest that a new virus that causes the polio-like symptoms could be emerging, although the researchers have not yet identified the cause of illness.

Polio is caused by a viral infection. It reached epidemic levels in the United States and other parts of the world in the early 20th century, before a vaccine wiped it out in developed countries. The illness is still widespread in some parts of the world.

The first case of the new polio-like illness was identified in late 2012. So far no cases have been found outside of California. At least one of the children is from the Bay Area.

Of the five children who have been studied so far, all had received a **polio vaccination**. The children experienced sudden paralysis of one or more limbs, and six months later they had recovered very little motor function, doctors reported. Three of the children were sick with a respiratory illness before they developed paralysis.

Two of the children tested positive for a rare virus — called *enterovirus-68* — that has been associated with polio-like symptoms before. Other strains of *enterovirus* have been tied to polio-like outbreaks in Asia and Australia; in fact, the virus that causes polio is also a type of *enterovirus*. But most people infected with any type of *enterovirus*, including one that causes polio, won't experience any symptoms.

Scientists say they need more aggressive surveillance to identify other new cases and do viral testing on children with polio-like symptoms as soon as possible.

Warm Regards
Bindi

Dear Friends,
France D1520 is very keen to have another two student exchanges this year (August). Please and let me know of any interested party as soon as possible. And get back to me quickly. Thank you & regards.
PP Pushpa Krishna <pushpa.kkrishi@gmail.com>

DISTRICT NEWS

MESSAGE ON TWO WHEELS

GIVE peace a chance. That was the message more than 350 Rotarians from all over the country spread as they took part in Rotary District 3300's Cycle for Peace campaign.



They rode off from the Esplanade in Penang to the heritage enclave, looking at the murals of artist Ernest Zacharevic and admiring the historic buildings.

"I haven't cycled on public roads since I was a schoolboy. This is so fun," beamed Bandar Sungai Petani Rotary Club secretary Dr Bernard Chan, straddling a rented easy-rider bike.

Dr Chan, 42, also carried his one-year-old son Daniel in a baby carrier on his chest.

"We are so caught up with meeting challenges but when we get on a bicycle, the freedom and simplicity are so relaxing!" he said.



Two participants enjoying the ride in Acheh Street. Incoming district governor Kirenjit Kaur said the ride was organised to coincide with World Peace & Understanding Day.

"The objective of the ride was to raise awareness of the need for compassion and understanding towards one another besides cultivating a harmonious relationship among Malaysians."

She said that the club rented 350 bicycles from shops in George Town for the ride.

Those who did not know how to ride a bicycle joined the trip on trishaws.

"The cycling experience provided a chance for all of us to take life easy.

"We pedalled at a relaxed pace. I really enjoyed riding past St George's Church, Kuan Yin Temple and Masjid Kapitan Keling in Pitt Street.

"It helped me to appreciate the harmony in Malaysia," she said.

G Club Penang Cyclists chairman Dr Lim Seh Guan, who had volunteered to be a marshal of the ride, also enjoyed the slow pace.

"This is a casual romp," said Dr Lim.

After the ride, the participants met at the Rotary Youth Centre in Acheh Street where they witnessed the unveiling of the Rotary Club's billboard.

Then they returned to the Esplanade to view an illuminating sound and light show.



RI NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — MARCH 2014



Growing up in Duncan, Okla., USA, I took it for granted that everyone could read. In my own elementary school, not only were we expected to be reading by the age of seven or eight, we were expected to read upside down. We each took turns reading books to the entire class, and of course, if you want to read out loud to a group while you show them the pictures, you can't do it the right way up. All the way through elementary school, we did that every week, until it didn't really matter to us which way we were holding the book.

I never thought too much about that skill at the time. But a few months ago, on a visit to a Rotary project in Decatur, Ala., I walked into a first-grade classroom and was asked if I would read a book to a class of six-year-olds. Naturally, I was happy to oblige. I sat down, opened the book they had chosen, and started reading to about 30 little kids – upside down, just the way I did it back in second grade.

In a sense, I was doing exactly what I'd learned to do more than half a century earlier. But as an adult, and especially as a Rotarian, I saw that experience in a different way. I was reading to a group of children who were well on their way to literacy themselves. We were sitting in their classroom, in a school where Rotarians came every week to read one-on-one with children who needed a little extra help.

There wasn't any question that every child in that room would grow up to be a literate adult. And all of them took that completely for granted – as they took it for granted that adults would care enough to read them a book while showing them the pictures, even if that meant reading upside down.

We all know that millions of children all over the world aren't that lucky. That's why we make basic education and literacy a priority in our Rotary service. As we mark Literacy Month in Rotary, we remind ourselves what a gift we are giving when we help a child to read – whether it's a child on the other side of the world or right in our own hometown.

Ron D. Burton
President, Rotary International

KNOW YOUR RI OFFICERS

John Hewko is the General Secretary of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.

From 2004 to 2009, Hewko was vice president for operations and compact development for the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a US government agency established in 2004 to deliver foreign assistance to the world's poorest countries.

At MCC, he was the principal United States negotiator for foreign assistance agreements to 26 countries in Africa, Asia, South America, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union. During his tenure, he completed the negotiation of assistance agreements totalling \$6.3 billion to 18 countries for infrastructure, agriculture, water and sanitation, health, and education projects.

Prior to joining MCC, Hewko was an international partner with the law firm Baker & McKenzie, specializing in international corporate transactions in emerging markets. He helped establish the firm's Moscow office and was the managing partner of its offices in Kyiv and Prague.

While working in Ukraine in the early 1990s, Hewko assisted the working group that prepared the initial draft of the new Ukrainian post-Soviet constitution and was a charter member of the first Rotary club in Kyiv.



RI NEWS

RI Board decisions - January 2014

The third meeting of the 2013–14 RI Board of Directors was held on 20–23 January 2014 in Evanston, Illinois, USA. At this meeting, the Board reviewed 8 committee reports and recorded 35 decisions.

Club and District

In an effort to improve the timeliness and quality of membership data, the Board made changes to policy regarding how clubs report this information, including requiring that clubs must report their new and terminated members within 30 days and by establishing that the club secretary is responsible for timely membership reporting to RI, effective 1 January 2015. These changes will further enable RI to simplify how it bills clubs for their per capita dues.

Programs

The Board agreed to revise the annual Rotary coordinator and Rotary public image coordinator training, beginning in 2014–15, to include only the new appointees, rather than the full team of coordinators.

International Meetings

The Board agreed to offer a worldwide rebate to those districts that reach a registration number for the São Paulo convention (registrants to be Rotarians and guests at 19 or older) before 31 March 2015 that exceeds 10% of the Rotarians in their respective districts, based on the 1 July 2014 semi-annual report; with such rebate to be up to 10% of the districts collective registration fees payable to the district after the convention.

Administration and Finances

Noting the opportunity to promote the work of RI at a world's exhibition, the Board affirmed its support of RI's participation at Expo Milano 2015.

The Board amended its recommended protocol for introducing, presenting, and seating all current past, and future officers of RI and its Foundation, committee members, and their spouses at all RI meetings, function, and receiving lines, and for listing in all RI publications to be as follows:

1. President (or president's representative)
2. Past presidents (in order of seniority)
3. President-elect
4. President-nominee
5. Vice-president
6. Treasurer
7. Director Executive committee chair
8. Other directors
9. Trustee chair
10. Trustee chair-elect
11. Trustee vice-chair

12. Other trustees
13. General secretary
14. Past directors (in order of seniority)
15. Directors-elect
16. Past trustees (in order of seniority)
17. Incoming trustees
18. Directors-nominee
19. Past general secretaries (in order of seniority)
20. President, immediate past president, vice-president, and honorary treasurer of RIBI
21. District governors
22. Past district governors (in order of seniority)
23. Rotary coordinators, Rotary public image coordinators, and regional Rotary Foundation coordinators and endowment/major gift advisers
24. District governors-elect
25. District governors-nominee

Source: Rotary International



RI NEWS

SEVEN THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES

How much does it cost to be a member of your club? You can probably answer that question. What do your membership dues cover? That may not be as clear.

Many Rotarians know that a portion of their dues funds club and district expenses, as well as RI operations worldwide. Few know exactly how that all breaks down. Dues are extremely important, as they are the single biggest source of revenue providing the services you enjoy as a Rotarian.

As a companion to Rotary's annual report, and on the heels of a \$1 dues increase approved by the 2013 Council on Legislation, we answer some frequently asked questions about where your money goes.

How much of my total membership dues goes to RI?

Right now, RI dues are \$53. Depending on where you are in the world, that equates to about 4 to 14% of your total membership dues. The rest of your membership dues total primarily covers club and district expenses, meals, and a subscription to *The Rotarian* or your regional magazine.

Why are RI dues increasing?

The RI Board of Directors proposed the increase based on a five-year financial forecast projecting that Rotary's spending would exceed its revenue by \$9 million in 2018 if there were no increase. With the dues increase of \$1 a year for three years, spending is still projected to exceed revenue, but by a smaller margin. The increase keeps the general surplus fund, which is Rotary International's savings, above the mandated level but does not prevent cut-backs in service.

Why increase dues? Why not cut spending?

This issue is a hot topic not only for Rotary but for the larger philanthropic community. In fact, the three major U.S. charity-rating groups have publicly agreed that nonprofits should not be judged solely on frugality; impact is also a critical factor. Significant spending cuts will translate into diminished service for Rotarians, clubs, and districts, reducing our impact on the communities we serve. So, Rotary is committed to monitoring and controlling expenses closely, making prudent cuts, and investing where needed. For example, more meetings than ever take place virtually, and Rotary's data center, software development, and some transaction processing services were moved to Pune, India, to lower costs. However, it is important that Rotary continue to invest in staff and technology to grow and improve the organization.

Besides dues, what other sources of revenue does Rotary have?

Dues account for about 65% of Rotary's revenue. The next largest source of income comes from return on investments. Rotary also earns money through publication sales, international convention registration revenues, royalties, license fee income, and rental income at the world headquarters building in the U.S.

Is Rotary financially healthy?

Yes. Rotary International's general surplus fund exceeds the target established in the bylaws, and the budget is balanced. In 2011 and 2012, the RI Board of Directors designated \$15 million of the general surplus fund to support strategic initiatives to grow the organization. It allocated \$10 million to be spent over three years on additional public relations grants, a new communications plan, the creation of Rotary's new visual identity, and the expansion of the organization's social networking presence. The Board also approved \$3 million to be spent on creating and implementing regional membership development plans, and \$2 million for other initiatives. In 2013, the Board approved \$2 million to be used for strategic and operational costs if needed. This strategic spending is important to promoting Rotary and helps support membership growth, which is critical to the future of the organization.

Does RI ever make special efforts to support The Rotary Foundation?

On occasion, the Board will take extraordinary measures to support the Foundation financially. For example, over the last two years, RI contributed \$10 million from the general surplus fund to PolioPlus. As a result of that commitment, the Foundation received a \$50 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

How do our costs compare to those of other service organizations of similar size?

It's difficult to compare Rotary to other international service organizations. However, The Rotary Foundation's financial performance is included in assessments by various charity-rating agencies. For example, in the United States, the Foundation receives high marks from several ratings groups. Charity Navigator gives the Foundation four stars, its highest score. The Foundation meets the 20 standards for charity accountability set by the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance and is a silver-level GuideStar Exchange Participant, demonstrating its commitment to transparency. Rotary's partnership with the Gates Foundation is another strong affirmation of our metrics and reputation.

Adapted from a story in the February 2014 issue of [The Rotarian](#).

Source: Rotary International

THOTS FOR THE WEEK

If you focus on **results**,
you will never **change**.
If you focus on **change**,
you will get **results**.

UK spies 'intercepted webcam images of Yahoo users'

www.bbc.co.uk
February 27th, 2014

[View Original](#)



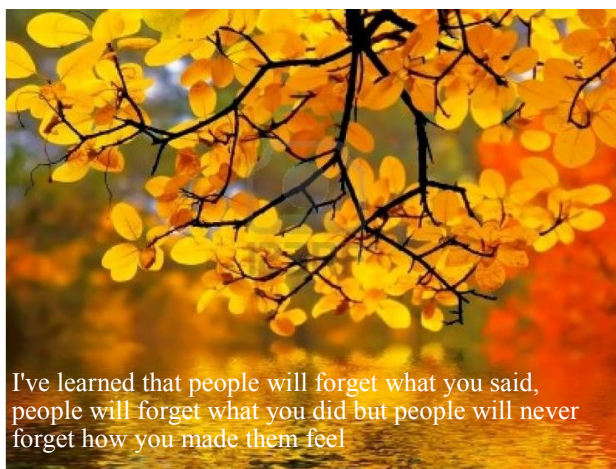
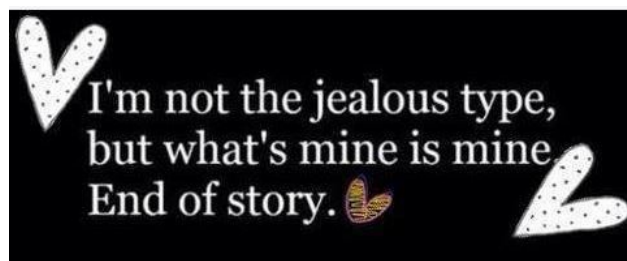
Almost 2 million users' images were stored in a six-month period, the report said

British spy agency GCHQ intercepted webcam images from millions of Yahoo users around the world, according to a report in the Guardian.

Yahoo denied prior knowledge of the alleged programme, describing it as a "completely unacceptable" privacy violation.

According to leaked documents, sexually explicit images were among those gathered - although not intentionally.

In a statement GCHQ has said all of its actions are in accordance with the law.



I've learned that people will forget what you said,
people will forget what you did but people will never
forget how you made them feel



A bird sitting on a tree is never afraid of the branch
breaking because her trust is not on the branch but on its
own wings.

HEARD ON THE LONDON UNDERGROUND

A list of actual announcements that London Tube train drivers have made to their passengers...

1) 'Ladies and Gentlemen, I do apologize for the delay to your service. I know you're all dying to get home, unless, of course, you happen to be married to my ex-wife, in which case you'll want to cross over to the Westbound and go in the opposite direction.'

2) 'Your delay this evening is caused by the line controller suffering from E & B syndrome: not knowing his elbow from his backside. I'll let you know any further information as soon as I'm given any.'

3) 'Do you want the good news first or the bad news? The good news is that last Friday was my birthday and I hit the town and had a great time. The bad news is that there is a points failure somewhere between Mile End and East Ham, which means we probably won't reach our destination.'

4) 'Ladies and gentlemen, we apologize for the delay, but there is a security alert at Victoria station and we are therefore stuck here for the foreseeable future, so let's take our minds off it and pass some time together. All together now.... 'Ten green bottles, hanging on a wall.....!'

5) 'We are now travelling through Baker Street ... As you can see, Baker Street is closed. It would have been nice if they had actually told me, so I could tell you earlier, but no, they don't think about things like that'.

6) 'Beggars are operating on this train. Please do NOT encourage these professional beggars. If you have any spare change, please give it to a registered charity. Failing that, give it to me.'

7) During an extremely hot rush hour on the Central Line, the driver announced in a West Indian drawl: 'Step right this way for the sauna, ladies and gentleman... unfortunately, towels are not provided.'

8) 'Let the passengers off the train FIRST!' (Pause) 'Oh go on then, stuff yourselves in like sardines, see if I care - I'm going home....'

9) 'Please allow the doors to close. Try not to confuse this with 'Please hold the doors open.' The two are distinct and separate instructions.'

10) 'Please note that the beeping noise coming from the doors means that the doors are about to close. It does not mean throw yourself or your bags into the doors.'

11) 'We can't move off because some idiot has their hand stuck in the door.'

12) 'To the gentleman wearing the long grey coat trying to get on the second carriage -- what part of 'stand clear of the doors' don't you understand?'

13) 'Please move all baggage away from the doors.' (Pause..)

'Please move ALL belongings away from the doors.' (Pause...)

'This is a personal message to the man in the brown suit wearing glasses at the rear of the train: Put the pie down, Four-eyes, and move your bloody golf clubs away from the door before I come down there and shove them up your @rse sideways!'

14) 'May I remind all passengers that there is strictly No Smoking allowed on any part of the Underground. However, if you are smoking a joint, it's only fair that you pass it round the rest of the carriage.'

BRITISH NEWSPAPERS


Commenting on a complaint from a Mr. Arthur Purdey about a large gas bill, a spokesman for North West Gas said, 'We agree it was rather high for the time of year. It's possible Mr. Purdey has been charged for the gas used up during the explosion that destroyed his house.'
(The Daily Telegraph)

Police reveal that a woman arrested for shoplifting had a whole salami in her underwear. When asked why, she said it was because she was missing her Italian boyfriend.
(The Manchester Evening News)


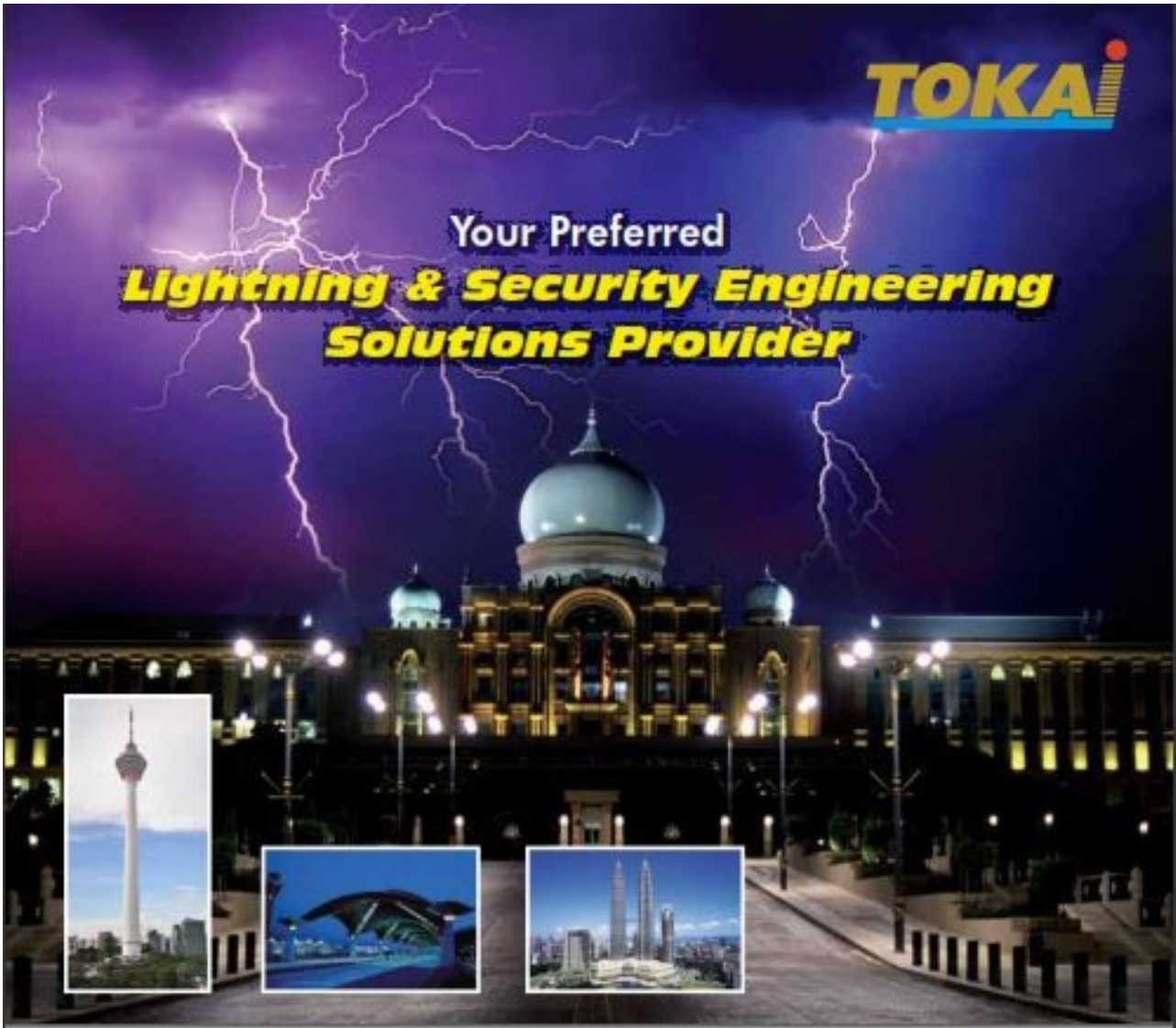
Irish police are being handicapped in a search for a stolen van, because they cannot issue a description. It's a Special Branch vehicle and they don't want the public to know what it looks like.
(The Guardian)

At the height of the gale, the harbour-master radioed a coast guard and asked him to estimate the wind speed. He replied he was sorry, but he didn't have a gauge. However, if it was any help, the wind had just blown his Land Rover off the cliff.
(Aberdeen Evening Express)

Mrs. Irene Graham of Thorpe Avenue, Boscombe, delighted the audience with her reminiscence of the German prisoner of war who was sent each week to do her garden. He was repatriated at the end of 1945, she recalled - 'He'd always seemed a nice friendly chap, but when the crocuses came up in the middle of our lawn in February 1946, they spelt out 'Heil Hitler.'
(Bournemouth Evening Echo)



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Tel: 603-7845 2323 | Fax: 603-7845 5420 | Email: sales@tokai.com.my

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