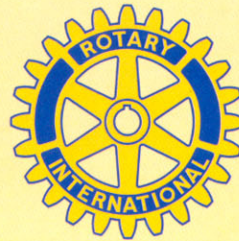


# BERITA PUDU

(For members only)

[www.rotarypudu.org.my](http://www.rotarypudu.org.my)

**The Weekly Bulletin of  
The Rotary Club of Pudu**

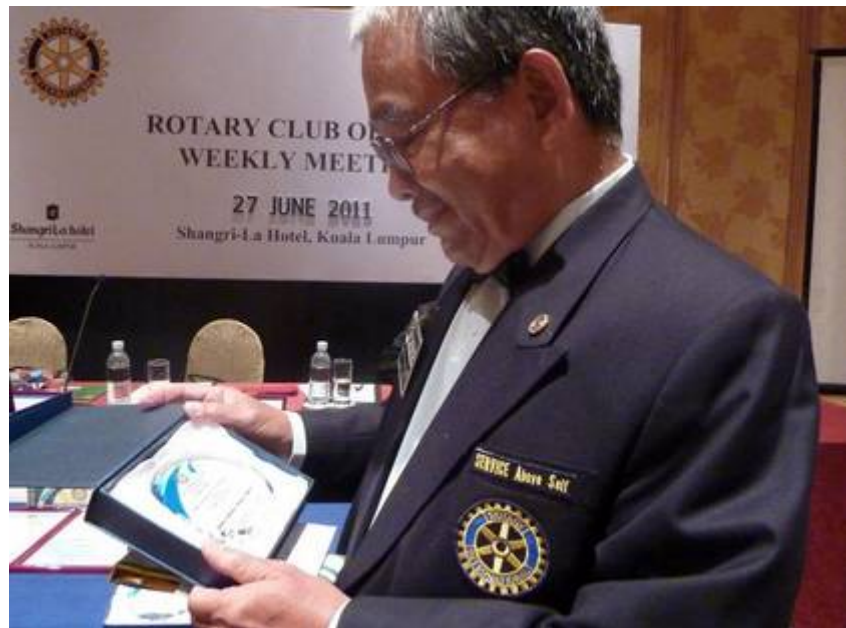


Reach Within to Embrace Humanity



BOD RC Pudu RY2011-12





**This website won the  
District 3300  
“Best Website” award for  
RY 2010-11  
for clubs with more than  
25 members**

webmaster: [datomus.ayob@gmail.com](mailto:datomus.ayob@gmail.com)

# Enjoy your **Berita** **PUDU**

5<sup>th</sup> December 2011

Issue No : **19**/2011-12

## Programme Today

**Speaker** : En. Ezleezan Bin Othman  
**Subject** : The Impact Of GST to the People

### ON DUTY

Duty Table : Rtn K A Kumar  
Fellowship : Rtn. Lawrence Annies  
Finemaster : PP K U Rajah  
Introduce : Rtn. Tenny Lee  
Thanking : PDG K B Lee

## Programme Next Week

**Speaker** : TBA  
**Subject** : TBA

### ON DUTY

Duty Table : Rtn Patrick Lee  
Fellowship : Rtn. Laura Lee  
Finemaster : PDG Dr. Paul Lee  
Introduce : IPP Leong Choy Ying  
Thanking : PP Gary Lim

## Happy Birthday!

PP Tai Chin Peow (5th. Dec) Rtn. Jeffrey Yap (7th. Dec)  
PP Tan Sri Datuk Soong Siew Hoong (9th. Dec)

## Spouse's Birthday!

Nil

## Happy Anniversary!

Rtn. Patrick Lee and Ann Geok Hwa (1st. Dec)  
PP Tai Chin Peow and Ann Ivy (9th. Dec)  
Rtn. Mok Sin and Ann May Lee (9th. Dec)

## FUTURE ROTARY EVENTS

District Conference on 9-11 Dec 2011 in Seremban  
RI Assembly San Diego 15-21 Jan 2012  
Pre PETS Klang 10-12 Feb 2012  
District Assembly Ipoh 23-25 March 2012  
RI Convention, Bangkok, 6-9 May 2012  
District Conference @ Subang 7-9 Dec 2012

## Rotary Club Diary 5th - 30th December 2011

Date	Time	Programme	Venue
<b>December</b> Mon 5	12.30 pm	Luncheon Meeting	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
Wed 7	7.00 pm	Club Admin Meeting	719, 7th Floor Block A, Lobby B Kelana Centre Point
Thu 8	6.30 pm	Membership Com. Meeting	Loong Foong Res.
9-11		77th District Conf.	Kelana Resort, Seremban
Mon 12	12.30 pm	Luncheon Meeting	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
Wed 14	7.00 pm	Publicity Com. Meeting	Bukit Jalil Club
Thu 15	5.30 pm	Rotary Foundation Meeting	Solaris Dutamas
Sat 17	4.30 pm	Rotaract Meeting	Carmen Rest. Foo Yong
Sun 18	7.00 pm	AGM/3rd Assembly	Hotel Sentral
Mon 19	12.30 pm	Luncheon Meeting	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
Wed 21	7.00 pm	Service Com Meeting	Rest. Uncle Chillip Amp Corp Mall
Thu 22	7.00 pm	New Gen Meeting	George Heng's Office (Bukit Jalil)
Mon 26		<b>NO MEETING</b>	
Thu 29	6.30 pm	Board Meeting	Pre Steven's Residence
Fri 30		AG Meeting G11	

**45th ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

Time flies and we just celebrated our 45th Anniversary. We had a grand celebration dinner at Rtn Tenny's residence and had in our presence many of our own Pudu Rotarians and their spouses and children, our ex-Rotarians, Rotarians from our daughter clubs and many friends of Rotary. Needless to say it was a happy affair. Thanks to the tireless efforts of PDG Dr Paul Lee, everyone had an enjoyable evening.

In the programme we had a tumbola game, raffles draw, karaoke singing, a cake cutting ceremony and plenty of liquor and beer! We had PP Kumar Tharmalingam to give his version of the early years and to reminisce his own experience. We also have Rtn Lawrence Annies to tell us his time and thoughts in Rotary.

Basically the idea of this celebration was to remind everyone that Rotary can be fun as well as a service contributor to the community. This fellowship gathering served to remind ourselves that together we can do more. Although we had done a lot for our community all these years, since when is a lot enough? Throughout the years many Rotarians have risen above themselves and contributed in time, effort, expertise and money. Some have retired and some have passed on. After 45 years there are quite a big number from Pudu. Fortunately we have a constant supply of new talents and today we have new Rotarians to take up the gauntlet. And so the wheel continues to turn!

In this celebration we had only not forgotten our ex members, we had not forgotten Anns of those who passed away as well. It was thoughtful to maintain such links.

With this type of tradition, and Pudu continues to gain strength there is no doubt we will be able to celebrate in such style in the next 20 years. If we pass the 20 years test, another 20 years more will not be a problem.

The most important annual Rotary event in our district; the 77th District Conference of District 3300 will be held at Seremban from 9th-11th December 2011. The event will be hosted by Rotary Club of Seremban with partner clubs from RC Senawang, RC Port Dickson, RC Tampin, RC Bahau, RC Kelana Sungei Ujong and RC Kuala Pilah.

The District Conference will be the venue where groups of Rotarians will congregate to look into ways to improve the delivery of our services to the community and also ways to conduct our operations in the fast changing world where state of the art communication is used in a borderless world which we live in today. This conference will give ample opportunities for individual Rotarians as well as Rotary Clubs in a group to conduct fellowship with all in our District of 3300 to learn new tools, effective methods and relevant management style to better serve us in our quest to serve the community.

As of to-date; fellow members and their spouses (Anns) from our club listed have confirmed their participation.

1. PDG Dr Paul Lee & Ann Lilian
2. IPDG Lim Kok Beng
3. IPP Leong Choy Ying
4. AG KH Low
5. PP Ken Ong & Ann Chin Lian
6. PP Robin Tay
7. PP Michael Tung
8. PP Choo Jee Sam
9. PE CT Heng
10. President Steven & Ann Boon Kee

I am pleased with the enthusiasm shown but I feel that more of our esteem and experienced Rotarians can come forward to participate and contribute towards the improvement of the Rotary Movement to stay relevant in the future. Many management GURUS have extolled the idea that great things are achieved through the accomplishment of little things we do. The Rotary member's small contribution will culminate to bring about BIG improvements and push the Rotary Clubs to achieve Excellence in servicing the community.

I sincerely hope that all members will not miss this opportunity to attend this function. I look forward to an enriching and memorable event in the company of all our Rotarians committed.

For a start I, the President will host a beef noodle lunch for fellow Rotarians at the most popular noodle shop in Seremban. Looking forward to receiving all of you there.

Steven Oon  
President RY2011-2012

# Pudu News

## Record of Meeting on 21st November 2011

Guest Speaker : DR. HARTINI AND WONG SU ZANE  
Subject : HUMAN TRAFFICKING

### VISITING ROTARIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>
nil	

Ganesh	Rtn. Arvin Kumar
Mervin	Rtn. Arwin Kumar

### GUESTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Host</u>
Dr. Hartini Zainuddin	Club
Wong Su Zane	Club
Jessie Ang	Club
Prema V Nair	Club
Delbert Lee	PP Gary Lim
Honey Tan	PP Ng Sim Bee
C C Tan	PP Ng Sim Bee
Lalitha	PP Kumar Tharmalingam
Rozana Abdullah	Rtn. Alex Chang

### STATISTICS

Visiting Rotarians	:	-
Guests	:	14
Club Members	:	29
<b>Total Present</b>	:	<b>43</b>

### COLLECTIONS

Birthdays / Anniversaries / Fines	:	Nil
Paying Diners	:	RM 210.00
Raffles & Others	:	Nil
<b>Total</b>	:	<b>RM210.00</b>

## Club Proceedings

Acting SAA Rtn. Lawrence Annies called the meeting to order at 1.15 pm on behalf of President Steven Oon. He introduced all the visiting Rotarians and guests. He later led in the singing of the National Anthem and later proposed the loyal toast.

There was no fine session as the meeting coincided with the club's project of the Vocational Awards presentation.

PP Kumar Tharmalingam the OC of the Vocational Awards project presentation introduced the recipients and also the guest speakers for the day who was none other than Dr. Hartini Zainuddin and Ms. Wong Su Zane who spoke on the topic of Human Trafficking.

## President's Announcement

The following activities were carried out last week:

1. Last Wednesday 16th November 2011, the Public Relations committee meeting was chaired by Rtn Patrick Lee at 6.00 pm, Bukit Jalil Golf & Country Club. Rtn George Heng subsequently conducted the New Generation meeting at the same venue.
2. The TRF committee meeting scheduled on 17th November 2011 have been postponed due to Director – Rtn Jeffrey Yap being away overseas.

3. Last Saturday nite, 19th November 2011, we celebrated the Spouse's Nite at Charco Restaurant Café. It was attended by 30 members with their spouses. We had a fun-filled night of good food, fine wine and all the main ingredients of a fantastic fellowship. Thank you to IPP Leong Choy Ying for having organised this event.
4. Kindly be informed that, PP Tai Chin Peow is sponsoring 1table (consisting 10 paxs) for the Expertise Resource Association [ERA] Silver Jubilee and Fund Raising Dinner on Saturday 3rd December 2011 at Kuala Lumpur International Hotel, off Jalan Raja Muda Abdul Aziz, KL. It is free-of charge and participation is only limited to the first 10 participants and acceptance will be based on a first-come-first served basis. Members confirmed to attend are PP Tai Chin Peow, Rtn Laura, Rtn Joanne Ting, Rtn Lawrance Annies, Rtn Alex Chang, Rtn Roy Sreenivasan, PP KU Rajah, Rtn Asok Kumar, Rtn Yeap Kim Hock and Delbert Lee.
5. Please take note that there will be NO Luncheon Meeting on Monday, 28th November 2011 due to the Awal Muharam Public Holiday.

## Secretary's Announcement

Highlights of the upcoming Club events:-

1. The Club Admin committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7th December 2011, 7.00 pm at Block A, Lobby B, Kelana Centre Point, PJ.

2. The Membership Development Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, 8th December 2011, 6.30 pm at Loong Foong Restaurant, Petaling Jaya.
3. Kindly be informed that the 3rd Club Assembly, 39th Annual General Meeting of the Rotary Club of Pudu Charity Foundation and 45th Annual General Meeting of the Rotary Club of Pudu is now scheduled on Sunday 18th December 2011, 6.30 pm at Hotel Sentral Pudu, Kuala Lumpur.

## RECIPIENTS OF VOCATIONAL AWARDS CVs

### **Dr. Hartini Zainudin**

Consultant for Yayasan Chow Kit (formerly known as NurSalam) and Head of Advocacy and Funding as well as the Out reach program in Chow Kit.

Was one of the founders and Senior Manager to Rumah Jagaan Kanak Kanak NurSalam, Chow Kit, a 24 hour crisis center (opened in April 2007) that focuses on children under 18. The center focuses on providing marginalized children with basic needs as well as counselling and protection services, amongst others. Most children who are registered at the center (700 individuals, registered so far, with another 900 through its outreach programme) are children who come from different backgrounds, from within and outside the vicinity of Chow Kit and other parts of Malaysia. Many children are abused, neglected, trafficked, and abandoned. Many others are stateless, having no documents and trafficked. The center was a collaboration effort between Yayasan Salam Malaysia and the Department of Children's Welfare, KL but also works closely with a number of NGO's and corporations, who provide services and support to the children.

Hartini also is a member of the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development's National Advisory Council on the Welfare and Protection of Children and is a member of a number of national task forces- Child Protection Policy Training, on issues of Trafficking, Stateless Children and the Malaysian Adoption System as well as on different initiatives on child's rights and protection.

She has worked on children's issues in the United States and Malaysia for 26 years, and worked on children's educational issues in New York, serving as a member of the Junior Council of Ted Forstman's 'Voucher School' system- a school choice initiative, served as the Chairperson for COLOR (Community of Leaders Organizing Revitalization) Board, a junior council of Publicolor, a New York based not- for profit organization that works with chancellor school kids (children who are the lowest performing students in schools in New York), served on the committee of the Big Apple Circus, which works with underprivileged children through the Arts and served as Chairperson for the Junior

Board of the Kitchen, a New York based Performing Arts organization.

Hartini received her BA and M.Sc in English and English Education, respectively, and has her Doctorate in Monitoring and Assessment (Education) from Columbia University, New York.

### **Work with trafficked victims/survivor**

Name : **Wong Su Zane**

IC number : 740507715034

Organisation : Women's Aid Organisation

Title : Social Work Manager

She has been working as a social worker at Women's Aid Organisation since May 2005, subsequently in 2009, she was promoted as a social work manager. Prior to that, she worked in corporate world, specialized in marketing and customer services. At the same time, she volunteered in Lifeline Association Malaysia as volunteer counselor and supervisor.

Her worked in area of trafficking started in 2005. During this time, she joined a regional task force on anti-trafficking which is a joint effort by NGOs from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Laos. Since then, she has been writing many articles on trafficking in mandarin papers to educate the public.

Through out the years of handling victims/survivor of trafficking, she has able to build a good networking with the NGOs especially from Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia. This is very helpful for the clients especially to ensure safe repatriation to their home country.

The success story –

1. She was able to assist a Myanmar girl who missing from home for seven years and trafficked to Malaysia to go back to her home country and reunited with her family after 18months with WAO. This is a joint effort of NGO's from Thailand, Myanmar and Malaysia. With their assistance, the case took a long time as WAO spent about one year tried to locate her family origin. Once her identity was confirmed, she worked with Myanmar's NGO and Myanmar Embassy in Malaysia to sort out her documents. Due to security reasons, she accompanied the girl back to Myanmar, she reunited with her family members.
2. Assist a women from Cambodia looking for her underage sister who has been trafficked to Malaysia to work as domestic help. WAO able to rescue her sister, now they had went back to Cambodia safely. She also networked with Cambodia's NGO to ensure both the clients and family members were safe in the village, they did regular home visit to ensure the agents did not cause any trouble to the family members.

## INTRODUCTION OF VOCATIONAL AWARDS RECIPIENTS

### **Vocational Awards**

#### 1. What is Vocational Service?

Vocational Service is the way Rotary fosters and supports the application of the ideal of service in the pursuit of all vocations especially in:

- a) Adherence to and promotion of the highest ethical standards in all occupations.
  - c) The recognition of the worthiness to society of all useful occupations.
  - d) The contribution of one's vocational talents to the problems and needs of society.
2. Vocational Service Month is in October every year.

One of the specific activities recommended to clubs during Vocational Service month are recognition of a Rotary Volunteer at a district-level event.

The theme for this year's Vocational Awards is focused on Human Trafficking Issues.

Human Trafficking is a crime and the only beneficiaries are the pimps and kidnapers who are responsible for abducting children as young as 5 years old to be groomed and sold as sex slaves to different countries.

- Pudu Rotary Club would like to recognize organizations that help to eradicate human trafficking

NGOs such as Yayasan Chow Kit and Women's Aid Organisation who protect women and children from fear, sexual abuse and violence and go above and beyond the call of duty to save and keep them from harm without any publicity deserve to be lauded and recognized.

Today Pudu Rotary Club salutes 2 of these NGOs and awards recognition to three wonderful people who work to protect them.

Please let me take a few minutes to outline who they are.

### **Yayasan Chow Kit**

In 2006, what started out as an expansion of a day care centre, grew into a 24 hour crisis and drop-in centre, providing meals, activities, therapy, case management, and educational programmes for at-risk children of Chow kit. Four years later, there are now additional two centres providing quality care and services to children ranging from babies to young adults.

Their experience of working at the grassroot levels has led to the discovery of an array of multi-faceted socio-cultural issues affecting such diverse groups of people living in Chow Kit. Realising that in order to provide a better facilitation of issues the community is facing, it paved the way for an establishment of an organisation that is based within the area in addition to having a structured and sustainable development of community-based programmes.

Thus that was how Rumah NurSalam, in its previous incarnation as a project under Yayasan Salam, has now become an entity in its own right, in the form of Yayasan Chow Kit, established in January 2011. The foundation's vision 'to protect the rights of all at-risk children and youth, provide them with safe havens, and expose them to as many positive and holistic opportunities as possible to enable them to reach their full potential'.

### **Women's Aid Organisation**

Women's Aid Organisation (WAO) is a women's organisation that offers shelter, support and information to women and their children who are suffering from physical, emotional and sexual abuse in their own homes. WAO opened Malaysia's first Refuge in September 1982 offering shelter, telephone counseling and Face-toFace counseling.

The Refuge shelters mainly battered wives, unwed mothers and abused migrant women and trafficked women. During their stay, residents receive counseling, legal advice and help in restarting their lives free from violence.

In a battered woman's life, the children are often incidental victims who suffer in silence. Recognizing this, WAO provides re.....uge for the children who come with their mothers. At the WAO Child Care Centre, children are given a safe home, education, clothes, food and a good support system to help them start their healing process away from the violence.

### Dr. Hartini Zainudin

Dr. Hartini Zainudin is one of the founders and Senior Managers of Yayasan Chow Kit, a 24-hour Crisis Centre that provides for children under 18, protection and counseling. The Centre has 700 individuals who come from different back0grounds within and outside the vicinity of Chow Kit. Many children are abused, neglected, trafficked and abandoned.

Dr. Hartini has worked on children's issue in the United States and Malaysia for 26 years and has worked on children's educational issues in New York. She has served as a member of the Junior Council of Ted Forstman's 'Voucher School', a school choice initiative, served as the Chairperson for COLOR (Community of Leaders Organizing Revitalization) Board, a junior council of Publicolor, a New York based not-for-profit organization that works with chancellor school kids (children who are the lowest performing students in schools in New York), served on the committee of the Big Apple Circus, which works with underprivileged children through the Arts and served as a chairperson for the Junior Board of the Kitchen, a New York based Performing Arts Organization.

Dr. Hartini received her BA and M.Sc in English and English Education, and has her Doctorate in Monitoring

and Assessment (Education) from Columbia University, New York.

Dr. Hartini has first-hand experience with Human Trafficking issues and also works closely with the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development's National Advisory Council on the Welfare and Protection of children and is a member of the National task force on trafficking.

Ms. Wong Su Zane

Ms. Wong has been working as a Social Worker with Women's Aid Organisation (WAO) since May 2005. During this time, she joined the regional task force on anti-trafficking, a joint effort by NGOs from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Laos.

By handling victims and survivors of trafficking, she has been able to build a good network with NGOs from Thailand, Myanmar and Cambodia.

Ms. Wong has many success stories and she has been able to track and find young girls forcibly sent to Malaysia for sex trade.

Ms. Jessie Ang

Ms. Jessie Ang works with Women's Aid Organisation as a Social Worker and in a Women Shelter for 16 years.

She has a Degree in Human Science and Counseling from Middle Tennessee State University.

She has been responsible for a number of successful escapees by foreign women from Indonesia and China from the clutches of pimps. Most of these women were under the impression that they were going to be domestic worker but became a Human trafficking statistic instead.

**PUDU ROTARY CLUB SALUTES THESE NOBLE LADIES WHO REMIND US THAT WITH MALAYSIANS LIKE THESE WE ARE A NATION IN PROGRESS IN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**Thanking of Guest Speaker**

PP Kumar Tharmalingam on behalf of the Club, thanked the guest speakers Dr. Hartini Zainuddin and Ms. Wong Su Zane and another recipient Ms. Jessie Ang from WAO.

The President of PRC Rtn. Steven Oon on behalf of the club presented each with a cash donation to their individual organization respectively as well as a Vocational Award for their selfless efforts in preventing human trafficking and also for a wonderful presentation.

**WEEKLY MEETING & VOCATIONAL AWARDS EVENT ON 21st NOVEMBER 2011 @ SHANGRILA HOTEL**



*Honorary Secretary, Rtn PH Tan with PP Kumar Tharmalingam, Organising Chairman of Vocational Awards.*



*Two Past Presidents – Dato NK Jasani and Tai Chin Peow*



*Rtn Daisy with guests from NGOs organisation.*



*Rotarians and guests enjoying the delicious lunch.*



*Dr Hartini Zainudin from Yayasan Chow Kit giving her talk.*



*Ms. Wong Su Zane from Women's Aid Organisation giving her talk.*



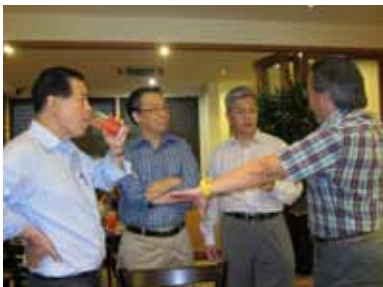
*President Steven presenting a cheque of RM5000 to Yayasan Chow Kit and Dr Hartini receiving the award in her efforts to eradicate human trafficking in true Rotary spirit of "Service Above Self" from the club.*



*President Steven presenting a cheque of RM5000 for Women's Aid Organisation and Ms. Wong Su Zane receiving the award in her efforts to eradicate human trafficking in true Rotary spirit of "Service Above Self" from the club.*



*Ms Jessie Ang from Women's Aid Organisation receiving a plaque. Pudu Rotary Club is proud to recognize Ms Jessie Ang in her efforts to eradicate human trafficking in true Rotary spirit of "Service Above Self" from the club.*







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## NGOs awarded for anti-Human Trafficking advocacy

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By Lee Choon Fai

PETALING JAYA: The Rotary Club of Pudu yesterday presented their Vocational Awards and an RM5,000 cheque each to Yayasan Chow Kit and to the Women's Aid Organisation for their fight against human trafficking in Malaysia.

Yayasan Chow Kit head of fundraising and advocacy Dr. Hartini Zainuddin, in her acceptance speech, highlighted gaps in the children protection system in Malaysia.

She said the government was focusing on finding missing children but almost nothing was being done to ensure their safety.

"There are lots of gaps in the system, that almost ensures that the children will go missing," said Hartini. She said children in the country were vulnerable to human trafficking as well as to the sex trade, child pornography, and slavery.

She also said the recently implemented Anti-Human Trafficking in Persons Act 2007 was new and the syndicates were already exploiting it.

Women's Aid Organisation social work manager Wong Su Zane said as human trafficking was the third most profitable trade in the black market, efforts to counter it must be emphasised.

Wong cited child adoption as a matter of concern. She said adoption was increasingly commercialised and therefore prone to abuse.

"If child adoption is commercialised, traffickers will go all out to acquire the 'right' children as they can be sold to the highest bidder," said Wong.

She suggested that adoption agencies adopt standardised criteria for prospective parents. Currently the criteria differ from one agency to the other.

Malaysia is currently classified under Tier 2 on the Human Trafficking Watch List 2011, unmoved from last year. Malaysia was classified under Tier 3 in 2009 before the implementation of the Anti-Human Trafficking in Persons Act 2007.

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### New Generations

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November 2011

Dear Friend of New Generations:

**Do you see yourself as a New Generations programs champion?**

**We do!**

As a subscriber to Rotary's New Generations e-newsletter, you see Rotary's youth and young adult programs

in action. Every month, you read about Interactors, Rotaractors, RYLA participants, and Youth Exchange students who make a difference in their communities. And you are an important part of that success.

Through Rotaract, Interact, RYLA, and Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotary clubs help the next generation learn leadership skills, develop a global perspective, and serve the needs of their communities. These four New Generations programs are designed to fit together seamlessly. That gives emerging young leaders who complete a Rotary Youth Exchange, return from a RYLA event, or outgrow their Interact or Rotaract club the chance to develop through other programs. By connecting them with these new opportunities, you help them stay connected to Rotary's global network of friendship, engagement, and service.

The first step is to ensure that all four New Generations programs are active in your school or community. Work with your local Rotary club to start a New Generations program or to find out what opportunities are available in your district. Then help your young leaders take their next step toward a lifetime of service.

- Ask school administrators to promote RYLA and Rotary Youth Exchange to Interactors and other students
- Invite Rotaractors from a local university to volunteer at your next RYLA event
- Encourage Youth Exchange students to share their experiences with your Interact club
- Start a community-based Rotaract club for young professionals
- Recognize school leaders and New Generations program participants at your next Rotary club meeting

To learn more and share your own success stories, register for the New Generations webinar on 13 December in English (Session 1 or Session 2) or 16 December in Spanish. Invite your colleagues or fellow club members to join you on this webinar with an e-mail that links to our new video and some basic information about New Generations programs. Rotary also provides tips (PDF) to help you guide students and young professionals to their next Rotary opportunity.

By keeping youth and young adults connected to Rotary, you instill a commitment to service in tomorrow's community, professional, and business leaders. The world's young people are our future. With your help, we can prepare them for lives of service and turn New Generations into the next generation of Rotarians.

Sincerely,

Angela M. Forfia New Generations Supervisor RI Programs

**John Hewko addresses the Kolkata Zonal Institute**

Speaking on his experience of the first 100 days as Secretary General of Rotary International, John Hewko mentioned that he had begun his journey in Rotary by concentrating on the Rotary Headquarter in Evanston, Chicago which has 600 employees and soon enough he realized that there is a great deal for him to learn! “The more I get to know Rotary, the more I get involved,” he exclaimed. He admired what Rotary had achieved in 106 years and called it “incredible”. He mentioned his visits to other regional headquarters where he had already visited.

His first stop during his visit to India was at Mumbai. He spoke about the school project of the Rotary club at Thane - the water project. He had also visited Pune and he mentioned the fantastic distance education programme taken up by the Rotarians there. Sharing his itinerary with the delegates at the Rotary Zone Institute in Kolkata, he said that from India he would be traveling to Australia and a visit to the regional headquarter in Brisbane would certainly be on his agenda before he finally returned to Chicago.

John Hewko informed the Rotary leaders assembled at the Institute in Kolkata that his list of to dos contained about 300 items. However, at present, his sights were set of 5 key priorities:

The first priority of course, was Polio Eradication. He said that humanity would overcome a great amount of suffering if we succeed with polio. Only after the eradication of polio may we set the stage for the next global health project. He reminded that we needed to meet the 200 Million Challenge of Bill Gates by 30 June, 2012. Supporting the view that we need to work very hard to ensure that we get credit for the work we are doing, he said Rotary should have an understanding with Bill Gates so that our initiative gets endorsed in his campaigns, thereby increasing our public image.

The second priority was the need to make the Strategic Plan operational. Once rolled out, the Strategic Plan would be extremely important for The Rotary Foundation and its 6 areas of focus. This will help our image, reputation and also encourage funding from other agencies.

The third priority was that Rotary should do an evaluation of all the social welfare projects done across the globe by the different Rotary clubs so that it may be known how much work has been done each year and what was the value of the work done by Rotarians for the betterment of the society. This may then be told to the world at large.

The fourth priority according to Hewko, was Membership. He felt it was absolutely necessary to create twelve 3 year Membership Plans, focusing specifically

on issues of the concerned regions. He felt that this could be achieved with a worldwide branding exercise which would augment the image of Rotary. He informed that Rotary International was intending to improve the website ([www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)) for more frequent use of Rotarians. Focus would also be on the social media such as Facebook, Twitter and other such networks through which Rotary could access global youth organizations and E clubs. Only in this way would it be possible to attract young members into Rotary.

Hewko's fifth and last priority was: how to solve the world's humanitarian problems? Rotary represents 1.2 million business and professional men and women across the globe. He concluded that we have a tremendous amount to give, even at the leadership level.

Speaking on Kolkata in particular and on India in particular, he said that he had noticed a lot of change since he had last visited 30 years ago. However, in Kolkata what had not changed were the warmth and hospitality of the people, he remarked.

Shyamashree Sen  
AG Zone 15  
RC Calcutta Metro City  
RIDistrict 3291

**Kalyan Banerjee on Rotary and Peace Kolkata Institute**

“We are the world  
We are the children  
We are the ones who make a brighter day  
So let's start giving...” That was Usha Uthup, the Diva of music from this part of the world, telling the more than 1000 strong audience at the Science City auditorium, that the evening would be dedicated to “Peace”.

Earlier, the ceremonial welcome and arrival of Kalyan Banerjee, President Rotary International and his spouse Binota Banerjee had been livecast on a gigantic screen for the audience and every step of the way, they had been entertained by dancers depicting folk dances from different regions of India, the traditional blowing of conch shells by wives of Rotarians to usher in all that is good and showering of flower petals, set the tone of the evening. The frenzied movements of Bihu dancers welcomed them into the auditorium, to the delight of the audience.

Usha Uthup was joined on stage by Dhvani, Meiyang Chang, Francis Lepcha and Shane Hyrapiet whose melodious renditions of meaningful songs stirred a soft cord in the hearts of the Rotarians.

After PDG Ravi Sehgal called the meeting to order, the National Anthem rendered by students of a physically challenged children's school, brought tears of patriotism in the eyes of the audience. Interactors bearing flags of

Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, USA, Uganda and Rotary International marched on stage and placed the flags in their respective places. Talking about changemakers, Shekhar Mehta, Director, Rotary International, presented a Rotary pin to Usha Uthup, making her an honorary member.

### **A man from Bengal...**

After Kalyan Banerjee was introduced through a visual presentation, he spoke on Rotary, the Harbinger of Peace.

What is Peace?

According to Kalyan Banerjee, in many cases people do not understand what peace is. "Peace is not just an absence of war ...it is a process, it is a condition, it's a state of mind,' One is at peace when one sees one's neighbour as a neighbour ~ not someone to fight with. Going to the root of why people fight, he explained that most of the world's wars started in the aftermath of an economic disaster when people were not able to live their lives in a safe, secure and normal way. His prescription for eliminating conflict was to catch it before it starts, by dealing with the causes of dissatisfaction which make people turn to conflict. He felt that if the physical needs of people – their health, hunger, water and housing problems – are taken care of, people have a much easier time getting along with each other.

### **When survival is not a fight...**

He related an interesting story about his journey from Chicago airport to his office in a taxicab driver by a Pakistani named Mohammad with whom he had a chat about how Indians, Pakistanis and Jews lived happily in a place called Devon in northern Chicago. The taxi driver had told him that these people probably did not want to fight. They had come to America because they wanted to enjoy their lives and that is "peace" – the ability to enjoy one's life, free of worries about the bus being blown up or what diseases may be in the water or what one will eat the next morning, or which child may not get an education as she may need to fetch water from two kilometers away!

### **Rotary builds peace...**

Rotary does not build peace with armies and treaties, not at UNO or in any government houses but day by day, individual by individual. Rotary welcomes people of diverse religions, culture and language as long as they can embrace the core values of Rotary and will place service above self. Rotarians build peace through their work, that is by helping communities and individuals meet their own needs by themselves....

### **Rotary is both international and local...**

A very large international organization, Rotary is also very local in their presence. Because of who the Rotarians

are and how they operate, they are able to reach out. The internationality of Rotary helps, Rotarians have a great reputation at every level, and they use this at locally where they can do "most good." Kalyan Banerjee feels that Rotarians may be able to improve basic education, break the cycle of poverty and want and the networking of Rotarians may help them to help others more effectively. He explained this point with reference to Tsunami which hit Southeast Asia. A combination of a large, international organization and the commitment and dedication of local leaders is Rotary's strength.

### **Trust is the bedrock on which Rotary is built...**

He cited the example of the 25 schools built by Sri Lankan Rotarians after the tsunami that are meant for more than 12,000 children. The schools have better sanitation, more modern classrooms, water filtration plants, even computer rooms and these schools are being run with utmost transparency to the satisfaction of every donor.

### **Repaying the help...**

When people receive help from unknown people in times of need, when a connection has been built where there hadn't been one before, it is bound to lead to goodwill between two countries! Rotarians build similar connections through Youth Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholarships, GSE and the multiclub, multidistrict projects that are carried out with the support of The Rotary Foundation.

### **PolioPlus - the flagship project of Rotary...**

What started out as an impossible, ambitious dream – something that made others laugh at Rotary , ... is today a tremendous partnership with the World Health Organization, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, governments and NGOs on every continent and every county. He emphasized that we should work together, helping others, taking responsibility ~ only then will a job get done. "We are this close", he reminded.

### **Spread the word....**

Kalyan Banerjee, President of Rotary International was candid when he said that Rotarians should claim with confidence that Rotary brings peace and, explaining exactly how and why such claims are being made. Maybe that would attract the concerned person to join this organization. "Every Rotarian we bring into our clubs helps to build it a little bit more."

PP Shyamashree Sen

AG Zone 15, 2011 - 12

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"Reach Within to Embrace Humanity"