



# Rotary *Voices* 3310

## Governor's Newsletter

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### District Governor's Message

#### ROTARY AND THE ROTARIAN MAGAZINE



*"The primary purpose of The National Rotarian is to provide a means for the exchange of ideas between Rotarians throughout the world, not to give the national officers an opportunity to express their views. These messages are not written merely to fill space; nevertheless we look forward to the day when they will be literally crowded out by surging mobs of virile Rotarian ideas struggling to be heard." - Paul Harris.*

The *Rotarian* magazine we receive without fail every month is one of Rotary's oldest traditions that began with the publication of *The National Rotarian* in January 1911. For more than a century, Paul Harris' vision for the magazine has been realized and improved upon. The flagship magazine *The Rotarian* has a circulation in excess of 500,000 but equally important, there are 31 other publications in 24 languages worldwide in more than 200 countries with a combined circulation of more than 1.25 million.

The importance of these Rotary publications in the lives of every Rotarian is recognized by the R I Board of Directors who has designated April as Magazine Month. During this month, we can appreciate the significance of the printed word in the Rotary movement for providing all Rotarians with information and ideas about what other Rotarians and clubs are doing. Great ideas and great projects and sacrifices can inspire all of us.

I have often wondered what most of us Rotarians do with our magazines after we finished reading them? At least, I hope we finish reading them! Alternatively, do we take them home, throw them on the coffee table, and forget about them? How many of us, I wonder, read the magazines and take them to our place of work so that our colleagues can find out about Rotary and its noble ideals? For professionals, the magazine can be left at the sitting / waiting room for clients and patients. I am aware that we have all heard this before but at least for one month every year, we can make that extra effort to share Rotary with our friends and colleagues.

In our world today dominated by the demand for instant gratification through the Internet, cell-phones, emails and facebook, the very idea of a printed magazine may seem antiquated. Many Rotarians regularly visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) to gather information about Rotary Foundation and have little need or time to read a magazine. Yet, the magazine gives us an opportunity to take an in-depth look at what the Rotary Foundation is doing and to appreciate the wonderful work it is doing all over the world.

Let us take time this month to think about Paul Harris' vision for the Rotary magazine more than a century ago. A new day may have dawned but much of what he hoped the magazine will achieve remains the same. It is still a place to share the great ideas and even greater works of Rotarians. Within its pages, Rotarians can still find encouragement and inspiration.

"Reach Within To Embrace Humanity"

**Haji Zainie Abdul Aucasa.**



## Editor's Corner



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While doing some research on The Rotarian magazine, I came face to face once again with the Rotary World Magazine Press. Hitherto, I had only paid scant attention to it and was only vaguely aware that it was involved the publication of other Rotary magazines in other parts of the world and frequently in different languages.

This time round, I decided to pay more attention to what it does. In an article entitled "History of the Rotary World Magazine Press" and another entitled "Overview of Rotary World Magazine Press", I discovered some amazing facts.

The first Rotary magazine, known as The National Rotarian was published in January 1911. Four years later, in 1915, "Rotary", the magazine for Great Britain and Ireland was published. This is a reflection of how fast the Rotary movement has successfully spread across the ocean and how popular Rotary was to justify a Rotary magazine for Great Britain and Ireland.

In 1924, two new publications, "Brasil Rotario" in Brazil and "Rotary" for Italy, were published - two new nations, one in South America and one in Europe. 1926 saw the publication of "Rotary Suisse Liechtenstein" for Liechtenstein and Switzerland. Closely following came "Rotary Magazine" in the Netherlands, "Rotary Africa" on the African Continent and "El Rotario de Chile" in Chile all in the year 1927. 1929 saw the publication of "Rotary Magazine" in the Middle East covering Egypt, Bahrain, Cyprus, Jordan, Lebanon and United Arab Emirates. In 1932 "El Rotario Peruano" in Peru and "Rotary Norden" in 1936 for Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. This means that by the 1930s, Rotary has become well established throughout most of the world. The world-wide expansion of Rotary was further cemented with the "Rotary-No-Tomo" in Japan in 1953 and "The Rotary Korea" for Korea in 1963.

In slightly over 50 years, the Rotary movement has spread right across the world and Rotary is now poised to do much greater things to provide service to the communities of the world.

With the affordability and popularity of personal computers in the 1980s, many people felt that the days of magazines and books were numbered. The Internet further strengthened this belief and publishers began a race to make the necessary adjustments to electronic media. However, this did not happen. On the contrary, many magazines continued to grow in strength and today magazines are still very much in vogue.

Call me old-fashioned if you like, but I still prefer my paper-and-ink Rotarian magazine. I guess old habits die hard!

"Reach Within to Embrace Humanity"

PP Chio Cheng Leng  
Chief Editor.



## **PROJECT SMILE, SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA 6 - 10 APRIL, 2012**

### **Rotary Project Smile goes beyond boundaries**

**PP Philip Chong, Service Projects Committee Chair, Rotary Club of Likas Bay**

The Rotary Club of Likas Bay and its Sister Club in Taiwan, Rotary Club of Lu Chou District 3490 in collaboration with Operation Smile, Cambodia again embarked on Project Smile at Siem Reap, Cambodia from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2012. This was the third Project Smile mission since 2009 that our club have jointly organised and sponsored with Rotary Club of Lu Chou and Operation Smile Cambodia in providing corrective surgery for those who were born with facial deformities.

Led by our President K.P. Lu, the team from Sabah consisted of medical specialists from Queen Elizabeth Hospital: Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Mr. Sergius Ajik (Honorary Member of RC Likas Bay), Paediatric Anaesthesiologist, Dr. Vinodh Suppiah, Past President Chua Soon Lan, Past President Wong Chu Lai, Past President Philip Chong and Rotarian K.H. Lim. It was a great honour that our District Governor Haji Zainie Abdul Aucasa and District First Lady, Hajjah Kalimah were able to join this “Life-Changing” Mission.

The International partners-in-service; Rotary Club of Lu Chou, Taipei was represented by the President, Lai Chun Jung (Morse), Immediate Past President Steven Lee & spouse Tracy and Rotarian Plastic whilst Operation Smile Cambodia was represented by its Chairman, Chan Kok Choy, Medical Director, Dr. Mok Theavy, surgeons and volunteers.

Both our Sister Club, Rotary Club of Lu Chou and Likas Bay jointly contributed US\$6,000 towards the funding of this World Community Service Project. In addition, Immediate Past President of the Rotary Club of Lu Chou, Steven Lee Seng Tsun generously donated an Anaesthesia Machine.

A total of 31 Cleft Lip and Palate patients, mainly children aged between four months and 15 years old were operated on. The Mission would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment from Mr. Sergius and Dr. Vinodh from Sabah, Dr. Mok, Surgeons and volunteers from Cambodia for their hard work which made this Project Smile a huge success. We must also not forget to thank the Rotarians from our Sister Club, RC of Lu Chou, Taipei for their support and generosity and also Likas Bay Rotarians for their unwavering support and participation.

Overall, the 3 Project Smile Mission to Cambodia (Phnom Penh in 2009, Siem Reap in Dec 2010 and April, 2012) has benefited more than 98 cleft lip/palate patients while the first ever Project Smile Mission to Vientiane, Laos in May 2008 have benefitted 20 patients.

The Project Smile is the brainchild community service Project of the Rotary Club of Likas Bay in collaboration with various district hospitals in Sabah under the Sabah Health Department. It was initiated during the Presidency of our PP Datuk Lee Chuen Wan in Rotary Year 2002-2003 under RI Theme “Sow The Seed Of Love” as a Sabah state-wide project and have continued annually over the years since then. This noble endeavour undertaken by the Rotary Club of Likas Bay has benefitted more than 350 Cleft Lip/Palate Patients in Sabah and continues to make a difference in the life of the community especially the poor and needy rural villagers, giving them an opportunity to lead a normal life by restoring their dignity and self-esteem.

Through volunteerism, we were able to bring hope and positive change in a person’s life – one smile at a time. We hope to do more of such service both locally and Internationally in the years to come, said President K.P. Lu of Rotary Club of Likas Bay.

**Dear DG Hj. Zainie & DFL Kalimah**

**On behalf of Operation Smile Cambodia, the people of Cambodian people would like to express our profound thanks for your support to Operation Smile Cambodia .**

**We are very pleased to inform you of our recent successes of our mission in Siem Reap at the Siem Reap Provincial Hospital from 06-08 April 2012.**

**Thank you for your very valuable time to participate with us last week in Siem Reap. 41 evaluations were conducted of which, Operation Smile performed cleft lip or cleft palate surgery on 31 individuals. It was possible only with your support.**

**Thank you, Past President Philip and President Lu for inviting His Excellency DG Hj. Zainie & DFL Kalimah to honor with us and motivate our volunteers to complete our successful work.**

**Once again, thank you for your generous support and donation. You are helping us to bring the gift of surgery for a life to the children of Cambodia and for healing smiles and changing lives across the globe. Without your support, this wouldn’t have been possible and we express our gratitude for your generosity.**

**We hope we will receive more support from you in the next mission**

**Respectfully**

**Theavy Mok MD,**

**Plastic surgeon, Khmer Soviet Friendship Hospital  
Medical Director OSC, Cambodia**

# PROJECT SMILE, SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA

## 6 - 10 APRIL, 2012



DG and DFL, Doctors and Rotarians standing in front of the Siem Reap Hospital.



Medical team doing review of cleft lip and palate patients prior to surgery



DFL Kalimah cuddling a baby with cleft palate as IPP Steven of RC Lu Chou looks on.



Pres. Morse, Pres. K.P. Lu, DG Haji Zainie & DFL Hajjah Kalimah posing with cleft lip patients before the surgical operation.



DFL Kalimah carrying a Cleft Palate baby to OT room



Dr. Sergius, Dr. Vinodh and a doctor from Cambodia during surgery.



Cleft lip surgery by Dr. Sergius



Surgeons from Cambodia performing the cleft lip surgery



DFL Hajjah Kalimah holding a 4 months old cleft palate baby after surgery flanked by Mr. Chan Kok Choy, Dr. Vinodh, Dr. Sergius & DG Zainie. (L-R)



DFL Kalimah smiling as she holds the 4 months old baby after the operation in front of OT room



DG Zainie & DFL Kalimah visiting recuperating patients at Siem Reap Provincial Hospital.



A mother happily holding her baby after the cleft palate surgery



Mr. Chan Kok Choy, IPP Steven and spouse Tracy visiting the recuperating patients.



Pres. K.P. Lu handing over RC Likas Bay's cash contribution to Mr. Chan Kok Choy, Chairman Operation Smile Cambodia as witnessed by DG Zainie



Mr. Chan Kok Choy receiving cash contribution from President Morse of RC Lu Chou Taipei while DG Zainie, Pres. K.P., Dr. Mok & volunteers look on.