



# THE SPOKE

AN E-BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF JOHOR BAHRU  
(District 3310 of Rotary International, Chartered on 27 June 1952)

Volume 1 Issue 6

9 August 2011



Rotarians involved, please take note and be punctual. Well done, Rtn Suki - our New Generations Director and his committee.

“Reach within to embrace humanity.”

NG SWEE POH

PRESIDENT 2011/2012

## ROTARY CLUB OF JOHOR BAHRU

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### Secretary’s Corner:

August is Rotary Membership and Extension Month. MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSION are essential to achieving Rotary’s goals of providing community and international service. Every Rotary Club member shares the responsibility of proposing qualified new members. If you have not done so, please invite a potential candidate to the Membership Seminar organized by Dr Anga on 24 September 2011.

Lee Soo Tong  
Secretary

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### Today’s Programme:

Talk : GSE  
Speaker: Mr Gooi Chuen Howe  
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### Last Week’s Programme:

Speaker: Ms Tan Poh Lai  
Talk : A Nation At The Crossroads



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Madam Tan Poh Lai spoke about her group's activities in helping to encourage and register new voters in last week's talk. While they found out that many were ignorant about the voting process and also it's myths, they managed to successfully register a few thousand new voters.

Their analysis also produced some interesting facts - states like Johor and Perak still had about 20% eligible voters not registered; to as high as 47% in another state. Also, they found out that the ruling party had won by just 1.5 % of the total votes cast in the last election.

She encouraged every eligible citizen to register and vote in elections and to vote for a clean and efficient government. Eligible citizens can go to the nearest post office to register as a new voter.

The Interact Club Officers training seminar will be held on the 13th of this month, from 8 -12 am at the SMK Datuk Jaffar.

### Mailing Address:

PO Box 54, 80730 Johor Bahru, Johor Darul Takzim, Malaysia

### Weekly Meetings:

The Zon Regency Hotel, Johor Bahru, Tuesdays at 5:30pm

### Contact Tel:

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(Rotary House)

E-Mail: [execsec@rcjb.org.my](mailto:execsec@rcjb.org.my)

Website: [www.rcjb.org.my](http://www.rcjb.org.my)

### Bulletin Editors:

PP Dr Ho Loon Shin  
Rtn Lee Soo Tong  
PP Leong Chee Woh  
S Lionel (Exec Sec)

### DO YOUR PART....

After 25 years of hard work, Rotary and its partners are on the brink of eradicating this tenacious disease; but a strong push is needed now to root it out once and for all. It is a window of opportunity of historic proportions.....

**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

# Club Matters



Volume 1 Issue 6

**FROM THE ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN  
FRANCIS LIP :- AS AT 2 August 2011**

From the treasurer:	
Tickkie Bottle collection on 2 August 2011	
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Collection	: RM 18.00
Happy Fund	: RM -
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<b>Totaling</b>	<b>: RM160.00</b>

Membership	58
Excused	7
Effective	51
Present	34
Percentage	66.67 %

Rtn Suki Dhillon informed members of the Interactors Seminar on Saturday, 13 August 2011 at **SMK Dato Jaffar**. He urged all Interact Advisers to follow-up with their respective clubs.

Attend weekly club meetings. Enjoy club fellowship. Enrich your professional and personal knowledge. Meet other business leaders in your community. Extend the invitation and grow in strength.....

## Congratulations!!

9—15 August 2011	Birthdays:	Wedding Anniversaries:	Induction Anniversaries:
PP Dato Dr M Singaraveloo		8	
Rtn S Elendran			10
PP Jit Dev Sehgal			11
PP Dato Francis Ng			12
PP Dato Mokkam		15	

Average % Attendance For June 2011  
The average % attendance for June 2011 is 69.1%.

### First Asian President

Odette Struys, 44 who oversees communication and public relations for The Blood Alliance, has become the first Asian President of the Rotary Club of South Jacksonville.

Ms Struys has lived in South Jacksonville for 18 years and has been an active member of the Rotary Club of South Jacksonville for the past 10 years. She is originally from Singapore.

### Attendance On 2 August 2011:

#### Excused:

1. PP Jit Sehgal
2. PP Dato Francis Ng
3. PP Dato Dr Singaraveloo
4. PP Chang Teck Mark
5. PP Dato Mokkam Singh
6. PP Dr K N Singh
7. PP Nari Gidwani
8. PP Roland Choong
9. PP Lim Kay Hua

#### Absent:

1. PDG John Cheah
2. PGD Lim Hock Teck
3. PP Dev Chellam
4. PP Tony Ong
5. PP Dr Roland Lim
6. PP Ooi Kao Yang
7. PP Tan Beng Sooi
8. PP Ir Hj Mohd Noh Ibrahim
9. PP Yeo Ann Kiat
10. PP Chua Kean Num
11. Rtn Koh Jit Huat
12. Rtn Kelvin Chua
13. Rtn J S Kwang
14. Rtn S Elendran
15. Rtn Alan Cheng
16. PP Dr Ho Loon Shin
17. Rtn Chua Tze Wei
18. Rtn Vincent Chia

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Apologies For Absence was received from Rtn J S Kwang who was away in Kuala Lumpur.

# A Nation At The Crossroads - Tan Poh Lai



The speaker, Ms Tan Poh Lai, a lawyer by profession, gave a talk to RCJB members on “Malaysia - A Nation At The Crossroads.” Ms Tan recollected, when she last gave a talk at RCJB 13 years ago, on an entirely different topic; “Care Hut;” a special school for autistic children.

As many did not expect, Ms Tan’s talk was to create an awareness on why voters registration was a key to a nation’s transformation.

In delivering her talk, she quoted Franklin D Roosevelt; “ Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a president and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country.”

Statistics indicate that approximately 5 million eligible voters have not registered on the electoral roll. Ms Tan and her team of volunteers had in 2010, held voters registration drives at various malls in Johor Bahru and had by August 2010 registered 15,600 + new voters.

She said that people are in fact registering in large numbers, because they believe their votes matter, as they want to see changes in the government of the nation.

Ms Tan also informed members on the effects of “gerrymandering” which is a form of boundary re-districting in which electoral district or constituency boundaries are deliberately modified for electoral purposes, thereby producing a contorted or unusual

shape. With this mechanism, the ruling party will lump all the opposition voters into one huge constituency and spread out the government supporters into many constituencies. The opposition may get 100,000 votes; but this may just win them one seat, while the ruling party will win 3 - 4 seats in parliament, with much less voters.

Gerrymandering may also involve the arbitrary assignment of voters, the unexplained deregistration of voters, non-registrations and other such issues.



Voters registration is essential because it is one of the ways to counter gerrymandering and vote buying. Ms Tan stressed that for fair elections, every vote counts. It is the exclusive right of every citizen to choose his representative. Voters registration is crucial and significant, to correct injustice and it is this which drives and motivates Ms Tan and her team of volunteers to forge ahead with drives to create an awareness on the importance of registering as a voter and to register as many voters as they can at every given opportunity.



# Rotary News



## Online Training Resources For All Your Training Needs

Need help planning a training meeting? Check out the “ For Trainers” section of [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) which is full of training information and resources just for you.

This section provides detailed information on planning a meeting , training Rotarians , train the trainer seminars, web conferencing , and the role of the club trainer . From these pages, you can find many related resources, such as checklists and worksheets that can help you prepare for your face-to-face and online training meetings.

Also available are current and past issues of Rotary Training Talk and the training best practices database. Whether you're new to training or have a wealth of experience, the “ For Trainers” section of the website has something for you. Visit [www.rotary.org/trainers](http://www.rotary.org/trainers).

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### Three Steps To Help You Grow Your Club

All Rotarians are ambassadors of Rotary and their clubs. This is especially relevant during Membership and Extension Month in August, when the focus is on building strong, vibrant clubs by inviting prospective members to join Rotary. Interested in growing your club but not sure how to get started? Here’s an easy three-step plan to bring to your next club meeting.

#### 1. Start with Rotary Basics:

The colorful Rotary Basics guide (published in the August issue of *The Rotarian* and Rotary regional magazines) gives an overview of what Rotary clubs do. Order copies from [shop.rotary.org](http://shop.rotary.org) for members to share with prospective Rotarians and club guests. Include your club’s contact information with the guide or direct prospective members to [www.rotary.org/join](http://www.rotary.org/join), which includes a link to the Prospective Member Form.

#### 2. Handle prospective-member inquiries:

Club presidents receive inquiries about membership either directly from candidates or via Prospective Member or Rotarian Referral forms forwarded from Rotary International. As always, invitations for membership are at the discretion of your club. Consider creating a brochure or elevator speech to provide an overview of your club. If you develop a standard welcome e-mail to initiate correspondence with prospective members, include:

- i. Welcome and thank-you to candidate for his/her interest in Rotary
- ii. Overview of the club, including a brief outline of Rotary’s mission and humanitarian goals, a recent club/district service project, and typical club/ district activities
- iii. Meeting information, including the name, meeting time, and location
- iv. Additional resources, including links to club/ district websites or Rotary publications
- v. Follow-up information about the club’s next steps in the membership process

#### 3. Send prospective member kits:

Follow up your welcome letter with the Prospective Member Information Kit (423), which provides basic information about RI, The Rotary Foundation, and the responsibilities of club membership. Have a club leader contact the prospective member to ensure they’ve received the kit and to answer any questions about Rotary membership.

#### More information and resources:

Your Club, the District, and Rotary International: Partners in Membership Development Membership Development Resource Guide Membership Development Best Practices