

# FRCS News

Vol. C Issue 2 – March 2016

For members only

## Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd Helping Rotary Clubs to serve the local Community

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### Board of Directors:

- PDG Dr. Wu Dar Ching, Chairman
- PDG Chew Ghim Bok, Vice-chairman 1
- PDG Dr. Philbert Chin, Vice-chairman 2
- PP Tan Kay Hui, Honorary Secretary
- PP Andrew Tan, Honorary Treasurer
- PP Chew Phak Heng, Director - Finance
- PP Dr. Yap Lip Kee, Director - Fundraising
- PP Alex Eow, Director - Projects & Programmes
- CP Albert Wong, Director - Rotarian Relations
- PP To Chee Kan, Director (Co-opted) - Public Relations
- PP Henry Tan, Director (Co-opted) - Chairman of Rotary Family Service Centre
- Mr. Phillip Tan, Director (Co-opted) - Audit

**Members:** All 22 Rotary Clubs in Singapore

### Legal Advisors:

- PP P. Balachandran
- PP Brown Pereira
- PP Derrick Brown
- PP Jeffrey Chan

### Newsletter Editorial Committee:

- PP Erich Schneider, Editor
- CP Albert Wong, Member
- PP To Chee Kan, Member
- PP Tan Kay Hui, Member
- Ms. Debbie Khoo, Member

### Use FRCS Facilities for Free

FRCS members are welcome to use the FRCS conference room for Rotary meetings and events. Usage is Free of Charge for the first 2 hours after which a small administrative fee is payable.

Under its tenancy agreement, FRCS is allowed the use of common facilities (a multi-purpose room and 2 training rooms) for community and Voluntary Welfare Organisation activities, examples of which are: health screening of seniors, workshops and seminars on health, training of volunteers and caregivers. FRCS members are welcome to use these common facilities subject to availability and approval by the master tenant.

For enquiries and booking of facilities, contact FRCS Administrator at Tel: 6538 9901; Email: [secretariat@rotarysingaporefoundation.org](mailto:secretariat@rotarysingaporefoundation.org). Again, usage is Free of Charge for the first 2 hours.

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## FOUNDATION NEWS

### THE SETTING UP OF A “ROTARY HOUSE”

#### Summary of the EGM held on 28<sup>TH</sup> December 2015

The Extraordinary General Meeting was called to inform members of the purchase of the Rotary House.

Chairman PDG Dr. Wu Dar Ching explained to the representatives of 17 Rotary Clubs present that under the Memorandum & Articles of Association of the Foundation, there is no requirement for a resolution to be passed for the purchase of the Rotary House. The meeting was called to establish goodwill and buy-in of the purchase among members. He pointed out that the funding for the Rotary House was from individual Rotarians and well-wishers which were separate from donations to the Foundation.

#### The Rotary House Project

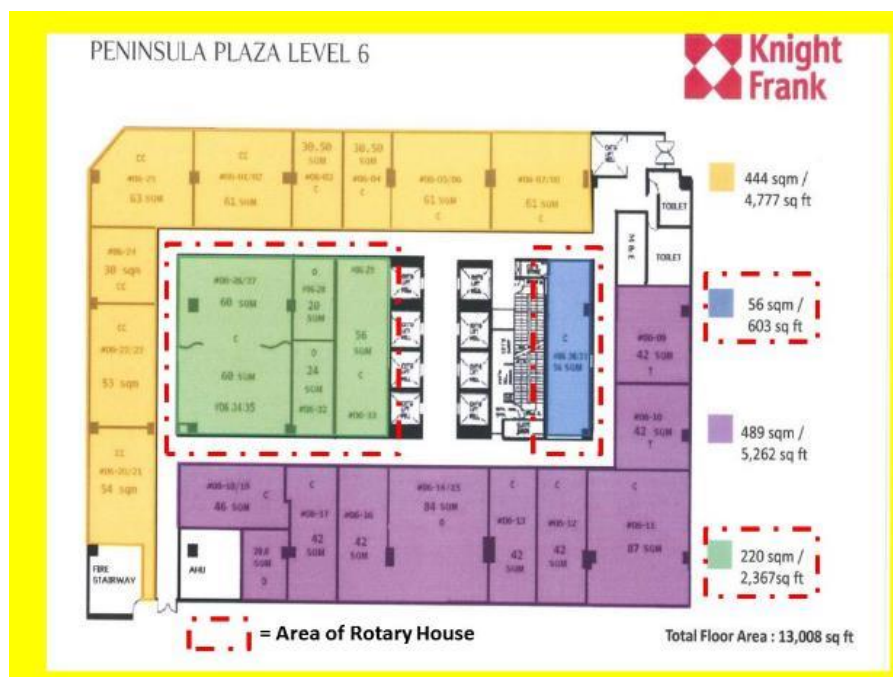
Foundation Vice-Chairman 2, PDG Dr. Philbert Chin briefed the meeting that the Board of Directors of the Foundation had authorised the establishment of the Rotary House Committee (“the Committee”) to search for, recommend and raise funds for the purchase of a permanent home for the Foundation. He noted that the wish for a Rotary House was as old as the Foundation itself. Over the years, some \$430,000 had been raised towards funding the purchase of a Rotary House.

PDG Dr. Chin emphasised to the meeting that it was necessary for the Foundation to have a suitable office to operate from. He pointed out that the 5-year lease at the Chinatown Point office was due to expire in about 2 years’ time.

Under the National Council of Social Services’ SG50 Care & Share Movement, the Foundation would receive matching grants of \$1.25 for every \$1 raised for the first million, and \$1 for each \$1 raised in the next million. Additionally, donors would be granted 3 times tax exemption in 2015 and 2.5 times tax exemption in 2016. The grant could be used to purchase a Rotary House provided that the property was used for the purpose of community service. It was further clarified that this only applied to part of the Rotary House that was bought with the matching grant.

#### The Acquisition Process of the Rotary House

Foundation Vice-Chairman 1, PDG Chew Ghim Bok explained to the meeting why the Rotary House Committee had recommended to the Board of the Foundation to purchase the properties known as 111 North Bridge Road, #06-26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35, Peninsula Plaza, Singapore 179098 (“the Properties”).



The Committee had taken into account various considerations such as location and period of lease. The Properties are on a 999-year lease and are located at a reputable and readily accessible area in the CBD.

#### Rotary House Fund: Donations & Pledges Collected

According to Foundation Director PDG Chew Phak Heng, the Rotary House Committee’s fundraising target was \$2 million. As of the date of the meeting, the Committee had collected \$1,019,350 from individual donors, not including the \$430,000 collected in earlier years. The Committee needed to raise around \$400,000 by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 so as to be able to enjoy the NCSS SG50 Care & Share Movement matching grant. PDG Dr. Chin urged members and individual Rotarians to donate generously to the Rotary House Fund.

## Resolutions for the Purchase of the Rotary House

The following resolutions were proposed by PDG Chew Ghim Bok and seconded by PDG Dr. Philbert Chin and were resolved with majority vote by show of hands with 16 votes for, 1 against and 2 abstained:

### Resolution 1:

“That the Foundation approves and confirms the purchase of the Properties at a total price of \$4,456,254.60 (not including GST) and further confirms the authority of the Rotary House Committee to act on behalf of the Foundation to proceed with the necessary steps of the purchase transactions of the Properties including that of finalising the terms and conditions of the said purchase.”

### Resolution 2:

“That any two of the directors namely PDG Dr. Wu Dar Ching, PDG Chew Ghim Bok, PDG Dr. Chin Soon Siang and PP Chew Phak Heng, be authorised to complete and execute all sale, purchase or other ancillary documents necessary or incidental for the said purchase and registration of the titles to the Properties, and to do all acts and things as they may consider necessary or expedient to give effect thereto, as they shall think fit in the interest of the Foundation.”

### Resolution 3:

“That the Common Seal of the Foundation be affixed onto any document, instrument, deed or agreement as may be necessary to give effect to the purchase of the Property in accordance with the Articles of Association.”

### Resolution 4:

“That the purchase of the Properties shall be funded by a combination of:

- (a) Internal resources of a sum of not more than S\$600,000 allocated from the existing general fund of the Foundation plus and in addition to, the existing Rotary House Fund;
  - (b) Donations be sought from members, benefactors, associates and friends of the Foundation or from any other sources as the Foundation deems fit; and from
  - (c) The SG50 Care & Share Movement Matching from the Government,
- and that such funds raised shall be applied to purchase price, stamp duties, GST, legal, professional fees and all expenses incurred in respect of, or incidental to the said purchase.”

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## Fundraising Activities

### Donation Drive

PDG Dr Philbert Chin has visited every Rotary Club in Singapore to present the Rotary House Projects. Rotarians and friends are asked to donate towards the Rotary House.

- The time to act is now.
- The “new” Foundation is poised to expand its activities to serve its diverse communities.
- As a Rotarian, please help us to do good, well and better.
- Please donate generously.

Cheques to be issued to “Foundation of Rotary Clubs (S) Ltd”. On the reverse side please indicate your name (as in NRIC or Passport), NRIC/FIN or Company Regn. no., your mobile phone no. and the words “for Rotary House”. Donations are 2.5x tax deductible. Please send cheque to the address below.

### Charity Golf Tournament

The Foundation will be holding a Charity Golf Tournament on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> of March, 2016. The proceeds will go towards the Rotary House Fund.

## The Properties



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### New FRCS Administrator

Ms. Debbie Khoo is the new Administrator at FRCS. She joined on 16th March 2016, replacing Mr. Jeff Tan who resigned for personal reasons. Debbie is a chartered accountant and has many years of experience in finance and administration in both the private and VWO sectors. The FRCS Board of Directors warmly welcome Debbie and wish her a rewarding and fulfilling career with the Foundation. Debbie can be contacted during regular office hours at Tel: 6538 9901, Email: [secretariat@rotarysingaporefoundation.org](mailto:secretariat@rotarysingaporefoundation.org).

### Administration Fee for Utilising FRCS' Tax Exempt Status

At its meeting on 28th January 2016, the FRCS Board of Directors decided to introduce an Administrative Fee of 5% on donations utilising FRCS tax exemption status. For example, if a Singapore Rotary Club passes donations of \$50,000.00 through FRCS and for which FRCS issues tax exemption receipts, an administrative fee of 5%, i.e., \$2,500.00, will be charged to the Rotary Club. For enquiries, please contact PP Chew Phak Heng, FRCS Director of Finance.

### New FRCS Website

The Foundation of Rotary Clubs (S) Limited has revamped its Website. Please visit [www.rotarysingaporefoundation.org](http://www.rotarysingaporefoundation.org) to find out more.

### Photographs speak a thousand words

To see Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors in action, visit the FRCS Photo Gallery on Shutterfly at <https://frcsphoto.shutterfly.com/>. To see all and access photographs to download, sign up as a Shutterfly member. It is free and without strings attached.

### Flag Day 2016

The Foundation's Flag Day will be held on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016. As every year, volunteers will be needed to help raise funds from the public. Please mark your calendar.

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## SG50 HONG BAO GIVEAWAY HELD ON 23RD JANUARY 2016



### Hong Bao for Public Transportation

What is a Hong Bao? A Hong Bao is a red packet with monetary value in it that carries the well wishes from the giver to the recipient.

Rotary SG50 NETS Flashpay Cards were produced to celebrate SG50 and to create greater awareness of the community services provided by Rotary Clubs in Singapore. The Cards display Rotary's Areas of Focus and also show what are the Service Ideals behind Rotary. The red background signifies our participation in celebrating Singapore SG50.

Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore, was the Guest of Honour for the official occasion "SG50 Transport Hong Bao Giveaway". On behalf of the Central Singapore Community Development Council, she received 1,000 SG50 Rotary Flashpay Cards with a stored value of \$20 each. Through Family Service Centres, the cards will be given to people in need. In addition, the Foundation contributed S\$30,000 to the Central Singapore CDC as Hong Bao for their needy.

Witnessed by Ms. Denise Phua, PDG Dr. Wu Dar Ching, FRCS Chairman, and PP Alex Eow, FRCS Director and Chairman of the Projects and Programmes Committee, representatives of 10 community groups also received SG50 Rotary Flashpay Cards at the scenic Pod, a function room on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor of the National Library Building. The following community groups received Rotary SG50 Flashpay Cards topped up by various Rotary Clubs:

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Clients of Rotary Family Centre at Clementi | 6. Daughters of Tomorrow           |
| 2. Loving Heart Multi-Service Centre           | 7. Club Rainbow                    |
| 3. Club Heal Singapore                         | 8. Food From The Hearts            |
| 4. Espesyal Pinoy                              | 9. Queenstown Multi-Service Centre |
| 5. Kaki Bukit Befrienders' Team                | 10. U3A Singapore                  |

The FRCS produced 4,000 SG50 Flashpay Cards for public image creation of Rotary in Singapore. By now, all 800 Rotarians, all Interactors and Rotaractors in Singapore have received the SG50 cards (without cash value) as a gift from the Foundation of Rotary Clubs (S) Ltd. Pass them on to spread the word about Rotary.

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## ROTARY CLUB PROJECTS 2015-16

### New Minibus for the Bishan Home

Initiated by the Rotary Club of Garden City

The Bishan Home and Day Activity Centre operates two programmes for the intellectually disabled: a residential programme currently operating at almost full capacity with 128 residents and a recently renovated Day Activity Centre with 25 clients. Many of the residents have been with the Home since it first started in 1998. Over the years, these residents have become older and now have difficulties in walking. With more and more being wheelchair bound, the need arose to replace their existing ambulance with a van which has a wheelchair lift.

The Rotary Club of Garden City accepted PP Anthony Twohill's proposal to undertake the community project to fund the purchase of the new lifter van. Led by the Service Project Chair, IPP Florence Lim, the RCGC, together with five other Rotary clubs, raised a total of S\$79,500, which included a matching grant from the Foundation of Rotary Clubs (S) Ltd.

The following were the contributions received:

Rotary Club of Garden City	\$39,800	Rotary Club of Marina City	\$ 7,000
Rotary Club of Serangoon Garden Orchard	\$10,500	Rotary E-Club of Singapore	\$ 1,000
Rotary Club of Singapore East	\$10,200	AG Roger Ng – RC of Bugis Junction	\$ 1,000
Foundation of Rotary Clubs (S) Ltd	\$10,000		



The Toyota Hiace High Roof Van costed \$51,418 and the lift for two wheelchairs \$18,190. The surplus, after deducting expenses for signage and miscellaneous cost, was spent for the Van Handover Ceremony and a buffet party for all home residents and staff to celebrate Christmas together with members of the participating clubs.



RCGC thanks all participating clubs for their generous contributions and efforts made to improve the mobility of the intellectually disabled residents of the Bishan Home and Day Activity Centre.



Contributed by: IPP Florence Lim - RC Garden City

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## SG50 Jubilee Family Health and Wellness

Organised by the Rotary Club of Tanjong Pagar and Beauty.Mums & Babies

Supported by Stemcord, JCI, Crocodile Foundation, BabyU, Friso, AIA, Spring Maternity, Queenstown CC WEC, Ang Mo Kio CC WEC, Woodland Galaxy CC WEC, Sengkang CC WEC and Gek Poh Ville CC WEC

### Background

This project was mooted by our 2 Advisers, VP John Tan and Community Director Teo Lin Lee, to create awareness in Prevention of Blindness in young Babies and Family Bonding.

### Purpose

In line with our Rotary Motto “Service Above Self” and Rotary’s Areas of Focus towards Maternal and Child Health and Prevention of Blindness, we wanted to promote the involvement of all family members, in particular fathers, to take responsible roles in sharing the upbringing of a child.

The project focuses on Health and Wellness for mums and babies. There were panels of Doctors and Paediatricians assessing all babies between 9 to 15 months old on their health, vision and general outlook, i.e. cheerfulness, responsiveness etc.

### Highlight of Programme

Educational talks and workshops were conducted during the many events, with emphasis on pregnancy (prenatal and postnatal), baby eye, mouth and skin care and early detection of various health issues. Dental care for infants was one of the most attended talks.

Health Checks and Talks for the Mums & Babies by Paediatric and O&G Doctors from Singapore Medical Group. Interesting segment included Yoga for pregnant women.

Baby’s responsiveness, cheerfulness and cute attire are a few criteria set to identify our SG50 Jubilee Baby.

Beautiful Mum aims to look for the most radiant mum to be in their various stages of pregnancy. They say women look their best during pregnancy.

Fathers were competing to be the best Superdad for their babies. Changing nappies and milk making are no easy tasks.

The SG50 Family Health and Wellness Final Award Competition was successfully completed on 13 December 2015 at MDIS, Stirling Campus. 47 babies and 5 beautiful mums selected during the preliminary round at the 5 Community Centres made it to the final, competing for the top 3 Awards. More than 20 men took the challenge during the final to be Superdad of the day.

In conclusion, the SG50 Jubilee Family Health and Wellness was a great success as it brought 5 CC WECs with its members together over 3 months in organising the preliminary rounds and all Rotarians in organising the final. During the final round, Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State and Member of Parliament, was the Guest of Honour.







Contributed by: Gena Lim – Director, Beauty.Mums & Babies

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## Chinese New Year with Aged Poor and Needy in Redhill

A project by the Rotary Club of Pandan Valley

The Rotary Club of Pandan Valley has been engaged in this signature project since 1992/1993, every year, just before Chinese New Year, to distribute food and red packets to the needy residents in Redhill. This year, as a joint project with the Foundation of Rotary Clubs (S) Ltd (FRCS), the club expanded this project to provide household appliances such as fridges, rice cookers and fans. The budget amounted to \$10,500 and the funds were contributed by members of the club and a grant from FRCS. On 23 January, family members, friends and Interactors from SJII came together to assemble the fans, distribute food, household appliances and Ang Pows to brighten up the Chinese New Year for these needy residents.







Contributed by IPP Elsie Chua – RC of Pandan Valley

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## Rotary Love Challenge – Mental Fitness for SG Seniors thru “Rummikub”

Piloted by the Rotary Club of Bukit Timah in partnership with the Rotary Club of Suntec City

The project strives to engage 40 to 80 seniors per session from Elderly Homes or Rental Flats for a total of 4 sessions throughout a year, where the seniors will be engaged with the Mental Fitness Game of Rummikub. At the same time, we support Dignity Kitchen, a social enterprise providing life-skill and vocational training to adults with mental and/or physical disabilities for employment in the F&B industry. Rummikub, which is the mental fitness game supported by FRCS, is the perfect game to actively engage our seniors to prevent the ageing of their mental faculties.

The first pilot service day project was held on 10 Oct 2015, the World Mental Health Day. In partnership with the Rotary Club of Suntec City and their Rotaractors and Interactors, we held another session with great success on 23 Jan 2016. More sessions will be organised at regular intervals till end of June 2016.

We look forward to partnering with any corporate organisation such as the Cotton On to bring this project to the next level, involving more youths, i.e. our Rotaractors and Interactors as well as employees of Cotton On.



Contributed by President Leo Tan – RC of Bukit Timah

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## MORE?

Next issue will be published in June 2016. Please send your contribution to:  
PP Erich Schneider – Editor [erich.schn@gmail.com](mailto:erich.schn@gmail.com)

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