

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

30th Nov. - Cleft Lip project in Cambodia  
9th Dec. - Annual General Meeting

water for eight communities in rural areas, and this year we're adding another eight," he says. "These days, we don't do water projects without sanitation. Many clubs work on the provision of water and sanitary facilities to schools and clinics, providing latrines and facilities to wash hands, with boys and girls getting separate facilities in a long block. We call those institutional latrines. It's a particular design approved by the Ministry of Health." Keteku is particularly excited about the new RI-USAID collaboration which intends to provide funds to build an estimated 200 new sanitation and water facilities throughout Ghana. The money will also fund hygiene education and community organization. Residents – mainly women – will be taught to collect a small fee from users to support facilities far into the future. The levies are so low that nearly every household can pay; whenever they can't, exemptions are given. This business involvement from the community members will instill a sense of ownership, fostering greater long-term integration of the project. In Kenya, says Rotarian Edward Kairu, a member of the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group and a professor of climatology, clubs are focusing on providing sanitation blocks to residents of Nairobi's crowded slums, where toilets and running water are rarities. The blocks have separate water kiosks, showers, and toilets for men and women. In Kibera, an urban slum that's home to an estimated 800,000 people, 10 sanitation blocks have been installed, serving 2,000 people a day. Community development organizations maintain them and collect levies from users.

"We have cholera outbreaks, a lot of illnesses, worms. Children play outside and come across waste, especially when it rains and there's flooding. One of the interventions we do is improving drainage to remove waste from slums, because it becomes completely unimaginable with the runoff," Kairu says. Natural disasters can also cut access to clean water. When an earthquake destroyed a small town's pumping facility outside Istanbul, residents weren't able to pay for a replacement. "So mainly women and children would walk for miles to a nearby village to get water," explains David Keller, past president of the Rotary Club of Campbell, California, USA, which partnered with the Rotary Club of Istanbul-Topkapi to provide water access. Since July 2007, clean water from 13 mountain springs has flowed through a pipeline to a 500-ton facility that serves 1,285 villagers. The village has set water fees and will use them to maintain the new system, says Keller. "We worked with the village elders, via the local Rotary club, to do this," he says. "The outpouring of thanks was astonishing. People had tears in their eyes."

Though the challenge to ensure clean water, better sanitation, and proper hygiene is daunting, the answers are there and the goals achievable. "To throw up our hands and say 'This is an undoable goal' is not correct," says the Hilton Foundation's Ed Cain. "We have to look at the Millennium Development Goals, particularly to reduce by half the proportion of those without access to sustainable, safe drinking water. To reduce by half would be a huge jump, given population growth. The world is on track to achieving that goal." – **Anne E. Stein**

## The Future of Rotary is in Your hands

2009/19

18 November 2009



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We have all just returned from attending the District Conference in Johor Bahru. Six Rotarians and four spouses from our club attended. Altogether, 200 Rotarians were present. The conference was well planned with plenty to occupy everyone, spouses included. Congratulations to Host Club the Rotary

Club of Johor Centennial with their 17 members! It goes to show that numbers do not necessary count.

Among the highlights of the Conference was the free Child Mortality Seminar on Friday 13. The keynote address was given by the leader of UNICEF Malaysia Mr. Yussouf O Omar. There were 5 planery sessions concentrating mainly on ways to reduce child mortality.

The Conference proper started on Saturday 14 November with the conference being declared open by the Prince of Johor. The Guest of Honour was the RI President's Representative PDG Ray Ching-chong who was accompanied by his wife Linda.

There was also a special guest from USA, PDG Charlie Clemmont, the RI Coordinator for the RI Water and Sanitation Resource Group. Clean water and proper sanitation is a major emphasis of RI this year and our club can possibly carry out more clean water projects. Our Gravity Water Feed and Sanitation project in Kg. Timbangoh Lau, Penampang is a good start.

*As no photographs were received for this issue of the Gelombang, I have taken the liberty of inserting an article from RI's Global Outlook for your reading pleasure - Ed.*

**There are no Birthdays or Anniversaries this week ...**

**Speaker Finders**

18 Nov.	Wesley Chua
25 Nov.	PP Chua Soon Lan
02 Nov.	PP Dtk Johnson Tee
09 Dec.	AGM

**A GUIDE TO DAILY LIVING**

Before doing the things we want to do, consider first, the precept of the guide. Ask yourself these 4 questions and act upon them:

- First : Have I spent some time to self examination?
- Second : Have I spent quality time with my family?
- Third : Have I given my best to my work?
- Fourth : Have I given some time to someone near and far?

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

	RM
Sunshine	40.00
Donations	
Fines, etc.	

■ DUTY OFFICERS are expected to arrive early to ensure that everything has been prepared for the meeting, to welcome visitors and guests and collect Sunshine Fund and Fines.

■ **18 November**  
■ **Yvonne Tan**  
■ **PP George Bandusena**

■ **25 November**  
■ **PP Philip Chong**  
■ **Vincent Chua**

the provision of sanitary toilets to the village. We will approach John Lysaght for donation of sanitary wares.

**Rotary Foundation Chair PP Oh Chu Vun**

November is Rotary Foundation Month and IPP Chua Soon Lan has arranged for a 'life' discussion with an International Peace Fellow residing in Cambodia so that we can learn more about the World Peace Fellowship programme.

**Rtn Juliana Tokuzip**

Children's Party - met with the General Manager of Nexus and he has agreed to sponsor the venue and food for 100 pax.

**IPP Chua Soon Lan**

An invitation has been received from the Sabah Diabetes Association to attend Diabetes Day. They hope that our club will be able to send a few representatives. In view of the fact that they are our Partners in Service, we should make the effort.

**Speaker ...**

Rtn Gwen Vu spoke on the Government's Private Financial Initiative. The PPP or 3 PU, Public Private partnership Unit undertake to study and approve privatisation projects.

The Private Financial Initiative (PFI) was introduced under the 9th Malaysia Plan and will carry on into the 10th MP. Under the 9th MP, a total of 230 Billion was set aside and the same amount will be allocated under the 10th MP.

To qualify, the project must be ready for implementation within 1 to 2 years with an available project site. It must also be a big enough project. Under the 10th MP, the main emphasis will be on projects relating to Education, Health and Tourism.

## PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Wong Chu Lai welcomed Rotarians before making the following announcements:-

1. District Conference in JB: Some of our Rotarians have already gone to JB to attend the District Conference.
2. SINDEK 09: On Monday morning, I attended a meeting regarding this year's SINDEK. Our club will be the lead club and PP Philip will be the Organising Chairman. PP Peter Yapp will be the Treasurer. The Secretary will be from R C Penampang, R C Kota Kinabalu on Motivation Training, RC Kinabalu Sutera on Training talk, R C KK South on Exhibition Arrangements and R C Tg. Aru on Gifts and Mementos.
3. AGM will be held on 9 Dec. 2009.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PE Michael Tong

The new BOD is being put together. I am trying to incorporate a mixture of new and 'old' Rotarians. If I call on you, I hope you will cooperate and accept the position offered!

### Club Administration Chair- Dtk. Dr. Ghandi Das

There has been some confusion regarding the speaker finders, especially when speakers scheduled for the day cannot make it because of work commitment. Apologies for the inconveniences caused.

### Community Service Chair- Charlie Tan

President Chu Lai reported that he and PP Peter Yapp together with Rtn Wesley went to Kg. Timbangoh Laut to check on the progress of our Gravity Water Feed project. The water tanks need to be moved to enable the pipes to be connected.

CIMB Bank has approved RM51,000.00 for the project. This means that together with the RM50,000 from YB Datuk Bernard Dompok, we have RM101000. We can proceed with Phase 2 of the project involving

## DATE OF MEETING : 11 November 2009

<i>Name</i>	<i>On</i>	<i>At</i>	<i>For</i>
Rtn Ho SY	31/10	Keningau Vocational Seminar	11/11/2009
PP P Chong	14/11	District Conference JB	11/11/09
PP Jimmy Liew	14/11	District Conference JB	11/11/09
PE KP Lu	30/10	keningau Vocational Seminar	11/11/2009
Rtn C Tan	30/10	Keningau Vocational Seminar	11/11/09
Rtn Yvonne Tan	30/10	Keningau Vocational Seminar	11/11/09
PP Tsen KL		Sindex	11/11/09
Rtn Aldrin Wong	30/10	Keningau Vocational Seminar	11/11/09
PP V Wong	14/11	District Conference JB	11/11/09
PP Peter Yapp		Kg Timpangoh Lau Community Service Project	
PP DKong		Meeting with CIMB	

### PREVIOUS WEEKS' REVISED FIGURES

Date	Membership	Present	Make-ups	Rating %
28/10/09	43 (38)	23	7	79.00%
04/11/09	43 (38)	26	5	81.60%

### WEEK

Date	Membership	Present	Make-ups	Rating %
11/11/09	43 (38)	20	11	81.60%

### VISITORS

Presiding	-	President Wong Chu Lai
Secretary	-	PP Chang Erh Ling
Treasurer	-	PP Michael Wan (Acting)
Sergeant-at-Arms	-	PP Dtk Lee Chuen Wan (Acting)
Acting SaA Dtk Lee rang the bell and called the meeting to order and President Chu Lai led the singing of the Negaraku, and proposed a toast to the health of His Majesty the King.		

## THE CLEAN WATER CHALLENGE

### **An integrative approach can solve a three-pronged problem that affects billions**

Around the world, hundreds of millions of us share a similar morning routine that's dominated by water. We wake up in our homes and walk to a nearby room containing a toilet, sink, and shower or bath. We use the toilet, wash our bodies, brush our teeth. We make our way to the kitchen, where we fill a kettle or pot with cool water to brew our wake-up cup of tea or coffee. In much of the world, however, this is not the routine. Daily life is marked by a lack of access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene resources. This threepronged problem constitutes the core challenge in the lives of billions worldwide.

Instead of turning on a tap in their homes, 884 million people must fetch their water for drinking, cooking, and washing from crude, unprotected wells or straight from rivers, dams, lakes, canals, and ponds. The sanitation statistics are even grimmer: 2.5 billion people lack access to improved sanitation facilities, such as flush or composting toilets. Instead they use buckets, bags, or open pit latrines, or they simply practice open defecation in bushes, fields, and other unprotected public areas, both rural and urban.

The consequences are devastating for the health and welfare of millions (see sidebar on disease). Of the 1.8 million deaths each year from diarrhea, including more severe diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and dysentery, 88 percent are due to unsafe water or inadequate sanitation or hygiene, and 1.4 million are children ages five and younger, according to the World Health Organization. Malnutrition-related deaths of children five and under caused by unsafe water, inadequate sanitation, and insufficient hygiene total 860,000 a year. Contact with feces-contaminated soil or food causes hookworm, ascariasis, and other intestinal infections that affect one-third of the world's population.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene issues influence socioeconomic conditions as well. Women and girls who spend hours fetching water can't attend school or earn money. A lack of private sanitation facilities discourages girls from attending school, especially as they reach puberty. Teachers can't teach and farmers can't work when they're infected with waterborne diseases that incapacitate adults. Untreated human waste affects fish, aquatic mammals, and vegetation. What can be done But there is hope. Though the issue seems overwhelming in scope – like polio was decades ago – much can be done, according to experts such as John Oldfield, executive vice president of the U.S.-based nonprofit Water advocates.

Along with many public and private organizations worldwide, Water Advocates is dedicated to solving the global drinking water and sanitation crisis. "Eighty-three percent of the planet has access to safe water, and more than 60 percent has access to toilets," Oldfield points out. "We've solved it in the United States, in Western Europe, in Japan and Australia. Many places have universal coverage of water and toilets. We know what the cure is. We need the political and popular will, and once that's there, then the money flows." Advocates of the cause are particularly focused on the UN Millennium Development Goals. Goal 7, to ensure environmental sustainability, calls for reducing by half

the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation by 2015. The world is on track to meet the water goal, but not sanitation. Though the practice of open defecation is declining, at the current rate of progress, the number of people without access to improved sanitation will only decrease by about 100 million, to 2.4 billion, by the target date. Hardest hit on the clean water side is 42 percent of sub-Saharan Africa's population, which gets water from unimproved sources. The problem is also prevalent in Asia, as well as in parts of Latin America. Lack of adequate sanitation facilities is most problematic in southern Asia, where 48 percent of the population practices open defecation. The response from Rotary International has been huge. Two groups in particular, RI's Water Resource Group and the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group, offer guidance, support, and leadership to clubs interested in implementing water, sanitation, and hygiene-related projects. Past District Governor Ron Denham, the action group's founding chair, regularly networks with advocates from UNICEF, CARE, and other organizations to determine how best to approach the water, sanitation, and hygiene crisis. In turn, he says, "we help Rotarians identify appropriate solutions, help arrange funding, match them with partner clubs, and match them with local NGOs [nongovernmental organizations]. We're brokers of information and relationships and technology."

Education a major factor The approach toward solving the crisis has become holistic, says Ed Cain, vice president of grant programs for the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, which concentrates its safe-water efforts in sub-Saharan Africa. "It's not just about having a clean cup of water, as beneficial as that is," he says. "It doesn't improve the health of the community unless we teach them how to manage and handle the water in a way to avoid illness and disease." If you have open defecation in a community, he says, "you won't achieve the result of healthy communities, where kids stay in school and lead healthy and productive lives."

Where water is a luxury, populations need education on the importance of hand-washing and the consequences of fecal contamination by humans and animals on the community's health and welfare. "In many cases, we'll bring safe water to a household, but the users will put their [unwashed] hands in a clean receptacle because we haven't gotten them to change their behaviors," Denham says. In addition, the solutions must be sustainable. Communities must take responsibility for and maintain water systems into the future, using affordable parts that are easy to obtain. "We need to lay down roles and responsibilities for stakeholders," says Peter Lochery, director of CARE USA's water team. "Good policy needs to be developed and implemented." "We have to make sure the systems are seen as part of the community infrastructure, not just something from well-meaning donors," says Clarissa Brocklehurst, chief of water, sanitation, and hygiene for UNICEF. Rotary's response Rotarians worldwide are tackling the issue. In Ghana, according to Past District Governor K.O. "Willie" Keteku, less than 60 percent of people have access to clean water, and just 30 percent have access to good sanitation and hygiene resources. The situation is worse in rural areas, which is where 70 percent of the population lives, and where the nation's 21 Rotary clubs concentrate their efforts. "Last year my club drilled boreholes with hand pumps and storage tanks to provide