



# “Engage Rotary – Change Lives”

## Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd

Vol. B Issue 1 – April 2014

### Chairman's Message



PDG Dr Wu Dar-Ching

Rotary International is a global organization and fellowship of inspired business, professional, and community leaders dedicated to high ethical standards who translate their passions into relevant social causes to change lives in the community.

Rotarians serve the community with their four 'T's:

Thought (ideas), Talent (skills and competencies), Treasure (money), and Time. In particular, Rotarians serve others through their vocations with different skills and competencies to render humanitarian relief and assistance to the infirm, needy, and underprivileged in society.

Rotarians in Singapore share the same humanitarian zeal to serve and improve lives in our community. The Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Limited (FRCS) enables all Rotary clubs in Singapore to come together strategically to increase our overall humanitarian capacity to help promote human welfare, alleviate human suffering, and organize philanthropic activities, making life better for other people. The Object of Rotary is our guiding principle and the Rotarian motto is *Service Above Self*. Rotarians dignify their occupations as opportunities to serve society. Our humanitarian service is channeled through hands-on activities and our humanitarian action makes an impact on our community.

The Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Limited is a charitable organization with IPC (Institutions of Public Character) status. Conforming to the principles of corporate governance and transparency, we are accountable to beneficiaries as well as donors. We seek effective long-term partnerships and humanitarian engagements with private sector entities, government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations to better address the needs of the less fortunate in our community. Through our humanitarian work with our partner organizations and commitment to humanitarian service, Rotarians hope to make our country a better place for all.

### Important Developments

#### 2013

**4 Nov** – Strategic Planning Final Report completed.

**12 Dec** – FRCS Chair passed from PDG David Tong to PDG Dr Wu Dar Ching at AGM.

**27 Dec** – Received \$30,025, raised by the Rotary Club of Raffles City for the support of patients diagnosed with inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD).

#### 2014

**1 Jan** – Interim Executive Committee (IEC), appointed by new Chairman, took over day-to-day operations of FRCS from incumbent Chief Operating Officer.

**14 Jan** – Contract with outsourced accountant, Centre.Com, renegotiated to exclude admin support services with effect from 1 Jan 2014.

**16 Jan** – FRCS monthly accounts (excluding FSC) from Jul – Dec 2013 completed and presented at the 1<sup>st</sup> BOD meeting.

**18 Jan** – Received 2<sup>nd</sup> funding of \$82,000 from Cotton On Singapore Pte Ltd to be used for youth related projects (total \$107,000 received).

**20 Mar** – Eight working committees were formed and chairman of each appointed at FRCS's 2<sup>nd</sup> BOD meeting.

**20 Mar** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Independent Review Final Report on FRCS was issued by Shared Services for Charities Ltd.

**31 Mar** – IEC dissolved and its functions taken over by the Admin and Strategic Planning Committee.

**30 April** – FRCS Newsletter resumed publication.

## Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd - An Overview

The Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd functions independently of Rotary International but complements it in its humanitarian service and must bring benefits to the Singapore community as well as play a role in strengthening our Rotary clubs. Our goals are to be vibrant in community service, effective as an organization, and ensure that their ownership of it is felt by all Rotarians. In line with our recently formulated strategic plan, a task force is reviewing our objects and M&A so as to enable the restructuring of the Foundation to take place in 5-6 months' time. Another task force has been set up to look into the feasibility of establishing a nursing home which could be an iconic project involving all Rotary clubs in Singapore.

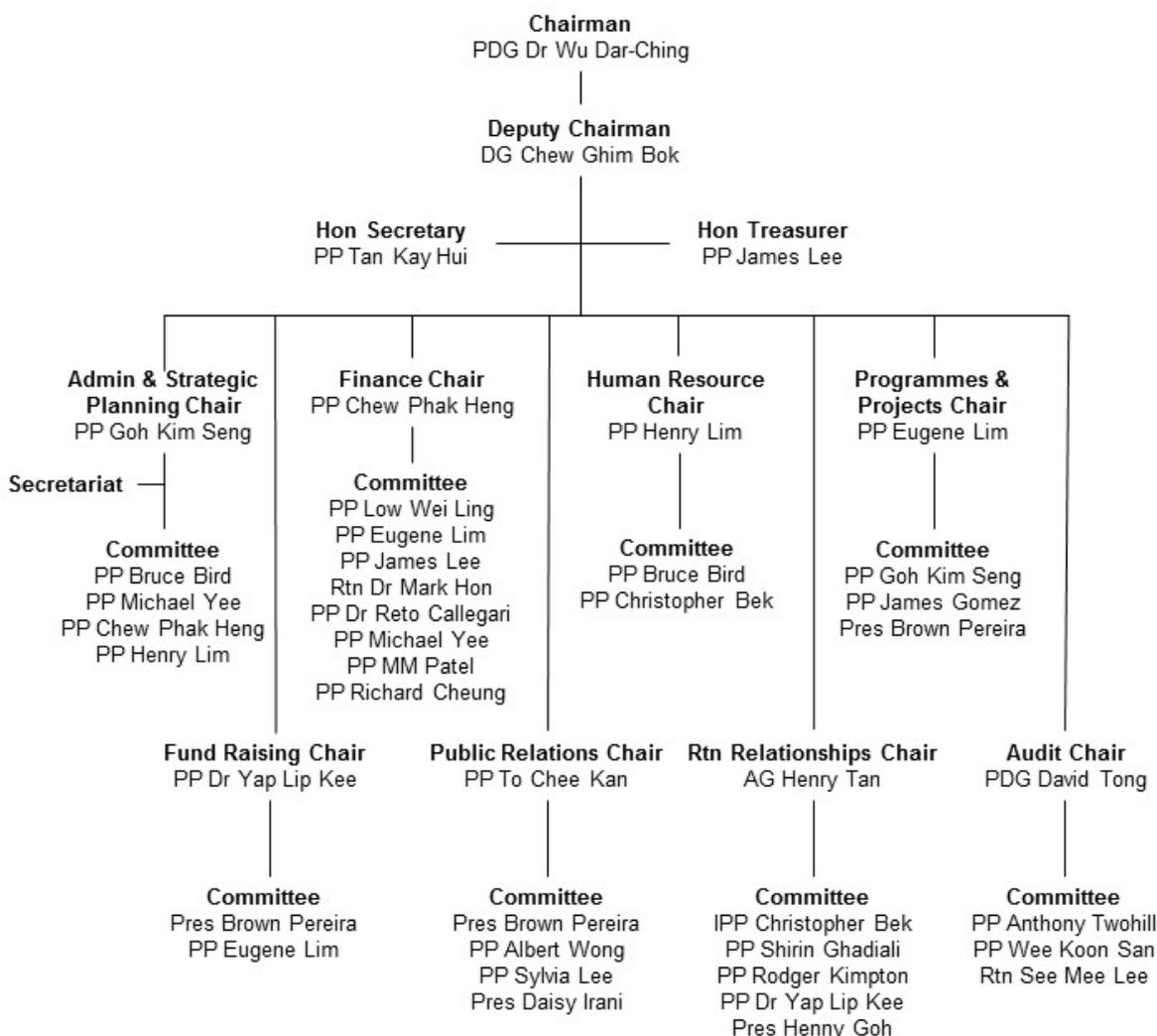
Our Chairman Dr Wu Dar Ching stressed the need for us to engage our Rotary clubs in the work of the Foundation and to work with and through them instead of duplicating

what they can do by themselves. We need to adopt a relationships approach with our Rotarians so as to gain their trust and collaboration in achieving a synergy of all our efforts in serving our Singapore community.

In the interim period before the Foundation is formally restructured we will begin aligning our infrastructure and processes in line with the restructuring proposals. Dr Wu has set up eight working committees as a prelude to the restructuring exercise:

These committees will comprise Rotarians from the 21 Rotary Clubs in Singapore and each committee will headed by a member of the Foundation's Board of Directors. Each committee will set its own terms of reference, formulate long/short term plans and report periodically to the BOD on its implementation progress.

### FRCS Organisation Chart



Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2013

Vision: An organisation for Rotary Clubs to better serve the community		
Mission: Be a unifying force for the growth of Rotary Clubs in Singapore		
Strategy Map	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Projects
Beneficiaries & Public 	1. Launch an iconic Rotary project	1. Iconic Rotary Project
	2. Enhance Rotary Image	2. Book on Rotary in Singapore 3. Long –term PR programme 4. Annual Symposium
	3. Increase Rotarian commitment	5. Rotarian Behavioral Standards 6. Friends of Rotary
Rotarians & Clubs 	4. Develop Rotary Clubs	7. Membership Rejuvenation 8. Interclub meetings 9. Club Strategic Plan 10. Club Performance Framework
	5. Synergise Rotary resources	11. Shared resources 12. 3P Club Leadership Team 13. Strategic Partnerships 14. Rotary House
FRCS & District 3310 	6. Improve Rotary Communication	15. Interclub Special Interest Activities 16. New Media Learning
	7. Establish Fundraising Guidelines	17. Fundraising Guidelines
	8. Restructure FRCS	18. Restructure FRCS

FRCS's Strategic Plan was formulated towards the end of 2013. It resulted from the active participation of some 50 senior Rotarians, from practically all the Rotary Clubs in Singapore. This included two 1-day retreats, six task forces, two surveys and numerous interviews and discussions with individual and groups of Rotarians on a wide range of critical issues and concerns. The resulting Strategic Plan 2013 was documented in the Final Report dated 4 Nov 2013.

The ultimate object of FRCS is to provide humanitarian services to our community. One key clarification of the strategic planning exercise is that FRCS should not duplicate what individual Rotary clubs can do themselves. Particularly, as an Institution of Public Character (IPC), it should serve as the umbrella organisation for joint projects with individual Rotary clubs or groups of Rotary clubs or major projects involving all Rotary clubs in Singapore.

This include the identification of 18 strategic projects to facilitate implementation of the Strategic Plan. The implementation of the Strategic Plan will be carried out largely via the eight working committees set up by Chairman PDG Dr Wu Dar-Ching to operate FRCS (see organisation chart on page 2).

In addition PDG Dr Wu himself chairs two on-going project committees (1) Restructure of FRSC and (2) Proposed Nursing Home (as an iconic project). These two major projects were mooted even before the strategic planning exercise was embarked upon and have been incorporated into the Strategic Plan.



Some participants at Strategic Planning Retreat 11 May 2013



In 2011, a total of 18,000 deaths were recorded by the Ministry of Health. Of these deaths, an estimated 1,800 were individuals from low-income households. In other words, 150 needy families are affected each month by the passing of a loved one. For these families, there is no denying that life will never be the same and the hardships will continue long after the death of the loved one.

- ❖ Consider the cancer-stricken mother from an abusive relationship who is single-handedly raising her two young children—what comfort can be offered to ease her anxieties about the future of her offspring as she endures the last few months of her life?
- ❖ Imagine a hardworking adult son, the only child and sole breadwinner in his family, who has been diagnosed with a terminal illness and given less than one year to live—what worries plague him as he agonizes over the fate of his elderly parents?
- ❖ Now take a moment to weigh the gravity of fear by a husband who, despite his life-threatening illness, continues his best to be the loving caregiver and companion to his disabled wife—what uncertainties battle for his attention as he deteriorates day by day in his fight against cancer?

The Rotary Wish Project was initiated in 2008 to grant meaningful wishes to terminally-ill adult patients from low-income households. The beneficiaries are referred to the Rotary Wish Project by their medical social workers and healthcare providers from hospitals and hospices across Singapore. Many of the beneficiaries are sole breadwinners from destitute families and their passing on often creates desperate situations for their families. The Rotary Wish Project aims to fulfil the dying wishes of the beneficiaries with the hopes of bringing joy and forging lasting memories for them and their family members, even if only for one day. Since the inception of the Rotary Wish Project, more than 100 underprivileged adults with a terminal illness have been granted their final wishes. As the only fund which helps to make reality the wishes of the needy and dying, the Rotary Wish Project is embracing an invisible section of society that continues to remain within the gap of existing services currently covered by governmental and charity organizations in Singapore.

In order to sustain the Rotary Wish Project, a highly-anticipated and distinctive fundraising event will be held in July 2014. Proceeds from the fundraising event will benefit future recipients of the Rotary Wish Project, thus making possible the continuity of this one-of-a-kind community service initiative.

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*“It was Jeffrey’s desire to have a family portrait once every five years since his diagnosis of cancer in year 2000. In Sept 2009, my family was due to have another portrait. However, Jeffrey refused because he felt ugly with feeding tubes sticking out of his nose. As Jeffrey’s condition worsened, I wanted all the more to get this ‘wish’ done, especially for the kids to cherish and remember their last days with their dad. My family is totally grateful to ‘My Wish’ Project which made this possible. Jeffrey died after a week of viewing the photos. He was totally happy with the pictures.”*

A thank you note submitted on behalf of Jeffrey’s family by HCA Hospice Care