



Service Above Self

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One Profits Most Who Serves Best

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# The Christmas-tide of Shanghai Rotary Club Project "Toys Hospital" in 1930s-40s

- Herbert K. Lau (劉敬恒), Rotary China Historian

It is the tradition of Shanghai Rotary Club to distribute Christmas packs to children, since the Club's inception in 1919. Toys gift is always the popular item to children during the year end festive seasons.

In Christmas 1932, Shanghai Rotary Club initiated a gift program for children – Project "Toys Hospital". The Club collected thousands of discarded toys through the co-operation of local newspapers, and rehabilitated for distribution among unfortunate children of the city.

Never was there a merrier institution than the "Toys Hospital" operated again in 1934 by members of Shanghai Rotary Club. Through the help of local newspapers, discarded playthings and broken toys were gathered at various receiving depots throughout the city, then rush to the "Toys Hospital" for surgical treatment. Thus more than 5,000 toys in good condition were distributed to children in various institutions in Shanghai at Christmas time. In Christmas 1935, Shanghai Rotarians distributed more than 8,000 toys to poor children.

Marvelous in 1936, the program called for an even greater number. To increase the number of contributions, Shanghai Rotarians held a needlework and general handwork competition for children in connection with a Better Home Exhibition staged in late November. Rules called for a gift of one worn or broken toy with each entry, so that children not interested in needlework might also compete. A poster competition with the same provisions for entry was also held.

The outbreak of Second Sino-Japanese War in July 1937 made most of the cities in north and central China suffering in battles. The "Toys Hospital" project in Shanghai was still carried on, amongst many of the heavy services shouldered such as war refugees relief, wounded medical supports, etc., of which Shanghai Rotary Club was the central command depot, liaising Rotary International and the Red Cross International, for all other clubs across the country.

In Christmas 1940, R. O. Scott was the Project Chair. He recorded about 6,000 toys were annually repaired by the "Toys Hospital" and were distributed.

Before Christmas 1941, the Shanghai International Settlement was stormed in by the Imperial Japanese forces due to the outbreak of the Pacific War. However, some 22 institutions were remembered by the Shanghai Rotary Club in addition to its "Toys Hospital" which was strived to survive in the hard time. The Project was, unfortunately, not feasible to carry on in the next years because the normal Rotary services were interrupted by the Japanese military control.





Date	Topic/Speaker	Venue/Time
December 26 <sup>th</sup>	Semi Fellowship	Shanghai Bistro @ 3/F, Marriott City Center, 19:00
January 2nd	Cancelled	No meeting
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Moving your Business to the Cloud: Do the Benefits Outweigh the Costs – Reto Bless	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Meeting Room 1-2, Marriott City Center, 19:00
January 16 <sup>th</sup>	Club Assembly	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Meeting Room 1-2, Marriott City Center, 19:00

#### ROTARY CLUB OF SHANGHAI

### December, 19th 2017

Robert James	RC Stavanger International	Norway
Edwin Ngoi	RC Hawaii E-club	USA

14 members, 2 visiting Rotarians, 3 guests, total headcount 19 Happy Money: 2390rmb





erri Lau during classification time

#### Highlights from the last meeting

"Family" dinner meeting was not affected by low attendance and we followed our meeting traditions. The Four Way Test was led by Albert Khaoutiev, just before being inducted as new member, then Rtn. Eckhard Zink helped introducing visiting Rotarians and guests.

Classification time of the night was dedicated to our sweet Terri Lau. She told us about her family, quite big family, and about her studies in Canada and very first working period until she founded Asian Tigers, international relocation company first in Beijing over 20 years ago. This was a big challenge especially due to the high expectations by customers, agents and even having to deal with Government and different offices including customs where she often has to deal with people who do not understand customer needs. She told us about how she got in contact with Community and Charity activities the very first time in Hong Kong and how she approached Rotary when there were not many ladies in Clubs.

This was a night with 2 clue moments: new members' induction and speech.

Albert Khaoutiev, sponsor Diane, and Jonathan Ortelli, sponsor Tiziana, were inducted by Chair or Membership Committee and pinned by President Moto-san.

After induction, it was time for saddle ran by Secretary Michelle and Eckhard. Despite low attendance, generosity was at his maximum exponent thanks also to our speaker Mr Zhao kind donation, a wonderful and genuine Xmas fruit basket.

Speech time saw Qun Zhao presentation about the possibility of eating safely and healthily in Shanghai. We all know about several troubles especially about fish, milk and vegetables and solutions are possible, however some are expensive. Qun told us about why often these solutions are expensive, most of the time due to inefficiency or too numerous middlemen. His company, FreshFresh, is willing to provide affordable alternatives by high quality products.

We ended our meeting by our traditional toast offered by President Moto-san.





#### ROTARY CLUB OF SHANGHAI

Of the series "Rotarians never rest"

Charity event, 2018-19 Board training or team building?



Christmas is a practice day. Men put into practice the best precepts that they have learned, the best that they know, the best that it is possible for them ever to know. Giving takes the place of gaining. If the future growth of Rotary is as remarkable as its past and if Rotary remains true to its highest ideals, every day will be Christmas by and by.

> - Paul Harris, President Emeritus

FITHEARTS

FITHEARTS





# To:



\* In green color other relevant monthly club events

# **Club Information**

#### **Contacts & Meetings**

The club meeting is a dinner meeting (by invitation only) every Tuesday at the: Marriott City Center No. 555 Middle Xizang Rd, Shanghai 上海雅居乐万豪酒店, 中国 上海 黄浦区西藏中路 555 号 18:30 cocktails, 19:00-20:30 dinner For details, contact the club administrator Vivian Huang at rsvp@rotaryshanghai.org, +86 13501672753

# Our website: www.rotaryshanghai.org

#### **Officers & Boardmembers**

Motohiro Yamane – President Linnet Kwok– President Elect Alejandro Buriel – Vice President Michelle Li– Hon. Secretary Carsten Schmidt-Jochmann - Treasurer Andrew Hill - IPP David Smith Eckhard Zink Frank Mulligan Tracy Hua Terri Lau

### **Basic Info of our Club**

First chartered on 1 October 1919, re-chartered on 8 February 2006

Number of active Members - 71

Number of Honorary Members - 6

#### **Committees and Directors**

**Club Administration Committee** Chair: Linnet Kwok, clubadministrator@rotaryshanghai.org Membership Committee Chair: Terri Lau, membership@rotaryshanghai.org Service Projects Chair: Rita Malvone, service.projects@rotaryshanghai.org Youth Service Committee Chair: Ludovic Anterieur, youth.service@rotaryshanghai.org **PR Committee** Chair: Thilo Koeppe, pr@rotaryshanghai.org **Rotary Foundation** Chair: Alejandro Buriel, rotary.foundation@rotaryshanghai.org Gift of Life (GOL) Chair:Linnet Kwok, gol@rotaryshanghai.org Fellowhin Chair: Tracy Hua, fellowship@rotaryshanghai.org Pagoda: Chair: Tiziana Richiardi, tiziana.richiardi@hotmail.com

## BOD and Committees contacts

Club President Motohiro Yamane: clubpresident@rotaryshanghai.org Vice President Alejandro Buriel: clubvp@rotaryshanghai.org Secretary Michelle Li: clubsecretary@rotaryshanghai.org Treasurer Carsten Schmidt-Jochmann : finance@rotaryshanghai.org Library Project Chair: Andrew Hill , library.project@rotaryshanghai.org **KBD** Project Chair: Michel De Vriendt, kashin.beck@rotaryshanghai.org Inclusion Factory Chair: Thilo Koeppe , inclusion.factory@rotaryshanghai.org RSVP Chair: Vivian Huang, rsvp@rotaryshanghai.org

Rotary Club of Shanghai West Wednesday ,18:30-20:30 Location: Shanghai Pullman Hotel 位置: 上海中星鉑爾曼酒店 Address: No. 1 Pubei Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai 上海徐汇区浦北路1号 For more information please contact President Evan Huang Email: evan\_huang@dhmedical.com.cn

Fresh Start Rotary Club of Shanghai Friday, 7:45-9:00 am Location: Naked Hub Address : *5/F, 89 Taixing Lu, near Nanjing Xi Lu* 地址: *请带我去泰兴路*89*号5楼, 近南京西路* For more information about Fresh Start and for anyone interested to attend, please visit <u>http://freshstartrotaryshanghai.org/</u> Email: <u>tobikars@gmail.com</u>

Rotary Club of Shanghai Pudong Lujiazui Thursday, 19:00-20:30 Location: Grand Kempinski Hotel, ,Shanghai上海凯宾斯基大酒店 1288 Lujiazui Ring Road, Pudong New Area 浦东新区陆家嘴环路1288号 For more information, please contact Secretary Michaela Schmidt Email: <u>secretary@rotarylujiazui.com</u> Website: <u>www.rotarylujiazui.com</u>

