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## Rotary on Samui January 2023

Dear <<First Name>>

It was a busy and productive 2022 for the Rotary Club so we decided to catch our breath and give you an overview of all we have achieved in the past year.

What are your resolutions for 2023? If they include sharing your good fortune with others less fortunate than yourself then look no further than getting involved with your local Rotary Club and help us deliver focused timely support to the most needy in our community.

Come find out more at our next Meet-and-Greet get together at the NEW date and time **(this month only) Saturday 21 January 12:00 midday at the usual venue Sea Sun Cafe & Restaurant.**

***Everyone welcome***

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## Food 4 Life

This emergency relief program was started as a result of the collapse of international tourism caused by the Covid pandemic. On an island so heavily dependent on tourism tens of thousands of people suddenly found themselves without the means to earn a living. Many returned to family on the mainland but those with nowhere else to go faced a dire situation.

We are immensely grateful and humbled by all the donations we received large

and small from people around the world and in total raised over one million Thai Baht (over 30,000 USD). Special thanks goes to:-

[Paddy Doyle and supporters of his adventures in Thailand You Tube](#)

[Flora and Note and supporters of their adventures You Tube](#)

[Rotary Club of Northlakes Toukley, Australia](#)

[Rotary Club of Palo Alto, USA](#)

Nearly 400 5kg bags of rice were distributed every month last year (an incredible 24,000 kg!) together with other essential provisions like instant noodles, cooking oil and tins of sardines. Two distributions each week making 104 deliveries in 2022. None of this would have been possible without the dedication, strong arms and sturdy wheels of Brent from [Trash Heroes Samui](#)

We are happy to report that this program is now closed as tourism is slowly but steadily improving.





## Defibs 4 Samui

In April 2022 we became aware that there was a lack of Defibrillators (AEDs) in public service emergency vehicles. This small but essential piece of equipment can increase survival rate from a heart attack to over 70% when used in conjunction with CPR.

In June we started our new campaign to fundraise for the Heartsine Samaritan PAD 350P AED which is fully maintained in Thailand and comes with dual language support. Last year we were able to donate 4 Defibs with the generous support of the following:-

[Conrad Properties](#) - Setting the standard for Koh Samui Property

[Asajan Festival](#) - Nourishing Mind, Body, and Soul.

[Live Play Work](#) - Veteran & Family Non-Profit Community Organisation

Vicki Spencer-Francis - kind hearted supporter of Rotary, Samui and Thailand

One more Defib is on its way. Another 5 are needed for Koh Samui and Koh Phangan. Each defib costs 40,000 THB (approx. 1,200 USD) If you would like to have a defib dedicated to you, a loved one or your business please get in touch.



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## Community Outreach Service

In 2022 we were able to reach out to more families and individuals who have particular challenging life circumstances. Once again only made possible by the kind donations from resorts like [Chi Samui](#), Rotary Clubs and individual supporters on Samui and around the world.

While Samui is a wonderful place to live and visit, specialist medical treatment is hard to find for people with special needs like down's syndrome, epilepsy or brittle bone disorder. Together with Rotarian Mira Beer and her team at [Smile Coconut Healthcare](#) we continue to find the best possible solutions whether treatment on Samui or travel to Bangkok or elsewhere.





## Support 4 Autism Project

Covid restrictions ebbed and flowed with the tide throughout 2022 but for most of this time small groups of children were allowed to gather in well ventilated and outdoor environments. The Learning Center for Magical Autistic Children and the Rotary Club were able to continue supporting the special needs children and their families.

Rotary extends in heartfelt thanks to all the resorts who (while suffering from lack of tourism) were still willing to welcome and host the children with use of pool and playground activities and lunch. Too many to mention but include [Royal Beach Samui](#) , [U Samui](#), [Tembo Beach Club](#) , [Shiva Samui Beach Club](#) , [Chi Samui](#) , [Lanna Samui](#) , [Melia Koh Samui](#) and [Kimpton Kitalay](#)

Rotary began its Support4Autism Project in 2020 but has been organising weekly swimming pool sessions since 2018. In 2022 we expanded our support - thanks to kind donations and Rotarians time - to help with staff expenses; daily art activities; children's transportation and daily lunches. We are looking forward to 2023 with new support and collaboration from [Windfield International School](#)





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## Our Next Meet-and-Greet-and-Eat

**Saturday 21 January at 12:00 Midday**

*Special day and time for January*

Same venue Sea Sun Cafe, next to Big Buddha Temple. We talk a little about our current projects and ways to help in the future.

Delicious food at reasonable prices + your chance to hear about our current and future plans. Visitors and residents alike - everyone is very welcome.

February Meet-and-Greet (and Eat)

*Back to usual date and time*

3rd Tuesday of the month will be 21 Feb from 5-7pm





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## Why Donate To Us?

Rotary Club members live and breath and work and play on these islands. We know the local environment the local people and the socio-economic conditions. Our projects are timely and focused – we make the maximum impact every time. And remember 100% of your donation goes directly to our projects. All administration costs are covered by Rotary membership fees.

We are happy to accept donations for a specific project or a specific item of expenditure within a project. Please email us to discuss.

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### Key Dates in the History of Rotary Thailand

**1930** First Rotary Club established in Bangkok **1955** H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, graciously consented to become the Royal Patron of Rotary Thailand **1980** Golden Anniversary 50 years of the Rotary Thailand. Their Majesties King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit presided over the function. **1990** H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn attends to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Rotary Thailand and becomes an Honorary Member of RC Bangkok. **2018** Rotary Club of Samui-Phangan joins the worldwide Rotary family - one of 360 clubs in Thailand

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