

CV OF PP ROBIN TAY

PP Robin Tay joined Rotary in 1986. Became President in 2009 after 23 years of service in Rotary.

Robin is active in the District. Served as District Rotaract Chairman, District End Polio Chairman, District Fund Raising Chair for Walk/ Jog/ Run/ Wheel - A - Thon which was just concluded yesterday at Padang Merbok, KL.

Since he joined, Polio Plus (it was known then) was already one of Rotary International most prominent humanitarian projects. It was due to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the US \$200,000 Challenge in RY 2009 that inspired me to do something extraordinary in the name to end polio.

The birth of the 1st Rotary Walks To End Polio was from Alor Setar to Kuala Lumpur in 15 days. It was initiated by 3 Presidents and 3 Friends of Rotary. Then at mid-way, 1 Past President and 15 Rotaractors from D3310 participated for 6 days and they walk vigorously from Penang to Ipoh during Christmas Eve.

On the last of the walk, it was graciously joined by many Rotarians and Rotaractors who have walked more than 20km from Sri Hartamas to Sheraton Hotel, Subang, where the RI D3300 District Conference was held. A total of US\$30,000 was raised for End Polio.

In RY 2010, the 2nd Rotary Walks To End Polio, was from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore in 11 days. This time 3 Past Presidents together with 17 Rotaractors from National University of Singapura took part. The walk was very adventurous and most memorable till today. This walk raised US\$100,000.

In conjunction with the Rotary International Convention in Bangkok in RY 2012, due the inundated great flood which hit Northern Thailand and Bangkok badly during the months of October 2011 until January 2012, the 3rd Walk which was supposed to be from Ayutthiya (The Ancient City of Thailand) to Bangkok didn't materialised.

Instead, the Trans Sabah - Walk from Sandakan to Kundasang, 8 days of walk then climb Mt. Kinabalu and then down the gunung and walked again to Kota Kinabalu was carried out. Those 11 days of more than 500km walk and climb was indeed a real endurance challenge to a human body and spirit.

7 Past Presidents and an ex-Rotaractor took the challenge and only two Rotarians made it to the end. One vomited profusely on the 2nd Day and another was suspected to have a mild stroke on the 3rd Day. Anyway, this didn't deter the rest of the walkers to stop. Nevertheless, at the finish line at Jesselton Pier more than 500 Rotarians, Rotaractors, Friends of Rotary, Family Members and etc graciously came and join in the walk and with their untiring effort, they raised US\$100,000 at the opening of RI D3310 District Conference held at Sutera Harbour, KK.

In total to-date, these 3 walks have raised US\$230,000 for RI End Polio to match Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Well, in conclusion, if everything goes well as planned, the 4th Rotary Walks To End Polio will begin from 3rd May to 13th May 2014. This walking expedition will start from Singapore to Johor Bahru, then to Kota Tinggi, to Mersing, to Endau connecting to Rompin to Pekan then to finish line at Kuantan. A total of 10 days 350km walk with one rest day along the nice white sandy beaches along the East Coast.