



CHARTERED
MAY 18, 1993
ID 29469

INAUGURATED
APRIL 8, 1993



A monthly bulletin of Rotary Club of
Madras Chenna Patna, RI District 3232

For Private Circulation only

Issue No. 6

1st DECEMBER, 2020

Pattinathars go for 'Nuts' during Diwali

Pattinathars beg to differ from others when it wants to celebrate an event. This time Deepavali was no different. The club decided to celebrate it in style, even though there was no social gathering.

Crackers were strict no, as it would pollute the environment and make difficult to breathe in times of Covid-19. Instead sweets and dry fruits were preferred to be home delivered.

The Club Service team of Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna sprang a surprise during this diwali by sending a gift hamper to its members one week in advance.

What was initially thought as a simple idea transformed into a 'bright' spot, with the club members getting appreciation from all the quarters starting from the District Governor S. Muthupalaniappan.

"It is not a project. But, you can call it a project as none of the other clubs have done it. Though, we had collected subscription from our members for the first half of the Rotary Year, it was not used. For the last few months, there were hardly any expenses. So, it was decided a portion of it, can be used for serving our members," says President B. Chakravarthy.



Do You Know

Now you can access our meetings through Zoom and Facebook. Our last two zoom meetings was attended by over 1200 people via FB.

Please do visit our website for latest updates and also feel free to make suggestions.

rotarymadraschennapatna.org

Club Service Director Paresh Khatri, who is a very good organiser, sought a budget of about Rs.40,000 to purchase and distribute gift hampers. The gift hamper came in a jute bag with the club name typed on it. It consisted one packet each of cashew, badam, pista and kaju burfi.

DG Muthupalaniappan, who appreciated the novel idea, was our first customer. The Club did not stop at it. It went a step further and utilised the services of Mr. Prasad, a former part-time employee at DG's office and now rendered un-employed due to Covid. He was more than willing to do it as he wanted to meet all the members using this as an excuse. We also borrowed the Club's idea and then started distributing similar packs in our neighbourhood.

Making pastries is a Cake Walk for Ann Egnitha

Making pastries is just like a cake walk for our Ann Egnitha Guhaprakash. What started as an hobby during her college days has now turned out to be a permanent fixture. She likes making pastries like a PRO with ease and has earned the appreciation of Rotarians, Anns, Annettes and their friends.

Since mid-March 2020, Covid not only crippled our daily activities sans travelling. It also meant that we cannot meet people in person. This led to significant drop in attendance during the weekly meetings on Zoom platform and also widened the gap between friends, due to absence of socialising.

President B. Chakravarthy and the club service team decided to do something different to keep the flock together. This gave birth to sending home-made cake to Rotarian on their birthdays. **Cake pictures are displayed in birthday section.**

When approached by the club service team, Ann Egnitha immediately agreed to the proposal. Since July 2020, she personally baked nearly 20 cakes.

"To maintain uniformity, I prepared chocolate cakes that was similar in shape and taste. It was liked by all. At the time of cake cutting, the Rotarians posed with the cake and later posted it on our Whatsapp group. Since then, my popularity has gone up by several notches," says Ann Egnitha.

Madras Chenna Patna used to celebrate birthdays of Rotarians, Anns and Annettes, if there was a meeting. "But, we wanted to be different, as we are not meeting for months together. This is our way of honouring them," says Chakravarthy. Next in the line would be sending cakes to Anns and Annettes.



Noble deeds by Pattinathars pay dividend



'We Can Change' an NGO helped two physically challenged persons by donating used wheelchairs of Rs.9,000. Our past president **K. Vallekkannu** personally contributed for this project. Janakiraman and Ravi are the beneficiaries. Want to help persons with spinal problems, please visit vcanchange.com or call 98846 08164.



Kachaleeswarar Tank Temple, which was cleaned, by Vishy and his friends is getting fast filled up due to cyclone Nivar.

Super Singers pay tribute to 'Paadum Nila'

November 22 was an important day as Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna along with Connemara and Chola clubs paid rich tributes to legendary singer SPB, who enthralled for more than five decades.

The invocation was sung by the FMLR Chairman Rtn Giridharan of Madras West club. About 16 hand picked songs were sung by Ann Sasibanu, Annette Aarthi from our club along with Rtn Ilankumaran (Midtown), Rtn Ramakrishnan (Madras Industrial City), Rtn Sai Krishna (Nort West), Rtn Nandhini (Info City) and Ann Srimathi (ERA). All the songs touched the heart and souls of 50-odd viewers on Zoom and 580 on FB platform.

Our President Chakravarthy welcomed the audience and the singers and vote of thanks was proposed by Connemara Club President. Your's truly compared the entire event. SPB has left us physically, but the songs rendered by him will remain in this earth and our hear forever.

G Prabhakar





Rotaract/Interact Events

Ethiraj Rotaract donates sanitary pads



The Rotaract Club of Ethiraj College for Women distributed 52 organic sanitary pads to girls at Christ Faith Home, Megha Foundation and Good Life Centre for a year under its Project "Aval - Phase 2". "Periods are not too gross, too weird or too inappropriate to talk about," said Rotaract President N. Nandini.

"We have successfully brought light upon the taboo of girls vs periods. This act of giving has given them the strength and power to achieve great heights. It is really a sad fact that poor cannot afford hygiene. Project Aval gave voice to the needy."

A sum of Rs.30,000 was raised through awareness posters and video from August 15 to October 2020. The amount raised was used for sending a year's worth supply of sanitary napkins made out of bamboo for girls in orphanages.





Sister Club News

Aireborough aids South African school



On hearing about arsonists causing a devastating fire in a South African village housing a secondary school, the Aireborough Club immediately swung into action. A survey defined a need for school uniforms, food parcels, blankets and building materials for housing repairs and rebuilds. Aireborough made an initial donation adding to generous contribution and memorabilia auction organised by the Bambisanani project's founder David Geldart raising £4175.



Aireborough gets Silver Citation from Mark



Aireborough Rotary has been awarded the Rotary Citation (Silver) for RY 2019-20 by its International President Mark Maloney. It was one of only 17 in a Rotary District made up of 100 Clubs. To achieve it the Club had to choose from 18 challenging goals under two headings of 'Unite People' and 'Take Action' and complete the required number.

In all, Club members took on 39 different projects. Some of these were regular items like the Brass Band Concert, the Beer Festival, filling and sending off 24 Aquaboxes, Sal's Shoes and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The Club also reacted to the pandemic involving itself in the provision of PPE. The first batch of masks were delivered to Aireborough Voluntary Services for Elderly people. Older People's Action in the Locality, the staff of Aireborough Children's Services and the Horsforth Live at Home scheme.

Raj Mani to be President till December 2021

At a recent Zoomed Special General Meeting Raj Mani was confirmed as Club President of Aireborough until December 2021. He will be succeeded by President Elect John Kitching with an 18-month term and Geoff Bartrum for 12 months period respectively.



Rotary Open Opportunities even during Covid

RI President

Corner



As I look back on 2020, I reflect on how our lives have changed. The global COVID-19 pandemic brought pain and loss to many of us. And for almost all of us, our daily lives, family time, and work also changed this year. But we've made it to the end of this difficult year, not on our own but by reaching out to one another, as we always do in Rotary. With each passing year, I become prouder of our organization.

I will choose to remember 2020 as a year of great change and strength for us; Rotary didn't stop, despite the pandemic. We removed obstacles, found new ways to connect, and embraced new approaches to service, such as online projects and virtual fundraising. Two Rotarians tell how Rotary grew stronger.

When the pandemic shut everything down, our emerging e-club was already providing digital service, including internationally. Fourteen U.S. women and I, members of multiple Rotary clubs, were using WhatsApp to mentor women entrepreneurs in rural Costa Rica, helping them to grow their ecotourism business, RETUS Tours [the subject of the magazine's May cover story, "Nature & Nurture"].

The project has grown, with 30 Rotarians now providing consulting and help with the RETUS website and social media. Most importantly, we continue building relationships and empowering these women to transform their own lives, and we are doing it online. I've even helped one of the women, Rosa, prepare a presentation in English for an online international conference. While our engagement with the Costa Rican women still requires some hands-on activity, the most transformative impacts haven't had to be in person.— Liza Larson, Rotary E-Club Engage and Rotary Club of Plano East, Texas.

I was president of my club when COVID-19 hit, and many members didn't yet have Zoom.

Only 10 of our 53 members participated in the first Zoom meeting during the pandemic.

I thought that reaching out and getting guest speakers from around the world to engage our members would help. Many Rotary leaders, a Rotary Peace Fellow, and even RI President Holger Knaack visited virtually and spoke to our club. Meeting attendance improved, while we reduced running costs by cutting out meals. Some members who worked outside our city and had missed our meetings even rejoined us. Registering our online meetings on My Rotary enhanced contacts with clubs across the world, and the joint meeting addressed by Holger attracted more than 300 visitors.

We also raised more funds as members and visitors contributed to our projects. To continue being flexible for all, we are now offering hybrid meetings. For me, 2020 has been the best year in Rotary as I've made many new friends.— **Blessing Michael, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt North, Nigeria.**

These stories should give us all reasons to be optimistic about Rotary in the year ahead. We are not just surviving; we are gaining strength. We are discovering how resilient our organization truly is. We are seeing for ourselves how Rotary Opens Opportunities — even during pandemics — to grow, connect, and engage our members and the communities we serve. From our home in Ratzeburg to yours, Susanne and I would like to bid you and your family the warmest of season's greetings. We can't wait to see the good things that 2021 will bring.

PHF Rtn. B. Chakravarthy
President

PHF Rtn. B. Suryabaskar
Immediate Past President

Rtn. Senthnan Amuthan
President Elect

Rtn. Dr. T.R. Udaya Kumar
Secretary

Rtn. Paresh Khatri
Director Club Service

PHF Rtn. K. Sathyanarayanan
Treasurer - Admin

Rtn. B. Rajkumar
Treasurer - Trust

Rtn. Vidya Alagu Perumal
Dir. Community Service (Health) &
Chairman - Operation Daybreak

Rtn. S. Karthikeyan
Director Community Service (Dev.)

Rtn. Dr. Ani Grace Kalaimathi
Chairman iBreast, Tebrau Heart
Surgery and Special Projects

PHF Rtn. K.N. Ramanathan
Director Youth Service

PHF Rtn. R. Dileep Kumar
Director Vocational Service

Rtn. N. Anand
Director International Service

PHF Rtn. Praveen Mehra
Public Image

PHF Rtn PL. Muthiah
Chair Project Orange & Micro Loan

Chennapathra
PHF Rtn. Senthnan Amuthan
Rtn. N. Anand
PHF Rtn. K.N. Ramanathan

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

03-12-2020: First Speaker Meeting

08-12-2020: Board Meeting

19-12-2020: Annual General Meeting

BIRTHDAYS

Rtn Ganesh	05
Annette Viharika D/o. Rtn Suryabasker	07
Rtn Paresh Khatri	08
Rtn Anand	11
Rtn Mutiah	14
Annette Dhanalakshmi D/o. Rtn Surendra	22
Annette Deivanai D/o. Rtn Mutiah	26
Annette Ananya D/o. Rtn Shankar	26
Ann Umashankari W/o. Rtn Satya	27
Gurusamy Spouse Rtn Dhanalakshmi	28
Ann Vidya W/o. Rtn Vishwanathkrishnan	30
Annette Veer S/o. Rtn Deepak Pungaliya	30



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Rtn Suryabasker & Ann Geetha 17



Follow us on



rotaryclubofmadraschennapatna



youtube



madras_chenna_patna



m@chennapathra

Please visit our website:

www.rotarymadraschennapatna.org