



## Installation of President **RTN. VIDYA**

We are 30, it's time to party!!

Although the club of RC Madras Chenna Patna is 30, it's still a baby to its members who continue to nurture it lovingly through the years. The past few months have seen the club go through a re-birth of sorts with a tough labour but finally, a peaceful delivery:) With the post of President-Elect falling vacant just a few weeks before the new Rotary year started, it was time for the club to rally around the chosen new President Elect - Rtn. Vidya Alagu Perumal who had graciously accepted the post at such short notice.

The installation of the 30th President of the club was an elegantly arranged high tea at Hotel The Rain Tree Hotel at Alwarpet. Hosted ably by Ann Sukanya Sriram and Ann Egnitha GuhaPrakash, with a commendable show of strength by the high attendance of the club members, Anns, Annettes, Rotaractors, members from the Inner Wheel organisation and Rotarians from other clubs, the installation was marked by the presence of a host of dignitaries from the District starting with the new District Governor Rtn. Dr. Nanda Kumar who was the chief guest for the event.

Following a sincerely rendered invocation by Annett. Kavya, it was a bitter-sweet moment for Rtn. Amuthan who was collared for the last time at the commencement of the installation. Starting with his trademark, "Happy Evening", he gave a presentation on the achievements of the club over the last year. Emphasizing on the ibreast project Mellinam, which started in Feb 2022 under his term, he reported that 6000 of the proposed 14000 under-privileged women were already screened painlessly and non-intrusively using the hand-held technology developed by UE Life Sciences. He was also especially proud of the FTTLR- Fellowship of Table Tennis Loving Rotarians that was launched to much fanfare and participation, putting the club front and centre on the social map of District 3232. A video showcasing the work done by the club as well as the fellowships it had undertaken over 2021-22 was presented.

Rtn. Ram Kevalur was called upon to introduce the 3rd woman President in the club's history and he did so in his inimitable light-hearted style of mixing facts with humour and wit. Ram spent time focusing on Vidya's qualities of perseverance to forge ahead in difficult times and ability to make things happen with a smile which will hold her in good stead in her new leadership role. He thanked her on the club's behalf for accepting the role of "Immediate Present President" with a very practical approach.

Following the introduction, the incoming President was collared and charter handed over to the incoming secretary Rtn. Guha Prakash. President Vidya thanked the club for giving her the opportunity and trusting her ability to lead. For someone who was thinking they would be Secretary to suddenly taking up the mantle of President, she said she has it in her to rise to the challenge and take the club through a fantastic year of fellowships and service-related projects. She specially thanked her husband and daughter - Moksha for being her two pillars of strength and always encouraging her to reach for greater heights. She introduced her new Board and Chairpersons through a video along with a team of Anns who will be putting together the Chennai Patra - the monthly newsletter of the club. It is for the first time that an all-women team will be publishing the Chennai Patra in Madras Chenna Patna's 30-year history.

District Governor Rtn. Dr. Nanda Kumar, in his address, gave a delightful story of a lateral entrant in college, who much to the amazement of the rest of the students, turned out to be the best in class and he said Vidya too would be the best. He asked the members to rally around the incoming President and make sure her year is one of the most successful, especially given the circumstances under which she took up this role. He elaborated on the vision for the District for the upcoming year which was centred around the health and well-being of women and early cancer detection.

Ann Gomathi Mohan Sidhan won the slogan competition to commemorate the 30th year of the club, which was succinctly summed up as "30, Time to party". Club's Founding member Rtn. Hemachandrudu Garu, helped launch the Chennai Patra by handing over a copy to the District Governor Rtn. Dr. Nanda Kumar along with the editorial team followed by the vote of thanks by the new secretary Rtn. Guha Prakash. The event was marked by a double cake-cutting celebration of not only the installation of President Vidya, but also the day being the birthday of the incoming President. Now that's what is called a case of great coincidences. Hip Hip Hurray to the incoming President and her team for a glorious new year to add to the feathers in the cap of Madras Chenna Patna?!!

Deepa Mogili



# A ROCKSTAR OF A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



**T**he Rotary International President Rtn. Jennifer Jones was given no less than a royal welcome as she made a stop at the Chennai Trade Centre to address members from five districts at a town hall event on July 26<sup>th</sup>. The venue was crackling with excitement from the early afternoon with the chandi players literally drumming up the excitement levels as they practiced the percussion they would play on her arrival. Rotaractors in the hundreds, dressed in black and white were prepared with "Inspire Rotary" flags to give her a rousing reception. Swarms of ladies in the dress code of shades of green, Partners and Annettes, and gentlemen in smart blazers were busy taking group pictures and selfies to commemorate their presence at this high tea which was certainly poised to be a highlight in the Chennai Rotary calendar. Handshakes and catch ups continued over food and cups of coffee and finally the Rotary International President who had just that morning addressed the largest Rotaract club in the world at Ethiraj College which we are proud to say is Chenna Patna's Rotaract, arrived to a thunderous applause.

Ensnared within a ring of district officials and then another circle of tall bouncers in black, Rotary International President Jones was truly treated like a rockstar. Every step she took was guided and maneuvered by this entourage and she could barely see two steps ahead of her. I have to hand it to her to manage within all that commotion and maintain her composure because at that point the count of the number of people thronging around her was probably more than the whole population of her hometown of Windsor, Canada! A North American would be overwhelmed just by the sheer number of people in India and to top that this was an audience that was gathered with the sole purpose of seeing her. What I truly loved about her was while every move of hers was being photographed to the second, she too was taking photos and videos on her own phone to capture the essence of the event from her perspective. She was trying to gather information and digest what was happening around her for her own self which was commendable.

The breast cancer screening project "Mellinam" which is a flagship project of the Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna had the privilege to be one of only four projects that had been chosen to be showcased to the Rotary International President at the venue. Rtn. Ram Kevalur quickly ran through the highlights of the project with Rtn. Jennifer and her partner Rtn. Nick who were both very impressed with the work being done under its aegis. President Rtn. Vidya, Secretary Rtn. Guha, senior members Rtn. Raja Sriraam, Rtn. Prabhakar, and Rtn. Surya Bhaskar along with yours truly, Ann Deepa breathed a sigh of relief once the short presentation concluded as

we all felt we had just survived a tornado that was very close to sweeping us off our feet!

I truly appreciate the work done by Pattinathars Rtn. Rajiv Reddy and Rtn. Raj Kumar who had a most arduous task cut out for them which was to keep seats for us! It was the best to have happened considering the fact there were more than 2000 people seated already when we went in!

It was a great opportunity for green Rotarian Debashish Mohanty to witness the influence of Rotary as notes from the Canadian and Indian National anthems rang through the air along with the Tamil anthem after which each of the District Governors present were recognized along with the members of the associated Districts. I was pleasantly surprised by the statistic given by the Director of RI that though Tamil Nadu constitutes between 5-6 % of the total population of India, its contribution to the Rotary money pool in India is at 25%. A fantastic fact to illustrate the commitment towards service that is ingrained in the ethos of the State.

Renowned as a great story teller, Rtn. Jones urged every one present to tell the story of Rotary and its effectiveness to make the world better. For too long have we all stayed quiet on our achievements, she said, it's time we talk and create buzz around our work to encourage the next generation to take up the cause of Rotary and add to the Rotary roster. With a Rotaractor now allowed to stay a Rotaractor for life without any age limits placed, she encouraged Rotarians and Rotaractors to see themselves as a single unit and create a long-lasting impact together.

In keeping with the inherent qualities of being a good leader, she was honest in her answer to a question posed about what she didn't like about Rotary in India. She requested the members to not take the elections to office bearer roles in the organisation too seriously and please stop bombarding her inbox and staff with details of the same! What is important is the work we do within Rotary's ambit, she said, elections notwithstanding.

With a beautiful strand of green stones around her neck that was gifted to her by her "babies" as she referred to the District Governors present, she gave each of them a warm hug in deep gratitude in anticipation of the work she expects from this part of world and prepared herself to take the myriad photographs that would no doubt be taken now that it was time for the much-awaited photo session.

She came, she saw and she conquered:

**Deepa Mogili**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT VIDYA'S DESK...



When the day 26<sup>th</sup> July finally arrived, we Pattinathars were super excited. We made lot of painstaking effort to talk to the Rotary International President Jennifer Jones about our first mega project "Mellinam". The whole of Chennai Trade Centre was alive with music and people all around to welcome her. Suddenly there was a lot of excitement, there she was in an emerald green skirt which was a perfect fit for her. She instantly won the hearts of all with her beautiful electrifying smile. She slowly moved from one stall to another escorted by the District Governor Rtn. Dr. Nandakumar, PDG Rtn. S. Muthupalaniappan and Rotary International Secretary Rtn. A S Venkatesh. Suddenly when she was nearing our stall, Rtn. Ram called her "Jennifer" and when he mentioned the name Bill Grant, she immediately responded saying I know Bill Grant. Then she saw our banner, told her husband "Hey Nick! see its Rotary Club of Cataraqui", walked to our stall, and was all the more excited to hear about the Breast Cancer Early detection project. Both Rtn Ram and Rtn. Raja Sriraam explained to her about non-invasive and painless intervention, we have so far screened more than 6000 women. I was called near Jennifer Jones and was introduced to her as the Lady President of Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna. She congratulated and gave me a warm hand shake. I was thrilled to realize that out of thousands of Rotarians I had the opportunity to stand near her and share few moments with her, which is probably one of my best moments in Rotary. Thanks to Rotary and to Madras Chenna Patna for making my day.

As I bask in the wonderful things around me, I look forward to a year of meaningful projects, fun and fellowship!

## CONGRATULATIONS RTN SENTHAN AMUTHAN!

Happy to share that our IPP Rtn. Senthana Amuthan participated in the swimming competition held at Velachery Aquatic stadium and won three medals, 50 metres Butterfly Bronze, 100 metres Breast stroke Bronze and 200 metres Individual Medley silver. Kudos Amuthan!



## THE ANNETTES WHO MADE US PROUD....

It's that time of the year when the chicks learn to fly and leave the nests. We have two youngsters from Madras Chenna Patna flying west ward.



Annette Vikram, son of Rtn. Ganesh Janakan and Ann Sharmilie is to study Masters of Science in Management Information Systems (MSMIS) at the State University of New York at Buffalo.



Staying closer home, Annette Kavya, daughter of Rtn. Karthikeyan and Ann Revathi has just started attending the Bachelors in Fashion Technology course at the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in our very own Chennai. Be ready Pattinathars for modeling her line once she graduates in 4 years:)



Annette Moksha, daughter of President Rtn. Vidya and Partner Alagu Perumal, gets to spread her wings and soar as she pursues her second year of B.A.L.L.B at the National Law University at Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu. Her first year of the 5-year course was spent studying at home due to the pandemic.



Annette Sandeep, son of Rtn. Prabhakar and Ann Sasibhanu will be attending the Masters in Computer Science programme at the University of Syracuse in the fall of 2022.

Wishing all our young ones the very best as they step out of the comfort zone of home and take their first step into adulthood.

# NAGARESHU KANCHI..... *a trip to remember*



One tempo load of Rotarians on a trip to Kanchi  
The driver didn't know the routes well as he had just moved from Trichy  
Running a little late we thought we had to have breakfast in a hurry  
Turned out that both the driver and time were fine, we were poised to have a party:)

Regaling each other with stories on how each couple met  
The first stop of Kailashanathar temple came sooner than expected  
The guide walked us through its history with us trying to ignore the sweat...  
We didn't realise that this little town was hotter than our own hamlet!

Excellent special darshans at Ekambareshwarar and Kamakshi  
The 3500-year-old mango tree rustling in the courtyard imbibed us with good chi  
The afternoon got even better as we were visiting an extended Rotary family  
Partaking in the annadaanam and being the guests of the folks at RC of Kanchi

Gaping at the stone carved comic book like walls at Vaikunta Perumal  
And paying obeisance to Chitrugupta were we all!  
Watching the weavers at Kanchi had us in thrall  
Glad I ended up buying a saree as a memento, albeit small:)

Moksha's star birthday and what better reason than to celebrate  
There was ice cream cake alongside a competition of which brand of chips was great  
With the first trip done the President was ready with fellowships to ideate  
As fun and camaraderie is to all Rotarians innate!

(one of Deepa Mogili's blogs that caught my eye.....Ed)





RAMAJAYAM –

A 'RARIN G TO GO' ROTARIAN



"Behind every good club is a great treasurer".

This year Madras Chenna Patna is bestowed with a very talented treasurer called Ramajayam. A strong, positive, decisive man who has a program and is determined to carry it out regardless of difficulties.

Rtn. Ramajayam is a practising Chartered Accountant based in Chennai. To him work is his reward, his strength, and his pleasure. He has transformed his career from his family-owned business of retail trade and transport to becoming the professional Chartered Accountant running his firm M/S Ramajayam & Associates in Choolaimedu.

Rtn. Ramajayam is a visiting faculty at the South Indian Regional Council of the Institute of Chartered accountants of India. He also holds a Master's degree in Commerce and a Diploma in Information Systems Audit from ICAI. He is currently pursuing an Advanced Diploma in International Taxation from ICAI and a PhD from SRM University.

A genius in Mathematics during his school days he is passionate about technology, data business process automation and also involved in developing various fintech products.

He is also associated with Tally solutions in customizing Tally ERP through TDLS.

Rtn. Ramajayam is happily married to Ann Pavithra who is a HR professional, qualified from the prestigious Madras School of Social Work. They both walked into the Pattinathars family when their son Kavilan Jayachandran was only ten days old.

A man of many talents this Rotarian is interested in handball, learning new programming languages, outdoor cooking, making new friends and international trips.

Madras Chennapatna can surely count on someone who can count. Being a man with a plan and dedication Ramajayam will surely be a treasure to be treasured.

**Gomathi Mohan Sidhan**

## Crunchy Sweet Potato Pancakes



Sweet potatoes generally don't make it to our vegetable bags as kids always prefer potatoes over sweet potatoes. But sweet potatoes are one of the finest vegetables filled with goodness of vitamin A. They are so rich in fibre and aid in improving gut health and boost overall immunity.

There are numerous ways to consume them. Here is a fun and yummy way to snack them up with a hot cup of coffee/chai.

### Ingredients

1 cup shredded sweet potatoes (raw), 1 cup shredded carrots (raw), 1 medium sized onion (long cuts), 1 Green Chilli (finely cut), 2 tbsp roasted groundnuts, Mint leaves finely chopped, Coriander leaves finely chopped, 2-3 tbsp of Maida, 1/2 tsp Garam Masala, 1/2 tsp Aamchur powder, 1/4 tsp pepper powder, Salt to taste, Water as required, Low fat butter

### Let's make it

The process is super simple. Mix all the veggies and masalas together. Now add maida and add water little by little to make a semi solid dough. Remember not to add too much water. We are not looking at making a dosa batter. Just add water to combine the ingredients. Finally add salt and now your pancake batter is ready.

Heat a pan (preferably non stick). Add some butter to it. Now pour the batter to the pan. Keep the ladle size small and also pat the batter thin. Cook the pancake in low flame. Cook them both sides till they become golden brown.

Enjoy this hot and scrumptious snack with mint chutney or tomato ketchup.

**Egnitha Guha Prakash**

# THE GAME OF KINGS



July to August 2022. The 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad is creating countless significant moments that will endure in the collective memory of world-wide chess enthusiasts. This is the first time in history that India is hosting the Chess Olympiad. The highlight of the inaugural ceremony was perhaps the moment when prime minister Narendra Modi handed over the Olympic torch to five-time World Chess Champion Viswanathan Anand.

The 44th Chess Olympiad is an over-the-board event that has created a lot of buzz on news and social media. Top trending topics and viral stories are all about matches and legendary Grandmasters. Media even encourages us to watch best films on chess. As we know, chess has been portrayed in many films and art. For example, die-hard Harry Potter fans can probably recall the movie where Harry and his friends play a life-sized game of wizard chess to find the Philosopher's Stone.

Chess has always been a part of Indian culture awakening a passion for logical thinking and puzzle solving among Indians. With Chennai being chosen as the venue, it is indeed a proud moment for the Indian and Chennai chess community. And it also provides the perfect moment to re-think about chess being one of the most special games in history.

The history of chess can be traced back nearly 1500 years. It is believed to have originated from Chaturanga a war game and was considered as a "royal game" in the 15th century. The 19th century saw the beginning of modern chess tournaments and programmed chess games. Now,

not only is Chess the best-selling board game of all time, but also it has become popular online with live streams on Twitch. The recent lockdown and the popular drama series Queen's Gambit have been credited with bringing new online players to the board.

Modern chess has undergone a lot of changes over the centuries to evolve into its present fascinating form. Over the years, the rules of chess kept adapting, the shape of the pieces kept changing, the names of pieces varied across languages and countries and so did player's styles and techniques.

Just as chess champions compete with their human opponents to break records, they also compete with computer chess engines. Today, chess Grandmasters can no longer beat computers as they did way back in the 1990's. In this new era of chess dominated by Artificial Intelligence (AI), it is a proven fact that chess apps will beat even the world's top-rated chess players.

The All-India Chess Federation (AICF) backed by The Tamil Nadu government have literally pulled out all stops to host the 44th Chess Olympiad event successfully. An artificial intelligence (AI)-powered "immersive" digital platform is going to be launched to deliver next-gen fan experiences. Chess is a game with proven cognitive benefits and incredibly popular in India. We can find many the top teen talents who have been hitting international headlines playing in this Olympiad. This is sure to entice a new generation of young sports fans to the Game of Kings.

**Vanitha Amuthan**



## Birthday Greetings



Annette <b>Prithiviraj</b> s/o <b>Rtn. Karthikeyan Rtn. Manikandan</b>	August 8
Annette <b>Abhishek</b> s/o <b>Rtn. Praveen Mehra</b>	August 17
Annette <b>Vyoma</b> d/o <b>Rtn. Mohan Sidhan</b>	August 20
Annette <b>Pooja</b> w/o <b>Rtn. Praveen Mehra</b>	August 20
Annette <b>Anupama</b> w/o <b>Rtn. Rajiv Reddy</b>	August 23
Annette <b>Vaishnavi</b> d/o <b>Rtn. Rajiv Reddy</b>	August 26
Annette <b>Vaishnavi</b> d/o <b>Rtn. Rajiv Reddy</b>	August 26



## Wedding Anniversaries



<b>Rtn. Paresh &amp; Ann Kushi</b>	August 6
<b>Rtn. Praveen Mehra &amp; Ann Pooja</b>	August 10
<b>Rtn. Rajasekar &amp; Ann Priya</b>	August 24
<b>Rtn. Ani Grace &amp; Partner J. Gnanasekaran</b>	August 26
<b>Rtn. Raja M Sriraam &amp; Ann Sukanya</b>	August 27
<b>Rtn.Dr.Arul Natarajan &amp; Ann Salaivani</b>	31 August

**EDITORIAL TEAM**

Ann Deepa Mogili  
Ann Egnitha Guha Prakash  
Ann Gomathi Mohan Sidhan  
Ann Vanitha Amuthan  
Ann Sukanya Sriram

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**Rtn. Ram Kevalur & Rtn. Raja M Sriraam**