



rotaryclubofmadraschennapatna



Club of Madras Chenna Patna,  
Chennai

MARCH 2021

# Chennapathra

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue No.9







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Madras Chenna Patna, RI District 3232

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## iBreast, Club's First Global Grant Project



**February 10 is a red letter day in the annals of Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna, as it got approval for a Global Grant project from the Rotary International.**

It was the 21st project for the District 3232 submitted during the COVID period and first for our club. The news was broken by DRF chairman Ambalavannan.

**Past President Prabhakar** in his own words narrates the journey. *Edited excerpts:*

After the successful completion of the fund raiser in 2018, a huge responsibility of spending the money wisely rested on the shoulders of the senior club members. Several close door meetings were held to draft a signature project. Finally, **Rtn Dr Ani Grace Kalaimathi** came with a unique proposal that was acceptable by all. Called as 'Ibreast', the project was meant to detect early signs of breast cancer amongst rural women through a non-invasive method using a hand held device and also to create breast cancer awareness amongst rural women in and around Chennai and neighbouring districts. Senior members -- **Rtn PL Muthiah, Rtn AVS Rau and Rtn Raja Siraam** -- pitched in whenever the club needed their help. **Rtn Rajiv Reddy** played a perfect host to the visiting Canadian team.

The total cost of the project was estimated at Rs.50 lakh and our club decided to apply for global grant. After the initial run, the findings of this project will be compiled and presented to the State government to take further steps to prevent this disease.

The core team members consisting of **Global Grant Chair Praveen Mehra, Foundation Chair R. Saptagiri and Secretary T.R. Udaya Kumar** among others were instrumental in bringing various stakeholders. Prior to that senior club members and the board graciously contributed to the Canadian Mentorship project in the second half of 2020 and showed that we truly believe in fostering partnerships and serve humanity, wherever in the world. The iBreast project will be launched on April 7 coinciding with the World Health day celebrations, says **President B. Chakravarthy**.



## How Ram Roped in Cataraqui-Kingston Club



In the late 2018, I had a chat with PP Prabhakar about 'Ibreast' project and how Dr Ani Grace has brought a very unique project to the Rotary's table. I was fascinated by the idea straight away as India had the highest mortality rates for breast cancer due to lack of proper timely screening. So I instantly asked Prabhakar....Can we make this a global grant project? Of course, said Rtn Prabhakar and asked who is our partner?

Around the same time, a message from Rtn Ravi Raman hit my inbox, requesting us to host a few families coming from Canada. I and Deepa instantly agreed to host one. Apart from being very friendly and easy going, **Ana Sutherland and Ed** are both active Rotarians. Ana mentioned in the passing that she was going to be the **President RC Cataraqui Kingston** for 2019-20 and was very keen to work with India on interesting projects. When I mentioned about Ibreast project, she pounced on the idea and skipped a scheduled district dinner to have a serious meeting with us to learn about the project. The following summer of 2019, we made a trip to Canada and made a joint presentation to Ana and her team through a zoom call with our members.

**The Canadian club has contributed \$5,250 for this project.** When we finally got an approval from RI this February of 2021, a good two years after the idea was originally sown, I got reminded of the famous saying in Tamil *MUYARCHI UDAYAAR IGAZCHI ADAYAAR!!* (Efforts don't fail)

**K.N.Ramanathan**

## Sponsoring Rotaract Club and A College Student



Amity Business School Chennai, which has around 300 plus students in BBA and MBA, has requested us to start a Rotaract Club in their premises. The first round of meeting was held with the Dean Vengadamani and Rotaractor Madhumitha. District Rotaract Chair Raja Sriraam, Ann Sukanya, Srinivasan and Secretary Udaya Kumar attended the first meeting.

**In the second picture: Our club sponsored the tuition fees of Rs.22,000 for Shruti Narayanan of Madras School of Social Work, who is pursuing second year MA in HRM.**



## A Free Medical Camp For The Underprivileged



Community Development Health Director Vidya with the able assistance of para medical staff and RID 3232 Team Disease Prevention and Treatment conducted a free health screening camp for people living below poverty line at Nochi Kuppam on February 7. It benefitted over 100 people.

President Chakravarthy, President Elect Senthan Amuthan, Paresh, Guhaprakash, Hari Kumar and Prasad attended the camp and did their bit. Preliminary examination was conducted from 10 am to 6 pm.





## DG Lauds Pattinathars During Official Visit



The 28th Governor's Official Visit of District Governor Muthupalaniappan to the Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna on February 27 turned out to be simple and a grand affair with the latter lauding the Pattinathars for getting the first Global Grant project.

DG reviewed the services rendered by the Directors of Community Health & Dev, Vocational, International and Youth.

He lauded the microlending project of our club and explained in detail about his pet project 'Orange' and how it is going to make a change.

The occasion was marked with the launch of redesigned newsletter Chennapathra.

Foundation Chair Saptagiri announced that we had completed our task of paying \$4,000 to RI with Raja M. Sriraam making a major contribution of \$1,000.



## The Lords of Madras Chenna Patna



After a gap of nearly one year, a couple of Pattinathars took a bold decision to host a fellowship to keep the bonding between the members going. Instead of meeting at the regular venue, it was decided to meet at an high joint without any agenda. What followed was a high octane meeting with oozing conversation among members, which we had really forgotten for a long time.

It was a fellowship of a different kind and enthusiastically attended by 21 rotarians of all ages. The Club Service Team headed by Paresh Khatri and Fellowship Chairman Guhaprakash took approached President Chakravarthy to host the meet on a Saturday evening (February 6). He gave his nod and they approached the board for a budget approval of Rs.25,000. Besides, the trio also footed the bill.

It was a three-hour fun filled evening, wherein it was decided to conduct fellowship on a regular basis. Next would be the family fellowship with an overnight stay, declared Chakravarthy.







## Interact/Rotaract Events

### Vana Vani Interact Club Installation



Installation of Vana Vani Matriculation Higher Secondary School, IIT Campus, Chennai was held on February 20. President Chakravarthy, Secretary Udaya Kumar and President Elect Senthana Amuthan took part. S. Navamithra was elected as President and K. Kanishka as Secretary for the Rotary year 2020-21.



### 'Project Raanchana' For The Disabled

Talents are every where, be it the abled, the disabled, the wise, the weak, the aged and the youth. Project Raanchana – To create, To color, To love was a small step taken by the Rotaract Club of Chennai towers and the Rotaract Club of Ethiraj College for Women to embrace the talents of young and special children in order to nurture them. On Feb. 13 a drawing competition was held for 75 special children of different age groups from different orphanages.







## International News



### 2021-22 Theme: Serve To Change Lives



RI President Elect 2021-22 Shekhar Mehta, a member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal revealed the 2021-22 presidential theme for 201-22. "Serve to Change Lives' is his theme for the next Rotary Year.

### UK Club's Micro Loan Aids Indonesians

UK Aireborough Club is into microloan too. So far, six loans totalling \$450 have been made to budding entrepreneurs in Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia and India. The enterprises comprise a restaurant, farming, livestock, fishing, motorcycle transport and fish sales. The fishing loan is already repaid fully.



### Helping Indian Kids With Type-1 Diabetes



After learning about Dr Sharad Pendsey and the Dream Trust in Nagpur our Club decided to sponsor two young girls with type 1 diabetes, whose parents cannot afford the four times daily insulin injections.

Both girls receive a three monthly supply of insulin and syringes as well as a glucometer. Ridhima (11) was also provided with a school bag and contents, Purvi (6) has received economic support for her family through the Covid fund as well as a bicycle.





## Rotaractors Have A Unique Way Of Doing Things

**RI President**



As someone who knows first hand the great leadership potential of Rotaractors, I always look forward to World Rotaract Week, (March 8 to 14). Rotaractors are the focus of all three of my presidential conferences this year, and I was proud when, two years ago, the Council on Legislation voted to elevate Rotaract by including Rotaract clubs as members of Rotary International. Before that, the Council had already made dual membership possible, and shortly after, the Board of Directors decided to do away with Rotaract's age limits.

But we are only just embarking on our journey together. Partnering effectively doesn't happen by itself. It requires both sides to be open and to understand the value of cross-generational alliances. Louie De Real, a dual member of Rotaract and Rotary, explains.

Joint virtual meetings have helped Rotaractors introduce Rotarians to new ideas and tools, pioneering unique ways for clubs to collaborate. In the case of pandemic and disaster response, Rotaract clubs used social media to coordinate efforts, drive information, and fundraise, while Rotary clubs used their networks and resources to amplify support, provide logistics, and bring the goods and services to communities.

Rotaractors' innovative virtual engagement and professional development activities inspired Rotarians to support and follow suit. The pandemic made Rotaract clubs realize that we can immediately connect and partner with Rotary clubs through virtual platforms. With constant collaboration, we realize that Rotary and Rotaract complement each other as we are part of a single organization with shared goals.

Both sides add value. Rotarians can be mentors and service partners to Rotaractors, while Rotaractors can demonstrate to Rotarians that difficult jobs can be simplified and limitations can be surpassed through digital approaches.

This synergy motivates Rotaractors to become future Rotarians: I joined Rotary because Rotarians gave me memorable membership experiences through inspirational moments of collaboration. I needed to be a Rotarian to inspire Rotaractors the same way, now and in the future. That same synergy leads Rotarians to realize that while Rotaractors may have a different culture, we all share a common vision of uniting people to take action. Rotaract's unique ways of doing things serve as inspiration for innovation, helping Rotary increase its ability to adapt to future challenges. Rotarians and Rotaractors will build the future together, so let's start today. I see no difference between a Rotary club and a Rotaract club, except perhaps for the average age! Many Rotarians still view Rotaract as our youth organization, but I see it differently. For me, they are part of us, and they are like us. To be successful together, we need to have mutual respect — to see each other as equals. Let's see Rotaractors for who they really are: students and young leaders, but also successful managers and entrepreneurs who are capable of planning, organizing, and managing a Rotary institute as they did in Berlin in 2014. As we take this journey together, let's remember the strengths of Rotary and Rotaract. Let's get started right away in building the future together.

**-- Holger Knaack**



**PHF Rtn. B. Chakravarthy**  
President

**PHF Rtn. B. Suryabaskar**  
Immediate Past President

**Rtn. Senthana 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. Senthana Amuthan  
Rtn. N. Anand  
PHF Rtn. K.N. Ramanathan

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

03-03-2021: Launch of Rotaract Club at Amity Global  
Business School, Chennai, 3 PM  
04-03-2021: First Speaker Meeting  
09-03-2021: Board Meeting  
11-03-2021: Virtual Meeting at Karaikudi, 7 PM

## BIRTHDAYS

Annette Varun S/o Rtn Ganesh	04
Annette Jayanth S/o Rtn Dhana	04
Ann Gandhimathi W/o Rtn Ramesh	14
Rtn Saptagiri	25
Rtn Harikumar	29
Annette Bharath S/o Rtn Pattabiraman	31



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

### MARCH

Rtn Dhana & Spouse Gurusamy	30
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### APRIL

Rtn Deepak Pungaliya & Ann Seema	19
Rtn A.V.S. Rau & Ann Rama	20
Rtn Mohan Sidhan & Ann Gomathi	25



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