

Chenna Patna Ch



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RI Presidential Message

Shekhar Mehta

RI President 2021-22 September 2021

am sure you are having an enriching experience as you Serve to Change Lives. One of the ways you can make the greatest change in a person's life is to help them learn to read. Literacy opens up the world to us. It makes us better informed about life in our own communities and opens vistas to other cultures. Reading and writing connects people and gives us another way to express our love for one another.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month in Rotary. Enhancing literacy skills is critical in our pursuit of reducing poverty, improving health, and promoting peace. In fact, if all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, it would result

in a significant cut in global poverty rates.

Without education, illiterate children become illiterate adults. Today, 14 percent of the world's adult population — 762 million people — lack basic reading and writing skills. Two-thirds of that group are women. Literacy and numeracy skills are essential to obtaining better housing, health care, and jobs over a lifetime.

Especially for girls and women, literacy can be a life-or-death issue. If all girls completed their primary education, there would be far fewer maternal deaths. And a child is more likely to survive past age 5 if he or she is born to a mother who can read. Improving outcomes for more people worldwide is possible only if countries remove barriers to education for girls. The economic argument for doing so is clear: In some countries where schooling is geared toward boys, the cost of missed economic opportunity is more than \$1 billion per year.

Empowering people through education is among the boldest goals we have as Rotarians. We don't have to travel far from our homes to encounter those whose lives are being curtailed because they struggle with reading, rely on others to read for them, or cannot write anything more than their own name.

Starting this month, consider how your club can Serve to Change Lives through literacy: Support local organizations that offer free programs to support adult literacy or local language learning, or that provide teachers with professional development centered around reading and writing. Become literacy mentors, or work with an organization like the Global Partnership for Education to increase learning opportunities for children around the world. Have conversations with local schools and libraries to see how your club can support their existing programs or help create needed ones in your community.

In India, the TEACH program, a successful collaboration between the country's Rotary clubs and its government, has demonstrated how to scale up literacy efforts to reach millions of children. And at a time when schools across India were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program's e-learning component reached more than 100 million children through national television.

Literacy is the first step out of poverty. As Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai has noted, "One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."



Chartered
May 18, 1993
Club ID: 29469







A Monthly News Bulletin of Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna, RI District 3232 For private circulation only



Madras Chenna Patna bags 14 awards

Rotary Club Madras Chenna Patna bagged several awards during the T20 year with President Rtn Chakravarthy leading on all fronts. The Club received the following awards and two members were recognized at a function held at Mamallapuram on July 4:

- * Best CoVID project in Community Service Health
- * Best Club Award for grocery kit procurement and distribution Community Service Development
- * Recognition for International Service
- * TRF one of the top 25 Foundation per capita total payments
 - * TRF Global Grant participation
 - * TRF Rs.5 lakh recognition
 - * Innovative Club Award for oxygen concentrator distribution
 - * Award for the Club's innovative performance
 - * Certificate of Appreciation to the President. The following members received awards:
 - * Rtn Raja M Sriraam Distinguished Rotarian of the District
 - * Ann Sukanya Sriram Distinguished Ann of the District
 - * Certificates of appreciation for work as Editor of the Governor's Monthly Letter for Ann Sukanya
 - * Coordinator of Partners Committee for Ann Sukanya
 - * Rtn Anand Narayanan Certificate of Appreciation for work as co-editor of GML

Congratulations to Immediate Past President Rtn Chakravarthy and his team for bringing laurels to the Club.

Rallying for the cause of Women's Empowerment

A fter a gap of three years, Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna has sought the help of sponsors to raise funds. This time, it is for empowering women and girl children.

A car rally is being organised on September 26, Sunday, at DG Vaishnav College, Chennai under the theme "Moto Roto Rally'- Driving for a cause. The rally is open to all including women's groups, families and friends. It is modelled on a treasure hunt.

The amount raised will be used for

sponsoring tuition fees of girl children from grade 9 onwards and college students pursuing any degree.

For those who had completed graduation, the

Club will organise job fairs to provide them with placement.

It will also provide vocational skill training in soft skills, tailoring, beautician course, crochet training or lend interest-free loan to set up kiosks in malls or commercial complexes.

Come, participate in huge numbers.



A visit to Lotte, flyash brick factory



n August 21, about 23 of us braved stormy weather and rain and headed towards the Lotte factory at Thirumazhisai in five cars as part of a Vocational Service industrial visit. It was truly enjoyable. Thanks to Anns

and Annetes for the active participation. It was a smooth check-in. Everyone got to know how choco pies were made in a totally-automated process. Initially, we were given a presentation on Lotte Group of Companies and then, on

workflow automation.

We had fun donning protection gear. Everything was a novel experience. Appreciation to Vocational Service Director Rtn Anand for coordinating with the factory personnel and executing the whole visit in a seamless manner. Special thanks to Rtn Sathya for showing his flyash brick factory just opposite the Lotte unit and hosting a tasty lunch for everyone. We also enjoyed a demo of the fly-ash brick manufacturing process and had a great time.

Crochet training for underprivileged women



n a three-way tie-up, in which Mother India's Crochet Queens (MICQ), Manonmani Trust and Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna (RCMCP) came together to provide some job opportunities for underprivileged women from rural areas as part of vocational training.

RCMCP past president K. Vallekkannu and Vocational Services Director Rtn N. Anand



approached MICQ and Manonmani Trust simultaneously. Both Sudha Ramalingam of Manonmani Trust and



Subashri Natarajan of MICQ were forthcoming in helping these beneficiaries.

While Ms.Subashri needed a batch of 20 people to start with, Ms. Sudha Ramalingam was more than willing to send about 40 school students from nearby villages. Manonmani Trust is located near Periyapalayam in Thiruvallur District, about 40 kms from Chennai.

"Most of the women here are engaged in plucking

jasmine flowers during the day time. So, I gathered school children for the first batch. When I informed them about the crochet session, they joined the programme immediately," she said.

On July 30, three volunteers from MICQ visited the Trust along with RCMCP members and provided hands-on training for almost three hours. Later, the training was held through a virtual platform.

Ms. Subashri explained about her institution and how it had enabled people from all walks of life to earn extra income. MICQ supplied sweaters, fingerless gloves and caps to jawans.

The success of this programme has made Ms. Sudha to teach other courses tailoring and cake -baking to these underprivileged women. RCMCP President Senthan Amuthan said that he is always willing to help them.

Club Service Activities For August



Winners of Monthly Quiz Competition

During the months of July & August, our Club conducted a quiz competition asking members to cull out information from websites and guess the interviewer of Annette Anusha in the July newsletter.

Rtn Dileep Kumar emerged as the winner of the first quiz competition.

Ann Sasibanu and Ann Seema were the
joint winners in the second round
and Ann Sukanya for guessing
Rtn Ramanathan as interviewer.

The awards were received by
Rotarians Prabhakar, Deepak
Pungaliya and Raja Sriraam

To increase members' participation in speaker's meeting, the club service team has decided to conduct a lucky dip and Rtn Vallekkannu was the first winner.



Two new members get enrolled, inducted

Two members were formally inducted into the Pattinathars family on August 12. The first picture shows Investment Planner Prabakaran and Practising CA Ramajayam in the second. They were given Rotary Pin and certificates by past presidents Rtn Praveen Mehra and Rtn R. Saptagiri respectively.







First board meeting at Hotel Saibaba

The first physical board meeting of President Senthan Amuthan took place on August 12 at a new venue to finalise and pass important agenda for the coming months. It was a record turnout with members discussing the launch of iBreast project in January, car rally in September, tailoring courses for underprivileged women and vocational awards for teachers, among others.



Distributing uniforms to Sevalaya school children

On August 15, PP Raja Sriraam, Community Services Development Director Karthikeyan and PE Anand visited Sevalaya School in Kasavu village and distributed 38 sets of sports wear for children. Founded by Murali, Sevalaya has been functioning for over 30 years providing free food, accommodation for orphans and senior citizens and education along with uniforms and books to the underprivileged students.

Project Annadhanam



mong all forms of charity, Annadhanam is considered to be an act of the highest virtue. So, the Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna decided to feed over 1,500 people during the Rotary Year in and around Chennai.

Project Feed The Hungry, started as a maiden project of the club on July 1, with three Rotarians offering Annadhanam to over 100 people in North Madras, Thirumazhisai and inmates of Manonmani Trust, Periyapalayam.

On August 5, a team led by past president K. Vallekkannu identified three branches of Kakkum Karangal in Thiruvanmiyur and Pallavakkam and provided delicious breakfast to over 110 inmates consisting of orphaned children and senior citizens. Rtn Arul Natarajan also held Annadhanam at Anbagam Old Age Home.



First Presidents Meet

he First President Meet, hosted by District Governor J. Sridhar on August 8, saw overwhelming response with 200 people attending it. It was a significant event not to be missed by the Presidents and their families as it provided a great opportunity for them to become better acquainted in an informal setting.

The event that started with carnival games, ice-breaker activities and interactive game shows by Sathish Kanthan which encouraged members to actively participate, connect and bond with each other.

DG gave an inspirational speech,

encouraging presidents to further their philanthropic endeavors amidst the pandemic. The event also featured live entertainment from actor and stand-up comedian Badava Gopi. It was further enlivened with mesmerizing singing by few Rotarians, including Ann Sasi Banu.

This gala event, faultlessly organized by our Club President Senthan Amuthan, was much appreciated by the DG and co-Presidents. Senthan along with First Lady Vanitha, Rtn G. Prabhakar and Ann Sasi Banu, Rtn Vallekkannu and Rtn Chakravarthy attended the event.

Meet and Greet Rotarians and Anns



It was meant as a surprise for Rotarians. as President, Secretary, PE and Club Service Director started visiting their premises unannounced. This time, it was a surprise for President Senthan Amuthan, Secretary K. Sathyanarayanan and President Elect Anand, as they were greeted with a sumptuous dinner by past president Rajiv Reddy. Rtn Senthan and Rtn Anand along with Club Service Director Rtn Guha Prakash first visited Rtn Dileep and Ann Anita to wish them on their wedding anniversary followed by a visit to Rtn Vidya's house. Next week, President, Secretary and President Elect had a fireside fellowship at Rtn Rajiv Reddy's house that was attended by Rtn Arul, Rtn Ganesh and Rtn AVS Rau.



Chenna Patna riddles...

This King of Chenna Patna is a Cool Guy

This Past President is our Steve Jobs

This member's name is chanted by all in Ayodhya temples.

This member is in almost every Senior Citizen's Book

This member is known for his Pearls of Wisdom

They have names of Superhit Couples in Movies. Who are they?



ROTARACT CLUB NEWS



27th Installation of Ethiraj College Rotaract Club - Zara







Zara, the 27th installation ceremony of Rotaract Club of Ethiraj College, took place on August 13 with Rtn/Rtr Sesha Sai as the Chief Guest and our

parent club President Rtn Senthan Amuthan as the Guest of Honour in the presence of Youth Services Director Rtn Vidya Alaguperumal. DRR Rtr PP Kamuvel and DRRE Rtr PP Gowtham Raj were the special invitees. IPP Rtr N. Nandini handed over the collar and gavel to Rtr M. Sruthi while the club's charter was handed

over by the outgoing secretary Rtr S. Ramiyashree to new incumbent Rtr S. Keshikka.

President Rtr Sruthi introduced all the 30 board members.

Rtr Pemmineti Pujith assumes charge at Amity Business School





The second installation of Amity Business School was held on August 25 with the installation of Rtr Pemmineti Pujith as the second President.

As many as 12 directors along with incoming Secretary Rtr Lakshmi Parvathy took oath at the installation ceremony in which Rtr Madhumita Ganesan collared the new president

CA K.M.Padmanabhan was the chief guest and he spoke about how important it is to be a Rotractor and how it will be useful for them in future, as many are involved in CSR activities.

RCMCP President Senthan

Amuthan spoke about the importance
of the parent club and how Amity
can grow as an independent club
beginning next year onwards. Rtn

Vidya stressed on the need for
executing projects. DRR PP Kamuvel
informed that Rotasia conference will
be held in January and encouraged
the Rotractors to participate in large
numbers.

Suraksha — An Awareness on Road Safety

Suraksha – A little care makes accidents rare is a community service project in which Ethiraj Rotaract Club members participated to create awareness on the need to block vehicle headlights with a bull's eye to avoid inducing a blinding effect on



the driver/rider of a vehicle coming from the opposite direction.
The project was conducted for two days in Luz on August 21 and
22. In all, Rotaractors pasted bullseye stickers on 203 cars and 175 two wheelers.



Community Club Celebrates Madras Week

Rotaract Community Club of Madras Chenna Patna

in association with Hindustan College of Arts & Science, Sivet College, AM Jain College, Dhanalakshmi Srinivasan College, MIHM and New College celebrated Madras Day for a month.

Over the last 40 days, Rotaract Club members posted interesting but unknown facts of Madras on social media and produced an awareness programme on vaccination at Bessy beach on August 23.



Your Honor! Ankit is a 'Judge'



Annette Ankit, son of Secretary Rtn K. Sathyanarayanan, has gained admission in NMIMS, Mumbai, one of the leading institutions in the country. In a chat with first lady **Vanitha Amuthan**, he talks about his future plans.

Tell us about yourself?

I'm a 17-year-old extrovert, who loves playing sports and listening to music. I've spent most of my time in school participating in Model UNs (MUN) debates and cultural events for my school. I believe that this is my main strength and one of the reasons I wanted to pursue law. I will be starting my law education at Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Mumbai in September this year. I have chaired and judged many MUN debates and in the over 40 MUNs debates, either I have won an award or reached the semifinals.

I also love learning about personal finance and investing, be it from reading books or listening to podcasts.

What has been your greatest achievement so far? Any learning from it?

After winning the first ever MUN

award at Oxford University, I received personal invites from eight different countries to participate. I havewas also shared my experience with Chinmaya School students. My school (Lady Andal) had a rule



that each student should participate only thrice in any competition so that everyone gets equal opportunities. Due to this rule, I lost an opportunity to participate in a MUN. Despite missing the first day session, I was asked by DAV School to take part and they sponsored me. I won an award. My greatest achievement was my win at Harvard Model Congress Asia 2018, in Hong Kong, where I won the Honorable Mention award. Here, I came across a lot of excellent debaters of all ages, academic levels and nationalities. I learnt that I need to keep polishing my skills and improving if I want to keep winning.

What is the best-kept secret about you?

I play video games on my PS4 but it is not just for enjoyment. I have traveled and participated in tournaments with international competitors and have won prize money amounting to a lakh of rupees.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Well, in 5 years, I'd just be completing my law school journey. I wish to have a strong profile for Masters and intend to start a law firm of my own somewhere down the line.

What's your favorite movie?

Any movie which comes under the Fast and Furious banner, especially part 1 to 5 with Paul Walker who is my favorite actor.

Who is your role model and why?

My role model is Warren Buffett as he has proved that with hard work and patience, you can accomplish anything you set your mind to.

What do you enjoy doing for fun?

Whenever I have free time, I either play or watch a sport and I'm a huge fan of almost all mainstream sports from cricket and football to NFL and hockey.

Prithivirajan, a fun-loving guy



Annette Ka. Prithivirajan is the first person from a family of master weavers of three generations to have crossed the proverbial seven seas to pursue his Masters in Computer Science in the U.S. His father Rtn Karthikeyan is a textile exporter now. As a fun loving guy, Prithivirajan talks to **Rtn K.N. Ramanathan** in this interview.





What defines Prithvirajan?

I define myself as a person who is ambivert, a good listener, and a bit of a happy-go-funny guy.

What were you pursuing in the U.S. and how has college life there been different from India?

I recently graduated with a Master's in Computer Science. College life there is completely different from what I experienced in my undergrad in Chennai. Starting from choice of courses, reduced class timings to working part time and enjoying fun-filled weekends. But the worst part is I spent most of the time in my room because of CoViD-19.

What makes you proud of your Indian identity and what has impressed you the most about the U.S.?

I feel a lot good and proud when some of the local Americans say that "Indians are generally talented and hardworking". Also, they like our Indian food a lot. The thing which impressed me the most in the U.S. is their organized way of living, and good time maintenance. I never experienced a professor taking class beyond the allotted time.

What is your definition of having fun? Give a few examples of some fun activities.

For me the definition of fun is a thing which should be forever in whatever we are doing.



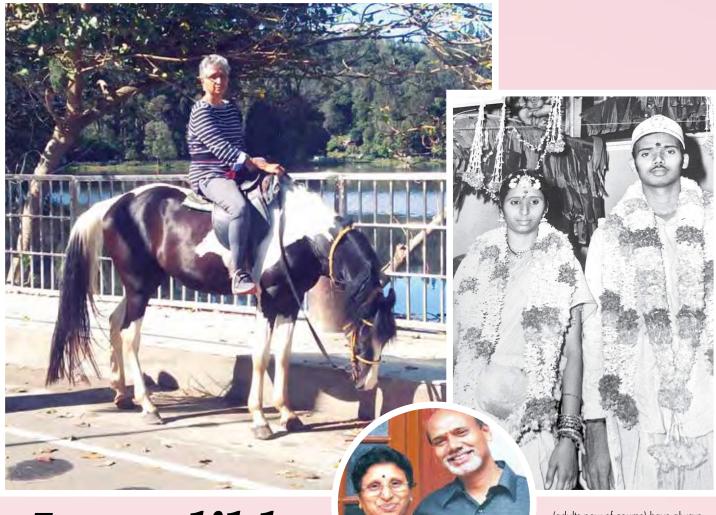
How important is community service to you? How can youth like you be more involved in the Rotary movement?

Community service is really important because I always feel it is necessary that everyone gives something back to the community which gave them everything. Also it helps us in networking and to feel free from the daily routine work. Youth like me are always interested in community service, but they can be more involved by having proper time management (which we don't follow), so that there is enough time

for community service. Also, I wish there is more awareness among youth about communities such as Chenna Patna and the work which we are doing so that it will motivate more youth to join the service.

If you could time travel, what would you like to do?

If there is an opportunity for time travel, I would like to change a lot. But right now, I feel like naah...let it be the same. Let's change the future. But if it really exists, I wish I could travel to my childhood and see what I was doing then.



Incredible Usha Surendra



Peels of laughter, giggles and smiles are all that I can think of when it's Usha Surendra. Talking to her for the sto-

ry was like walking down memory lane for me. Usha is a simple, light-hearted soul with a hearty laughter and a little mischief! Usha always ensured we were all very comfortable and won our hearts during polio plus 'potluck' times. That was not just for one or two years but for 20 years, and those times are still etched in mind and memory. We all had access to her kitchen for two days a year and Usha would welcome us all warm heartedly where we would have 'Anns time' together when the Rotarians were off to the polio booths.

Usha is a thorough 'Madras girl'

who studied in Bains School, Kilpauk and is the only girl child of her family. All her other four siblings are boys.

When the wedding proposal with Suri came up, Usha accepted it though she had not personally met him. They met only a day prior to their wedding. Unbelievable but true!

Married at 17 to Rtn Surendra who was just 20, Usha devoted herself completely to the family taking care of Uday and Dhana - the children (adults now of course) have always been part of Chenna Patna events and are very dear to us all.

Usha's trademark smile never faded even during challenging times in life. They were handled by her with responsibility and utmost courage - Usha very religiously took care of her in-laws when Rtn. Suri was busy with his textile business and travel connected to his work

Usha continues to be the pivot in the family, dedicating herself totally to her grandchildren. The kids simply dote on her and that's how Usha is to everyone.

Those of us who need a kind word or pep talk, we could actually lift the phone and talk to either of the couple and I guarantee, we would feel totally energized. With her lighthearted banter and warmth, Usha is truly the 'fellowship queen forever' of Madras Chenna Patna!

Wishing Usha good health, happiness and contentment in the years to come!!





gem of Madras Chenna
Patna, Sukanya Rajasriram
makes the club special just
by being in it. To her, Chenna
Patna is home and Pattinathars her
family. Her friendliness and warmth
engulfs many clubs. She believes
if you have the ability to change
someone's perspective or emotions, never waste that talent.

A self-made woman after her graduation in chemistry at Villupuram Government Arts College, she worked in HSBC, Insurance and Advertising. Her marriage to Rajasriram brought out the entrepreneur in her. She shouldered his business 'Technocrat Engineers,' dealing with air conditioners and

monarch of the field today. Her journey though was not cool. She emerged stronger from things that were meant to break her.

Her most defining moments were getting selected for the Goldman Sachs 10k woman entrepreneur programme by the Indian School of Business,

Hyderabad. An avid knowledge seeker, she finished her MBA at Welingkar School of Management, Mumbai recently. Currently, she is doing Neuro Linguistic Programming which, she believes, has opened a

new world to her.
The Citation Queen has

done more than 500 citations and loves to read and write. She was the editor of GML and an all-first ladies magazine. She knows the power of her mind and so, programmed it for success. Travelling photography and music are her other interests.

Sukanya's pillar
of support is her
good-humoured husband Raja Sriraam. He
supports her in pursuing
her dreams. Her lovely
daughter Swathi, married
to kartik, is now in
Germany. She is her true
love and best friend. Her
father's blessings is her
guiding force.

Sukanya is soft and powerful, practical and spiritual, beautiful inside out. She is the heroine of her life. She is the Queen and her soul is royal.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS





Chenna Patna, Tebrau signs Sister Club Pact

Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna and Rotary Club of Tebrau renewed sister club pact on August 28. The agreement was signed by the president of respective clubs coinciding with the latter Governor Official Visit. Both RCMCP and RCT have been supporting each other for more than two decades. RCT was sponsoring a major surgery for children up to 12 years of age with congenital heart disease. It benefitted nearly 200 of them. The Club President Edwin Singam expressed interest to join hands with our global grant iBreast project and to take part in the women empowerment project too. The programme ended with both the president showcasing the signed document. DG Dolly Yeap appreciated the efforts of RCT in getting the sister club renewed and for inducting three new members.

RC Aireborough Members Renovate Guiseley Wells

Between 1998 and 2000 RC
Aireborough members provided
the labour to renovate the fabric
of the historic Guiseley Wells, an
ancient source of water, which had
suffered from both the passage of
time and vandalism. The site was
recently chosen by Leeds City Council
as a memorable place for one of
15 'Take a seat' benches adding
a colourful dimension to the area.
These aim commemorate the resilience of the people of Leeds during
the Spring 2020 pandemic. Current

members including Brian Hall, Bill Hudson and Patrick Glen took time to recall the contributions of two late past Presidents Brian Chappelow and Gerald Long.







Tablet presented to 3 Tamil School Students

n August 23, Rotary Club of Tebrau Malaysia Community Service Director, PP Dato Raman Velu presented the tablets to the Gelang Patah Tamil School Headmistress Ghokila. It was later handed over to the parent of the child nominated.

President Dr Edwin Singam, President Elect CK Tan and District Enviroment Chair, PP Rajakupal, Miss Sarah an intern with Dr Edwin was also present.

Madam Mohana, the Parent Teacher Association Chair and two senior teachers were also present.



Rtn G. Senthan Amuthan President

PHF Rtn B. Chakravarthy

IPP, Director International Services

Rtn N. Anand

President Elect & Director Vocational Services

PHF Rtn K. Sathyanarayanan

Secretary

Rtn Paresh Khatri Treasurer - Administration

Rtn B. Rajkumar

Treasurer - Trust

Rtn Guha Prakash

Director Club Service

Rtn R.C. Srinivasan

Director Community Service (Health)

Rtn S. Karthikeyan

Director Community
Service (Development)

Rtn Vidya Alagu Perumal

Director Youth Service

Rtn Raja Marthandan

Chairman Public Image

PHF Rtn PL. Muthiah

Chairman Micro Loan

Rtn Vishwanathkrishnan

Chairman - Operation Daybreak

Rtn Dr. Ani Grace Kalaimathi

Chairman iBreast

PHF Rtn B. Suryabaskar

Chairman Environment

Rtn S. Harikumar

Chairman Fellowship

Chennapathra Team

Rtn Senthan Amuthan Rtn N. Anand Rtn K.N. Ramanathan Ann Vanitha Ann Sukanya

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

UU

02-09-2021

Anandhanam at Sevalaya



14-09-2021

Board Meeting



04-09-2021

Gala Retro Night Fellowship



26-09-2021

Moto Roto Rally



30-09-2021

Speaker Meeting

BIRTHDAY FOR SEPTEMBER



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

07 Rtn Karthikeyan & Ann Revathi

U/Rtn Rajkumar &
Ann Krishnapriya

08 Rtn SPR Ramesh & Ann Gandhimathi 09 Rtn Shankar & Ann Sumitra

I 6 Rtn Vallekkannu & Kana Kulandaivel

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