



# The Southerner

Monthly Bulletin

**Rotary Club of Madras South**

Chartered on June 30, 1960



ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE

No. 12/2017-18

Service Above Self

June 2018

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

### **PASSING THE BATON**



Dear Southerner,

This is the last time I write in this column as the President of our Club, a privilege I have enjoyed over the last twelve months. Writing in this column is very special to me as I put my heart out every month to convey message worthy of my fellow Southerners. I intend to write a little lengthier in this issue to reminisce a few fascinating times we had during this Rotary year. Thank you all for your patient reading and the support.

As we wind up the year, the days look like the beginning of the year as we accomplished some major projects in May and June. 'Learning Expansion' Programme at Kumaran Special School, Ennore, in partnership with Del Mar Salona Beach Rotary, USA and the 'Junior Science Lab' at MCN Higher Secondary School at T.Nagar, sponsored by Acsys Investments Pvt. Ltd., thanks to the support from Rtn. V Shankar, deserve a special mention. Elsewhere in the District, the Clubs are active with various projects and the Trendsetting team guided by our District Governor Rtn. R Srinivasan never seems to be tired of their service projects. As the saying goes 'treat everyday like the last day and the last day like the first day', the Clubs in the District are a testimony to that. I draw inspiration from them all.

During May, we also inaugurated the second batch of Airconditioner Servicing fast-track course at Anna University. We also concluded the 'Basic IT skills' programme at ANEW in Anna Nagar that benefitted 50 students. Our Vocational Services Director Rtn. Ashok showed great leadership and gave us excellent array of vocational service projects. Added to that, the Junior Science Lab Project at MCN Higher Secondary School was identified and jointly mooted by him. On 20 June, the six-month long airconditioner servicing course and the second batch of month-long airconditioner servicing course will conclude and we will have a joint valedictory function at Anna University. These courses are sponsored by CAMS and we thank them for their generous support.



Thanks to the efforts of our Past President Rtn. R Seshadri, our Community Learning Centre at Kattur, off OMR is put to good use. It definitely calls for commitment and passion to run this project. We grabbed the advice from our IPDG Natarajan Nagoji and partnered with Rotary Club of Chennai Upscale to manage the Centre. The weekend classes in tailoring and computer skills have given good results. We

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*President's Message continued....*

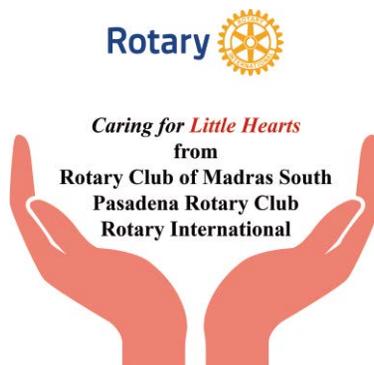
### PASSING THE BATON

improved the infrastructure of the centre and tiled the floor to give a better learning atmosphere. We will have the valedictory of the courses on 23rd June. This will also give us an opportunity to see the Centre first hand and show our appreciation of the programme.

### **Unknown push**

There are many projects accomplished this year. In all these, I felt a sense of 'unknown push' that guided us all throughout. As soon as a project was identified, help came from different quarters and finally executed with able partners. The kind words of appreciation and prayers we get from our projects are unparalleled. To see someone being happy is the biggest happiness and I would say that is the best return for our projects.

The crowning glory this year is the 'Caring for Little Hearts' Matching Grant project, to offer free open-heart surgery to children in Tamil Nadu with congenital heart disease. The idea for this project is from our President Elect Rtn. Saravanan and we shared camaraderie and joint vision to



make it happen. We are fortunate to have found a good international partner in Pasadena Rotary Club and are thankful to them for joining us in this project. We have so far completed about 130 surgeries (45 under Matching Grant). I very vividly remember the words of District Governor Rtn. R Srinivsan after his visit to Sooriya Hospital during the Governor Visit Day that 'God will bless you all for this project'. That's a moving moment. We have

another 165 surgeries to complete in the coming Rotary year.



Similarly our fundraising project 'Success Mantra' with Shri Gaur Gopal Das, for the first time in Chennai, in July was an outstanding success. Even today, many Rotarians and friends appreciate the programme. These programmes left a lasting impression. Thank you

President Elect Rtn. Saravanan for your untiring efforts on these projects.

Another project that gave us satisfaction and goodwill is the 'Ford-Rotary Digital Literacy' Project. Donation of more than 1000 laptop computers (more than 2500 computers including the project in District 3231) is a marvellous achievement. Thanks to Rtn. R Srikanth for the support.



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*President's Message continued....*

PASSING THE BATON

## Humble experience

Education and health of youth was our mantra for the year. I am happy that we were able to work towards that and accomplished many projects this Rotary year. At the same time it is also a humble experience to be of help to others and to feel how graceful Almighty has been to us. While there are many who require our support, we could do our little to make a difference. And it feels like a drop in the ocean.



We will complete the year with 37th speaker meeting on 12th June, and thanks to Rtn. Madhu for giving us excellent speakers week after week. I am very well aware of the challenges many co-Presidents go through to find good speakers. I am greatly indebted to Rtn. Madhu for making it easy for us.

Every avenue director gave us very satisfying and interesting projects. For want of space, I will not go into details of each of them. You will see them all in the Secretary's Report to be presented at the new team installation on 26th June at Hotel Savera. I thank each Avenue Director and Chairman for his / her support.

One of the tough tasks every year is bringing out the Club Bulletin consistently and on time. I very much appreciate this as I was a bulletin editor once before. I thank our bulletin editor Rtn. Seshadri for coming out with a meaningful bulletin, covering the Club activities very well every month.

Our Club Secretary M C Srikanth deserves a special mention. Another important and time-consuming role is that of the Club Secretary. I thank Rtn. M C Srikanth for all the support and handling the secretary's role efficiently.

Our new team is ready to take charge and the Club Assembly is planned for 19th June. Be there to hear the plans lined up for the year. I sign off this column with best wishes to the incoming President Rtn. K Saravanan and his team.

Yours in Rotary

**Magdoom Mohamed K Z**



## TRANSFORMATION OF KUMARAN SPECIAL SCHOOL

It was indeed a moving experience for the Rotarians who visited Kumaran Special School at Ennore on 12th May to see around 30 special children waiting for the inauguration of the new infrastructure at their school. From a dilapidated and run down structure in October, 2017 to a sparkling new version in May 2018, the transformation was complete. This is a joint project under International Service with Del Mar Salona Beach Rotary, USA. Under this project the school has been provided with a fresh coat of paint apart from furniture, wheel chairs, IQ toys, children books and laptops (provided by FORD under their Digital Literacy initiative).

## WEEKLY MEETINGS IN MAY



Date : 8th May, 2018  
 Speaker : Ms Priyadarshini Govind  
 Topic : My most memorable moments in dance  
 Joint meeting with RC Adyar and RC Madras Industrial City



Date : 15th May, 2018  
 Speaker : Ms Suraksha Acharya  
 Topic : Architecture and sustainable design  
 Joint meeting with RC Chennai Capital



Date : 29th May, 2018  
 Speaker : Ms Lavanya Sundararaman  
 Topic : My music journey

## VALEDICTORY OF BASIC IT SKILLS COURSE



Around 50 students who completed the Basic IT skills vocational service programme at ANEW in Anna Nagar were issued certificates during the Valedictory function on 29th May. The course is jointly certified by NIIT and was supported by CAMS.

Many college students signed for this course which has helped them to get employment from companies such as TCS. The students who got employment shared their success stories and how the course boosted their confidence.

## FAST TRACK AC SERVICE COURSE – BATCH 2



The second batch of the month-long AC Servicing course at Centre for Entrepreneurial Development (CED), Anna University was inaugurated on 19th May. The course is jointly conducted by Jesus Air conditioning Systems at their workshop and will benefit 10 students. Our Club has been conducting the six month Air conditioner servicing course for several years and have recently completed the first batch of the month-long course at CED. This one month course is the fast track programme organised by us for the first time. All the students of these courses find gainful employment or opportunities for entrepreneurship at the end of the programme.

## THE BATON PASSES ON TO RTN K SARAVANAN

The Charter Nite and the installation of K Saravanan as the 59th President of our club will be held on Tuesday, 26th June, 2018 at 7 pm at Hotel Savera. Rtn Babu Peram, DGE, RI Dist. 3232 will be the Chief Guest. Southerners, please attend in large numbers to cheer and welcome our incoming President and his team of office bearers.

<p>PRESENTING  <b>VGN</b>  <b>CROFTON GARDENS</b>                  PLOTS NEAR AVADI RAILWAY STATION  <b>PHASE - 2</b></p>	<p>PRICE STARTING FROM <b>₹16.5 LAKHS*</b>                  PLOTS STARTING FROM 600 SQ. FT. TO 2300 SQ. FT.</p>	<p><b>CMDA APPROVED</b> 14/2018  <b>RERA APPROVED</b> TN/02/Layout/35/2018                  JUST 2.5 KMS. FROM AVADI RLY. STN.</p>	<p>CALL: <b>044 - 4343 9999</b>  <b>VGN</b>                  CREATING ASSETS SINCE 1942</p>
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The Southerner is published by Rotary Club of Madras South for private circulation and is Printed by Multicraft (2431 0419)