



# The Southerner

Monthly Bulletin

## Rotary Club of Madras South

Chartered on June 30, 1960



No. 08/2016-17

Service Above Self

February 2017

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerner,  
When I took over the mantle of our Club, I had stated my goal for the year in my theme for the club, **"LET'S STRIVE TO TOUCH A LIFE EVERYDAY"**

With this in mind the main focus for the year has been to provide Toilet facilities in schools and communities.

Just about 35kms away from Chennai, RCMS identified KOTTAKUPPAM VILLAGE near Periyapalayam with literally no toilet facilities at all. It was decided to construct individual toilets in about 26 houses and 4 in the panchayat school and the construction was started in October 2016.

In January our DG inaugurated the toilets in the village.

The next step is to make this village an 'OPEN DEFECATION FREE VILLAGE'. Efforts are being taken to achieve this shortly.

So far RCMS has completed 109 toilet units in 8 needy schools and one village.

After many years about 26 of our members went for a very enjoyable movie outing. It was a new experience for me to join the Rotary fraternity and share popcorn and doughnuts.

In January RCMS jointly with Rotary Club of Niles (USA) and Sankara Nethralaya performed Eye screening in 3 suburbs of Chennai for around 350 people. This camp identified patients having retinal disorders and doctors recommended surgery which would be sponsored by RC of Madras South and RC of Niles.

Let's keep RCMS flag flying high for the rest of the year.

**Rtn. Asha Marina**

### TELEOPATHALMOLOGY CAMPS



Our Club conducted three Eye Camps jointly with Niles Rotary Club (USA) in association with Sankara Nethralaya in the suburbs of Chennai on 20, 22 and 23 January. "Teleopathalmology" is a branch of Telemedicine that delivers Eye Care through Digital medical equipment and Telecommunications technology. The villages of Kayar & Agaram in Kanchipuram District and Keemanabedu in

Thiruvallur District were covered with 338 villagers benefiting from the camps. Clinical Examination was conducted by trained Optometrists using Hi-Tech equipment. Free spectacles would be distributed to 181 patients and 51 patients would be provided with free Cataract surgery at Sankara Nethralaya based on the diagnostics at the Camps.



President Asha Marina handing over a cheque to Sankara Nethralaya towards our contribution for the Eye Camps conducted jointly with Niles Rotary Club.

## CELEBRATING OUR CITY'S LEGACY



Gymkhana Club, the legacy from our Colonial past played host to the family participation event of the Club on the theme 'Anglo-Indians', on 21 January. Gymkhana, known for its strict rules did not deter the spirit and bonhomie of the Southerners as everyone dressed up in the best of Western clothes lighted up the evening with games, dance and fun.

Games of musical chair, played to the Western beats, compiled by Rtn. A G Shankar, running around in snakey queues forming pairs and groups, brought memories of the lifestyle and dance dinner popular in Anglo-Indian families. Rtn. Mukund and Rtn. Sandy had done all the arrangements to give another evening to remember.

**Rtn Magdoom**



### SOUTHERNERS' DANGAL



26 Southerners (including Annettes) visited Sathyam Cinemas to watch Aamir Khan's Blockbuster movie 'Dangal' on 6th January 2017. According to President Asha it was a thoroughly enjoyable outing and a new experience for her since she joined RCMS.

### MONTHLY ANNADANAM AT EAST EDEN FOUNDATION ON 21st JANUARY



### R I Theme 2017-18



**ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE**

## TOILET BLOCKS AT KOTTAKUPPAM VILLAGE INAUGURATED

DG Nagoji inaugurated 4 Toilet units at the Kottakuppam Panchayat School under the WINS (Wash In Schools) project on January 4th.

He also inaugurated 26 Toilets in the village homes under ODF (Open Defecation Free) project on the same day. Rtn N K Prasad, MD of CAMS who have sponsored the project was also present. Rtn Mukund not only helped in identifying the project but was also instrumental in its speedy execution.



## TOILET BLOCKS AT THENI



21 newly constructed Toilet units for girls was inaugurated at Presentation Convent Girls Higher Secondary School, Theni on 27th January, 2017. Thanks to Rtn Venkateswaran for sponsoring the Blocks.

## TOILET BLOCK RENOVATED



27 renovated Toilet units were inaugurated on 5th January, 2017 at Sacred Heart Tamil Medium School in the Church Park compound by President Asha Marina. The project was sponsored by CNSI.



Rtn Geeta Kadambi from Niles Rotary Club (USA) exchanged flags with President Asha Marina at our weekly meeting on 17th January, 2017.

## RCMS Archives

A special project has been commissioned by our Board to archive the rich heritage of RCMS over the last 57 years on Google Drive. The project is led by Rotarians Renjith and Somdev Goyal who have already started the work. Senior past and present members of RCMS may contribute with photographs and videos.

## WEEKLY MEETINGS IN JANUARY



Date : 3rd January, 2017  
 Speaker : Mr AVIS Viswanathan  
 Topic : Help yourself to Happiness



Date : 10th January, 2017  
 Speaker : Dr Balaji Swaminathan  
 Topic : Handling ENT Emergencies



Date : 17th January, 2017  
 Speakers: Mr Harry Mac Lure &  
 Mr Richard O'Connor  
 Topic : Anglo Indians of Chennai

Date : 31st January, 2017  
 Speakers: Rtms. Parveen, Saravanan, Mukund,  
 Suresh & Magdooom  
 Topic : My Favourite Chennai Restaurant  
 (Five Southerner Foodies talk about  
 great food in Chennai)

### ROTARACT NEWS **ACTECH ROTARACT CLUB INSTALLED**



The office bearers of the Rotaract Club of Alagappa College of Technology (ACTECH) were installed on 6th January, 2017.

### CLUB STAR AWARD



Our Club received the third successive Club Star Award for the period Nov-Dec 2016. PDG ISAK Nazar presented the Award. Southerners congratulate Secretary Rtn Balaji on this achievement.

### PATTANATHIL PATTIKAADU RCEG Pongal Celebration

A 2-day Pongal Celebration was organised by Rotaract Club of CEG on 9th & 10th January, to showcase the grandeur and spirit of village life in their campus. In addition to Rangoli, Mehendi and games like Carrom, Chess and Cricket, the traditional events like 'Uriyadi' and 'Tug-of-war' were also held at the CEG grounds.



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 mail to : [vision@visionengg.net](mailto:vision@visionengg.net)

Editor Rtn. PP R Seshadri | [rtnsesh@gmail.com](mailto:rtnsesh@gmail.com)

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