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EDITORIALLY YOURS



October is designated as “Economic and Community Development month” in Rotary. Under the district project UYARE, it was with great pride, we launched a novel project for creating opportunities for self-employment in coir industry through the training of 20 women workers under the field training programme on the manufacture of value-added products in coir of the Coir Board (Government of India), in association with the Alappuzha Coir Cluster Development Society (ACCDs). The project named “UYARE KAYARILOOODE” is a stipendiary training programme with each trainee getting Rs.3000 pm and the Trainer paid Rs.15,000 pm. I am happy to share that the training which commenced on 3<sup>rd</sup> October is going on hassle free and the twenty women workers are actively taking part in the training.

The month of October is also significant for Rotary as “WORLD POLIO DAY” is celebrated on 24th October every year. The role of Rotary in the eradication of Polio from the face of the earth is phenomenal. We have achieved 99.9% of the goal set with only a few cases left in two of our neighbouring countries Afghanistan and Pakistan. In fact the involvement of Rotary in the Polio immunization programmes helped us to enhance the public image considerably. Of late it is noted that the Rotary leaders have become complacent and there are reports about resurfacing of Polio even in India. Let us strive hard to achieve the target very soon. A forty-member team of RC Alleppey had a family tour programme to Kuttikkanam and back last week end. I find that there was mix of senior members and new ones in the team. I am sure the trip would have benefitted the participants in many ways and the most important thing is the “bondage” developed. Let us have many more trips like this to foster our friendship and fellowship.

Jai Rotary!

Rtn PAG MPHF M Kumaraswamy Pillai

## WORLD POLIO DAY- 24th October



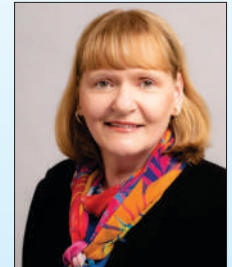
World Polio Day (24 October) was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. Use of this inactivated poliovirus vaccine and subsequent widespread use of the oral poliovirus vaccine developed by Albert Sabin led to establishment of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative(GPEI) in 1988. Since then, GPEI has reduced polio worldwide by 99.9 percent.

World Polio Day is an annual observance when members of Rotary International, along with public health advocates and individuals committed to a polio-free world, convene to commemorate their accomplishments in the global campaign against polio. This day also provides a platform for deliberation on the requisite measures to permanently

eliminate polio from the face of the Earth.

Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 35 years, and we've made incredible progress in the fight to rid the world of it forever. As a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, we've helped to reduced polio cases by more than 99.9 percent. Through decades of commitment and work by Rotary and our partners, more than 2.5 billion children have received the oral polio vaccine. Sad that we have had 50 cases of wild Poliomyelitis this year till date ( 28 in Pakistan and 22 in Afghanistan ) as against 9 cases last year at this time. The silver lining is that we have had only 179 cVDPV as against 305 last year for the same period.

- Please contribute to Polio Fund liberally.
- Work sincerely in Routine immunization clinics and on National Immunization days.
- Create awareness among people about the crippling disease and keep up the % of immunized children to the highest.
- Use World Polio day, 24th October to hold Rallies, distribute pamphlets, conduct TV interviews, create awareness and raise money. Our target is 50 million dollars ( Rs. 4200 crores)



STEPHANIE A. URCHICK  
RI President



Rtn. AKSM SUDHI JABBAR  
Dist. Governor



Rtn. ANTONY MALAYIL  
Asst. Governor



Rtn. JOHN KURIAN  
President



Rtn. SUJITH T.S  
Secretary



## Minutes of the regular meeting held on 16th October 2024

The meeting was called to order by the President Rtn. John Kurian at 7:30 pm.

Rtn. Vijayalakshmi Nair invoked the blessings of God almighty.

In the presidential address, the President requested everyone to register for the TRF seminar at TVM and also requested maximum participation in the club level FIRE competition to be held on 23rd Oct 2024 at our club hall. The President then requested those members who have not yet paid, to pay the 1st installment of the club subscription and the Platinum Jubilee contribution. Then our member Rtn. Dr Sethu Ravi delivered the classification speech and Rtn. Nagaraj explained the tour details. Then the Secretary Rtn. Sujith T S thanked everyone present at the meeting and offered special thanks to the host of the meeting Rtn. Dr. Arun babu.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8:30 for dinner and fellowship.

**Rtn. Sujith T S**

Secretary

## New Addition to Grand Annets Club



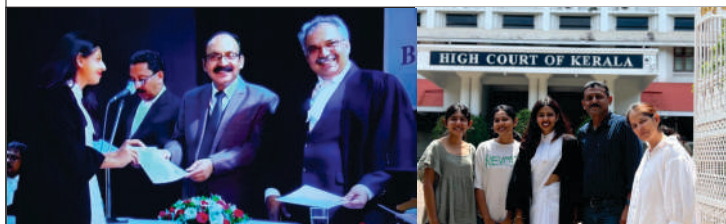
Annet Meryl, D/o Rtn K Cherian gave birth to a baby boy at the late hours of 18th October 24. Royalweeks congratulates Rtn Cherian, Ann Shaila and the proud parents. Wish the new born all the blessings of God almighty

## TEA TERRAIN DHAMAKA- An Overdue Getaway

(Report by Rtn Princy Sebastian)



The much awaited road tip to Kuttikanam (the breathtaking hill station) for a serene escape from the otherwise busy life was organised on 19-20, October. It was an unforgettable experience that left us all inspired. We arrived at Kuttikanam in the afternoon after the photo session at a waterfall enroute. After a hassle free checking into Tea Terrain Resort we spent the evening exploring Rtn Tomi Eapen's son's property. It was just a few minutes away. Sameep and his team's excellent welcome atmosphere was commendable. We were treated with our traditional mouth watering snacks like pazhampori, parippuvada and uzhunuvada. All freshly made. It was a setting surrounded by lush greenery. As night descended our group met around the camp fire. Soft crackling of wood under the cloudy sky was mesmerising. While having the grilled chicken and prawns, raindrops created a melody. But we refused to let the rain lower our spirits. We shifted our session to the banquet hall and continued with songs and dances. Day ended with a sumptuous dinner. Our morning at Tea Terrain began with an elaborate breakfast spread. I ended up gobbling too much. A few Rotarians tested their swimming skills in the pool too. Afterwards we spent the morning strolling through tea plantation. We departed Kuttikanam with rejuvenating memories. Special thanks to Rtn Nagaraj for his impeccable planning and execution from start to finish. His clear communication and updates throughout the trip kept us informed about everything. Everything was arranged meticulously. Rtn Tomi Eapen sir embodies the spirit of passion, commitment and resilience. His enthusiasm is infectious. Despite his aching muscles he proved once again that age is just a number. His spirit remains unbroken.



### Adv Diya Nagaraj gets enrolled

Annet Diya D/o. Rtn Nagaraj enrolled as an Advocate before the Bar Council of Kerala. Royalweeks congratulates Adv Diya and wish her all the very best in her career.



## GLIMPSES OF 3917th REGULAR MEETING



## OBITUARY



### LAL VARGHESE KALPAKAVADY

(F/o Rtn Ambu Vaidyan)

breathed his last at 9 pm on 20th October after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife Suseela Jacob, only son Ambu Vaidyan and daughter-in-law Ann Vaidyan. Royalweeks wishes him eternal peace



# POLIO THREAT FOR INDIA ONCE AGAIN?

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL URGES MODI GOVT TO GO FOR NIDs DUE TO LOW POLIO VACCINATION IN THREE STATES- says Rtn Ashok Mahajan



An important alert was given to Government of India by the Rotary International urging the health authorities to restart and relaunch polio National Immunization Days (NIDs) for pulse polio vaccination across the country because of latest polio cases reported from neighbouring countries Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Mr.Ashok Mahajan, Past Rotary International Director (2007-09) and Advisor of National Polio Plus Committee, has cautioned that special attention must be given to States like Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra with a focus on Mumbai area etc because the polio immunization and polio vaccination numbers is presently seems to be low in these places.

"The Rotary International has already spent 2.6 billion dollars for polio eradication worldwide. Polio is a top priority for us ever since we started it in the year 1988 and at that time 60 per cent of polio cases used to be from India. But now, there is again polio threat for India due to the 22 polio cases from our neighbouring Afghanistan and 32 polio cases reported from Pakistan. So, when we have 54 polio cases just now from these two neighbouring nations, our Rotary International had alerted the Government of India, Union Health Ministry etc to take quick steps for relaunching pulse polio immunization days all over India in all States once again very soon," Mr.Ashok Mahajan who was a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation (2009-13), had alerted while speaking to 'Lotus Times' English media over phone today- on October 19th 2024.

He said that even though India was declared polio-free there is now a matter of concern and alert

to the Government of India to caution that there is still polio risk.

"When India became polio free nine years back, we thought that polio is over. But the time has now come again to start polio immunization across the country through NIDs because routine immunization was found to be not fully done in Uttar Pradesh, Mumbai etc. We spoke to Union Health Minister Mr.Nadda. So, India now needs polio vaccination with the same seriousness as it was in the 90s because polio anywhere is polio anywhere," Rtn.Ashok Mahajan had alerted today.

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL AVENUES OF SERVICE AWARD



Recognize Rotary members for their efforts with the Avenues of Service award  
When Rotary members take the time and make the effort to engage with their club, community, or others, they are volunteering their time, energy, and other resources without an expectation for anything in return. Recognizing members for their efforts lets them know that they are valued and appreciated.

Club presidents can honor their members for efforts such as serving on a committee, leading activities, helping other members, and growing their club by nominating them for one or more of the Avenues of Service awards, at any time during the Rotary year. Nominations are forwarded to district governors who review and determine eligibility. Once members have received recognition in all Avenues of Service, governors can nominate them for the RI Avenues of Service award.

### MY FITNESS CHALLENGE



#### Rtn Joji Cyriac

My exercising history starts from my childhood. We used to have a shuttle badminton court in our compound. I used to play badminton regularly and participated in many competitions at various levels. I am interested in trekking and am also a nature enthusiast. To stay fit and healthy, there are no shortcuts—regular exercise is the key. I follow a daily workout routine consistently, except in unavoidable circumstances. My workout plan includes stretching and breathing exercises for half an hour, followed by jogging. I do all of this in my yard, and I feel fortunate to have a home surrounded by greenery. I am happy to share a compliment I received from our respected Gopi Sir after my induction. He said, "We've got a young Rotarian in our club!" I take this as a compliment and a positive note for my future health plans.

In addition to exercising, I follow a light diet, eating just enough and leaving a little space in my stomach. For dinner, I mostly have salads. My advice to fellow young Rotarians is: don't wait to start—begin early! For seniors, if you haven't started yet, make daily exercises a priority

## OBITUARY



#### N VENUGOPAL (93)

passed away in the small hours of

21st October at his residence.

In his death, the coir industry lost a veteran.

Royalweeks pays homage to the departed soul

## CLASSIFICATION SPEECH- Rtn Dr SETHU RAVI



Rtn Sethu Ravi gave her classification speech at the regular meeting held on 16.10.24. She narrated on her family background and the education including the rare chance of her doing MPhil at Pondicherry. She was fortunate to get appointment as Lecturer in Commerce under Pondicherry University in Mahe. Later she got appointment under Kerala PSC in Govt. Sanskrit College, Pattambi and also worked in Govt. College, Thrissur. Finally in 2012, she got transferred to the newly started Govt. College, Ambalapuzha as Head and Associate professor in Commerce. She retired on superannuation from the same college as Principal in charge during the year 2021.





### Rtn K Cherian

It all happened during the fag end of the Rotary year 2023-24. No fund raising for any specific project. It was only through contributions to TRF. No whatsapp messages proclaiming the project highlights. No tall claims in the meetings. This seasoned rotarian was working silently with the support of Rtn Tina Antony, DGE and PDG Rtn Scaria Jose Kattoor. It was a Global Grant Project by the Zone. The collective efforts of the leaders of the zone resulted in the evolvment and implementation of the KUTTANAD WATER SUPPLY PROJECT implemented in four locations in Kuttanad namely Neelamperoor, Kandankary and two locations in Champakulam. The total cost of the project is USD41244/- equivalent to INR 34.24 lakhs. Thanks to Rtn K Cherian, the primary contact for the excellent coordination and implementation. Royalweeks places Cherian in the spotlight this week for his exemplary feat.

## NEXT MEETING

@7.30 pm on 23rd October 2024. Host: Rtn. Jose Abraham



**1** Rtn Preetha Ajith **4** Rtn'e Rajalakshmi Balakrishnan **7** Mehza, D/o Rtn. NAM Kunju  
**12** Vijayalakshmi, D/o Rtn. Balakrishnan **15** Vivek, S/o Rtn. Jacob Neroth  
**17** Rtn. Remya D/o Kumaraswamy Pillai **18** Isha Nagaraj D/o Nagaraj  
**26** Thomaskutty Joseph **28** H. Nagaraj **28** Raju Chandy

OCTOBER



**19** Rtn Abraham Thayyil & Rtn. Ammini Thayyil  
**21** Rtn. R. Krishnan & Rtn. Prabha Krishnan

TEAM 2024 - 2025

**PRESIDENT** - Rtn John Kurian | **VICE PRESIDENT** - Rtn T.S. Ajith  
**PRESIDENT ELECT** - Rtn Lakshmi Gopakumar | **SECRETARY** - Rtn T.S. Sujith  
**TREASURER** - Rtn R.N. Ajith | **Imm. PP** - Rtn John V. George  
**CLUB ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR** - Rtn Vijayalakshmi Nair | **ROTARY FOUNDATION** - Rtn T. Sivakumar  
**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR** - Rtn George Jose Malayil | **PUBLIC RELATION DIRECTOR** - Rtn Tomy Pulikkattil  
**SERVICE PROJECT DIRECTOR** - Rtn Raju Chandy | **BULLETIN EDITOR** - Rtn M. Kumaraswamy Pillai  
**CLUB ADVISOR** - Rtn Mohamed Shafeeq | **GENERAL CO-ORDINATOR** - Rtn K. Cherian  
**CLUB TRAINER** - Rtn R. Krishnan | **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY** - Rtn George Thomas  
**JL. SECRETARY** - Rtn Dr. Sethu Ravi | **SERGEANT AT ARMS** - Rtn Princy Sebastain

STRATEGIC COMMITTEE

**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE** - Rtn Sajan B. Nair | **DIST. PROJECT** - Rtn Adv. Venugopala Panicker  
**GENERAL CONVENOR** - Rtn Prof. Gopinathan Nair | **CLUB SERVICE** - Rtn Adv. S. Murugan  
**COMMUNITY SERVICE** - Rtn Subramania Iyer | **FOCUS PROJECT** - Rtn Adv. V. Deepak  
**VOCATIONAL SERVICE** - Rtn Jose Arathupally | **FAMILY OF ROTARY** - Rtn Rosie John  
**YOUTH SERVICE** - Rtn Ambu Vaidyan | **LITERACY MISSION AND CLUB HISTORIAN** - Rtn Tomi Eapen  
**CLUB RECREATION** - Rtn Naga Raj | **CLUB IT OFFICER** - Rtn Lukose Mathew Malayil  
**CLUB PROJECTS** - Rtn R. Sreenivasan | **FESTIVAL AND FELLOWSHIP** - Rtn Jijo Chacko

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