



EDITORIALLY YOURS



As I sit down to write this editorial, it fills me with immense joy and gratitude to connect with you all on a personal milestone I had the honor of achieving recently—50 years of service to the coir industry. My journey in this sector has been both rewarding and humbling. Forty of these years were spent with the Coir Board, where I had the privilege to contribute to the growth and development of this traditional yet globally recognized industry. After which I gained valuable experience working in a private sector company, which has added to my professional growth. While in service of Coir Board and otherwise, I dedicated my efforts to cluster development projects, an area that allowed me to witness firsthand how community-focused initiatives could bring about lasting change. I am overwhelmed with the congratulatory messages and kind words from my colleagues, friends and my fellow Rotarians and I wish to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to each one of you for your warm wishes. Your encouragement and camaraderie make our Rotary family truly special. As we continue our collective journey in service, I look forward to celebrating more milestones—both personal and as a Club—together. Let us continue to support, inspire, and uplift one another as we make a difference in the lives of those around us.

The Rotary Club of Alleppey witnessed a truly heartwarming celebration, thanks to the gracious gesture by Rtn Mohammed Shafeeq and his spouse, Sebi as they hosted a delightful dinner to honor and celebrate the 53rd wedding anniversary of the passionate Rotary couple, Gopi Sir and Vijayalakshmi Teacher.

The evening was a testament to the bonds of friendship and the spirit of Rotary. Shafeeq and Sebi went above and beyond by inviting all the members of our Club along with their families and many Rotary leaders from the District 3211 creating an atmosphere of love, camaraderie, and joy. Their gesture not only celebrated a beautiful milestone but also strengthened the fellowship that lies at the heart of Rotary. Thank you Shafeeq for reminding us all of the power of togetherness and the joy of shared celebrations!

Jai Rotary!

Rtn PAG MPHF M Kumaraswamy Pillai

53 YEARS OF LOVE, WISDOM AND INSPIRATION: A SALUTE TO THE TEACHER DUO



Though oceans kept me far from your celebration,
My heart rejoiced for your union's foundation.
Fifty-three years—a marvel, a song,
A testament to love steadfast and strong.

Each year, like a pearl, polished with care,
Reflecting moments only two hearts could share.
Through seasons of joy, through trials unknown,
You've built a legacy, a love deeply sown.

Gopi Sir, with wisdom so steady and kind,
Vijayalakshmi Teacher, a bright, nurturing mind,
Together you've guided, inspired, and led,
And as partners, your love—a path widely spread.

Your journey shines brighter than the stars above,
A living portrait of enduring love.
Though I wasn't there to toast your day,
My thoughts and blessings were sent your way.

May the years ahead be golden and true,
Filled with laughter and dreams, just for you.

With abundant admiration and warmest regards,
Rtn M Kumaraswamy Pillai
Rty Ann Radhamani Amma



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



GLIMPSES OF A TIMELESS BOND

Honouring Gopi Sir & Vijayalakshmi Teacher on their 53rd Wedding Anniversary



Rtn T Sivakumar's
Birthday Celebrated

Minutes of the regular meeting held on 22nd January 2025

The meeting was called to order by the President, Rtn. John Kurian, at 7:30 pm. Rtn. Venugopala Panicker invoked the blessings of the God Almighty.

In his welcome speech, President Rtn. John Kurian greeted the guest Rotarians, Rtn. Alan Brooks, Rtn. Sher Berry, and Shahob. He then requested the members to register for the District Conference scheduled for February 8th and 9th at Ernakulam. The club celebrated Rtn. T. Sivakumar's birthday falling on that day with a cake-cutting ceremony. Following this, guest Rotarians Rtn. Alan Brooks and Rtn. Sher Berry invited everyone to support the project "Children's Run," a fundraising initiative for the children of Hope Village. Contributions to the project were made by Rtn. Gopinathan Nair, Rtn. George Thomas, and Rtn. Princy Sebastian. The President then informed the members that a schedule would be prepared, assigning dates for Rotarians who have not yet hosted meetings. He requested their cooperation in hosting meetings on their assigned dates. AG Rtn. Antony Malayil provided details about group registration for the District Conference and extended his best wishes for the success of the "Children's Run" project. Rtn. Sajan Nair spoke about Hope Village and also expressed his best wishes for the project. The Secretary, Rtn. Sujith T. S., thanked the guest Rotarians and all the other Rotarians present at the meeting. He also offered special thanks to the host of the meeting, Rtn. Venugopala Panicker.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8:00 pm, followed by dinner and fellowship.

Rtn. Sujith T S

Secretary

Raising \$550,000 through the Zoo of love stuffed animals to fight polio in Colombia



Sonia Uribe and her husband, Alberto Londoño, created a stuffed animal collection called El Zoo del Amor, or the Zoo of Love, to comfort seriously ill children and raise money for polio eradication. Sales of Anna the giraffe, Lucas the tiger, and other animals — each wearing a shirt with Rotary and End Polio Now logos — have raised about \$550,000 since their introduction in 2018. In addition to giving the animals to sick children, Rotarians carry them on their travels and snap photos of them at iconic landmarks. "All these animals have travelled, being ambassadors of the Rotary brand," says Uribe, a member of the Rotary Club of Nuevo Medellín and, like Londoño, a past governor of District 4271. Londoño is a member of the Rotary Club of Medellín Nutibara. The couple also manage the Fundación Monica Uribe Por Amor, which assists children with spina bifida. Activity in the fight against polio, stuffed animals from the zoo of love were delivered, each doll is equivalent to 5 vaccines and also the doll provides emotional support to sick children. Very innovative project and no wonder



that the Rotary International identified the project as one of the significant projects of 2024.

MY FITNESS CHALLENGE



The need for maintaining fitness was inculcated in me from the school days itself. I studied upto IXth standard at the reputed Kotagiri Public School where Physical Education was compulsory for all children. Every morning we have to undergo physical training before the commencement of the day's activities. Each evening, various skills in playing all major games are taught. The school has a number of play grounds for all major games, including Cricket, Hockey, Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Kho-kho and Tennis. Besides these, indoor games like Shuttle Badminton, Table-Tennis, Carroms and Chess were also available. I chose Table Tennis which I continued during my studies in the S D College too. While in College, a couple of years I served as Table Tennis Team Captain also. After my college, I started playing Shuttle Badminton which lasted for about 25 years. I used to practice every day morning and this helped me to increase the proficiency in Shuttle Badminton and started winning competitions. I became the Alleppey District Shuttle Badminton Champion in doubles pairing with Prathipal of Pulimoottil. Again partnering with Rtn Ayyappan, now in e-Club Dubai, won the title in Rotary competitions held at Rotary District level and Runner up in the succeeding year. I had opportunity to serve as Vice-President of Alleppey District Ball and Shuttle Badminton Association for 5 years and presently holding the post of Sr.Vice President. Around 8 years back, I had had a fall while playing and fractured my knee ligament which kept me away from the Badminton court for nearly one year period. Even though I restarted playing shuttle Badminton I could not play my natural game due to sustained aching. I decided to shift my fitness activities to cycling, jogging and exercises in gymnasium etc. I must confess here that I was not very regular as I used to be in the like pre-injury days. However I used to do something or the other atleast for 4/5 days in a week. I go for cycling continuously for a few days and then change over to walking or Gym depending upon the mood of the day. Of late I started swimming practice also as alternate sport. I wish to continue the lifestyle like this if not better it to maintain my fitness level.



Rtn Rosie John

Rtn Rosie John joined RC Alleppey in the year 2018 by transferring her membership from RC Sherthallai. For her, RC Alleppey has never been a new Club as it has been always been a springboard for both PDG John C Neroth in his Rotary career and Rtn Rosie John in her Innerwheel journey. Rosie is the Charter President of Innerwheel Club of Shertallai in the year 1982 and became IW District Chairman in the year 1989-90. Consequent to her change of club, she became active in the IWC Alleppey too. She became President of the Innerwheel Club for the second time in Alleppey during 1999-2000. She took the mantle of Presidentship again during the Golden Jubilee year of IWC Alleppey in the year 2019-2020. She has demonstrated exemplary performance in the IWC, contributing significantly to its success and vibrance. As the spouse of Past District Governor John C. Neroth, she has been a steadfast supporter and active participant in Rotary's mission. Recently, Rosie along with other CoG members brought elegance and charm to the Retro fashion show performances where she captivated everyone by dressing up as an old time actress. Her performance was both nostalgic and inspiring, leaving a lasting impression on all attendees.

We are proud to recognize her dedication, creativity, and enthusiasm. Congratulations, Rosie, for shining brightly this week and Royalweeks happily places Rtn Rosie John in the spotlight, this week.

NEXT MEETING

@7.30 pm on 29.01.2025. Host: Rtn Dr. Sethu Ravi.



4 Rtn. Aju Jacob Mathew **7** Rtn'e. Rosamma Jacob w/o Rtn. Jacob Neroth
7 Annet Anju d/o. Rtn. R. Sreenivasan **9** Rtn. Jijo Chacko **9** Rtn. Dr. Sethu Ravi
14 Vidhu M Unnithan **19** Annet Gowri Sankar (S/o Unnikrishnan)
20 Annet Anoop S/o Rtn. T. Sivakumar **20** Ajith B S **22** Rtn. T. Sivakumar
26 Annet Sharat s/o Tomi Eapen **27** Rtn. V. Deepak

JANUARY



1 Rtn. Thomaskutty Joseph & Tessy
10 Rtn. Jacob Philipose & Sethu
25 Rtn. Murugan & Sindhu **26** Rtn. Babu Joseph & Neena
27 Rtn. Prof. Gopinathan Nair & Vijayalakshmi Nair

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.Chorian
CLUB TRAINER - Rtn R.Krishnan | **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY** - Rtn George Thomas
Jt. 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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