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To contribute to our newsletter, please send your articles, photos and input to our editor via Whatsapp.

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**Happy
New Year
2026**

Cheers to another year of service and fellowship!

Empowering Women Through The Pink Auto Project

Fueling a New Chapter for Women Entrepreneurs

The Rotary Club of Annanagar Madras, with the **generous support of Aptus Value Housing Finance Ltd.**, has launched a transformative initiative to empower women by providing 20 CNG Pink Auto Rickshaws. Implemented **in collaboration with the Association for Non-traditional Employment for Women (ANEW)**, this project aims to enhance mobility, create sustainable livelihoods, and promote financial independence for deserving women.

Each vehicle, valued at ₹2,70,000 (including insurance and taxes), is made possible through a blended support model:

- ₹1,00,000 CSR subsidy from Aptus
- ₹20,000 contribution from the beneficiary
- ₹1,50,000 loan repayable by the beneficiary

On 4th December 2025, the first 12 CNG Pink Auto Rickshaws were handed over in a warm and inspiring ceremony. This milestone marks a **significant step toward economic empowerment and gender-inclusive development**, reinforcing the club's commitment to community service and impactful change. The initiative will be closely monitored over the next three years to ensure meaningful and long-lasting impact.



CHIEF GUEST

Shri M. Anandan, Founder & Executive Chairman, Aptus Value Housing Finance Ltd

GUESTS OF HONOUR

Rtn. AKS Vinod Saraogi, District Gov, RI 3234
Dr. Annalakshmi, Founder Member & Chairperson, ANEW



RYLA Plus Rotary Youth Programme

A Transformative Vocational Learning Experience for Students

The Rotary Club of Anna Nagar Madras, in partnership with **ACE Academy (London, UK)**, launched the **RYLA Plus Rotary Youth Programme 2025-26** - an immersive, high-impact development journey designed for Interact School students. **Students from 6 Interact schools** would be participating in this **5 month long online project**. The programme blends **vocational training, leadership development, and real-world project implementation**, enabling students to gain invaluable skills for their academic and professional futures.

"The RYLA + Rotary Youth Program launch went off very well. I would like to thank the President, Secretary and Youth Services Director for all the support and encouragement which helped us to kick start this program for the Interactors.

My sincere thanks to Rtn Sharda Ramani, Dist Vocational Chairperson who was the Chief Guest. Also, YSD Rtn Bala and Chitra who were so actively involved in getting the entire program in place, Rtn PP Vikash for agreeing to be the Guest of Honour, Annette Pavitra for the lovely invite, Rtn Shoba for being the Emcee. Thank you Ann Lakshmi and Ann Hamsa for the introductions.

All our dear Rotarians and Anns who logged in and were part of the program and, last but not least, the large hearted sponsors without whom all this would not have been possible."

- Rtn. Lekha Venugopal, Director-International Service

Mission Accomplished: Healing Hands!

Coming together to provide a moment of hope

Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Annanagar Madras proudly handed over a cheque of Rs. 1,80,000 to the parents of a **child in need of critical surgery** at the **Madras Medical Mission, Chennai**. This entire amount was collected through the **generous contributions** of our dedicated members. This is what service above self looks like. We wish the child a speedy recovery!



Rotary Club of Anna Nagar Madras Holds Second Closed Door Meeting for Rotary Year 2025–26

RCANM successfully conducted its **second Closed Door Meeting** for the Rotary Year 2025–26. The session commenced with a **welcome address by the President**, setting the tone for focused discussion and review.

Avenue Directors presented **detailed explanations of their respective projects**, highlighting ongoing initiatives and future plans. The Treasurer then presented the **audited accounts for 2024–25** and explained the **current status of the Administration and Service Accounts**, ensuring transparency and clarity. The Club Trainer briefed members on the **updated Bye-Laws aligned with the Rotary International model**, which were discussed and duly passed. The Election Officer informed the house that nominations had been received for **various positions for the year 2026–27**, all of which were unanimous.

The meeting concluded with **President-Elect Rtn. Mallika announcing her Board**, marking another important step in leadership continuity and effective governance for the club.



Christmas/New Year Celebration





The Green Revolution on 26th Dec, was a fun-filled evening of games, good food and great ambience.

The Green Rotarians played a big part in organizing energetic games. Rtn. PP. Chitra Mukunnan who coordinated the whole event made sure that a pleasant evening was had by all.

Kudos to the Committees

Registration Counter

Rtn Lekha Venugopal

Ann Rupamalini

Rtn Shoba Panicker

Decorations

Pres. Nandakumar

Ann Rupamalini

Ann Nisha

Annette Ashish

Mr Kishore

Menu

Rtn PP M K Chetty

Rtn PP Radhika Ramkumar

Games

Rtn Raaju

Rtn Vikrama Krishna

Rtn Mohan Raj

IPP Aravindan

Housie

Rtn PP Radhika Ramkumar

Rtn Lekha Venugopal

Raffle Draw

Ann Renu Chandra

Ann Madhu Mathur

Sponsors for Raffle Draw

Rtn PP Radhika Ramkumar

Ann Renu Chandra

Ann Madhu Mathur

Pres. Nandakumar

Pres. Elect Mallika

Rtn Renu Sawlani (2)

Rtn Lekha Venugopal

Rtn Shoba Panicker

Ann Rupamalini

Rtn PP Chitra Mukunnan

Gifts

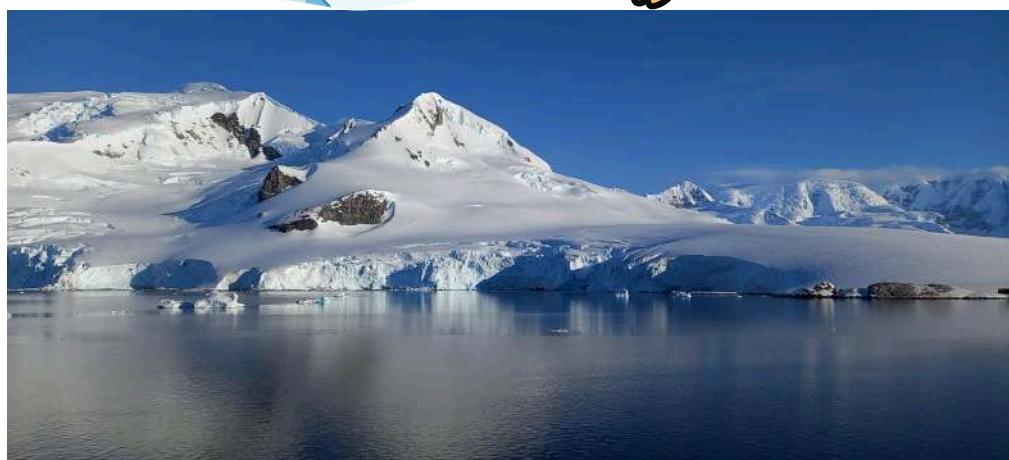
All RCANM Family members

Polar plunge in Antarctica

by Ann Renu Chandra



An expedition to the 7th Continent Antarctica was long on my bucket list and November 2025 we finally took the "plunge". A long flight to Buenos Aires, followed by an enjoyable tour to Ushuai, the southern most city on our planet and we were on the luxurious World Navigator. The next 12 days were pure magic with the grandeur and sheer magnitude of Nature's panorama, absolutely stunning with millions of penguins, pristine snow & massive ice bergs. The climax of the voyage was a plunge into the freezing waters of the ocean. I had butterflies in my stomach, a lot of trepidation and severe dilemma to go or not to go. Finally I steeled myself and followed Nike's tag line of "Just do it". Calling all the Gods to my aid, I just jumped in. What a relief that I could swim up alive to the helping hand of crew. Of course a strong shot of Tequila was most welcome. The adventure lasted barely 30 seconds but the memory will last me a life time.



Antarctica Expedition
November 2025

PROJECT ANNADHANAM

Report by President Rtn Nandakumar



On 29th December, Our Club participated in a very fulfilling project at a home for Mentally affected called "Manithaneya Kaapagam" at Pattabiram. This was jointly with the Rotractors of Anna Adarsh College for Women.

This home looks after patients who are mentally disturbed, requiring long term care and not wanted by family, mostly referred to them from the Mental hospital at Kilpauk. There are about 55 people at present at the home.

Our club provided for the lunch and cakes as a celebration for the coming New Year, sponsored by Rtn Chitra Joseph with a donation of Rs. 10,000 🙏 ! This was also our Annadhanam project for the month.



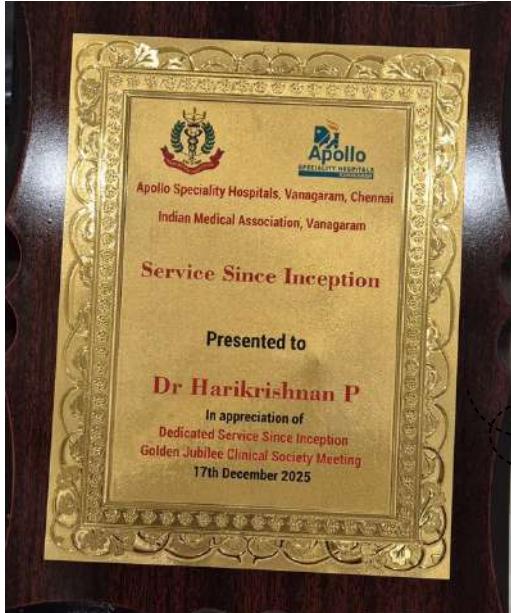
Chief Guest PP Rtn Radhika Ramkumar addressed the event & distribute the Cakes & Blankets We also distributed blankets to all the inmates at a cost of Rs.29,000 with the help of donors.

Dr. Helen, Ophthalmologist with Agarwal Eye Hospital and a friend of Rtn Singaravel, conducted eye testing and found a few requiring corrective measures as given in the msg above.

I thank Rtn Ramasubramanian, Rtn Radhika, Rtn Singaravel, Rtn Vikrama Krishna & Ann Kala & First Lady Lalitha for their presence and support.

The Rotractors of Anna Adarsh & New College kept the inmates entertained with music and games and also helped in organizing from Morning 10AM to 6pm.

CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS!



Apollo Speciality Hospital Vanagaram presented “Service Since Inception” Award to Rtn. Harikrishnan on 17th December.

IN THE NEWS



**Hearty congratulations Mr Anandan.
We are so proud to have you as a
member of our Rotary family.**

IN THE ROTARY NEWS

Dialysis unit donated

Under a CSR initiative in association with Aptus Value Housing Finance India, RC Anna Nagar Madras, RID 3234, dedicated a Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) dialysis unit to the Stanley Government Medical College and Hospital, Chennai. Valued at ₹20 lakh, the unit will provide renal support to critically ill ICU patients and is estimated to benefit over 1,000 patients annually.



DG Vinod Saroogi (third from R) at the installation event of the new dialysis unit.

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Youth in Action

INTERACTORS MAKE AN IMPACT



26/11/25

Interact club - Vels Vidyashram Dharga road Pallavaram distributed uniform, bags, lab coats, and shocks to students of government higher secondary school and panchayat union Elementary school, old Perungalathur



Janistha, a seventh grade student of Govt Model Higher Secondary School, Arumbakkam school, won the essay competition organized by the Department of News and Public Relations on 27.11.25 and received a prize and certificate from the Honorable Minister



In the Thirukkural Complete Recitation Competition held on 07.12.25 in Chennai District, out of the 12 students selected, 8 students are from Government Model Higher Secondary School Arumbakkam



AND ROTRACT TOO...

Rotract Anna Adarsh College for Women won Outstanding Project and Rising club Recognition from the "Prism" held by the Rotary District.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The Rotary Year for 2026-2027 runs from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Key information regarding this period includes the Rotary International President, the theme, and the host city for the international convention.

2026-2027 Rotary Year Details

Rotary International President: Rotarian Olayinka Hakeem Babalola from Nigeria has been selected to become the Rotary International President for the 2026-27 term, the second African to hold the position.



Theme: The official theme for the 2026-27 Rotary Year is "Serve with Heart. Lead with Purpose.".

International Convention: The 2027 Rotary International Convention is scheduled to take place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from May 22-26, 2027. This will be the first convention held in the Middle East. Honolulu, Hawaii, was previously a potential host but was dropped due to convention center renovations.

Other Initiatives for 2026-2027

Literacy Goal: Rotary in India has an ambitious goal to achieve functional literacy for every Indian citizen by the year 2027, an effort extended due to the pandemic.

Grant Programs: Clubs are working towards qualifying for the District Grant Program for the 2026-2027 Rotary Year to fund local and international humanitarian projects.

District Governor: In Rotary District 9214 (Uganda & Tanzania), Daniel Damulira is the District Governor-Elect for 2026-27, with the theme "Each One Engage for Impact".



Annette Shikha D/o Rtn. Shoba Panicker
in Manaus, Amazon

“Rotary
Everywhere”...

Madhu Mathur's

QUOTE CORNER

We must make the twenty-first century a century of human rights. We must build a society that has more than its short-term profit as its goal. To do that, the first step is to respect ourselves and to live with dignity, self-confidence and pride. Such people are then able to treat others with respect.

- Daisaku Ikeda

Rotary



**JANUARY IS
VOCATIONAL SERVICES MONTH**

"TEAMWORK IS THE ABILITY TO WORK TOGETHER TOWARD A COMMON VISION. THE ABILITY TO DIRECT INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES. IT IS THE FUEL THAT ALLOWS COMMON PEOPLE TO ATTAIN UNCOMMON RESULTS."

- ANDREW CARNEGIE



Happy
ANNIVERSARY

19th Jan: Rtn. PHF PP Devnani D.S & Spouse Ms. Promila

28th Jan: Rtn. Rosy Clement & Spouse Mr. J. Felix Clement



Happy
BIRTHDAY

12th Jan: Rtn. S Pradeep

**17th Jan: Ann. Nagu
W/o Rtn. PHF PP Ramasamy A**

23rd Jan: Rtn. PHF PP Vikash Chandra

**26th Jan: Ann. Madhu
W/o Rtn. PHF PP Niranjan Mathur**

**26th Jan: Spouse Anandan
H/o Rtn. Padma Anandan**



TIME FOR HUMOR... 

A doctor, lawyer, and a Rotarian in charge of fundraising all die and arrive at the Pearly Gates about the same time. St. Peter tells them they may each have one thing to take with them to Heaven.

The doctor is first, and asks for \$1 million. This is given and proceeds to enter Heaven. The lawyer, not to be outdone, asks for \$2 million. "Very well," say St. Peter and opens the gate to Heaven for the lawyer.

Finally it is time for the Rotarian, who had just finished a fundraising project for The Rotary Foundation. St. Peter asks him what he would like to take to Heaven. The fundraiser moves up very close to St. Peter, and in a soft voice asks, "It's not too much trouble, could I just have the names of those two people who were ahead of me in line?"