

THE LIGHTHOUSE

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS
ISSUE 18 | NOVEMBER 7, 2023

BUILDING RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITIES



HAPPY
Diwali
THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



Dear RCMers,

**Diwali greetings
from the RCM family.**

May the Festival of Lights
illuminate and celebrate
the wondrous cause of
Rotary.

Warmly,
Rtn. Sunita Suresh



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WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

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Stay updated with our
very own RCM magazine!

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Rotary



ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

19th WEEKLY MEETING

Tuesday, 14th November 2023 | 6.30 pm
at Hyatt Regency, Chennai.

After the resounding success of G20
we are inspired to bring to you G4
but wait a minute, what is G4?



**IS A PROGRAMME OF RCM,
BY RCM AND FOR RCM**

Want to know more ? Watch out for it !!

Please note that spouses are
cordially invited for this meeting.

Rtn. S. Ravi

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Rtn. M. Sessa Sai

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Rtn. Vikram Chesetty
Director Club Service

Rtn. Sandhya Sridhar
Chairperson
Programs Committee

Minutes of the 18th Weekly Meeting of Rotary Club of Madras

held at the Hyatt Regency on 7.11.23 at 1.30 PM

Call to Order and Invocation :

Sergeant at Arms PP Rtn. Mohan Raman collared President Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan, who formally called the 18th weekly meeting of RCM to order, followed by a Silent Invocation.

Attendance :

1. Visiting Rotarians
2. Probus Club Members
3. Vaanoli Anna
4. Mr. Venkatesh
5. Mr. Chinmayi
6. Mr. Daulat Jain
7. Mr. Arul Palaniappan
8. Mr. Venugopal Reddy
9. Ms. Varsha Teacher, Coordinator from Sankara Vidyashramam Senior Secondary School and Interact Coordinator from Sankara School

Announcements:

Rtn. Sailesh Vummidi made announcements regarding the International Fellowship of Cricket Loving Rotarians and the recent tournament.

Rotaract President Sankara School shared highlights of the RYLA Kumbakonam camp.

Rtn. Shankar Mangadu provided an update on the medical camps organised by RCM along with other clubs in District 3232.

Rtn. Vani spoke about the e-waste collection drive and urged members to contribute.

Rtn. Shivkumar Easwaran announced the upcoming Cricket Carnival organised by RCM.

Rtn. Sesha Sai shared details about the next week's meeting and other club-related updates.



Guest Speaker:

Founder Chairman and M.D of Data Pattern India Ltd, Mr. Rangarajan, was the guest speaker of the meeting.

Vote of Thanks :

Rtn. Govind Parekh delivered the vote of thanks.

Adjournment :

The 18th weekly meeting of the RCM was adjourned.

BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| Nov. 6th | - | Rtn. Vikram Jalan |
| Nov. 7th | - | Rtn. Nalini Radhakrishnan |
| Nov. 8th | - | Rtn. Raja V. |
| Nov. 9th | - | Rtn. Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti |
| Nov. 11th | - | Rtn. Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan Dr. |
| Nov. 6th | - | Ann. Nita, Spouse of Hiren Bhaskar Shah |
| Nov. 6th | - | Ann. Kiran Jhaver, Spouse of Jhaver R.K. |
| Nov. 6th | - | Ann. Nilaya Reddy V. Dr., Spouse of Yashwanth Kumar Venkataraman Dr. |
| Nov. 8th | - | Ann. Lalitha, Spouse of Rajesh Shankar |
| Nov. 10th | - | Ann. Vasanthi, Spouse of Raja K.N. PP |
| Nov. 12th | - | Ann. Rajeev Mecheri, Spouse of Rinku Mecheri |

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|-----------|---|----------------------------------|
| Nov. 8th | - | Rtn. Harikrishna D & Smitha |
| Nov. 12th | - | Rtn. Linesh Sanatkumar & Rajshri |

SUNSHINE

Rtn. Harikrishna

- Rs.2000/-

From the 18th Meeting of Rotary Club of Madras Nov. 7, 2023







Mr. Rangarajan, Founder,

Data Patterns Ltd. shared his experience of starting an Electronic Company being a Chemical Engineer. The key takes away are presented below.

Highlights of his speech, the hurdles he faced on this journey and the sharing of some of the mistakes and his learning in his span of 30 years and how he overcame those to become a success story.

- **Formative years** - from a middle-class joint family in Abhiramapuram, schooling at Vidya Mandir with his elder brother Mr. Murali outshining him in every way, so much so that he was called Murali Thambi, shaped and inspired him to make something of himself.
- **Sports instilled discipline and confidence** - He spoke about the gold medal he earned at school & the national sports competition he participated in, how earning a gold medal gave him confidence to move further in a positive way, and the motivation he attained because of it.
- **Going against the grain** - He spoke about the passion to become an entrepreneur since his schooling because all his friends were from the upper class and a popular belief was that one would get 'spoilt' by associating with the privileged bunch.
- **His professors from IIT helped him to build that self-confidence** and suggested that he join a marketing management course and he spent a huge amount of time learning about the case studies which weren't taught in his college, so that he could get a fair idea to start his own business.
- **Data Patterns was born** - He spoke about how he started Data Patterns with the support of a colleague from Customer support who was good at electronics from his previous company at Bangalore where he worked as marketing executive for 4 years and landed up in Madras at his father's office.
- **The main idea of Data Patterns** was to use the computer for non-computing applications and put on add-on hardware.
- **Many Firsts** - He was proud to convey that his company was the first one to implement that idea in India just after a few developed countries like the USA implemented it, Being a pioneer, he had to face a lot of obstacles to handle and also, he spoke about the time he took to come out of the failure with the support of his wife.
- **Managing Finances** was the next hurdle - He advocates use of common sense, being debt free and getting professional financial consultants
- **Venturing into other applications & designing** and the world class products he made post the failure he faced initially & how he jumped into test systems from gas chromatography systems, different advanced welding machines and how they supplied it to BHEL and other big brands.
- **Trials and Successes** - He spoke about the general-purpose system and his pathetic experience he faced trying to sell the first system and the first bank loan without

He was proud to convey that his company was the first one to implement that idea in India just after a few developed countries like the USA implemented it

collateral and department of space and launch count down facility in 2002. The pride he took in supplying the test system and launch count down facility at Trivandrum till date with 30 inhouse staff.

- He also spoke about collaborating with DRDO and venturing into DRDO's imported products and how they evolved into building full products in electronics in the span of 5 to 7 years like microwaves, control systems, mechanical engineering, entire structural design, thermos modelling & how he always strived to build competency.
- Leading the Pack - He spoke about how they became a training ground for giant companies, how much they have kept to keep things on track & hallmarked. And In 2008 they built a

6-acre building along with the infrastructure.

- Today he was proud that they managed an end to end in electronic war.
- He spoke about how DRDO evolved post-independence and the time he took to crack the deal with DRDO & radars and in 2021 he had a partner who took the firm from private to public and how his company's shares are today at a good value.
- Make in India - Finally, he concluded how he wanted to make everything in India & be a monopoly in his business and wanted to build a sustainable cost-effective model with high end specifications. And how we wanted to take risks & enter into other advanced segments of defence & aerospace in future as well to make our country proud.

RCM members attended Diwali Get together of IWC Madras on Sunday 5th Nov.



CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CAMP AT BOYS TOWN SOCIETY, GUMMUDIPOONDI

Our latest children's medical camp was conducted on the 4th of November for the children of Boys Town Society and the students at the Technical Training Center at Gummudipoondi. Inaugurated by CS 2 Director Rtn Bharat Pujara the camp was attended by Rotarians Ravishankar, NK Bhatia, AM Visvanathan, Suresh Amirappu, Rakesh Jaiswal and Dr Sangeetha Viswanathan.

The camp saw participation of 98 children from BTS, 29 students from TTC as well as 7 members of staff and 2 of their children amounting to a total of 136 participants. The Medical partners for this camp included the Kanchi Kamakoti CHILDS Trust (KKCT) Hospital (general medical check-up and screening), Yash Dental (Dental Health) and VHS Multi Speciality Hospital (Eye Screening).

The Medical camp was held at the BTS campus with local volunteers and RCM staff Mr Kannan and Mr Arumugam helping in the set-up, administration and guiding of the beneficiaries. Mr Vinothkumar, the camp coordinator from KKCTH did a fantastic job with visiting the facility ahead of the camp to organise the logistics.

The children first attended the registration desk where they were issued a card listing the name and other demographic details. They then moved to the General Check-up conducted by KKCT Hos-





pital, where their heights and weights were measured, medical history recorded and general check-up done. Next up was the Dental Screening by Yash Dental and finally a comprehensive Eye Check up by VHS.

Outcomes from the camp were as follows:

26 students were identified to have vision problems. 13 of these were from BTS and the rest from TTC. These children will need a detailed check which VHS has kindly offered to do and possibly require spectacles. We will coordinate with CS-1 team to organise the same.

The majority of children had healthy teeth and only need routine dental care but some need filling, extraction or orthodontic treatment. We are looking at the possibility of using the services of the RCM Dental van along with Dr Yash's team to address the dental issues on site.

There were no major illnesses detected but several of the boarders had fungal skin infection and scabies

which are associated with communal living in close quarters and improperly cleaned/dried inner wear. Currently the children wash their clothes by hand and dry them. The medical team have suggested that perhaps using a washing machine to more thoroughly wash the garments and spin dry them would be helpful.

The medical cards and outcome reports have been handed over to the administration and we will be coordinating with them to help the children access further treatment with our medical partners.

Our thanks to the medical teams and local BTS staff/CS1 Team

The local team had organised a sumptuous breakfast and lunch for the medical teams and visiting Rotarians. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for their support.

From Kanchi Kamakoti CHILDS Trust Hospital: **Dr. Abhinath, Dr. Lavanya Devi, SN Ms. Vani, SN Ms. Ankita Kumari, ambulance driver Mr. Ramamoorthy, Marketing Manager D. Vinothkumar**

From Yash Dental:
Dr. Zahir Sha, SN Suryaprabha

From VHS: 6-member team of optometrists under the guidance of coordinator **Mr Murali** including **Tamilselvan, Swetha, Bhubanesh, Paul Samuel and Santhiya**

- Rtn Dr Sangeetha Viswanathan

THE PULSE ON THE GROUND

.....the engaged GREEN RCMer

A CONVERSATION WITH LADY WHISTLEDOWN

I would like to believe I am Lady Whistledown of the Bridgerton series once in a while, hence the "tete a tete" with one of our own (read member - Engagement).

All of you are "one of our own, but meet Rtn. Farzana Siraj, a not even one year old in RCM, doing her own impressionable thing for RCM, from working with the Holistic committee and putting up an amazing evening of work and fun for participants, to moderating speaker talks and more.

You choose which shade of green she is..... Young and mature green, says Lady Whistledown!

Let's get to know Farzana Siraj, PHFwho joined us this year March 21st!! Her forte is Health & wellness at the Orange Ray Holistic Clinic

1. What's the best place you've traveled to?

Though Kashmir, Greece, Austria, Switzerland and Bali were enticing, my favourite place till date remains when I sit down quietly undisturbed, meditate and travel within.

2. What's the most exciting part of your job?

The smile, the gratitude and the glint in the eyes of the patient who is now looking forward to a happy life ahead (post treatment).

3. What's something you find challenging about your work?

When patients approach you, it's not the treatment which is challenging but it's the motivation we need to give them to make changes and come out of their comfort zone. People expect positive changes in their health and life WITHOUT making any changes in their choices and lifestyle!

4. If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be?

At the current level of experience, I have come to realize that I am where I should be and even though some parts of the journey were bumpy, guess it was the complete ride which counts and it is worth every bump!

5. What is the last time you did something for the first time and what was it?

Two months back, I stayed with a pet kitten for 4 days(I am not comfortable with any pets) in my daughter's home and I think I managed well. For me it was a big achievement!

Yay! Kudos Farzana and thank you for sharing their amazing details that help us get to know you better.

Do share photos of your childhood, and others that show you. Thank you, we are happy for the moment conveys Lady Whistledown.

Enjoy!!! The Member Engagement Committee
Rtn. Shanno Varghese



Join us this month by participating in the e-waste collection drive. This initiative not only addresses the mounting issue of electronic waste but also promotes responsible disposal and recycling. We accept a wide range of electronic items, like old computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, printers, monitors, keyboards, mice, cables, and other peripherals. Additionally, household appliances like refrigerators, washing machines, and microwaves are accepted. The goal is to divert these items from landfills, ensuring they are recycled or disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner to reduce the environmental impact of electronic waste.

#ewasteclectiondrive
 #cleanerplanet
 #Reduceewaste

Drop off point:

Wasted 360 Solutions,
 T.Nagar, Chennai: 600017

Google Map Link:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/zDrpausVvV9fCcz97>

Do fill the google form once you send for our team to quantify and know you participated:

<https://forms.gle/WB4LfjahdsLYpi59A>

Thank you so much!

Environment Committee

Rtn. Gautam Reddy

Rtn. Dr. Vani Vijay





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