

# THE LIGHTHOUSE

BOND | BUILD | BRING CHEER

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS | ISSUE 06 | August 11, 2024





Dear RCMers,

If there is one project that warms the cockles of every RCMer's heart, it is "Save A Little Heart".

So it is indeed heartening to see the return of "Save a Little Heart" under the aegis of RCM, Redington and Apollo.

Happy reading !



**Rtn.Shivkumar Eashwaran**  
Editor

**Rtn.A.R.Raghunandan**  
Chairperson

**Mr.Madhu Mathen**  
Co-Chairperson

**Rotary Club of Madras**  
invites you to the

**78<sup>th</sup>**  
**INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION 2024**  
& 7th Weekly Meeting  
at **BOYS TOWN GUMMIDIPOONDI**  
Thursday, 15th August 2024 | 10.30 am

10.30 am : **Flag Hoisting**  
Chief Guest : **Mr. Millind Gotpagar**  
Manager Administration & Facility Management,  
Wartsila Lanka Private Limited.  
**Mr. Dennis Joseph Mathews**  
Country Agreement Manager  
Wartsila Lanka Private Limited.

11.00 am : RCM 7th Weekly Meeting  
12.30 pm : Biryani Lunch

Special tree planting in Honor of the long service  
of **Rtn PP V K Chandrakumar** to Rotary club of Madras

**Dress Code : Tricolour Attire**

**Rtn. G. Chella Krishna**  
President  
**Rtn. Shanno Ravi**  
Director - Club Service  
**Rtn. Rakesh Jaiswal**  
Chairperson-Boys Town

**Rtn. Rajesh Mani**  
Honorary Secretary  
**Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan**  
Director - Community Service 1

# THE LIGHTHOUSE

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- Immediate Past President**  
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Rtn. Rahul Saraogi

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- Chairperson** : Rtn. Akur Raman Raghunandan
- Co-Chairman** : Mr.Madhu Mathen
- Mentors** : Rtn.PP.N.K.Gopinath  
Rtn.PP.IndraSubramanyam

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- Rtn.Reji Joseph, Rtn.Maya Thiagarajan
- Rtn.Fharzana Siraj, Rtn.Dr.M.Parkavi,
- Mr.Vikrm.S.Eashwaran, Rtn.Govind Parikh
- Rtn.Rakesh Jaiswal, Rtn.Dr.Rama Narasimhan

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**Rotary Club of Madras (RCM)**  
**Minutes of the 6th Weekly Meeting Held on 06.08.24**  
 at Hyatt Regency, Teynampet, Chennai

**Call to Order and Invocation:**

The meeting commenced at 01:30 PM.  
 Sergeant at Arms, Rtn. Jayanth Hemdev, collared the President.  
 President Rtn. Chella Krishna called the 6th weekly meeting to order.  
 A silent invocation was observed.

**Welcome and Confirmation:**

Rtn. Chella Krishna welcomed honorary the guest of honour, Mr. N. Shanmuganathan, who was escorted to the dais.  
 Confirmation of the minutes of the 5th weekly meeting was requested and obtained.

**Introduction of Visiting Rotarians and Guests:**

Visiting Rotarians were introduced, including Rtn. SN Balasubramaniam from the Rotary Club of Chennai Green City.  
 President Rtn. Leela Devi from the Rotary Club of Chennai Green City was also welcomed.  
 Probian guests Sargunaraj.D and Muralikrishnan.S were welcomed.

**Member Announcements:**

President Rtn. Chella Krishna formally welcomed everyone, especially the guest of honor, Mr. N. Shanmuganathan.  
 Rtn. Dr.Sangeetha Viswanathan updated the club on recent events: Inauguration of the RCM Reddington Apollo Save a Little Heart Project funding 50 children’s heart surgeries.  
 Donation of a breast milk pasteurizer to the Institute of Child Health during Breastfeeding Awareness Week.  
 Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan invited members to the Independence Day celebration at Rotary Nagar and Boys Town in Gummidipoondi, highlighting the tree planting ceremony in honour of Rtn.PP.V.K.Chandrakumar.

**Recognition and Awards:**

PDG Vasu Goyal from Nepal and visitors from the Rotary Club Bengaluru Agara were recognized.  
 Rtn.PDG. S. Krishnaswami was presented the “Service Award for a Polio-Free World”. This is an award that honours Rotarians who have made outstanding contributions to Rotary’s polio eradication efforts.

**Member Induction:**

Ms. Archana Parekh was introduced and inducted as a new member of the Rotary Club.



She was introduced by Rtn.PP.George B.Chेरian and Presented with the pin by Rtn.PP.Dr.Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan.

Rtn.Archana Parekh will join the Community Service 2 (Health Initiatives) with Chairperson Rtn. Sangeetha Viswanathan.

**Flag Exchange:**

The President then invited visiting Rotarian Edward Chelladurai of the Rotary Club of Bengaluru Agara, to come forward to exchange Club flags. He was presented with RCM’s “A Timeless Legacy” book.

**Secretary’s Announcements:**

Birthdays for the week were announced.  
 Upcoming events, including the Timeless Wisdom session on 11th August and the next meeting on 15th August, were highlighted.

**Introduction of Chief Guest:**

Rtn. R. Vasudevan introduced the Chief Guest, Rtn. N. Shanmuganathan, an accomplished author and academician.  
 Rtn. N. Shanmuganathan’s focus on economics, financial systems, and monetary policy was highlighted, along with his book, “RIP USD, 1971 to 2020X”.

**Address by Chief Guest:**

Chief Guest Rtn. N. Shanmuganathan addressed the Rotarians, explaining the fragile foundations of the US Dollar and predicting that the collapse of its purchasing power is imminent. The talk was followed by a Q&A session.

**Closing:**

President Chella Krishna thanked the Chief Guest and presented a memento and the “Timeless Legacy” book.  
 Rtn. Rajesh Mani delivered the Vote of Thanks.  
 The meeting was adjourned by the President.

# Dire Predictions

The speaker this week was Shanmuganathan N. (aka Shan) who has recently written a book on the economy titled "RIP U\$D 1971-202X and the Way Forward".

It was interesting being taken through the different schools of economics from the far left (Marxism) through to the far right which - according to the speaker - led to liberty and prosperity. He delved into something called Austrian Capitalism where the Government has a restricted role concerning itself only with protection of private property and enforcement of legal contracts.

We then shifted gear to monetary transactions. The US Constitution was cited here: "No State shall make anything but gold and silver coin, a tender in payment of debts." The barter system was discussed in a manner reminiscent of the popular board game "The Settlers of Catan". Wheat is the most solid commodity to stock - long-lasting and everyone needs it at some point. He delved into its flaws, and the consequent gradual shift to paper money.

The quote that was quite telling was the one by Barry Eichengreen, author of "Exorbitant Privilege: The Rise and Fall of the Dollar and Future of the International Monetary System" in which he is quoted as saying "It costs only a few cents for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to produce a \$100 bill, but other countries had to pony up \$100 of actual goods to obtain one."



The predictions grew more dire as the talk went on, essentially setting out that because we no longer link money to gold reserves - as was meant to be the case at the start. Gold is durable, divisible, and a solid measure to set currency against. The fact that the US and most Governments now print money when they feel it necessary, it means that boom-bust cycles are inevitable and the current bubble is much bigger than 2008. And every bubble will at some point - burst. The US is, according to him, an empire on the verge of complete collapse / decimation.

The National Debt in the US is 35 trillion Dollars and set to get worse. As compared to this, India did better in terms of growth under Congress than the BJP. (He made it clear that he was not a fan of either party.) Our problems he said, were self-created - we need to balance our

books/budget and learn to live within our means. As for what we should be investing in: Agricultural land apparently!

There were some telling quotes included; George Washington had said in 1787: "Paper money has had the effect in your state that it will ever have, to ruin commerce, oppress the honest, and open the door to every species of fraud and injustice." James Madison: "Paper money is unjust. It is unconstitutional for it affects the rights of property as much as taking away equal value in land."

A series of questions followed - which our speaker answered patiently, to do with what will replace the Dollar - would it be BRICS - and can it really be so, that governments can just print money on a whim (yes is the answer apparently). The talk was heavy on content and worrying in its predictions. One hopes that somehow, he has got it all wrong. Still, John Adams, the father of Economics, had had this to say: "All the perplexities, confusion and distress in America arise not from defects in their Constitution or Confederation, not from want of honour or virtue, so much as from the downright ignorance of the nature of coin, credit, and circulation."

During the Vote of Thanks, Rtn.Rajesh Mani commented that those who had left before the Q&A must be on their way to following this top tip and off hunting for a good plot to purchase!

*Rtn.Shaan Libby*

## RC Chennai Green City Rotarians' visit to Rotary Club of Madras



To make an appearance at a meeting of Rotary Club of Madras (RCM), mother of all Clubs in this part of the country, is an experience by itself.

To be invited as a visiting Rotarian to attend a speaker meeting of RCM is an honour. The speaker being a Charter Member of your home Club makes it a double bonanza. I had the pleasure of listening to the erudite presentation of Rtn. Shanmuganathan on his recently launched thought provoking book titled RIP-USD-1971-202X to the well informed members of RCM. Rtn. Leeladevi, President of Rotary Club of Chennai Green City was also present.

Thanks for the invitation, we had many takeaways!

The seven years old RC Chennai Green City has been carrying out

well balanced programmes and projects under the Five Avenues of Service & Seven Areas of Focus with members of diverse classifications and demography.

Notable projects include provision of toilet blocks at Govt Middle School, Creation of Library, Smart classrooms, Miyawaki forest etc at Govt High School, Provision of dialysis machine as part of Global Grant programme, Construction of a primary School at a cost of Rs 1 crore through CSR contribution and Donation of a Mobile Hospital to Saveetha Medical College and Hospital through CSR.

Among Signature projects, Nalam Rotary Medical Centre organises medical camps at regular intervals, Project DIYA provides clothes and lunch to inmates of Annai Bharata Matha Educational

And Charitable Trust and Rotary Painter Decor Space imparts painting skills to the underprivileged.

The recent project under District Grant was the installation of Air Quality Monitoring Sensor at Spencer Plaza to create awareness on Air Quality to the public at large leading to actionable intelligence, apart from sponsoring Interact Clubs and Rotaract Clubs. RC Chennai Green City has sponsored two active Rotary Community Corps. Family participation programmes through outings and "Taking Rotary to Members Homes" programmes ensure camaraderie and bonhomie amongst members.

- **Rtn. S. N. Balasubramanian**  
RC Chennai Green City





# ‘Save A Little Heart’ Global Grant Project

## The background

Congenital heart defects or CHD (i.e., birth defects of the heart) are the most common major birth defects seen in newborns world-over, with 1 out of 120 babies born having a heart defect. Of these, 25% are life threatening or critical and need to be treated urgently. CHD has become a major cause of infant mortality in our country (death in babies less than a year of age). Treatment of CHD therefore has become a healthcare priority to reduce the infant mortality ratio (IMR) in our nation.

## What RCM wanted to achieve

With 1 out of 120 babies being born with CHD, the scale of the problem is indeed mind-boggling. Although the government and public sector hospitals are making attempts to tackle the issue, there is a paucity of expertise and resources, which results in the untimely demise of several babies for want of treatment, purely due to lack of access to quality healthcare.

At Rotary Club of Madras, we hoped to add our might to this effort to combat congenital heart defects in newborns and children, by part funding their treatment at a tertiary care facility. As part of this process, we also wanted to raise awareness amongst our members and partner organizations, to build a sustained focus on this critical area of newborn care.

## How did we go about it

Most babies presenting with CHD belong to the lower socio-economic strata, and their families would ordinarily not be able to afford the treatment for most heart defects. However, there are some

<b>Commencement of Project Enrolment:</b>	<b>03.03.23</b>
<b>Completion of Project Enrolment:</b>	<b>18.05.24</b>
<b>Total no of beneficiaries:</b>	<b>142</b>



centers in Tamilnadu that undertake treatment of these children by raising funds from philanthropic organizations and individuals. We partnered with the pediatric cardiac program based at Apollo Children’s Hospital (ACH), Chennai, which is one such program which provides state of the art care to patients from all over Tamilnadu and India, irrespective of their socio-economic status.

An appeal for funds was put out to the members by then President Rtn. Jayshree Sridhar, which resulted in an avalanche of support and the program began as a member funded initiative. This was soon scaled up to a Global Grant to facilitate more pediatric cardiac procedures. Nearly 80 children’s surgeries were made possible by the generosity of the members of the Rotary Club of Madras alone, led by the then President Rtn Jayshree Sridhar, who made a personal contribution of 5 lac rupees.

## The children we have helped...

We were able to help 142 children in all, 71 of whom were female (equal number of girls and

boys). The ages of the children ranged from 9 days to 18 years, with an average age of 4.5 years. The children were predominantly from

Tamilnadu although we also had children from Pondicherry (11), Andra Pradesh (6), Meghalaya (8), West Bengal (2) and as a special dispensation, 5 children from the African continent (4 from Uganda and 1 from Ghana).

In the first phase of the project, a total of 65 patients were enrolled. 40 of these patients underwent keyhole procedures (stenting, ballooning, device procedures) and 25 patients underwent open heart surgeries. In the second phase, we decided that we would support only surgeries, as these were more resource intensive. 77 patients underwent open heart surgery in the second phase of the program. Overall, out of the 142 patients, there were 4 deaths (< 3% mortality rate) which can be an unavoidable albeit unfortunate outcome in pediatric cardiac surgical practice.

Most children who undergo treatment for heart defects during early life go on to lead healthy and productive lives; going to university, finding employment, getting married and having children of their own, thereby contributing to the well-being of their families and society at large. Timely detection and treatment are the key determinants of outcome in these children and funding is often the main roadblock in this process.

We hope that our efforts have helped these children with CHD who are brave and beautiful warriors to journey through life with a radiant smile.

**- Rtn.Dr.Sangeetha Viswanathan**



## International Outreach Super Manila

“It was a pleasure to connect with the Rotary Club of Makati (yes, another RCM) in Manila.

Our warm international outreach team led by PP Guna immediately connected me to this club when I mentioned I was going to Manila. Thank you Guna, Sabina and others. Gopi too immediately connected me with two other clubs but the timings of the Makati club meeting suited me better.

A 58-year club with 130 members, RCM has a warm and friendly feel. Their meetings are two hours long (no one complained). They had an excellent speaker who spoke and answered questions for an hour! They own a building where we met.



It was a pleasure to exchange flags on behalf of RCM and of course, pass on 'Timeless Legacy.'

Then music and dancing started. I enjoyed getting a pulse of

Philippines that I typically would not have got. So, I strongly recommend this type of outreach. I enjoyed it. “

**Rtn. Sanjay Rao Chaganti**

## San Diego Downtown



My visit to the Rotary Club of San Diego Downtown was a rich and engaging experience that combined cultural exchange, learning, and fellowship. The breakfast meeting format provided a welcoming atmosphere for both members and visitors, fostering connections over a shared meal.

The highlight of the meeting was a presentation by a wildlife photographer who had conducted studies in Africa. His insights into man-animal conflicts and tribal life offered a fascinating glimpse into the complex relationships between humans, wildlife, and traditional

cultures on the continent. This choice of speaker reflects the club's interest in global issues and conservation.

The members' friendliness made you feel at ease, allowing for meaningful conversations about the club's special projects. This exchange of ideas provided valuable insights into how different Rotary clubs approach community service and international cooperation.

The hybrid meeting format, combining online and in-person participation, showcased the club's adaptability to modern communication needs while maintaining the personal touch of face-to-face interactions.

The exchange of flags between my home club, the Rotary Club of Madras, and the Rotary Club of San Diego Downtown symbolised the international spirit of Rotary. This gesture reinforced the global network of service and friendship that Rotary embodies, bridging cultures and nations in pursuit of common goals.

**Rtn. Dr. Justice M. Jaichandren**

## Breastfeeding Awareness Week

# ICH Equipment Donation Event

After the Save A Little Heart inaugural event at Apollo Children's Hospital, we drove to the Institute of Child Health (ICH) in Egmore for our next event, joined by Rtn.Shanno Ravi and Rtn.Gunavathi from RC Kotturpuram, who originally connected us with ICH and made us aware of their equipment needs.

The purpose of the event at ICH was to celebrate the beginning of Breastfeeding Awareness Week, which is typically celebrated in the first week of August. The event honored the many unsung heroes of the breastfeeding movement and presented certificates and mementos in recognition of their efforts.

During the event, RCM donated a breast milk pasteurizer for their breast milk bank, along with emergency equipment for their ICU, including an ABG machine and defibrillators.



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Our contribution was graciously acknowledged, and RCM was presented with a certificate of appreciation by the Director of the Institute of Child Health, Dr. Rema Chandramohan, and Ms. Supriya Sahu, the Health Secretary in charge of Health and Family Welfare, to whom we had the opportunity to introduce ourselves. It was undeniably a highly rewarding and productive day for us.

*Rtn.Dr. Sangeetha Viswanathan.*

## Sangkoo Yun

is selected to be 2026-27  
Rotary International President



Sangkoo Yun, of the Rotary Club of Sae Hanyang, Seoul, Korea, is the selection of the nominating committee to become Rotary International's president for 2026-27. He will be officially declared the president-nominee on 15 September if no other candidates challenge him.

He is the founder and CEO of Dongsuh Corp., which engineers and markets architectural materials, and the president of Youngan Corp., which operates in real estate and financial investment.

A Rotary member since 1987, when he was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Sae Hanyang, Yun has served Rotary International as a director, trustee, committee member and chair, and RI learning facilitator.

Yun received The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award in 2021-22. He was appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II, awarded the Friendship Medal by the president of Mongolia, and recognized for distinguished services by the President and Prime Minister of Korea.

Yun and his spouse, Eunsun, are Rotary Foundation Benefactors, Major Donors, and members of the Arch Klumph Society, the Paul Harris Society, and the Bequest Society. They have two children.

### BIRTHDAYS 12th August To 18th August 2024

13th August	Rtn. Hemu Ramaiah
14th August	Rtn. Harish Dhingra
15th August	Rtn. R. Baba Shankar
15th August	Rtn. S. Balakrishna
15th August	Rtn. G. Chella Krishna
15th August	Rtn. Dr. Nitesh Jain

### SPOUSE BIRTHDAYS

12th August	Ann. Lalita, Spouse of Rtn. M. Balasubramaniam
12th August	Ann. Chandrika, Spouse of Rtn. M. Ct. P. Chidambaram
14th August	Ann. Sheetal, Spouse of Rtn. Rajit Mhetras
14th August	Ann. Pratyusha Lakshmanan, Spouse of Rtn. Lakshmanan Ramanathan
15th August	Ann. Rupal, Spouse of Rtn. Sanjay V. Parikh
15th August	Vijay Narayan, Spouse of Rtn. Sabina Narayan
16th August	Ann. Gayathri, Spouse of Rtn. Mukund Subramanian
16th August	Ann. Sitamahalakshmi, Spouse of Rtn. Ranjit Pendurthi
16th August	Ann. Saloni, Spouse of Rtn.P. B. Prasad

### ANNIVERSARY

15th August	Rtn. Iqbal Sait & Mahvash Sait
18th August	Rtn. Antony Lobo & Vinolia Lobo

## Rotary Nostalgia

### RCM and Polio

In its nine decades of existence, the Rotary Club of Madras can look back at many significant achievements. Among these, its contribution to the fight against polio will always rank high. The project came in 1984 as a sequel to the Club's successful execution of the red measles campaign and reached a peak in the 1990s. However, what is interesting is that even in the 1960s, the Club played a key role in rehabilitating a child afflicted with the dreaded disease.

### The Club's First Polio Initiative

The Club's newsletter dated March 22, 1966, carried the text of a communication received from the Holy Apostles Convent, St. Thomas' Mount, Madras 16. This concerned Mary Celine, a child of three who was an orphan and afflicted with polio. The Sisters at the convent were struggling to take care of her, especially her medical requirements. The Sisters at the Xavier Hospital in Brisbane, Australia, were willing to take care of the girl provided she was sent over, and this was where Rotary was asked to help. The Club stepped in, and young Celine Mary flew to Australia to a new life.

The Club's Rtn. V. Emberumanar Chetty took care of much of the formalities involved in sending the child to Australia, and she was seen off at the tarmac on April 25, 1966. A photo taken on the occasion was published in April in the Club's bulletin. The child of three travelled alone, with an air hostess being her companion.

### A New Life in Brisbane

A month later, we read a communication to the Club from the Mother Superior of the Convent at Brisbane: "I am happy to give you good news of little Mary Celine. She arrived safely at Sydney. From Sydney to Brisbane, she was taken by the Rev. Mother Superior, who happened to be there on the same day. Celine is getting used very slowly to her new environment.

.... Mary Celine, a child of three who was an orphan and afflicted with polio. The Sisters at the convent were struggling to take care of her, especially her medical requirements. The Sisters at the Xavier Hospital in Brisbane, Australia, were willing to take care of the girl provided she was sent over, and this was where Rotary was asked to help.

The Specialist has prescribed callipers for both legs because both legs are damaged. Let us hope the treatment will have a good effect on her. We do not know how to express our deepest gratitude to you, to Mr. Padmanabhan, and all the members of the Rotary Club of Madras for being so kind towards this little child."

### Donation from Australia

Mary Celine does not appear in the records of the Club thereafter, and we can only hope that she went on to lead a good life. In 1968, we find the Club receiving Rs. 7,500 as a donation from its matched district 611, with the express request that the money be spent on polio vaccination. It was made over with the same mandate to the Voluntary Health Services at Taramani, where the Club's member, Dr. V. S. Subramaniam, was then Secretary. The above were but sporadic instances in which the Club had assisted in the battle against polio. But a scourge of that order needed a far bigger and more sustained campaign.

Incidentally, we did try and get in touch with the Sisters of Xavier's Hospital in Brisbane, and despite giving them all details of how we from the Rotary Club of Madras sent her at our cost there in the 60s, we were stonewalled, and they refused to part with any details about her. The organization's name has now changed to Xavier's Support in Brisbane.

Courtesy: **Rtn. V. Sriram**, a historian of repute and a member of the Rotary Club of Madras South.

Courtesy: The book "Know Your Rotary" by **Rtn. N. Bhaskaran Pillai**, RC of Kalamassery

Contributed by: **Rtn. PP. N. K. Gopinath**

Rotary  
Club of Madras



BOND  
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## Rotary Club of Madras District 3234

# Clothes

# DONATION Drive

An initiative by RCM's Environment committee

What you can spare, they can wear. Clothes donation Drive as a compassionate effort to make a positive impact on the lives of others.



We are happy to take gently used clothing, including jackets, sweaters, shirts, pants, shoes, socks, undergarments (in a separate cover), and blankets.

De-clutter with a purpose and make a difference.

### Drop off point



**Wasted 360 Solutions,**  
30, Mylai Ranganathan St, Parthasarathi puram,  
T. Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600017



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## RCM-Redington-Apollo

### Save A Little Heart Project Inaugural

**R**CM's Team Health had a blockbuster day on the 1st of August 2024, hosting two meaningful events aimed at saving children's lives.

The first event took place at 11 am at Apollo Children's Hospital, marking the launch of the RCM-Redington-Apollo Save A Little Heart Project. This initiative aims to provide partial funding for the treatment of 50 children with heart defects.

The inaugural event saw the participation of key members from RCM, including Rtn. Narasimhan V.S, Rtns. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan, Sabina Narayan, Ganesh Ananthakrishnan, Rajesh Mani, Kapil Chitale S, and Dr. Rama Narasimhan, along with Community Health Director Rtn.A.M.Visvanathan and President Chella Krishna G. Rtn. Dr.Ravi Varma, Director CS Health for District 3234 also joined us for the event.

**The heartwarming presence of children who had previously benefitted from the "Save a Little Heart Program" resonated profoundly, reinforcing the positive impact of the initiative.**

Mr. Hemant Lohiya, CSR Head of Redington Foundation, and senior members of the Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, including CEO Mr. Naveen Varigepalli and Dr. Venkatasalam, Director – Medical Services, graced



the event. Dr Neville Solomon, Chief Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon, shared insights into the remarkable work being done to treat underprivileged children with heart defects.

The heartwarming presence of children who had previously benefitted from the "Save a Little Heart Program" resonated profoundly, reinforcing the positive impact of the initiative.

The formal exchange of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) officially marked the inauguration of the program,



culminating in a collective commitment to further support these resilient children in obtaining the treatment they deserve.

**- Rtn.Dr.Sangeetha Viswanathan**



# Shambala

## 20th Installation Ceremony of The Rotaract Club of Chennai

The installation ceremony of Rtr. Vijayaraghavan as the President and Rtr. Malini Sree as the Honorable Secretary, along with the Office bearers and other Rotaractors for the Rotary year 2024-25 was held at E Hotels, Royapetta.

The special occasion was enriched by the presence of Rtn. Balaji Chinni, Youth Service Director and Rtn. Dr. Kumar Rajendran, District Rotaract Committee Chairman, as the Guests of Honour and Rtn. Nikhil Raj President Elect 24-25 as Chief Guest for the day. The special invitees for the day were District Rotaract Representative Rtr. PP. Sasi Kumar & Rtr. PP. Sathish Kumar, District Rotaract Representative Elect and District Rotaract Secretary Rtr. Rishabh Jain.

The prestigious Golden Apple award was bestowed on Rtn. Varinder Singh Sahney. The Accolade of Fiennes was awarded to



Rtr. PP. Umanath Balaraman for his unwavering support.

The Outgoing President Rtr. Sujan Rahul delivered his farewell speech and introduced the Incoming President Rtr. Vijayaraghavan and exchanged the collar.

Rtr. Meenakshi Sundaram, the Outgoing Joint Secretary exchanged the Club Charter with Rtr. Malini Sree, Incoming Honorable Secretary.

The Signature projects of the club - Glitzz and Kidzz Payanam, were launched by the respective chairmen.

## Rotaract Club of Jeppiaar University Installation

On July 31, 2024, the Rotaract Club of Jeppiaar University hosted its installation ceremony at the Jeppiaar University Seminar Hall. The event marked the transition to a new leadership team for the upcoming Rotary year.

The ceremony was graced by distinguished guests from Rotary Club of Madras including Rtn. Chella Krishna, President, Rtn. Balaji Chinni, Youth Service Director and Rtn. Deepak Chander, Rotaract

Zone 1 Chairman. Special invitees included Rtr. PP.Sasi Kumar J., District Rotaract Representative for 2024-25, Rtr. PP.Sathish Kumar, DRR Elect for 2025-26, and Rtr.Kishore G., Group Rotaract Representative RID 3234.

The ceremony featured the installation of Rtr. Lalith Kumar as the new President and Rtr. Santhosh Kumar as the Secretary for the year 2024-25. Outgoing President Rtr. IPP.Dharmesh.S ceremoniously exchanged the collar

with Rtr. Lalith Kumar, who then delivered an inspiring acceptance speech and introduced his Board members for the coming year. Similarly, the outgoing Secretary Rtr. Naveen Kumar.S passed on the charter to the incoming Secretary Rtr. Santhosh Kumar.

The event was marked by appreciation from all the guests, who praised the accomplishments of the outgoing team, which had been honored with the Best Debutant Club Award.



Rtr. Lalith Kumar was installed as the President of the Rotaract Club of Jeppiaar University on July 31, 2024.





Rtn.Himanshu Budhia has delivered remarkably clear and insightful responses to the four questions presented by The Lighthouse.

**1. Is the Four-Way Test an impossible and impractical quest?**

The Four-Way Test guides you to do the “right thing” and the “truthful thing”. This instills integrity in one’s act. It might appear disadvantageous to the receiving party if viewed from a perspective of ill-intent, but it is the right thing overall. This attitude might be difficult at times, but it is surely not impossible and impractical

**2. Is it just an idealistic notion?**

I do not think so. These are basic principles that our parents taught to us as we grow up. The complexities of life can lure you in different directions. However, conducting oneself with honesty is not an idealistic notion. It is very much doable. I would like to add that if everyone were to follow this, life would become easier and simpler.

**3. Can it inspire or transform a Rotarian’s perspective?**

Rotary speaks about service above self. Service can be meaningful if done selflessly and with integrity. The Four-Way Test is a well-structured guide for character building that can be applied to all walks of life. Understanding the simplicity of the Four-

Way Test and seeing people follow this can surely inspire Rotarians and help them change their perspective.

**4. Any practical examples of its relevance in this day and age?**

I would take the example of social media. In today’s world, one is free to post their views across multiple platforms that are viewed by multiple people. I feel that one must be very sensitive while posting information. A moment’s screening of the below questions before posting could be very constructive,

● **Is my message the TRUTH?**

Is it verified if the forwarder is from another source?

● **Is it FAIR to all concerned?**

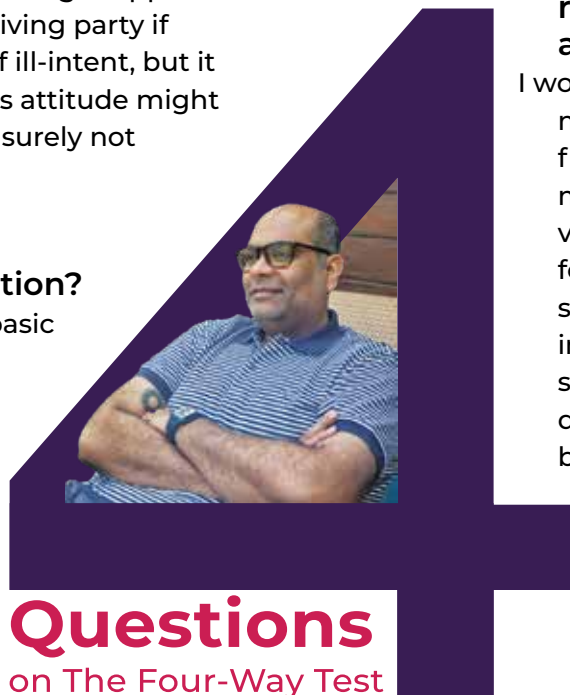
Does it harm the receiver of the message?  
Is it better avoided?

● **Will it build Goodwill and Friendship?**

Does my message have any content that is insensitive to anyone’s feelings, culture, or religion?

● **Is it Beneficial to all?**

Does the message even justify being posted? Does it help the receiver or is it just adding to social media traffic?



Questions on The Four-Way Test



1. What is your current state of mind?  
**Happy & Busy**
2. What is your idea of perfect happiness?  
**My circle alongside me.**
3. What is your greatest fear?  
**Let it stay undercover.**
4. What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?  
**Procrastination, which according to Adam Grant is an advantage, brings out the best!!**
5. What is the trait you most deplore in others?  
**Betrayal.**
6. Which living person do you admire most?  
**There are a few in my circle, not just one.**
7. What is your greatest extravagance?  
**My family...will spend on them shamelessly.**
8. What do you consider the most overrated virtue?  
**If it is a virtue, then none.**
9. On what occasion do you lie?  
**With questionnaires like this.**
10. Which living person do you most despise?  
**Not worth the effort of thinking up a person/list.**
11. What is the quality you most like in a man?  
**Keeping the equation simple.**
12. What is the quality you most like in a woman?  
**Same as above.**
13. Which words or phrases do you most overuse?  
**(Unparliamentary)!!**
14. What or who is the greatest love of your life?  
**The one who brings a smile to my face whenever I think of them.**
15. When and where were you happiest?  
**When I had no responsibilities.**
16. Where would you most like to live?  
**Home with my closest, anytime.**
17. What is your most treasured possession?  
**A scripture that resonated most when I sought it. It's there for me to read anytime.**
18. What is your favorite occupation?  
**Crisis Management.**
19. What is your most marked characteristic?  
**Sunny Friendly Me.**
20. Who is your hero of fiction?  
**Mr. Darcy of Pride & Prejudice - Maybe because it was one of my earliest.**
21. Which historical figure do you most identify with?  
**None.**
22. Who are your heroes in real life?  
**An Individual in My Circle.**
23. What is your greatest regret?  
**Growing up so fast.**
24. How would you like to die?  
**Live fit till the very end, I don't think beyond that.**
25. Your motto in life?  
**Live life to the fullest, do good and don't hurt anyone.**

“Hi this is Archana ... I can be referred to as Archana - Bbay or Arch! Have been in Chennai since 2003 and love the city. Still struggle with Tamil but have not given up on it. I am one of the founders of Uniform Craft, where we have got a retail concept for uniforms in the health-care space. Am at a happy place at work.

Married to Rajesh Devaraj - he is from Coimbatore, hailing from a textile family. The joke in the family is that this Gujarati girl has come and learned the business faster than the language. It's just two of us - no kids, no pets, and thought that we would have a footloose,

## New Induction Archana Parekh



fancy-free life, but our work has almost become the child who needs us more than ever.

Besides work, I love music, traveling, yoga, people, and a glass of chilled wine!

More about me when we get to know each other. I know quite a few of you and am excited to join Rotary.

I have attended a few meetings and find the atmosphere energizing and people very warm and loving. This is going to be a good journey where I meet new people not to just have a good time, but to do service along with laughter and joy.

Thank you all for welcoming me ! It is heartwarming !”



### Issue 6

Suggest the most quirky, whacky or creative caption/blurb for this photo (Maximum 15 words). The best entries will be reproduced in the next week's edition of Lighthouse.

Mail your captions to [editor@rcmlighthouse.com](mailto:editor@rcmlighthouse.com) on or before 13 August .



### Issue 5 : Best Captions

1. Is he writing the million dollars cheque to you or to me???  
- *Rtn. PP. Vivek Harinarain*
2. Stalwarts make sure, Bharat signs a BIG cheque for RCM  
- *Rtn. Vijay Dugar*
3. Wow Bharat you are a pro in forging signatures".  
- *Rtn. Aditya Agarwal*
4. Bharat bhai, do you always sign such large cheques?  
- *Rtn. Hemant P. Chordia*
5. Bharat signing Non Aligned Treaty watched by the two Superpowers!  
- *Rtn. Sanjay Rao Chaganti*
6. We are keeping an eye on your figures!"  
- *Rtn. Suresh Amirapu*
7. Hey Bharat bhai...Even the waiter in the back is impressed with your spelling -*Rtn. PP. P. V. Mohan Raman.*
8. When the minutes are longer than the meeting"  
- *Rtn. Naveen Kumar Bhatia*
9. I Wish this cheque is for my Project – *Ann. Meenakshi Raman.*
10. Why don't you add a few more zeroes to that amount?!"  
- *Rtn. Asha Mathen.*



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