

# THE LIGHTHOUSE

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS  
ISSUE 07 | AUGUST 15, 2023

BUILDING RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITIES



Dear RCMers,

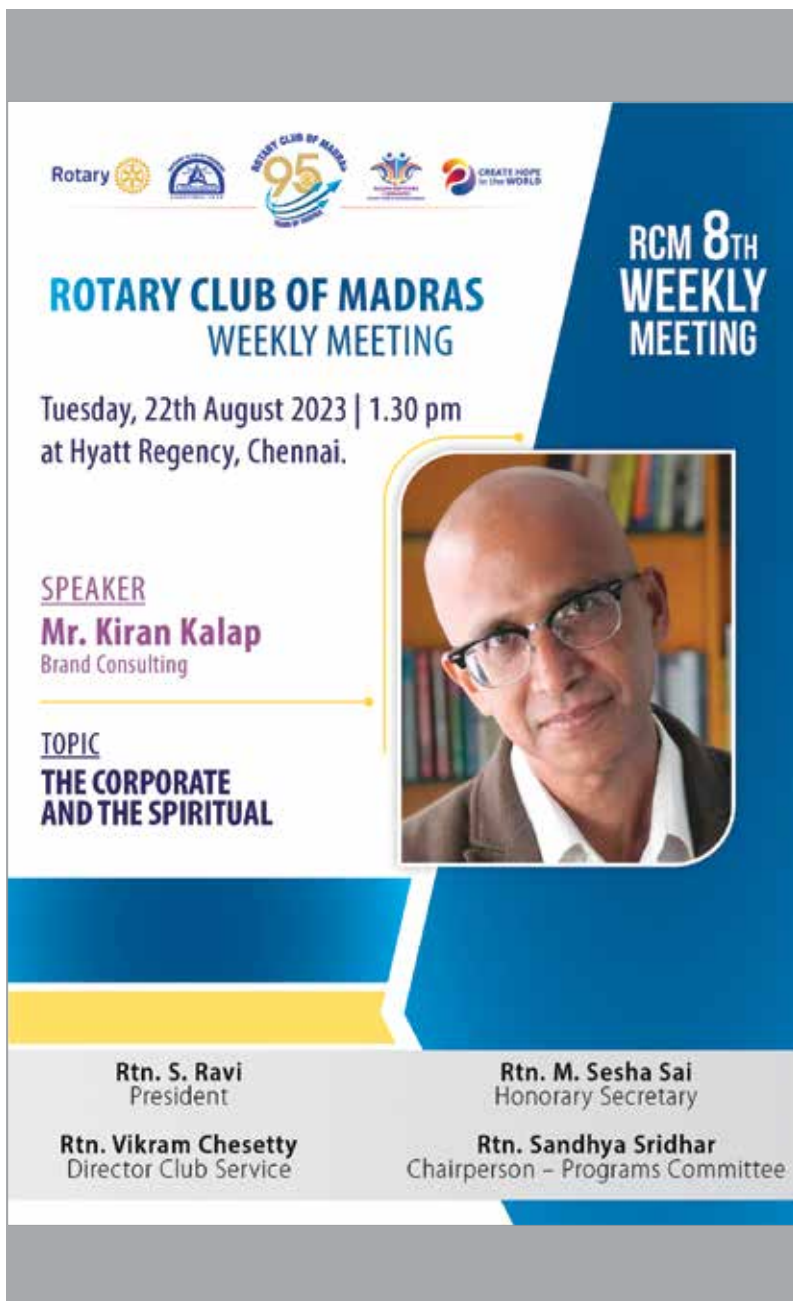
It was a busy week at RCM as usual.

Independence Day was resounding with activities.

We strive to include nuggets of information to get to know Rotary better. Green Rotarians especially will find it informative.

Yours in Rotary,

**Rtn. Sunita Suresh**



Rotary Club of Madras 95th Anniversary logo and other Rotary logos are at the top.

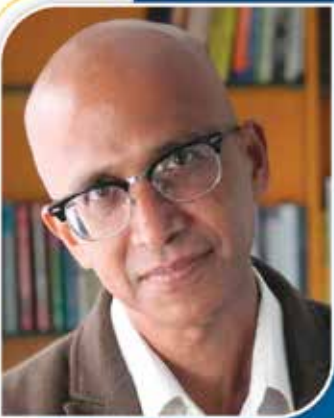
**RCM 8<sup>TH</sup> WEEKLY MEETING**

**ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS WEEKLY MEETING**

Tuesday, 22th August 2023 | 1.30 pm  
at Hyatt Regency, Chennai.

**SPEAKER**  
**Mr. Kiran Kalap**  
Brand Consulting

**TOPIC**  
**THE CORPORATE AND THE SPIRITUAL**



**Rtn. S. Ravi**  
President

**Rtn. M. Sessa Sai**  
Honorary Secretary

**Rtn. Vikram Chesetty**  
Director Club Service

**Rtn. Sandhya Sridhar**  
Chairperson – Programs Committee

## THE LIGHTHOUSE

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

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Rtn. Shakti Girish  
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Rtn Sumit Kalra  
Rtn Rajesh Mani

Send in your articles, news and stories for consideration in the Lighthouse bulletin to:  
[rcmlighthouse2023@gmail.com](mailto:rcmlighthouse2023@gmail.com)  
Stay updated with our very own RCM magazine!

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[www.rotarymadras.in](http://www.rotarymadras.in)

**CONTACT RCM SECRETARY AT:**

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## Minutes of the 7th Meeting of Rotary Club of Madras August 15th, 2023 Held at Boys town Society. Gummudipundi

PP. Rtn. George Cherian collared President Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan, who called the 7th Weekly meeting of RCM to order followed by Silent Invocation.

The minutes of 7th weekly meeting were duly confirmed.

As the nation united to celebrate another year of independence, Boys Town was filled with an infectious festive atmosphere. On August 15th, the flag was raised by notable figures - President Ravi Sundaresan, Mr. James Rajan, MD, Wartsila, and District Governor Rtn. A.K.S. Ravi Raman, accompanied by RCM members.

The students of Boys Town, children from nearby villages, and members of the Interact Club of Shankara joined in singing patriotic songs and the National Anthem.

Following this, a formal program commenced with the dignitaries adorning the statue of Late Rtn. Markand Desai with garlands.

Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan, Director of Community Services 1, extended a warm welcome to the attendees. She emphasized the Rotary Club of Madras' 35-year presence at Boys Town, which has driven the club to bring about meaningful changes in the lives of those residing in the vicinity. Initiatives this year include constructing 100 homes for the homeless, building 200 toilets, restoring water bodies, setting up an anganwadi, and promoting



education and health through rural education centers in nearby villages such as Thathiyar Kandigai, Sedhilpakkam, Poovalembedu, and JJ Nagar.

President Ravi Sundaresan spoke about Boys Town's facilities and opportunities for children, while Rtn. Rakesh Jaiswal, Chairman of Boys Town, elaborated on RCM's efforts for the children and gave a brief history of the Boys town society.

The Independence Day celebration was animated by vibrant cultural performances by the children. Notably, the Yoga performance took center stage, showcasing the impressive skills of the boys in a synchronized display of talent.

District Governor Rtn. AKS Ravi Raman and Mr. James Rajan, MD of Wartsila, also addressed the audience, sharing their perspectives on the significance of Independence Day. Mr. Rajan highlighted RCM's exceptional work in maintaining facilities like Boys Town, providing children with dignified lives, independence, and equal opportunities for their future.

The event concluded with a spirited vote of thanks from Honorary Secretary Sesha sai, who captivated the young audience with his energy. A sumptuous lunch followed, delighting the children in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned. ■













## Mário César Martins de Camargo of Brazil selected to be 2025-26 Rotary International President

**M**ário César Martins de Camargo, a member of the Rotary Club of Santo André, São Paulo, Brazil, is the selection of Nominating Committee for President to become Rotary International's president for 2025-26. He will officially become the nominee on 15 September if no other candidates challenge him.

De Camargo plans to boost Rotary's public image by working from the top down.

"Rotary today has strong competition for members and funds," he says. "We need to rejuvenate the brand, especially in some zones. We should utilize post-pandemic meeting tools ... to allow the president to address Rotarians all over the globe. We also need to develop more long-term partnerships with political, community, and business leaders. Let's emphasize our greatest asset: 1.4 million volunteers."

He also hopes to improve Rotary's process for appointments and governance.

"Rotary should adopt a more transparent system to appoint volunteers for positions, with clear criteria and data-based evaluation of results," he says.

De Camargo was president of Gráfica Bandeirantes and has been a consultant to the print industry in Brazil. He has also served as president and chair of several printing and graphics trade associations, including the Brazilian Association of Graphic Technology and ABIGRAF, the Brazilian Printing Industry Association.

He has served on the board of Casa da Esperança (House of Hope), a hospital sponsored by his Rotary club that serves 150,000 children with disabilities every year.

De Camargo studied in the U.S. and Germany and holds degrees from EAESP-Fundação Getúlio Vargas in business administration and Faculdade de Direito de São Bernardo do Campo in law.

A Rotarian since 1980, de Camargo has served Rotary as director, trustee, RI learning facilitator, committee member and chair, and task force member.

De Camargo and his wife, Denise, are Major Donors and Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation.

To learn more about de Camargo, read his interview and vision statement, which outline his goals for Rotary. ■



### The members of the Nominating Committee for the 2025-26 President of Rotary International are:

- Larry A. Lunsford (chair)**, Rotary Club of Kansas City-Plaza, Missouri, USA.
- Mary Beth Growney Selene (secretary)**, Rotary Club of Madison West Middleton, Wisconsin, USA.
- Şafak Alp**, Rotary Club of Istanbul-Sisli, Turkey.
- Ann-Britt Åsebol**, Rotary Club of Falun-Kopparvågen, Sweden.
- James Anthony Black**, Rotary Club of Dunoon, Argyll, Scotland.
- Basker Chockalingam**, Rotary Club of Karur, Tamil Nadu, India.
- Celia Cruz de Giay**, Rotary Club of Arrecifes, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Susan C. Howe**, Rotary Club of Space Center (Houston), Texas, USA.
- Masahiro Kuroda**, Rotary Club of Hachinohe South, Aomori, Japan.
- Roger Lhors**, Rotary Club of Pont-Audemer, Eure, France.
- Frederick Hsiu-Ming Lin**, Rotary Club of Taipei Tungteh, Taiwan.
- Anne L. Matthews**, Rotary Club of Columbia East, South Carolina, USA.
- Akira Miki**, Rotary Club of Himeji, Hyogo, Japan.
- Eun-Soo Moon**, Rotary Club of Cheonan-Dosol, Chungcheongnam, Korea.
- Ekkehart Pandel**, Rotary Club of Bückeburg, Germany.
- Sambasiva Rao Patibandla**, Rotary Club of Jubilee Hills, Telangana, India.
- Steven Snyder**, Rotary Club of Auburn, California, USA.



Rotary Nagar activities for the year started off with a bang on 11th August 2023, with the Distribution of Tailoring Kits to our Tailoring and Embroidery Skill Development Women Students.

There was lot of fanfare to the event.



To start with we had an amazing Chief Guest – Ms. Deeptha from our Sponsor Corporate – CAMS, who interacted with the women so well, quoted Bharathiyar, spoke in Tamizh and won everyone's hearts!



This event is the start of many to come. We selected the best student of the month from each batch, and they were recognized and awarded at the function. We also used the opportunity to celebrate the birthdays of all the women born in the month of August, by cutting a cake.



Our President as usual added glitter to the event by making a special announcement – every student who has 90% or more attendance and who clears the certification programme will be gifted with a sewing machine!



The event was started with lighting of lamp, Thamizh Thaaai Vaazhthu followed by welcome address by yours truly. After the address by our President and the Chief Guest, the Tailoring Kits were distributed, including notebooks for the digital literacy students. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Rtn. Kamala Ramakrishnan – Project in Charge (Tailoring & Embroidery).



The icing on the cake was the presence of so many Rotarians from RCM – Vijay Balaji – Director Vocational Services, Rtn. Sabina Narayan – Director International Services, Rtn. Sangeetha Viswanathan – Chairperson Health, Rtn. Krishnamurthy Vijayan from CSR Committee.



**Rtn. PP Rani Muralidharan**  
Chairperson – ROTARY NAGAR ■



# STREETSCAPE

## By The Little Lords

The Youth Service Team of Rotary Club of Madras is delighted to announce the grand inauguration of its project for Interactors of 28 Interact Clubs “**STREETSCAPE - BY THE LITTLE LORDS**”, an initiative in which school children from these 28 Interact Clubs will be involved in beautifying the street in which their schools are located. The project represents a significant step towards our mission of developing in kids a feeling of responsibility and community involvement from an early age in today's society, which is continually evolving.

This program for school children was inaugurated by **Dr. J Radhakrishnan IAS**, Additional Chief Secretary/Commissioner Greater Chennai Corporation at Shrine Vailankanni School, T. Nagar on 16th August 2023 | 10:00 AM. Also present were Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan - President Rotary Club of Madras, Rtn. N S Saravanan - District Governor Elect, Rtn. Sesha Sai- Secretary Rotary Club of Madras, Rtn. Balaji Chinni - Youth Service Director, Rtn. Ashwath Kumar Reddy - Project





Chairman, Rtn. Shivakumar Vellur -Intract club  
Chairman Zone 2 and following Rotarians from Rotary  
Club of Madras: Past President Rtn Mohan Raman, Past  
President Rtn. Shanker C.Mangadu , Past President Rtn.  
Venkhat Ramani, President Nominee Rtn. Nikhil Raj,  
Rtn. Visvanathan, Rtn. Jayshree Ravendran,  
Rtn. Roopa Shetty, Rtn. Bharat M.Pujara.

The event was organised by none other than our own  
Rtn. Manasa T Pillai at Shrine Vailankanni Senior  
Secondary School, T. Nagar. Thank you Rtn. Manasa  
and your entire team for all those flawless arrangements.

Among the audience were teachers and school students  
of Shri Shankara Vidhya Raman Matriculation Higher  
secondary School, Thiruvanniyur, Shankara Senior  
secondary school Adyar, L.M. Dadha Senior Secondary  
School Choolaimedu. Over 300 children from various  
schools attended the program.

Special Thanks to RTN Visvanathan for reaching  
out to the chief guest and inviting him for this  
occasion at very short notice.

Also, Special Thanks to PP Rtn. Satyan C Bhatt for  
quickly mobilizing the media from 7 channels to cover  
the entire event including the interviews, and telecast  
the same live on a few channels. ■



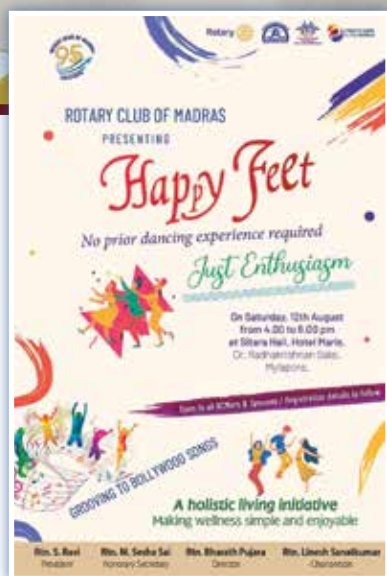
## WASH PROJECT

In Thinnanoor, the government elementary school and higher secondary school are currently undergoing repairs as part of the WASH Project Scheme by the Rotary Club of Madras. The elementary school is having its auditorium renovated, roof tiles replaced, doors and windows upgraded, toilets built, and the open well cleaned. The entire campus is also being painted.

The higher secondary school will have a RO plant installed, a hand wash area built, a smart classroom constructed, the overhead tank repaired and the entire school will be painted. This project is being sponsored by CSR from Century Flour mills through Rtn.G.Ravindran . The ground breaking ceremony was held on August 13, 2023, in the presence of President Rtn.Ravi Sundaresan, Rtn. G.Ravindran, Chairman of the WASH Project, Mr. Arvind Kumar Sankar. They are working with contractor Adhilakshmi builders to ensure the project is completed on time. ■







## HAPPY FEET

### A holistic living initiative

Making wellness simple and enjoyable

RCM's Wellness and Holistic Living Committee - Sole to Soul kicked off the first event of the season with its most popular dance event – HAPPY FEET!

Helmed by Rotarian Dr. Anisha Ashok, this event was her third and each year only gets bigger and brighter! The event combines wellness with a lot of fun and, judging from the enthusiastic response this year, it was a spellbinding success.

Over 40 members of the RCM community were on the floor grooving to popular Bollywood Hits. The choreographer team consisting of Sahana and Khushi did a great job of motivating everyone to keep moving. Popular latest hits like “What Jhumka”, Lambergini, etc and some old hits like Madhuri’s “Ek Do Teen” and the Tamil hit” Kaavaalaa” really got the crowd going. At one point, our President Ravi Sundaresan was seen grooving at a number. The dancing went on from 4.30 pm to 6 pm at the beautiful circular Anandam hall at Hotel Maris provided graciously by Rtn. Anand Rengaswamy. The sound system was provided by Hon Secretary Rtn. Sesha Sai. After the event, delicious refreshments and filter coffee were sponsored by Rtn. Jai Subramaniam. Director Rtn. Bharat Pujara was paying attention to the details and ensuring everyone was well taken care of.







#### Some of the comments from the participants...

**Sangita:** "I really enjoyed the evening looking forward to many more such events!"

**Reena:** "It was very entertaining; I didn't know I'd do so much!"

**Krish :** "Superb event - the whole body feels happy"

**A.K Tareen :** "I think this is something I never imagined... we need to have more such events"

**Usha :** "It's dance therapy and I've never felt better for a long, long time!"

**Sharon:** "I actually came for the coffee and bondas and stayed for the dance... loved it and it was full of energy."

**Kadir:** "It was an ideal setting and I really enjoyed myself"

**Sushma:** "It wasn't just happy feet but happy, happy all the way..."

**Midhuna:** "It was a dancethon, the energy was high, it was brilliant."

**Chicky:** "Three generations have come together to dance at this event. It was fabulous."



Sahana, who has been teaching dance for 10 years, and her assistant Khushi said they were thrilled to see so much energy in the group.



Rtn. Linesh Sanatkumar, the Chairman of the Wellness and Holistic Living Committee was thrilled with the success of this kickoff event, "My goal is member engagement - I want our Rotarians and their families to focus on wellness and also have fun. So, keep watching for future events!"

**- Rtn. Priya Bhatkal ■**





## Children's Medical Camp at the Chintadripet Higher Secondary School

Our latest children's medical camp was conducted on the 16th of August for the children of Chintadripet Higher Secondary School, which is one of our own Interact schools. Inaugurated by IPP Jayashree Sridhar, the camp was attended by President Ravi Sundaresan, Hon Sec Sesha Sai, Director Bharat Pujara, Rtn Visvanathan and Rtn. Dr. Sangeetha Viswanathan.

The camp saw the participation of over 85 children from the school as well as members of staff. 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 school with local volunteers and the RCM secretariat helping with the set-up, administration and guiding of the beneficiary children under the guidance of Ms

Subbu Kutti and Mr Gnanavel (headmaster of the school). In addition, we had the welcome addition of four young volunteers, Kugan, Naveen, Mageswaran and Sesuraj from Ventura Pranas (Rtn Prabha Srinivasan's firm). These youngsters volunteered their time to help with camp logistics and interacted with the schoolboys, giving them general guidance and career counselling and forming bonds for the future.

Mr Vinothkumar, the camp coordinator from KKCTH did a fantastic job of streamlining patient flow. The children first attended the registration desk where they were issued with a card listing the name and other details. They then moved to the General Check-up conducted by KKCT Hospital, 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:

10 children were identified to have vision problems. These children will need a detailed check which VHS has kindly offered to do and possibly require spectacles.

The majority of children had healthy teeth but around 30 children need filling, extraction or orthodontic treatment. Rtn Dr Yashwanth has kindly offered to do this free of cost at his dental clinics.

The medical cards and outcome reports have been handed over to the school 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:

From Kanchi Kamakoti CHILDS Trust Hospital:  
Dr. Mahalaxmi, Dr. Kalaimathi, SN Ms. Vani,  
SN Ms. Ankita Kumari, ambulance driver  
Mr. Ramamoorthy, Marketing Manager D. Vinothkumar

From Yash Dental: Dr. Zahir Sha, SN Sandhiya,  
SN Deepa, Mr. Ramesh

From VHS: 4-member team of optometrists under the guidance of coordinator Mr Murali

**- Rtn. Dr. Sangeetha Viswanathan ■**

## Medical Camp done on August 15th along with RC Madras Merina & Uma Eye Clinic

### Camp Report at PV.Rao School, R.A.Puram

Total no of Students Screening -148

Total no of students Referred Glasses -22

Total no of students Referred Hospital - 9





**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF THE  
ROTARY CLUBS  
OF AMERICA**

**HEADQUARTERS  
1317, 79 Dearborn St.  
CHICAGO**



**COMMISSIONERS**

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**THIS CALL  
FOR A CHARTER CONVENTION  
To Adopt a Constitution and Thereby Establish  
A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ROTARY CLUBS OF AMERICA**

**ANNOUNCES** that said Convention will be held as follows:

**PLACE**—In the City of Chicago, State of Illinois.

(Details as to headquarters, meeting places, etc. will be announced later.)

**DATE**—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 15th, 16th, 17th, 1910.

(Details as to program for each day's business and entertainment will be published later.)

**REPRESENTATION**—Each local Rotary Club recognized by the National Board of Commissioners (or by the Convention when in session) shall be entitled to participate in the business of the Convention and cast a vote therein upon the basis of one vote for each fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof.

**DELEGATES**—Each participating Club shall decide for itself how many delegates it will send to the Convention and how its delegates shall be selected and in what manner such delegation shall cast the vote which that Club is entitled to cast. That is to say: Suppose a certain Club has 285 members and therefore is entitled to six (6) votes in the Convention; that Club may send six delegates, or it may send twenty delegates (or any other number,) or it may send only one delegate; in any case the representative, or representatives, of that Club shall cast **six** votes in the Convention. All delegates shall have the privileges of the floor and shall be eligible to serve as officers and committeemen of the Convention.

**ENTERTAINMENT**—A splendid program of entertainment will be provided by our hosts—Rotary Club of Chicago. (Details later.)

**RAILROAD RATES**—While it has not been possible to secure any special rates from the railroads for our Convention, attention is called to the fact that the Rotary Convention will occur in the week following the great Triennial Conclave of the Knights Templar in Chicago, and any one who is able to start so as to arrive in Chicago not later than the 8th of August can avail himself of the special Triennial Conclave rates which will be in effect during the early days of August. Full information as to these rates can be obtained from your local railroad offices. Delegates who are Knights Templar will find the time scheduled particularly fortunate as they can avail themselves of the cheap rates and at the same time attend both functions. It is also thought that many who are not Knights Templar will desire to avail themselves of the opportunity afforded to visit Chicago during this gala week.

**ALL ROTARY CLUBS** are requested to publish and circulate the information contained in this Call to all their members and take steps to assure the attendance of as large delegations as possible at the First National Convention.

**AND THIS CALL** has been issued at Chicago, Illinois, this 31st day of May, 1910, by

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**PAUL P. HARRIS**, Chairman  
**CHESLEY R. PERRY**, Secretary

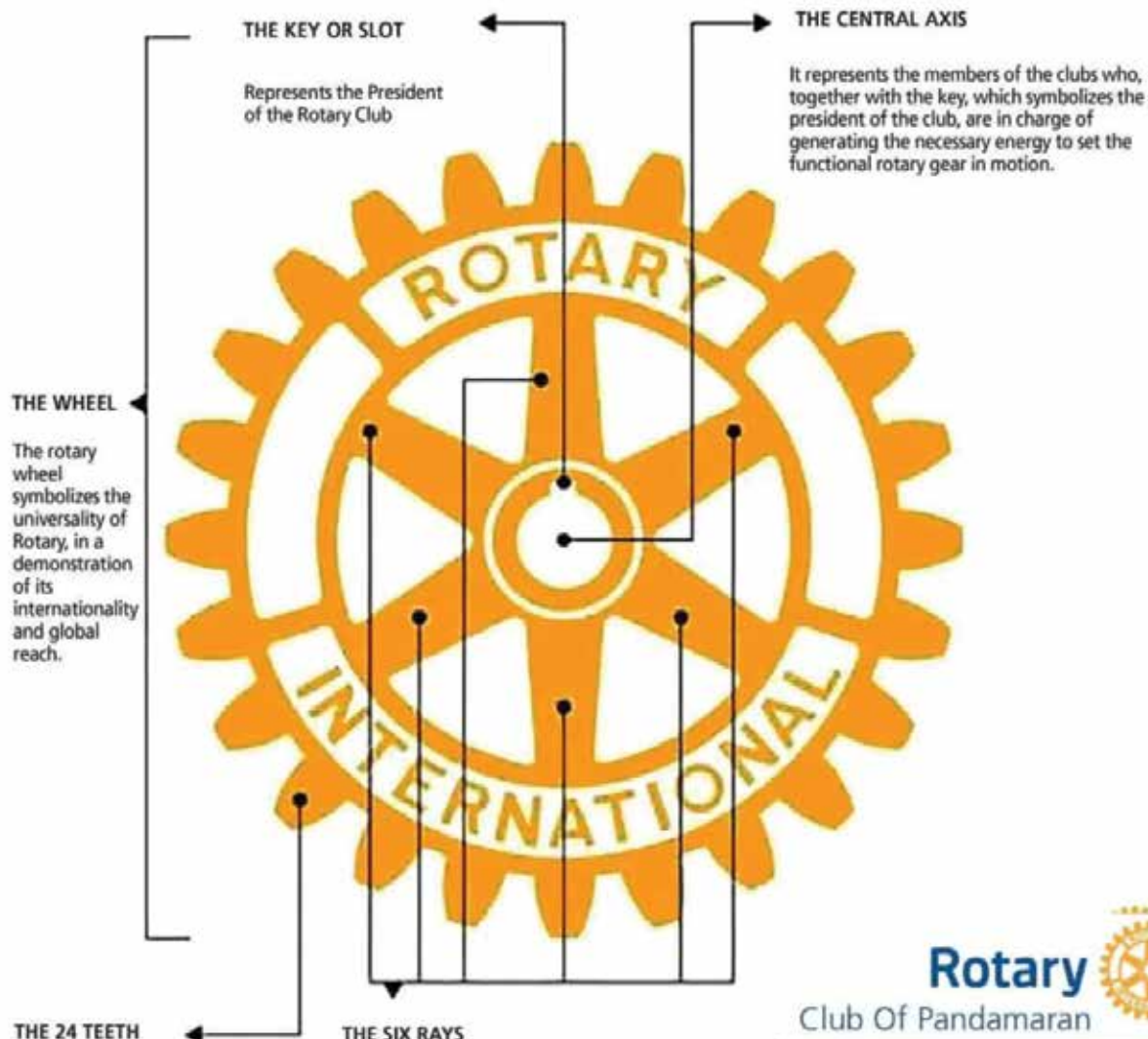
## Why August 15th is Important

- The First Convention of 16 ROTARY CLUBS, was held in Chicago, from August 15, 1910 to August 17.
- This August 15, is significant to Rotary too as it is for India.
- 15th August marks an important day in the history of Rotary International. Representatives of 16 Rotary clubs gathered in Chicago from 15th to 17th August, 1910 and created the National Association of Rotary Clubs of America (Now Rotary International).
- They adopted a constitution for the organization, and elected a president and board of directors.

Courtesy: PP. Rtn. N.K. Gopinath

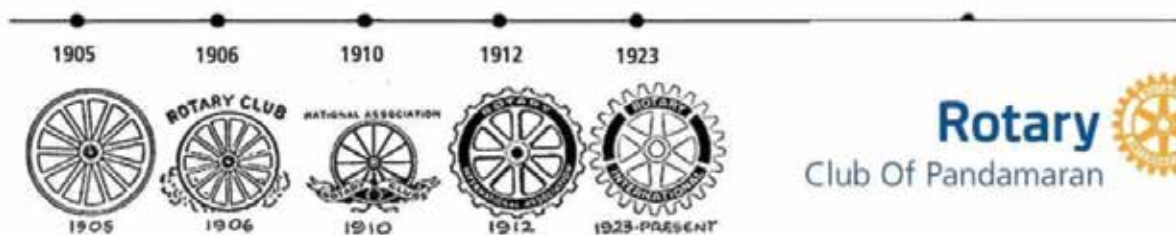


# WHAT DOES THE ROTARY WHEEL MEAN?



## COLORS

The gold color evokes the nobility of the blue color represents the firmament, indicating the universality and elevation of Rotary purposes





# JULY Firesides

Fireside 1 hosted by **Nandita Krishnan on Fri July 7.**  
It was attended by 25 Rotarians with spouses.

Fireside 2 hosted by **Sudha Shivkumar on Fri July 14.**  
attended by 36 Rotarians and spouses

Fireside 3 hosted by **Chella Krishna on Fri July 28**  
attended by 20

TOTAL NO. OF ROTARIANS ATTENDED 42  
TOTAL JULY ATTENDANCE INCLUDING HOSTS 87



## BIRTHDAYS

- Aug 20th - Rtn. Alok Bhargava
- Aug 22nd - Rtn. Sesha Sai M
- Aug 26th - Rtn. Iqbal Sait
- Aug 26th - Rtn. Prashant Kekre Dr.
- Aug 27th - Rtn. Hemant P. Chordia
- Aug 27th - Rtn. Nimish C. Tolia
- Aug 27th - Rtn. Sanjay V. Parikh
- Aug 24th - Ann. Archana Mani (Spouse of Rajesh Mani)
- Aug 26th - Ann. Mahvash Sait (Spouse of Iqbal Sait)
- Aug 26th - Ann. Padma (Spouse of Mohan Raman P.V)
- Aug 26th - Ann. Ranjitha (Spouse of Subramaniam S)

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- Aug 22nd - Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan & Ann. R.Aruna Sree
- Aug 23rd - Rtn. Nikhil Raj & Ann. Laura
- Aug 23rd - Rtn. Abdul Azeez H.E. & Ann.Sameena
- Aug 24th - Rtn. Biswajit Babu & Ann.Shalini
- Aug 25th - Rtn. Raghunath Narayanan & Ann. Shantha
- Aug 27th - Rtn. Nalini Radhakrishnan  
& Spouse : Radhakrishna S. Iyer
- 27th Aug - Rtn. Maya Thiyagarajan  
& Spouse : Ritwik Bhattacharjee



Mr. R. Karthikeyan, CEO & Managing Director, WORTH Trust,  
Mr. S. Srinivasan, DDAWO, Thiruvallur District and  
Mr. Rajaganapathi, Admin. & PR, Rehab, WORTH met  
Mr. Alby John Varghese. IAS, District Collector, Thiruvallur on 10.8.2023  
and explained the various activities of WORTH Trust and also sought  
his support for student admissions at WORTH Technical Training  
Centre, Gummidipoondi, Thiruvallur District.