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RoTrich

A periodical newsletter from the Rotary Club of Trichur



Wat's Rotary 4 u?

As Rotarians, I am sure, at some point of our membership, all of us will have faced the question 'why are you a Rotarian'?

I am also sure different people will be having different reasons for having joined this international service organisation. For some noble souls, it must be a platform to offer humanitarian support to the society. Some others might have aspired to spread goodwill and peace around the world.

Yet, for some others, they joined to expand their network and professional interests. While some others may be here for all these reason, which of course are the stated objectives of this non-political, non-religious worldwide organisation.

Secretary's desk



The first quarter of Rotary year 20-21 was significantly different because of the disruptions created by the Covid pandemic. Amidst the multiple restrictions and protocols, new opportunities emerged in the digital space for meetings, conventions and seminars and it were business as usual, sans fellowships and family meets. We keep moving on with hope and enthusiasm. On the Project execution side, we could not do all that we wanted and as we move on to the second quarter, let us embark on new ways to fulfill our missions and touch upon all that we planned including the signature GG project – Blood bank at General Hospital. Looking forward to support and guidance from all Rotarians. Cheers!

Yours in Rotary,
Rtn AV Iyer

For me personally, I must confess of having had a selfish motive as well. Of course, its lofty ideals like "service above self" and the Four Way Test had appealed to me and I also wanted a forum to give back my bit to the society.

My selfish motive was to acquire friends in the city. When I got back to Kerala after a hiatus of more than 35 years, I was a different man. I had a thick mop of hair but friends fewer than fingers on one hand! Then Rotary happened in 2010.

Subsequently, other openings also have come my way and now, I am humbled to say, I have loads of friends but I can almost count the number of strands on my pate.

In addition to all that, Rotary gave me the opportunity to host a lovely American couple at my home for two-three days. My association with elegant Rtn Mary Jo Keating and her jovial husband Rtn Duane Bugs



Rtn. Holger Knaack
President
Rotary International



Rtn. Jose Chacko
Governor
Dist. 3201

Johnson from Wisconsin, Club Fond du Lac turned out to be so good that their club is currently our partners in our Global Grant Blood Bank project, which is almost ready at the District Hospital.

Members, please let us know what Rotary means to you personally. Please put your thoughts down and mail it to arvindnair11@gmail.com, will you?

Arvind Nair
Editor



The President Speaks...

Dear Friends ,

It gives me immense pleasure to pen down few lines for RoTrich , first bulletin in this Rotary year .

I take this opportunity to compliment Rtn Jayanthi Nair and her team of Office Bearers for their dedication in the Rotary year 2019-20 to receive the Prestigious award - RI President's Citation (Platinum) – for first time to our Club and also the DG's Special award and many other certificates.

This year, our activities have changed the normal course due to Covid 19 pandemic , reacting to the Government directions and restriction to keep us all safe . As responsible Rotarians , it is our duty to oversee the smooth implementation of these directions for the good of our members and public, keeping the Four Way test in mind.

However we have not stopped our activities – we have aptly changed the pattern - meetings from our Rotary Hall to the Zoom meeting – became flexible in our approach to activities, with limited interaction with our communities . It will be our earnest endeavour to strive to 'excellence PLUS' in our activities in coming months as per directions of our DG Rtn Jose Chacko.

Let us keep moving in a positive direction and achieve our Goals as "Rotary opens Opportunities" My Best Wishes and Compliments to our Members, Anns & Annettes.

Yours in Rotary,
Rtn Lt Col NPR Nair

Pedal to school
(01 July 2020)



At GHS Anchery



At Model GHS (Boys), Thrissur

The show must

As you know, the virus crisis and the consequent lockdown has majorly impacted out activities ever since March when the country was plagued by a pandemic. It means that this Rotary year, we haven't had a single Covid-free week to carry out our philanthropic or humanitarian activities!

In spite of the overwhelming afflictions, the members and board members of the club rose to the oc-

casional, under the able leadership of the President, Lt Col NPR Nair and Secretary A Venkatachalam Iyer and managed to do a slew of projects in order to keep the Rotary flag flying high.

District Priority

Under the Pedal to School District Priority Project, the club donated 10 bicycles in July to students

of the Government Higher Secondary Schools for Boys and the Girls; Thrissur, and for students of the Govt Higher Secondary Schools in Puthur and in Anchery. A total of four schools benefited.

In the same month, in an effort to help the government's and the community's fightback against the Corona virus, we distributed more than 100 protection shields to auto rickshaws at the Sun Hospital and Research Centre. The project was sponsored by Rtn Prathap Varkey, MD of the Sun.

The handing over ceremony was



'ONAM SADYA' - Prathyasha Bhavan, Ramavarmapuram

What's ROTI?
ROTI is an acronym for Rotarians on the Internet.



At Model GHS (Girls), Thrissur



At GHS Puthoor Thrissur

& does, go on!



Mayor Smt Ajitha Jayarajan handing over protection shield to Auto Rikshaw drivers. DD Rtn ME Thomas, Rtn Prathap Varkey looks on.

Did you know?
 Have you heard about the Rule of 85? Basically, it states that with Board approval, a Rotarian at least 65 years of age and with an aggregate of their years of service with their age being equal to or greater than 85, they will be excused from attendance.

attended by a galaxy of dignitaries including the City Mayor Smt. Ajitha Jayarajan

In August, the club organised another District Priority webinar mainly for the benefit of graduate and under-graduate students and their parents. Entitled Education and Career Opportunities in Australia and New Zealand, the online seminar was addressed by Dr Ganesh Koramannil, CEO of Iquery, an Australian career guidance firm. ▶▶ *next page*



GGR Adv Anto Davis, AG Rtn Rajagopal and President Col NPR Nair in the picture



Installation 2020-2021 “The New v Team”



“ Carry on, My Dear!”

Club Administration

In July, the inaugural month of the Rotary year, we also conducted an impressive installation ceremony at Hyatt Regency Hotel. Because of the Covid protocol, only a few leaders attended the remarkable ceremony at the hotel but most of the members watched the small yet exciting ceremony online from the comfort of their homes.

A number of guests such as DGE Rtn. Rajasekhar, Inner Wheel President Ms Jovina Raphi, DD ME Thomas, AG Rajagopal, and IPDD

Dr Suresh Kumar felicitated the new team and wished them good luck.

In July, fellow member Rtn YP Menon gave a talk on “Chemistry of Happiness”. Several non-members from other countries such as Malaysia also took part.

Community Service

As part of the club’s Community Service projects, we distributed Onam kits, consisting of essential provisions, to Providence Home, Marathakkara (Home for old and sick women) and St Ann’s Orphan-



age at West Fort. Our Member Rtn BM James partly sponsored the project.

In addition, our club provided Onam lunch to the inmates of Pratyasha Bhavan (a government facility for mentally and physically challenged women) at Rama Varma Puram. Due to Covid restrictions, we simply delivered the lunch at the site.

In October, after several virtual meetings and a gap of six long months, we hosted a meeting at the club hall after adopting all Covid protocols. During the meeting, the President handed over Rotary kit and pin to new member Rtn Rani Thomas. Board members also received their theme pins. PHF and MPH members too were recognised.



August Gathering - Installation Ceremony