

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerner,

It is such a pleasure meeting and interacting with children whenever we visit schools for various installations and inaugurations. Likewise, at colleges, the young leaders of tomorrow are brimming with confidence with their objectives well planned. Children now are by nature very passionate. Our new counsellors have started the counselling sessions in schools. The Air conditioning and Refrigeration course, one of our vocational training programs will be run by ASHRAE and IES.

Under the Freedom through Education project, we had the inauguration of Pananthepe Railway Colony School's programme by DG Nandakumar.

A holistic approach to making school a fun learning environment started on 1st September with Computer training, Mentoring, Fun Maths & Science - STEM, Art/Culture Therapy, Counselling. The first of the field trips is on the cards as well as a short film. Dates will be confirmed, please do join. Toilets are being renovated. Basic sports and games equipment have also been given. The library is being revamped and new books added.

We have now 2 schools under Freedom Through Education. PCKG Kodambakkam school and PRCS, Aynavaram school. Nine more schools are being taken up, which have special children with autism, dyslexia and other issues studying in them along with the regular children.

We have planned to support these schools with Occupational therapy equipment, Montessori equipment, Digitalization (Computers with smart TVs) and other small infra needs.

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### AN ENERGIZING SUNDAY



'Find the compartment that has red seats (in the Metro trains)', 'Chennai's oldest bakery (near Anna Nagar East Metro station)', 'What would you do when a co-passenger (travelling in a Metro train) is in need of medical or any other help', these were some of the 20-odd questions from the Rotary Metro Hunt organised by our Rotary District 3232 Partners Committee on Sunday, 7th August 2022, to promote public transport.

Three teams of Southerners (4 members in a team) participated in the fun-filled event. Jothilakshmi, Rajanbabu, Sibi Rajan and I formed one of the teams. The hunt was flagged off from Alandur Metro station at 9.30 am by Mr. Siddiq, IAS, Chairman of CMRL in the presence of our District First Lady Dr. Sumedha Nandakumar and District Governor Dr. N Nandakumar. Everyone was given a florescent 'green' apron to identify them during the ride in the Metro train. The green brigade of more than 125 teams participated in the event that ended with prize distribution around 2.30 pm. The team from the Rotary Club of Madras T.Nagar came first and bagged the cash prize of Rs.25,000. The team from Southerners did not win any prizes, and in the words of Rajanbabu "we blended as a great team and made the Sunday energizing". It was laughter all throughout and fun riding in the Metro train.

And, if you are wondering what the answers are for the three questions asked, it's 'Lady's compartment', 'McRennett', and 'Call the helpline number'. It was truly a 'Namma Metro' ride.

PP Rtn Magdoom

## FREEDOM THROUGH EDUCATION – PROJECT LAUNCH

This project implemented in association with Acsys Investment Pvt. Ltd., was inaugurated on 30th August at the Panathope Railway Colony School, Ayanavaram by DG Rtn Dr. N Nandakumar, in the presence of Shri N Ramamurthy, Project Engineer (Construction), Rail Land Development Authority, Chennai. Also present on the occasion were President Jawahar Nichani, PP V Mukund and IPP Renjit Joseph. Through this project, RCMS is looking to enable systemic changes in selected schools by providing resource support to cater to the children's emotional, social, mental, physical and academic needs.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATED

President Nichani was the chief guest at the Independence Day celebrations on 15th August at St Antony's Anglo Indian School, while PP V Mukund graced the Panathope Railway Colony School on that day as the chief guest.

## SURESH GOPAL INDUCTED AS A MEMBER

PDG N Nagoji inducted Suresh Gopal as a member of RCMS during the weekly meeting held on 23rd August at Hotel Savera. He was introduced by Rtn Vijay Menon. Rtn Suresh is Business Head at Moneycart Finserv. His wife Ann Aarthi Suresh is a Human Resource Consultant. They are blessed with two daughters, Akshaya (12) and Aradhana (9). Southerners welcome Rtn Suresh Gopal into the world of Rotary.



## FIRESIDE HOSTED BY RTN ASHOK

Rtn A R Ashok and Ann Lavanya hosted a fireside lunch get-together at the Presidency Club on 21st August. According to President Nichani, the couple ensured that the afternoon was "great fun and full of mirth with non-stop laughter, apart from the awesome food".

Thank you Rtn Ashok and Ann Lavanya.



## ROTARACT AND INTERACT CLUBS INSTALLED

Office bearers of two Rotaract clubs for the RY 2022-23 were installed in August. On 23rd August, President Nichani installed the new team at ASAN Memorial College of Arts and Science. Rtn Sibirajan gave an inspiring speech to the students on the occasion. Later, on 27th August, the team of the College of Engineering, Guindy (CEG) was also installed.

On 18th August, the incoming team of the Interact Club of St Antony's Anglo Indian High School was installed by our president.



## COUNSELLING AND SPOKEN ENGLISH COURSES INAUGURATED

On 29th August, Students Counselling and Spoken English courses were inaugurated at the Sacred Heart Girls School and Jaigopal Garodia Girls School in Chennai. Our green Rotarian, Kalpana Kumar, gave an impressive awareness speech to the students.



## CARING FOR LITTLE HEARTS - UPDATE

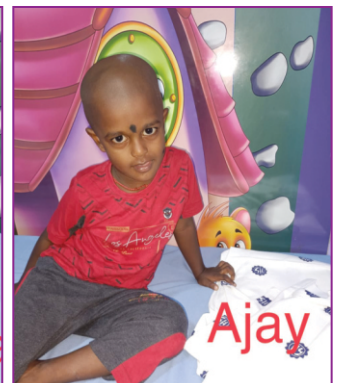
A total of six surgeries were performed in August.

All the children are doing well post the surgery.

**Ananya** is a four-year-old from Cuddalore

**Ajay** is a three-year-old from Karaikudi

Both the kids underwent surgery in the month of August 2022



## WEEKLY MEETINGS IN AUGUST



Date : 2nd August, 2022  
 Speaker : Dr Dilip Rangarajan  
 (through Zoom)  
 Topic : Kidneys and good health



Date : 9th August, 2022  
 Speaker : K R A Narasiah  
 Topic : My career as a marine  
 engineer and as a writer



Date : 23rd August, 2022  
 Speaker : Sharada Sundaram  
 Topic : Rotary and women's  
 empowerment

## R V RAJAN'S 12TH BOOK LAUNCHED



At a glittering event at the TAG Centre in Chennai on 30th August,

PP Rtn Rajan's 12th book titled, "Bright Stars in the Chennai Sky" was released by the veteran Historian of Chennai and a member of RCMS, Rtn V Sriram. The event also coincided with Rajan's 80th birthday celebrations, hosted by his children, followed by fellowship and dinner. While Rajan's evolution as a prolific writer post retirement has been well documented, Sriram also praised Rajan on his ability to 'market' his books effectively through social media and other means. This book is a collection of Rajan's original articles on inspirational stories of Chennai-based personalities and institutions, mostly published in Madras Musings, founded by the late S Muthiah (Founder-Editor) and currently edited by V Sriram. According to Rajan, the entire proceeds from the sale of the book will go towards supporting the activities of Prabha Rajan Talent Foundation, a Trust founded by Rajan in memory of his late wife.

The book is available on Amazon and at Odyssey Book Store in, Gandhi Nagar, Adyar. Rajan can also be contacted for purchasing the book on Mob. No. 98403 92082.

## SPORTSWEAR DISTRIBUTED



60 girls from Jaigopal Garodia Girls HS School were thrilled to receive sportswear with our club logo and Rotary emblem for a Kabaddi tournament that the girls were participating in. RCMS has been involved in a number of projects in this school for the last few years.

### ....Continued from President's Message

Our Rtn. Kalpana has special trainers in some of these schools. The application for a global grant has been readied for submission. Please support the Freedom through Education project when our Fundraising Director, Rtn. Prakash connects with you.

Yours in Rotary  
**Jawahar Nichani**

*With Best Compliments From*

# A WELL WISHER

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The Southerner is published by Rotary Club of Madras South for private circulation and is Printed by Multicraft (2431 0419)