



CHAKKARAM

**MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB
OF JAFFNA**

2001/2002

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EDITORS:

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Rtn.Y.THAYAPARAN

**JULY
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The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of Service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First - The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

Second - High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

Third - The application of the ideal of service, by every Rotarian to his personal, business and community life.

Fourth - The advancement of International understanding, goodwill and peace, through a world fellowship of business and professional men and women united in the ideal of service.

FROM THE EDITORS' PENS

Dear fellow ROTARIANS

We go back exactly 12 years to July, 1989 and quote Dr. John A. Howard, a past President and Counsellor of the Rockford Institute in Rockford, Illinois, U.S.A. in The Rotarian under the title "Let's live our motto".

"Service above Self" is a phrase and a concept to which Rotarians willingly and proudly pledge allegiance. The genuineness of the commitment is evident in the remarkable array of civic projects and programs of help, support and scholarship sustained by Rotary Clubs throughout the World.

Even so, as with any ideal, it is useful to back off once in a while and think about the meaning and significance of this bond that joins us with other Rotarians everywhere.

Some of you may have read Viktor Frankl's "Man's search for mean-

ing." It is one of those rare words which gives us insight into the depths of our being with an unforgettable power and clarity. Frankl was a Jewish Physician, interned on Auschwitz, one of Hitler's death camps that exhibited the extreme in man's inhumanity to man. No horror story in fiction has ever invented greater cruelty.

As desperate as his life was, Viktor Frankl's professional training and dedication remained intact. As a Physician, he detected a phenomenon that amazed him. It became evident that those who retained their physical stamina longest were not the ones who used brute force to take food and clothing from weaker inmates. Rather the survivors tended to be those whose daily life was characterized by kindness, helpfulness, and reassurance to others. The longer he observed that desperate prison community, the more powerfully this cause - and - effect relationship between compassion and physical endurance registered itself as a certainty.

Having somehow survived his imprisonment, Frankl went on to design and establish a school of psychiatry which he called logo-therapy. In contrast to psychiatry treatment that tries to help the patient understand what happened in the past to cause his disorientation, Frankl's emphasis was directed to the future. It was not so much a question of "How did I get this way?" but rather "How am I going to choose to live my life from here on?" Frankl insisted that man's greatest freedom is in choosing how he will respond to his circumstances. No matter how hopeless and inhumane the situation, an individual can still retain his true dignity, exercising the wisdom and compassion that are the grandeur of his being. A man of science, Frankl discovered and proclaimed as a medical truth that to "Love thy neighbour as thyself" is not just a religious mandate; it is a necessity for health and wholeness.

Let us remind ourselves of this special mission of Rotary International and, as Rotarians acknowledge the central element for wisdom in our motto of "Service above self"; while we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.

Finally a word of thanks to the UTHAYAN PRINTERS & PUBLISHERS for their unstinted support in making this publication a reality.

With warmest regards
Rtnn.Pathmalatha & Thayaparan.

INSTALLATION OF THE 61ST PRESIDENT & BOARD MEMBERS

The ceremony was held at President Rtn.VITHYATHARAN'S residence at No.12, Sivagurunathar Lane, Jaffna. on 15th July, 2001. The Club deviated from its customary procedure and instead invited a Non-Rotarian well wisher, the District Judge of Jaffna Hon.R.T.Vicknarajah to be the Chief Guest to grace the occasion. In fact, the event turned out to be a colourful one with the participation of guests from different walks of life.

Although, the Rotarians and invitees gathered on time at the venue yet deliberations did not commence until 10.30a.m. Surely, the ever accommodative president Vithy must have thought it fit to have a little more lean time for the fellowship which gathered momentum with the arrival of more participants. At 11.00a.m. the meeting was called to order by the PP.Rtn. Panchalingam and it was followed by the lighting of the traditional oil lamp by the Chief Guest.



*Chief Guest Hon. R.T.Viknarajah
lits the oil lamp.*



President Vithy lights the oil lamp.

New generation Director Rtn.AJG.Jeyachandra delivered the welcome address and was soon followed by a thanks - giving speech made by the outgoing president Panch. Rtn. Capt.Somasundram who continues to be the Secretary for the second term as well, presented the annual report high-lighting the programmes and projects executed by the Rotary Club of Jaffna.



Rtn.AJG Jeya's Welcome Address.



*Rtn. Capt.Soma's Presentation of
Annual Report.*

The outgoing President Rtn.Panch. was honoured by a well thoughtout speech made by the first Lady Rotarian of the Club Rtn.Mrs.S.Gunaratnam and as a recognition of his wonderful services above self, he was presented with a memento by President Vithyatharan.



Rtn.Murali's Recital of President Vithy's hidden virtues.

Vocational Services Director Rtn.Muralitharan took up a poetical role and introduced the New President Vithyatharan through the recital of a 'Kavi' composed by him which was well received by all.



PP.Rtn.Panch Inducting the new President Vithyatharan.

The outgoing President Rtn.Panchalingam welcomed the incoming President Vithyatharan and installed him as the new President of the Rotary Club of Jaffna by enrobing him with the Presidential Collar.



President Vithy Addresses.....



PP.Rtn.Panch receives memento from President Vithy.

President Vithyatharan in his Presidential address expressed the Rotary's concern for the mankind and touched on the Rotary's three pamphlet for the year which lay emphasis on
MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS
THE PRESIDENTIAL CITATION
THE ROTARY'S GLOBAL QUEST
 for the effective membership development. He also formally announced the names of the following who constitute his Board.

President Elect	- Rtn.P.Vigneswaran
Vice President	- Rtn.N.Vanniasingam
Secretary	- Rtn.Capt.N.Somasundram
Treasurer	- Rtn.K.Surenthiran

Directors -

Club Service	- Rtn.T.Vamadevan
Vocational Service	- Rtn.H.Muralitharan
New Generation	- Rtn.AJG Jeyachandra
Community Service	- Rtn.Dr.K.Ganeswararajah
International Service	- Rtn.K.Muralitharan
Editors	- Rtn.Miss P.Pathmalatha
	- Rtn.Y.Thayaparan
Sergeant-at-Arms	- Rtn.N.Jeyabalasingam.



*Rtn.Vamadevan garland-
ing the Chief Guest.*

INDUCTION OF NEW ROTARIANS

Mr.R.Sharvananda, a Programme Co-ordinator attached to NGO ACTION FAIM and Mr.S.Jeyakumar, a Nursing Officer and a former President of the Rotaract Club of Vadamaradchy were inducted as New Rotarians. PP.Punch and Sri introduced them.



*President Elect Rtn.P.Vigneswaran
presenting a memento to Chief Guest
Hon.RT.Vicknarajah.*



*Lion Past President Tharapalan's
Tribute to President Vithy.*



Some of the anns, annets and Rotarians



*R.Sharvananda being inducted by
President Vithy as a Rotarian.*

LUNCH - ON - MEETING

On account of their Wedding Anniversary that fell on 4th July, our Community Service Director Rtn.Dr.K.Ganeshwararajah hosted us for Lunch at his residence on the 22nd July and hence the Weekly Meeting fixed for 26th July, was advanced to this day and it was converted as a Lunch - on - Meeting.

For Senior Rotarians it was a happy augur for it rekindled the pleasant memories of PHF Saravanapavan's era when Rotarians had frequent Lunch-on-Meetings of this nature.

The Meeting was chaired by President Vithyatharan and after the usual proceedings were over, the Rotarians had a gala time enjoying the sumptuous lunch offered by the young and enterprising couple Rtn.Dr.Ganesh and his Ann. We convey our best wishes and felicitate them.



S.Jeyakumar being inducted as a Rotarian by President Vithy.



Lunch-on Meeting at Rtn.Dr.Ganesh's residence.

ROTARY ADVISORS FOR SCHOOLS INTERACT CLUBS

The following Rotarians function as the Rotary Advisors to School Interact Clubs in accordance with the spirit of Rotary:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Jaffna Hindu College | - Rtn.Dr.S.T.B.Rajeswaran |
| 2. Jaffna Hindu Ladies College | - Rtn. Mrs.S.Gunaratnam |
| 3. Jaffna Vaitheeswara College | - Rtn.K.Surendran |
| 4. Jaffna Ramanathan College | - Rtn.T.Vamadevan |
| 5. Jaffna Mahajana College. | - Rtn.T.Vamadevan |
| 6. Jaffna Kokuvil Hindu College | - Rtn.N.Vanniasingam |
| 7. Jaffna Uduvil Girls' College | - Rtn.AJG.Jeyachandra |
| 8. Jaffna Chundikuli Girls' College | - Rtn.AJG.Jeyachandra |
| 9. Jaffna Vembadi Girls' High School | - Rtn.Miss P.Pathmalatha |
| 10. Jaffna Holy Family Convent | - Rtn.Miss P.Pathmalatha |
| 11. Jaffna Manipay Hindu College | - Rtn.Dr.K.Ganeshwararajah |
| 12. Jaffna Manipay Ladies College | - Rtn.S.Sivamohan |
| 13. Jaffna Manipay Memorial College | - Rtn.S.Sivamohan |
| 14. Jaffna Union College | - Rtn. V.Raveeharan |
| 15. Jaffna Kanagaratnam MMV | - Rtn. V.Raveeharan |
| 16. Jaffna Central College | - Rtn.H.Muraleetharan |
| 17. Jaffna St.John's College | - Rtn.Y.Thayaparan |
| 18. Jaffna St.Patrick's College | - Rtn.K.Muralitharan |
| 19. Jaffna Kopay Christian College | - Rtn.PP.A.Panchalingam |
| 20. Jaffna Vasavilan MMV | - Rtn.PP.A.Panchalingam |

WORK-SHOP ON PROJECT FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME FOR INTERACT CLUBS.

On 22nd July, 2001, a Workshop titled on the above subject was held at the Vaideeswara College. This was jointly organised by the New Generation Director Rtn.AJG Jeyachandra and the College Principal and our Vice President Rtn.Vanniasingam. President Vithyatharan inaugurated the Workshop which was well attended by all the Presidents, Secretaries and the staff Advisors of the respective Interact Clubs.



INTEREST MEETING FOR A NEW INTERACT CLUB AT ST.ANTHONY'S COLLEGE, KAYTS.

On the initiative taken by our energetic New Generation Director Rtn.AJG.Jeyachandra, President Elect. Rtn.P.Vigneswaran, explored the possibility of forming a new interact Club at the St.Antony's College, Kayts. The Rector of the College Rev.Fr.J.A.Jesuthasan, responded positively and on the 1st of August, 2001, our Past President and an Alma Mater of this College Rtn.K.Sripathy along with the President Elect. Rtn. P.Vigneswaran visited the College and conducted an interest meeting to the prospective interactors of the college. 75 Students comprising of girls and boys attended this meeting and we are positive that a new Interact Club shall be born soon in this Island School.

Rotaract Information

Our New Generation Director and Rotaract Advisor Rtn.AJG, Jeyachandra attended all the Meetings held by the following Rotaract Clubs:

Rotaract Club of Chunnakam, Rotaract Club of Jaffna Mid-Town and the Newly formed Provisional Rotaract Club of Nallur. His visits were acclaimed both as informative and stimulative by the young Rotaractors as evidenced by their Reports:

Rotaractors of the Jaffna Mid Town arranged a discussion on Career Guidance for the Youths. Our PP.K.Sripathy attended this programme which was held on 24th July,2001, at the Aruns Hall and was addressed by two eminent Career Specialists M/s.Sananthanan, Charter President of the Jaffna Mid Town Rotaract Club and Mr.Jeyakumar, a Director of the I.T.Park, Jaffna.

Attendance	No.Present	Percentage
04th July	15	71.4%
12th July	16	76.2%
19th July	22	81.5%
26th July	16	59.3%
Average		72.1%

100 percenters for the month of July:

Vithy, Karthi, Sri, Rathy, Vanni, Suren, Jeya, Vama, AJG, Thaya and Dr.Ganesh.

Of these the most youngest three, Dr.Ganesh, Thaya and Vama were awarded, special prizes for their punctuality.

Birthday Greetings:

President Vithy celebrated his birthday on 4th July, 2001 which coincided with the American Independance Day with a grand Tea Party at his residence. 5th July was a Poya Day and although traditionally our club does not meet on Poya Days, this weekly meeting was advanced to 4th July, to coincide with the President's Tea Party. Little Sivapiriya, our President's youngest daughter too celebrated her birthday on 20th July, at her residence, which was well attended by the Rotarinas. Rtn.K.Rajkumar also celebrated his birth day on 28th July. We wish all of them many more happy returns of the days.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE RECEIVED FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL INSTALLATION



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

N. Pathmanathan

District Governor Elect 2002-03
District 3220 Sri Lanka

Rtn. Vithyanathan,
President,
Rotary Club of Jaffna.

Dear Rtn. President Vithy.

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS

Please accept my heartiest congratulations on becoming the Leader of the leaders in businesses and professions. Truly, Rotarians are leaders in their own businesses and professions. You must be proud to lead such a group of persons. It also shows that tremendous confidence and trust reposed on you by your fellow members.

Becoming the President of a Rotary club is an honour and a rare privilege. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity we get to prove our capabilities and leadership qualities. It also offers unique opportunities to serve the community.

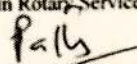
While conveying my heartiest congratulations and best wishes to you for a successful and memorable year as President of your Club, I assure you of my fullest cooperation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I could be of any assistance to you.

"The only way anyone can prove his love of his fellowman is through service to his fellowman"

Paul Harris,
Founder of Rotary.

With warmest regards.

Yours in Rotary Service.


Rtn. PHE N. Pathmanathan
District Governor Elect 2002/2003

P.S.: I shall be thankful if you will please send a copy of your club bulletin and also the name, address, telephone numbers, fax number and the e-mail address of the President Elect of your Club.

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Dist. 3220
Charter 1985

The Rotary Club of Katugastota

Meets at Mahaweli Reach Hotel, Kandy on Thursdays at 6.30 p.m.

Rtn. C.N.Vithayatharan
President
The Rotary Club of Jaffna

Year 2001 - 2002

President

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Sgt-Ai-Arms

PP Gamini Wijeratne
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Dear Vithy,

Thank you for your kind invitation to attend your installation ceremony.

I am sorry we were unable to attend as on the same day was the installation at Batticaloa, which four of us attended.

Due to delays in the post your invitation also arrived a few days after the event.

Let me wish you the very best for the next year, and the very best to your new Board too.

The Membership Development Seminar is I think pretty soon, and perhaps we would meet then.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Largest clubs in Rotary *

- Worldwide, 163, Rotary clubs have more than 200 members each. The clubs are located in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, India, Japan, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, the United States, and Uruguay. Of the clubs of this size, 143 are in the USA.
- Nine clubs, all in the USA, have more than 500 members each. Besides San Antonio, they are Seattle, Washington, 710; Fort Worth, Texas, 656; Indianapolis, Indiana, 561; Houston, Texas, 558; San Diego, California, 528; Birmingham, Alabama, 528; Denver, Colorado, 521; and Cincinnati, Ohio, 506.
- While the USA has the largest clubs, cities in other countries claim the greatest number of clubs. Seoul, Korea, leads with 159 Rotary clubs and a membership topping 4,500. Tokyo, Japan, has 138 clubs with more than 9,100 Rotarians. Taipei, Taiwan, is another city with more than 100 clubs - 107.
- By another measure of size, five countries with at least 1,000 Rotarians each have an average Rotary club size of 50 members or more. Italy is first, with an average club size of 57.2 members; it is followed by Switzerland, 54.6; Sweden, 54.4; Japan, 52.2; and the USA, 51.5.
- ★ Statistics based on the latest semiannual RI membership reports received, and published in the Rotary World of May 2001.



"No, you can't go back where you came from!"

Uthayan Printers and Publishers