



TEXCITY TIMES

A Bulletin of Rotary Club of
Coimbatore Texcity Dist. 3201

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*“Water is life’s mater and
matrix, mother and medium.
There is no life without water.”
- Albert Szent –Gyorgyi*

Save the water





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Textcitians,

Time Flies.... We are nearing the end of this Rotary Year. I am glad to let you know that it has been a wonderful experience being the President of one of the most vibrant Rotary Clubs in Coimbatore. When I took over as the President of the club, it was my dream to conduct a sports event where every member of the Textcity family would be a part. I am glad that with the support of my team, we were able to fulfill it by conducting the TPL successfully. It was overwhelming to see that we have many talented Rotarians, Anns and Annets who enthusiastically participated in various events.

The mega fund raiser, "Miss South India" Beauty Pageant which witnessed the strong, the intelligent, the bold and the beautiful women across South India, helped raise funds for various community projects.

Anns of our club have been the support system of us Rotarians. It was indeed a great pleasure to be able to recognize and honour the Anns who were the first ladies and the Ann's chairpersons on International Women's day.

These two months were very gratifying, we were able to complete many meaningful projects and fulfill the requirements of those in need. We have been able to complete our District Priority projects effectively.

As always, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you who stood by me in everything we undertook and I am sure you will continue doing so.

EDITORIAL

Come March, and Nostalgia takes me back to the train journeys that we did during the 80s. Like every child, I would eagerly await the months of March and April, when schools closed for summer holidays. It was like a ritual for us every year.

Although trains then had just basic facilities, it was never felt undesirable or uncomfortable to travel on. The fear and excitement when the train approaches the platform is enigmatic. Sitting by the window was a treat.... swaying to the rhythm of the train, the breeze blowing on your face, watching the train snake along the curves and turns, were

all so fascinating. In fact, everything about a train journey was fascinating....perhaps because of the glimpses of seemingly impenetrable land, of the station chai wala at the window, or the impulsive and sudden kindness of strangers you meet in the train. As the years went by, a lot about the train journeys changed, some for the better, some not.

I continued to travel by train whenever possible. It was during one such solo travels, that I experienced something which I'll remember for the rest of my life. Not too long ago, I was returning back to Bangalore from Coimbatore, after an event at Textcity. My train was scheduled to depart at around 11.30 p.m. Rtn. Brijesh and Ann Sindhu saw me off at the station, this, only because I won't hear of them coming to the platform to see me off. The LED on the platform had the train number and name displayed on it. P. A system was repeatedly announcing the arrival of Kannur Yashwathpur express and me, experiencing the same feeling of fear and excitement as the train approached the platform.

I quickly settled in my seat and was waiting for the TC to finish his rounds so that I could go to sleep, but then he didn't turn up and so around 12.15 in the night, I fell asleep. The train was scheduled to reach my destination at 6.50 a.m. At around 6, I sat up and looked out of my window. All I could see was just vast expanses of land, and still no sign of nearing the city! So assuming that the train is running late, I leaned against the window and dozed off. I was rudely woken up by the shrill sing song tone of chai, chai, "garam chai", in the train. And then I heard the man in the next seat asking the Chai wala "Yeh Gaadi Bhopal se guzarega kya"? (will this train go past Bhopal?). The chai wala smirked,I laughed within, and thought what a silly man, he has no clue of the topography! But my glee was short lived! The chai wala replied saying " Bhopal kaise saab? Yeh to Dilli jaayega"..... I heard Delhi, and went numb for a few seconds. I asked the man sitting opposite me if this is Kannur Yeshwantpur Express. He looked at me like I was talking to him in French! Then I asked him if this train goes to Bangalore. That's probably when he realized what I wanted to know, and said that we are on board the Nizamuddin Express !!! He continued saying something, but i could hear nothing....just a buzzzzzz ... my ear lobes were burning and I was sweating profusely!! Immediately I pulled out my suitcase, and rushed towards the door. In about less than five minutes, the train was pulling into a station. As soon as it stopped, without looking which station it was, I jumped out of the train And what do I see staring at me in large lettering....TIRUPATHI !

The rest is like a faint nightmare.....me calling my husband, him panicking because he wasn't home to help me out, and so requesting Brijesh to help me out. Then me calling Sindhu and she asking me if I reached? When I told her I was at Tirupathi station, she burst out laughing!! She thought I was in one of my crazy moods for joking! Then I explained the situation and she didn't know how to react! To cut the long story short, Brijesh my savior, used his influence there and got me to a hotel, where I could freshen up and change before I could be dropped off to the airport.

I eventually reached home at 8.30 in the night, a bit sheepish, a bit wiser too. Yes, a lesson learnt. Gautam Buddha said "Do not blindly believe what others say. See for yourself what brings clarity, contentment and peace....." (including the railway announcements, haha) I should have checked the name of the train displayed on the bogie, before boarding!! In spite of these little escapades, I still believe that train journeys add a significant value to my life. The stories, the adventure, and all those good and bad experiences, are absolutely unparalleled, leaving you with no other option but to appreciate the entire journey altogether.



ROTARIAN'S HUB

The onset of summer brought about plenty of activities in Texcity. Another mega fund raiser by the texticians, The "Miss South India 2019" was successfully completed. The event was covered in various media channels and newspapers which further boosted the image of Texcity among the public.

The major projects done were the sponsorship of food, and prizes for the SAHAYAM '19, a Cultural & Literary Extravaganza for the mentally and physically challenged children. When the mobile mammogram van, a global project of Rotary Club of Cochin, reached Coimbatore, Texcity conducted a camp at ICPH – Shanti Ashram. The breast cancer screening was conducted on women above 40 yrs. First Responder's training was also conducted for 50 school children to educate them on the need for first aid during an emergency. A pet project of Rotary International, Polio Eradication continues. Texcity hosted the PPI orientation & planning seminar for the Pulse Polio Immunization to be done in Coimbatore. 50 kids were administered the polio drops on the scheduled day at the Podanur polio booth. On Women's day, Texcity conferred

the vocational service awards and the humanity awards upon the deserving people of the community. Mrs. Sangeetha Sridhar, a resident of Abudhabi who is on her mission to reach out to the rural public of India and spread the message of "Swachh Bharath" was selicitate. She is on a solo drive to covering approximately 42,000 kms across the 30 states of India. Texcity along with Good Shephard Health education Centre & Dispensary, Karamadai celebrated International Women's Day where around 1350 women of the Self Help Groups participated. Texcity contributed towards governor's priority project "Just a Million" by conducting a mega blood donation camp at the Avishilingam University Campus. 494 units of blood was collected as an outcome of this camp. In association with the Department of Special education – Disability co.ordination committee of Avinashilingam University, Texcity conducted a workshop for 90 differently abled students on "Personality Development". This year, under Parivarthan Project, Texcity utilized their first district global grant towards setting up smart classrooms at Kuppunar Middle School, Madhampatti.







Financial assistance was given to a cancer affected child Rithika, Mr. Velumani, a critically injured accident victim for surgery, Ms. Dhatshanin R, for Heart Surgery at KMCH and Mr. Dani to pursue his engineering. We have also supported Mrs. Sabi Mathew who has been riding a bike without sitting or holding the handle from Kotagiri to Chennai covering approximately 10,000 kms. She is on a mission to create awareness amongst the people across Tamilnadu to stop the usage of plastic. Texcity supported a group of youngsters who

run the SUDAR Trust, which identifies unclaimed bodies and performs their final rituals and gives them a dignified funeral. As a part of the ongoing project of Texcity, we extended our support to differently abled Ryla which will take place on May 6th – 10th at Kumuragu College of Engg. We also sponsored the filtration plant for the hydrotherapy pool at Nithilyam Special School and Adelaide Rehabilitation Center for children with Down's syndrome, Learning Disabilities, Autism and ADHD.



Texcity had organized an orientation & training program, conducted by the Rotaractors of GCT College at the SES Matriculation School, Ganapathy for 75 students. A new Interact Club is to be charted at the school soon.



The Dhanyadhan for the month of February & March were sponsored by Rtn.CR Vijay & Family, Rtn. Maruti & Family, Rtn. Vinod & Family, Ann Sarah Natasha and the Texcity family.



Our President Rtn. Senthil, an ardent lover of sports ensured that most of the Texcitians took part in the BBC (Beer, Biriyani, Cricket) organized by Rotary Club of Spectrum. He and his team went on to plan for a premier league of various sports (TPL) which was conducted in a professional manner with Team Owners, Captains and auctioning of players as seen in IPL. Apart from Cricket, Futsal, Volley Ball, Table Tennis, Throw Ball, Badminton and Swimming were the other sports conducted at TPL. It was not just restricted to the rotarians, but it was an event for the entire rotary family which saw the anns and annets participating in large numbers and with a lot of enthusiasm. The teams of the TPL were the Texcity Super Kings, The Gillies, The Texcity Bulls and The Neruppu Da. High energy levels were witnessed on the field with all the participants (Rotarians, Anns and Annets) bringing out their competitive spirit. Little annets, who were not part of any team chose to be cheer leaders, there by completing the whole event. This grand TPL came to an end with a closing ceremony where in prizes were distributed to the winners. The Overall championship trophy will be announced and given away by our Governor, Rotarian A V Pathy on the Charter Night.





The Texcity Family went on a fun filled picnic to Pollachi Tiruchitrambalam Palace. The hosts ensured that this was a memorable day by giving a true village experience, to all right from a dip in the river to witnessing the “Kozhi Sandai” along with a very tasty chettinad cuisine for lunch.



Weekly Meetings....

13/02/2019	Board Meeting	It was attended by all the board members and hosted by Rtn. Rajesh at his residence.
20/02/2019	Miss South India & TPL	The main agenda was Impressions of Miss South India and the launch of Texcity Premier League.
27/02/2019	TPL Auction Nite	An exciting and competitive bidding was witnessed.
25/03/2019	Board Meeting	The 8th board meeting held at Alankar Grande was hosted by Rtn. Dr. Senthil Raju & Rtn. Senthilkumar.
27/03/2019	Club Assembly	The Club Assembly was held at the Texcity Hall. It was the AG's official visit to Texcity.





As a part of Rotary Friendship exchange a team of 12 people from Rotary district 5020 (USA & Canada) visited Rotary District 3201. Texticians who hosted them made sure they enjoyed every bit of their stay in Coimbatore.

Ann's Hub

In spite of the approaching exams for their kids, the activities of our Anns did not slow down. The Ann's Club donated 1000 plastic balls to the WVS Special School at Kavundampalayam for occupational therapy. They also donated a fridge and medicines to the HIV / AIDS patients of Assissi Snehalaya, Ettimadai.

The Ann's Club conducted a training session for 50 rural young women to develop their entrepreneurial skills. They were given training in making plastic wire basket by two

faculties from Salem, taught baking skills by Ann Sumithra. They were also given a training on self-defense by Mr. Francis Xavier.

Alongside the District Conference, Cascade 2019 our Texcity Anns Club conducted cookery competition "TASTE BATTLE" for the Anns of our District. There were many participants who showcased their culinary skills. The first place was bagged by our very own Anns, Ann Menaka and Ann Muthu form team M&M.





Ann's Meet Feb '19

"Love yourself as much as you want to be loved"

The 8th Ann's Meet was held at Ann Devi Maruti's Residence, with the theme "Love Yourself". Ann Alka gave an inspiring talk on how important it is to love ourselves first. Dr. Ganga Mallan, Rtn from Midtown was a special invitee who spoke on "Women Wellness". The icing on the cake was the surprise from Devi who had invited all the Rotarian spouses over.... Being the month of Love!! All the Anns were surprised and happy seeing their better-Halves with Roses and Gifts. It was followed by a sumptuous lunch.





Anns Meet Mar '19

"Holi – A time to Unwind, De-Stress and bond with Friends, Thandai and Colours"

The 9th Anns Meet was held at Parsns hosted by Anns Padmini, Jismi, Sindhu, Latha, Mary Ann, Bharathi, Reenu and Lana. The festival of colours, Holi was celebrated by the Anns in its true spirit. Organic Colors which were safe for the Skin were used. A yummy lunch with North Indian cuisine was served.

*"True Diva" of the Month
- Ann Rohini.*



Women's Day at Texcity

Recognition is always a source of encouragement to everyone!!

This year for Women's Day, the Ann's club decided to identify strong women who have done their part in making this world a better place from within the Texcity Family. The Anns Club recognized all the First Ladies and Anns Presidents of Texcity for their supportive role and contribution in bringing about a positive change in the society.



Annet's Corner



Annet's Corner

It was that time of the year when all children were buried in their books preparing for the exams. But our little Annets of Texcity were multitasking. The Annet's club donated televisions to Donbosco Anbu Illam and Aravanaikum Karangal Boys Orphanage. They also visited Vellore government Tribal Hostel and apart from spending quality time with the inmates, they also donated a UPS and provided them with refreshments. Mr. V V Philip, a differently abled Para Sitting Volley ball player was also sponsored with air tickets to fly to Thailand to take part in the Paralympics.



At least 3,000 children die each day from diarrheal diseases caused by unsafe water, a grim reminder for Rotary members who make providing clean water and sanitation an organizational priority. While very few people die of thirst, millions die from preventable waterborne diseases, providing the impetus for our members to provide toilets and latrines and other clean water initiatives in underdeveloped countries. Members also teach these communities to maintain new infrastructure, and organize educational projects to promote hand-washing and other good hygiene habits. Though 22 March is recognized as World Water Day, our commitment to these causes is ongoing. In Ghana, Rotary member Samuel Obour spearheads projects to install latrines, washing stations, and toilets across Ghana. In Latin America, youth from Connecticut, USA, lay water pipelines for communities for high altitude villages. Dozens of other water projects await financial support, from water harvesting in Mexico to a well for clean potable water in Egypt.

Join us and get involved or meet us in São Paulo on 4 June for our World Water Summit, the seventh time Rotary members have hosted NGOs, nonprofits, businesses, and concerned citizens of the world for learning, networking, and discussion around clean water. In addition to our summit, members regularly host water experts for roundtable discussions at their clubs. Our commitment to clean water is stronger than ever. We have over 1.2 million members in more than 34,000 clubs in nearly every corner of the world.

By Adam Ross
Courtesy: www.rotary.org

Every day is World Water Day with Rotary

