



To commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of
Rotary Club of Bangalore,
The President, Rotary Club of Bangalore
and Chairman, Platinum Jubilee Committee
are pleased to present



The Platinum Club
to

Rtn. C.K. Sreenathan
President
Rotary Club of Bangalore

Rtn. Ram Kumarr Seshu
Secretary
Rotary Club of Bangalore

PRID Rtn. M.K. Panduranga Setty
Chairman
Platinum Jubilee Committee

PDG Rtn. K.N. Prabhaskar
Chairman, Fund raising
Platinum Jubilee Committee

Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Volume

Rtn. K. Shankar
Chairman

Rtn. Narayanan Suresh
Co-Chairman

Rtn. Zarir K.Batha
Co-Chairman

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 173 Rtn. PDG. Vishnu M. Ghatge
 174 Rtn. PP Air Commodore S.N.Goyal (Retd)
 175 Rtn. PDG. PHF B.S.Sidhwa
 176 Rtn. PDG. K.S.Menon
 177 Rtn.PDG. S.Rangasami
 178 Rtn. Ramnarayan Chellaram
 179 Rtn. PP P.I.Joseph
 180 Rtn. P.Gopalan Nair
 181 Rtn. B.N.Gupta
 182 Dr. R.S.Padmanabhan
 183 Rtn. PDG P.T.Kasturi
 184 Rtn. PDG M.K.Ramachandra
 185 Rtn. PHF C.V.Hayagriv
 186 Rtn. PDG PHF M.Sreenivasa Rao
 187 Rtn. PDG Capt. V.V.K.Mani
 189 Rtn. PDG Dr.Prithvi Raval
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*Platinum Jubilee Certificate of
Rotary International*



**HONORING 75 YEARS OF
MEMBERSHIP IN ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**

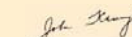
The Rotary Club of

Bangalore, Karnataka, India

admitted 12 July 1934

**is recognized for its dedication to the Object of Rotary
and its commitment to the ideal of Service Above Self.**

Date 12 July 2009

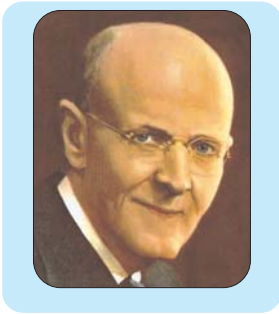


Jolfr Kenny
President, Rotary International





Paul P. Harris The Founder



Paul P. Harris

Paul Harris was born in 1868 to middle class parents in Wisconsin, USA. A financial crisis forced his parents to send Paul (3) and his elder brother Cecil (5) to their grandparents in Wellingford.

From his loving grandparents, Paul learned the values of tolerance, compassion and respect for fellow human beings – values that would form the very basis of the Rotary movement.

In 1891, 23 year old Paul was called to the Bar. But before starting on his legal

career, he decided to spend the next five years travelling. With no money, he worked his way around the USA, Europe and the British Isles, braving enormous hardships, often hungry and working as a journalist, fruit picker, granite salesman, hotel clerk, cowboy and even an actor.

His law practice in Chicago was not an instant success and he often went hungry and lonely for days. The yearning for friends and fellowship was the genesis of the Rotary movement. On February 23, 1905, Paul, with three business friends started a club which, in time, would become a world-wide organization.

In August, 1910, the National Association of Rotary Clubs was formed with Paul Harris as President. Three months later, this body was renamed Rotary International.

In 1912, Paul Harris resigned as President of Rotary International but was unanimously elected President Emeritus for life.

Paul Harris died on January 27, 1947.



Rotary Club of Bangalore



*Rotary House of Friendship
Bangalore*

Date Founded	:	8 th June 1934
Date of Charter	:	12 th July 1934
Charter President	:	L.J.Melver
Charter Secretary	:	J.Munro
Membership (5 th June 1934)	:	23
Assistant Governor	:	Rtn. M.Suresh Kumar
Membership as of 29.6.2009	:	228
Members exempted from attendance	:	60
Lady Members	:	27
Name of the Weekly Bulletin	:	The Rotator
Roster	:	Updated in 2009
Rotophone	:	Updated in 2009
Web Site	:	www.rotaryclubofbangalore.co.in
E-mail	:	rotarycb@vsnl.net
Meeting Day and Time	:	Monday - 7.00 pm
Venue of Weekly Meeting	:	Rotary House of Friendship #20, Lavelle Road, Bangalore-560001
President	:	Rtn. C.K.Sreenathan
Secretary	:	Rtn. Ramkumarr Seshu
Major Donors	:	10
Paul Harris Fellows	:	384



John Kenny
President 2009-10
Rotary International

Message from R.I. President, John Kenny

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



July 2009

John Kenny
President, 2009-10
Fax 847.866.3190

To the members of the
Rotary Club of Bangalore, Karnataka, India

Dear Fellow Rotarians:

Congratulations to all of you as you celebrate your club's 75th anniversary.

75 years ago, your club's charter members felt that Rotary's ideal of service to the community was worthy and credible, and for this reason they laid the foundation for a Rotary club in Bangalore, Karnataka, India.

Today, your club continues to bring new ideas and fresh enthusiasm to a tradition of service that has spanned generations. This year, as you reflect on past accomplishments, I ask you to continue to lead Rotary into the next century of service. Continue to focus on projects that provide clean water, improve health and eliminate hunger, and advance literacy in clubs and districts around the world.

As you celebrate this important milestone in your club's history, remember the responsibility for Rotary is yours. Take pride each day in the decisions you make and the actions you take, because these choices are determining the course of Rotary for us all. I can think of no place better to entrust the strength of this organization than to the members who have built it. Truly,
The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands.

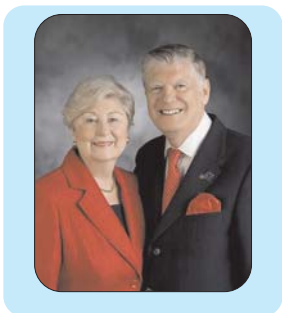
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1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, Illinois
60201-3098 USA
ph 847.866.3100
fax 847.866.3154
www.rotary.org

Sincerely,

John Kenny
President, 2009-10



John Kenny



*John Kenny,
President 2009-10
Rotary International*

JOHN KENNY

Grangemouth, Scotland,
President, Rotary International 2009-10

Vice Chair, 2008 (Los Angeles)
Convention Committee, 2007-08

Trustee, The Rotary Foundation,
2000-04

Executive Committee Chair,
Rotary International 1996-97

Director, Rotary International 1995-97

President RIBI, 1992-93

Vice President RIBI, 1991-92

District Governor, 1984-85

John Kenny, of the Rotary Club of Grangemouth, Scotland, is a past Dean of his local law faculty, a Judge, and a Notary. He is active in scouting and earned the Medal of Merit

for helping to form new scout groups in Eastern Europe. An Elder of the Church of Scotland, he has served as Session Clerk and Presbytery Elder. Kenny was also appointed Deputy Lieutenant of his district by Queen Elizabeth II. He is a Past President of both the Forth Valley Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Scottish Junior Chambers of Commerce. He is also Past General Legal Counsel of Jaycees International.

A Rotarian since 1970, Kenny served Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland as President and Vice President. He has served RI as Director, Executive Committee Chair, Rotary Foundation Trustee, Institute Moderator, District Governor, Convention Vice Chair and Group Leader, President's Representative, and Committee Member and Chair. He has been a Delegate, Member at Large, and Parliamentarian at several Councils on Legislation.

Kenny is a Major Donor to The Rotary Foundation and a Bequest Society Member and has received the Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award.

He and his wife June were married in 1965.



*Rtn. Rajendra K. Saboo
Past President 1991-92
Rotary International*

Message from Rtn. Rajendra K. Saboo

I am extremely happy to extend my felicitations to members of the Rotary Club of Bangalore as it celebrates the platinum jubilee finale on 21 September, 2009 in the presence of incoming world leader R.I. President-elect Ray Klinginsmith and his wife Judie. Indeed, 75 years of completion in service of the society is a milestone to be proud of.

I have often wondered why platinum that looks like silver is more valuable than gold. Perhaps Rotary Club of Bangalore provides the answer. Shining silver looks good. Then comes gold with its glitter that is more valuable. And greater in value is platinum, going back to a silver like

character. Perhaps, after achieving the dazzle, when maturity and elegance take new heights, to look once again like silver, the value enhances. By then integrity, exquisiteness, internal strength become more precious than the glitter. Achievements of the club can truly be defined to have the qualities of platinum.

I can also relate to the club's achievements with many of its outstanding members I had the privilege of working with in my own Rotary and business life. PRID Panduranga Setty is one such personality among others who has enriched me as he has many others during his association with Rotary. Like him there are numerous Rotarians that the club has produced who have touched the people in and around Bangalore giving them lives with better quality, better opportunity, a better future.

In a country that is now second largest in the Rotary world, to be the fifth shining star is not a small achievement. This club can truly be considered as one of the founding pillars of the Rotary movement in India. Thus for many reasons we can look up to this club with awe, appreciation, respect and salutation.

I wish the platinum jubilee celebrations all success.



*PRID M. K. Panduranga Setty
Past President,
Rotary Club of Bangalore*

Foreword

The Rotary movement reached a new milestone in pre-Independent India on June 5, 1934, and received its Charter from Rotary International on October 27 of the same year, at the hands of Rtn. H.W. Bryant of the Rotary Club of Bombay, Honorary Commissioner for India, Ceylon, Burma and Afghanistan, the first to be formed in the Garden City, the seventh in India (Charter President Rtn. L.J. McIver, with 33 members). This club also had the distinction in collaboration with Dr. Lata Jagannathan, Medical Director

from the TTK Group of Companies in 1984, of creating the Bangalore Medical Services Trust to celebrate its Golden Jubilee. As early as 1973, RCB initiated the concept of Voluntary Blood Donations in Karnataka. Among those who played a leading role in setting up the BMST were RCB's late Past Presidents P.T. Kasturi and Capt. V.V.K. Mani. Satellite Blood Centers have since been established in 10 hospitals. The Diamond Jubilee was marked by the building of the Rotary Muthappa Attavar Memorial Hospital at Chennasandra village near Uttarahalli in Bangalore South in 1993-94. Further facilities are envisaged here.

Rotary Club of Bangalore has thrown up a succession of fine, dedicated leaders and members right from the beginning, devoted to a wide spectrum of services at various levels – City,

State, National, Regional and International, in keeping with the spirit of Service Above Self, in all the Avenues.

Among those who nurtured RCB from its chartering in 1934 were some of the finest minds including Dewans and Administrators of the State, British Officers from the Cantonment area, Educationists, a former Chief Justice, a Vice-Chancellor of the University and other luminaries. There were top businessmen and experts from different professions.

We should never forget RCB was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Madras, its Past President presenting an ivory and gold Presidential hammer to our RCB, which is still in use today.

In 1991-93 I had the honour of being the first Past President from this part of the country to become a Director on the Board of Rotary International.

Many Group Study Exchanges (GSLs) have taken place. Numerous humanitarian, medical, educational and educational projects have blossomed during the Platinum years. Many more are in the offing. In 2008, then Rotary International President-Elect D.K. Lee announced a multi-crore project of the club by unveiling a

Platinum Jubilee plaque. The inspiring theme he gave us was "Make Dreams Real."

Schools, dispensaries, hospitals, literacy classes, etc., have been started by the RCB. In short, our club, we can proudly state, without any trace of exaggeration, is poised for marching forward, bringing even more credit to Rotary.

From Paul P. Harris, who founded Rotary in Chicago in 1905 along with three pioneers, to 1917 when R.I.'s 6th President Arch C. Klumph conceived and launched The Rotary Foundation, to the coming into being of the Rotary Club of Bangalore in 1934, to the new tenure of Rotary International (2009-10), John Kenny, from the Rotary Club of Gungahm, Scotland, U.K., it is progress of a remarkable kind. In his message he has told us: "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands." All the Best

to RCB during the Presidential tenure of Rtn. C. K. Sreenathan, 2009-10. He will have the full support of each one of us!



*Rtn. C.K. Sreenathan
President - Rotary Club of Bangalore
(2009-10)*

Message from Rtn. C.K. Sreenathan

The Rotary Club of Bangalore, the First Rotary Club in Bangalore and the Seventh in Pre-Independence India, is now on the threshold of completing Seventy Five eventful years of vibrant existence.

Since the presentation of its Charter in October 1934, the Club has rendered yeomen service to the community at large in keeping with the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self". Hundreds of service projects and activities have been carried out successfully that have benefitted the under-privileged sections of our society in the areas of health, hunger alleviation, education, vocational training, relief to the physically and mentally challenged as well as those affected by natural calamities, leadership camps for the youth and numerous other community oriented initiatives.

We have exceptional leaders in our Club such as Past R.I. Director, Past District Governors, Past Presidents as well as many other Rotarians who have held leadership positions both in our Club as well as in the Rotary District. They have all contributed immensely to the various achievements of our Club all these years and steered the Club to greater heights year after year.

Thanks to the initiative of our senior members in various service endeavours in the past, the newer Rotarians of our Club have a clear vision of the challenges ahead, and I am sure that they will carry on the rich tradition of service to the community until the Club Centennial and beyond. This historical compendium, prepared with considerable effort to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of the Club, is hailed with immense delight. Filling as it does a distinct void, this welcome edition will inform and educate many an enquiring mind of the magnificent accomplishments of this premier club in all the avenues of

Rotary Service.

As the President of our Club at this historic juncture, it is indeed a proud moment for me to present this Platinum Jubilee commemorative volume. I take this opportunity to place on record my deep appreciation of the professional skills and hard-work of our distinguished Rotarians and so many others, without which it would not have been possible to bring out this report.

I now dedicate this Publication to every Rotarian of our Club, past and present, as well as to the Rotary ideals and principles.



Assignment - 2009



Past President
Rtn. K. Shankar

The Platinum Jubilee Committee entrusted me with the publication of the history of the Rotary Club of Bangalore. The club celebrates its platinum jubilee in October 2009 and the commemorative volume is to cover 75 years of glorious past. I accepted to undertake the project, but at the back of my mind was an apprehension of my individual capability. To my surprise I found that it turned out to be one of the most enjoyable experiences that I was exposed to.

In the course of the last 75 years, Rotary Club of Bangalore had the exhilarating responsibilities for performing in the desired direction that brought immense satisfaction to our members, as also the others. I find the members, particularly the young, have greater awareness in furthering the ideal of service and in the pursuit of the object of Rotary. The strength of the club is its capacity to reflect the ethos of the society in which it functions and be capable of flexing itself to the changing characteristics of the environment. As a

result the enthusiasm, arduous and action is synonymous with the growth and development of RI.

Statistics of the growth of the club are impressive, but its accomplishments over the years through the four avenues of service defy estimation or expression in mathematical data. The fellowship enjoyed; the enhanced improvement in conduct of vocations, the joy and smiles brought to the underprivileged, the involvement in the Youth Activities to inculcate the principle of leadership, the endless projects for community improvements, innumerable camps for health, polio immunisation and family planning and international activities all add up when one views the evolution of the club into a strong unit.

This commemorative issue is brought out to expose our 75 years of service, and a reliable archive and time bound legacy. As a result the updating of information has endeavoured the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

I gratefully endorse the help received from various people while writing this volume. I am exhilarated with their

support in sharing not just facts and figures but more significantly conveying the passion that Rotarians feel for their causes.

Hundreds of photographs of the club events have been captured. However, many sensitive moments were limited for presentation owing to the age of the photographs.

While preparing the contents of this volume I had the patient support of my wife, Ann. Meera Bai Shankar and my own office manager, Mr. K. Ananda. I cannot help but acknowledge the memory of Rotarians, long gone but not forgotten and I have no hesitation to acknowledge and pay tributes to those who laid the foundations of the Rotary Club of Bangalore. I immensely acknowledge the support and express my feeling that if this volume, if appreciated, is entirely due to the involvement of Rotarians. I also mention that any limitations and errors are purely my responsibility.



Rtn. S. Nagendra
District Governor, R.I. Dist 3190



The Board of Directors 2009-10

Front row: PP Rtn. K. Vijayakumar, RCB President Rtn. C.K. Sreenathan, Rtn. Dr. Asha Khatri - Vice President. Back row: Rtn. Shivaprasad Krishnan - Treasurer, Rtn. G. Krishna Murthy - Joint Secretary, PDG Rtn. K.N. Prabhaskar - Additional Director, Rtn. Mohan M. Gurjar - Director Youth Service, Rtn. N.S. Srinivasa Murthy - President Elect, Rtn. Gowri Oza - Director Community Service, PP Rtn. T.K. Srinivasa Setty - Additional Director, Rtn. Shailesh Rudra - Sergeant - at - Arms, Rtn. V.S.Ranga Rao - Director Vocational Service, Rtn. Ramkumarr Seshu - Secretary. Since Rtn. Sridhar R. Chari, Director International Service was overseas, he could not be present for the picture above.

Rotary Club of Bangalore
Board of Directors 2009 - 10

President	-	Rtn. C.K.Sreenathan
Immediate Past President	-	Rtn. K.Vijayakumar
President Elect & Director, Club Service	-	Rtn. N.S.Srinivasa Murthy
Vice President	-	Rtn. Dr. Asha khatri
Secretary	-	Rtn. Ram Kumarr Seshu
Joint Secretary	-	Rtn. G.Krishnamurty
Treasurer	-	Rtn. Shivaprasad Krishnan
Director, Community Service	-	Rtn. Gowri S. Oza
Director, Vocational Service	-	Rtn. V.S.Ranga Rao
Director, Youth Activities	-	Rtn. Mohan Gurjar
Director, International Service	-	Rtn. Sridhar R.Chari
Sergeant -at- Arms	-	Rtn. Shailesh Rudra
Additional Director	-	Rtn. PDG. K.N.Prabhaskar
Additional Director	-	Rtn. PP. T.K.Srinivasa Setty



Platinum Jubilee Committee



The future of Rotary Club of Bangalore is in their hands

CHAIRMAN
CONVENER
MEMBERS

- Rtn. PRID M.K. Panduranga Setty
- Rtn. C.K. Sreenathan, President
- Rtn. PDG M.K. Ramachandra
- Rtn. PDG Dr. Prithvi Raval
- Rtn. PDG S.S. Ramdas
- Rtn. PDG K.N. Prabhaskar
- Rtn. PP K. Bettaiah
- Rtn. PP Dr. S.G. Ramnaryan Rao
- Rtn. PP Dr. Pradeep Rao
- Rtn. PP G. Manohar Row
- Rtn. PP Dr. Elizabeth Zachariah
- Rtn. PP K.V. Pradeep
- Rtn. PP G.V. Radhakrishnan
- Rtn. PP Dr. K.G. Ghorpade
- Rtn. PP Lal Bhatia
- Rtn. PP Phiroze Bharda
- Rtn. PP K. Shankar
- Rtn. PP T.K. Sreenivasa Setty
- Rtn. PP K. Vijayakumar
- Rtn. PP R. Sundaram
- Rtn. N.S. Srinivasa Murthy
- Rtn. Asha Khatri

PRESIDENT ELECT
VICE PRESIDENT



*Platinum Jubilee
Commemorative Volume Subcommittee*

K. Shankar - Chairman	Vanita Singh
S. Vijayarajan	Janaki Murali
G. Krishnamurthy	Chander Mannar
Ram Kumarr Seshu	K.N. Prabhaskankar
Narayanan Suresh	Zarir Batha

*Platinum Jubilee
Fund Raising Subcommittee*

Rtn. K N Prabhaskankar - Chairman	Rtn. G V Radhakrishnan
Rtn. PRID. M K Panduranaga Setty	Rtn. PDG. S S Ramdas
Rtn. C K Sreenathan	Rtn. K Bettaiah
Rtn. K Vijayakumar	Rtn. S Vijayarajan
Rtn. Srinivasa Murthy	Rtn. B Subramanian
Rtn. Lal Bhatia	Rtn. G Krishna Murthy
Rtn. K V Pradeep	Rtn. G Umesh Patel
Rtn. Dr. Pradeep M Rao	Rtn. A.K.Jain



Presidents and Secretaries

Year	President	Secretary	Year	President	Secretary
1934-35	L.J.Mclver	J.Munro	1952-53	Walter Sobol	B.S.Sud
1935-36	R.Rewatt	J.Munro	1953-54	V.S.Natarajan	B.S.Sidhwa
1936-37	S.Subba Rao	J.Munro	1954-55	S.N.Goyal	B.S.Sidhwa
1937-38	S.H.Krumbeigal	H.Richardson	1955-56	L.K.Venkiteswaran	S.A.Srinivasan
1938-39	N.S.Subba Rao	H.Richardson	1956-57	B.S.Sidhwa	V.S.Bhatia
1939-40	H.Richardson	Elliot Miller	1957-58	K.S.Menon	P.I.Joseph
1940-41	K.V.Ananthraman	Elliot Miller	1958-59	S.A.Srinivasan	S.Rangasami
1941-42	Deavarao Shivaram	M.V.Govindaswamy	1959-60	C.R.V.Subban	K.Eswari Prasad
1942-43	Elliot Miller	T.S.Varadachary	1960-61	Jagdeesh Prasad	Gangadhara Setty
		H.P.Mukherjee	1961-62	Vasudev Murthy	Gangadhara Setty
1943-44	Mahadevan	P.A.Devitre	1962-63	S.Rangaswami	R.Giridhar
1944-45	J. Homi Bhabha	T.S.Varadachary	1963-64	Y.N.Ganagadhara Setty	R.Giridhar
	D.N.Hosali	D.N.Hosali	1964-65	K.Eswari Prasad	M.S.Kumar
1945-46	A.R.Wadia	D.N.Hosali	1965-66	Sadananda D.Ubhayaker	M.S.Kumar
1946-47	J.C.Ghosh	M.N.Mahadevan	1966-67	M.B.Sunder Rao	R.S.Padmanabhan
1947-48	C.Subramanya Iyer	D.N.Hosali	1967-68	P.I.Joseph	P.Gopalan Nair
1948-49	D.N.Hosali	N.R.Parthasarathy	1968-69	G.S.Ullal	M.R.Rangarathanam
1949-50	E.K.Palia	H.Kapur	1969-70	M.K.Panduranga Setty	Ashok C. Mody
	E.K.Palia	R.Natarajan	1970-71	R.Giridhar	C.V.Narayana Row
1950-51	M.S.Thacker	M.N.Mahadevan	1971-72	Dr. R.S.Padmanabhan	G.K.Rajan
1951-52	V.M.Ghatage	M.E.Treasurywala	1972-73	M.K.Ramachandra	V.Ramachandran

Year	President	Secretary	Year	President	Secretary
1973-74	C.V.Narayana Rao	G.K.Rajan	1994-95	Dr. A.N.Balasundaram	S.S.Ramdas
1974-75	Ashok C.Mody	P.T.Kasturi	1995-96	R.Sundaram	A.V.Rajaram
1975-76	H.C.Ramanna	M.P.Talwar	1996-97	K.Bettaiah	A.Karunakara Setty
1976-77	G.K.Rajan	M.P.Talwar	1997-98	S.S.Ramdas	Dr. Pradeep M. Rao
1977-78	Dr. N.R.Narayan	P.Jagannath	1998-99	Dr.S.G.Ramnarayan Rao	Dr. K.G.Ghorpade
1978-79	P.T.Kasturi	C.Vjayam Jagannathan	1999-00	M.K.Ananth	K.V.Pradeep
1979-80	M.P.Talwar	K.S.Krishnamurthy	2000-01	Amarnath Kamath	Sanjay Malik
1980-81	M.Sreenivasa Rao	Phiroze B. Bharda	2001-02	Dr. Pradeep M.Rao	Y.V.S.Vinod
1981-82	R.K.Baliga	M.V.Talwar	2002-03	G.Manohar Row	G.V.Radhakrishnan
1982-83	C.S.Shadri	T.K.Sreenivasa Setty	2003-04	Dr. Elizabeth Zachariah	C.K.Sreenathan
1983-84	Phiroze Bharda	K.Shankar	2004-05	K.V.Pradeep	V.S.Ranga Rao
1984-85	S.V.Rangaswamy	Dr. Prithvi Raval	2005-06	G.V.Radhakrishnan	N.S.Srinivasa Murthy
1985-86	S.G.Sundaraswamy	V.Vijaya Raju	2006-07	Dr. Gopinath Ghorpade	Dr. K.S.Ganapath
1986-87	K.Shankar	S.S.Mani	2007-08	Lal H.Bhatia	S.Vijayarajan
1987-88	Dr. Prithvi Raval	K.Arun Kumar	2008-09	K.Vijayakumar	Purnimaa Ranganath
1988-89	T.K.Sreenivasa Setty	Capt. V.V.K.Mani	2009-10	C.K.Sreenathan	Ram Kumarr Seshu
1989-90	Hari Parameshwaran	H.R.Suresh			
1990-91	M.R.Doraiswamy Iyengar	Vikash Goenka			
1991-92	Capt. V.V.K.Maini	K.N.Prabhashankar			
1992-93	H.R.Suresh	K.Bettaiah			
1993-94	K.N.Prabhashankar	M.K.Ananth			



Our District Governors

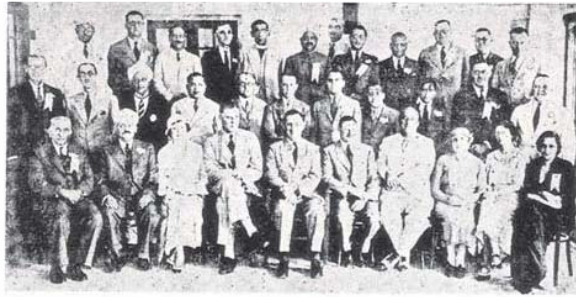
1. K.V.Anantharaman	1944-45	RI District 91
2. Dr. M.N.Mahadevan	1946-47	RI District 91
3. D.N.Hosali	1949-50	RI District 55
4. Prof. R.Natarajan	1951-52	RI District 55
5. Dr. V.M.Ghatge	1956-57	RI District 56
6. B.S.Sidhwa	1959-60	RI District 317
7. K.S.Menon	1962-63	RI District 317
8. S.Rangasami	1969-70	RI District 317
9. Dr. R.S.Padmanabhan	1977-78	RI District 319
10. M.K.Panduranga Setty	1978-79	RI District 319
11. P.T.Kasturi	1982-83	RI District 319
12. M.K.Ramachandra	1984-85	RI District 3190
13. M. Sreenivasa Rao	1987-88	RI District 3190
14. Capt. V.V.K.Mani	1997-98	RI District 3190
15. Dr. Prithvi Raval	2000-01	RI District 3190
16. K.N.Prabhashankar	2003-04	RI District 3190
17. S.S.Ramdas	2005-06	RI District 3190



Clubs Sponsored by Rotary Club of Bangalore

Name of the Club	Charter Given	Name of the Club	Charter Given
Rotary Club of Mysore	July 1944	Rotary Club of Bangalore North	May 1966
Rotary Club of Vellore	March 1948	Rotary Club of Bangalore South	December 1966
Rotary Club of Mandya	March 1954	Rotary Club of Ramanagaram	January 1971
Rotary Club of Davanagere	May 1955	Rotary Club of Bangalore East	September 1971
Rotary Club of K.G.F.	May 1955	Rotary Club of Bangalore Mid-town	January 1977
Rotary Club of Tumkur	December 1957	Rotary Club of Doddaballapur	June 1985
Rotary Club of Shimoga	April 1958	Rotary Club of Bangalore Central	September 1986
Rotary Club of Bellary	December 1958	Rotary Club of Bangalore Down-town	June 1990
Rotary Club of Chickmagalur	February 1959	Bangalore Kalyan	9 June 2004
Rotary Club of Hospet	March 1959	RCB Diamond District	December 2008
Rotary Club of Arsikere	May 1959		
Rotary Club of Hindupur	June 1960		

Charter Presentation



Some of the Charter Members.

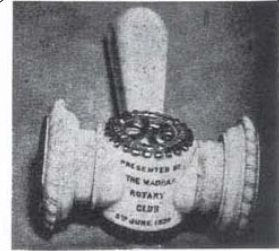


Dinner
3rd April 1935
at 194
West End Hotel.

Cover of the Menu Card for the Charter Night dinner.



Autographs of the Charter Members.



Presidential Hammer presented by the Rotary Club of Madras.



Rotary Comes to Bangalore

The seventh club in pre-independence India, the Rotary Club of Bangalore came into being in 1934. Thanks to the persuasive efforts of Rtn. Douglas C. Howland and the response he elicited, a meeting was held at the erstwhile Central Hotel in Bangalore on May 16, 1934. At this organization meeting, it was decided that a Rotary Club be formed in Bangalore. The provisional Rotary Club of Bangalore came into existence on May 24, 1934 with 25 Charter Members. The sponsor club was the Rotary Club of Madras.

Charter Members

President
Rtn. L.J. Melver, ICS
Collector, C&M Station
Classification : Government
Administration – Indian Civil Service

Joint Secretaries
Rtn. G.L. Harvey
Owner, Central Hotel
Classification : Hotels

Rtn. J. Munro
Manager, Higginbothams Ltd.
Classification : Book retailing

Treasurer
Rtn. B.J. Rajagopal
Classification: Finance - Native
Banking

Directors
Rtn. Younus Sait
Director, Bombay House
Classification : General merchandise
- Retailing

Rtn. N. Madhava Rao
Commissioner of Revenue, Mysore
State Government
Classification: Government
Administration - Revenue Service

Members
Rtn. Col. J.B. Hance, O.B.E.
Officer in Charge, Bowring Hospital
Classification : Hospitals

Rtn. A.H. Bridle
Owner, Bangalore Pharmacy
Classification: Drugs retailing

Rtn. Dr. G.L. Fowler
Classification : Fertilizing Chemicals

Rtn. S.G. Sastry
Industrial Chemist, Mysore Soap
Factory
Classification: Soap Manufacturing

Rtn. D.V.Bulloch
Director, Bangalore Woollen, Cotton
& Silk Mills
Classification : Cotton goods
manufacturing

Rtn. R.Laver
Branch Manager, Spencers Ltd.
Classification : Groceries retailing

Rtn. Ranga Rao
Chief Secretary, Mysore State
Government
Classification : State Government
Administration

Rtn. T.P.Kapadia
Classification : Dentistry

Rtn. Dr. B.K.Narayana Rao
Superintendent, Minto Ophthalmic
Hospital
Classification : Ophthalmology

Rtn. Manickavelu Mudaliar
Managing Director, V.Manickavelu
Mudaliar & So
Classification: Metal Mining –
Chrome Ore

Rtn. P.A.Barton
Director, Barton Son & Co. Ltd
Classification : Jewellery retailing

Rtn. C.M.Cariappa
Chief Electrical Engineer, Bangalore
Electric Light Co.
Classification : Electric & Power
Service

Rtn. W.H.Murphy, M.B.E.
Executive Engineer, Municipal
Council, C&M Station
Classification : Engineering - Civil

Rtn. R.Rowatt
Manager, Imperial Tobacco Co. Ltd.
Classification : Tobacco
manufacturing

Rtn. Rev. A.C.Trench, M.C.
Classification : Religion,
Protestantism

Rtn. P.Medappa
District & Sessions Judge
Classification : Judiciary

Rtn. D.O.Thomas
District Transportation
Superintendent
Madras & South Mahratta Railway
Co. Ltd
Classification : Railroad
transportation

Rtn. N.S. Subba Rao
Director, Public Instruction, Mysore
State Government
Classification : Education,
Universities

Rtn. M.V. Muthukrishna Naidu
Branch Secretary, Oriental
Government Security Life Assurance
Classification : Insurance, Life

The grand inauguration

The Rotary Club of Bangalore was formally inaugurated on June 5, 1934. The meeting at the Central Hotel followed a splendid luncheon. A large gathering attended the function presided over by Rtn. L.J.Mclver, ICS, Collector and District magistrate of the Bangalore Civil and Military Station (popularly known as the Cantonment). He was the privileged Founder President of this unit of Rotary service.

The Chief Guest of the occasion was the Hon. Lieut-Col. C.T.C.Plowden, British Resident in Mysore. The sponsor club, the Rotary Club of Madras, sent five envoys of goodwill and fellowship. They were Rtn. R.Jackson, Rtn. Maj.W.S.E.Money, Rtn. C.Rajagopalachari, Rtn. Dr. P.V.Chcrian and Rtn. M.E.Morris.

Rotary Comes to Bangalore

In his short speech, Rtn. Pres. Melver welcomed the Resident and said that his presence indicated his sympathy for the Rotary ideals and his conviction that in Bangalore there was scope for putting these ideals into practice. He paid tribute to Rtn. Douglas Howland and the "quiet, un-assuming and efficient manner in which he had put forward the aims and ideals of the Rotary movement".

Pre. Melver also referred to the messages of felicitation received from Bombay, Calcutta and Lahore, and extended a warm welcome to the Rotarians from the sponsor club of Madras.

In a touching gesture Rtn. Maj. Money, Past President of the Rotary Club of Madras, presented a beautiful 'Presidential Hammer', made of ivory and gold, to the Bangalore Club. He emphasized that the Hammer was "not a present merely, but the forging of a link in the bond of fellowship so essential in all Rotary endeavour". (The 'Presidential Hammer' presented

by the Rotary Club of Madras is being used even today).

Rtn. Jackson then spoke on "Rotary as it applies to Bangalore". In his stirring address, Rtn. Jackson shared his experiences as a past president of the Madras Club, outlined the objects of Rotary, stressed the need for patience, and gave practical advice on the functioning of the Club. "Please remember", he said "that it has been very truly remarked that 'a wheel can only travel in one direction unaided and that is downhill'. This is very true of the Rotary Wheel. Without the enthusiasm and assistance of all your members, the Club cannot flourish".

Charter night

The charter of Rotary International was presented to the Rotary Club of Bangalore on October 27, 1934. It was Rtn. H.W. Bryant of the Rotary Club of Bombay and Honorary Commissioner for Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon and India, who represented Rotary International and handed over the Charter. This historic meeting was held at the West End Hotel in a hall resplendent with Rotary motifs, the walls draped with International flags and the Rotary Wheel. The meeting was preceded by dinner.

Hon. Lieut-Col. C.T.C. Plowden, British Resident in Mysore, graced the occasion and proposed toasts to His Majesty, the King Emperor and His Highness, the Maharaja of Mysore.

The sponsor club, the Rotary Club of Madras, sent three emissaries of brotherhood - Rtn. Jackson, Rtn. Money and Rtn. Luker.

Presenting the Charter, Rtn. Bryant felicitated the Bangalore Club on the

rapid progress already made in that short span of five months. He remarked that the decorations on the wall that evening and the very fine menu card were evidence of the enthusiasm with which the Club was working.

Rtn. Bryant emphasized that in all Rotary activities, it was essential not to be in too much of a hurry. Each individual should fully imbibe the spirit of Rotary. It is through the efforts of these individuals rather than those of the group that the objects of Rotary could be fully realised. He stressed the importance of 'service' and said that the Community Service Committee was the 'real pivot' of the Club. Describing Bangalore and its surrounding as a promising field for service projects, Rtn. Bryant exhorted the members to interpret and apply the word 'service' in its fullest and widest sense.

He then presented the Charter and conveyed the good wishes and congratulations of R.I. President Hill, of the Rotary Club of Chicago, and the other officers of Rotary International.

Rtn. Pres. Melver assured Rtn. Bryant and the officials of Rotary International that "it would be the endeavour of each and every member of the Rotary Club of Bangalore to do his best to promote the aims and objects of the Rotary movement.

"In the past five months they have laid a 'strong foundation for the future growth of Rotarian endeavour in the station and in the city'".

He expressed appreciation of the efforts of Secretary Munro of the Rotary Club of Bangalore and Rtn. Jackson of the Rotary Club of Madras, and thanked the latter for the invaluable advice he had given at the inaugural meeting.

Rtn. B.G.Rajagopala Mudaliar proposed a toast to all the sister clubs in India and thanked them for their help and goodwill. He expressed gratitude, in particular to the Rotary Club of Madras, for its staunch support and encouragement.

Rtn. Jackson suggested close association between the Madras and Bangalore Clubs, and proposed joint meetings at least once in two months.

After toasts to the guest and the members present, there was an impromptu concert, in which all the Rotarians present participated.

It is of interest to record that Rtn. Herbert W. Bryant, who presented the Charter, settled down in Bangalore on his retirement from professional

activities in Bombay. For about a decade, till his death in June 1960, he was a member of the Rotary Club of Bangalore, and took keen interest in its activities. Senior members would recall with gratitude, the friendliness and guidance of this erudite Rotarian.

Meteoric Progress

The growth of Rotary in Bangalore was spectacular - both in terms of time and magnitude.

This is aptly described by Rtn. V.S. Bhatia, who, writing in *The Bangalore Rotarian* (June 1954) said: "It was not the imposing statistics and figures relating to the Rotary Club in the world, that helped in creating an

interest in Rotary among Bangaloreans, but the quiet and unassuming work of a few sincere individuals like Mr. Howland, Sir Frederick James, Mr. Melver, Dr. N.S. Subba Rao and others, who succeeded in making a Rotary Club in Bangalore an accomplished fact, and not only a pious dream".

Any social organization should reflect the ethos of the society in which it functions. And should be able to adjust itself to the changing characteristics of the environment.

The late PDG. D.N. Hosali has described the mood of Bangalore in the 1930's and the changing patterns over the next two decades in his inimitable style (*The Bangalore Rotarian*, Oct-Nov. 1956): "The story of Rotary in Bangalore from the 'thirties to the 'fifties is, in fact, the story of the profound social and economic changes

Rotary Comes to Bangalore

that have taken place in the country during the period. Bangalore during the 'thirties had rather unique set-up. The city which was under the rule of Maharajas with a succession of very eminent men as Dewans and Administrators, had the suave old-world charm peculiar to Indian States. The Cantonment under the administration of the Government of India through a Resident, high military brass, and British Civil Service men, had a highly westernized atmosphere. Rotary, at its inception in Bangalore, was formed by enlisting members from these two diverse groups of men and brought about a happy commingling of the best in the oriental and occidental culture.

Rotary then was indeed exclusive, nay, even snobbish and highbrow. Membership of the Rotary Club then was a stamp of one's social position and status. It was indeed difficult to join. The top officials from the two areas, the City and the Cantonment, with a sprinkling of very few business and professional men, constituted the club.

The fellowship and camaraderie were, of course, excellent. The luncheons and dinners, with their fine cuisine, glittering silver and choice wines, were a delight to the gourmet. But this is not to say that the ideals of Rotary were forgotten. In its own way, the Club did bestow considerable attention on community welfare and thus laid the foundation of what it is today.

In the 1940's the process of democratization started. From a bare 34, the membership rose to about 60 in 1942. This period saw the influx of a number of Indian businessmen, with the simultaneous exit of many Britishers who had to leave as a result of their preoccupation with the war.

The Club which used to be predominantly European, became distinctly Indian, and a handful of European members were left. Alongside, there was another change. The turbaned and immaculately dressed Civil Service men from the State, yielded place to the younger generation of Indian businessmen, until at the end of the 'forties the Club became what Rotary ought to be. A forum of business and professional men, united in the ideal of service.

"As one reflects on the atmosphere of the Club during those early days, one cannot deny its obvious excellence in certain spheres, as well as its drawbacks in certain others. There were undoubtedly great brains in the Club then, to wit K.V. Anantharaman, Ranga Rao, N.S. Subba Rao, who are, alas, no more, and people like N. Madhava Rao, former Dewan, and P. Medappa, former Chief Justice, who

still shine in the social firmament as luminaries. A Rotary meeting during those days was indeed an intellectual repast, and the younger members could literally sit at the feet of the masters and learn lessons about men and life. The proof of this statement can be seen in the fact that some of the younger men, who were brought up in the traditions of these men, have today grown into important personalities in Rotary. Dr. Mahadevan to whom Rotary in South India owes more than to any other individual, is a product of this school".

Right from its inception, the Club has had the good fortune of being able to

draw the very best talents from the sophisticated elite of Bangalore. The Presidents and other members of the Board as well as a select band of dedicated Rotarians have been giving the Club the benefit of their wisdom and leadership to keep it in a pre-eminent position in the Rotary world, and its activities evenly spread over all the avenues of Rotary service.

The Club developed both internally and externally, taking credit for sponsoring 22 new clubs, and giving Rotary International 17 distinguished District Governors. The Club also had

the privilege of holding several District Conferences, District Assemblies and Intercity meetings, spreading the gospel of 'Service Above Self' in the backward area of the southern region.

During the initial period, the progress made by the Club was largely due to the indirect Governmental support which it received in large measure. After the attainment of political independence, a re-orientation of the prospects and the programmes of Rotary to suit the altered status of a free country was necessary and Club adjusted itself quickly to a fast-changing political and social environment.

A new sense of responsibility and awareness of the social needs of the community has marked the Community Service activities of the Club. Among the outstanding service projects undertaken during the last 75 years are the adoption of a number of villages around Bangalore; building houses and providing water / electricity; setting up of educational, occupational, medical and recreational

facilities; construction of hospitals with special wards and donation of equipment; donation of ambulances and a mobile dispensary to hospitals and other institutions. Two ambitious Golden Jubilee projects - Blood Bank and Burns Ward, were also completed in the 1980's.

Considerable work has been done for the physically and mentally handicapped. Through the Book Bank Scheme, mid-day meals, school uniforms and scholarships, the Club has continuously provided opportunities to needy and deserving students to pursue their studies without hardship.

For the youth, tremendous fillip has been provided through career guidance programmes, elocution and essay competitions, general knowledge contests and sports meets.

Among the young service projects undertaken by the Club are : scholarships - Rs.350 per head for the mid-day meals of needy college students and Rs.300 per head for deserving students in normal schools and those for the handicapped; donations for purchasing playground equipment and teaching aids to schools for the handicapped (including the Shradhanjali Integrated School and the School for the Deaf run by NASCOH, Karnataka); General Knowledge Contest for college students for the late Ramnarayan Chellaram Shield; and Inter-School Swimming Competition (Aqua-Roto) for the late B.Rudra Shields.

Rotary Comes to Bangalore

As part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations, the "Young Activities Committee gave a "piggy bank" to all members of the Club. The money from this collection was used to give scholarships to deserving children.

The Club has endeavoured to build better employer-employee relationships and buyer-seller relations through various projects. Business conferences, consumer products exhibitions, etc., have also been common activities.

The Club has been equally active on the international services front as well. Its contribution to the Rotary Foundation has been truly commendable. As on

December 31, 1984, the Club had 71 Paul Harris Fellows and 29 Paul Harris Sustaining members, with a total accumulated contribution of US \$84,450.59. With this, the Club had reached a 4,300% plateau.

Sister club relations have been established with three clubs, and the Club has actively participated in the GSE and Student Exchange programmes and world community service.

This then is the story of the Rotary Club of Bangalore in a nutshell. From a humble beginning in 1934 with just 25 members, it has grown dramatically, and can today boast of having over 240 members on its rolls. All through its 75 significant years of existence, the club has cherished and upheld the noble credo outlined by the founder Paul Harris - of sincere fellowship and the value of service.

While the Platinum Jubilee Year has helped the Club to take stock of its achievements and failures over the past years, it is also the time to gear up to shoulder greater responsibilities and to envision more projects to serve larger segments of humanity. In this mission, the Club can hopefully and proudly depend on the wisdom and magnanimity of its enthusiastic members.

And so the march continues, into another decade, another century and into eternity.

*Platinum
Jubilee
Celebrations*

Charter Nite



The Resident being escorted



Greetings M'lady!



Silence please! Meeting in Progress (in 1934!)



Charter Nite Re-enacted



Rtn. Roopa Venkatesh

The 20th of October 2008 was a tryst with the past. Reliving what happened 75 years ago, it was going back through the curtain of time. Mimicking the past, we had the present members presenting themselves as yesteryear members. With make up and dress so authentic, that we were hard pressed to recognize them, they brought to life the charter meeting through which the Rotary Club of Bangalore was brought to life.

The Chief Guest, the then Resident (and representative of the British in India) Sir Plowden and Lady Plowden arrived in style, driven right into the Rotary House of Friendship in a

vintage car – welcomed by, stately and immaculately uniformed Darwaans. Then was the unfolding of the charter meeting. The presentation of the charter, the introduction of the charter members, the raising of the toast, all were so reminiscent of the era gone by. Some names were familiar, some not so, but in general evoked a sense of mystic and awe. Seen through a thin curtain which represented time, it was almost as we were all given a privileged peek through the mists of time.

President of the Rotary Club of Madras –Rtn. Govindachari and his team were quite laudatory and offered to partner in projects as well, to create more

rotary milestones through cooperation between districts.

An excellent evening of memories, fellowship and camaraderie.

The Platinum Jubilee Celebrations started with a Bangalore

On May 5, 2008; it was an evening of oxymoron grandeur in simplicity, perfect in its planning and execution, a smooth blend of nostalgia and the events to come, an enmeshing of a legacy of 74 years with the clarity of vision for the future. All this is only possible with a club which has in its rich tapestry of unimpeachable accomplishments, an unending array of examples of human fortitude and foresight combined with tenacity and humanity. A club nurtured by the best of its human soldiers, marshalling their

resources in the best possible way to take the Rotary movement forward.



Borrowing heavily from Churchill's comment made in another context, his saying "never have so few been responsible for so many" also fits in very well with the Rotary goals worldwide.

The plaque announcing the mega multi-crore platinum jubilee project was unveiled by RIPE Rtn. D.K.Lee along with PRID Panduranga Setty and PP. Rtn. K.Bettaiah. PRID Panduranga Setty introduced his good friend and the RI President Elect D.K.Lee.

Rotary Club of Bangalore 1934 onwards

A Week Long Celebrations (Oct.20-25, 2008) to flag off the Platinum Jubilee Year....

A 60-second movie was screened across Karnataka to inform people of the yeoman service rendered to the



community by the Rotary Club of Bangalore in the last 75 years from October 24-31, 2008.

Press Conference and Release of First Day Cover by Chief Post Master General on 20/10/2008

Chief Post Master General Mr.M.P.Rajan released a limited edition first day cover to commemorate the platinum jubilee of RCB, at a crowded press conference followed by lunch at Rotary 'House of Friendship' on Oct.20, 2008.



The Magazine. & Bulletin Committee brought out a **platinum jubilee souvenir edition of the weekly bulletin 'The Rotator'** which was released on October 20, 2008 by our Mother Club – Rotary Club of Madras



President Rtn.Govindachari.

Charter Nite – October 20th. 1934 Relived and Immortalized-

Our Rotarians brought the long ago evening back to life through the veil of time – directed by Rtn.Prakash Belawadi and enacted by our



Rotarians, it was a portrait which will remain etched in everyone's memory for time immemorial...

All Avenues of Service were at work through this week...

Community Service – Conducted a Cancer Detection and Awareness



Camp in Padarayanapura, with Kidwai Memorial Hospital. 400 persons underwent a physical examination, along with blood grouping, check for

oral cancers, cervical screening and breast cancer.

Several blood donation camps were also held along with many Corporates through the week.

Vocational Service - A Seminar on Social Responsibility was held on Oct. 22nd. 2008 with noted speakers like Dr.Swapan Das Gupta, noted journalist, Dr.Sundar Sarukkai, Professor NIAS, Kisholoy Sengupta of Collabera etc. moderated by Press Club of Karnataka represented by Rtn.Prakash Belawadi was held to determine social responsibility from individual to the NGO level, corporates



to government, an excellent dialogue and discussion of over 6 hours.

International Service - The Deputy



Economic Counselor of France to India Daniel Lehouchu and the CEOs of some Indo-French JV companies spoke on 'Trade Relations between India and France' followed by a cultural program by international students, fellowship and dinner on October 24, 2008.

Youth Activities - A Poster Competition was held on October 25, 2008 at the Rotary House of Friendship and 5 other centres pan Bangalore



along with Oracle CSR group. 768 students participated in all, on the theme 'Abolish Child Labor'.

Fund Raiser for the Platinum Jubilee Project – Extension to Our Nagadevanahalli School...October 25, 2008.

It was a near divine experience in a serene ambience when pristine music touched the hearts of all the audience who sat through the 2 hour performance in pin drop silence.



Maestros in their chosen field of music, the renowned artistes wove magic with their fingers and their art. This was

'Sacred Rivers' – a fund raiser for funds for the education programs and platinum jubilee project of the club.



Rotary Seva Bharati Vidyalyaya - a project Rotary Club of Bangalore can be proud of!!



PP Rtn. K. Bettaiah

Nagadevanahalli School is a grand visage of one of the projects of RCB. A school built on the land owned by the Rotary Charitable Trust, this school building was possible with the generous donations of the family of the Late Mrs. Alice Jennings of Australia, Dr. Meera and Shivakumar Prabhat and other Rotarians.



With a ground and first floor building housing the High School Block, the school caters to underprivileged



children. The Inner Wheel Club headed by Ann Raji Radhakrishnan have offered to set up a library, along with books, furniture, computers, etc.

The school is run by the Seva Bharati, a wing of the Rashtrathana Parishat and their dedicated staff and faculty headed by Secretary, Srikanth Betageri.

It is with heartfelt thanks that we recognize the contribution of Janani Trust headed by PP. Rtn. S.A.Chandran and his son Prabhu, who are providing financial assistance for salaries to teachers, uniforms, text books and note books for children. Having contributed more than Rs. 40 lakh till date they have been a great source of support. This is an ongoing project of

RCB. We are planning to provide vocational training for students in TV and Computer repairs so that they find useful employment soon.

A spanking new high school building designed on the lines of an IIM, by Rtn. Zachariah & his Associates was taken up by Rtn. **PP.K.V.Pradeep as his centenary project.** This grand project was completed and inaugurated by PRID Rtn. Panduranga Setty and the formal grand function was presided upon by Mr. Narahari under the meticulous planning of President G.V.Radhakrishnan & PP. Rtn. K.Bettaiah on April 2. The school authorities and children presented a wonderful cultural program and were all smiles with a beautifully decorated building.



A School that brings smiles all around



Rtn. Narayanan Suresh

The Rotary Seva Bharathi Vidyalaya at Nagadevnahalli village in Bangalore is at the centre of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Rotary Club of Bangalore. Rotarian Narayanan Suresh provides a first hand report about the school which is making a huge difference to the students and the people in the village on the outskirts of Bangalore.

Fourteen-year-old Nagendra is of medium build, with intense eyes. This class 9 student is one of the rare children of his age who looks forward to the daily routine of his school on the outskirts of Bangalore.

For, the Rotary Seva Bharathi Vidyalaya, abutting a busy road that runs through Bangalore University's Jnanabharati Campus, off Mysore



Road, is an institution with a difference. That is what draws Nagendra and 594 other children from lower middle class families in the neighborhood to the school daily.

Nagendra recalls the days when his life turned topsy turvy when his father, a farmer, passed away when he was barely 8 years old. He was studying in

Class 3 in a convent school in Mandya district in the heart of Karnataka's Sugar City, 100 km from Bangalore. Left with no other support at home, Nagendra's mother Sujatha moved into her brother's house in the

Nagadevanahalli village.

Both mother and child were determined to continue the studies and the Rotary owned, Seva Bharathi run (a Non Governmental Organization, active in education field) school in the same village came in handy.

Education is almost free at the school. Children pay a nominal monthly fee ranging from Rs.60 to Rs.110 which is used mainly for the basic maintenance of the school, says Principal Mrs. T.Sudha, RCB's Rotarian Prabhu Chandran from his family 'Janani' Trust provides all the school children with two sets of uniforms, two pairs of shoes, all books, notebooks and stationary.

The 'Janani' Trust also bears the cost of salaries for the teaching staff and the highly nutritious lunch served every day for all the school children. All Rotarians are truly grateful and

indebted to Rtn. Prabhu Chandran for his great generosity.

Worried about the corruption and lawlessness on the city outskirts, Nagendra wants to become a police officer. Thanks to the availability of all these facilities, Nagendra's younger



brother too has now enrolled at the school.

Almost each one of the 595 children in the school have a similar story to tell. How the Rotary Seva Bharathi Vidyalaya is a beacon of hope for them. But for this school, they all would have been part of the army of child labourers, even though the practice is banned by law. There are still over 4 million child labourers in

India.

The school at Nagadevanahalli is part of the Rotary Club's efforts to provide meaningful support to the community, said Rotarian C.K.Sreenathan, President, Rotary Club of Bangalore. The Rotary Club of Bangalore, celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, set up the school in 1961 and its Charitable Trust had bought the land for a "princely sum" of Rs.500 then, to build a school for the village community.

Today, 48 years later, the school is a beehive of activity, with its nearly 600 children. The Club, as part of its Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, has embarked on an ambitious Rs.1.4 crore project to provide the children with a modern building with all the latest educational aids. Nearly 80 percent of the funds required have been raised through voluntary contributions from the Club's 239 members. Rtn. Sreenathan is hopeful of raising the balance amount too in the near future. The construction work got over and the

school's new block was inaugurated on September 21, 2009.

With 19 full time teachers and 6 non-teaching staff, Principal Sudha is the quintessential leader who is driving the school to great heights. In the latest state-level Class 10 board examination, the school recorded 72 percent pass percentage. Ten of the students got marks of 60 percent and more. Mrs. Sudha is targeting a cent percent pass percentage for the school in the near future. Remedial and extra preparatory classes have been introduced. The school, even with its limited resources, is straining every nerve to provide facilities comparable to that given to students in elite schools, in terms of academic preparation.

With a new building and more support from the ever-willing Rotarians, the small in size but big hearted school is all set to continue its mission of bringing a smile to the lives of the people in the community where it is located.



September 21, 2009 Platinum Day Etched in Collective RCB Memory



*Rtn. Ram Kumar Seshu,
Secretary, Platinum Jubilee Year,
Rotary Club of Bangalore*

For exactly 120 long minutes, time stood still at RV Dental College Auditorium on Monday, September 21, 2009 when hundreds of Rotarians from many parts of Karnataka and Chennai gathered to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of the city's oldest and India's fifth oldest Rotary Club, the Rotary Club of Bangalore (RCB) in the presence of the future and the past presidents of the 104-year parent body, Rotary International.

"There are very few organizations in the world that have survived for more than 75 years. And RCB has not just survived but continued to grow from strength to strength with every passing year," stated the visiting Rotary International President-Elect (RIPE) for 2010-11, Rtn Ray Klinginsmith while kicking off the Club's Platinum

Jubilee celebration.

"RCB was formed during the golden period of Rotary in 1934 when the economic recession was at its peak. It was among the dozens of Rotary Clubs that came up during this period around the world," recalled Rtn Klinginsmith. "Probably its formation, like that of its contemporaries were spurred by the innate desire of humans to help each other and help those who need it the most through voluntary service."

The evening began with the innovation rendered by the mellifluous duo of Annes, Lalitha Shivaprasad and Dr Chandrika Rao. And Rtn Klinginsmith, RI Director Rtn K R Ravindran, Past RI President Rtn William Boyd lit the lamp to signal the beginning of the evening's Platinum date with history.

There was another surprise in store for the assembled Rotarians and RCB's well-wishers. An ornately decorated palanquin moved through the aisles to reach the dais. To every one's delight, a beautiful fairy (Tanushree Bhaskar) emerged from the palanquin to hand

over a wrapped packet. Rtn Klinginsmith ripped open the cover to pull out the first copy of "**The Platinum Club**", a 300-page commemorative volume that captured the rich history of the Rotary Club of Bangalore in all its glory. The three-year efforts of the Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Volume Committee, chaired by Rtn K Shankar, reached its logical conclusion on the stage at that moment. RI Director Rtn K R Ravindran then released a special, 8-page issue of **Rotator** brought out specially for the occasion by the magazine committee chairman and co-chairman, Rtn Zarir Batha and Rtn Narayanan Suresh.

Landmarks Galore

It was not just RCB that was making history on Monday. The RIPE has completed 50 years in Rotary. And he was greeted on stage by RCB's own half-centurion, PRID M K Panduranga Setty, chairman of the Platinum Jubilee Committee. He completed a personal Platinum landmark too as September 21 was his 75th Birthday too. The "beacon of our club" as PRID Pandu was described by many a speakers during the day basked in the glory with his trademark smile. In the audience was another half-centurion, N Vithaldas who too had completed his 50 years in Rotary earlier in 2009.

To add to the historical moment was the presence of a 5-member delegation of Rotarians from RCB's parent club, the Rotary Club of Madras (RCB), which sponsored RCB in 1934. RCM,

chartered in 1929 had just completed its 80 years of existence. Hundreds of Rotarians from the 22 clubs sponsored by RCB in the last 75 years, and the "grand child clubs" which were in turn chartered by these "RCB babies" too were present to bask in the historical moment.

Rtn Klinginsmith expressed his admiration about the hundreds of landmark community projects completed by RCB since 1934. "What is more important is that even if RCB had not rendered any of these services, just the fellowship fostered by it in the last 75 years just would have been enough to make Bangalore a better place," said an admiring Rtn Klinginsmith.

More than anything else, the RIPE said the astounding fact about RCB was that it has truly fostered the Rotary spirit of conducting itself with the highest ethical standards and inculcate the value of public service uninterruptedly for 75 years.

A Glimpse Into The Past

The stage was then left to PRID Pandu to recollect the rich history of the Club. He recalled the names of stalwarts like the Bangalore city administrator McIver who formed the club with 25 members hailing from the elite sections of the city. Other prominent RCB members from the initial decades included Rtn M S Thacker who headed to New Delhi to later head the 40-laboratory national chain of CSIR laboratories, Rotarians K V Anantharaman, D N Hosalia and Vishnu Ghatge. PRID Pandu recalled with pride the presidential tenure of Rtn Dr Homi J Bhabha (1954-55) who went on to set up India's nuclear establishment after his move to Mumbai..

PRID Pandu said the Club had plunged into social service right from the start and was active in health and education sectors. RCB had set up homes for destitute people, provided drinking water supply to villages near Bangalore, and organized medical

camps in the initial years.

An important contribution, PRID Pandu said, was that RCB has 494 Paul Harris Fellows (PHFs) and 9 Major Donors to the RI kitty.

Past President Rtn K Vijaykumar then made an elaborate presentation on the varied nature of community projects undertaken by RCB since 1934. One of the major contribution in the initial years was the donation of an X-ray machine costing Rs 50,000 then now it costs 20 times more) to the government-run Victoria Hospital in the city in the 1930s. The weekly newsletter, Rotator, was launched on India's Independence Day (August 15) in 1952. The Club has so far provided 17 District Governors to the Rotary District.

Rtn Vijaykumar said the pioneering Blood Bank project started by the Club in 1985 was a trendsetter for the country. Run by the Bangalore Medical

Services Trust, jointly with TTK, the Blood Bank provides essential blood products to more than 30,000 needy patients every month. The Menda Education Trust set up by RCB member, Rtn Arjun Menda, in 2005 has a corpus of Rs 55 lakh to provide 75 scholarships to deserving students every year. He said the Club gave a record \$ 66,000 to the Rotary Foundation in June 2009. Another important activity is the holding of the Ramnarayan Chellaram Knowledge Quiz contest by RCB without a break since 1959. This is the world's second largest running quiz programme.

RCB also did some major humanitarian work to rehabilitate the Tsunami victims of December 2004. The Club has donated more than Rs 22 lakh for this and carried out rehabilitation work in collaboration with the Rotary Club in tsunami-hit Nagapattinam town of Tamil Nadu.

It was then time to recognize the great work done by all the Past Presidents of

the Club. President C K Sreenathan, PRIP Willam Boyd and RIPE Rtn Klinginsmith personally handed over a plaque to past presidents, PRID Pandu, M K Ramachandra, M P Talwar, M Srinivasa Rao, Phiroze Bharda, K Shankar, Dr Prithvi Raval, Hari Parameshwaran, K N Prabhaskar, K Bettaiah, S S Ramdas, Dr SG Ramnarayan Rao, Amarnath Kamath, Dr Pradeep Rao, G Manohar Row, K V Pradeep, GV Radhakrishnan, Dr Gopinath Ghorpade, Lal Bhatia, K Vijaykumar and of course, CK Sreenathan.

Secretary Ram Kumarr Seshu then thanked every one individually for their efforts to make the Platinum Jubilee function a flawless, memorable event to cherish for our lifetime. A sumptuous dinner followed on the lawns of RVDC.

*Rtn. Ram Kumarr Seshu with
Rtn. Narayanan Suresh*















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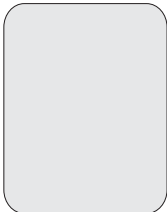
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