



ODYSSEY

APRIL - JUNE 2022



CELEBRATING OUR VICTORIES WITH
PREMIO FORMALITA

TRAVELLING THE SEVEN SEAS WITH
CEYLON SAFARI

DISCOVERING DEPTHS OF
KNOWLEDGE WITH
DATA STORM 3.0

DONATING 1.3 MILLION WORTH OF
MEDICINE TO THE CANCER
HOSPITAL WITH
HAND IN HAND



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once a wise person told us that every journey comes to an end, it can be good can be bad but holds thousand and one memories to remember. After 365 days of being the president of this wonderful club, it is my utmost privilege to pen these words for the final edition of Odessey for the RI year 2021-22. Even at the beginning of this journey I never knew what will be the outcome but here we are finishing another chapter of Rotaract Mora with stories that we can carry forward.

At the beginning of the year back in July the team started working on reinventing the project timeline of the Rotaract Mora calendar. Starting with several new initiatives the team worked out to continue some legendary initiatives such as Grama Prabodaya, Manusath Handa, Adurata Athwalak and Hand In Hand, and several other initiatives. With the end of the 1st

half of the year with the loosen covid protocols, we got the opportunity to move into the physical projects, and also that gives out the most of the experiences to the team. Days that carry the wonderful moments of sharing times with the disabled communities harmonizing with the wonderful voices and of cause all the other initiatives make life complex as well as enjoyable.

In the 3rd quarter, we were able to complete 'Are You Ready?' the official career fair of the University of Moratuwa, SLRMUN as a physical conference, 'Zooxanthallae'; the project of beautifying the sea bed, Mithuru Sulanga to rewrite the friendship with Alumni Mora, and many more. When comes to the final quarter it was a rollercoaster ride. We had Ceylon Safary back in the Rotaract calendar after 2 long years, Data Storm for the data enthusiast, and Hand in Hand where the team got the opportunity to donate 1.3 million worth of medicine to the cancer hospital and also Premio Formalita where we recognized the club membership. With all, we were able to complete more than 80 projects to redefine the spirits of lives covering more than 20 districts and more than 50,000 volunteer hours of service.

As a club, we are really grateful to all the stakeholders of this club who supported the 26th chapter of Rotaract Mora. driving the club at times of pandemic and economic instability has been immensely challenging but with the support and guidance we received for the past 12 months have been a great support and have helped us to mark great heights once more.



Most importantly I need to thank the wonderful membership of this club, thank you very much for being passionate volunteers who always take steps to serve everyone. It is an honor to work with you all and hope you all had a mesmerizing year. Thanks to this membership as well as my wonderful Board of Directors we all have a set of beautiful initiatives that we can talk about. All the recognitions we received as a club are dedicated to you all and you are the real heroes of this club.

In this final episode of Odyssey for the year 2021-22 I must certainly appreciate and applaud all efforts throughout the year given by the Odyssey team. Simply hats off to the team behind this wonderful magazine, it is really hard to come up with a set of magazines where readers read, see, and felt the good work our team is doing, and also thank you to the PR and Editorial team for creating the best PR mileage for all the projects with numerous challenges. To my beloved Board of Directors, you all are the biggest support I had, and you all proved that you can be a set of individuals that anyone can rely on. Yes carrying out more than 80 odd projects is a massive challenge as a team you guys have done an exceptional job and thank you very much for the passion you showed and the consistency kept with class and grace over the last 365 days of the Rotaract calendar.

What a year It was, it was indeed a year to remember, it will always be a good time in my life for sure after 5 to 10 years I'll remember all the things we did together and I'll be forever grateful for all these memories. Also thank you for this once-a-lifetime opportunity of leading this inspiring club full of amazing individuals. It can be filled with good or bad memories but at the end of the day, it is a learning curve for me, even though I as a person learned a lot and meet good people as well. Thank you, Rotaract Mora, for being the real change maker for me and all the Rotaractors of this club.

Hope you enjoyed the year of redefining the spirit of life!

Cheers!

Rtr Bimsara Somarathna
President 2021-22
Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa

EDITORIAL



We, had a good run. Spreading happiness, lending hand to those in need, empowering young talent, overcoming obstacles, and building lifelong connections, we certainly redefined the spirits of life. Rotaract Mora with a membership filled with the crème de la crème academic excellence in this country, undoubtedly made the RI Year 2021-22 an outstanding experience. And we, the Editorial Team of Rotaract Mora as the literal eyewitnesses of every milestone of the club are more than proud to bring to you our final issue of Odyssey, the official newsletter of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa.

We dove five feet under to check up on the baby corals we so lovingly planted a couple of months ago with Zooxanthellae. We witnessed the immense humanity of the people of this beautiful country helping others amongst million of hardships with Hand in Hand. We discovered that the power of friendship will travel the seven seas to meet us even with thousand hurdles to jump with Ceylon Safari. We found out that we can laugh and have fun like no other even deep in the mud till over shoulders with Grove Green. We went to the depths of depth and a little more further in knowledge with Data Storm 3.0. We kissed the floors in ENTC hall yet cheered our lungs out celebrating our victories and scanned the uni premises just to find a lost key in a director's bag all while being fully dressed up with Premio Formalita.

To keep all these in mind and reminisce the golden memories as well as to learn about the amazing projects and their impacts, dive into the words of happy yet emotional Rotaractors, wrapping up a memorable year.

Bringing to you the Fourth Edition of Odyssey, the Official Newsletter of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, for the RI Year 2021-22.

We learned, we failed, we laughed, we cried, we cheered, we screamed, we lost, we won.

WE, had a good run.

Senior Editor, Rtr. Kavishka Gunaratne

Co-Editor, Rtr. Nethma Mettananda

Co-Editor, Rtr. Samadhi Gunawardane

Co-Editor, Rtr. Imalsha Liyanage

(Editorial Team 21-22 - Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hand In Hand

Chaired by: Rtr. Yesith Waduge
Rtr. Yesitha Sathsara

Hand in Hand is a renowned exertion of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa organized under the avenue of Community Service. The project has a solid history of nearly a decade, in line with the Rotary Area of Focus, 'Disease prevention and treatment'. Hand in Hand was initiated to be of assistance for the children residing at Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama fighting for their lives to rejoice in their world with big dreams.

Making the scope of the initial idea wider, Rotaract Mora extended its hands to child cancer patients at the teaching Hospital, Karapitiya back in 2018, and in 2022, further expanded its scope by giving a hand to adult cancer patients as well. We were able to donate medicines worth over 1.3 million at the end of this year.



Vesak Card Phase

Obeying the Covid - 19 health and safety measures, we were also able to hold the Vesak Card Campaign from 07th to 11th April 2022 at the BMICH Colombo Shopping Festival. Funds were raised by selling cards and stickers which were yet again decorated with the beautiful artworks drawn by the children residing at Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama, and donations were collected successfully within 04 days with the participation of 42 volunteers of Rotaract Mora as well as a couple of members from the district steering committee as well as other Rotaract Clubs amidst the civil unrest that occurred in the country during the month of April

T-shirt Campaign

As a means of raising more funds, in March 2022, the T-Shirt Campaign was arranged to target the batches of 2020 and 2021 of our university, whose contributions were valued. In comparison to the previous year's T-Shirt Campaign, this year we were able to sell more than 600 t-shirts, each for Rs. 1500.



Connecting the Dots

Chaired by: Rtr. Theminda Panawaththa
Rtr. Miral Nethmina

Connecting the Dots is a massive initiation of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa. The project conducted under the Community Service Avenue focused on cultivating peace, unity, and coexistence among various communities and building long-lasting friendships among the Sri Lankan brethren of different creeds that we pressingly need today. In line with four SDG goals and three of Rotary's main focus areas, the project revolved around two main subprojects. These projects, namely Vanakkam and Shalom, addressed the different nationalities and cultures of Sri Lanka



Shalom

Chaired by: Rtr. Theminda Panawaththa
Rtr. Miral Nethmina

'Shalom' is the first sub-project organized under 'Connecting the Dots' which was conceptualized from the month of January. The aim of the project revolves around lending a hand to Catholic students and their families in the city of Negombo with the help of our partnering organization, Big Hearts Community.

The final step of the project aimed toward laying the foundation for future educational endeavors with the students involved. On the 1st of April 2022, an informative and friendly introductory session was carried out for the students who are to be seated for the G.C.E Ordinary Level (O/L) examinations at the St. Sebastian's Church convent during the year's end. Approximately 20 O/L students participated in the session.



Vanakkam

The second initiative of Connecting the Dots, "Vanakkam" focused on the community in Jaffna. Since education has been identified as a driving force for sustainably promoting peace and reconciliation, project Vanakkam is structured to create opportunities for better education for the students in Jaffna. So the project plan is to find an underdeveloped school in Jaffna, identify the needs of the school, and provide sustainable solutions.



Dream Cricket

Chaired by: Rtr. Hiran Nonis
Rtr. Lizda Fernando

Dream Cricket is a community service project conducted by the Rotary Club of Colombo West together with Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa, Rotaract Club of Alumni of University of Moratuwa, Rotaract Club of Colombo West, Rotaract Club of National School of Business Management and Rotaract Club of American National College in partnership with Sir Donald Bradman Foundation, Australia. The event focuses on giving the opportunity for disabled children to engage in activities related to cricket suited to their capabilities while enjoying the day.

This year, the 10th Dream Cricket Day was held on Saturday the 18th of June 2022 at "Turf Colombo", futsal court with the participation of 30 disabled children.

Specially designed activities related to cricket that is suited to the abilities of disabled children were conducted. Breakfast, lunch, and refreshments were provided to all the children and their parents throughout the event, as well as to all the participants. At the end of the day, an award ceremony was held and all the children were appreciated with medals.



Nena Aruna

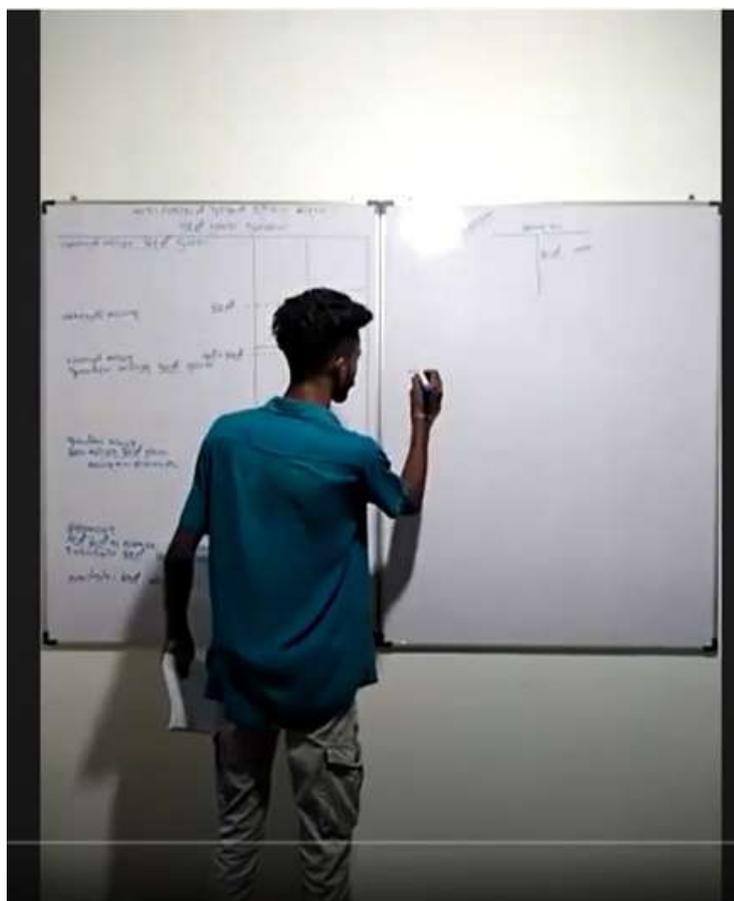
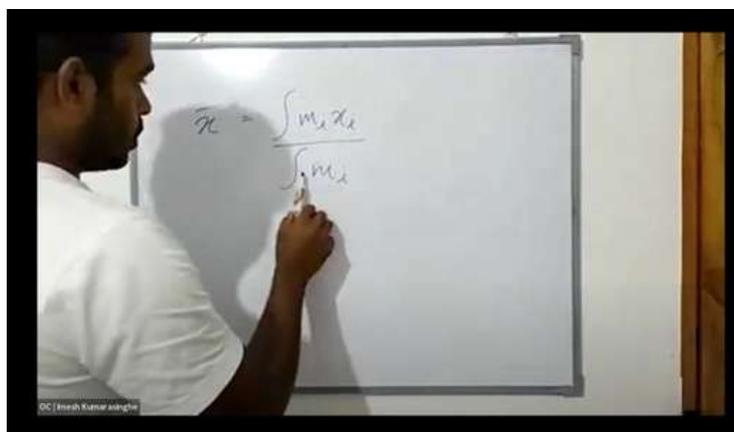
Chaired by: Rtr. Haritha Hasathcharu
Rtr. Shan Upendra
Rtr. Kasuni Dayarathna

The noble signature Community Services project 'Nena Aruna' is organized with the goal of improving the educational standards of underprivileged school children while giving them an equal opportunity to participate in their studies during the new normal. The project's first phase was primarily focused on students doing A /Levels in the academic year 2021.

The Nena Aruna Seminar Series is the project's first component, where the series had to be conducted entirely through the Zoom Video Communications platform, due to the presence of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic situation. The first virtual seminar in the series was held on September 13, 2021. Students from all around the island were invited to join the virtual lectures presented by the dedicated Rotaractors by joining the WhatsApp groups that were set up. Making the plans a reality, the Nena Aruna community of students grew day by day, emphasizing the quality of classes delivered by our members. Following that, 51 seminars for the main A/Level topics, namely Combined Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Accounting, Economics, and ICT, were held in September and October.

The value of these virtual seminars is that each session had an average attendance of more than 50 students, with the majority exceeding 70 participants. The Nena Aruna team always ensured that the aforementioned seminars would be conducted in an interactive manner in which students felt comfortable enough to unmute themselves and direct questions even at the end of the sessions to explain their uncertainties.

Overall, these seminars attracted participants from all four corners of the country, and it is worth noting that the seminars met their intended purpose in terms of audience reachability for the project. At the same time, the Rotaractors always uploaded the recorded session to the Nena Aruna YouTube channel and helped it reach 1000 subscribers, which is currently still growing. In addition to the foregoing, the 'LearnYou' platform was used to help students explain any questions they had about the subject matter.

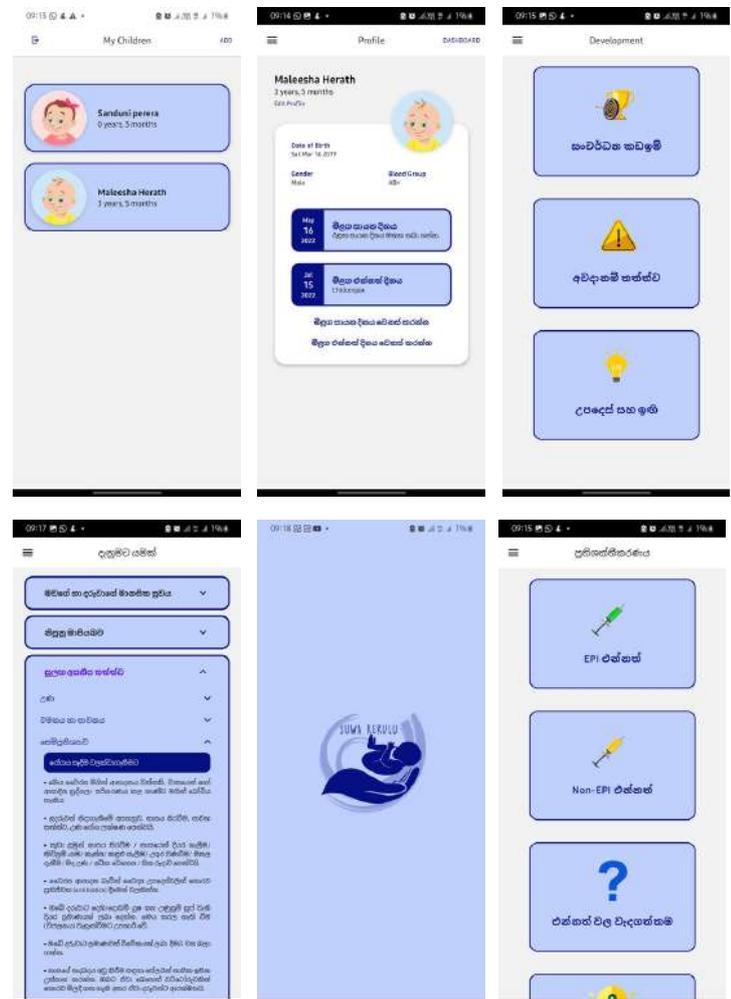


Suwaliya

Chaired by: Rtr. Zainab Shajahan
 Rtr. Chamudi Lashani
 Rtr. Rifdha Rhysa

Project 'Suwaliya' was brought forward by Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa together with Rotaract Club of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo to focus on the needs of this vulnerable population and empower and provide the necessary support for girls living in orphanages. After a community assessment among the target audience of Rotaractors and Interactors regarding sexual and reproductive health, a series of webinars were conducted by some of the experts in the field: Dr. Prabodhana Ranaweera, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynecologist - about adolescent reproductive health, and Dr. Nilanka Wickramasinghe, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo - about adolescent nutrition and physical health. Based on the information collected via the survey and webinars, a booklet was publicized including the topics such as puberty, sexuality, contraception, LGBTQ+ awareness, and adolescent nutrition. Afterward, a donation campaign was conducted, commemorating Women's Day, to provide orphaned adolescent girls with the basic necessities to maintain proper hygiene and improve their quality of life. A donation of 'dignity kits' which contain items such as sanitary napkins, soap, toothpaste, etc. was provided along with the pre-recorded webinars regarding sexual and reproductive health. For this phase, Suwaliya partnered with Aarya+ to obtain the sanitary napkins needed for the dignity packs. In total, over 1400 sanitary 55 napkins were donated to the 'Sri Lankaadhara Society' and the 'Ceylon Moor Ladies' Society'.

The final phase of project Suwaliya was the development of a mobile application called 'Suwa Kekulu'. The main aim of this was to empower mothers to improve their knowledge of health, be aware of the importance of maintaining the CHDR, and better take care of themselves and their children. This app was useful to monitor child development, growth, nutrition, and immunization, and it provides necessary knowledge concerning various aspects of the health and well-being of a child under the age of 5 years. This is a user-friendly and reliable application validated by the Family Health Bureau owing to the efforts of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa. The launching of the "Suwa Kekulu" app was held on the 31st of May 2022, together with a health guide for teenage girls, an illustrated short story "You Can Fly" and the most integral component of the initiative, the donation of the dignity packs to Amana Banks Orphan Care.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Zooxanthellae

Chaired by: Rtr. Danush Wickramasinghe
Rtr. Jayani Ranchagoda
Rtr. Ravindu Wickramage

'Understanding the importance of conserving the marine ecosystem entangled with the coral colonies, the project Zooxanthellae 21-22 was initiated with the aim of regrowing the coral colonies and raising awareness among the general public on the importance of the coral reefs and marine ecosystem. Preceding a triumphant deployment of the 1st phase at Mirissa beach, Matara, the 2nd phase of the project Zooxanthellae 2021-22 started off with the immense knowledge and experience gained from the previous phase. The shallow sea bed near the Kamburugamuwa, Matara was selected to be the deposition location and has been currently ongoing from 20th May 2022 onwards with the aim of depositing specially designed 20 concrete structures and transplanting the baby corals on them.

Having gained national as well as international recognition, Zooxanthellae has been giving voice to the importance of protecting the corals and the marine ecosystem in Sri Lanka.

With the active participation of Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, and the natives near the coastal line, their efforts will undoubtedly help the strong existence of the project, which in turn will bring them the benefits of making their coastlines yet another tourist attraction centerpiece.



Woof Roof

Chaired by: Rtr. Chiran Weerasinghe
Rtr. Yahani Wickramasinghe

'Woof Roof' was initiated to rescue the lives of innocent street dogs from abuse and abandonment by providing them with a caring roof, and by bridging the gap between interested parties and street dogs while also raising public awareness about animal care. This opens doors for gentle-hearted volunteers to give their hands to those innocent paws by finding them a loving home at each stage of the project."

Woofy's Competition was a photography and art competition about street dogs held as a subproject of "Woof Roof" to generate more social awareness about the innocent lives of street dogs. The next step: the Adoption Program was allocated for rescuing street dogs, conducting medical checkups, and giving them away for adoption. It was planned to carry out a PR campaign to spread the word about the initiative and encourage people to bring the street dogs in their vicinity to the location. Dog lovers who were looking to adopt a street pooch were also to be invited, where we ultimately find loving homes for these dogs. Before giving them away for adoption, the plan was to conduct a medical check-up for those street dogs and a basic vaccine program free of charge. However, due to the pandemic, the Adoption Program could not be seen to its conclusion.

Shifting gears, team Woof Roof strategically changed courses to focus on a different endeavor that involved feeding the strays and medicating them for their skin infections. As a collaboration with the International Services joint project 'Dusty Paws', on the 26th of January 2022, members from both Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa and Rotaract Club of Yala, Nepal stepped out to the streets to feed the hungry stray dogs and treat them with the Amoxicillin tablet.

Team Woof Roof was unable to have Woof Roof days once again due to the pandemic. As the famous saying goes, "every cloud has a silver lining". The silver lining of the challenging circumstances was that it broadened the target audience and brought international recognition to Woof Roof. Moreover, the responsibility of continuing the project by conducting Adoption days and follow-up programs will be handed over to the Rotaract year 2022-23.



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Grove Green

Chaired by: Rtr. Aditha Pathiraja

Grove Green was initiated with the intention of restoring the Mangrove ecosystem in Sri Lanka. The project is centered on the one-of-a-kind building of a mutually beneficial link between mangrove forests and the surrounding communities. With the ultimate purpose of preserving the environment, the program aims to solve social and environmental issues when regenerating the mangrove ecology in a certain location. Grove Green was carried out with the technical guidance of the Marine Environmental Protection Authority (MEPA) - Galle District Office. The project focused on achieving SDGs, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life on Land, and Partnership for the Goals. Furthermore, it covered Rotary Focus Area, Supporting the Environment.



The culmination of the project, mangrove restoration was executed in Hikkaduwa on the 29th of April, 2022. Grove Green was able to take a major stride in the Hikkaduwa wastewater treatment plant. The treated wastewater was being discharged to the nearby water resources, and this discharged water is highly eutrophicated with high concentrations of Nitrogen and Phosphorus, which is hazardous for the sheltered habitats for fish, corals, and algae. The restoration was done on the treatment plant side bank with more than 250 'Brugueira Gymnorhiza' mangrove plants. The project was carried out along with an awareness session as well. A monitoring session will follow this phase in another six months to monitor the progress.



Urbanscape

Chaired by: Rtr. Anuja Wijewardana
Rtr. Keshanie Kodduarachchi

Urbanscape is an initiative that was brought to life by Environmental Service Avenue for the first time with the intention of promoting urban edible gardening while taking necessary provisions to establish urban gardening structures in urban areas.

Growroom

As the initiation of the second phase, the 'Growroom' concept is brought forth and this is the first time in Sri Lanka to build and promote Growrooms to spread awareness of urban gardening. Standing tall as a spherical garden, Grow Room empowers people to grow their own food locally in a beautiful and sustainable way. The initial structure for the implementation was designed this year and surveys were conducted to collect details on the location we intend to establish.



The initial idea was to choose University premises as the location. Urbanscape paves the way to less spaced urban communities where they are encouraged to contribute to the environment. Furthermore, it can be identified as an attempt in reducing the high percentage of carbon dioxide footprint in urban areas. Taking this project forward more effectively will definitely provide relief to this problem. Initially starting from the University level, the project Urbanscape will level up its standards gradually in public places and broaden the public's focus and awareness of the project. With Urbanscape, we focus on achieving SDGs, "Affordable and Clean Energy", "Sustainable Cities and Communities" and "Partnership for the Goals". Moreover, it focuses on achieving Rotary Focus Area, "Economic and Community Development".

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

31st Rotaract District Conference

Chaired by: Rtr. Dasis Wickramasinghe
Rtr. Malintha Fernando

Among the extravagant projects carried out by RID 3220, the Rotaract District Conference takes a significant place, which rolls down its supportive strategies to create a platform for discussion of contemporary trends in youth development, a celebration of service, and a space for engagement and learning for our fellow Rotaractors in the spirit of volunteerism. After a hiatus of 2 years due to the pandemic, the conference returned to its physical context in its 31st edition.

Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa got the opportunity in becoming a host club this year as well following the years of strong collaboration, and joined hands with four other host clubs: Rotaract Clubs of Colombo Fort, Kadawatha, Kandy, and Faculty of Engineering - University of Jaffna joined together with the District Steering Committee, in making the conference the best, if not one of the best in its history. Carrying the theme of **“A Progressive Youth; Co-creating Sri Lanka”**, the 31st Rotaract District Conference was held in the beautiful city of Negombo, alongside the fascinating and picturesque beach, on 2nd April 2022, providing a platform to engage in very timely and fruitful discussions and activities.



The conference was filled with fruitful discussions, speeches, and messages on timely topics delivered by great personalities like District Rotaract Representative Rtn. Rtr. PP Akhila Adishwara, District Rotaract Representative-Elect Rtn. Rtr. PP Ahamed Hussain, District Rotaract Representative Nominee Rtr. PP. Sathma Jayasinghe from the Rotaract District Steering Committee as well as Rotary District Governor 2021-22, Rtn. PHF PP Aruni Malalasekara, District Rotaract Chair, Rtn. PHF PP Marshad Barry representing the Rotary. The ice-breaker session conducted by Ms. Pramukshi Kariyawasam, Director of Brand Strategy and Marketing at Cinnamon Hotels and Resorts, and the entertainment item performed by Ms. Shavinki Fernando certainly added more color to the event.

A much-needed and interesting panel discussion was also held featuring Dr. Beshan Kulapala, Director and co-founder of Vega Innovations; Dr. Tilak Siyambalapitiya, an Energy consultant and a visiting lecturer at several universities, and Ms. Amanthi Perera, Head of Social Sustainability at MAS, which was moderated by Mr. Sachinda Dulanjana who is an experienced facilitator, leadership trainer and motivational speaker.

An interactive group activity was held where the attendees could come up with solutions to the rising problems of the country with the guidance of mentors from the District Steering Committee. This year's conference introduced a unique element to the event, where the best of Rotaract was paraded under the "**Rotaract Showcase**". 16 clubs of the Rotaract District 3220 along with the 5 host clubs got the opportunity in exhibiting their projects to the attendees and distinguished guests under the four main avenues of the Rotaract movement: Community Services, Club Service, International Service, and Professional Development.

Data Storm

Chaired by: Rtr. Yasiru Athugaldura Arachchi
Rtr.Pasan Madara Palihakkara
Rtr. Eshani Kodikara

'Data Storm' was launched in the year 2020 with the goal of allowing young analytical minds to demonstrate their skills in the field of data analytics, as well as allowing industry experts to observe and assess the participants' potential. The unique feature of 'Data Storm,' and the reason it differs from traditional datathons, is that it demands participants to understand ways to deliver novel and feasible solutions to the given scenario, rather than only detecting patterns and links between the data presented. Under the Professional Development avenue, 'Data Storm' was organized for the third year in a row, with the driving force behind 'Data Storm 3.0' being John Keells Group, a powerhouse in the field of data analytics.

a.Introductory Webinar Series

The project began with an introductory webinar series that explained the fascinating ins and outs of data science to people with an interest in the area. Mr.Chalitha Perera, Former Data Scientist, Lead R & D Engineer at ArithmixAI, presented the first webinar in the series on the topic of 'What is Data Science and Career Opportunities' on the 7th of February, 2022. Participants were able to learn about AI, Deep Learning, and Machine Intelligence in general, as well as an introduction to Data Science and career prospects, throughout the session. A question-and-answer session followed the presentation to address audience concerns. On the 8th and 9th of March, two further webinars in line with the same webinar series were held. Dr. Amal Shehan Perera, Senior Lecturer at the University of Moratuwa, led the second introductory webinar on 'Data Cleaning, Pre-Processing, and Machine Learning Practices. Dr. Indika Gamage, resource person in Data Science, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, and Artificial Intelligence, led a session on 'Algorithm Selection and Machine Learning Practices' as the third and final introductory webinar.

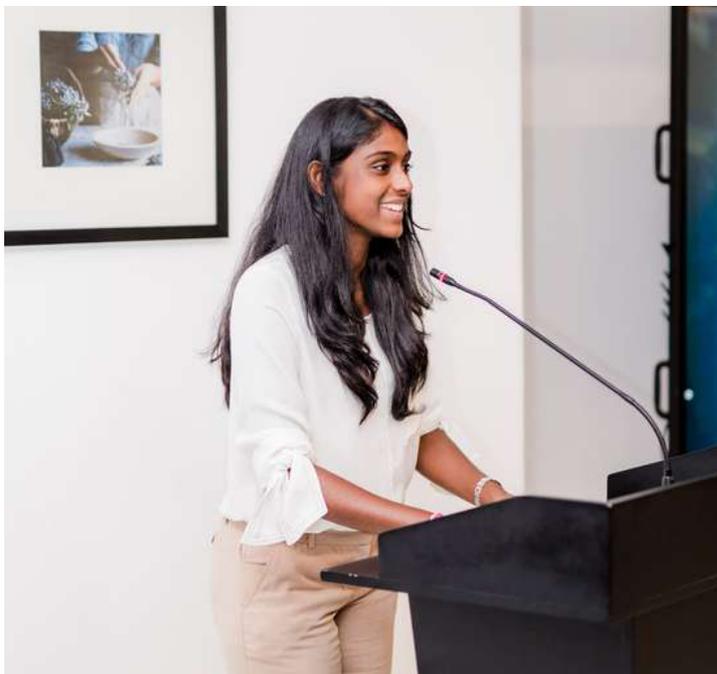
Following this, registrations for Data Storm commenced. By the 23rd of March, the datathon secured more than 100 teams from state universities and private universities, giving it a promising start on its voyage.



b. Masterclass 1.0

While the registration procedure was in progress, a 'Masterclass 1.0' was conducted exclusively for the enrolled teams. The purpose of this workshop was to offer participants a basic foundation in Data Science and to help them perform better in the data analytics case. Important topics including what is Machine Learning, model selection, and metrics, as well as converting insights into action, were discussed.

On the 25th of March, the '**Storming Round**' began. On the Kaggle platform, Following the Storming Round, the review process received 20 reports from registered teams. Due to the power interruptions and the current scenario, we have to extend the time for the contestants. The viewing procedure was examined by Dr. Upeksha Ganegoda, Dr. Ranga Rodrigo, and Dr. Chamira U.S. Edussooriya.



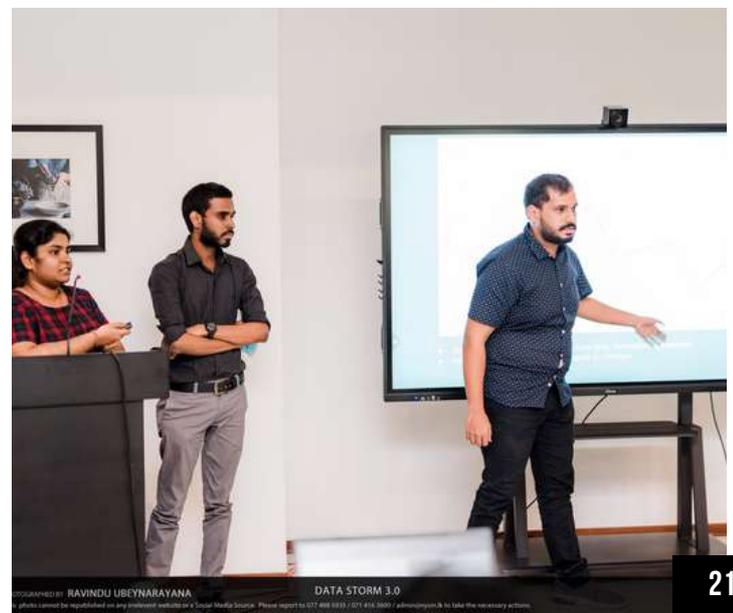
c. Masterclass 2.0

'**Masterclass 2.0**' was a session designed especially for the semi-finalists to help them prepare for the semi-finals by providing them with information on topics such as Sales Forecasting and Regression, Modeling Methodology for Forecasting Sales, Over Forecasting, Under Forecasting, and Buffer Calculation.

Mr. Kiruparan Balachandran (Senior Data Scientist, OCTAVE - John Keells Group) and Mr. Anuk Dissanayake (Data Science and Engineering Associate, OCTAVE - John Keells Group) guided the semi-finalists by giving them a good grip on every detail that is important for the final round as resource persons for the session

Data Storm received a Semi-finals Round earlier this year. The semi-final round was designed to increase the competitiveness of the competition. We were able to reduce the reduction in entries for this year's competition by giving the contestants greater prior experience in solving the case.

15 teams proceeded to the Semi-final Case Track of Data Storm 3.0 from the Storming Round. OCTAVE - The John Keells Group created an industry-level case study with a real-world problem for participants to solve. Binary Trio, Data Dreamers, Team Pan, Decision Makers, and Team Ares were chosen from a shortlist of five teams for the Grand Finale.



d. Grand Finale

The **Grand Finale** was held on April 9th, 2022 at 9 a.m. on the premises of DHPL, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 7. The comprehensive case study and data set were released at 9.15 a.m., giving four hours to work on the case and to submit the presentation slides. The Pitching Round, which determined who would win the Grand Finale of Data Storm 3.0, started at 1.30 p.m. on the same day. Two teams competed virtually, while the remaining teams competed in a Pitching Round at the venue.

The evaluation panel for this round consisted of Vindhya Mahavithana (Analytics Delivery Manager at OCTAVE - John Keells Holdings), Kiruparan Balachandran (Senior Data Scientist at OCTAVE - John Keells Holdings), Sarmilan Sivanesasuntharam (Senior Data Scientist at OCTAVE - John Keells Holdings), Vithushan Vijayanathan (Data Science and Engineering Associate at OCTAVE - John Keells Holdings), Dr. Ranga Rodrigo (Senior Lecturer at the Department of Computer Science, University of Moratuwa) and Dr. Amal Shehan Perera (Senior Lecturer at the

Department of Computer Science Engineering, University of Moratuwa). Under a different set of marking criteria, the outcomes of the Grand Finale allocated a 50% weightage for the Semi-finals report submission and the other 50% for the Pitching round.

Following a month-long journey, the Data Dreamers have been crowned as the victors of Data Storm 3.0. After a tough battle, Team Pan and Binary Trio came in second and third, respectively. The tournament was a big success, demonstrating to the rest of the globe that Data Science-driven innovation and technology can be game-changing.



Grooming Etiquettes

Chaired by: Rtr. Sithira Liyanage

Grooming Etiquettes were carried out by uniting the efforts of the five Rotaract clubs; Rotaract Clubs of Colombo West, Alumni of University of Moratuwa, American National College together with Rotary Club of Colombo West, belonging to the Rotary Family of Colombo West. The informative grooming session was held on 5th June from 9 PM onwards through the Zoom platform, with the resource person Rtn. Yukthi Gunasekara, Managing Director, corporate trainer, and executive coach YKG Associates (PVT) Ltd. The topic of the event "Grooming Etiquette" covered much-needed life etiquette to maintain a healthy life with proper work-life balancing.



CLUB SERVICES

CAST 4

Chaired by: Rtr. Nisal Sri Karunathilake
Rtr. Savindi Uththara
Rtr. Ashan Mahela
Rtr. Yasiru Athugaldura

CAST4, or 'Collaborative Avenue Service Teams Four,' is one of Rotaract Mora's most prominent Club Service projects, which was founded years ago to provide an opportunity for club members and prospects to demonstrate their personal strengths and character building while also introducing them to the club and its disciplines. A student community that is extensively talented in a diverse set of fields and interests enters into University of Moratuwa each year and CAST4 serves as a mammoth opportunity for them as well as the current member base of Rotaract Mora, to identify and improve their skills while making bonds of friendship which proves invaluable in university life.

Taking forward the theme of 'Lord of the Rings' that was used for 'Rota Spark', the hallmark Membership Development project for the newcomers, Rotaractors were divided into four houses that featured four kingdoms of the series; 'The Shire', 'Mirkwood', 'Mordor' and 'Dale' " that undoubtedly attracted the newest batch of prospective members of the 21 batch. The project helps in the recruitment of new members as it attracts new members from the freshers batch into the club through many fun-filled activities.

This year, CAST4 was divided into two subprojects: Online Awurudu and Ludo House Cup.

a. Online Awurudu

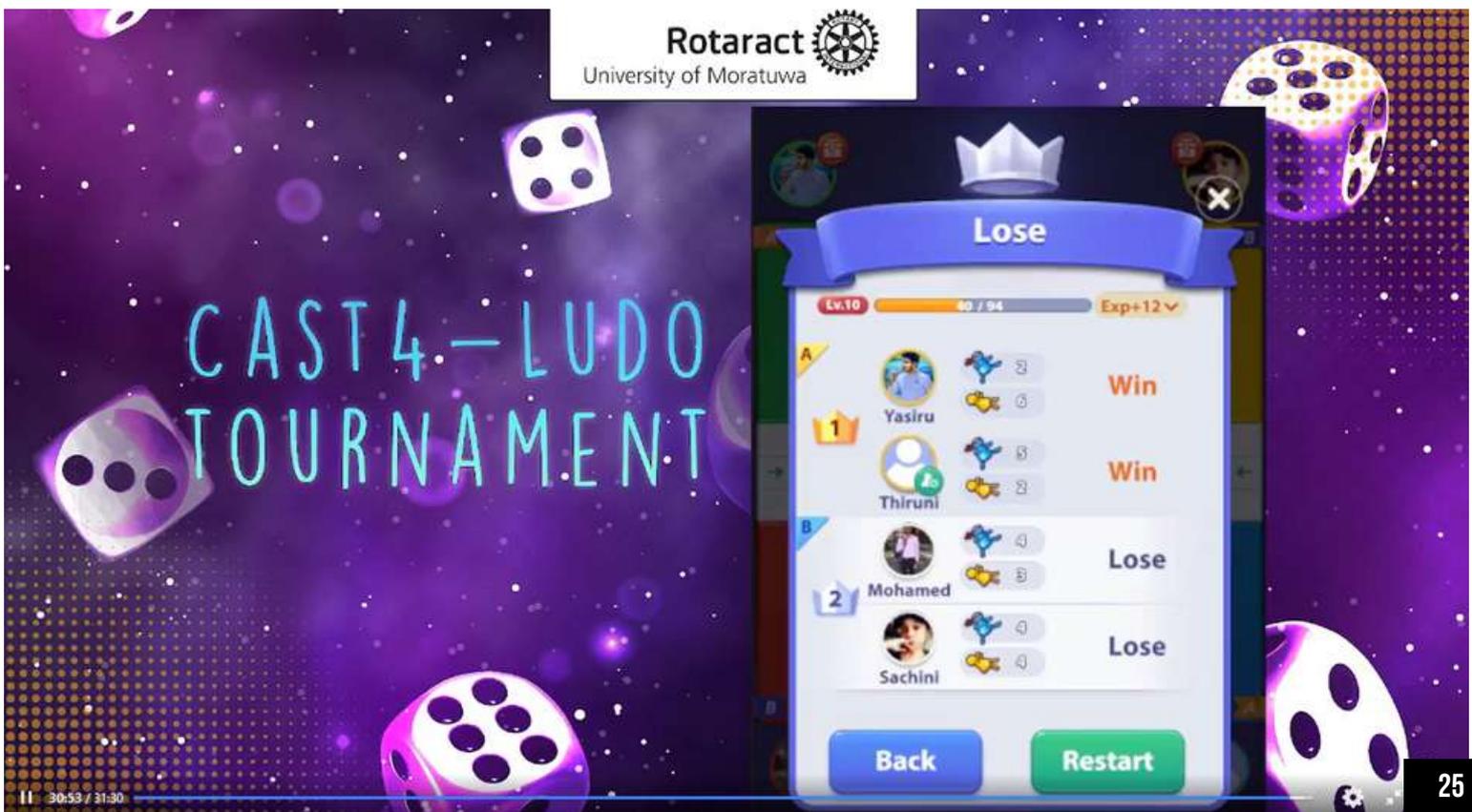
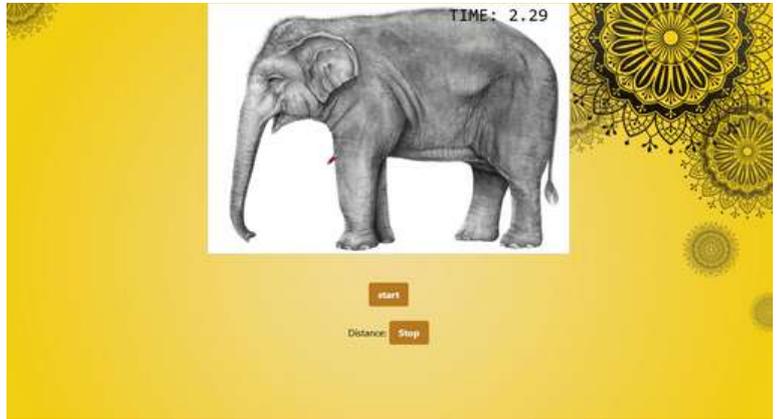
Because of the prevailing situation in the country, Sinhala and Tamil Awurudu celebrations had to be carried out on an online platform. The highlight of 'Online Awurudu' was digitalizing the Sinhala and Tamil New Year, and offering all the folk games on the game portal created. It is noteworthy to mention that this was made possible thanks to the expertise and unwavering efforts of the Digital Communications team of Rotaract Mora. After all the close battles in the set of games, the Kingdom of 'Mordor' was able to secure the winning title of 'Online Awurudu'. With the participation of 562 members, 'Online Awurudu' came to its conclusion building companionship among peers while providing an unconventional form of Awurudu entertainment Awurudu.



b.Ludo House Cup

Ludo House Cup' is the Ludo tournament that was organized in parallel with the CAST 4 Online Awurudu. During the first wave of Covid-19, one of the most popular online games that kept everyone entertained in quarantine was the online board game Ludo.

Bringing back nostalgic memories, it was decided to host this tournament to add a splash of color to the tedious lifestyle of the members of the club. The project came into the light last year during the pandemic since the physical projects were not able to be organized. Overcoming a lot of difficulties and teamwork fabricated this event into its best version for this year as well. The project was carried out through the Facebook app called 'Ludo World'. The competition was carried out between the 4 houses with 27 teams on board, battling their way through three rounds to the Grand Finale. The final round was broadcasted live on Facebook, which created an exciting atmosphere for the finalists. After a close battle between 'Team Ninja' and 'Team Noob', 'Team Noob' emerged as the Ludo champions, bringing glory to the House of Shire.



Experience Festivals Better

Chaired by: Rtr. Sandali Manimendra

'Experience Festivals Better' was planned as the cultural exchange project for the Twin Club Agreement between Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa and Rotaract club of Yala, Nepal - RID 3292 with the ultimate goal of sharing the diversity of the culture of the two countries. Since both countries have a rich culture with many cultural festivals, it was decided that this is the best place to promote our cultural festivals among our club members through an exchange of creative brochures. Nepalese religion has been affected and has always served as the foundation of Nepali culture. Festivals taking the center stage in the life of Nepal, see a celebration happen nearly every week. With dancing, music, and a variety of food, these festivals bring out the vibrant and vivid culture of Nepal. Through this project, information on some of Nepal's main festivals, such as Dashain, Tihar, Indra Jartha, and Machindranath Jatra, was shared via the official social media platforms of both clubs, allowing not only all club members but also the entire follower base of the platforms to learn about them.

On the 9th and 10th of April, all brochures were shared via social media platforms of Rotaract Club of Yala and Rotaract Mora, thus establishing an understanding between the two countries and a celebration of each country's culture.



Revelation 21.0

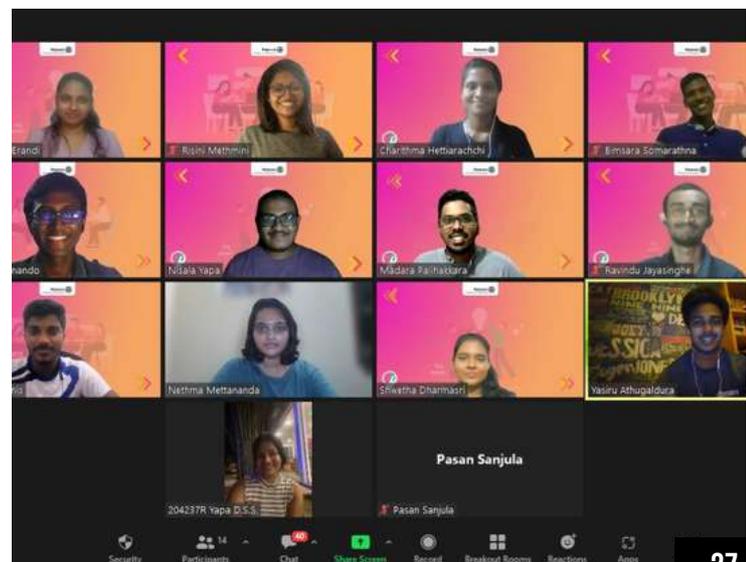
Chaired by: Rtr. Madara Palihakkara
Rtr. Risini Methmini
Rtr. Upeksha Erandi
Rtr. Sarasi Yapa
Rtr. Shwetha Dharmasiri
Rtr. Nisala Yapa
Rtr. Pasan Sanjula
Rtr. Hiran Nonis

A platform for the prospective members of the club to identify and improve the potential talents and skills they possess by coming up with solutions systematically for the rising problems or any other concerns, in the form of a project. The project allowed the prospective members to introduce their own new project ideas that they wish to implement or bring forth modifications to the already existing projects. The participants were asked to present their project ideas in the form of a report and then were given the chance to present them in front of a panel of evaluators. It is noteworthy that a total number of 97 participants proposed 61 project ideas through 35 total submissions. The evaluators had a hard time finding the best out of the best from the innovative, mind-blowing, and novel ideas presented by the contestants.

The closing ceremony was graced by Immediate Past President Rtr. Samila Imbulana, President Rtr. Bimsara Somarathna, President-elect Rtr. Charithma Hettiarachchi and the board of directors. During the closing ceremony of the event, nine project ideas were selected for the 'Honorary Mentions' having the commendation from the evaluators. The project idea that pointed out dozens of solutions for the existing problems was awarded as the 'Most Timely Project'. The team who presented their idea most uniquely was recognized as the 'Most

Creative Presentation'. With a strong determination and massive dedication, the team with a complete and comprehensive report and presentation was identified as the 'Most Committed Project Idea'. The best of the best three project ideas in all aspects were recognized as the 'Revelations of the Year'.

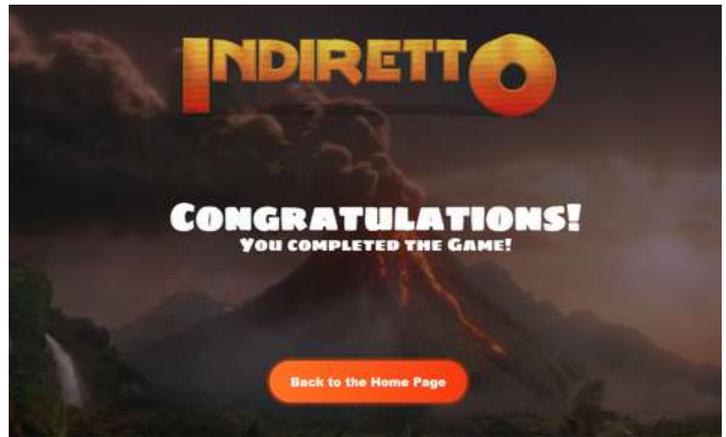
Thus, Revelation 21.0, the third chapter of Revelation, came to an end in style, discovering a better version of the Rotaract Mora and strengthening the bond between the prospective members and the club.



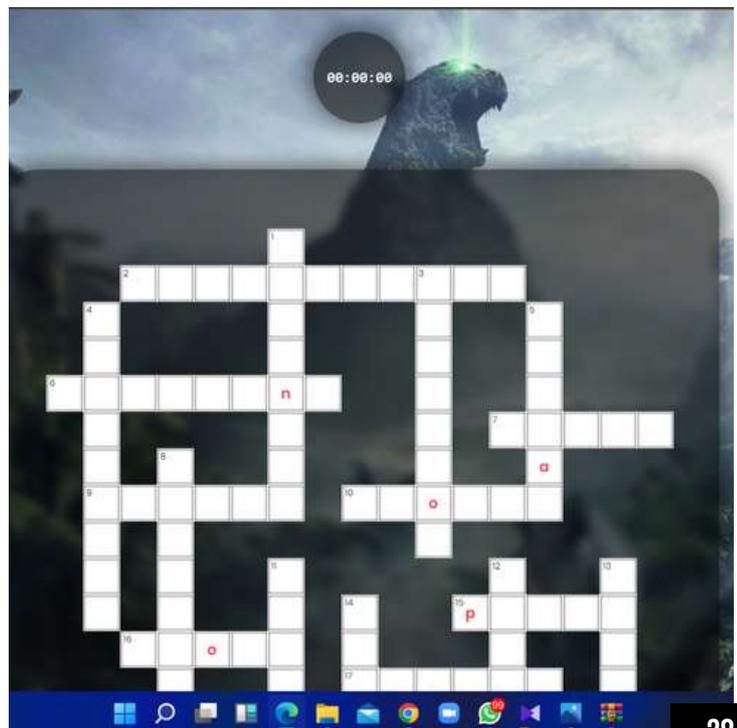
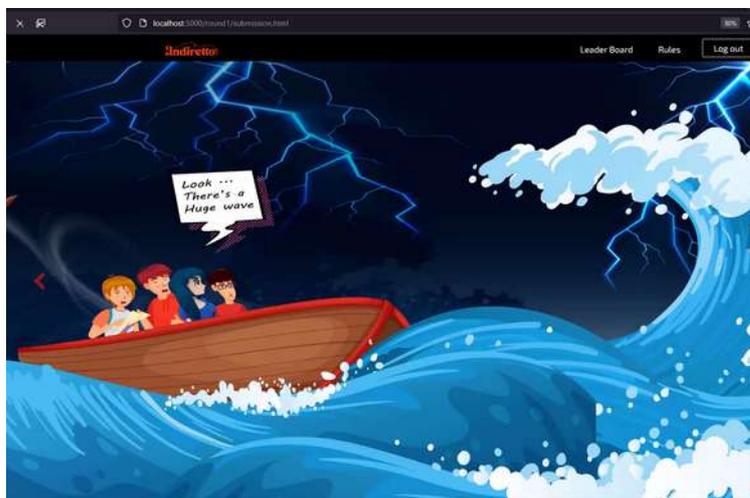
Indiretto

Chaired by: Rtr. Dilina Raveen
Rtr. Kusal Nayanajith

Rising from the flames of "Refraction," a physical treasure hunt, Indiretto is a virtual treasure hunt that was named the most fascinating and engaging club activity for the second year in a row by Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa. This provided an entirely new experience for adventurers who participated in the virtual search with their colleagues. To provide them with a virtual reality experience, the Indiretto website was created by Rotaract Mora's digital communication team that followed a storyline with a theme similar to the movie Jumanji. The treasure hunt was created for four-person teams, and they had to finish five different levels, each of which unlocked the next level's path.



On the 11th of April, 23 teams (92 contestants) participated to get an authentic experience from the hunt to the ultimate treasure by unlocking five different levels. Respectively, a Kahoot quiz was held asking questions related to cinema, sports, and general IQ as the Level One of Indiretto. The teams that got through the quiz were given a passcode that unlocked Level Two. Levels two to five were all offered in the Indiretto platform itself and it consisted of a crossword puzzle following a riddle game and finally a hidden object game. Respectively Team Pandas, Team Pamporikarayo, and Team emerged as the winners of the treasure hunt and were gifted data prizes. Through all that, the dream of Indiretto was brought to reality, marking a milestone in Club Services Avenue as one of the most inventive projects of the avenue.



Induction Ceremony

Chaired by: Rtr. Sandali Makumbura
Rtr. Harini Kavindya

Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa which is an illustrious club in the Rotaract District 3220 has always been at the forefront when recognizing the talent and appreciating its members for their allegiance. In line with that, three induction ceremonies were held for each quarter in this Rotaract year. Taking place for the second time during the year, the Induction Ceremony of February was held to officially induct a second set of the most performing youngsters and welcome them to the fraternity. By evaluating the contributions of the prospective members to the club projects, with the help of the LinkR platform, out of more than 300 prospective members, thirty talented dedicated undergraduates were selected to be inducted for their excellent service during the last quarter.

This Induction Ceremony was held together with the General Meeting for the month, with the presence of two of the Past Presidents of the club, Assistant District Rotaract Representative 2020-21, Rtr. PP Paveen Perera and Assistant District Rotaract Representative 2021-22, Rtr. PP Dhanuka Perera. The first half of the official induction of the members was conducted Rtr. PP Paveen Perera and the second half by Rtr. PP Dhanuka Perera, where the newly inducted members were given e-certificates in appreciation of their efforts to reinforce the year's theme "Redefining the Spirit of Lives". That glamorous moment was an incredible one for them to identify their significance and determination to perform more and more to carry Rotaract Mora to success with the unique talents of every Rotaractor.



Gather of venturers to hunt adventures!

INDUCTION CEREMONY

Coming soon...



INDUCTION CEREMONY AND GENERAL MEETING - APRIL

The wait is over!
It's Happening Tomorrow

30th of April 2022 | 7.00 PM Onwards | Via Zoom



INDUCTION CEREMONY

Featuring guest speakers



Rtr. Bimsara Somarathna
President
(2021-22)



Rtr. Damindri Herath
Guide Club Coordinator
(2021-22)

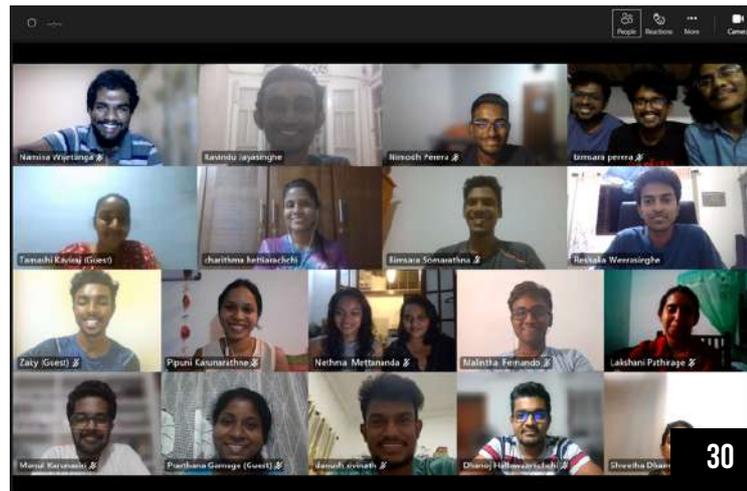
Happening on
30th Of April | @7.00PM | Via Zoom



Rotaract Mora Jam Room'21

Chaired by: Rtr. Nikith Fernando
Rtr. Ravindu Jayasinghe
Rtr. Janith Bimsara

Taking place for the second consecutive year, "Rotaract Mora Jam Room'21" was an initiative carried out by the Club Service Avenue to mark the termination of the year 2020-21 and the commencement of the new Rotaract year 2021-22. This was brought into existence to celebrate this monumental juncture for Rotaract Mora, where everyone from the outgoing Board of Officials as well as the newly appointed Board gathered in one place to spend quality time for one last time. As the famous saying goes, "Time flies when you are having fun". Without many realizations, the day gradually came to an end. Savoring the last few minutes that were left in the Rotaract year, everyone got together and sang a few crowd-favorite songs. When midnight dawned, after a few special words from the Outgoing President Rtr. Samila Imbulana, as well as the Incoming President Rtr. Bimsara Somarathna, the members proceeded with the singing till late. Jam Room ended on a high note, not only adding a wonderful start to the Rotaract year but also adding a lot of beautiful memories to everyone's Rotaract lives.



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Ceylon Safari

Chaired by: Rtr. Saeedha Nazar
Rtr.Namina Wijetunga

After a two-year standstill due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the International Service Avenue's iconic project "Ceylon Safari" finally returned. The participants of "Ceylon Safari'22" were, Rtr. Sebastian-loan Giupană from Rotaract Club Bucuresti Continental, Romania, RID 2241; Rtr. Gabriela Michelle Jaramillo Benavides from Rotaract San Luis Potosí, México, RID 4130; former Rotaractor Laure Le Roux from Rotaract Club de Versailles, France, RID 1660. The project took place in four consecutive phases.

The tour officially began on April 10th, 2022, as anticipated. The first phase focused on investigating the island's heartland, the central and Sabaragamuwa provinces. The guests were truly amused by iconic destinations such as the Dambatenne Tea Factory and spectacular waterfalls such as St. Claire's and Devon Falls. The guests were also granted the unique opportunity to experience and actively participate in avrudu celebrations on the 14th of April. A tour of Negombo followed.



Phase 2 included a visit to Munneswaram Hindu temple, one of the most revered Hindu temple complexes dedicated to Lord Shiva which was followed by a trip to the Puttalam Beach Park and a safari hosted by the Wilpattu National Park. The highlight of the day was seeing a rare leopard of Sri Lanka, which brought the hands-on wildlife safari experience for many first-timers to a close. Jetavanaramaya, the world's largest stupa, the majestic Ruwanweli Maha Seya, the Samadhi Buddha Statue, and the Anuradhapura Moonstone were also visited, coupled with a safari and a hike in Habarana and a walk to the infamous world heritage sites of Sigiriya, Dambulla Cave Temple and the Temple of the Tooth Relic.

Phase 3 was a trip to the sandy coasts of the island, which entertained a boat safari through mangrove forests, a historic Buddhist monastery, and a visit to the Cinnamon Island, and the Turtle Hatchery at Hikkaduwa. The Galle venture detoured the Hikkaduwa museum and finally, the tour to Unawatuna and Mirissa began. The tour ended with all Rotaractors, local and foreign, bidding adieu to each other, not forgetting to capture memories with lots of Instagram-worthy photos and fistfuls of cross-cultural chats.



Boon Digiiti

“Boon Digiiti” is a novel project aimed to elevate the basic understanding of Information Technology (IT) among undergraduates of and teachers in Tanzania. Even though ICT Training is mandatory according to the Tanzanian Education policy, due to the lack of resources, this is not implemented, giving rise to certain inequalities in the education system. To help mitigate this issue, the project joined hands with Rotaract Club of Mwenge Catholic University, RID 9214. The first phase focused on imparting IT knowledge to the members of Rotaract Club of Mwenge University, assisting around 3000 students and 50 teachers in Tanzania.

The organized syllabus for the project was carried out in 4 stages, where each concentrated on an introduction to computing and MS word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, MS Publisher, and Windows Installation. Visual videos and PDFs on the subjects were released, making it accessible to anyone on the internet. By the end of phase one, Boon Digiiti was successful in creating a video library of 31 informative videos within 4 months, along with continuous quizzes and assignments.

The mission of the project is to join forces with ten more Rotaract clubs around the world. Boon Digiiti hopes to launch a website and design more courses and publish them as the second phase of the project. This phase will further allow us to share our knowledge with African and South Asian regions.



Imahe

“IMAHE was initiated under the International Service avenue as a joint project with Rotaract Club of San Francisco Philippines initially focusing on developing and launching their official Rotaract club websites. The project was carried out in two main phases.

In the first phase, Rotaract Club of Moratuwa, under the guidance of its Digital Communications team, lent a hand to Rotaract Club of San Francisco, a recently chartered Rotaract Club under RID 3860, in developing and launching their club's official website, developing it during a timespan of six months.

The second phase focused on organizing a series of workshops for other Rotaract clubs in the Philippines to elevate their knowledge of creating and managing a club website. It was conducted over four weeks with the participation of around 50 clubs, where each week covered a fundamental topic under web development, concluded with one-on-one mentoring sessions for the Rotaract Clubs.



Who are we

Imahe is the official website of the Rotaract Club of San Francisco, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a platform for Rotaract clubs to share their stories, projects, and experiences. The website is designed to be user-friendly, accessible, and visually appealing, reflecting the club's commitment to service and fellowship.



What we do

The Rotaract Club of San Francisco is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a platform for Rotaract clubs to share their stories, projects, and experiences. The website is designed to be user-friendly, accessible, and visually appealing, reflecting the club's commitment to service and fellowship.



Agapan Needs Help

Agapan Needs Help is a community event organized by the Rotaract Club of San Francisco. The event aims to raise awareness and funds for a local charity, Agapan, which provides support for children in need.



Project BEADS

Project BEADS is a community project organized by the Rotaract Club of San Francisco. The project aims to create and distribute beaded jewelry to support a local charity.



Pedyakanto Mt. Magdiava

Pedyakanto Mt. Magdiava is a cycling event organized by the Rotaract Club of San Francisco. The event aims to raise funds for a local charity through a group ride to Mt. Magdiava.



Gallery Highlights

The gallery highlights some of the most memorable moments from our recent events. It features photos of our members in traditional costumes, performing a cultural dance. The gallery is a testament to the creativity and talent of our Rotaract Club members.



MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

PREMIO FORMALITA

Chaired by: Rtr. Anupa Perera
Rtr. Roshendra Chrishmal
Rtr. Selani Indrapala

'Premio Formalita', the annual Awarding Ceremony of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa marks the final project in the Rotaract Mora calendar. Premio Formalita celebrates the hard work and determination shown by its membership throughout, with the aim of appreciating the major contributions for yet another eventful year. Over 100 enthusiastic Rotaractors graced the occasion which unfolded on the 4th of June, 2022 at the ENTC Auditorium, University of Moratuwa.

A series of interactive activities were carried out on the official social media pages of Rotaract Mora on the days leading up to the event, creating much-needed engagement between the club members. The event recognized members who have displayed active participation throughout the Rotaract Year 2021-22 were recognized as active members, awarding each with a certificate of appreciation, a letter of recognition for the projects they have contributed as a chairperson within the year as well as a letter of appreciation by the president. Members who have portrayed exemplary acts of service



towards the club were awarded souvenirs and were recognized under the category of "Spirit of Service" with certificates of recognition. Chairpersons who showed immense dedication even if they were not eligible for the above awards were appreciated with a letter from the president. The outgoing board members were also recognized in this event with souvenirs. Additionally, fun interactive sessions were conducted during the event and the winners of the social media events were also awarded gifts.





MIRROR WALL

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*Dilumrasi Randulani Liyanage
Faculty of Architecture
20th batch*

MIRROR WALL

Loud Thoughts
Why is it that when your heart breaks,
Even just a little
At different moments in time
It never fully heals?
Like when you're always
everyone's afterthought
Never their first option
And they don't understand how it feels?
We never want to be someone's last pick
Or even the one to settle with
Wow that's so damn hard to admit
Why can't we be the ones they really want?
I guess we're all those bad things they say
We try to hard be good to everyone
If they deserve it
Some don't
Sometimes we feel like they're better off
If we're just not here
Doubt they'd notice
We are all here together, yet we're alone.
Silently crying so they'll never know
Pillows severely dampened
Eyes puffy and red
We think about it often, what about tonight?
How long before they find us?

*Gayumi Wijewardana
Faculty of Architecture
20th batch*

MIRROR WALL

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*Diduli Punsara
20th Batch
Faculty of Architecture*

MIRROR WALL



*Rasandie Kristhogu
20th Batch
Faculty of Business*



*Arunalie Herath
20th Batch
Faculty of Architecture*

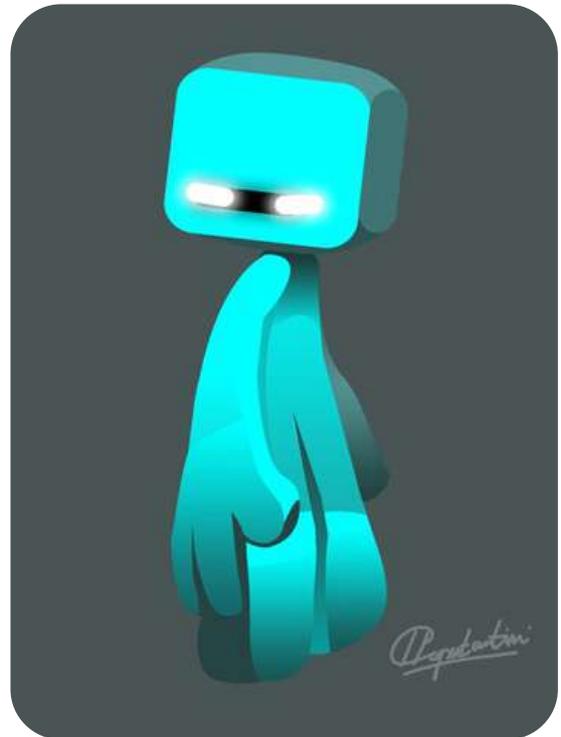
MIRROR WALL



*Surani Rukshika
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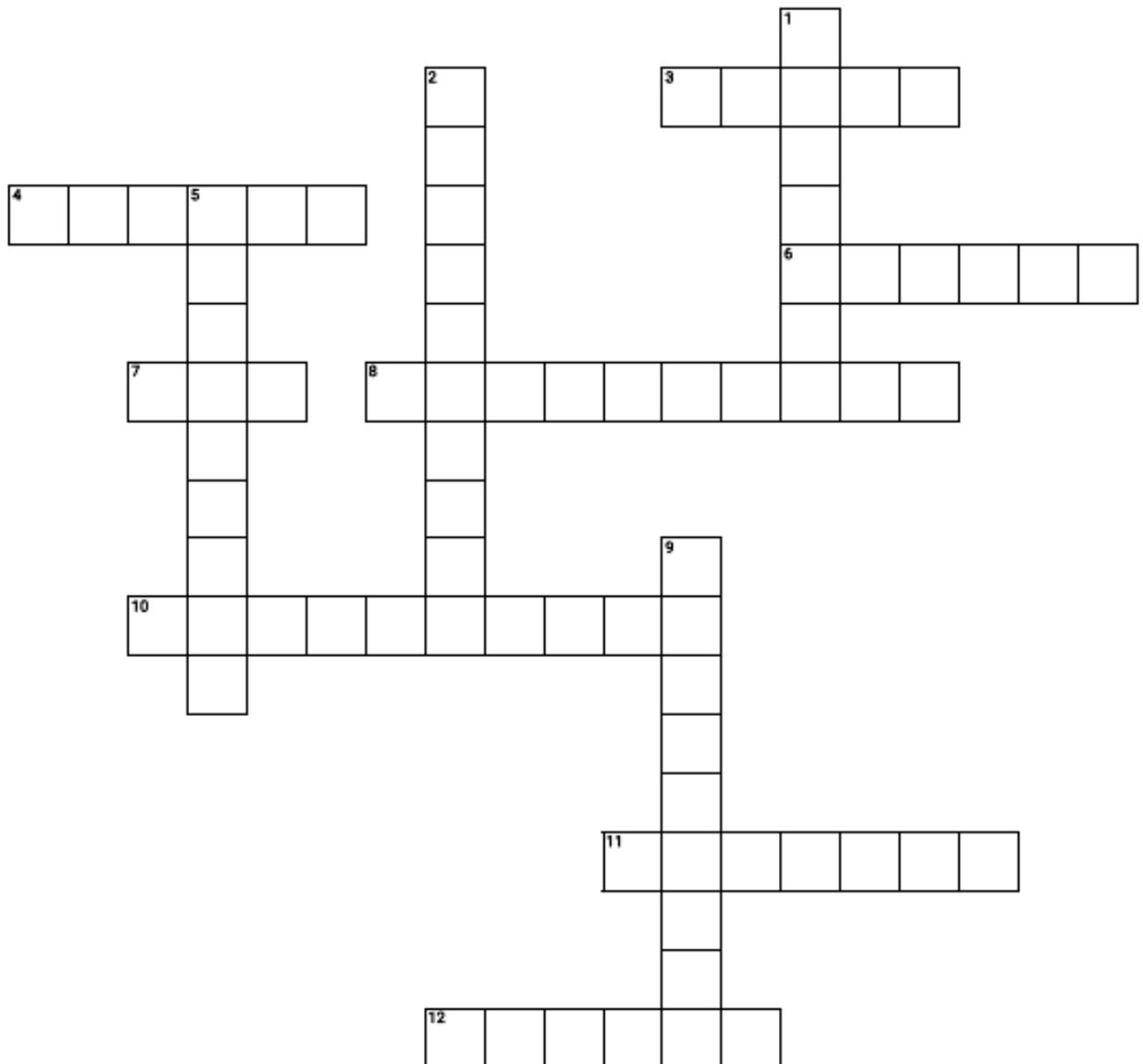
*Neha Dassanayake
20th Batch
Faculty of Medicine*



*Sahan Nethra Haputantiri
20th Batch
Faculty of Architecture*

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 3 The hallmark Membership Development project for the newbies of Rotaract Mora is Rota Spark. Which house emerged as the Ludo Champions?
- 4 The Kingdom of _____ won the 'Online Awurudu' title in CAST4.
- 6 After a two-year standstill due to the Covid-19 outbreak, which International Service avenue project was executed with a tour around Sri Lanka?
"Ceylon _____"
- 7 "Rotaract Mora ___ Room'21" was brought into existence to celebrate a monumental juncture for Rotaract Mora, where everyone from the outgoing Board and newly appointed Board gathered in one place to spend quality time for one last time.
- 8 The project with a solid nearly 10 year history.
- 10 Project with focus on restoring mangrove ecosystem.
- 11 Where was the 31st Rotaract District Conference held?
- 12 First sub project under "Connecting the dots".

DOWN

- 1 Deployment of corals in the 1st phase of Zooxanthellae took place here.
- 2 The theme of the 31st Rotaract District Conference-"A Progressive Youth; _____ Sri Lanka".
- 5 This project provided an opportunity to showcase data analytic skills of young minds.
- 9 Name of the virtual treasure hunt we had in April?

Across
3.Noobs
4.Mordor
6.Safari
7.Jam
8.Hand in Hand
10.Grove Green
11.Negombo
12.Shilom

Down
1.Mirissa
2.Co-creating
5.Data Storm
9.Indiretto

Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa | Blog

Voice of Rotaract Mora

Subscribe

The official blog of Rotaract Mora serves the imperative purpose of taking the message of the extensive service rendered by the Club out into the world. Ranging from articles in retrospect of completed projects to featured stories on making positive and impactful changes in the world, the blog of Rotaract Mora is an ode to the spirit of serving above self through the platform of the global movement of Rotaract.

Panel of Writers

Rtr. Tamashi Kaviraj
 Rtr. Himasha Ekanayake
 Rtr. Zeinab Sara
 Rtr. Malintha Fernando
 Rtr. Gayumi Wijewardena
 Rtr. Dinithi Gunasekera
 Rtr. Vidushi Ranasinghe
 Rtr. Pulinda Kasun
 Rtr. Sarasi Yapa
 Rtr. Geesarani Silva
 Rtr. Yanush Abeyrathna
 Rtr. Nilaal Elampooranan
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 Rtr. Pasan Sanjula
 Rtr. Dilina Raveen
 Rtr. Shan Upendra
 Rtr. Anupa Perera
 Rtr. Hiran Nonis
 Rtr. Pasan Sanjula
 Rtr. Ravindu Pushpakumara
 Rtr. Mohamed Rashad

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Rtr. Moksha Attanayake
 Rtr. Nimash Sudusinghe
 Rtr. Gayumi Wijewardana
 Rtr. Dasis Wickramasinghe
 Rtr. Zainab Shajahan

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CHAIRPERSONS



Rtr. Pasan Sanjula



Rtr. Dulmi Galappaththy



Rtr. Dinithi Gunasekara

NEWSLETTER TEAM

DESIGNERS



Rtr. Charith Belpage



Rtr. Buwaneka Marasinghe



Rtr. Manusha Fernando



Rtr. Dehan Jayawardena

OUR TEAM



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Rtr. Bimsara Somarathne



Secretary
Rtr. Sanduni Liyanage



Vice President Administration
Rtr. Leesha Samadhi



Vice President Digital
Communication
Rtr. Nimna Perera



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