

SOCIETY TO SAVE ROCKS

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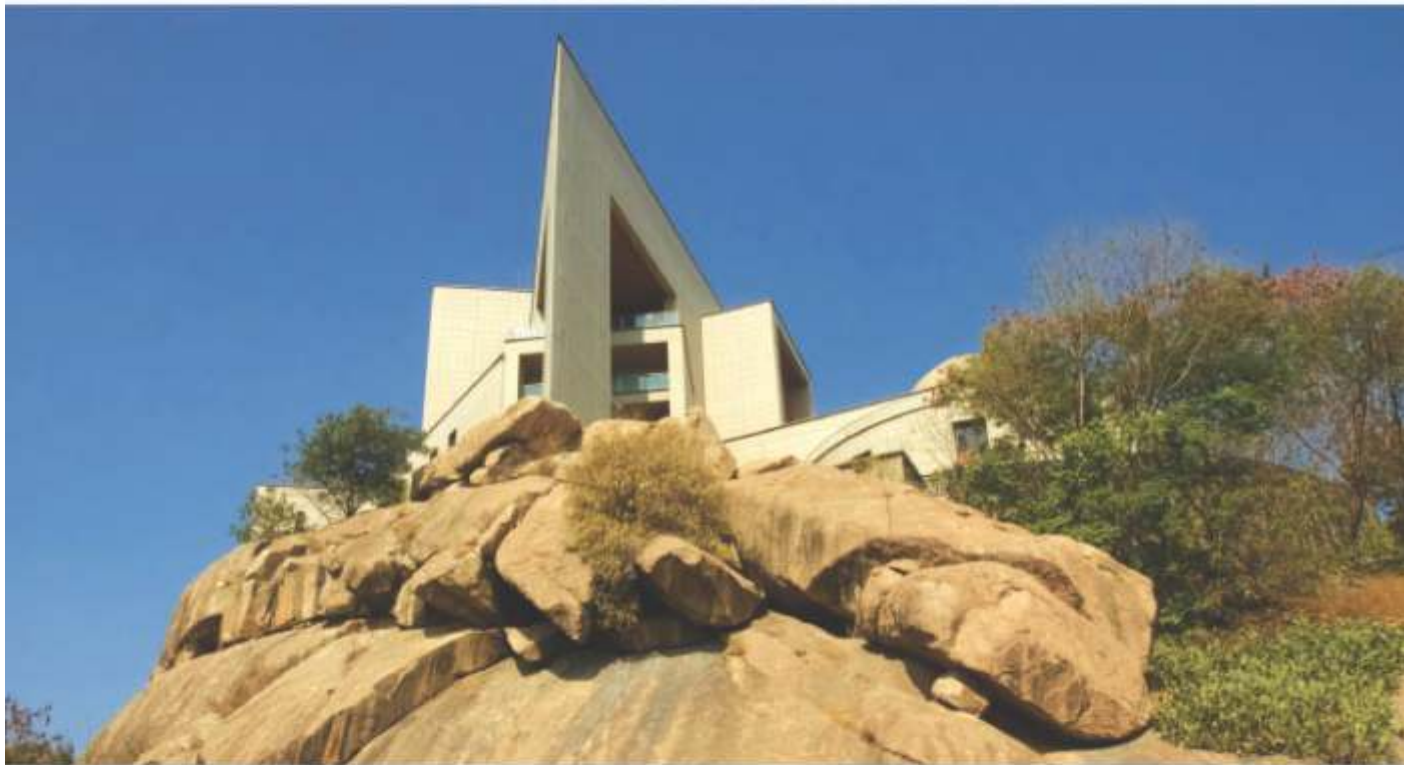
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Editors : Frauke Quader, Padmini B Patell

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD ROCKS...



Birla Science Centre, Adarshnagar

...showcased here by Vikram Kotturu, one of the 15 participants of the "Rockscapes" Photography Workshop held by G. Srinivas Murthy of Architecture & Design Foundation (India) for the Society. The works of the participants successfully captured cityscapes that have been built on, around or beside rocks showcasing integration of our rich Deccan Heritage. Some interventions by citizens and institutions wherein the rocks have been the focal point of urban living were captured.

The workshop mentors were experts Sumanspati Reddy, Amita Talwar, Ashok Kandamalla and Madhu Reddy. The photographs that emerged from the workshop were exhibited at the Hyderabad Literary Festival in January 2016 and successfully created an interest in viewers and translated into a few joining our cause. They were also displayed at our 20th Anniversary celebrations and shown to the visiting delegation from Bordeaux, France (see page 3)

Photographs are available for sale and can be viewed on our website.



Display of participants' works from the Photography Workshop at the Hyderabad Literary Festival, Hyderabad Public School



ROCKS PRESERVED BY LVPEI FOR POSTERITY

It is heart warming for us rock lovers to see the lengths or rather the depths that the L.V.Prasad Eye Institute has gone to preserve the Deccan Rocks in the lobby area of the new block . Having taken the trouble to investigate the age of the boulders that were unearthed from the land where the building is now situated the management had the rocks dated and incorporated into the landscaping.



Sunken "Rock Garden" in L.V. Prasad Eye Institute

"Turning to the boulder in our building, we asked the world experts on geo-chronology based in Hyderabad, Drs. Kunchitapadam Gopalan and Kaigala Venkata Subba Rao. They tell us that this boulder is actually older than 65 million, perhaps close to 1 billion years old! In respect, we surrounded it with four walls and the eminent artist Surya Prakash covered the walls with mosaic murals- as an ode to this priceless gift that Mother Earth has bestowed on us," says Dr D. Balasubramanian, Director Research, LVPEI who enthusiastically showed members Frauke and Sangeeta

around. Reassuring indeed to see proof that 20 years of our 'save rocks' cry is being heard. Kudos to the LVPEI for this gigantic ecological investment showcasing the rocks and demonstrating how rocks can be integrated if there is only but a will to do it !

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

It's that time of the year again and we are forced to remind Active and Student Members to pay their subscription 2016-17 and arrears asap. Kindly be informed that non-payment will result in closure of your membership.

As much as we all love the rocks we do have monetary challenges in working for a cause such as ours.

HIGHLIGHT OF 20th ANNIVERSARY

The 20th Anniversary of the Society was an important milestone marked by a sumptuous lunch hosted by Trident Hotel, Madhapur. More than a hundred rock supporters came together and enjoyed the live band, photo exhibition and interaction. Our President and Secretary spoke about the present scenario of our rock heritage. A special video collage was put together by Vijay Marur for the occasion, of prominent Hyderabadis sharing thoughts on what the rocks of the city mean to them. The photo exhibition of the works from the 'Rockscapes' photo workshop drew much praise. The visit to the Bear's Nose inside the Hotel premises was an added pleasure.



Members of the Managing Committee along with Nandita Sen and special guest Ms. Chandana Khan



Mr. L.N. Sharma, MD Trident Hotel, greets members of the Society



We acknowledge with gratitude the generous donation of Rs 5 lakhs made by our long-time Life Member Ms. Nandita Ray to the Society.

EVENT - A trek in the rocks of Fakhruddingutta by the Pinkathon Group (Supporters of Breast Cancer Awareness) took place on February 27, 2016. Sandeep Raj was, as usual, the able guide.

HYDERABAD- BORDEAUX CONNECTION

A group of French municipal officials from the city of Bordeaux visited Fakhruddingutta with Sandeep and Frauke. Bordeaux is planning a big Exhibition "Agora 2017", focusing on urban landscapes in which they would like the Hyderabad landscape to be presented. They also saw the Tortoise Rock and the rocks integrated into President Narendra Luther's house. They were fascinated by our rocky beauties right in the city. Seen in the picture alongside is Ms Michele Larue-Charlus, Executive Director Urban Planning at Bordeaux Metropole.



CONDOLENCE

With great sadness we announce the passing of one of our Founder Members, Eric McGaw. Even before the Society was founded officially, Eric was of great help in detecting all the wonderful rock sites around Hyderabad through his very active group, the Hash House Harriers. May his soul rest in peace.

Rock Walks in April, May and June 2016

Date :	Place :	Time /Meeting Point :
Sunday April 17, 2016	Naya Qila, Golconda	7 a.m. N.M.D.C, Masab Tank
Sunday May 15, 2016	Durgam Cheruvu	8 a.m. K.B.R. Park, Parking lot opp. Subway, Near Road 45, Jubilee Hills
Saturday /Sunday June 18,19, 2016	Bidar (overnight Excursion)	Details to be announced

Rock walks are conducted on the third Sunday of every month. They are widely announced in the press and social media, and of course on our website. Everybody is welcome. Walking shoes, a cap, long pants and a water bottle are a must. Please enrol a minimum of 2 days in advance with Uma Maheshwari on 98660 19402 or Sandeep Raj on 98484 18085.

We welcome our new members:

Deepali V. Sharma, Active
T. Charan, Student

Satish Lal Andhekar, Active
Siddharth Shah, Life (single)
Khushboo Sinha, Active

We regret having to close the following memberships due to non payment of subscription fees

A.C. Sheshadri
Abhinav Reddy
Amar Singh
Anubhav Kaushal
Biswajit Mahapatra
Capt. Rajender Singh (5)
Chetan Sarabu
D.G. Sukumar
Deepa V.

Dr. Kiran Kishore
Fazal Waseem
J.V.S. Chandrasekhar
K. Mohan Raudu
K. Vinay Krishna
Khanjan C. Antani
Kiran Kumar
Nawal Saini
Niharika

P. Phani Krishna
R. Anita
Raghavendra Rao
Sangam Srivastava
Satish Pai and Anjali
Lal Gupta
Seetha Murthy
Shantan Reddy
Ramasahayam

Smita Kamat
Suman Bagle
Suman Waghle
Veena Rani (4)
Vijaya Laxmi Vinay
Krishna
Y. Sahiti
Y. Sushma
Y.S.R.K. Prasad (4)

Managing Committee

President:	Narendra Luther	- 040-23399778	Members:	
Vice President:	Aparajita Sinha	- 9849655363	Padmini B. Patell	- 9912865299
Secretary:	Frauke Quader	- 9849936248	Dr. Sudheer Bhan	- 8106072537
Joint Secretary:	Amita Talwar	- 9849010704	Dr. Madhusudan Srinivas	- 8886516222
Treasurer:	Sangeeta Varma	- 9849044624	Sandeep Raj	- 9848418085

Membership Fees

Class	Admission	Annual Subscription
Active (Single)	Rs. 100	Rs.200
(Couple)	Rs. 100	Rs.300
Student	Rs. 100	Rs.100
Life (Single)	Rs. 2,000 for Life	—
(Couple)	Rs. 3,000 for Life	—
Institution	Rs. 10,000	—
Corporate	Rs. 50,000	—