

# THE LIGHTHOUSE

BOND | BUILD | BRING CHEER

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS | ISSUE 20 | November 17, 2024



RCM  
PREMIER LEAGUE  
CURTAIN RAISER



Dear RCMers,

Just as the IPL has grown into an economic juggernaut contributing significantly to India's GDP, the RCMP has the potential to become an important fundraiser in the RCM calendar.

Details of the RCMP Season 2 curtain raiser in this issue.



**Rtn.Shivkumar Eashwaran**  
Editor

**Rtn.A.R.Raghunandan**  
Chairperson

**Mr.Madhu Mathen**  
Co-Chairperson

## Rotary Club of Madras

### 20<sup>th</sup> Weekly Meeting

Speaker :

**COLONEL BALA KARTHIK**  
Shauriya Chakra,  
Highly decorated Colonel with 20 years of experience in special operations planning and execution.

Topic :

**Deadly & Determined - Special Operations**

*Come and listen to the real life encounters of this combat Specialist.*

**Tuesday, 19th November 2024 | 1.30 pm**

**Lunch : 12:30 - 1:30 pm**

at Hyatt Regency, Chennai.

*Please note that spouses are cordially invited for this meeting*

**Rtn. G. Chella Krishna**  
President

**Rtn. Shanno Ravi**  
Director - Club Service

**Rtn. Rajesh Mani**  
Honorary Secretary

**Rtn. PP. Rani Muralidharan**  
Chairperson - Programs Committee

# THE LIGHTHOUSE

## BOARD 2024-25

- President**  
Rtn. G. Chella Krishna
- Honorary Secretary**  
Rtn. Rajesh Mani
- Immediate Past President**  
Rtn. S. Ravi
- President - Elect**  
Rtn. Nikhil Raj
- President - Nominee**  
Rtn. S. Balakrishna
- Director - Community Development**  
Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan
- Director - Club Service**  
Rtn. Shanno Ravi
- Director - Vocational Service**  
Rtn. Sanjay Rao Chaganti
- Director - Youth Service**  
Rtn. Balaji Chinni
- Treasurer - Club Funds & RCM BTS**  
Rtn. Asha Mathen
- Asst. Secy./ Bulletin Editor**  
Rtn. Shivkumar Eashwaran
- Director - CSR**  
Rtn. Ganesh Ananthakrishnan
- Director - Rotary Foundation & International Service**  
Rtn. Sabina Narayan
- Director - Community Health**  
Rtn. A.M. Visvanathan
- Treasurer - RCMCT**  
Rtn. A. Gooch Kumar
- Director - Fund Raising & PR**  
Rtn. Prasanna Rajagopalan

### THE LIGHTHOUSE COMMITTEE

- Editor :** Rtn.Shivkumar Eashwaran
- Chairperson :** Rtn. Akur Raman Raghunandan
- Co-Chairman :** Mr.Madhu Mathen
- Mentors :** Rtn.PP.N.K.Gopinath  
Rtn. PP.Indra Subramanyam

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Rtn.E.As swath Kumar Reddy, Rtn.Himanshu Budhia
- Rtn.Vummidi Shailesh Raj, Rtn. Bhaswar Mukherjee
- Rtn.Indrani Krishnaier, Rtn.Shri Shakthi Girish
- Rtn.Reji Joseph, Rtn.Maya Thiagarajan
- Rtn.Fharzana Siraj, Rtn.Dr.M.Parkavi,
- Mr. Vikrm.S.Eashwaran, Rtn.Govind Parikh
- Rtn.Rakesh Jaiswal, Rtn.Dr.Rama Narasimhan

### EDITED & PUBLISHED BY

- Rtn. Shivkumar Eashwaran, Asst. Secretary
- Rotary Club of Madras,
- RAYALA TOWERS,
- 2nd Mezzanine Flr., 158, Anna Salai,
- Chennai 600 002 Phone: +91 44 2859 1020

**CONTACT THE EDITOR AT:**  
editor@rcmlighthouse.com

Bulletin Design:  
**CHARIS MEDIA WORKS**

Visit RCM's official website  
www.rotarymadras.in

**CONTACT RCM SECRETARY AT:**  
office@rotarymadras.in

Send in your articles, news and stories for consideration in the Lighthouse bulletin to:  
[editor@rcmlighthouse.com](mailto:editor@rcmlighthouse.com) Stay updated with our very own RCM magazine!



## RCM Premier League Curtain Raiser

**M**CC, the Mecca of Madras cricket, was the most appropriate venue for the launch of The RCMPL 2 on Wednesday, 13th November.

The hall was filled to the brim and with a festive air and bonhomie all around.

Rtn. Shivkumar Eashwaran RCMPL chair was as usual a genial host, full of verve and energy. The big honchos of the District, Governor Rtn. N.S. Saravanan, District Governor Elect Rtn. Vinod Saraogi and the District Governor Nominee Rtn. Suresh Jain donned the stylish RCMPL jerseys and the relaxed atmosphere gave the impetus to a good time for the gathering.

In his welcome address, Rtn. Shivkumar Eashwaran gave the background of RCMPL and his passion for the game was very evident.





**UMA EYE CHAMPIONS**  
Owner: Rtn. PP. Dr. N.V. Arulmozhi Varman



**INDIA WINNERS**  
Owner: Rtn. Bharat Shivkumar



**CHENNAI GURUS**  
Owner: Rtn. Rajesh Somasundaram



**SHIVSU WARRIORS**  
Owner: Rtn. Shivkumar Eashwaran



**THALAIVARs**  
Owner: Rtn. S. Balakrishna



**GO COLORS SUPER KINGS (GSK)**  
Owner: Rtn. Rahul Saraogi



**SOUTH SUPER STARS**  
Owner: Rtn. R. Ashok Thakkar



**RELIANCE KNIGHT RIDERS**  
Owner: Rtn. IPP. S. Ravi



President Rtn. Chella Krishna was at his fluent best and it was obvious that he was enjoying himself in his tenure. No wonder, as RCM seems to be reaching for the sky, in terms of projects handled and contributions to The Rotary Foundation. RCM members are getting to be more than generous and he sees good times ahead for the club. What more can one ask for?

The DG, DGE & DGN were all praise for RCM, recognizing our penchant for taking on major projects and living life king-size. Coming to think of it, this is a point to be proud of, when there is shrinkage in the district-wide membership numbers and the de-chartering of clubs. We seem to be reaching for the stars and the moon.

The RCMP2 itself looks like it's going to be a blockbuster. The bar has been raised higher and it will take all 290 of us to make it that way. We look forward to everyone's participation, even in a minuscule way to blow it up the best we can.

I was honoured to deliver the vote of thanks and once again thank you all, for your presence and involvement in the event, as a precursor to the tournament itself.

**Rtn. A.R. Raghunandan**  
Secretary-RCMPL

# No Food Waste Campaign



On October 8th, the IBI Interact Club students organized a food drive to promote awareness about food waste and support those in need. They created posters displayed on the notice board and in classrooms, engaging students from Grade 6 to IB2 about the importance of not wasting food. The drive was planned 10 days in advance and on the event day, all students brought an extra packed lunch, identical to their own and to donate to those in need.

Students were instructed to bring vegetarian food that would remain fresh until 2 PM, carefully packed in foil boxes. The donated food was then sorted and arranged in cardboard boxes. An NGO called No Food Waste, joined the initiative and gave an insightful talk to the students, explaining how they started and their process of food distribution.

The NGO collected the food in a van and distributed it to needy individuals, including children near government hospitals and the homeless. This food drive helped students understand the challenges homeless people face in getting daily meals, the importance of avoiding food waste, and the value of caring for others through donations.

- Rtn. Balaji Chinni

## Birthdays (18th Nov. to 24th Nov 2024)

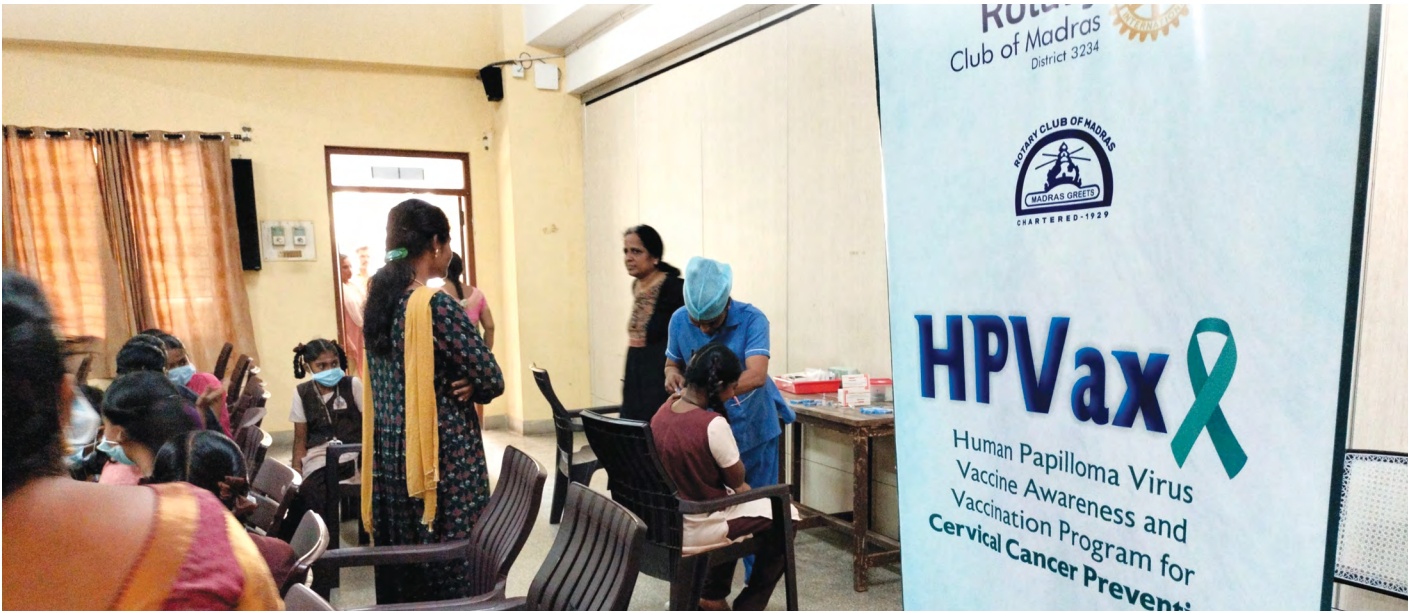
Rtn. T. Shivaraman	18/11
Rtn. Anil Mulchandani	22/11
Rtn. P.S. Jagdish	22/11
Rtn. Arjun Ananth	23/11
Rtn. IPP. Jayshree Sridhar	23/11
Rtn. Jayshree Raveendran	24/11

## Spouses' Birthdays

Ann. Susan Isaac, Spouse of Rtn. CAPT. Shibu Isaac	21/11
Ann. Rushalini Rajkumar, Spouse of Rtn. Karthik Mathivanan	21/11
Ann. Ritwik Bhattacharjee, Spouse of Rtn. Maya Thiagarajan	24/11
Ann. Ar.Smita, Spouse of Rtn. Rakesh Jaiswal	24/11

## Wedding Anniversary

Rtn. IPP Jayshree Sridhar & Dr. K. Sridhar	18/11
Rtn. Vijay Balaji & Lavanya	18/11
Rtn. Ranjeeth D. Rathod & Mamta Ranjeeth Rathod	21/11
Rtn. Abdul Kareem Sait & Raheela Kareem	21/11
Rtn. Sunil Sudhakar Shanker & Rashmi	21/11
Rtn. Anil Saraogi & Manisha Saraogi	22/11
Rtn. R. Vasudevan & Vidya	22/11
Rtn. Kunal Patel & Erika Patel	23/11
Rtn. Dr. Prashant Kekre & Dr. Sushama Kekre	23/11



## HPV Vaccination Camp: A Step Towards Cervical Cancer Elimination





On November 9, 2024, RCM hosted an HPV vaccination camp at Adyar Cancer Institute in which the children of Sarada Vidyalaya Group of Schools in T Nagar - Burkitt Road got vaccinated. The vaccination drive began with a mix of curiosity and apprehension among parents and students. As the camp progressed, initial hesitation gave way to enthusiasm, with 60 students receiving vaccinations. Among the 60 children, 55 received their first dose and 5 got their second.

Children arrived fearful, but left with smiling faces, asking if they could still enjoy their favorite foods. Later, Dr. Jayashree, Gynaecologic Oncologist at Adyar Cancer Institute (W.I.A.) took a moment to congratulate them, emphasizing the significance of this milestone in the fight against cervical cancer.

With continuous efforts in awareness for the school teachers and parents and with the tremendous support by Adyar Cancer Institute for the vaccinations; together, we are making strides towards eliminating cervical cancer!


**Swetha KC**

**Reporting Compliance Specialist, RCM**

The President and Club Service team of  
**Rotary Club of Madras**

Happy to announce to all  
Rotarians, Spouses and Annets



**GK QUIZ**  
with few special rounds  
about  
**Rotary & RCM**

# ROYAL RCM QUIZ

Initiative of  
Engagement Committee

\* Open to all Rotarians, Spouses and Kids  
\* Each Team Leader will be a Green Rotarian

**To participate in quiz, message to:**  
**Rtn. Dr. Sharon Krishna Rau**  
**Mob: 9884078216**

**Date** : 01<sup>st</sup> Decemeber 2024 (Sunday)  
**Venue** : Amir Mahal (Arcot Nawab Palace), Royapettah  
**Time** : 5:00 PM – 07:15 PM

**Rtn. G. Chella Krishna**  
President

**Rtn. Rajesh Mani**  
Secretary

**Rtn. Shanno Ravi**  
Director,  
Club Service

**Rtn. George B Cherian**  
Chairperson,  
Engagement Committee

## Professionalising Our Training Program in Selaiyur

**M**s. T. Kavitha, Joint Director of Operations Apparel, Made-Ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council, visited RCM Vocational Services Centre in Selaiyur on 12th November to inspect the space and infrastructural facilities available.

She was pleased to note the adequacy of space and all other facilities including building fitness, fire fighting, security, sanitation, etc., required for the certification and accreditation we are eagerly pursuing. She interacted for more than an hour with instructors and all of us.

This was the second major step in securing accreditation for our Tailoring Program thereby adding significantly more value for our beneficiaries.

This opportunity was provided by Rtn. N. K Bhatia and diligently followed up by the Chairperson Rtn. Rajib Kumar Hota.



**-Vocational Services Team**



Suggest the most quirky, whacky or creative caption/ blurb for this photo (Maximum 15 words). The best entries will be reproduced in the next week's edition of Lighthouse.

Mail your captions to [editor@rcmlighthouse.com](mailto:editor@rcmlighthouse.com) on or before 19th Nov.

Issue 20



**Issue 19 : Best Captions**

1. Sumit - Arrey Baba what is he trying to explain - the aero dynamics of Income Tax? – **Rtn. PP. Vivek Harinarain**
2. Rajib :- "I still have those moves, so be careful" Sumit :." Arre, what did I do to deserve this?" – **Rtn. Archana Shri Sanjay**
3. "ARRE, you were just this tall No? When did you grow up?" – **Rtn. A.M. Visvanathan**
4. "One explains the master plan, the other wonders if he left the Iron on!" – **Rtn. N.K. Bhatia**
5. "I am repeating it .. there is no IT exemption for profits from sale of fitness equipment!" – **Rtn.Asha Mathen**





**ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

**accesshealthcare™**

P R E S E N T S

**JAYA!**

**THE VICTORY!**

**A Rock Musical of the Mahabharata**

Produced and Directed by **LILLETE DUBEY**

Script and lyrics by **SANDEEP KANJILAL** | Music composed by **ASHUTOSH PHATAK**

A Primetime Theatre Co. Production

For tickets, please log on to [www.bookmyshow.com](http://www.bookmyshow.com)

Supported by  
**IICI**

Platinum Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Partners for Change



# Rotary Nostalgia

## ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

### 1937 – 1943 – Part 1

#### Pre-War & War

Having had a fine start since its inception, the Rotary Club of Madras perhaps grew reflective in the latter half of the 1930s, for this seems to be a relatively quiet period in the annals of the Club's history. This statement, of course, certainly does not indicate a period of inactivity; rather, it would appear that action was subdued. Of course, there was much that was happening in the world that would have contributed to all of this.

The membership of the Club comprised predominantly what was then classified as the Boxwallah – the British merchant, a term which is a throwback to the era when itinerant salesmen visited locations upcountry with their wares in boxes. The companies had since become big and many were into what were loosely termed industry then – chiefly extracting raw material from India, sending it abroad for processing and importing the finished goods to sell in the local market at enormous profit. A few, maybe a handful, were into manufacturing in India itself.

This cosy world was buffeted in the 1930s by several blows – the freedom struggle and the boycott of foreign goods, the Great Depression, labour strife which was rearing its head in an organised manner for the first time, and finally the looming clouds of war. But that did not prevent the Club members from making a mark in their own way.

As Rotarian F.E. James continued to contribute towards International Service at Rotary, other Madras Rotarians followed suit in exploring Rotary beyond the confines of their city and country. Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau, to the delight of Rotary International, called upon its offices in Chicago. This was one of the prominent medical men of Madras, and his Rama Rau Poly Clinic on Poonamallee High Road was a landmark.

In 1938, Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau of Madras visited Rotary International's headquarters in Chicago, where he met Paul Harris and other Rotary leaders. His tour, captured in a photo-story in *The Rotarian*, gave readers a rare behind-the-scenes look at Rotary's global operations. The visit shows Rotary's commitment to service and the First Object of Rotary: *"the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service."*

By the end of the First World War, x-ray and radiology had arrived in India, pioneered by Captain Barnard after whom the Institute of Radiology is named even today in the General Hospital. Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau was one of the people who saw the potential in radiology very early on. He set up the Madras Institute of Radiology on his premises. He was also the General Secretary of the Indian Radiological Association and the editor of its quarterly journal. The Government would recognise his services with the title of 'Rao Bahadur.' Many years later, the American College of Radiology would elect him in an honorary fellow. Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau was a frequent contributor to international journals on radiology and indeed, a regular at many of the international conventions and conferences. It is quite likely that it was in connection with one of these events that he travelled to the US in 1938. He must have made a striking figure with his suit, tie and turban.

#### A Visitor from Madras

At the offices of Rotary International, Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau was warmly welcomed by Secretary Perry, from whose office he enjoyed the beautiful view - the building stood at a prime location, overlooking the winding Chicago River. While President Duperrey was not available, Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau had the honour of meeting Founder and President Emeritus Paul Harris. He was given an insider's tour of the departments housed in the offices and the work



they did - he met First Assistant Secretary Philip C. Lovejoy and the efficient staff who kept the Secretariat's programs smoothly running; he was introduced to the polyglot Service to Clubs department, which undertook the massive task of coordinating with the roughly 4,400 Rotary clubs present in the world at that time; he also made the acquaintance of Leland D. Case, Editor of The Rotarian. Satisfyingly, Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau was able to also take a peek at documents which chronicled the history of the Rotary Club of Madras itself.

The visit was made a matter of record in the February 1938 issue of The Rotarian as a charming photo story.

**From the article:**

*To the Secretariat of Rotary International in Chicago come thousands of Rotarians each year.... Even from such faraway places as the Fiji Islands. When Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau of Madras, India called recently, a candid camera man was present... and you need not be told the request he made. Rotarian Rau assented, and here are the photographs then made, supplemented by others - all arranged in sequence to give you a picture-story of what awaits you when you drop in at "35 East Wacker Drive."*

The story must have captivated many readers who got to vicariously tour the Chicago offices through Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau's experience, for the magazine soon published an interesting letter it received on the matter. The article reportedly brought the gentleman such pleasure that he was prompted to recall the happy memories from his own visit. The letter, given below, captures the joy Dr Rama Rau must have felt during his tour.

**Our Readers Open Forum**

*I enjoyed Our Visitor from Madras and the pictures which*

The highlight of the Dr. Rama Rau's visit was a glimpse into the Rotary Club of Madras' own history, preserved in the very archives of the global organization.

As Dr. Rama Rau stood overlooking the winding Chicago River, he was not just a visitor from Madras, but a symbol of the growing, global reach of Rotary—a journey from local service to international recognition.

The visit was immortalized in The Rotarian magazine, forever etching Madras' contribution to Rotary's legacy.

*helped to describe Rotarian Dr Rama Rau's visit to Rotary's Secretariat in Chicago for it reminded me of my trip not long ago.*

*I stepped into the elevator at 35 East Wacker Drive and said, 'Ninth Floor, please.' When I reached this floor, a very nice young lady greeted me, and when I told her what I desired, she asked me to register. She then asked me to have a chair and she would have someone show me around. In a very short time out came Rotarian Amos Ayres, of the Secretariat. The next person I met was Paul Harris, the Founder of Rotary. It was a real treat and honour to meet this fine man. Then we went to the office of the President and met Maurice Duperrey, our President from Paris, France; then to the office*

*of that well-known man of Rotary, Secretary Chelsey R Perry. I also met some of the Directors, as they were meeting in Chicago. On and on we went, meeting the heads of the various departments and seeing the Rotary in operation serving Clubs and Rotarians all over the world. To meet Rotary's Founder, President and Secretary within the short time I spent at the Secretariat was something to write home about.*

*The thing which impressed me was this: At headquarters of Rotary International they certainly practice the First Object of Rotary - "the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.*

In 1938, Madras Rtn. F.E James, who was the District Governor of RI District 89, that had the whole of undivided India as its geographical area, was again named the Acting Governor of District 89 when the serving District Governor, Sir Pheroze Sethna, his successor, passed away unexpectedly. The November 1938 edition of The Rotarian makes a mention of the event:

**Governor** - *Past District Governor FE James of Madras, India has been designated Acting Governor of District 89 (Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon and India) and will serve until Rotary's Board of Directors fill the vacancy left by the death of Sir Pheroze Sethna. The Honorable Sir Pheroze Sethna was serving his second consecutive term as Governor...*

Back home, the Committee was actively working to fulfil its aim of service to society with the Madras Rotarians launching new projects that aided various communities. The Committee maintained a focus on social causes in the city as well - for instance, the Club continued to work closely with the local bodies to crack down on antisocial behaviour, even reporting cases of drunken driving.

**Sourced by : Rtn.PP.N.K.Gopinath**



# GO COLORS!

Leggings | Joggers | Ethnic | Palazzos | Jeggings | Pants | Denim | Culottes & more

Present across 150+ cities with over 650+ exclusive brand stores in all leading malls, high street & airports.  
Shop Online at [www.gocolors.com](http://www.gocolors.com)