

# MAGNUM

# Ink

*A Month of...*

Transition

Gratitude

Serene and

Majestic Joy



# From The President's Desk

SIDDHARTH DAGA



Dear Friends,

It is with deep gratitude and great enthusiasm that I write to you as the President of the Rotary Club of Madras Magnum. As I look ahead at the year that awaits us, I feel a sense of responsibility, not just to lead, but to honour the spirit of our club, which has given me so much in such a short span of time.

Since joining Magnum in 2021, I've been embraced by a community built on warmth, trust, and camaraderie. Through my roles as Membership Development Chair and Secretary, I've had the privilege of witnessing the magic that happens when like-minded individuals come together to laugh, to learn, and most importantly, to serve.

At Magnum, fellowship is our heartbeat, and service is our soul. This year, we aim to strengthen both by creating meaningful opportunities to connect as a family, while also deepening our impact in the community. Whether it's through high-impact service projects, family fellowships, or memorable trips, I hope we can all find moments of joy, pride, and purpose together.

To the new board - thank you for stepping up. To each member, Ann, and Annet - I look forward to your continued support, your ideas, and your active participation. This year will be what we make of it and I'm excited for the journey ahead.

Here's to a year of impact, connection, and cherished memories.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads "Siddharth".

President 2025-26  
Rotary Club of Madras Magnum

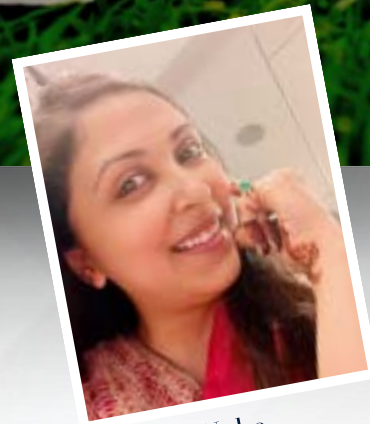




Shilpa



Akshay



Neha

# EDITOR'S NOTE

*"August whispers of change..."*

This month's edition of the Magnum Ink Magazine is a celebration of a joyous spirit. Inside, you'll find stories that warm the heart, glimpses of our recent get-togethers, and thoughtful pieces that remind us why this club is more than just a group — it's a family.

Whether you're soaking in the last joys of summer or already planning for the festive months ahead, we hope this issue brings a smile, a memory, and a moment of reflection. Because in every gathering, every laugh, and every shared experience, we grow — together.

Here's to friendship, transition, and all the golden moments together !!

# Know Your Member

ASHISH KUKREJA



Banking with  
Integrity

Loves Flying  
& Reading

Football & Music





I am **Aashish Kukreja** your fellow Rotarian and a **Banker** by profession. It has been my career since 2001 when I first started working for American Express and in the last 24 years my journey has been the usual with its ups and down and my experience spanning from banks like Morgan Stanley, The World Bank and just about the time I thought it would retire at Citibank life threw me another surprise, I joined Axis Bank.

I love my job and enjoy what I do because as part of my career I have touched lives of many customers by providing simpler and easier solutions for their Banking needs (at some point I would have made a difference to your lives as well, “maybe”). I am currently a **Vice President at Axis Bank** heading their retail banking operations team managing customer requests and carry out a slew of technology changes to simplify banking, I head of team 75 people across Chennai and Mumbai locations.

If I wasn't a Banker, I would certainly have become a Pilot as I **love flying and reading** everything about flights and its operations, but life has its own course.

I finished my schooling from Don Bosco Egmore in 1998 and pursued my B.B.A at D.G Vaishnav college in 2001 and then went on complete my MBA from University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland in 2005. Whilst these degrees gave me my launchpad but what really changed me and made me the person I am today were the 2 years that I spent in Glasgow of which 1 year went into studying and the other was while working with Morgan Stanley. The exposure I got at that time of working with Morgan Stanley really shaped me as an individual on both professional as well as personal front.

On the personal side, I am **supported by Sakshi** and two **kids Tanya and Divith** who are 13 and 6 respectively. My hobbies are to listen to music, go on **long drives, travel, trying out new cuisines and I love football**. As a fan of the English Premier league, I support Arsenal and my favorite all time footballer is Thierry Henry and it was him that got me to support Arsenal, his style and finesse is just awesome.

Some of my favorite music bands: Queen, ABBA, Bryan Adams, Coldplay, Enrique Iglesias and the list continues.

Some of my all-time favorite movies: Braveheart, Zindagi Na Milegi Do Baara, Home Alone, Forrest Gump etc.

Some of my favorite stars: Aamir Khan, Tom Hanks, Amitabh Bachchan, Pankaj Tripathi, Katrina Kaif, Kiara Advani, Madhuri Dixit etc.

# Know Your Anne

**DR. AMI SHAH**



Educator  
& Researcher

Physics:  
Love of Life

Music & fitness



I'm **Dr. Ami Shah**—an **educator and researcher** passionate about helping students experience Physics in a way that's clear, engaging, and empowering. My **love for Physics** began during my Undergraduate years at Stella Maris College, where curiosity first met clarity.

I went on to pursue my **Postgraduate degree at the University of Manchester**, UK, an experience that broadened both my academic and personal horizons. Driven by a passion for meaningful research, I completed my PhD in Physics, working on gold nanoparticles for water purification—a project that combined advanced science with environmental impact. Along the way, I presented papers at several national and international conferences and published research in peer-reviewed journals.

I spent eight enriching years teaching Undergraduate Physics at Stella Maris College—an experience that shaped my core teaching philosophy. I had the opportunity to teach a wide range of subjects, including Nuclear Physics, Classical Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Optics, Electromagnetism, and Quantum Physics.

Today, I **head ICSE and ISC Physics education** through an online platform, guiding students through an important stage of their academic journey. My teaching approach focuses on simplifying complex concepts, boosting exam confidence, and deepening conceptual understanding. I also created [Physish.com](https://www.physish.com)—a comprehensive resource hub with clear explanations, structured notes, and engaging content, all designed to make Physics accessible and exam-focused.

Outside academics, I find balance through **music, movies and fitness**. I enjoy staying active and grounded, and I hope to one day learn the piano. I also carry a quiet dream—to write a book that helps students see the beauty and logic of Physics in a whole new way.

Above all, it's the love and respect of my students that gives true meaning to this journey. Their trust keeps me inspired every day and for that, I am deeply thankful.



# Board Meet

Venue: Gymkhana Club

Attendees: 15 Board Members

The first board meeting of the year was convened on July 8, 2025, at the Gymkhana Club. A total of 15 board members were in attendance.



The meeting was notably extensive, reflecting the importance and depth of the matters discussed. Despite its length, the session proved to be highly productive, with significant deliberations and strategic planning for the year ahead. Key decisions were made, and valuable insights were shared, setting a strong foundation for future initiatives.



13th July

# INSTALLATION

*12th Board Installation Ceremony – A Night to Remember*











Venue: Taj Coromandel Hotel, Chennai

The 12th Board Installation of Rotary Club of Madras Magnum was held in grand style, marking a celebration of the incredible journey of the past year.

Outgoing President Rtn. Akshay Patwari and Secretary Rtn. Siddharth Daga presented a heartfelt report on the year 2024-25, highlighting key achievements and memories. In an emotional address, Rtn. Akshay thanked every board member for their dedication and support throughout the year.

In the presence of District Governor AKS Rtn. Vinodhji Sarogi, 1st Lady Rtn. Ushaji Sarogi, distinguished district dignitaries, and club members, the baton was officially passed on to the new leadership. Rtn. Siddharth Daga was installed as the 12th President of Madras Magnum.

The introduction of the new Board was done in classic “Magnum” style – unique, vibrant, and full of energy. A special performance curated and executed by our talented members and Anns became the highlight of the evening. A big thank you to First Lady Shivangi, Bhavna, Preethi, Pooja, Sujatha, and members Jaya, Shrenik, Vishal, and Kaushik for making the evening truly memorable.

Secretary Rtn. Siddharth Bhaiya also gave a brief on completed events and shared exciting updates about upcoming programs, urging all members to participate and stay involved.

The evening concluded on a patriotic note with the singing of the National Anthem – a fitting end to a night filled with gratitude, pride, and new beginnings.

**Siddharth Bhaiya**





25TH JULY

LEARN WITH MAGNUM

# The Sindoor Doctrine

*Major Gen M. Indrabalan*

Major General M.Indrabalan's talk, delivered especially for Rotary Magnum in Marriot Courtyard, brilliantly set a deeply patriotic tone. It held the audience rapt and fused patriotism with profound strategic insight. His recounting of Operation Sindoor, painted a vivid mosaic of courage, technology, and diplomatic finesse.



He captivated attendees with a stirring, deeply patriotic presentation on the topic. His address offered a masterclass in military strategy and precision weaponry. Major General Inderbalan revealed how India deployed high-precision systems—loitering munitions, SCALP cruise missiles, Brahmos—alongside real-time intelligence to ensure effective outcomes.

25TH JULY

LEARN WITH MAGNUM

All mission objectives were successfully achieved with zero Indian casualties and swift return of all pilots, inflicting significant damage on terrorist infrastructure.

As the Q&A unfolded, pride mingled with resolve. Questions ranged from the challenges of precision targeting to the role of new India on global platform.



By the end, the atmosphere was charged. Members and Annes alike left enriched by tactical detail and inspired by the call to service.

Also, Rtn. Vipin Baid was inducted formally by Major Gen. M Indrabalan.



## Member's Musing

# Service Over Self: Finding Strength in Simple Acts of Kindness

We all carry invisible baggage—expectations, deadlines, daily roles—that can leave us feeling drained or emotionless. While it's easy to believe success or solitude is the answer, often the true remedy for our inner turmoil lies in simple, selfless service.

One sweltering evening in Chennai, weighed down by worries, I noticed my elderly neighbour struggling with groceries. Instinctively, I offered her my arm, helping her up the stairs. When we reached her kitchen, her eyes sparkled with gratitude—and suddenly, my own anxieties felt a little lighter. My mind calmed, my breath steadied. This wasn't a grand act; it was simply human kindness at work.



Service is quiet, not flashy. It's present in holding a door, sending a comforting message, or listening without judgment. Science shows such acts boost our oxytocin and dopamine—proof we are wired for connection.

In India, the spirit of Seva—selfless service—runs deep. From feeding temple guests during festivals to small offerings like 'Bhog ka roti' for cows, kindness is woven into daily life. These moments, though often overlooked, teach us generosity at its core. Yet, ambition and endless to-do lists sometimes make us forget to cherish and practice simple giving, leading us into cycles of overthinking.

Simon Sinek says, “When you help someone else breathe a little easier, your own lungs expand.” Service is not about being perfect; it's about being present. Even sharing a quiet cup of tea, a silent companion's presence, or a thoughtful text can be deeply meaningful.

Rotary's motto, “Service Above Self,” is more than words—it's a way of living. When we offer kindness freely, we nurture trust and warmth—within families, communities, and ourselves. So, this month, let's notice small needs, act without expectation, and reflect daily.

When we serve, we rise above our burdens and find true joy. In helping others, we quietly heal ourselves; storms may come, but with service, we stand unshaken.

~Anonymous Member

# Magnum Smiles

**Credits: Shweta Bansal**



Rotary Club of Madras Magnum sponsored lunch and dinner to 55 old ladies of Charu Home for aged on 1st of July on the occasion of Rtn. Akshay Seth's birthday.

## 1st July 2025

*BENEFITTED 55 PEOPLE*



## 2nd July 2025

*MEDICAL CARE*

Rotary Club of Madras Magnum supported medical expense of a 19-year-old boy had been involved in a severe road accident and was admitted to Sri Ramachandra Medical Centre with severe brain injuries.

The family had exhausted their savings. The boy received the necessary medical care with the support of our generous donors and to the generous anonymous donors. We transferred Rs. 27000 to the hospital. Your help meant a lot to the family during this challenging time.



**VIKAS VIDYASHRAM MATRIC. HR. SEC. SCHOOL**  
 Nesal-Arappalam Road, Nesal - 632 316, Arni, Tiruvannamalai District,  
 Cb. 956628580481,9994247447.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that Master, V.KARTHIK (Admission No: 884)  
 S/O. G.VENGADACHALAM is a bonafide student of our school  
 studying in Grade V in the academic year 2025-26.

His / Her annual tuition fee for the academic year 2025-26 is as follows:

- Admission fees - 500/-
- Tuition fees - 16,000/-
- Library fees - -
- Lab fees - -
- Book fees - 1600/-
- Uniform fees - 1,500/-
- Transportation fees - 5,500 (per year)
- Miscellaneous, if any - -
- Total - 25,100/-
- Full payment made by parent, if any
- Balance to be paid

He is not in receipt of any other scholarship.

   
 PRINCIPAL  
 VIKAS VIDYASHRAM MATRIC. HR. SEC. SCHOOL,  
 ARAPPALAM ROAD, NESAL, ARNI (TN)  
 TIRUVANNAMALAI DIST. PIN- 632 316

# 4th July 2025

## FEE DONATION



Rotary Club of Madras Magnum sponsored fees of Rs.25,100 to V.Karthick studying in Class 5 in Vikas Vidyashram Matric Hr. Sec. School in Arni, Tiruvannamalai District.

# 4th July 2025

## FEE DONATION



**VIKAS VIDYASHRAM MATRIC. HR. SEC. SCHOOL**  
 Nesal-Arappalam Road, Nesal - 632 316, Arni, Tiruvannamalai District,  
 Cb. 956628580481,9994247447.


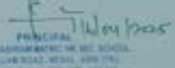
Date: 16/07/2025

I certify that Master, V.KAMALESH (Admission No: 883)  
 S/O. G.VENGADACHALAM is a bonafide student of our school  
 studying in Grade VI in the academic year 2025-26.

His / Her annual tuition fee for the academic year 2025-26 is as follows:

- Admission fees - 500/-
- Tuition fees - 17,500/-
- Library fees - -
- Lab fees - -
- Book fees - 1600/-
- Uniform fees - 1,500/-
- Transportation fees - 5,500 (per year)
- Miscellaneous, if any - -
- Total - 26,400/-
- Full payment made by parent, if any
- Balance to be paid

He is not in receipt of any other scholarship.

   
 PRINCIPAL  
 VIKAS VIDYASHRAM MATRIC. HR. SEC. SCHOOL,  
 ARAPPALAM ROAD, NESAL, ARNI (TN)  
 TIRUVANNAMALAI DIST. PIN- 632 316

Rotary Club of Madras Magnum sponsored fees of Rs.26,400 to V. Kamalesh studying in Class 6 in Vikas Vidyashram Matric Hr. Sec. School in Arni,Tiruvannamalai District.



## 4th July 2025

FEE DONATION



Rotary Club of Madras Magnum will be sponsoring fees of Rs. 1,09,000 to Shaulina A doing her 2nd Semester in BSC in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Studies in Vels Institute of Science and Technology.

## 9th July 2025

FOOD DONATION



Rotary Club of Madras Magnum sponsored evening snacks and dinner at Charu Home for the aged T Nagar to celebrate our Annette Deeya Kankaria's birthday.





# 14th July 2025

FOOD DONATION

Rotary Club of Madras Magnum sponsored full day meals for 25 old members of Akshaya Trust Pallikarani for the occasion of a member's sister's 45th birthday.



# 29th July 2025

TRI - CYCLE DONATION

Big thanks to Dinesh, Neha, Nidhi, Siddharth Daga, and our anonymous donor for helping donate a tri-cycle to Mr. Purushotaman. This has given him a way to earn a living and a reason to smile.



# MAGNUM PROJECT



## 5th CANCER CAMP



Continued Commitment to Women's  
Health: Free Cancer Screening Camp at  
Sringeri Sharada Equitas Hospital





The Rotary Club of Madras Magnum in association with Sringeri Sharada Equitas Hospital continued its free cancer screening initiative into July, organizing more camps which aim to expand access to early detection of oral, breast, and cervical cancers, especially among women of the underprivileged communities.

In July alone, over **60 residents of Egmore** availed the services, which included **free 10 mammograms, 24 HPV DNA tests**, and vital health consultations. The medical team ensured thorough screenings and provided personalized health guidance to participants, with a special focus on women's wellness and preventive care.

This life-saving outreach was made possible through strong collaborations with service-driven organizations like the Rotary Club of Madras Magnum, the Raj Charitable Foundation, the Indian Cancer Society, and The Rotary Cancer and Research Foundation.

This initiative helps bridging the healthcare gaps and promoting awareness towards various health issues.

**Risha Jain**





# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Birthdays



Raveen Kothari



Nitesh Mishra



Siddharth Bhaiya



Gaurav Jain



Harsh Kankaria



Shubhi Jain



Hetal Sangoi



Bhavesh Shah

## Annette's Birthdays

Ananya Kamdar

Kashvi Jain

Krishna Sangoi

Daivik Doshi

Atharva Gupta

Himaira Rathod



AUGUST 2025

# Upcoming EVENTS

PHUKET

Tue  
5

**Board Meeting**

Sun  
10

**Fellowship**

Fri  
15

15 - 18 Aug  
**Boys Trip to Phuket**

Sun  
24

**Magnum Carnival**

*Looking Forward*



*Lady Whistledown's*  
SOCIETY PAPERS

.....  
EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE.

EXTRAORDINARY NEWS  
.....

Dearest gentle reader...

The Season may be at its lull, but rest assured, the lives of our most intriguing couples are anything but dull.

Take for instance Mrs. and Mr. Akshay Patwari — a pair who seem to have discovered that elusive luxury: free time. Long morning coffees, suspiciously frequent afternoon naps, and zero excuses to skip social events — a clear sign that these two have all the time in the world. And when there is that kind of free time, well... they don't usually start a podcast. They make a baby. Or at the very least, they practice. A lot. One might say the clock is ticking — and so is the biological one. So, if you happen to hear the soft sound of lullabies in nine months... don't say Lady Whistledown didn't warn you.

On the other end of the spectrum are Siddharth and Shivangi, the indefatigable dynamos of our club worth noting. If there is a clipboard, a banner, or a budget to approve — rest assured, they are behind it. Alas, the poor couple may not know what a full night's sleep feels like, let alone a leisurely tea. One can only hope their calendar clears before their coffee cups run dry.





*Lady Whistledown's*  
SOCIETY PAPERS

.....  
EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE.

EXTRAORDINARY NEWS  
.....

Meanwhile, Bhavesh and Reema are settling into their palatial new abode — and by all accounts, settling in rather beautifully. The champagne has barely stopped flowing and their guest list grows longer by the day. Housewarming fêtes, impromptu dinner parties, and sunset terrace chats — the Shahs are clearly enjoying every brick and beam.

Also, permit me to share a tantalising whisper fluttering in the city. Abhishek and Shubhi have inaugurated a new auto showroom in Tiruvannamalai. No trumpet fanfare, no press release: only the soft hum of optimism and a select few knowing nods. A venture so unassuming yet poised, one suspects, to reach newfound heights in the seasons ahead. I will not be surprised to see Shubhi, soon flaunting a brand-new solitaire, a gem radiating family fortune.

In this town, dear reader, whether one is nesting, networking, or simply not napping — life continues to delight and surprise. And this author is watching it all... with quill in hand.

Yours in scandal and sentiment,  
— Lady Whistledown

Thank you!

