

JANUARY 2025 VOL 6

MAGNUM

INK

SUNDOWNER
PARTY

MAGNUM
SMILES

Namma
CHENNAI

MAILESTONES

ANNETTES

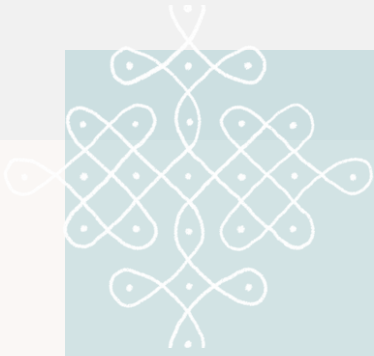
Meets

TETE -E -TETE

Know your member

BHAVESH & SIDDHARTH

Editors Note



Mansa – Hey Karishma

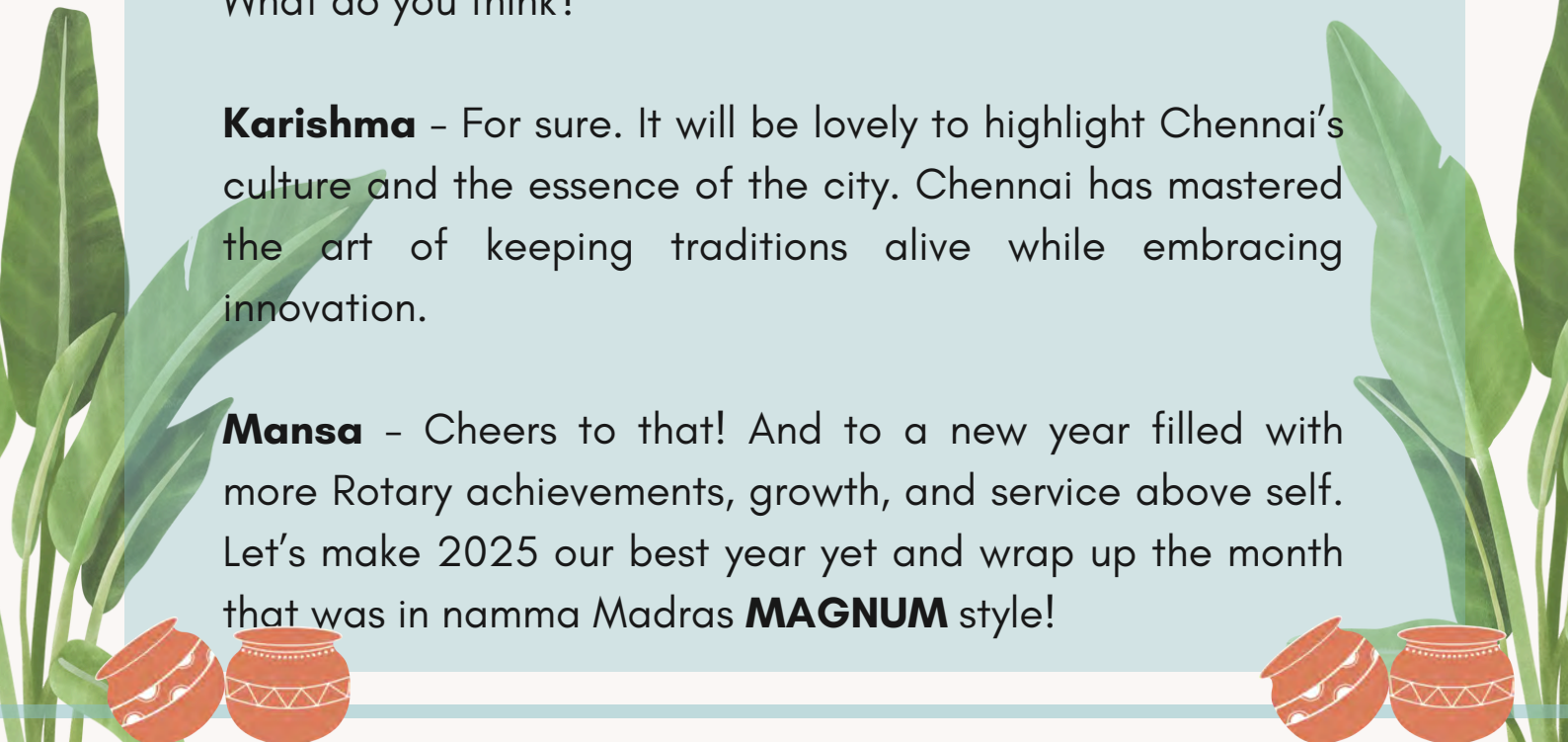
Looking back, 2024 has been a rewarding year for Magnum.

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Karishma – Absolutely! 2024 has been such a productive year for us. The Smiles projects, the funds we've raised, the fellowships we had.... everything has really made an impact. I'm so proud of what we've accomplished.

Mansa – It's amazing what we can achieve when we all come together for a cause. It really sets the bar high for next year! This month shall we feature few Namma Chennai's heritage spots this issue? Pongal is coming soon, What do you think?

Karishma – For sure. It will be lovely to highlight Chennai's culture and the essence of the city. Chennai has mastered the art of keeping traditions alive while embracing innovation.

Mansa – Cheers to that! And to a new year filled with more Rotary achievements, growth, and service above self. Let's make 2025 our best year yet and wrap up the month that was in namma Madras **MAGNUM** style!




Know your Member

THE SUCCESS STORY
OF MR. ELECTRIC

Rtn.
**Bhavesh
Shah**



After 6-8 years of hard work, I'm proud to say our products are trusted by major players like BHEL, NTPC, NALCO, L&T, Chennai Metro Rail Ltd., Tata Power, APGENCO, GESCO, TCE, and TAGENCO



Hello everyone! I'm Bhavesh Shah.

Our story began in 1971 when my father started Electricals India, a trading business specializing in electrical goods, particularly brass cable glands—which, by the way, we're still proud to trade today. Fast forward to 2016, after my father's passing, **I decided to take a leap and shift gears. Instead of just trading other brands, I launched our very own brand: "STOKES."**

My journey into the business world started quite early. At the age of 17, I had to step into the office as my father's health was delicate. Honestly, it felt annoying and boring back then—I'd be at work by 2 PM straight after college, not because I wanted to, but because I had no choice. While my classmates made plans for movies or coffee, my only plan was to be at the office on time. Despite this pressure, I managed to complete my Masters at IFMR, which I'm proud of today.

Building STOKES hasn't been a walk in the park. For the first few years, we faced the usual hurdles—product testing, NABL certifications, and countless meetings to get our brand listed for private and government projects. But persistence pays off. **After 6-8 years of hard work, I'm proud to say our products are trusted by major players like BHEL, NTPC, NALCO, L&T, Chennai Metro Rail Ltd., Tata Power, APGENCO, GESCO, TCE, and TSGENCO.**

And here's my advice to anyone in business: **"Success doesn't come to you; you go to it!"**

Meeting customers, building relationships, and staying ahead of the market is key. Sitting behind a desk and waiting for things to happen? That's yesterday's playbook.

Lastly, for those still wondering what a cable gland is—I'll gladly explain over a coffee. It may not be glamorous, but it's gotten us this far!

Rtn. Bhavesh Shah



Know your Member



THE SUCCESS STORY OF 'THE FURNITURE GUY'

Rtn.

**Siddharth
Daga**

We've expanded our furniture business to three physical outlets (two in Chennai, one in Bangalore), with a fourth on the way, plus an e-commerce portal specializing in premium office furniture.



I was born in a small town in Sardarshahar, Rajasthan, into a Marwari business family. When I was a year old, my parents moved to Sivakasi in Tamil Nadu, an industrial hub for firecrackers, matches, and printing, so I grew up surrounded by entrepreneurial energy. Growing up, I loved cars so much that I taught myself to drive at age nine (a privilege of small-town life, though not the safest choice in hindsight).

For my 11th and 12th, I went to The Lawrence School, Lovedale, which broadened my horizons beyond Sivakasi. Boarding school challenged me in ways that a comfortable home life never could, and helped shape me as an individual. Pursuing commerce seemed like the natural choice, given my business background. I went on to study Economics at Loyola College in Chennai. In 2000, my first trip abroad, to a printing and stationery trade fair in Germany, further fuelled my passion for travel and global exposure. That experience led me to the United States for an MBA in Philadelphia, where I also worked on and off campus to support myself and get real-world experience.

Although I intended to return to India right after my degree, I spent a year working at a mutual fund accounting firm, during which I even managed to get an H1B visa. But the pull of family and the opportunity to join my brother in the newly established furniture business in Chennai brought me back to India in 2004. Around the same time, I met Shivangi. Our families introduced us, but MSN Messenger, endless texts, and free Reliance-to-Reliance calls sealed the deal. We married in 2005, and soon welcomed Rishika & Ananya, in 2006 and 2009.

Fast-forward to today: we've expanded our furniture business to three physical outlets (two in Chennai, one in Bangalore), with a fourth on the way, plus an e-commerce portal specializing in premium office furniture. Alongside these professional pursuits, Shivangi and I have nurtured a loving family and built a close-knit social circle through organizations like Round Table and Rotary Magnum. This blend of entrepreneurial drive, family values, and strong community ties continues to shape who I am today.

Rtn. Siddharth Daga





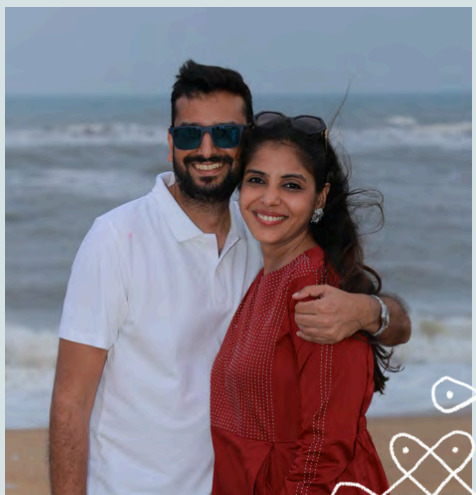
THE
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PARTY

X





Sundowner Fellowship

An evening by the seashore: A Christmas Fellowship to Remember

The air was magical and the sound of laughter filled the air as Magnumites gathered for a Christmas fellowship at a stunning beach villa.

The evening was a symphony of festive cheer. The villa was adorned with twinkling lights, shimmering christmas tree, and elegant decor, creating a magical atmosphere. DJ Jeish spun a captivating mix of English and Bollywood keeping the energy high and the dance floor alive and he made sure we danced our hearts out till the stars were out !

Delicious Italian cuisine from Little Italy tantalized the taste buds, while Shubhis Grazing Table overflowed with an exquisite array of gourmet treats.

The event was truly elevated by the professional photography by the beach, resulting in timeless images that captured the joy and vibrancy of the occasion.

We all Indulged in a luxurious foot spa to soothe our aching feet after an evening of dancing.

This gathering was more than just a party; it was a celebration of friendship and the true spirit of Christmas - an evening filled with joy, love, and cherished memories that will last a lifetime.

Ann. Swati Patwari

Tête-à-tête

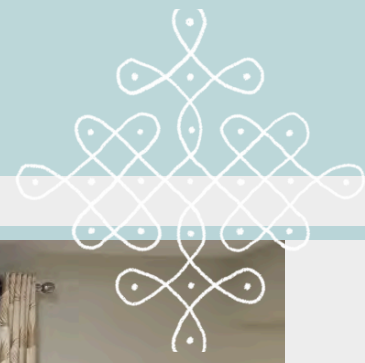


Team
@ Khushbu and
Gaurav's residence

4

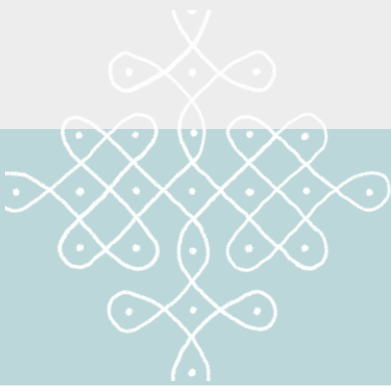


Tête-à-tête



Team 5

@ Ami Ansul's residence



Club AGM



The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the Rotary Club of Madras Magnum for the year 2024-2025 was held at the Pearl Room, Presidency Club, on December 13, 2024. Key discussions included updates on grants for ongoing community service projects and fund release from RI. Membership growth was highlighted as a critical focus, including updates on results of process refinement and assessment of prospects applications received for October slot. The house approved an increase in membership fees for both new and existing members, aiming to bolster the club's financial stability and support future initiatives. The meeting concluded with an emphasis on collaboration and innovation to advance the club's mission of service above self and several other plans were discussed.

Rtn. Akshay Patwari



Magnum Milestones

Half Year filled with many Firsts & Amazing Success!

- **CSR love** - Secured second round of CSR funding in 3 months
 - **Global Grant Magic** - Approved with only 28% Club Share. Additional 2 Grant Applications UNDERWAY.
 - **Newsletter Wins** - 5 back-to-back beauties + Presidents Award received.
 - **Social Media Blitz** - 50+ posts making Magnum shine everywhere increasing the Magnum Brand.
 - **District Post Appointments** - Shrenik Vaid, Gaurav Jain, Akshay Patwari part of District Team RY 2025-26!
 - **Real Impact** - 31 Magnum Smiles in just 23 weeks! More than 1 project per week.
 - **Vocational Victory** - 4 Successful projects, our first-ever Magnum exclusive.
 - **Packed Events** - Every event a hit, with amazing attendance
 - **Membership Buzz**- Bonding drives, 4 new members, and 16 prospects & new membership review process.
 - **Carnival Whirlwind**- Pulled off a carnival in just 2 weeks flat.
 - **Twice the fun** - Ann's meets and successful Annettes Meet with super participation and learning.
- 

Magnum Smiles

BREAKFAST DONATION

Rotary Club of Madras Magnum donated breakfast to 100 old aged members of Akshaya Home for the Aged Pallikaranai on occasion of a member's brothers 50th birthday on 4.12.24. They also distributed muruku packets worth Rs. 3100 to the needy for the same.

Thank you anonymous donor for your kind act.



AFTERNOON MEAL DONATION

Rotary Club of Madras Magnum donated an afternoon meal along with an evening healthy fruit to 55 inmates of Charu Home for the Aged T Nagar.

Our anonymous donors did this to celebrate and bless Reema Shah on her birthday on 10.12.24. Such a beautiful thought. God bless Reema and the donors for this noble act of kindness.

Magnum Smiles

WATER PURIFIER DONATION

Saastha Charitable Trust,
Kundrathur
wherein 27 old aged
underprivileged people reside
need a water purifier costing
Rs.14000 as they are only
dependent on bubble top cans
which cost them a bomb.



EGGS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Can Kids T Nagar where there are a total of 55 underprivileged children residing for their cancer treatment need eggs as a nutritional supplement during their course of treatment.

Rtn. Siddharth Daga has made the donation for the month December.

Annettes Fellowship



The Annette's Club meet was a lively blend of art, laughter, and tasty food. The highlight of the event was a Neon Fluid Art Workshop, where every member let their creativity shine on the canvas. Following the neon theme, the workshop turned into a vibrant explosion of colors as we tried out techniques like pouring, swirling, and layering to craft stunning abstract paintings. Each piece was one-of-a-kind, showcasing the personality and imagination of its creator.

The fun didn't stop with art! After the workshop, we made our way to Domino's for a well-deserved feast. The group savored cheesy pizzas and delicious garlic bread, wrapping up a colorful day perfectly. Conversations flowed as freely as the paint had earlier, deepening our connection as a club.

Today's meet was a wonderful reminder of how creativity and friendship can come together to create unforgettable experiences. It's safe to say this event will be one of the standout moments in our Annette's Club journey!

Vania Sarawgi (Annettes Secretary)

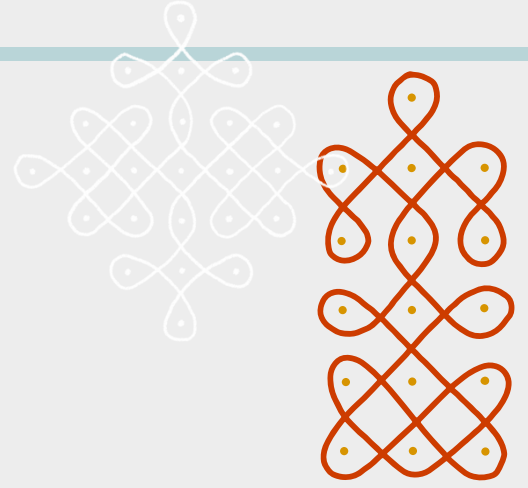
Annettes Project



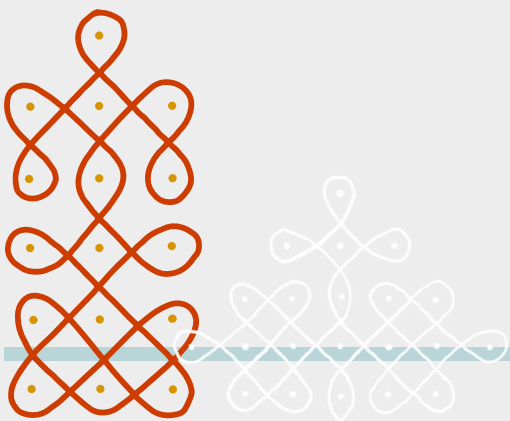
As the President of the Magnum Annettes Club, I had the privilege of leading a meaningful initiative to distribute school uniforms to a government school. This donation was a step towards supporting underprivileged students and ensuring they have the basic resources needed for their education. It was heartwarming to see the joy on the children's faces, and this experience reinforced our club's commitment to making a positive impact in our community. The total impact would be on more than 850+ people by this drive.

Rohan Bhaiya (Annettes President)

#Namma Chennai



Napier Bridge, which spans the infamous River Cooum, is one of the first structures to use RCC (Reinforced Cement Concrete)



#Namma Chennai



Madras Lighthouse is one of the 13 lighthouses in India that are identified as heritage centres to portray maritime history of India. A lighthouse museum has been planned at a cost of ₹ 50 million.

#Namma **Chennai**



Chennai Central Railway Station, originally known as Madras Central, serves as the primary train terminal in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, and stands as an iconic heritage building recognized throughout the city. It holds the distinction of being the busiest railway station in South India.

Pongal o pongal

Pongal is a harvest festival. It's all about expressing gratitude to nature, especially the sun, for a good harvest. The celebrations last for four days.



#Namma **Chennai**



Madras Filter Coffee is a comforting and delicious #TraditionalSouthIndianDrink.

Experts believe the extraction process, wallet friendly prices, and high degree of heat are what set the south Indian filter coffee apart. South Indian filter coffee made headlines in 2024 when it was voted the second best coffee in the world.

South indian Recipes



Madras Sakkarai Pongal

Ingredients

- 1 cup white rice
- 1/4 cup yellow moong dal
- 1 1/2 cups Powdered Jaggery (check the sweetness of your jaggery and adjust accordingly. If its very sweet, use 1 cup)
- 2 to 3 tbsp ghee
- 2 tbsp chopped cashews
- 1 tbsp raisins
- 1/4 tsp cardamom powder or crush 4 to 5 green cardamom pods
- 2 cups milk (if vegan substitute with water)
- 2 1/2 cups water

Instructions

Instant pot Recipe

Switch on the saute mode on your Instant pot and add the moong dal to it. Roast it until nice and fragrant for a couple of minutes. Remove it.

Add the moong dal, rice to a bowl and wash them well.

Now add the washed rice, dal to the instant pot, add water and milk. Cook in manual high for 15 minutes. Let the pressure release naturally. (If vegan, substitute the milk with more water)

When the pressure subsides, add the powdered jaggery to the rice/ dal mixture and saute/ simmer them again in low or medium heat for about 8 to 10 minutes until the jaggery gets mixed with the rice well. (If using jaggery cubes, melt the jaggery in about 1/2 cup water separately in the stove until no lumps remain and add the melted jaggery water to the cooked rice and let it simmer) Keep stirring once in a while so that they dont get stuck at the bottom.

While the rice and jaggery are cooking, heat a small pan and add the ghee to it (vegans can use any neutral tasting oil) When the ghee becomes hot, add the cashews, raisins and saute them until the cashew turns golden.

Add the ghee- cashew mixture to the pongal and add the crushed or powdered cardamom as well. Mix everything well. Let it simmer for couple more minutes. If at this stage the pongal is too thick, add 1/2 cup or more hot water and mix well. If it is too runny, let it simmer for some more time.

South indian Recipes



Beetroot Tomato Rasam with Coconut Rice



Rasam

Make the Puree! Add the beetroot, tomato, water and salt into your pressure cooker. Cook for 2 whistles, with one whistle on high heat and another on medium. Let the pressure naturally release. If you are using an Instant Pot then cook it on high for 5 minutes with natural release.

Blend and Strain! Let the mixture cool and come to room temperature and blend it to a very fine puree in a mixer. Strain the tomato-beet puree using a wide mesh strainer and keep it aside.

Make the Tadka! Now, in a medium pan we'll make the tadka. Add in the oil, mustard seeds, cumin seeds, garlic, ginger, urad dal, dried red chilies, and curry leaves and let them crackle.

Mix the Spices! Mix 1 1/2 tbsp of the rasam powder with 2 tbsp water and add it to the puree. Now, add the remaining ingredients - tamarind pulp, jaggery, turmeric powder and black pepper

Coconut Rice

Tadka! In a pan on medium heat, add in the ghee (or oil), mustard seeds, cumin seeds, dried red chilies, and curry leaves and let them crackle.

Coconut and Cilantro! Then add cilantro and saute for 30 seconds. Now, add coconut and saute for a minute.

Rice and Spices! Add in the rice, salt, pepper, and lemon juice and mix it well. Your coconut rice is ready.

Serve as the picture and Enjoy!

January Birthdays & Anniversaries



1

Jaya
Besant



12

Amit
Mehta



13

Poonam
Pal



17

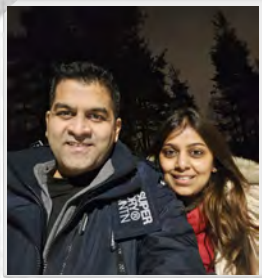
Nishi
Shah



24

Mansa
Chordia

Happy anniversary



Love ❤️

1

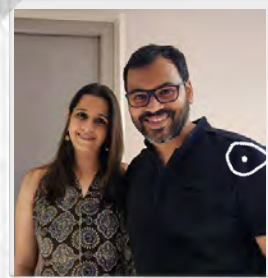
Twinkle & Ankit



Love ❤️

23

Priyanka & Teerath



Love ❤️

23

Siddharth & Shivani



Love ❤️

23

Vidya & Mukesh



Love ❤️

23

Neethu & Vipin



Love ❤️

26

Shubhi & Abhishek

Annettes birthdays

2

Nishta
Kapur

7

Amartya
Gupta

28

Aastha
Sarawgi

28

Kashvi
Turakhia

31

Maahi
Shah



Upcoming Events

10

Board Meeting

14-17

Family Trip to Ooty

26

Flash Fellowship

TBA

Tête-à-tête - New teams will be Launched





Thank **You!**

See you next month



Ann.Karishma Kankaria
Editor

Ann.Mansa Chordia
Editor