

The Banyan



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear RCA Family,

“Well begun is half done ” goes the proverb and much to my excitement and happiness, the New Year has started off with a lot of good things which has given me more confidence that the balance 6 months of my tenure will be much more fruitful than the first half.

The mammoth work on our Fundraiser is shaping up well and we are tirelessly working towards more funds to our kitty. But this is possible only with all your support.

Some remarkable projects have taken place in January, with all credits to our dear SVV Sir and the people behind the execution of the same.

Nothing can energise a President more than the members support and co-operation.

Truly Yours,
Rtn.Kannan Paramasivam



FROM THE EDITORS DESK

Jubilant January

RC Adyar’s Writer and Editor (Adiyen) is a happy person, as there is enough and more content for the January edition of “The Banyan”.

A famous Thamiz saying goes “**Kalyanam panni paar, Veetai katti paar**”. A third one has to be added to this. **Fundraiser panni paar!!!** I am sure the President and Secretary will swear by what I say. But with all your support, I am sure we will pull off a Grand Event which will stay in everyone’s memory for a long time.

“**Oor Koodi ther ezhu**” is another meaningful proverb in Thamiz which I strongly believe in. The event is only a reason. The Cause is the Crux.

Several Minds, One Goal.

With this let me walk you through the January happenings!!!

Rtn. Pria Srinivas

THE BANYAN

KNOW YOUR ROTARIAN



Until you spread your wings, you have no idea how far you can fly.

- Napoleon Bonaparte-

Born into a very orthodox family, probably I was the first girl to break the stigma that girls from my community who are Brilliant become Doctors, The Mediocre ones (Like Me) have to become Bankers and the rest get engaged during the final of college and get married after obtaining a degree. There was simply no other choice. I was pushed into Accounts and Commerce in 11th & 12th grade. **The distance between Amavasai and Pournami was the distance between Accounts and Pria.**

My dream was to Fly. After a lot of convincing, hunger strikes and drama, I was allowed to do an IATA Course (International Air Transport Association Geneva) alongside my UG in English Literature. Not a single Airline responded to my resume. I took up a job as a Tele Sales Officer with a Franchise of City Bank, then a secretary's job in an upcoming IT company (Because of passing Higher in Typewriting and a Basic Computer Diploma). Finally, I got a breakthrough as a Reservation Assistant with Qantas (The Australian Airline) in 1995. It was not easy. Long hours of backbreaking work, again numbers, calculating fares & ticketing. It was not my cup of tea. One year and I jumped into Sales without having a clue of what it was. I loved talking to real people than the Airline Terminals. I finally knew where I belonged. Thanks to my "Gift of the Gab" (which in my mother's language "Vaai Vaai, Oor vandi Vaai").

Sales was in my blood. Loved the challenges it posed. Handling a variety of people, Convincing, Outwitting, balancing winning and losing etc.

I was quickly but steadily climbing the ladder. Had a great stint with some of the best Airlines like Swissair and Delta (American). Soon I was living out of a suitcase. In the midst of all this, I managed to marry my childhood sweetheart (remember the hunger strikes, arguments and drama? Repeat!) and the outcome was Prithvi the apple of our eye after two years. My mom threatened to run away when I was planning for a second child. It was a choice between my Career and a second child. You know what I would have chosen!

From a Reservation Assistant, I rose to the rank of a Regional Head TN & Kerala (Kingfisher Airlines). My last 5 years with Kingfisher was the best for my husband as I hardly came home. With 9 stations to manage, getting home was a luxury. Finally, I had to call it Quits in 2013 to concentrate on my son who was facing his 12th board exams. I had flown enough and more to my heart's content and seen the world.

An unfortunate incident in the family made me realize the need for appropriate counselling for school children with respect to choosing the right career, handling parental and peer pressure and many more. It was time to give back to the society. I pursued a course in Career Guidance in 2014 and till date have counselled about 14,000 children mainly from Govt Schools and will continue to do so for the rest of my life.

Joining Rotary in 2008 was the best that happened to us as a family. We were able to accomplish many things in terms of serving the society, and personally, follow my passion for singing. Music has taken me to places which not all can dream of.

"For Men may come and men may go, but I go on forever" till nature asks me to stop.



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RCA News

Another Feather on RC Adyar's Cap !



Rtn.PP.Kumaravel shared the good news that his Ann. Jayalakshmi IPS has been promoted to the of Deputy Inspector General of Police, Tambaram.

What a Honour !!!

Behind this successful journey, are several unseen, unnoticed obstacles, stumbling blocks, barriers and impediments. But Grit, Determination, Hard Work and Sacrificies do finally triumph.

This is not her destination. She is destined for much more laurels in her journey.

The Members, Anns and Annettes of RC Adyar are extremely proud of Ann Jayalakshmi and wishes her continued success to scale greater heights.



That is the next Rotary Year's (26-27) Theme. What a powerful Trope!

Creating a lasting impact refers to generating Positive, enduring effects, ideas or systems that persists beyond one's immediate actions or lifetime.

People and their positive attitude towards others (may it be a human or animal) is the very essence of creating a lasting effect. Investing in people, fostering meaningful change and leaving a legacy that shapes future generations is one of the key aspects of Creating a Lasting Impact.

To put it in a nutshell:

Developing solutions, Focussing on long term goals, Making a Difference and finally, Leaving a legacy.

When the you in you becomes **I** the purpose **DIES**. But when the you in you becomes **WE**, the purpose **THRIVES**. (Guess I have been influenced a bit by Nithyanandha)

X-----X

The Banyan RCA News Contd...

NO ONE HAS EVER BECOME POOR FROM GIVING

Our dear Rtn.AKS Veeramani Sir is a Standing and Shining Example. Giving is the greatest act of Grace and he will be graced with a long and healthy life and a “ Vatra Jeeva nadhi “ of Wealth to bring about a change in the lives of the needy.

Two Heartwaring projects worth a hooping USD 50,599 translating to INR 47 Lakhs were accomplished under the CSR initiatives funded by Fourrts India Laboratories.



What can be more important than Dear Life ?

Fourrts Swasam (Aptly named) Providing life saving Ventilator, A Warmer and a Phototherapy unit was provided to the Department of Neonatology at the Institute of Child Health & Hospital Egmore on 7th January.

On the very same day, after completion of Project Swasam, an Ambulance and an Advanced Ultrasound System was handed over to Tambaram Medical Center.

DG Rtn. Devendran took part in both the events as Chief Guest.

I am reminded of Kavinjar Vaali's lyrics
“ Koduthadhellam koduthaan, avan yaarukaaga koduthaan. Orutharuka koduthan, illai, oorukaaga koduthan”



UNITE FOR GOOD

The Banyan

VOCATIONAL AWARDS

A well curated Vocational Awards Night was organized by our Vocational Service Director Rtn.CA D.Sethuraman on 6th January at the Presidency Club and pretty well attended by the Members and Anns. The awardees were carefully chosen by a team after necessary scrutiny.

Four eminent people were recognised and awarded for their excellence in their respective vocation.



DG Rtn.Devendran and DGN Rtn.Ganapathy Suresh graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Guest of Honor.



The program ended with a couple of folk songs much to the amusement of the audience, by the celebrity couple Senthil and Rajalakshmi who were one of the awardees.

A couple of members gave their feedback on the event purely on the basis of improving the quality of such important programs which will be taken into consideration for the next Rotary Years Vocational Awards.

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HEALTH CAMP



The Health Camp which was supposed to happen in December was postponed and successfully accomplished on the 25th of January at our RC Adyar Fourrts Medical Center.

About 28 patients with Gastro issues met Ann. Dr.Vishnupriya and were advised treatment accordingly. 54 patients were checked by Ann Dr.Shruthi Nishanth and her team, out of which 7 patients were screened for Cactract and were later transported to M.N Eye Hospitals and have been operated on by Rtn.Dr.Nishanth.

About 86 patients have benefitted out of this Medical Camp and a Big Shout Out to Rtn.Dr. Prashanth Director Community Service Health for organising this successfully.

“Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also a love of humanity.,”

---Hippocrates--

SPEAKER MEETING



It was purely “ Down Memory Lane” for Rotarians Thiagu and Suresh to share their experiences in their journey with RC Adyar for the last Forty Years.

It must have been like doing two MPA’s. Master of People Administration. Growing up along with the Club would definitely have been a heedy experience.

It must have been totally a bhel puri experience with all the flavours in it. Varieties in people, situations, challenges, issues, solutions and the list can go on and on. At the end, That one belief “ I am in the right place”.

Ann Chitra Thiagu also had shared her experiences as an Ann, tickling the funny bones of the audience.

Those who have travelled with the club from Adam, are fit to write a book “ My experiments with Truth”.(Who said only Gandhi can write about Truth)

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THE ROTARY FUND

The yearly TRF Dinner (Sangamam) was hosted by the District 3233 at the Hotel Le Royal Meridien on 27th January and was well attended by all Clubs and RC Adyar also had a decent participation.

PRIP Rtn.Holger Knaack the TRF Trustee Chair graced the occasion as The Chief Guest.



Our dear SVV was lauded for his Unwavering, Indefatigable, sustained contribution to TRF year on year.

It is unfortunate that he could not be present which otherwise would have been a sight to behold, but definitely was a proud moment for RC Adyar.

A mere Thank You does not suffice for your magnanimity and philanthropy which is holding the flag of RC Adyar towering.

Fundraiser



Our team is fully into super action mode to ensure that we put up a good show as promised.

Rehearsals are in full flow, to give the audience a fantastic, relaxing, enjoyable and memorable show on the 20th of February which will feature iconic songs of Ulaganayagan Kamal Hassan and Superstar Rajinikanth.

You know what to expect !!!

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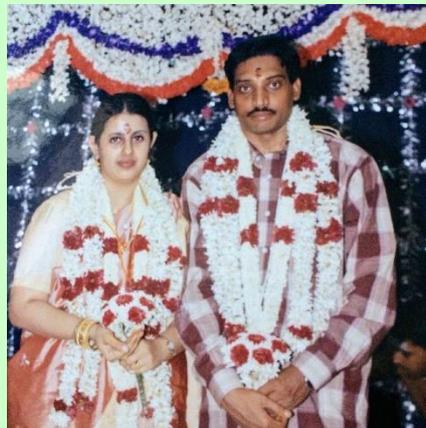
The Months Board Meeting was held on 25th January. Thanks to the gracious hosts Rtn.Thiagu and Ann. Chitra.



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

The Banyan Down Memory Lane

Wishing **Rtn.Senthilnathan & Ann Sunithaa** and **Rtn.Purushothaman & Ann Banupriya** A Lifetime of Togetherness filled with Happiness, Peace and Everlasting Love. Stay Blessed!!!



Wishing the January Birthday Babies **Rtn. Iyengar, Rtn. H. Srinivasan, Rtn.Sunderrajan & Rtn.Sathish,** Good Health, Peace and Everlasting Happiness. Stay Blessed!!!



Animal Idioms

1. Hold your Horses – Wait or Be Patient
2. Crocodile Tears- Fake sadness
3. Elephant in the room – Obvious problems nobody discusses
4. Cry Wolf – Raise a false alarm
5. Lions share – The largest portion
6. Let the cat out of the bag – Reveal a secret
7. A sitting duck – An easy target
8. Loan Shark – A predatory lender
9. Lion's den – A dangerous place
10. Kangaroo Court – A court of law where proper procedures are not followed

