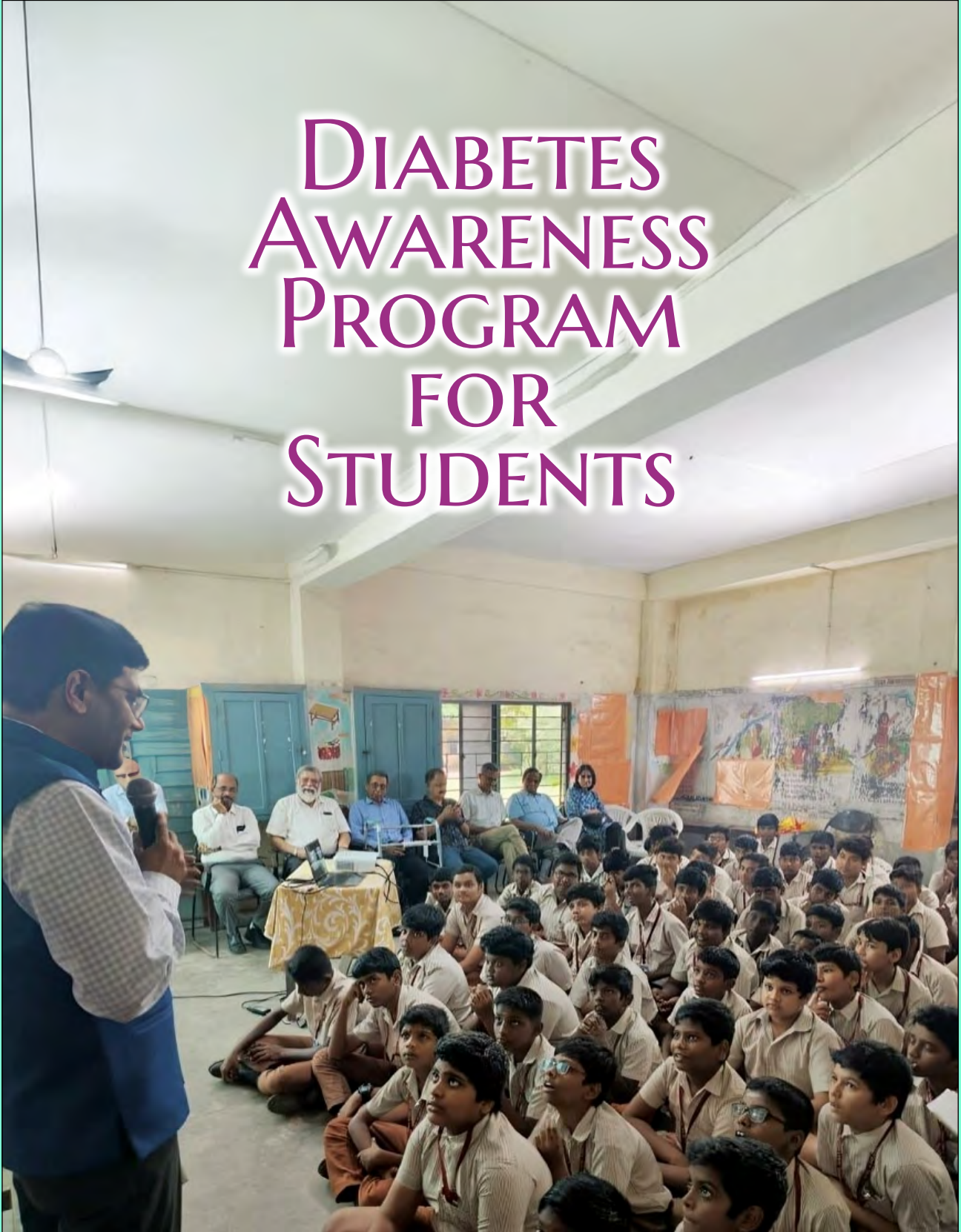


# THE LIGHTHOUSE

BOND | BUILD | BRING CHEER

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS | ISSUE 22 | December 1, 2024

## DIABETES AWARENESS PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS



Dear RCMers,

With India assuming the dubious distinction of the 'Diabetes Capital of the World', RCM's initiative to spread awareness of this disease among school students, is a welcome step. Our cover story this week.



**Rtn.Shivkumar Eashwaran**  
Editor

**Rtn.A.R.Raghuandan**  
Chairperson

**Mr.Madhu Mathen**  
Co-Chairperson

Rotary Club of Madras  
22<sup>nd</sup> Weekly Meeting  
TOPIC  
"Unstoppable - Trailblazing MediaPowerhouse"  
Radikaa Sarathkumar  
in conversation with  
**Rtn. Shakthi Girish**  
Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024  
Time : 7 pm, Pre Fellowship - 6.30 -7 pm  
Cocktails and Dinner - 8 pm onwards  
at Hyatt Regency, Chennai.  
*Please note that spouses are cordially invited for this meeting*  
Rtn. G. Chella Krishna  
President  
Rtn. Rajesh Mani  
Honorary Secretary  
Rtn. Shanno Ravi  
Director - Club Service  
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 Raghuandan
- 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.Vummi 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!

Rotary Club of Madras (RCM)  
**Minutes of the 21st Weekly Meeting held on 26-11-2024**  
at Hyatt Regency, Teynampet, Chennai

**Call to Order**

The meeting commenced at 01:30 PM.

Sergeant at Arms, Rtn. Jayant Hemdev collared President Rtn. G. Chella Krishna, who then called the 21st weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Madras to order and requested all members to rise for a silent invocation.

**Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

The President sought confirmation for the 20th weekly meeting minutes, passed and adopted by the members.

**Welcome Address:**

President Rtn. G. Chella Krishna welcomed the day's guests:

- Dr. V. Ramasubramanian is an esteemed Infectious Diseases Doctor.
- Ann. Deepa Sathiam is an International Authority on Green Buildings.

Spouses and members of the Probus Club were also acknowledged.

**Recognition of Contributions:**

Rtn. Krishnamurthy Vijayan was lauded for raising ₹8.6 lakhs for Rotary Nagar.

**Special thanks were extended to:**

- Rtn. Rajesh Somasundaram and Rtn. N. Prakash, for their assistance with Rotary Foundation inspections on the Homes for Homeless projects.

**District Governor Nomination:**

A resolution was tabled to nominate Rtn. PP. Dr. Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan as the District Governor candidate for the year 2027-28. The resolution was proposed by Rtn. PP. S.N Srikanth and seconded by Rtn. Harish K. Murthi. The resolution was passed unanimously by the floor.

**AGM Announcement:**

The AGM will be conducted on 17th December 2024.

The accounts of the Rotary Club Charitable Trust and Boys Town Society will be circulated within the required notice period.

The resolution for a shorter notice of 14 days for the AGM of The Rotary Club of Madras (RCM) was proposed and subsequently passed by the floor.

**Special Acknowledgment:**

Rtn. Mehul Uday Nanavati was recognized for donating ₹26.5 lakhs through the Raj Charitable Foundation.

**Announcements:**

Rtn. Asha Mathen presented updates on the upcoming musical Jaya on 15th December:

- Two shows are scheduled (4:30 PM and 7:30 PM).
- Proceeds will support club projects.
- Rotarians were urged to buy tickets and spread the word.

**Rtn. PP. George B. Cherian provided updates:**

Royal RCM Quiz on 1st December at Amir Mahal, with 10 teams confirmed.

The blood donations drive on 5th December in collaboration with Loyola College, targeting 500 units.

**Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Birthdays and Anniversary for the week were announced by Secretary Rtn. Rajesh Mani.

**Sun Shine Collection provided by:**

Rtn. Pranay H. Gambhir	-	Rs.2000
Rtn. Vipin Sachdev	-	Rs.2500

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 3rd December 2024, featuring actress Ms. Radhika Sarathkumar, moderated by Rtn. Shri Shakthi Girish.

**Guest Presentation**

Dr. V. Ramasubramanian shared his expertise on infectious diseases and his work during COVID-19.

Ms. Deepa Sathiam discussed her contributions to green building design and environmental sustainability, highlighting projects across the globe.

**Vote of Thanks**

The vote of thanks was delivered by Honorary Secretary Rtn. Rajesh Mani, who thanked attendees for braving the rain and supporting the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned.**





## Celebrity Endorsements for 'JAYA'



### Suneeta Rao

is an Indian singer, popular for her songs sung in the 1980s and 1990s. Her most famous song is Pree Hoon Main from the album Dhuun (1991)

“Very powerful story, we have grown up listening to it, and to see it being done in the flesh, extremely moving. Many of the cast members are my friends I have known Lillete Dubey for so many years, I knew I expected nothing less. The essence of the story came out beautifully. It's a massive production. In fact, what I am thinking is, it will be very good for children. It's going to give them a clear and concise idea of what the Mahabharata is all about with the emotions. I think it should be marketed in such a way that all the schools should bring their children to this play. Make it happen.”



### Jayati Bhatia

is an Indian actress. She is best known for her role as Nirmala "Mataji" Bharadwaj in Sasural Simar Ka (2011-2018), one of the longest-running Indian television series ever aired on Colors TV.

“Wonderful play, fabulous. In the end I could feel the labor of love that Lillete Dubey and the whole team put in this play. For the first time I realized that Krishna was such a Chanakya or maybe Chanakya was Krishna, but yes there is no good and evil in a war everybody loses and it's such a wonderful message for today's times because it is so prevalent today. I am so proud of this play and everybody must watch it and learn from it.”



### Anup Soni

is an Indian actor and anchor, best known for hosting the popular crime-based television show Crime Patrol since 2010. He also won the award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role for his performance in the Indian soap opera Balika Vadhu.

“Just one thing: Fabulous. It was well rehearsed with so much coordination and being a theatre actor, I know what kind of hard work goes into a production like this. It's a big production and I really feel they should all perform now in the Grand Theatre at NMACC because that's the place for this kind of a play and heartiest congratulations to Lillete Dubey and the whole team. The actors, the costume design, the light and the set design, everything was so good. I really wish that this hard work pays off. A lot of people should come and watch this play.”



**Anant Mahadevan**

is an acclaimed Indian screenwriter and film director known for his work in Hindi, Marathi and Tamil films. He is a National Award winner, recognized for his screenplay and dialogues in the Marathi film Mee Sindhutai Sapkal.

“The Mahabharata has always been one of the overwhelming experiences, the best epic ever written and to interpret it as a rock musical and give it this kind of a very spectacular epic form on stage is an experience to cherish. There are some wonderful moments in the play that you will take back, one of which is the chakravyuha, one of which is the scene in hell and of course, the great singing, the great costumes, the great wonderful set design and the overall experience has been absolutely memorable. Well, I would say guys, don't miss it, watch it because it left me teary-eyed and moved, absolutely moved, so I don't see any reason why it should not move you and this is international stuff guys, this should be on Broadway.”



**Kabir Bedi**

is a renowned Indian actor known for his work in Bollywood, Hollywood, and European cinema. He gained international fame with his role in the Italian TV series Sandokan and is also recognized for his performances in Bollywood films like Khoon Bhari Maang.

“The Mahabharata certainly is one of the greatest epics of India and to retell it on stage with such epic proportions, with such spectacle, such lighting, such sets and such great singing is amazing because this is a rock musical interpretation of the Mahabharata and I tell you anyone who loves theatre, anyone who loves something profound should come and see this for the great experience that it is. It is truly a magnum opus. I congratulate Lillete Dubey and the magnificent cast and all that they have achieved.”



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 3rd Dec.

Issue 22



**Issue 21 : Best Captions**

1. “Just see through the first session...it's all ours thereafter!” – *Rtn. Rajib Kumar Hota*
2. “From polo shirts to policies, we're always planning something big!” – *Rtn. Hemant P. Chordia*
3. “Watch out for Raghu! Appears magically on the shoulder.... A Betal for every Vikram!” – *Rtn. Sanjay Rao Chaganti*
4. “Strategising cricket or lunch plans? Either way, it's a serious business meeting!” – *Rtn. N.K Bhatia*
5. “Mani, I am telling you, naan Sara Sarannu oru over leg spin pottenna, your Lotus team potus ayidum” – *Rtn. PP. K.K. Raman*



## HPVax Awareness Program in Sivaswami Group of Schools



On November 21, 2024, an awareness program on HPV vaccinations was organized for parents of the Sivaswami Group of Schools in collaboration with the school management.

Rtn. Dr. Sangeetha Viswanathan delivered an informative presentation highlighting the importance of HPV vaccination, its effects and the necessity of administering it at a young age.

The interactive session provided an opportunity for parents to clarify their queries and address concerns regarding side effects, myths and misconceptions.

The event was attended by Rtn. Dr. H. Krishna Hande, Ms. Pavithra from Inner Wheel Club, Rtn. Dr. Rama Narasimhan and Rtn. A.M. Visvanathan Director of Community Service 2 (Health Initiatives).

The program's flow and documentation requirements prior to vaccination, were also addressed in the meeting. The overwhelming response from parents was a testament to the importance of this initiative, encouraging us to further invest in and promote HPV vaccination education.

**Swetha K.C**  
Reporting and Compliance Specialist  
and Social Worker

## Cervical Cancer Vaccination Drive for School Children

Cervical cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths among women worldwide. The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is a proven measure to prevent cervical cancer.

To protect and prevent children from cervical cancer, on 23rd November 2024, The Rotary Club of Madras through the Adyar Cancer Institute (W.I.A) conducted a vaccination drive for 197 girl children between the classes of 7th and 12th standards of Sri Ramakrishna Mission Sarada Vidyalaya, Usman Road and Sri Ramakrishna Mission Sarada Vidyalaya Matriculation School, Chennai. These children were vaccinated with the 1st dosage of the HPV vaccine at the Adyar Cancer Institute (W.I.A).

President Rtn. G. Chella Krishna, Rotary Club of Madras, Rtn. PP P.V. Mohan Raman and his spouse Padma Raman, participated in the event. Rtn. Archana Parikh and a prospective Rotarian volunteered to coordinate the children during the vaccination drive.

HPV vaccination is crucial in preventing cervical cancer, and it is most effective when administered before exposure to HPV, which is why it is recommended for children aged 9-14 years. By vaccinating children against HPV, we can improve health outcomes and reduce the burden of cervical cancer on families and communities.

This Cervical Cancer Vaccination drive conducted by the Rotary Club of Madras in partnership with Adyar Cancer Institute (W.I.A) has made a significant impact in protecting school children against this preventable disease.

We look forward to continuing this initiative to reach more children and create a healthier future.

**Swetha K.C**  
Reporting and Compliance Specialist  
and Social Worker





# Medical Camp for Narikuravar Community

On November 17, 2024, RCM organized a free medical camp from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Government Chennai Primary School, Indira Nagar, Chennai, in association with 'The Voluntary Health Services' and the 'Tribal Welfare Department Government of Tamil Nadu,' for the Narikuravar community of Adyar.

The medical camp offered various services such as eye check-ups, sugar and blood pressure tests, height and weight measurements, pediatric exams for children and general examinations including skin and gynecological check-ups for adults.

A total of 67 beneficiaries accessed the medical service, consisting of 41 women and 26 men. Among them, five individuals were referred for cataract surgery, while seven were advised to wear spectacles.

The Director and Joint Director of the Tribal Welfare Department visited the camp along with Rtn. A.M. Visvanathan and Rtn. PP. Shanker C. Mangadu. They also interacted with the Narikuravar community members and addressed the challenges they face in their daily lives.

**P. Joseph**  
Reporting Compliance  
Specialist & Social Worker



Birthdays		(2nd Dec. to 8th Dec 2024)
Rtn. M. Balasubramanian		4/12
Rtn. Bharat B. Mohindra		7/12
Spouses' Birthdays		
Ann. Chandrika, Spouse of Rtn. A. Sankara Narayanan		3/12
Ann. Narayani, Spouse of Rtn. Ravi Moorthy		6/12
Wedding Anniversary		
Rtn. Doulat Jain & Gulab Jain		3/12
Rtn. Vummidi Shailesh Raj & V.Sushma		4/12
Rtn. Hiren Bhasker Shah & Nita		4/12
Rtn. Rakesh Jaiswal & Ar.Smita		7/12



# Diabetes Awareness Program in Collaboration with ICCW-Tamil Nadu

On November 21, 2024, the Rotary Club of Madras and Rotary Club of Del Mar- Solana Beach, in association with the Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW) – Tamil Nadu, launched a comprehensive Diabetes Awareness Program for school students. The initiative aims to educate and raise awareness about diabetes among students in 20 schools across Chennai, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur District.

The inaugural event took place at Dr. B.M.S Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai, where several dedicated club members, including RCM's President Rtn. G. Chella Krishna, Director of Community Service 2 Rtn. A.M. Visvanathan, Rtn. P. Ravishankar, Rtn. Abdul Kareem Sait, Rtn. Arjun Ananth, Rtn. Dr. H. Krishna Hande and prospective Rotarians actively participated.

A special mention goes to the honourable joint secretary of ICCW-TN, Ms. Poornima Visvanathan, who extended her support in coordinating the program.

The program commenced at 9:30 a.m. with the Tamil Thai Vazhthu. Ms. Vimi Rony, Child Welfare Organiser, delivered the welcome address on behalf of ICCW-TN, and the introduction of the program was delivered by Ms. C. Abirami.

Rtn. G. Chella Krishna handed over the project acknowledgment letter to Ms. Vijayanti Bashykarlu, Honourable Treasurer of ICCW-TN.

The presidential address was given by RCM's



President Rtn. G. Chella Krishna and a special address was given by Ms. Jayanthi Christopher, principal of Dr. B.M.S Matriculation Higher Secondary School.

Mr. Vasudevan, the resource person for the session, has 30 years of experience in the diabetes care industry, including 20 years at Novo Nordisk in sales and marketing.

He enlightened students with essential knowledge about diabetes and insulin, types of diabetes, healthy diets, foods to include and avoid, as well as prevention and management strategies.

More than 100 students attended the program, which was divided into two batches. The first batch consisted of boys and the second batch consisted of girls, all from 7th to 9th grade.

Following the awareness session, students actively engaged by asking numerous questions, showing their keen interest and curiosity about the topics discussed.



*P. Joseph*

*Reporting Compliance Specialist & Social Worker*



# Rotary Nostalgia

## ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

### 1937 – 1943 – Part 3

*(This is the third in the series of three articles on RCM during the period 1937 – 1943)*

#### COPING WITH A WAR

Under the charge of President F.G. Luker, Managing Partner of Addison & Co and Secretary W. Blakesley (1940-41), the Rotary Club of Madras embarked on new community service activities to support the armed forces. For the first time in its young history, the Club worked on innovative projects to raise funds for the war effort. The six-day carnival 'London Calling' was organized by District Governor A. Gardiner and Rtn. Dr. P. Rama Rau in 1940 at the Government Estate ground was a particularly remarkable effort. It raised considerable funds that were presented to the Governor of Madras, Sir Arthur Hope, for the War fund.

That same year, the Club also helped Mrs Papworth - the wife of Rtn. H. C Papworth, who would later serve as President for the year 1942-43 – staged a play at the Museum Theatre. Titled 'Intrigue,' the proceeds of the show were also

directed to the Governor's War Fund as well. We can only hope that the funds were used for the purpose for which they were collected – the Governor Sir Arthur Hope was known to help himself rather liberally to such money for his own purposes!

Sir Arthur Hope (later Lord Rankeillor) was better known for his prowess in cricket. "An attractive left-hander," he never scored more than 35 runs – he could never stay away for long from liquid refreshments. His departure from Madras was under something of a cloud, owing to his gambling debts, incurred at the Madras Race Club. He had also embezzled money meant for the Red Cross. A cover-up, in which everyone from the Prime Minister of England was involved, ensured he safely made his way back in 1946.

Apart from raising funds, the Madras Rotarians sought to keep the soldiers - especially the Indian

contingent - in relative comfort and good cheer. Troops marching through the city were provided with cigarettes, and a mobile canteen named Rotarian was purchased and maintained so that the Salvation Army could provide for the Indian troops. The total expenses came to the grand sum of Rs. 41,000.

In July 1940, the Rotary Club of Madras decided to shift the meeting day from Friday to Tuesday, a tradition that continues till date. In 1941, the Club would go on to sponsor the Nilgiris club, which in turn sponsored the Coimbatore club in 1943. Rotary's presence in South India was slowly but surely expanding even though membership numbers of the Madras club itself grew at an unsteady pace.

*Courtesy : Rtn. V. Sriram  
Sourced by: Rtn. PP. N.K. Gopinath*

#### RCM Calendar for December 2024 - Disease Prevention & Treatment Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	Week - 22   <b>Eve Meeting</b> 3 <b>RADHIKA SARATHKUMAR</b> Unstoppable - Trailblazing Media Powerhouse	4	5	DOMESTIC FELLOWSHIP MUMBAI 6 <b>FIRESIDE</b>	DOMESTIC FELLOWSHIP MUMBAI 7
DOMESTIC FELLOWSHIP MUMBAI 8 <b>FIRESIDE</b>	9	Week - 23 10 <b>NITIN CHORDIA</b> "The chocolatier - from Bean to Bar."	11	12	CHRISTMAS FULL CLUB FELLOWSHIP @ MADRAS CLUB 13	14
JAYA-Lillete Dubey' - A Rock Musical 15	16	Week - 24 17 <b>AGM</b>	18	Week - 25 19 <b>Tea Meeting</b> <b>RAM VAIDYA</b> RSS Pracharak	20	21
22	23	<b>NO MEETING</b> 24	25	26	27	28
<b>FIRESIDE</b>					<b>FIRESIDE</b>	
29	30	<b>NO MEETING</b> 31				

**Note :** First meeting of the new year will be on January 4th. In Lieu of December 31st.



# 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)