

Next Gen Beat

December 2024



Here's what has happened in the last quarter and what's to come!

Welcome to the second issue of our Newsletter!

We are excited to share the latest updates and accomplishments of RCM NextGen over the past few months. As always, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors and volunteer members for their unwavering support and generosity. Your contributions are the backbone of our efforts to create meaningful change in our community.

Reflecting on the last quarter, we successfully hosted a remarkable golf fundraiser to raise awareness on organ donation and empowerment of children and women through our NextGen centre.

This quarter, we are proud to announce several significant milestones. The inauguration of the Next Gen Centre stands out as a testament to our mission of empowering underprivileged communities. We also organized an outstation trip to Desaru, which fostered camaraderie among members.

In addition, we've made impactful contributions, including wheelchairs for those in need, a stabilizer for an oxygen plant, and support for the Crocodile Bank of Chennai to aid conservation.

Looking ahead, our commitment to serving the community remains steadfast. Whether through time, resources, or donations, your support continues to make a difference. Together, we can achieve even greater milestones.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Next Gen Centre Inauguration

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RCM Next Gen Events

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Photobooth



Next Gen Centre Inauguration

We proudly inaugurated the Next Gen Centre for Community Upliftment on December 10, 2024. This transformative initiative, supported by ASV Construction with an annual funding of ₹16 lakhs, provides a safe haven for children from Chetpet government schools. In partnership with NGO Yein Udaan, the centre offers after-school programs focused on life skills, tuition, and career development, ensuring holistic growth and support for underprivileged students.

The inauguration event was graced by distinguished guests, including the District Governor-elect, District Secretary, Rotarians, donors, Inner Wheel Club members, the Yein Udaan team, parents, and students. The overwhelming participation reflected the community's commitment to this noble cause.

In addition to educational programs, the centre emphasizes comprehensive community welfare. Weekly health camps, led by Rotary members, cater to local families, addressing essential healthcare needs. Vocational training for women and computer literacy classes are also being introduced, empowering individuals with skills for a better future.

This centre is a testament to Rotary's unwavering commitment to uplifting the underserved, fostering education, and enabling skill development. It embodies the vision of creating brighter opportunities for children and families, ensuring a lasting impact on the community.



Social Impact

A total of ₹72,000 was spent to purchase and donate 10 stainless steel wheelchairs to the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Egmore. The hospital had been relying on outdated and worn-out wheelchairs that were difficult to maneuver and uncomfortable for patients. The Managing Director expressed sincere gratitude for the donation, as these new, sturdy wheelchairs will significantly improve the mobility and comfort of patients in need of assistance.



The donation also supports the hospital staff in providing better services by enabling smoother and more efficient transport within the facility. This contribution reflects RCM Next Gen's ongoing commitment to enhancing healthcare and making a meaningful impact on the community. It has been warmly received by the hospital, which has long been in need of updated equipment, ensuring better care for patients.



Since 2020, RCM Next Gen has adopted Thor, a 15-foot saltwater crocodile and the largest at the Crocodile Bank. Born in 1988, Thor is a majestic saltwater crocodile, known for his impressive size and age. He serves as a symbol of the importance of wildlife preservation.

Every year, Rotary Next Gen provides funds for his upkeep, ensuring his well-being and proper care. This initiative reflects the club's deep commitment to both wildlife conservation and community engagement, showcasing their dedication to making a positive impact on the environment.



Next Gen Centre Christmas Carnival



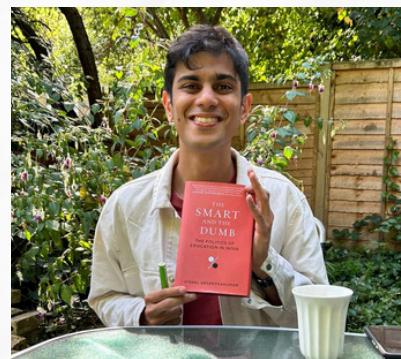
Before the inauguration of the Rotary Next Gen Centre, a special Christmas celebration was organized for 50 kids. The evening was filled with excitement as they enjoyed games like Snow Hockey and a Christmas Spin Wheel. The kids also created bead crafts to take home and got temporary tattoos, with Unicorn and Spider-Man being the favorites. Prizes were won, and the joy on their faces made the event truly memorable. It was a wonderful way to spread festive cheer and kick off the activities at the centre.

Events hosted by RCM Next Gen



Desaru Outstation

In October, RCM Next Gen ditched the daily grind for a wild, laughter-filled escape to Desaru! From sun-soaked beaches to drinks by the pool, every moment was a mix of chaos and camaraderie. Days were spent chasing waves and unforgettable adventures, while nights brought belly laughs, epic stories, and even sillier dance moves. Whether it was bonding over unexpected mishaps or discovering Desaru's scenic charm, the trip was an endless highlight reel of joy and banter. Next stop, even more shenanigans!



External speaker

Vishal Vasanthakumar, author of *The Smart and the Dumb: The Politics of Education in India* and an MA graduate in International Education Policy from Harvard, led an inspiring session for RCM Next Gen. His talk emphasized the need for systemic change in India's education sector to build a better future and the power of education to transform communities.



RCM Next Gen hosted a lively retail panel discussion with Zahaan steering the conversation with members Sharan, Abhinandan, Shahin, and Vikas bringing the laughs and insights. From retail trends to quirky industry tales, the session was a mix of knowledge and fun. The perfect blend of wisdom and wits left the audience buzzing.



Vijay Kapoor, founder of Derby Jeans, shared his inspiring journey from humble beginnings to building a thriving brand (Derby Jeans) at a joint RCM Next Gen and Chennai Central Elite event at Marriott Hotel, Chennai. The evening combined knowledge-sharing, fellowship, and engaging conversations, leaving attendees motivated.



Events hosted by RCM Next Gen



Club Assembly at Bask



Ten RCM NextGen sleuths entered the Mystery Room, ready to conquer puzzles—or at least try. Chaos ensued as clues were missed, locks refused to open, and teamwork turned into “who touched that?” They escaped—barely—proving laughter is the best strategy, even if solving puzzles isn’t!

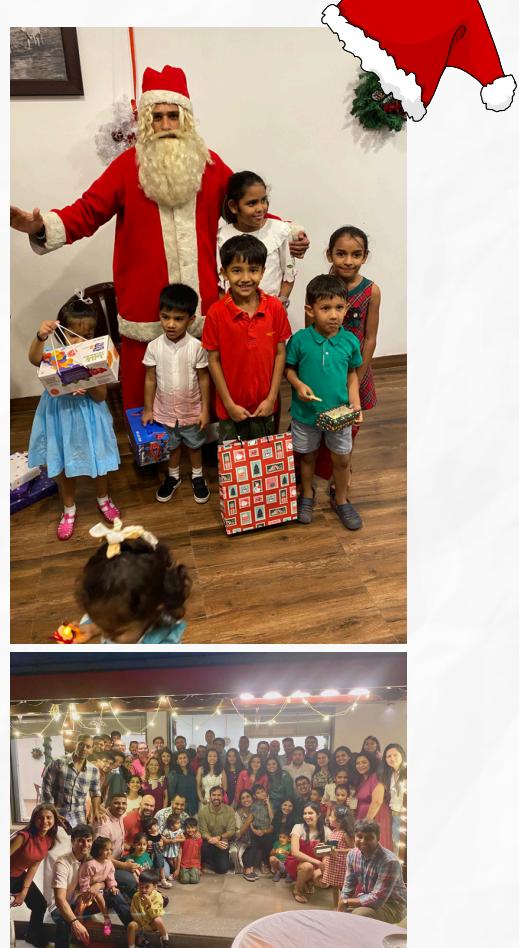
Christmas Sundowner

RCM Next Gen's Christmas Sundowner at the Gymkhana Club was pure festive magic! Members and their families came together for an evening packed with laughter, surprises, holiday cheer, and the unmistakable buzz of Christmas excitement in the air.



The Next Gen Pickleball Tournament was a smashing success. Every team played everyone else in a whirlwind of friendly chaos. Some teams racked up wins, while others mastered “strategic losing.” The three-hour game was full of volleys, laughs, and great sportsmanship. In the end, we all agreed: pickleball was the real winner.

The kids stole the show with activities like cookie decorating, ornament painting, and crafts that turned into mini masterpieces (and a little glitter chaos). Just when they thought the fun couldn't get better, Santa made a surprise appearance, sparking squeals of joy and big hugs! For the grown-ups, the Secret Santa exchange was filled with surprises, laughs, and maybe a few questionable gift choices. With delicious treats, endless chatter, and the warmth of the season, this Christmas Sundowner was nothing short of merry mayhem.





Diwali Fellowship

RCM NextGen's Diwali fellowship, hosted by Atishe, Tej, and Tripti, was an absolute blast! Held at Tej's house in ECR, the night was a mix of poolside DJ beats, way-too-delicious food, and an indoor space that turned card games into full-blown gambling wars.

The casino setup quickly became the most intense game of "Who Can Bluff Better?" while everyone tried to figure out if they were actually playing cards or just pretending for the Instagram photos.

Laughter, friendly competition, and way too many bhaturas later, this Diwali was a night to remember. Who knew Rotary could combine Diwali, food coma, and high-stakes card games all in one? Safe to say, no one left sober—either from the fun or the food!



Amalfi Coast Fellowship

RCM Next Gen members Drishya, Sharan, and their spouses Vasudev and Akshita threw a brunch at Sterling by Madras Square that felt like a holiday in Italy (if Italy had an outdoor pool and a lot more limoncello). The space, decked out in blue and yellow, looked like it could have been plucked right from the Amalfi Coast. Guests arrived in their best Mediterranean-inspired outfits. The homemade limoncello flowed freely, transforming even the quietest guests into pasta enthusiasts. The endless servings of starters, pizzas, and sweet Italian treats made sure no one left hungry—or sober. The real spirit of 'La Dolce Vita' was witnessed.

And just when we thought it was over, Akshita hosted an after-party that had us all pretending we weren't still nibbling on dessert. A truly unforgettable day of food, fun, and limoncello-fueled shenanigans!



Treasured moments from events, fellowships and fireside get-togethers!



Thank you for reading!

-Drishya Gupta
Editorial



Rotary Club of Madras Next Gen

