



ROTARY CLUB OF ADYAR
 Inaugurated on 19.02.1985
 Chartered on 12.05.1985
 Club No.22785



DECEMBER 2013



President	Secretary	Treasurer	President Elect	President Nominee
Jayaram Krishnan	N R Jayaraman	S N Balasubramaniam	Jayaseelan J	Narayanan R

Directors

Club Service Rtn. Archana R	Vocational Service Rtn. C.S. Ananth	Rotary Foundation Rtn. Subash N.P	Public Relations Rtn. Ramesh K
Community Service Rtn. Rajendran R	International Service Rtn. Krishnan S	New Generation Rtn. Boopathiraja M.E	Membership Development Rtn. Kulamani

Presidents note



There is a strong driving force behind Rotary Club of Adyar which is evident in the activities that, the club members come together to perform. This spirit was manifest in the fellowship on 24th November at Rtn Suresh's Farmhouse, down ECR. Late morning, with rains lashing many parts of Chennai and threatening this part of Chennai, we wondered if the fellowship could be conducted at all. The rain gods however, were kind, and by 9 am, the rains had abated, though the weather was still inclement. Braving this, large numbers of Rotarians with their families came for the event, and made it a grand success!.

That's the spirit, fellow Rotarians, and we need to keep it up! The joint meeting with 4 other clubs was a hit, with Speaker Dr Chokalingam giving tips on how to keep our hearts healthy. The three "e's" that he spoke about gave a completely different perspective on the matter. Rtn Gandhi's capability as one of the best speakers came to the fore in the speech that he gave during our regular meeting. Lacing his speech with contagious humour, he gave an insight into the hardship and travails that he faced in life before becoming an established and well known lawyer. Dr Radha and Ann Meera gave us a good perspective on teenage vaccination, an area that is vital to ensuring good health, but which is not adequately understood or addressed. We look forward to more Rotarians coming forward to address the club, and also exciting interactive events in the months to come, as we reiterate the slogan for the year "Engage Rotary-Change lives"



Cheers

Jayaram

Dr Chokalingam's Speech on Nov 5th



Topic: What makes the Heart Tick?

It was a joint meeting of 5 clubs, including R C Adyar. The speaker was Dr Chokalingam, a world renowned Cardiologist. Dr Chokalingam gave useful tips on how to keep the heart healthy. He interspersed his speech with witty examples which drove home the point in a light humorous way, and held the attention of the audience as well. He spoke of the three “e’s” -control of emotion, exercise and eating habits, which can not only keep the heart healthy and ticking, but also reverse the clogged arteries.

Speaker Meeting on 12th Nov'13 – Rtn.Gandhi on his life!



Note from Rtn PP PHF Thiagu who officiated in the absence of Rtn Jayaram:

- *“I am putting down some of what he said for the benefit of those who missed the meeting. He gave us only a glimpse into his life and I want to put it down for there are lessons to be learnt.”*

He started in a matter of fact way, by saying that his mother had died of cancer when he was barely 3 years old and a month later, his father, who was involved in the freedom struggle for our country, was arrested and taken away to prison by the British. He and his siblings were left behind to live the life of orphans.

Financially, the family had a well established agricultural backing, with large tracts of farmland and plenty of livestock etc. Still, with no parental guidance, he began his education at the small village school, near Erode. *What he said next was reminiscent of a poem from my schooldays - The Village Schoolmaster by Oliver Goldsmith.*

One village schoolmaster and kids of all ages sitting together on the verandah and repeating the Tamil alphabet after him, in a sing song chorus. They leveled handfuls of sand on the floor and used their forefinger to trace each letter in unison with their song, leveling it again for the next letter! He did a small demo of this process which proved the thoroughness of this method of instruction!

When Sir got bored of teaching, he would escort the entire class into the wilderness and they would return with a large bundle of stout sticks. This the schoolmaster put to good use on the children, for the parents believed that a well spanked child meant that the teacher was doing his work well!

One fine day, the boy was sent to a school in Erode, where he studied many years to get to the intermediate level. After five attempts at the intermediate exams, young Gandhi managed to pass with a little help from a sympathetic invigilator.

He now wanted to become a lawyer. The prerequisite to enter the Madras Law College was a bachelor's degree, which at his pace meant many more years of study. So he was sent to the Law College at Poona for direct more for direct admission

He recounts this first instance to illustrate the shape of things to come. Introducing himself as Mr. Gandhi, he was surprised when the supervisor at the admissions desk said "... and I am Godse!" He insists "... but my name is Gandhi!..." to hear "... Yes, unfortunately my name is Godse..." He did not last long there, and was politely asked to leave after an episode when he had accidentally tipped a bucket full of rubbish on the head of the hostel warden! Two more law colleges later, Rtn. Gandhi emerged a lawyer - the only one in 150 yr history of the Madras High Court to have been to three law schools for his law degree!

Once he started practicing there was no looking back. Today he is proud to say that several of his juniors have become judges and even Chief Justices of the Madras High Court.

In the question and answer session, he replied that one reason for his success was his frugal upbringing. It gave him the flexibility to adjust and be happy with the worst of situations and also enjoy the best of times.

A turning point in his life was when he decided to emulate his senior Justice Veerasamy who was a man of smart turnout, with a no nonsense attitude. He compared his transformation to that when Sister Nivedita asked Bharati why he had not brought his wife to the Congress and he apparently answered, "We do not usually bring our wives to meetings; moreover, of what use would it have been to bring her to the Indian Congress"? Nivedita explained to Bharati the greatness of women and the importance of recognizing that women are free beings, like men, and that woman should be treated as the equal of man. At that very moment, Bharati's vision of a "New Woman" (pudumai penn) was born in his poet's heart. Such was the paradigm shift, that even today, Rtn. Gandhi is always of smart turnout, punctual and a no nonsense person.

I was glad to get this rare insight into a fellow Rotarian's life and hope you also found some value in reading this little note.

“AWARENESS” PROGRAM ON TEENAGE VACCINATION



The meeting on 19th November was well attended with Rotaractors and Interactors from Sishya, Devi Academy and Patrician College as well as Rtns, Anns and Annettes, for the “awareness” program on teenage vaccination. Dr Radha and Ann Dr Meera gave a well-documented presentation on the issue, with the danger of NOT being vaccinated for diseases being clearly highlighted.

Fellowship on 24th November



The venue was Rtn Suresh's farm house. With heavy downpours the previous night continuing well into the morning, the event was almost cancelled. However, Rotarians came in large numbers with their Anns and Annettes, and the weather God was benevolent enough to allow the program to continue without any issues. The games were enjoyed by one and all. "Elaneer" (tender coconut water) was delicious, So *sweet!* The hot puris and curry were simply mouth watering. 🍷



We all enjoyed the fellowship.

Thanks to the hosts for the effort taken in organizing this event so well.

Program for the month of December

3rd December: Classification talk – health industry, by Rtn Satish

10th December: Speaker – Shuba talks on the trends in creative advertising

17th December : AGM

24th December: Interactive session – debate on “ India is too liberal a democracy”. Are we ready for it?

31st December – No meeting in lieu of fellowship

Special meetings:

14th December: Operation warmth

15th December: Project Shakti along with RC Sdyarv fourts edical center, RC vellachery and Chinad Hospital



BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

1	05.12.2013	Sahdev Satish	Son	Rtn.Satish.
2	07.12.2013	Latha Rajan		Rtn.
3	10.12.2013	Samanthaka Mani	Spouse	Rtn.Vidhyadaran.
4	11.12.2013	Shwetha	Daughter	Rtn.Jaishankar
5	12.12.2013	Bharathi	Spouse	Rtn.Sengottuvel.
6	12.12.2013	Aveenash	Son	Rtn.N.R.Jayaraman.
7	13.12.2013	Parvathy	Daughter	Rtn.Gopalakrishnan.
8	14.12.2013	Jayaseelan		Rtn.
9	16.12.2013	Vishal Kumar	Son	Rtn.Gomathi.
10	17.12.2013	Reecha	Daughter	Rtn.Bakshi.
11	18.12.2013	Nishanth	Son	Rtn.Sivakumar.
12	23.12.2013	Anand Thyagarajan	Son	Rtn.Chelliah.
13	23.12.2013	Rajendran		Rtn.

Wedding Anniversaries

1	03.12.2013	Rtn.Ananth & Rani
2	06.12.2013	Rtn.Vittal Rajan & Sripriya.
3	08.12.2013	Rtn.Sengottuvel & Bharathi.
4	12.12,2013	Rtn.Ravishankar & Bhanumathy.
5	29.12.2013	Rtn.Mahadevan & Sreelekha.



Edited by Ann Rani Ananth
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TO ALL MEMBERS OF RC ADYAR

