

## Diwali lights up RCI home..

Diwali, the festival of lights, was celebrated on 7 November, with all its colour and festivities, at the KMA Hall. A very big Thank you to Madan & Falguni and Dr. Sanjay & Dr. Lilan, who made it happen.



It was indeed a treat to eyes to watch all the ladies and kids in rich, colorful attires to match the occasion. The whole place was flooded with diyas and candles in traditional style. Gauging the mood of the evening, President Aby finished off the meeting in record time, just enough to release the sixth RocoInt and to thank the hosts, and the floor was open for partying.

Annettes occupied the dance floor and honed their dancing skills while men nursed their drinks. Ladies sat talking, keeping one eye on their naughty spouses( not children!). Some started tapping their feet, itching to get onto the floor. As the spirits rose, literally, men started edging out the kids for their share of the dance floor. Not sure, if the spirit intake triggered the dancing or the dancing made the spirit intake soar.



Mathew C George, our expert in backend support, this time took his position behind the bar counter and handled his job with aplomb.

President found the dancing talents worthy of a competition and announced a prize for the best dancing couples. Men and women dragged their spouses (most men were in the crawling condition) onto the floor making the judge's task tough.

All the annettes won prizes and the couple dance competition saw four 'nach baliye' teams emerge winners. The winners were Mathew & Petty(I), Sunil & Annie (II), Saji & Laina /Jagan & Manjula. (III).



photos: Cinu

The dancing reached its crescendo well past midnight and it was a tougher task to wind up the party and send these live wires home. I guess they all danced the way back!!

More than the traditional and religious relevance, festivals become more special and the celebrations more joyful, when we celebrate it with our family and dear ones. We look forward to celebrating Christmas and many more festivals to come.



**Rtn.MPHF  
L.Narayanaswamy**  
Dist.Governor



**Rtn. W. J. Wilkinson**  
RI President

## Prez' Voice..

Dear RCI family,

November was a month when we enjoyed as a family in attending some sister club events like Anthakshari and Shruthilayam. It was really great to see the RCI family participating and winning some prizes in these events. Congrats to all and a special congrats to the participants who kept the RCI flag flying high.



December, the Family Month, will see some projects from RCI. We will set up the RCC which is pending at the RI office for approval

and charter. We will have a eye camp and cleft lip correction camp at Marvanthurthu. We will also complete the plumbing works and water tank installation at Govt. U P School, Edappally.

Our fund raising project " Super Six " is on January 6<sup>th</sup>, Bhavana on Jan 12<sup>th</sup> and Artificial Limb Camp on Jan 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. All these require the support and cooperation of all the members of RCI family.

Wishing you all the very best of the season ahead and a very happy and prosperous 2008.

YIR /Aby

## editor's thoughts.

we began this month with diwali, and the celebrations lasted the whole month..  
the inter club activities have begun, and RCI was everywhere in full josh..  
won or not, we enjoyed it to the hilt..

christmas carols are already in the air; rocoint wishes you all joy and peace..  
watch out for the xmas trivia on the last page..  
let's celebrate and draw the curtains on 2007 in style..

jingle bells..

manju



# RCI @ Shruthilayam 2007..

Rtn. Pradeep Kumar  
Club Secretary



We had a fantastic day at the Shruthilayam 2007, organized by RC Midtown, on 24 November, at Gymkhana Club. RCI family was present in good numbers for the event. We participated in all four categories and the performances were well appreciated by all present.

Our Music Quiz Team of Manju & Asha won the first prize in a well contested event. Even the quiz master was amazed at the ease with which our team was answering some of the tough questions.

Our dancing team did a splendid show. The choreography, choice of song and costumes were superb. Though not the eventual winners, we were well applauded and appreciated by the sister club members. The show was the result of 10 days of rigorous practice by our ladies team and three cheers to them. You really made us proud! The team - Suma, Binu, Manju, Reshmi, Petty, Falu, Shali and Ligi.



Our participant for Solo Music, Hari, was at his best rendering a song with a Hindustani touch. Our team - Shali, Suma, Reshmi, Manju, SR, Prashant and Aby, under the baton of Hari, came second in the Group Music. We sang 'Balikudeerangale'.

We had some lucky draw winners as well- Sudheer, Jagan & Sanjay. Our annette,



Deepti Pradeep won the prize for the best dressed annette.

Though not the eventual winners, we displayed the true spirit of participation and enjoyed ourselves to the fullest, in true RCI tradition. Congrats to the entire RCI team. The overall winner was Rotary Cochin Downtown.

## Bhavana 2008 - Update

The Bhavana team is getting busier. The brochure is ready and the mailers are on its way.



In order to raise funds of

this project, we organized a film show, the much awaited Sanjay Leela Bhansali movie, Saawariya. We sold

tickets at a premium for two shows on the first day. The response was quite heartening. The movie didn't make any impact at the box office but it didn't dampen our spirits, because it was for a cause.



# RCI @ Ragasudha (Antakshari)

RC Greater Cochin conducted an Inter Club Antakshari competition on 3 Nov. RCI had two teams participating in the two categories announced. The annes' team had Reshmi Menon, Asha Nair and Reshma Robin. They gave a winning performance to finish second, behind RC Tripunithura. The rotarians' team, Dr. Robin, Prashanth & Manju qualified in the prelims, but were outsmarted by other



music savvy teams in a well contested final. RC Downtown and RC Midtown were the winners.

The music loving RCI family made the most of the evening, cheering and enjoying and winning some audience prizes.



## Events in December..

Eye / Cleft Lip Correction camp @ Maravanthuruthu • Installation of water tank and pump @ Gov. UP School, Edapally • Speaker meeting • Christmas Dinner

# Classification Talk- Rtn. Dr. Sudheer

On 14 November, we had our second classification talk, by Dr. Sudheer. Topic for the evening was **Know your liver**, and Sudheer started by reminding all, though humourously, that the RCIans could be the living examples of various conditions in this talk.



He explained the functions of liver and its importance in keeping human bodies healthy. Liver, the largest organ in the human body weighing 1.5 kg, produces bile to digest the food especially the fat, detoxify poisonous chemicals, store energy, defend against infections and produce anti bodies to fight against germs. It is also the most intelligent and dearest organ in our body

Cirrhosis, the scarring of liver tissue, is caused by alcohol in 90% of the cases. The unfortunate part is that by the time symptoms show, 80% of the liver would be damaged beyond cure and transplanted would be the only solution. He detailed on the causes of various types of jaundice and cautioned on the malayali habit of eating meat which can cause fatty liver. Dr. Sudheer also showed the video of a liver transplant surgery.

One can donate a portion of their liver and it regenerates in three weeks. But it was found that only the very near ones donate theirs. He stressed upon the need for cadaver transplant as there are close to two lakh people in India dying every year for want of liver who can be saved by a transplant while every day close to 1.5 L liver is burned / buried with the body of clinically dead patients.

(As reported by Rtn. Reji Raman)

## RCI Service Trust

We are forming RCI Service Trust, to bring more transparency into our Community Projects and its fund mangement. The trust will be governed by a team of six ex-officio members and three nominated members.

## Rotary Community Corps

The application for the charter of our RCC @ Maravanthuruth has been forwarded to the RI office, through our DG. We propose to do one more medical camp there, for Eye and Cleft Lip correction.

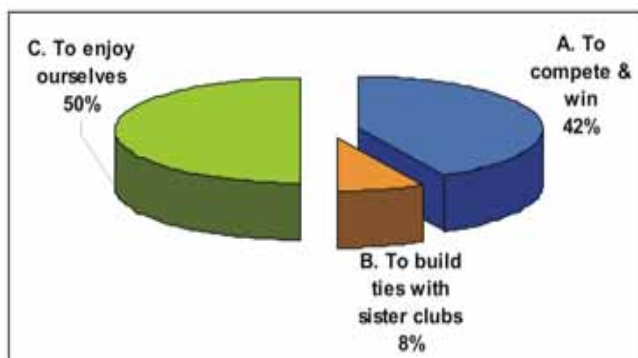
## RCI Votes! Opinion Poll# 6

What should be our motive while participating in Inter Club Competitions & Events?

A. To compete & win

B. To build ties with sister clubs

C. To enjoy ourselves



Black & White

He has shifted his position to the other side of the camera. And has been tirelessly clicking photos of bald heads from behind. This early bird has caught many worms in the weekly meetings.

Email your guesses to [manjutc@gmail.com](mailto:manjutc@gmail.com)

Answer to B&W November: Harikrishnan

## Birthdays

- 01 Emlin s/o Shaju David
- 05 Rahul S/o Rajeev Vyloppilly
- 11 Naomi d/o S R Nair & Shaleena
- 13 Kesav s/o Prashanth Menon
- 14 Ken s/o George Thomas
- 20 Nevin s/o Manoj P Joseph
- 23 Ritika d/o Manoj K Menon
- 31 Elizabeth d/o Benny Varghese

## Anniversaries

- 01 Balakrishnan A & R. Bindu
- 26 Dr. Siby T Chennankara & Dr Alice Kurian



Celebrations (December)



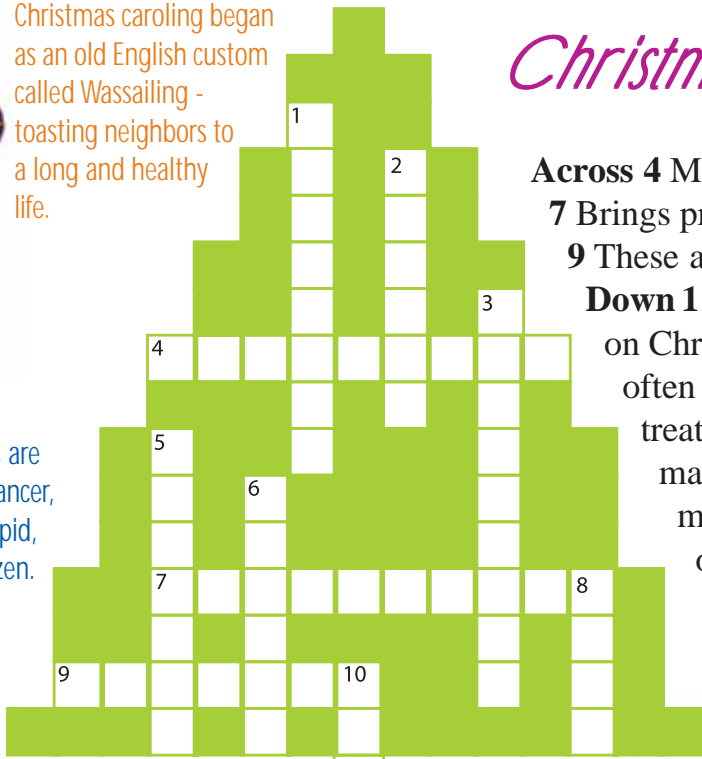
Christmas caroling began as an old English custom called Wassailing - toasting neighbors to a long and healthy life.

Santa's reindeers are Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen.

Silent Night was written in 1818, by an Austrian priest Joseph Mohr.



The popular Christmas song "Jingle Bells" was composed in 1857 by James Pierpont, and was originally called "One-Horse Open Sleigh."



# Christmas Crossword



**Across 4** Merry \_\_\_\_\_! (9)  
**7** Brings presents to good boys and girls. (5,5)  
**9** These are made of wax and have wicks. (7)  
**Down 1** A sock filled with goodies on Christmas day. (8)  
**2** Circular decoration often hung on doors (6)  
**3** A red and white treat (5,4)  
**5** A gift (7)  
**6** The sound bells make. (6)  
**8** Ice crystals (4)  
**10** A vehicle mounted on runners and pulled by horses or dogs; for transportation over snow. (6)



# Christmas Trivia

In France, Christmas is called Noel.

St. Nicholas was bishop of the Turkish town of Myra in the early fourth century. It was the Dutch who first made him into a Christmas gift-giver, and Dutch settlers brought him to America where his name eventually became the familiar Santa Claus.



The actual gift givers are different in various countries:  
 England: Father Christmas  
 France: Pere Noel (Father Christmas)  
 Germany: Christkind (angelic messenger from Jesus)  
 Holland: St Nicholas.  
 Italy: La Befana (a kindly old witch)  
 Spain and South America: The Three Kings  
 Russia: Babouschka (a grandmotherly figure) and Grandfather Frost.  
 Scandinavia: Christmas gnomes. One is called Julenisse.

Mistletoe, a traditional Christmas symbol, was considered so sacred that it had to be cut with a golden sickle.



Xmas reminds RClans of . . .  
 Carols, Xmas tree, Greeting Cards, Santa, Feast, Cakes...