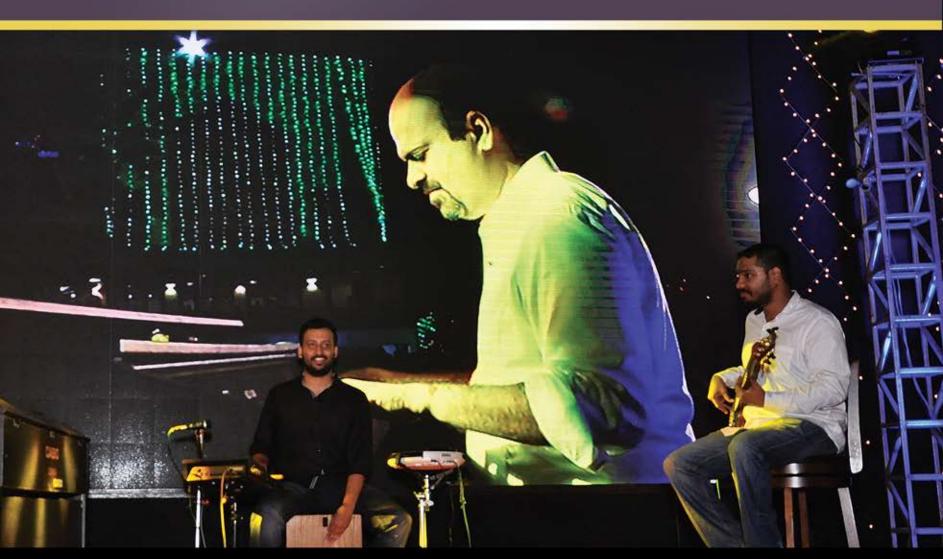
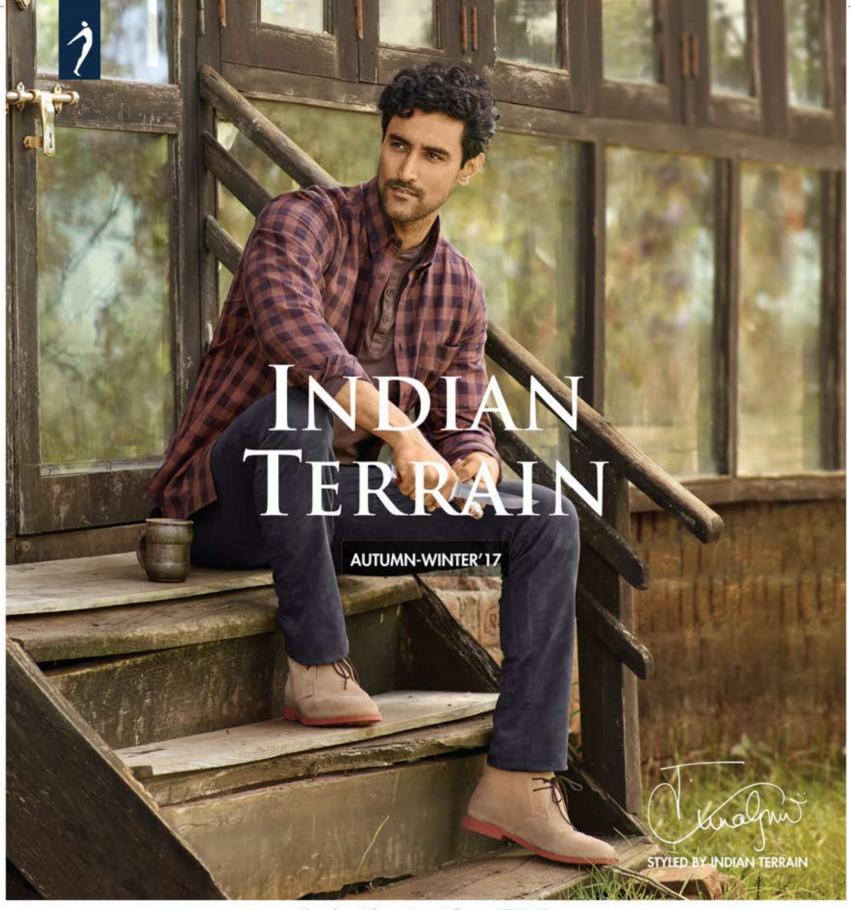
GNC VOLUME 3 ISSUE 6 SEPTEMBER 2017 FOR MEMBERS OF THE GANDHI NAGAR CLUB ONLY.



GNC MEMBERS' NIGHT

ANIL SRINIVASAN'S MUSIC FEAST



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We are looking forward to your support for this digital and green initiative, which has been started as a pilot program for 3 weeks. Based on your response, we'll make this a permanent feature at the club.

Happy reading! Mohan Raghavan - Vice-President (M161)







SWIMMING CHAMPS

Members of The Gandhi Nagar Club participated in the Tamil Nadu 7th Masters Swimming championship – 2017 held at Velachery Aquatic complex on Sep 09, 2017 and won 9 Gold and 13 Silver medals and 12 Bronze medals.

The participants in the swimming championship were Sundarakrishnan, Dr Manu Verghese, Capt D Bhatia, Soorya Chandran, Rajul Gadiyar, Rashmee, Anjali Bhatia, Kala Balasundaram, Grija Venkatesan and P Manoharan, swimming coach, Gandhi Nagar Club. Kudos to the team from GNC!

TENNIS GLORY FOR YOUNGSTERS

Youth prevailed in the GNC – Rajah Bobbili Inter Club Tennis Tournament held in the club courts in September. The singles trophy was won by Ajay Murali (M173) while the doubles was won by Arjun Mahadevan (M124) and Sujan Elango (E113).

Ajay, 16, is a Class XI student of Chettinad Vidyashram and won the cash prize of Rs 2,000 and a trophy, going through five rounds of singles play. Both Arjun and Sujan are college students. Best wishes to the trio.



L00K

WHO's new Deputy DG

Dr Soumya Swaminathan, our longstanding GNC member, is now in the highest echelons of global medicare, says Divya Reddy (S110)

The Gandhi Nagar Club congratulates our longstanding member Dr. Soumya Swaminathan on her appointment as Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and wish her all success in this new assignment.

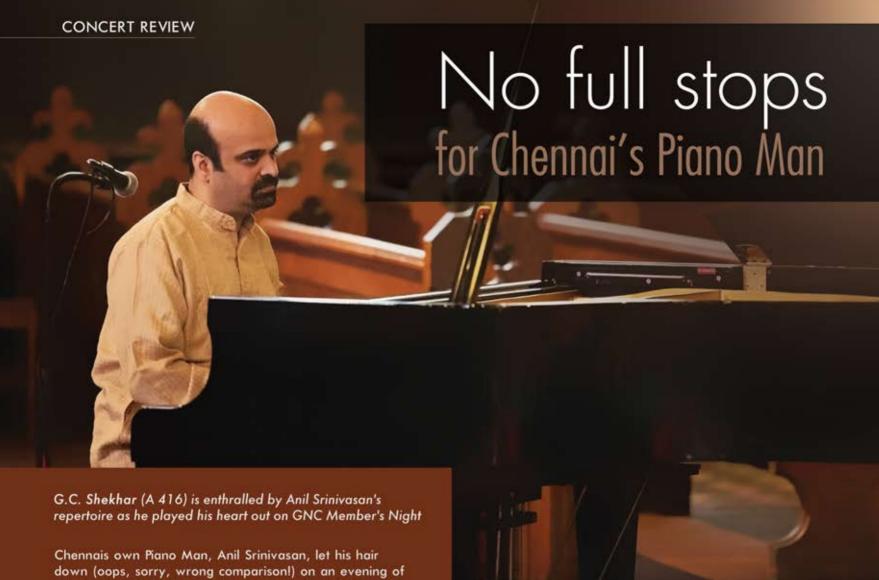
Soumya, her husband Dr.Ajit Yadav, daughter Shreya Yadav and son Akshay Yadav, are regular users of the Club and each of them are well-accomplished in their respective fields. This is the second time that Soumya, daughter of well known scientist M S Swaminathan, will be working at the WHO and her previous tenure was between 2009-11 in its Tropical Diseases Research wing.

Soumya had her schooling at Springdales School, New Delhi and was a CBSE topper (amongst girls) in 1975 and went on to be a topper in medicine at Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) and also at AllMS for her MD (Paed). Academic pursuit continued as a Post-doc in Pediatric Pulmonology at the Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. Soumya also did a stint as a Registrar in Paediatric Respiratory diseases at the University of Leicester, UK.



While Dr.Ajit Yadav was completing his MCh at Liverpool, the couple decided to move back to India and made Chennai their base and have lived here from 1991. After a brief stint at Tamil Nadu Hospitals, Soumya joined the Tuberculosis Research Centre, Chennai (an ICMR organisation) and ever since, has been a pillar of strength for ICMR. She was bestowed with the job of heading ICMR as its Director-General in August 2015 and has been one of its most popular and affable leaders!

Soumya, known for her modesty, approachability and affable qualities will make the country proud as DDG of WHO and once again, we wish her the very best.



Chennais own Piano Man, Anil Srinivasan, let his hair down (oops, sorry, wrong comparison!) on an evening of fun-filled music at the Gandhi Nagar Club on a Saturday evening to celebrate Members Night. Anil proved he is unstoppable if you give him a piano to play and a microphone to talk. Even his talking is so inspired by his music and his intent is only to keep the audience involved and educated as the final destination is always good music

Before the music came the banter like when Anil complained that the audience was not visible due to the bright lights – especially the reflection off his shining pate. So he urged them to keep clapping or sing along to know that they understood what song he was playing. And he urged the members sitting near the bar counter to move forward promising them that drinks will not go anywhere.

After the talk came the music – pure and eclectic - that Anil served as he mixed songs from Tamil and Hindi cinema, English classics and a delightful array of Carnatic kritis too. He had promised 100 songs in 100 minutes but ended up playing a medley of 142 songs in just about two hours. Accompanied admirably by Naveen Napier on the bass and Krishna Kishor on percussion respectively, Anil proved yet again the special place he has given to piano in Chennai's crowded musical circuit.

The trio performed as if they were entwined by a musical Bluetooth that enabled wordless communication. As Anil jumped from one song to the next, Naveen's bass would be right in place like a slip fielder anticipating a catch when the bowler has let go off an outswinger. And Krishna proved equally quick to switch and pace his beats. The way he pulled the sounds of the tabla from the electronic pads had the listeners gaping.

CONCERT REVIEW



Whether Enna Vaarthaigalo of M.S. Viswanathan or Sundari Kannal Oru Sedhi from Ilayaraaja or the bunch of R.D. Burman hits Anil coaxed out the nuances like only he could. The way he would blend one song into another before taking off on the next number without any playlist to follow (see interview) ensured spontaneity, which in turn did not let audience interest flag even one bit. So much so as the concert progressed the front rows got filled in fast and the humming and singing from the members too picked up.

Anil the teacher was also on display as he got Naveen to replay just the bass chords of Ilayaraaj's song Sangathil Padatha Kavithai which the maestro had also composed for songs in Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi (Gumm Summ Gumm in 'Paa'). Anil noted how without the chords the song would fall flat and explained the song's intricate construction to prove the genius of Raaja when it came to complex yet melodious songs.







As Anil sought to wind up, there were shouts of "Farmaeesh" and on the request of audience he played a full Tamil and Hindi song followed by a ragamalika. Just when we thought he had played the finale, Anil would try out another improvisation which in turn would lead to one more song. There is simply no stopping the man when it comes to playing the piano.



INTERVIEW

After his Members Night concert, Anil Srinivasan talks to GC Shekhar (A416) and Vinay Kamath (V 322) on his music, his passions and his influences

On a breezy September evening, the members of the club were treated to an evening of foot tapping melody and music as piano maestro Anil Srinivasan belted out "100 songs in 100 minutes". Invited to be a part of the member's day celebrations, Anil enthralled the audience with popular songs from Tamil and Hindi movies — with a smattering of English favourites - that kept the audience swaying and asking for more.

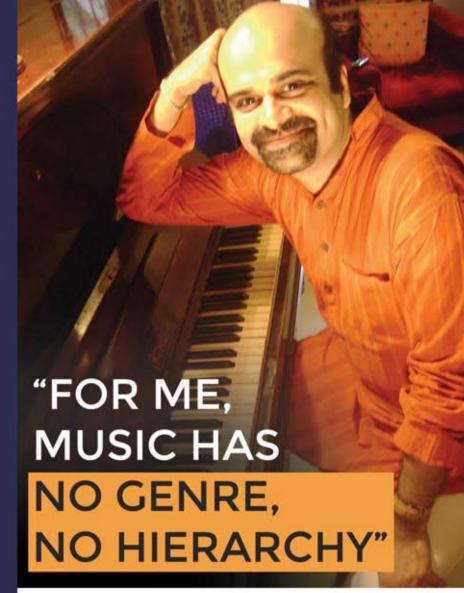
The format, "100 songs in 100 minutes," Anil says, was an experimental effort and specially conceived for the club audience. Initially a little apprehensive, Anil says he was unsure whether it would go down well with the audience or not. But it didn't take him long to find out the outcome, when he was compelled to exceed the prescribed 100 songs and played a few listener's choice numbers. He even jokingly said "I was paid for only 100 songs, but I'm playing more." After the concert, the affable Anil mingled freely with club members, chatting about music. We sat down in the lounge, with many members coming by to greet him, for this conversation. Excepts:

Do you have a plan in mind when you play at a concert?

The truth actually is I don't. I have a rough plan in mind, but I believe that music has to be a spontaneous. I need to know what the mood on a particular day is. I am an out and out performer. I'd like to understand what the audience is and who I am playing to because I believe that music has to be a two-way communication. So I'll have a fair format in mind, but I'll come and I'll look at the kind of composition. If you notice even the first time I started playing, I asked how many people want Hindi, how many people want Tamil. Music ultimately has to uplift the human experience. So if people go away thinking that I came in to hear this but I didn't get to hear it, you might as well just listen to music on the car radio or at home. So if I am actually going to be playing there, I might as well take the effort to understand the audience.

How was the audience at the concert?

The audience is what I am kind of used to. To that extent it is not challenging specifically for me because a large number are friends, and lots of people have attended my concerts before. The Club crowd is always an interesting crowd to cater to because people have different expectation, and also its 'Club Day'. So there are certain other things which have been planned. There's dinner, there's the bar, there's the sports lounge, so I have the additional role of making sure that the attention is on the music, so that keeps me on my toes.



What kind of audience do you find challenging?

Maybe I sound a bit conceited if I say it, but so far I would say that every audience is equally challenging, or equally unchallenging. Because every day is a new challenge, every audience is a new audience. I would say children are probably the most challenging. Because, unlike us, children are remarkably honest. If they don't like the music, they will get up and go. We all will be polite and say the right things. I work with so many children, I would say that is my most challenging audience. You need a very high level of authenticity because children are able to sense it when you're not authentic.

The 100 songs you played was it planned specially for the club?

I played 142 songs today and this is actually the first time I am doing this. I still don't know whether it worked or not but people seemed to have enjoyed it. I would say for the club audiences, just like I play for cosmopolitan audiences, there's always a wide difference in listening choices.

Some people want Hindi, some want Tamil, some classical, others jazz ... people come with different expectations. So I figured, why not try a different format that will cater to each audience and everybody feels they got something – much like giving a 'combo meal'.



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DIAMOND GOLD SILVER

INTERVIEW

I came in with that feeling and said to myself "lets try it. If it didn't work, fine. But if it did, may be this is a new way of presenting with the piano. I also like to take in different influences when I play. I do not like to restrict myself to a genre. So it matches with who I am with who I am presenting it to. So that's why I gave it a shot.

Do you consider yourself a pioneer by adapting the piano to Carnatic?

You will have to tell me. Apparently I am ... and a lot of people think so. I hope so because I think the whole process of art and the whole process of art and art creation is evolution and innovation. I think it's built into what an art form is.

In business work places we're talking about innovation all the time. We're talking about collaborative creativity and innovation and all these kind of things. All this is in built in the process of music creation or any kind of artistic creation. There must be something inventive, additive, and incremental that we are also contributing to everything that is being given to us and I'd like to stay true to that as long as I can.

Are you partial towards llayaraja?

Very. Very English. Very Tamil. I think structurally, the most complex music that has been created in Tamil cinema history. He's a musician's musician. He's the most challenging to play, therefore the most interesting. It not only melody, it's like a jigsaw puzzle. I like jigsaw puzzles. I like mathematics and I have that bent of mind, so it should fit into the equation perfectly. Like I made Navin Napier play that baseline and show, without which, that song has no relevance. It's not about just singing a melody and playing any chords you like.

Adapting the piano for Carnatic classical, are you able to give expression to the full range of emotion.

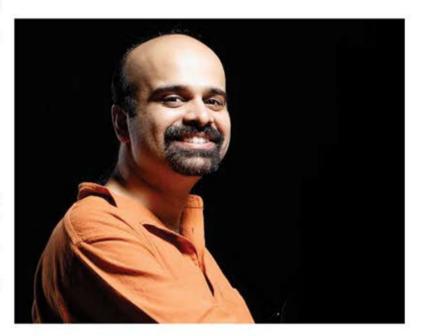
You cannot. Emotion yes. But to the structural brigas - requirements of Carnatic music, no. Which is why I have never intended ever to play Carnatic music solo on a piano. I have always done it with Sikkil, or U Srinivas or somebody or the other, where they are the main melody and I am sort of creating a template around them. Because I understand than inherently about the structural requirements about Carnatic music. I would never pretend to ever change the Carnatic vocabulary. I'm still a student of Carnatic music.

Which has been your biggest influence?

Music. As you can see it's all over the place as you can see. To me there is a famous quote of Duke Ellington, the jazz legend. He said, there are only two kinds of music in the world. There's the good kind and there's the other kind. I would like to believe that everything I do is the good kind. There is no genre. There is no categorization in music, there is no hierarchy, All that is man-made. Music by itself is free expression. Can I say, it's the human heart beat in motion, in communicative motion.

Do you expect more Anil Srinivasans to come in the coming years?

I certainly hope so. In fact, they should be better than me. I can say this for sure, after what I and Sikkil did, there's a whole bunch of of Carnatic collaborations have started. Agam openly source us as the reference material. So I think after Gurucharan and I started collaborating, I suddenly started seeing so much of collaboration happening. I think it sort of opened doors. If those guys can do it, why not we also try. I think everything we do, even the genre-lessness I was playing today, I am now beginning to see young keyboard and pianists beginning to copy this. Two of my students are here today and they both are training to play like that as well, which is so genre-less. The world is genre-less. Frankly, I stand for the fact there are no differences in faith, no differences in religion, no differences in community, no differences in who we are.



When you play abroad, which kind of Indian music do you play?

I play to both. I play to both Western audiences where I play Western classical music in its purest form, I play to NRI audiences where it is the same expectation of Indian music that anybody here has. I sometimes play to completely alien audiences like I played in places like Korea where there was no Indian and neither are they Western. They have their own culture. Gurucharan and I performed there. They responded to the emotionality of the music where they didn't care about the grammar, they just understood it for what it was. I think for me it's a testament that music has communicative power. As long as you have a certain sincerity towards how you present it, it will communicate by itself. Coming back to what I started with, I am a communicative musician. I believe that you must understand the audience and present it in a way that they will be able to communicate with it. There is a communion that needs to happen. So far I am proud to say that I've kept very very alive to that idea.

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A HIMALAYAN ODYSSEY

Dipti Mathur (\$496) treks to Roopkund lake in Uttarakhand and comes away exhausted but exhilarated



Anyone who is well-travelled will pick their favourite hiking place as the Himalayas. We are fortunate that many of the interesting peaks of the Himalayas fall within the Indian border and are gradually receiving the much deserved tourist attraction.

My husband, Sushanth Ravikumar, and I decided to someday trek to one of the peaks of the Himalayas when we went to Leh, Ladakh in 2013. There is something about the mountain air and the Himalayan beauty you get captivated by it instantly. Then you look for more and more reasons to go back there. Finally in May 2016, we did the Roopkund Trek with two other friends.

About Roopkund

Roopkund is a lake situated at about 15,700 feet in a range that falls within Uttarakhand. The lake has an interesting air of mystery around it. There are hundreds of skeletons lying at the bottom of this shallow lake - the remains of people from 1,200 years ago! There is no single accepted story about how the lake was even accessible to people at that time or how they died.

How to Plan

A trek to Roopkund takes six days to complete. So, there are fixed 6-day slots of a maximum of 20 members in each slot that are open for booking between May and June each year. We took the first slot of 2016: May 7th batch. These slots can be booked through several tour operators. Once you have booked a slot, it is worth keeping your fingers crossed about the other people in your group whom you have no idea about. After all, a group can only be as fast as the slowest member!

How to Prepare

The hike is ranked moderate on the difficulty scale. The operator through whom you book will send you the specific details on how to measure your fitness. My husband has always been a fitness freak with a diligent gym routine so it was only me who had to work towards the required fitness and I had two months to do so. The process was therapeutic. The other aspect of preparation is to buy the right clothing, equipment and toiletries for the trek: hiking poles, gloves, raincoats, rucksacks. The Decathlon store was the one-stop-shop for everything.

TREKKING

The Journey

A week before the hike is to begin, the operators e-introduce all the group members via email. Our starting point was Kathgodam, Uttarakhand. Beyond this, only way to commute is via road. We took a flight to Delhi and then a train to Kathgodam.

Day 1: Loharjung (7,575 ft.)

On May 7, 2016, the organizers picked us up from the Kathgodam hotel at around 7 AM and took us to Loharjung. This leg was done by road – a 222 kms drive! We stopped at various villages for breakfast, lunch and tea. It was already getting dark by the time we got to the base camp at Loharjung.

Day 2: Didna Village (8,530 ft)

On May 8, we started the day early. By 7 AM we were all dressed and out with our hiking poles for the first leg of the hike. "Just one step after another" was our mantra. The trail was already beautiful and it was just the first day!

There were two guides ahead of us (along with the mules with our luggage and the helpers) and two at the end of the group's trail. At the end of the climb we reached the Didna Village. Since this was the foothills of the mountain, the terrain was mostly forest and the weather was pleasant



Roopkund Summit

Day 3: Ali Bugyal (11,520 ft.)

From Didna Village, we could see our next stop — Ali Bugyal. And just by looking at how high up it was, I thought I will not be able to make it. "One step after another". On May 9th, we had breakfast and started the trek at 7 AM. As we hiked up, the tree line receded, gradually disappearing as we climbed up, giving way to green meadows. It was just picture perfect. We reached our camp at Ali Bugyal by afternoon. It was a 6-hour climb and walk. The camps from here on were tented accommodation.



Various stages on the way to Didna Village

Day 4: Pathar Nachauni (12,700 ft.)

Encouraged by the previous day's accomplishment of making it through what looked like an arduous climb, we started the day early from Ali Bugyal as well. As usual, my husband and I were among the first to get ready. We had a light breakfast and started the climb to Pathar Nachauni.

The green meadows gave way to a rocky terrain. Soon there was some snow between the rocks and it got much colder. The challenge in this leg was no longer the climb (the worst incline was already done!) but the declining oxygen in the air.

Day 5: Bhagwabaasa (14,350 ft)

This was our base camp. The last stop before the summit - the Roop-kund Lakel This was the most adventurous leg of the trek where there was pelting rain, snow, blazing sun, everything during those 3-4 hours of the trek. It was much like a set from Lord of The Rings movie series. We made a quick stop for offering prayers at the local temple a little before our camp at Bhagwabasa.

We arrived at the Bhagwabaasa camp by lunch time. Now that our bodies were used to the thinning atmosphere and cold, we were happily spending the afternoon outside the tent playing with a dog that trekked up with us!

The sunset from here is the most surreal. Amid magnificent, massive and glorious peaks like Trishul, Nanda Ghunti and Chaukhamba, you realize how tiny a speck we are. After several minutes of silently gazing at the setting sun, we retired early to our tents.



En route Ali Bugyal



The Bhagwabaasa camp

Day 6: Summit The Roopkund (15,696 ft.)

We started the day at 4 a.m. and were out with our hiking poles by 4:45 a.m. It was still dark but we had to make it as far up as possible and back before the afternoon sun began to melt the snow making the descent both difficult and dangerous. Time was of essence today. Barely half way to the summit, I began to have acute mountain sickness. My body was no longer able to function in the thinning oxygen. I knew exactly why – dehydration from not drinking the cold water in our bottles the previous day. Many times, I decided to give up and just go back but my group urged me to continue.

We had barely reached midway when one of the members of our group fell, rolled down a slope and had to use his hiking pole to arrest the slip. That's when we all took out the clamp-ons and fixed it on our shoes. Sick and now scared, I continued the climb. "One step after another!" Somehow I made it to the summit along with others. It was spectacular. The frozen lake was finally in sight! We all celebrated, took pictures, ate a little and within half hour started the descend.

The whole trip was exhilarating, exhausting and enlightening. You learn to live with the bare minimum, appreciate good company and simple food way more than in the cities. As long as your body permits it, this is one experience I would recommend to anyone whom I wish well.



Sunset from Bhagwaabasa

YOUR BRAIN -IT'S THE NETWORK

The brain is the pinnacle of all organs in the body, directing each of them in their work.
But how exactly does the brain itself work?



Dr K Sridhar
Director Institute of Neurosciences
and Spinal Disorders
Head Department of Neurosurgery
Gleneagles Global Health City, Chennai



We all know that the brain is made of more than a 100 billion highly specialised cells called Neurons. It's the ingenious way in which these billion or so cells connect with each other and form networks that makes the brain function the way it does. Networking between groups of cells and cells within the group allows better functioning of the brain - in fact intelligence is proportional to the neural networks that are present in the person. Loss of brain function like in Dementia is because of a break or loss of these networks.



The Brain weighs just under 1.5 kgs but takes about 15% of the blood from the heart and consumes nearly 25% of the Oxygen available in the blood. This is because the Brain has no storage capacity and needs supply of oxygen and energy every single second for its activities. When there is a shortage of blood flow or oxygen to the brain, brain cells die - and when this reaches critical mass - it manifests as a Stroke or Brain Attack. What we see as paralysis or difficulty in speech, as a result of a Stroke, is again a loss of brain cells or networks responsible for the functioning of the Brain.

In Head Injury too, the inter cell communications are disrupted resulting in a loss of functioning of the brain. When this is just below the Brain surface, it shows as weakness of limbs, but when deeper parts of the Brain are affected the patient loses consciousness and is in coma.



Treatment of Brain problems entails treating the root cause of the problem as well as the restoration of nerve cell function and the neural networks. While Nerve cells do not have the capability to multiply, there is a capability of these cells to recover from transient insults and also reform networks when the latter are lost. The best chance of recovery is therefore when there has been minimal damage. Thus the Golden Hour Concept in management of problems of the Brain: Every minute lost is tens of thousands of nerve cells succumbing and multiple networks lost.

Time is Brain!!





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Nehantha Sathesh (\$753), a Class 9 student of BVM, loves the simple pleasures of growing up on a farm in Thirukazhukundram

Farming is a beautiful art by itself, with the ground as your canvas and the plants your paint. No one knows the joy of farming until you reap your own food which you can eat with relish. It takes a lot of your time, but a person who nurtures it will experience a lot of joy in different forms.

By god's grace, we have been blessed with a farm of 4 acres, where my parents practise organic farming. My parents have built a farmhouse that resembles the houses of an earlier era, with tiled roofs and a pretty courtyard in the middle of the house with an open roof. It sure is a wonderful sight during the monsoon season as it rains inside the house and we can sit on the verandah watching the rain, mesmerised. Right next the house is the cowshed where the native breed of cows reside. Each one of the cows respond to our calls and acknowledge our love and care. Next to the cowshed is the hen coop. These hens provide us with tasty organic eggs. Running around the farm are the four most loving and loyal dogs that I have ever seen.

Nehantha (standing, centre) with her sister Nayantha and parents Malini and Sathesh

The spellbinding beauty of the surrounding areas, includes a lake brimming with water when it rains and the lush green of the fields all round. During the evening you can feel the wind caressing your face. The sky turns a pleasant mix of pink, blue and yellow. In the night, it feels absolutely amazing to lie on our backs on the terrace and count the infinite stars with the moon shining, giving the scene a nice mellow touch. With such beautiful surroundings, who would want to miss having their home in this paradise. Many birds have built their nests in and around the farm.

My mother handles the produce on the farm. She grows many traditional varieties of rice, vegetables and fruits. Organic farming is appreciated everywhere today, so she supplies them to few shops and most of our friends.

Organic food, milk, eggs, oil make up most of what we eat these days.

My parents replenished that once dry land into a lush and vibrant farm to spend time away from the city in peace and calm. And my sister and I too love it as much as they do.





16

Keep your **GRME5** close, and your **Friends** closer

KIDS CORNER - Adithya Kashyap (A349), a student of APL Global, Thoraipakkam, writes on the Blue Whale phenomenon that is scarring kids around the world

You might've watched movies of videos games coming into characters' lives. It looked chimerical!

How could a game ever tell you to do things? It's just a game, right! The game which has been the cause of many teen and kid suicides, the notorious 'Blue Whale', featured numerous times in the local newspaper, had come into the victims' lives. It claimed hundreds of souls in countries such as the U.S, Russia and several central Asian countries, including India. The video game is not a downloadable software or application. It appears on a number of social media platforms.

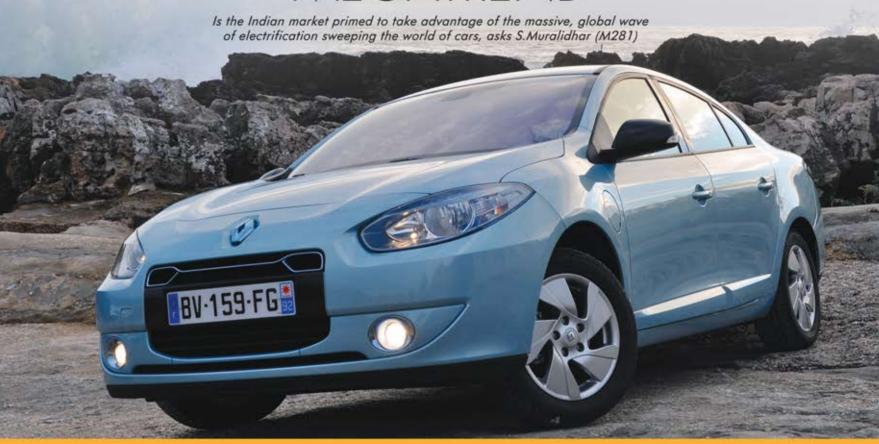
Apparently, the game entices young and vulnerable children in a series of 50 dares, of which some of them include carving a blue whale on the skin, watching horror movies, and the last one, most gruesome, committing suicide. The game is mentored by a curator, who collects proof of the game players by asking them to send pictures of them attempting the dares. The founder of the Blue Whale game, a 21-year-old Russian youth, Philipp Budeikin, was arrested, for good measure.

Although Budeikin, the game's creator, has been put behind bars, the game is still going strong, with murder cases from Madurai, Delhi, North Indian states like Bihar, eastern states like Odisha and even across the border, with a recent expulsion of two Pakistani girls from school. After reading this article, you may even run away from your favourite phone. Don't. Play safe, enjoy and don't let games get the better of you. They're just games.

As kids, we come across many types, good and bad. But don't let the bad control your emotions. There is always a parent there to help you in case of any self-doubt, thus the title, 'keep your games close, and your friends closer'.



AN ELECTRIFYING AUTOMOTIVE MEGATREND



The most dominant theme cutting across the auto shows of the last few years has been the emergence of plug-in hybrids and full electric cars. Today these types of cars are poised to become mainstream and there is talk about how electrics will be only kind of cars that will ply our roads in the very near future. Car companies, and even countries and their Governments, are declaring their intent to go fully electric within a couple of decades.

Ironically, what is being described as a megatrend today, has its roots in the very first automobiles that were built in the late 19th century, and which ran on batteries and electric motors. Today the blistering pace at which battery technology and electric car technology is moving, there are clear signs that the future of personal mobility will be electric motors. The days of the internal combustion engine is numbered. Companies like Tesla and countries like the Netherlands, Norway and Denmark are already leaders in electric mobility. Other companies such as Volvo and countries like China have set themselves on a definitive path towards going fully electric within the next decade of so.

Worldwide, the number of electric vehicles on the road currently is still a small number. It is only 0.2 per cent of the total vehicular population, according to the International Energy Agency. The sales numbers are growing; last year, for example, a record-setting 750,000 new electric vehicles were registered worldwide. The total number is expected to skyrocket to 40 million plus by 2025 from the current two million.

However, in the case of India, the hype surrounding the environmental benefits of going electric overshadows the ground realities. Finding takers for electrics is the least of the problems if the bigger issues like infrastructure can be dealt with first. Some of these can only happen in parallel like setting up the charging infrastructure. But, the fundamental purpose of going electric, which is choosing an environmentally-friendly mobility solution to cut urban pollution, will not be served if there is no plan to replace our ageing, polluting thermal power plants with sustainable, renewable energy sources or even nuclear power. With status quo continuing in our power sector, we will merely be displacing the pollution from the cities with their big concentrations of electric cars to the hinterland where the coal-based power plants are located.



Mere rhetoric that attempts to communicate to the world that India too has arrived on the 'global stage' is what the proclamation (made by one Ministry of the Government) that we will go fully electric by the year 2030 seems to be. But, while the rest of the world has decided to dump the internal combustion engine and embrace the 'Giga-factory', I think we in India have to look at the prospect of going all-electric with a very different roadmap. It has to be one which embraces India's unique diversity of conditions, our limitations in infrastructure, and of course affordability. The car is still viewed as a luxury product and the Government



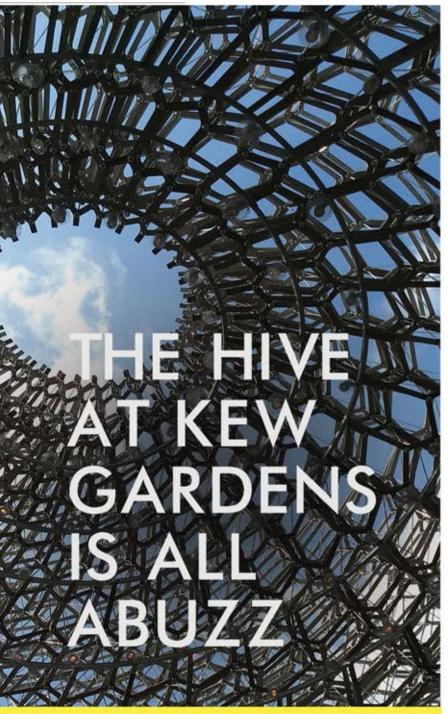
So, affordability will be a driving factor for electrics to go mainstream in India and that is why we should focus on incremental growth and incentivise interim solutions like plug-in hybrids and electric two-wheelers which will help promote a culture of choosing electrics and be the motivator for an organic growth of the charging network that will automatically follow. Incentives are an inevitable part of promoting electrics that governments need to look at before these cars start to make standalone economic sense for value-conscious buyers. From the Indian car buyer's perspective electric cars are still in an elitist niche today. The cheapest small electric hatchback in our midst the Mahindra e2o - is as expensive as a fossil fuel run premium sedan even after incentives. Worse, it is still impractical for owners living in high rise apartment complexes and in the absence of a publicly-run charging infrastructure the per charge driving range is limiting.

The cost of Lithium-ion batteries, which currently constitutes the biggest input in electrics, is expected to fall by more than 60 per cent over the next five years. But, even after that kind of reduction in costs, and if car makers manage to bring in lower-priced entry models, EVs will still be faced with multiple stumbling blocks. But, the potential appetite for electrics is strong in India already. According to a recent Roland-Berger 'Automotive Disruption Radar' survey report, 65 per cent of customers in India would be happy to 'go electric' when buying their next car. That is a significant portion of the car-buying population which is willing to put themselves through the hardship of owning an electric car in the current scenario.

Is the Government Iistening



CONSERVATION



Tara Thomas (T129) experiences the secret lives of bees

A visit to London truly emphasises its position as one of the world's most vibrant cities. Black cabs, tube rides, and double decker buses help you get around. You hear dozens of languages, see cultures come together, expensive restaurants and free museums, palaces, boulevards, theatres, tourist traps and business districts - all charming yet a tad overwhelming. To anyone who needs a little break from the bustling city, the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew provide the perfect getaway.



At a time when scientists, agriculturists and environmental activists are advocating the conservation of bees — stressing how entire ecosystems depend on their role in pollination — one magnificent structure in the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, serves as a reminder of their amazing capabilities, their highly advanced communities and a warning on what we could lose lest we neglect their importance.

Less than an hour from the madness of London, the Kew Gardens transport you into a tranquil green space, with refreshingly fresh air. Conservatories, restaurants, an elevated tree top walk, rare tree species and a palace all dot the large swathes of meadowy grass that make up the gardens. Perhaps the most interesting attraction at Kew however, is 'The Hive'

At a height of 17 metres, The Hive is a sight to behold. Designed by UK-based artist Wolfgang Buttress, The Hive was originally created for the UK Pavilion at the 2015 Milan Expo, where the theme was 'Feeding The Planet.' Standing in front the 170,000 twisty, lattice-like aluminium parts that circle upward from the ground, and watching 1,000s of LED lights glimmer and fade, you feel like you are facing a larger than life beehive, replete with bees buzzing around so fast, that all you see is a blur.

The story of The Hive, however is even more interesting. Beyond the aesthetics of the structure, it is connected to a real beehive in the Kew Gardens. An accelerometer installed in the remote hive, monitors vibrations that the bees use to communicate with each other and transmits them to the receptors at The Hive. These vibrations are translated into the low humming sound and light signals you experience when in The Hive. In essence, you are listening to the bees at a remote hive talking and communicating.

Under this magnificent sculpture, things get even more interesting. Visitors are encouraged to try their hand (or in this case mouth) at hearing bees communicate even better by placing wooden sticks between their teeth and resting these sticks on a conducting surface. The sounds you hear are so intricate, you can slowly learn to tell them apart. Bees 'beg' when they request food samples from each other and they 'waggle dance' to communicate the location of a food source. Queen bees 'toot' and 'quack' when they emerge from a cell and challenge or size up another queen bee.



CONSERVATION

Bees pollinate 70 of the most important crops that we eat, including most fruits, vegetables, nuts and seeds, as they collect the nectar and pollen from the crops' flowers. Their sounds and vibrations have been painstakingly chronicled in research by Martin Bencsik, a reader in physics at Nottingham Trent University. The Hive's creator, Wolfgang Buttress wanted to highlight the significance of pollinators to our existence. "Bees are highly sensitive creatures and can be seen as sentinels for the health of the planet," he says in a piece in The Guardian.

The political, environmental and artistic significance make The Hive not just a fascinating installation to look at, but a red carpet welcome and an education into the innermost workings of a hive, a deeper connection to nature, and the small but brilliant creatures that help put food on our plates.

Getting There

The Tube: District Line: Kew Gardens station

Train: Overground (from London Waterloo): Kew Bridge station

Open daily at 10 a.m.

Gardens close (until 30 September): at 6.30pm (last entry 6pm) Monday to Thursday at 7pm (last entry 6.30pm) Friday to Sunday Attractions and most cafés close before the Gardens.

Online ticket prices

Adults £15.50* / £14 Children (4–16) £2.50 Children under 4 free





BY ENIGMA

- 1. Major Somnath Sharma was the first recipient of which coveted gallantry award?
- 2. What is the young of a swan called?
- 3. 'Grammy Award-winning artiste Norah Jones is the daughter of which Bharat Ratna?
- 4. Which is the only thing that Superman's X-Ray vision can't penetrate through?
- 5. Which Shakespearean play is said to be an inspiration for Disney' all-time classic 'The Lion King'?
- 6. In which Indian State is the Namdapha National Park?
- 7. The 'Penny Farthing' was one of the earliest types of...?
- 8. Which element is named after the native country of Marie Curie?
- 9. Near which modern city in Kerala is Vasco da Gama said to have landed?
- 10. What is the name given to the person who carries a golfer's clubs and provides other assistance during a match?

- 11. What is common to the following U.S. Presidents: Abraham Lincoln, James Garfield, William McKinley and John Kennedy?
- 12. Which famous river divides Hungary's capital Budapest into Buda and Pest?
- 13. What first did Alexei Leonov achieve in space exploration?
- 14. According to WHO, which dreaded diseases ceased to exist from January 1, 1980?
- 15. Which ornament played a vital and decisive part in the life of Kannagi?



- A. Small Pox.
- 13. Walk in space.
- 11. Only tour to have been assassinated.

 - 6. Arunachal Pradesh
 - - 5. Hamlet
 - 3. Pandit Ravi Shankar
 - Z. Cygnet
 - J. Param Vir Chakra





1. Name this world leader.

2. Name this funny-looking mammal.

3. Name this imposing statue and in which continent is it located?

4. Name this author whose books are loved by children round the world. Idoyo

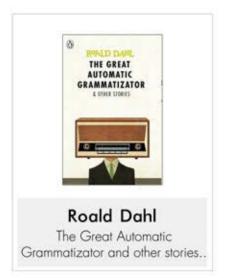
5. Which famous design brand has this logo?

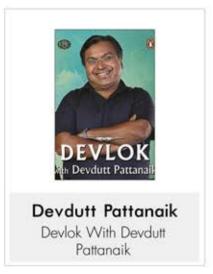
Enid Blyton Tommy Hilliger.

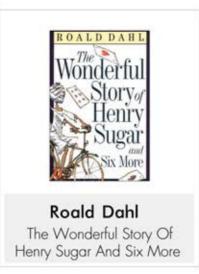
Christ The Redeemer in South America

Answers

Antonio Guterres, the United Nations Secretary-General













Other Books

AUTHOR	NAME OF THE BOOK	AUTHOR	NAME OF THE BOOK
R ARAVAMUDAN	ISRO A PERSONAL HISTROY	GERONIMO STILTON	PIRATE SPACECAT ATTACK
NORAQ ROBERTS	TIMES CHANGE	TAYLOR BRADFORD	THE CAVENDON LUCK
AUDREY TRUSCHKE	AURANGAZEB	ANDY MCDERMOTT	THE MIDAS LEGACY
RAJENDRAS B AKLEKA	INDIA'S RAILWAY MAN	RAVI SUBRAMANIAN	IN THE NAME OF GOD
LEE CHILD	NO MIDDLE NAME	ROBERT RUDLUM	THE BOURNE INITIATIVE
JOHN GRISHAM	CAMINO ISLAND	NORA ROBERTS	THE OBSESSION
JAMES PATTERSON	THE BLACK BOOK	GERONIMO STILTON	THE FROZEN FIASCO
JOY FIELDING	SOMEONE IS WATCHING	MICHAEL CRICHTON	DRAGON TEETH
ROALD DHAL	SKIN AND OTHER STORIES	TINKLE	SUPPANDI EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
RICK RIORDAN	THE DARK PROPHECY	INDIRA SOUNDARAJAN	AADU PULI ATTAM
ANUJA CHAUHAN	BAAZ	CLIVE CUSSLER	CUT THROAT
STEPHEN KING	END OF WATCH	JAMES PATTERSON	16TH SEDUCTION

I DAY FLAG - HOISTING



Justice K. Bhaskaran of the Madras High Court hoisted the National Flag and addressed GNC members on the lawn on the occasion of Independence Day.

STAFF RECOGNITION

GNC staff who have completed 10 years of service at the club were honoured on the Members' Night day. The staff members are A.S. Kasi Pandiyan, Bar Man, Vimal Raj, Shuttle Marker, Sukumar, Restaurant Staff.

They received the awards from Club President Sunil Reddy and Secretary Mahesh Shanbhag.

Gardener Andal (not in pics) has also completed 10 years of service.









P. Ramnath (R 135) ruminates on the travails of a golfer

You may wave your driver in the air But can you swing like Fred Astaire?

When I started my affair with this game of Golf Das will ich schnell lernen, war mein rezolf To begin with I wondered why anyone would Call a titanium head a metal Wood In hindsight it was the easiest puzzle to solf

Ah this is the life, driving off the Tee
Look at that distance, pity its gone OB*
Oh, Bad Luck, my partner might say
When the ball lands in the wrong fairway
I hit something?, now thats no place to plant a tree I

Now then, the ball gets lost in the rough Why is life so seemingly tough Obstacles are an occupational hazard Splashing in water was never so hard And when you have a great lie, that shot you muff

They've got bunkers on the course so full of sand Surely they should be on the beaches, not on land Use that nice club they call a wedge No it's not meant that pond to dredge Just waggle your club, like a magic wand

Why did that approach shot not reach the green? It wasnt my swing, surely that couldn't have been Blame that poor sap, our Caddie Not giving me the right club, bad baddie If I chose the wrong one, couldn't he have seen?

When I finally get to the green in three Line up that putter, I say in glee Why, oh why, is it running away Must be the grass, was it cut today Or the putter I bought; find that guy who sold it to me But then all is not lost if you keep pegging away Turn up at the teebox before the first Sun Ray Sort out old habits at the practice range Humbly accept they need a sea change The Sun will shine and you will make hay

Bring out your fairway wood and let it rip Choose the right iron for an accurate chip Use a range of short irons with degrees of loft Go Aahl when your pitch lands ever so soft Never forget to coil torso and turn that hip

Now, like other retired souls I have all the time to play

Getting a couple of 'pars' sure makes my day In the lean hours no rush, no 'machaying' shor Nor that errant driver screaming Fore Patience, I might get a birdie, if I may

I hope one day to get that hole in one No rest for the wicked until the day its done Its not just enough to get a par You may even get an eagle, try bar bar Am I an addict, nah, its loads of Fun

But the game is such, on you it can grow
There are lessons for life you can borrow
You are on your own as you play your round
To observe the Rule of the Road you are honour bound
Just dont lose your ball to that hovering crow!

Catching up with kindred spirits for a convivial chat At the mid course break when you lay down your hat You feel good you walked a few good miles Recall that drive and face wreathed in smiles The game has many a merit, you cant deny that

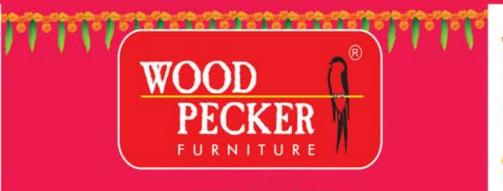
P.Ramnath

Someone asked me what's your 'handicap'
Well let me tell him, you know old chap,
Modesty forbids, I'm rather shy
To tell you I have one this high
I'd be embarrassed if you went clap, clap!

Out of Bounds

















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Chester Sofa Sets





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Wooden Dining (1+6) EMI Starts From: 2,077 Per Month

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