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Jan 3 - 9, 2026

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Hundreds of people gathered on Kamaraj Salai off the Marina as early as 10 p.m. on December 31. To ring in the new year. It began to drizzle and then the rain was steady. The roundabout was illuminated and police kept a close watch. Some groups carried cakes and snacks for the celebration.



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**THYAGARAJA ARADHANA IN VINTAGE HOUSE JAN 7**

The 179th edition of the annual saint Thyagaraja Aradhana which is held at a vintage house on Mathala Narayanan Street, Mylapore will take place on January 7 evening, 4.30 p.m. onwards.

The pancharatna kritis will be rendered on this occasion. Artistes who will take part include Yogam Santhanam and her students, flutist Thyagarajan, B. V. Ganesh, violinist M. Narmada and J. Ramdas among others.

Other artistes and rasikas can join in this homage. The hosts say that prasadam will be distributed at the end of the event. Contacts - N. Chandramouli - 044 - 24613226 / N. Vidyathanan - 9444627421

**NAMASANKEERTHANAM  
PROCESSION ON  
MADA STREETS. JAN.11**

Sri Krishna Sweets in association with YACD Trust, Gopalapuram is hosting the "VITALA VITALA" veedhi Namasankeerthanam, on Sunday, January 11. The procession starts from Sri Kapaleeswarar Temple, Mylapore at 5 a.m. and ends by 7.30 a.m. The hosts said that the event will include nadaswaram, Veda parayanam, Lalitha Sahasranam chanting, Namasankeerthanam, classical dance, and Siva vinyasam. Students, artistes and rasikas are invited to this event. For more information, contact YACD - 9283147543

**EVENTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

Dignity Foundation's events for senior citizens are held under the Tehneer Arangam banner. They are held at Srinivasa Gandhi Nilayam, No.332, Ambujammal Street, TTK Road, Alwarpet and are open to all and free. Next week's programmes are - Jan. 5 (Monday) - Film Songs Antakshari & Qui: Jan.7 (Wednesday) - Yoga. Both events at 11 a.m. Contact - 8925267067, 7395938954, 7550207456

**TIRUPPAVAI UPANYASAM**

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore is organising 'Tiruppavai Upanyasam' from January 1 to 14, daily at 7.00 am. It is presented by Dr. Sudha Seshayyan. Vocal music support is provided by Samanvitha G. Sasidaran.

The event is being held at the Bhavan's main hall. The programme is open to all.

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The 65th mandala pooja hosted by Ayyappa Bhaktha Samajam in Mandavelipakkam was held from December 21 to 27. The venue - The Kalyana Nagar Association premises. Special poojas and homam were held daily. The highlight of the mandala pooja - on December 25 - was laksharchana, karamarchana, sasthanpreethi and annadhanam. In the evenings, music concerts were held daily. Contact for this Samajam : 94440 37204.

Camps this weekend for inclusion / deletion / correction of names in voters list



A special intensive revision of electoral rolls took place last weekend across the city, including Mylapore. Camps were held at local area polling stations. The camps will be this weekend too – on January 3 and 4. The camps are held at local area polling stations of the TN Assembly constituencies. People can drop in their local area camp in order to apply for inclusion / deletion / correction of names in the voters list. Photo featured here shows a camp held on Dec.27 at a Chennai School on St. Mary's Road.

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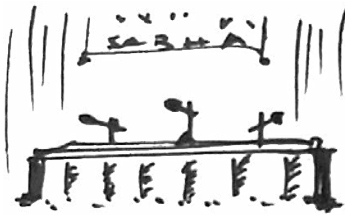
## VINCENT's JOTTINGS

By VINCENT D' SOUZA

I am not a December Season regular. But I make some time to listen to kutcheris. And I prefer small spaces. Where you can be to yourself.

One recent evening, I dropped into Raga Sudha Hall, a space alongside the famed Nageswara Rao Park in Luz, which is dug up all over in the name of a grand renovation. A space its founder, late SVK (S. V. Krishnan), nurtured lovingly in his own signal character.

His daughter has carried on the tradition which seems to have a unique signature in the artistes chosen and concerts curated. When we meet, she likes to converse. We did, that evening - of the changing moods of rasikas.



Inside, seated on the granite seating at the far end of this hall, I spent time listening to the Iyer Brothers on their veenas. It was time spent by yourself, for yourself. Unaffected. The tani of the mridangam artiste evening was wonderful. 20 minutes of music. Thank you.

I wished this hall was located on the edge of the park, minus the road, with windows opening out into the trees and plants - minus Chennai's infamous mosquitos!

I look at the December Season from the fringe. And this time, I noticed that curators of festivals and concerts are staging them, not in Sabha halls, but in spaces for theatre, coffee shops and halls used for sales, cultural events and the like. The featured artistes are mostly young and the events are targeted at the young, or the Gen Z, if you may.

There is another development that is taking root and slowly spreading. Concerts held at venues, away from the heart of Mylapore. Margazhi festivals are now held not only in Nanganallur and in Velachery but also in Perambur and Mogappair and in Valasarawakkam.

I don't see why the small, open-air stages in large parks of the Chennai Corporation cannot be used for concerts, where artistes of the neighbourhood as well as seniors can perform.

There is a need to move out of Sabha halls. A need to get fresh air and do so across the city.

## LETTERS FROM READERS

E-MAIL your letters to - mytimesedit@gmail.com.  
Provide full name and short address.

This column also contains comments posted on our social media pages.



### Chaos and dangers on Venkatesa Agraharam Street

Venkatesa Agraharam Street was turned into a key bypass route for buses and heavy vehicles ever since Chennai Metro work started in Luz. But have the state agencies done anything concrete to ensure this smaller road can take the load and pedestrians are safe? The answer is no.

- There are lots of hawkers and stalls, all illegal, which function on and off the pavements here. One food stall has stationed two gas cylinders and large stoves on the pavement. Lots of stalls are opposite Saibaba Temple. How can Traffic Police and GCC allow them to function?

- Many shops have placed their advertising boards on the street side. This obstructs pedestrians. Why are these allowed?

- This was supposed to be a 'one-way' road. But traffic moves both ways and many bikers drive at great speeds. I have seen people walking here being knocked down and bruised.

When a major change in traffic movement is made and it is long-term, state agencies must also act to see the changes do not add to the chaos and make life dangerous for people. We want GCC and Traffic Police to be proactive at least now.

- V. K. Viswanathan

### On December Season videos on Insta . . .

● The videos for the Mylapore Times Instagram page, covering the December Season are fabulous.

They capture the moods of rasikas at different sabhas.

- Swami

● The Mylapore Times coverage of the December Season has been so different from the usual videos of artistes performing on the stage.

Besides videos on concerts, the videos showing the reactions and moods of rasikas and artistes and their comments on a concert are refreshing.

- Priyadarshini R.

### Memories of Christmas in San Thome

Christmas in San Thome in the 1970s had a charm of its own. Houses would be decorated and illuminated, there would be one two groups going around streets, singing carols, and families would make cakes and snacks and share them with neighbours.

You could sense the festival spirit in this area. Made for warm memories.

- Sefton B.

### On Sabha Canteen meals

This is about canteens at sabhas during the December Season. By offering exotic meals and pricing them at Rs.600 and Rs.700, the canteens and the sabhas who provide the space, are actually distancing rasikas who attend concerts at sabha halls, who would like to enjoy a good meal priced at rates they can afford - under Rs.250.

My guess is that over 75% of patrons of these canteen meals are not people who attend concerts; they have the money to pay for fancy meals. What is served is good and delicious but a rasika cannot pay for this now and then.

- S. Muralidharan

## MYLAPORE REWIND

This column carries excerpts from Mylapore Times, 1996 onwards. This week, we focus on June 1996.

### IIT JEE first ranker is from Alwarpet (June 15, 1996)

By S. Janaky

G. Prasanna led the IIT JEE toppers, securing the first rank in the recently concluded national-level entrance exam. Prasanna lives on Dr. Ranga Road. Scoring 471 out of 500 in the XII board exams was a bit of a disappointment to this P. S. Senior Secondary School student. However, the IIT JEE results in early June brought excitement to Prasanna. He said he worked hard for two years to crack this challenge.

His parents had moved from Madurai to Chennai, where their son could study in a CBSE school. Prasanna's father, S. Ganesh, is a branch manager of SBI in Bhopal. His sister, Archana, is also a P. S. Senior student. At IIT, Prasanna plans

Prasanna with his family



### Police on patrol - to deal with chain snatchers (June 15, 1996)

Police officials from the Abhiramapuram Police Station are on patrol in the mornings. Their focus: watching out for criminals who target elderly women wearing jewellery. Known as the Snatching Patrol, these officials move around in jeeps between 5.30 a.m. and 7 a.m. to secure early morning walkers.

### Corporation zonal office marooned after monsoon downpour (June 15, 1996)

Several areas in Mylapore appeared to be floating in water at the end of the first downpour of

the monsoon season. The Corporation zonal office on Royapettah High Road was marooned. Parts of Kutcheri Road presented a gloomy picture, especially the area opposite Raja Kalyana Mandapam, where there was severe water logging. In San Thome and Mandaveli, it was no different. The Mandaveli MTC bus terminus had knee-deep water.

On Sullivans Garden Road, a buzz about drain water leakage worried residents. The bright side of this story is that all the local wells are full.

### Record donation of gold jewellery during maha kumbhabhishekam (June 15, 1996)

During the maha kumbhabhishekam of Sri Kapaleeswarar Temple in Mylapore, gold jewellery donation at the Siva lingam centre was overwhelming. So much so that the officials had to stop accepting donations at a point, according to A Kumaraswamy, the deputy commissioner, HR & CE. The event drew a record crowd. The main ritual was witnessed by the Kanchi acharya.

● This column is curated by Kanaka Cadambi.



# Christmastime fun events for children, altar servers

By Juliana Sridhar

The community at Our Lady of Guidance Church in R.A. Puram observed Holy Innocents Day on December 29 with a special Mass for children that morning. They were given a special blessing after the Mass and breakfast was served to them. A few sports events were held and prizes were distributed .



Later in the day, JingleFest, an inter-parish altar servers cultural contest was held. Altar servers of four parishes besides the host – San Thome Cathedral, St. Louis Church, Adyar, Annai Vailankanni Shrine, Besant Nagar and Our Lady of Light Church in Luz – took part.

Fr. Dyson, rector of Infant Jesus Minor Seminary presided., Fr.Patrick Joseph, vicar-forane., Fr S X Amal Raj, spiritual director of the minor seminary, parish priest Fr. T. Anthony Raj and assistant parish priest Fr. A. Antony Jerald participated.

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Sashikala &amp; Dr. V. D. G. Chandran



J. Annie Andrea



## By Our Edit Team

Nine people were awarded prizes in the *Mylapore Times* Crib Contest held in December. Each crib had its unique design and creation.

Senior citizen Dr. V. D. G. Chandran of San Thome, helped by his wife Sashikala, chose to go eco-friendly in making their crib. "We used discarded shopping bags and packing material. We made the Christmas trees from waste paper," said Sashikala. They also used glass figurines "to represent the fragile fragmented relationship between man, families, countries and nations."

Sister Archana of the congregation of nuns called Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny, helped by her colleagues, set up a miniature crib on a table in the drawing room of their convent called Nazareth Illam located on Kustian Beach Road, San Thome. The design was minimalist.

Jude Michael Raj's family, residents of Kanagaraya Malayappan Street, R. A. Puram, chose 'Joy and Peace' as the theme for this year's Christmas and represented it using pink and purple colours in creating the crib. His daughters, J. Jessica Emily Leona, a Stella Maris College student and J. Janice Amelia Sanna, a Rosary Matric School student created the crib, "under the supervision of their dad" who helped with electrical and woodwork.



J. Banel Andross

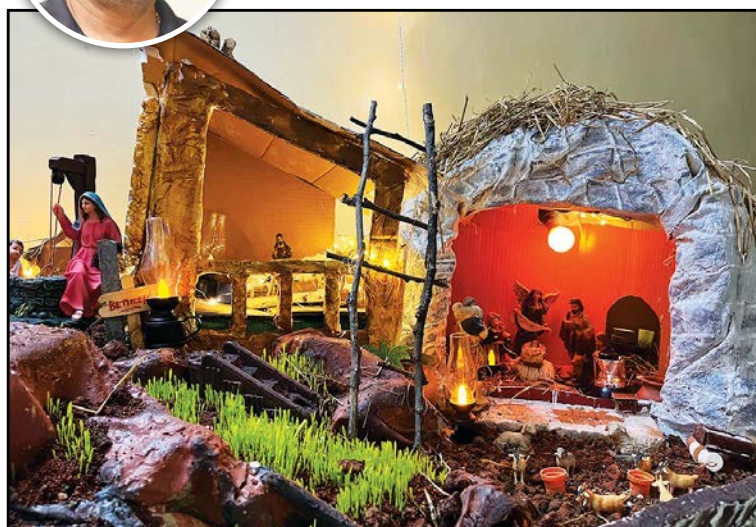


Benedict Joseph

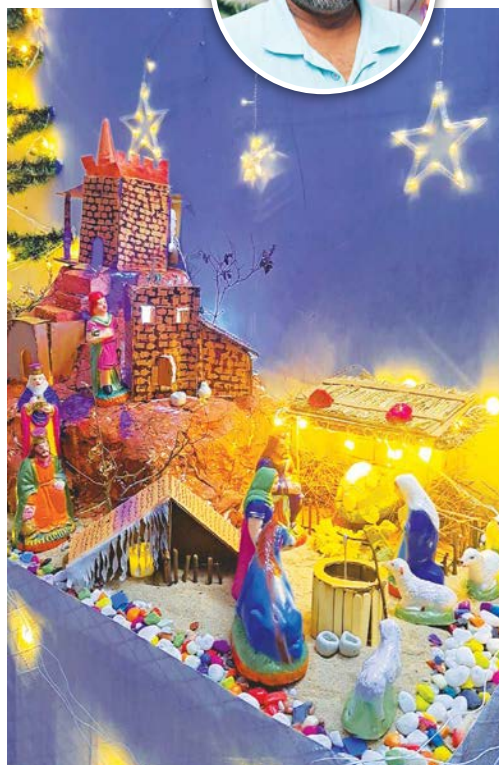
**The nine winners** - Benedict Joseph, J. Annie Andrea, Dr. V. D. G. Chandran, Sebastian, Sr. Archana, J. Banel Andross, J. Marshall, Refuge Lydia Christy and J. Jessica & J. Janice.



Sebastian



J. Marshall



J. Jessica

J. Janice





Mylapore Festival: Five events this weekend. Four days of concerts, contests, heritage walks and sales from Jan.8 to 11

By Our Edit Team

Five events will launch the 2026 edition of Sundaram Finance MYLAPORE FESTIVAL. And all of them are slated for the weekend of January 3 and 4.

The main events of the festival are from January 8 to 11.

There are two events on January 3, Saturday. The Dayakattam contest starts at 4 p.m. at Lady Sivaswamy Ayyar Girls School, Mylapore. This contest is open to all and free, with no pre-registration.

At 4.30p.m. is a Food Walk curated and led by Sridhar Venkataraman. This is open to all and does not need prior registration. You pay for what you order and eat. Starts at the gate of Indian Bank, west end of North Mada Street.

There are three events on Sunday, January 4. That morning, K. R. Jambunathan will take guests on his 'Nooks of Mylapore' Walk, sharing anecdotes of life and times of the area in the 1960s and 70s. Starts opposite Mylapore Police Station on Kutchery Road. At 7.30 a.m.

The Pallankuzhi contest starts at 1.45 p.m. at the hall inside Lady Sivaswamy Ayyar Girls School, Mylapore. This contest is open to all and free, with no pre-registration.

The Mylapore Quiz will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Jan.4 at the same venue. Open to teams of two - there is a written, prelim round and a final round. All questions are focussed on the greater Mylapore zone. Pre-registration is not needed to participate.



Over 30 events will be held from January 8 to 11 at various venues in and around Sri Kapali Temple. These include morning concerts by teens inside the temple, nagaswaram, folk and classical dances and dance-dramas, choirs on stage and a grand concert of vintage Tamil film songs that are evergreen, as a finale to the festival on Sunday, January 11 evening.

The main stage in Sannithi Street quadrangle will host all the performing events each evening and are open to all.

There are eight Heritage Walks, two cookery contests, chess contests and craft workshops for children. And a photo exhibition which features about 25 photos of Mylapore in the 1960s / 70s (installed near the *theradi*).

Three streets will feature a Snacks Stalls Zone (Sundareswarar Street) and a Bazaar Zone where stalls are handled by members of self-help groups (Gurubaran Street and East Tank Street - along the rank).

There will be a souvenirs sales counter - in Sannithi Street - selling T-shirts, Mylapore illustrations / art, keychains, magnets and post-cards.

The complete festival schedule is available online at [www.mylaporefestival.in](http://www.mylaporefestival.in).

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JAN 3 & 4 / 8 - 11, 2026

WALKS & TOURS

(All these events are free. No pre-registration needed)

Jan. 3, 4.30 p.m. - Food Walk; exploring snacks joints, known and less known - Led by Sridhar Venkataraman. Starts at Indian bank gate North Mada Street. You may for what you order.

Jan.4, 7.30 am - Exploring Old Mylapore; keeraai-thotams of old, aghrahams, zones of acharis . . . - Led by K R Jambunathan. Starts opp. Mylapore Police Station. One hour.

Jan.11, 6.30 am - Cycling Tour for Children - of some Mylapore landmarks. Only for Children on their cycles (above 11 years). Starts outside Rasi Store and ends here, Mylapore. Led by Ramanujar Moulana and Team. (Please wear helmet). One hour.

Jan.11, 7.00 am - Walk - Three Mylapore Temples: Histories. Traditions. Stories. Led by Dr Chithra Madhavan. Starts outside Giri store/ Sannidhi Street. (Note: Walk limited to outer area of temples)

Jan.11, 7.30 am - Walk - Mandavelipakkam. How a planned colony came to be. Led by Latha. Starts at Chennai Corporation Park, Lazarus Church Road.

Jan.11, 7.00 a.m. - Walk - 'Mediaeval Trade Guilds to the Nawabs - Muslim Heritage in Mylapore'. Led by Kombai S. Anwar. Start point - Office of Inspector-Genl. of Registration, 100, San Thome High Road ( near Amma Unavagam), Mandavelipakkam. 90mins.

Jan.11, 4.30 pm - Walk - Houses of Mylapore: Design and Architecture. Led by Ashmitha. Start point - Jain Temple on Kutchery Road

Jan.11, 4.00 p.m. Theme Walk for Children - Four Stories of Sri Kapali Temple. Led by Dr. Pradeep Chakravarthy. Starts outside Rasi store gate and covers four spots in Sri Kapali Temple. Participants must carry a few pencils, crayons, sheets of paper - to illustrate some images on this walk. (parents can accompany)

COOKERY CONTESTS

Venue: Nithya Amirtham restaurant (1st floor), North Mada Street, Mylapore

January 10 - 3.30 pm  
Contest 1 theme : Items with Jaggery as ingredient

Open to first 25 registrations. First come, first serve. Free, open to all. Registration only from Jan.1. Call Mylapore Times - 7305630727

January 11 - 3:30 pm  
Contest 2 Theme : Soups (vegetarian)

Open to first 25 registrations. First come, first serve. Free, open to all. Registration only from Jan.1. Call Mylapore Times - 7305630727

KOLAM & RANGOLI CONTESTS

On Jan.10 & 11. Starts 3.30 p.m. On North Mada Street (east side). Open to 75 people in Kolam. 25 people in Rangoli. Register at venue at 3 p.m. on day of contest.

CHESS CONTEST FOR CHILDREN

Venue - Lady Sivaswami Ayyar Girls School.  
Dates: January 10 & 11.  
Time: 8:00 am to 10:30 am  
Eligible age category - Under 8, Under 10 and Under 12. Free registration. Last date for registration - Jan. 4.  
To register, SMS child's name, date of birth, parent's ph. no > to 89259 90382

ART WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

Venue - Lady Sivaswami Ayyar Girls School.  
January 10. Time: 8 am -10 am  
Theme ; Paper Quilling. All art material will be provided for this free workshop. Restricted to 25 children. Age group: 8 – 12 years. Last date for registration - Jan. 4.  
To register, SMS - workshop name, child's name, date of birth, parent's ph no. > to 89259 90382  
January 11. Time: 8 am -10 am  
Theme: Pot Painting. All art material will be provided for this free workshop. Restricted to 25 children. Age group: 8 – 12 years. Last date for registration - Jan. 4.  
To register, SMS - workshop name, child's name, date of birth, parent's ph no. > to 89259 90382



MYLAPORE T-SHIRT

The Mylapore T-shirt for 2026 is out. There are two designs, both available in black and in white.

They are on sale at the Mylapore Times office ( phone - 2498 2244) and at the souvenirs stall at Mylapore Festival. Each costs Rs.300.

COOKERY CONTEST: FEW SLOTS OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

A few slots are open in the two Cookery Contests which are being held as part of the Mylapore Festival, 2026 to be held at Nithya Amirtham restaurant in Mylapore.

The first contest - theme - any item made with jaggery as an ingredient - is on Jan.10 afternoon. Eight slots are open for registration now.

The second contest - theme - vegetarian soup - is on Jan.11 afternoon. 10 slots are open for registration now. All details at [www.mylaporefestival.in](http://www.mylaporefestival.in)

[www.mylaporefestival.in](http://www.mylaporefestival.in)

[mymylaporefestival@gmail.com](mailto:mymylaporefestival@gmail.com)

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7305630727





## Big attendance at Vivekananda College's Global Alumni Meet

By Our Edit Team

Hosts of the third Global Alumni Meet (GAM) of Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda College, Mylapore, held on December 20, are happy that this event got a big response from the community of 'old students', with some 30 alumni from overseas making it to the campus.

This outcome seems to be encouraging because the idea of creating an alumni community of this famed college with a colourful history is a recent one. And some keen efforts of the past year have generated results.

A dedicated Alumni Office was opened on the college premises to better serve the alumni fraternity, a Governing Board, consisting of seven members with the secretary, RKMVC, as patron, was constituted in December 2024 and a drive to enlist alumni was sustained, among other efforts.

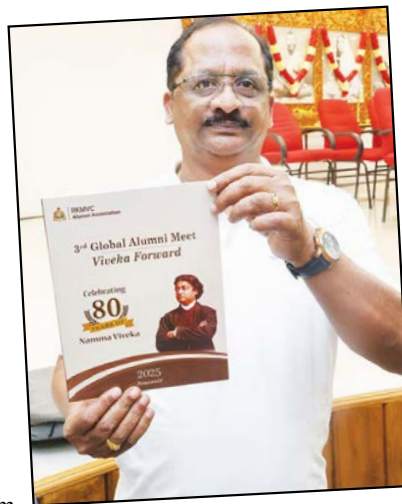
Reason why the December 2025 event worked out well. E. S. L. Narasimhan, former Governor of Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana (alumnus, 1964) was the chief guest and the guest of honour was N. Hariharan, USA, the biggest individual donor (alumnus, 1974).

Leading lights like R. Seshasayee, chairman, Asian Paints (alumnus, 1966), R. Varadarajan, former chairman, BPCL (alumnus, 1976), and several other distinguished alumni graced the occasion.

The evening started with fellowship and led to the formal event. Among the technology-link initiatives, Raksha Green Solutions and the college exchanged a collaborative MoU to promote biotechnology research, with scope for other alumni to participate.

A Youth Forum was launched to actively engage young alumni and prepare them to take leadership roles in this body. A souvenir shop was inaugurated, beginning with sale of T-shirts - more products will be created and offered on sale, online.

A souvenir commemorating the 80 years of service of the college to the student community was



formally released V. Krishnan, chief coordinator of the alumni association governing board says that more plans are in the pipeline to expand the alumni and curate more events. "We hope we can have a part time staff in the alumni office on campus to greet visiting alumni," he said.

Swami Dhyanyagamyandanda Maharaj, secretary of the college is the patron of the alumni Governing Board. The members are - R. Bupathy (1972 / B. Com), Capt. J. Lakshminarayanan (1972 / B.Com), V. Krishnan (1973/ B. Com), Dr. V. S. Panchatsharam (1974 - '80 - Ph.D), S. Ramesh Kumar (1979 / B. Com), V. Venkatraghavan (1983 / B. Com) and G. Ashok (1989 / B. Com) Contact - V. Krishnan - 8939644333



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Art on the road

By Baskar Seshadri

Recently, there was a surprise on R. K. Mutt Road, near Mylai Shree Kumaran Stores. Alongside the pavement, on the edge of this road which sees less traffic due to the Chennai Metro traffic block-

ade at the Luz Circle, was a stunning work of art.

It was a charcoal drawing, a very large one.

Who was the artist?

We found a man, who looked to be in his 40s, sleeping on the pavement. His body was covered with charcoal dust. He opened his eyes when we went close to him. He said he was an artist.

“What is the theme of this art?,” I asked.

“It is self explanatory,” he said. There was a small hundial placed at the edge of the artwork - a few people dropped some money into it.

DO YOU HAVE OLD PHOTOS OF MYLAPORE EVENTS?



For the annual *Mylapore Festival* ( Jan.8 to 11), a photo exhibition which features about 25 photos of Mylapore in the 1960s / 70s is to be set up near theradi on Sannithi Street, Mylapore on all four evenings.

If Mylaporeans have photos of wedding processions, temple festivals, weekend sports play, street life or campus events which are shot in the

1960s and 70s in the Mylapore area, *Mylapore Times* would like to copy and display them at the exhibition. Call 24982244 ( office) or photographer Madhan Kumar at 9941772334.



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Jan. 3 & 4 | 8 to 11 | 2026

TRADITIONAL GAMES

Venue: Lady Sivaswamy Girls School, Mylapore

JAN 3 | 4 pm

DAYAKATTAM CONTEST

- Please bring shells/ seeds needed for the game
- The organiser will provide Dayakattam sheets. Some spare shells / seeds are also available at venue.
- The contest is common to adults and children
- Pre-Registration not required.
- Prizes will be given after the Festival.

JAN 4 | 1.45 pm

PALLANKUZHI CONTEST

- Please bring Pallankuzhi set. Also shells/ seeds/sozhi needed for the game.
- The organiser has only a few, spare Pallankuzhi sets and spare shells / seeds at venue.
- The contest is common to adults and children.
- Pre-Registration not required.
- Prizes will be given after the Festival.

WALKS

JAN 3 | 4.30 pm

SNACKS JOINTS A FOOD WALK

led by Sridhar Venkataraman.

Starts at Indian Bank gate, west end of North Mada Street., Mylapore.

- For about 90mins. | Free and open to all.
- Pre-registration not needed
- Pay for what you order to eat!

JAN 4 | 7.30 am

NOOKS OF MYLAPORE WALK

Led by K. R. Jambunathan

Start Point: Opposite Mylapore Police Station, Kutchery Rd.

- Explores less-known corners of Mylapore - keerai-thotams, agharams, achari sectors and temple yards.Free.
- Duration - 100mins.
- Free and open to all.

JAN 4 | 4 pm THE MYLAPORE QUIZ

By Sundararaman Chintamani

Venue: Lady Sivaswamy Girls School, Mylapore

- Open to Teams of two
- Pre-registration not needed. Walk in.
- All questions on Mylapore!

OTHER EVENTS OF THE FEST

Jan. 8 to 11

- KOLAM, RANGOLI CONTESTS
- HERITAGE WALKS
- FOOD STALLS & CRAFTS SALES
- TEMPLE KUTCHERIS
- DANCE-DRAMAS
- FOLK SHOWS
- CHOIR & VINTAGE FILM MUSIC
- CHESS CONTEST FOR KIDS
- CRAFT WORKSHOP FOR KIDS
- SOUVENIRS SALE

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- ALWARPET, 1400 sq.ft., 3 BHK, east facing, car park, lift, generator. Ph: 9543600999
- MYLAPORE, near Luz, individual house, land area 1546 sq.ft., plus passage 165 sq.ft., Rs.3.25 crores, no brokers. Open Doors: 9840046131, 9884282290
- MANDAVELI, Thiruvengadam Street., Ragamallika L&T apartment, 1 BHK, 540 sq.ft., 95lakhs. Upcoming Mandaveli Metro station 500mtr, near Harishree Vidyashram School, semi furnished with all amenities, brokers kindly excuse. Contact: 9500960485, 9791065137
- MYLAPORE, near Velleeswarar Temple, T.S.V. Koil Street, 675 sq.ft., 2 BHK, 2 Toilets for sale. Contact Gayathri: 9123529114.
- R.A.PURAM, 2650 sq.ft., UDS1000 sq.ft., 3 BHK, 3bath, 2 CCP, 3rd floor, lift, power backup, gym, play area, 13 years old, vastu 100%, gated community. Ph: 7299141164
- MANDAVELI, behind St.Antony School, 1340 sq.ft., two bedroom, study, dining, well maintained flat, 2nd floor, lift, CCP, 17year old, 2.50cr. Agent J. Sivakumar: 8778123038
- ABIRAMAPURAM, 1850 sq.ft., 4 BHK, 2nd floor, lift, generator, 2 car parks. Ph: 9543600999

- SAN THOME near Church, 880 sq.ft., 2BHK, third floor, UDS 462 sq.ft., 17 years old, lift, covered car parking, gated community, price 1.15 crores. K.Gopalakrishnan: 9380964793.
- MYLAPORE, 1750 sq.ft., 3 BHK, third floor, lift, generator, car park. Ph: 9543600999
- 1750 SQ.FT., new flat, Mylapore, 3.25 crores. Ph 9840630359
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- R K NAGAR, 3 BHK, ground floor flat, resale 18 years, 1400 sq.ft., UDS 1000, covered car park, east facing, Rs. 2.50 crores, Third Cross Road. Contact: Consultant 9600097902
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- NEW flat, R A Puram, Abhiramapuram, Mandaveli, CIT Colony, Kamarajar Salai, 16 years old, 1500, 1600, 1400 sq.ft., 1st, 2nd floor, lift, car park, 3 BHK. Ph: 7395901657
- R A PURAM, 3 BHK, 2000 sq.ft., east facing, UDS 920 sq.ft., lift, genset, 2 CCP, Rate 4.60 crore. Ph: Mukesh Realtors 8939519299
- MYLAPORE off Kutcheri Road, 810 sq.ft., 2 bed room flat with 2 wheeler parking, 39 years old, new condition, Rs. 70 lakhs. Ph: S. John 9444360000 / 9710360000
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- MYLAI on Road, 450 sq.ft., 1 BHK, first floor, 17 yrs, east facing, Rs. 59L, R K Nagar, 930 sq.ft., 2 BHK, first floor, 15yrs, south face, UDS 430 sq.ft., Rate 1.19 crore, Triplicane, new apartment, 1150 sq.ft., 2 BHK, north facing, UDS 353 sq.ft., lift, CCP, Rs. 1.30 crore. Ph: 99622 30984
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Jan. 3 & 4 | 8 to 11 | 2026

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- ALWARPET, St.Marys Road near Alphabet School, 1460 sq.ft., 2 BHK, 2bath, 1 car park, ground floor, rent 80000. Ph: 9840999577, 9841999945
- MANDAVELI near bus stand, rooms with attached bathroom for vegetarian working/ student woman, 2nd floor, rent Rs.5000-8000, brokers excuse. Ph: 8667075354.
- ABIRAMAPURAM, brand new, 1750 sq. ft., 3 BHK, 3bath, 2 CCP, 2nd floor, 70K. Mylapore, new, 2000 sq.ft., 3 BHK, 3bath, 2 CCP, 85K. Ph: 6380844247

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# New Year Snapshots

Hundreds of people who intended to attend the midnight Holy Mass in the open air at St Thomas Cathedral in San Thome to usher in 2026 were disappointed when the rainfall continued to be steady. The campus was specially decorated for the New Year Holy Mass, with hundreds of chairs placed from end to end, large floral decorations on and around the altar set up on the stage and lots of illumination on campus.

Archbishop Rev. George Antonysamy had to celebrate Holy Mass in Tamil inside the cathedral, with people occupying the spaces from end to end.

On January 1 morning, people streamed into Sri Kapali Temple in Mylapore, to pray. A special queue for darshan was created and it was packed through the morning. Temples elsewhere in Mylapore saw a steady stream of people in the morning.

Rain prevented people from designing their customary, large kolams and rangolis outside their doorstep – there was water on the streets even as late as 8 a.m.. So Mylapore’s inner streets where families design large, themed kolams / rangolis did not sport these creatives this morning.

1. Archbishop Rev. George Antonysamy celebrates Holy Mass at St. Thomas Cathedral
2. Women design a themed Rangoli on Mundagakanni Amman Koil Street
3. The community at Ragamalika Apartments, Mandaveli meets for a fun evening
4. Revellers on Kamaraj Salai, off Marina beach
5. People queue for the special darshan at Sri Kapali Temple
6. Residents of Srinivasa Apartments, Mandaveli celebrate



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**JAN 8 - 11 2026**

**MAIN STAGE SHOWS**

Sannidhi Street. Outside East Gopuram of  
Sri Kapali Temple, Mylapore

## JAN 8 / Thursday

- 7.00 pm - **Nagaswaram** - By Thiruvanmiyur D. Rajesh and party
- 7.30 pm - **'Namma Mylapore' Pattum - Kathaiyum** - concert of music, stories, songs - By guru Subasri and artistes

**8.00 pm**

### Dance - Drama

'Bhaja Govindham' By dancers of Sri Priyalaya Arts Academy, Tiruchi. Guru: Dr. Supriya Ravikumar



## JAN 10 / Saturday

- 6.00 pm - **Nagaswaram** - Thiruvanmiyur D. Rajesh and party
- 6.45 pm - **Indian Choral Music Concert** - By Madras MBS Choir - Juniors.
- 7.15 pm - **Silambam and Tamil Folk Dances** - By Students of Queen Mary's College

**8.00 pm**

### Dance - Drama

Arunachala Kavirayar's 'Rama Natakam' by dancers of Sai Krishna School of Fine Arts, Tiruppur. Guru: Dr. Sandhya Sankar



## JAN 9 / Friday

- 7.00 pm - **Nagaswaram** - Thiruvanmiyur D. Rajesh and party
- 7.30 pm - **Indian Folk Dances** - By Students of Lady Sivaswamy Ayyar Girls School

**8.00 pm**

### Instrumental Music

Suresh Sruthilaya Orchestra presents Tamil Film Melodies - Instrumental music



## JAN 11 / Sunday

- 5.30 pm - **Nagaswaram** - By Thiruvanmiyur D. Rajesh and party
- 6.15 pm - **'Spirit of Mylapore' - award function.**
- 6.45 pm - **Indian Choral Music Concert:** By Madras MBS Choir
- 7.15 pm - **Silambam** - By members of Netaji Silambam Payirchi Palli, Chennai. Guru: G. Jagadeesan

**7.45 pm**

### Concert: Vintage Tamil Film songs

Concert by K.R.S.Orchestra.



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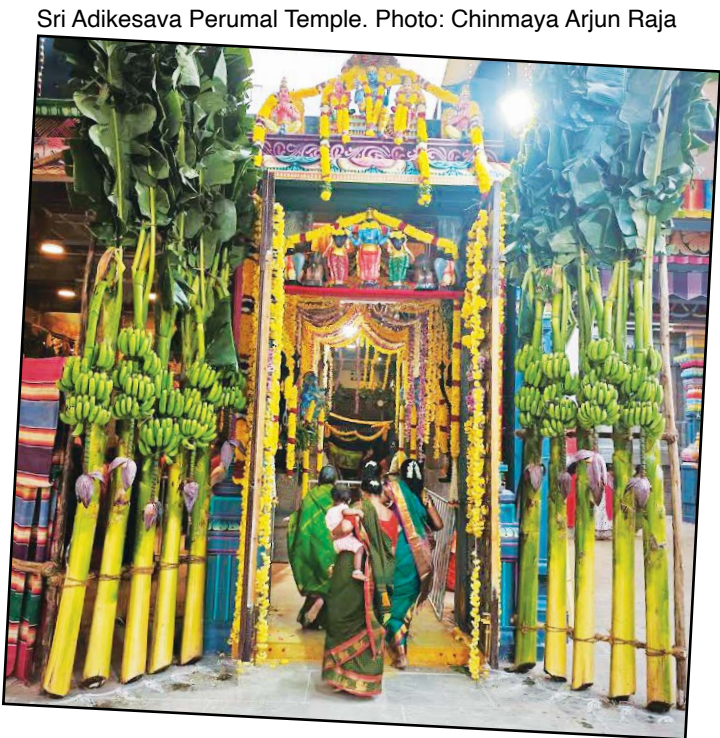






## Vaikunta Ekadasi

People started streaming into Sri Madhava Perumal in Mylapore early on December 30 morning even as dawn was breaking to take part in the rituals here on the occasion of Vaikunta Ekadasi. As the morning wore on, more and more people visited this temple.



Sri Adikesava Perumal Temple. Photo: Chinmaya Arjun Raja

Elsewhere, the stream of people headed to Sri Adikesava Perumal Temple (photo above, right) off the Chitrakulam zone was thick and grew bigger during the day. The entrance here was well decorated for the occasion and many hawkers sold flowers and vegetables on this narrow street.



## Section of R. K. Mutt Road caves in

By Baskar Seshadri

A section of R. K. Mutt Road caved in last Thursday morning ( January 1), and this messed up traffic movement on this busy road.  
This happened opposite Manoj Bhavan restaurant.  
The road and earth under it caved in for at least five feet below.

Police had to erect barricades and regulate and divert vehicles.  
Workers from Metrowater and Chennai Corporation have examined the civic issue and plan to address it soon.  
The road has caved in, in this zone, many times in the past and on the last occasion, it took many days to set things right.

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## Concerts at Dawn

This December Season, a unique concert series has been going on at a Mylapore temple, a series started some years ago.

Every morning, as dawn breaks in the margazhi season, the hall at Sri. Anjaneya Raghavendra Swami Mutt on Salai Street (close to R. R. Sabha) comes alive in the soft light created by dozens of oil-lit lamps and a concert begins, sans mikes and speakers.

These concerts are more a musical prayer than a show and over a hundred artistes perform through the Season.

The series started on December 16 and goes on till January 14 and is open to all. The music flows, 6 a.m. onwards, for 90 minutes. Delicious prasadam is offered at the end of the music.

On December 30 morning, the hall was packed and rasikas spilled beyond it. The concert featured Sruti Sagar, Kamalakiran, Saigiridhar and Vellattanjoor Srijith.

This series is named Ekaantha Sangeetha Seva and is presented by VVS Foundation, led by violinist V. V. S. Murari and SaMaa Arts.

These two arts bodies have also promoted other festivals this Season - Tamizh Isa Vizha, Mangala Isai Vizha, Swagatham (concerts at the Mutt held in the evening) and Naadhaarpanam at Sri Kapali Temple.



## St Raphael's School alumni of 1976 batch plan to meet in February

By Kanaka Cadambi

About 25 alumni members from the Class of 1976, St Raphael's Girls High School, San Thome, are planning a golden jubilee meet of their batch on February 5, 2026.

The group plan to gather at the school by 10 a.m. and spend about two hours in the premises. Meeting the teachers and handing over a donation cheque to the principal are key items on the agenda.

Shanthi Jagannathan, an organising committee member, fondly recalled that the entire class was a talented lot. "Matilda Pramila is an executive director at Morgan Stanley. Sunitha is Dr. Sunitha Narendran, vice-chancellor of the University of Roehampton. Revathy was recognised as CFO 2020 by the Boston Business Journal.

Neelofer has an MS in Immunology," she said.

Which teachers were their favourites?

"Varalakshmi Miss", the mathematics teacher, was an instant recall. Nalli Prakasam, who taught Tamil, seemed to be another favourite.

Shanthi also spoke about the jugalbandhi group, which lent a cultural flavour. The group included violin legend

T N Krishnan's daughter, Viji, and 'Veena' Gayatri's sister, Shyamala.

Staging Macbeth and playing kolattam on Teacher's Day were other cherished memories that surfaced during this conversation.

St. Raphael's 1976 batch students interested in joining the group may contact - Shanthi (9840790939), Poongothai (9894672227) or Durga (9840066337).

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