

TEXCITY TIMES

2023/24

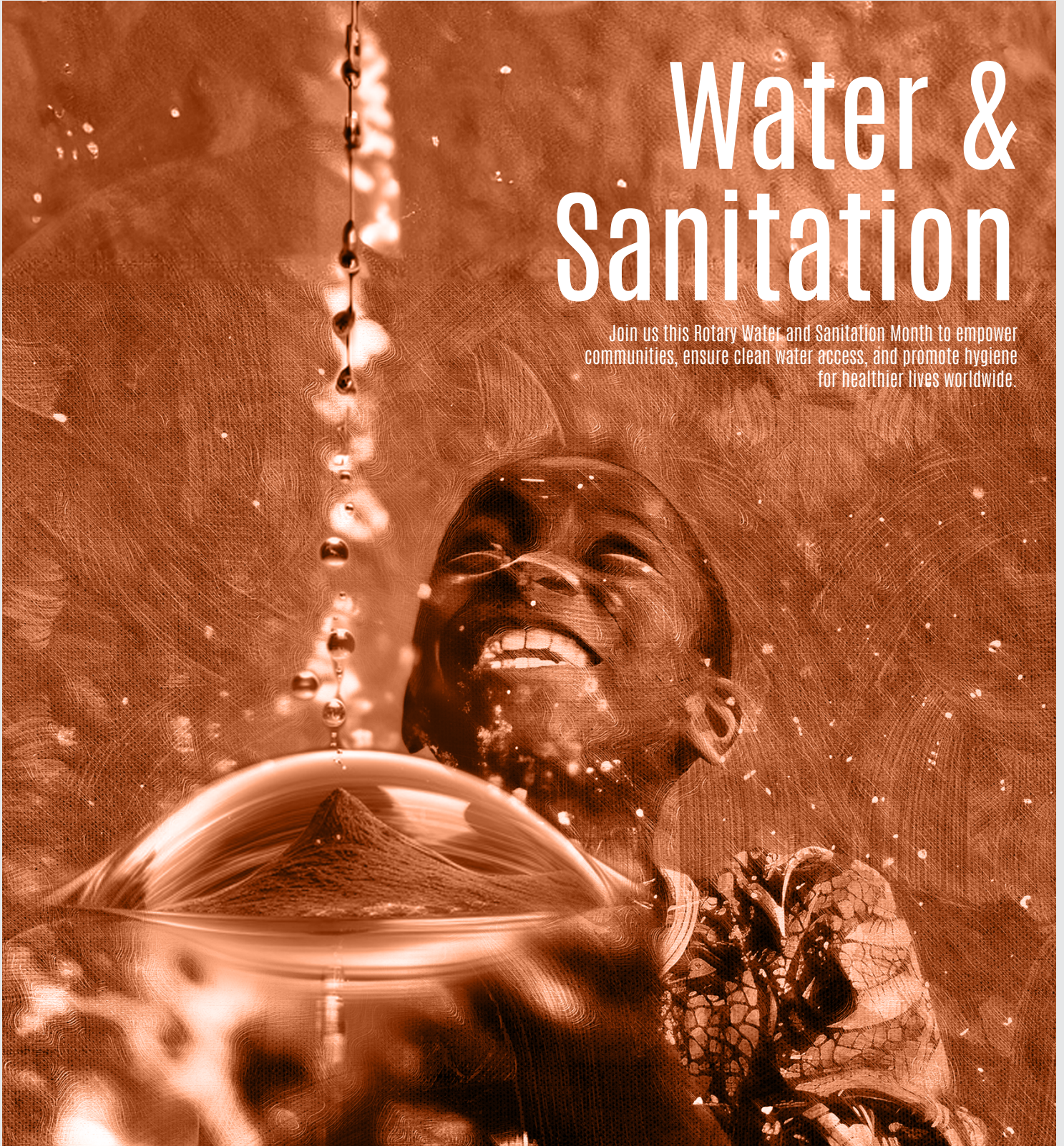
Issue No. 9
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Dist. Gov. : Rtn MD T. R. Vijaykumar
Secretary: Rtn. MD Devi Maruti

President : Rtn. MD Vijaykumar Sivanaesan
Editor: Rtn. Ramesh Nichani

Water & Sanitation

Join us this Rotary Water and Sanitation Month to empower communities, ensure clean water access, and promote hygiene for healthier lives worldwide.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Rtn. MD Vijaykumar Sivanaesan
President 2023-24.

Warm Greetings to my Texcity Family!

Texcity certainly had an eventful February, packed with a plethora of events and activities. RYLA Impressions was conducted on February 2nd, leaving a lasting impact on the participants and organisers as the children shared their invaluable feedback highlighting the profound significance of the experience. Our active Annets club donated NEET and coaching centre books to SES Matriculation School, Ganapathy. These Books will help children of grades 9 to 12 score better and prepare for the entrance exams in a better way. The outstanding Rotary District Smile conference was held at Hyatt Convention Centre in Trichur on February 10 & 11. The gathering was graced by esteemed speakers who shared invaluable insights, while signature and impactful projects took centre stage. Among the highlights was a proud moment for texcity when Rtn. R S Maruti was declared as the DGND for the Rotary District 3206 for the rotary year 2026-27. On February 14th, Maruti's friends from texcity hosted a congratulatory party for his election- it was a special evening filled with warmth, love and some heartwarming speeches.

Texcity's pivotal role as the Lead Host club for the "Covai Flower Show" was amplified through a massive public image campaign. Hoardings, banners and strategic digital marketing efforts adorned prime locations, including public transport, effectively spreading awareness and generating excitement for the event. The grand opening of the flower show saw state officials, local leaders and our esteemed Governor Rtn. Vijayakumar come together in a celebration of nature's beauty and creativity. The inauguration of "Jamboree", an exclusive women entrepreneur exhibition, by our district's first lady Ann Asha Vijayakumar, marked a momentous occasion. With 34 organised stalls, each showcasing the creativity and innovation of female entrepreneurs, the event was a testament to the empowerment and ingenuity fostered by the Anns Club of Texcity. The flower show was quite an event! With a total cost of 1 Crore, Texcity's involvement of 20 lakhs is significant and the event had a footfall of 3 lakh people. A big thanks to Rtn. Maruti for collecting sponsorships and organising the show with the help of Rtn. Antony Johnson and Rtn. Karthikeyan. Our Eye Serve activities this month were impactful. We screened 4738 individuals, identifying 1428 with eye defects. Additionally we performed 111 cataract surgeries, 15 retina and other speciality surgeries, and conducted 97 investigation procedures across 37 camps. Our efforts have undoubtedly made a significant difference in improving eye health within our community.

In conclusion February has been a month marked by our collective dedication to service, fellowship and the impactful projects undertaken by our rotary club. Let's continue the dedication and momentum as we press on with our noble endeavours, making a positive difference in our community and beyond.

FROM THE EDITOR



March heralds the dawn of a new season for the IPL, a sport that resonates deeply in our nation, akin to a sacred ritual. As ardent cricket enthusiasts, our minds are consumed by the game's anticipation, essence, and spirit. Contemplating the editorial direction for this magazine, it's no surprise that cricket took centre stage in my thoughts.

Just as in cricket, where every team vies for the title of the best, the Rotary year presents a finite window for teams to showcase their collective prowess. Each club, like cricket teams, boasts its unique identity, composition of members, and cherished projects. While seasoned veterans bring stability, it's the fresh perspectives and innovative ideas of new members that inject vitality and propel the club forward. Reflecting on John Wright's coaching tenure with India, where departmental captains (fielding, batting, spin bowling, pace bowling) facilitated diverse input, Rotary clubs also designate leaders for various service avenues (Club service, Vocational service, Youth service, International service, Public Image, Bulletin Editor, Ann's club President, Annet's club President, etc), fostering a culture of shared responsibility and development of future leaders.

Here it is apt to draw knowledge from the Bhagavad Gita. In chapter 18, verse 14, Krishna advises Arjuna on the five essential elements for success. These include being the right person for the task, having access to

appropriate tools and resources, being in the right location, and investing the necessary effort. He emphasizes that these factors are within one's control, while the fifth variable remains unseen, encompassing elements such as luck or destiny. Recognizing this fifth variable requires humility, as ego blinds one to its influence on success. Humility proves to be a potent force beyond our initial understanding.

Both cricket teams and Rotary clubs epitomize the values of teamwork, cooperation, and alignment towards common objectives, whether it's serving the community or clinching victory on the field. Like the pivotal role of a cricket captain, the President of a Rotary club assumes leadership, drawing parallels with the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita on success, emphasizing the importance of humility and recognition of factors beyond one's control.

In our current Rotary year, we are privileged to have a President embodying the essential elements of success, promising a remarkable journey thus far. With the Governor's Official Visit on the horizon and major projects nearing fruition, we eagerly anticipate the unfolding chapters ahead. Stay tuned for the exciting developments ahead.

Rtn. Ramesh Nichani
Editor - Texcity Times

ANNETS CLUB

The Annets Club is happy to share that we have sponsored the school fees of Dravida Ezhil. She is a 6th standard student of Mani Higher Secondary School. Her father works at a medical shop and her mother works as a domestic help and they cannot afford her education. The Annets club is happy that Annets Nethra and Madhvi Gomatheswaran have come forward to support her education by paying her annual fees of Rs. 36000. Thankyou Nethra and Madhvi for your generous support. Wishing and hoping that Ezhil fares well in her schooling and comes out in bright colours.



On February 6th the Annets Club donated around 300 NEET books and coaching centre books like Aakash, Allen, Green Park, First Ranker, PhysicsWallah books. These books are valued at over two lakhs and some of these books are not available unless you register with the coaching centres. We have also given KPVY books used for entrance to IISC Bangalore. Our Annets Kripa Padmanabhan and Reshma Padmanabhan, our two Doctors in the making have given these books. We have created a NEET library at SES Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Ganapathy.

Along with this, the Interact Club at the school was inaugurated and the office bearers were inducted .



ANNS CLUB

On February 23rd, the Rotary Clubs of Coimbatore, in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, inaugurated the Coimbatore Flower Show. This significant event aimed at enhancing the public image of the Rotary Clubs has garnered substantial support from the community.

Complementing the flower show was the Ann's Club of Rotary Texcity's vibrant initiative, a flea market jamboree, which facilitated a fundraising project. This jamboree was a confluence of 40 eclectic stores, attracting a variety of visitors with its range of goods and activities. The First Lady of our Rotary Club, Mrs. Asha Vijay Kumar, honored the event by performing the opening ceremony.

The members of the Ann's Club demonstrated remarkable commitment and diligence, playing a pivotal role in the seamless conduct of this festive event. Their efforts have proven crucial to the fundraising endeavors of Rotary Texcity.

I would like to express my gratitude towards all the contributors who helped make the jamboree a resounding success. The proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to the spine academy, which provides care for 50 individuals left immobilized as a result of spinal injuries and related conditions. Your support makes a significant difference in the lives of those we serve."



Our Anns club has extended a helping hand to a commendable student, Ramya, by sponsoring her college tuition of ₹ 70,000 for a year. Ramya, a diligent nursing student, is being raised by her mother, who works tirelessly as a maid to provide for their family of three. Understanding the financial hardship that Ramya's family faces, our club has stepped forward to alleviate their burden. This support will allow Ramya to fully immerse herself in her studies without the constant worry of educational expenses. It is more than just financial aid—it's an investment in her future and a gesture of faith in her potential as an aspiring nurse. Thanks to this sponsorship, Ramya can now continue her education with a lighter heart, focusing on her coursework and training.

PAVITHRA ARAVIND
ANN'S CLUB PRESIDENT



IMPRESSIONS OF RYLA

The tradition of Rotary Coimbatore Texcity is to have a reunion of the RYLA participants at a club meeting. This enables the RYLarians to reconnect and the Rotarians to get feedback from them, their parents, and their teachers. The meeting was held at GV Hall at Cosmopolitan Club on 2nd of February. PP Rtn Ramesh A Nichani, who conducted the meeting, gave the children a blue print which had about 20 "Baby Steps" that the RYLarians could take in the immediate future to put them on the path to change, personal growth and success. In between this presentation, to keep the attention and interest of the children, he invited a few participants to come and share their experiences. An ice breaking game too was played to excite the children and rekindle a team spirit and make them more open to learn and assimilate. The meeting was well attended and was a resounding success.



SPEAKER MEETING

On the 7th of February, our Annet Prathana Josephine, a psychologist, daughter of Rtn. Johnson and Ann Sabita, was the invited Speaker. She spoke on the subject "Prioritizing Yourself." The meeting was well attended by Rotarians and Anns. Prathana was able to engage her audience with a multi media presentation and an eloquent lecture, where she clearly gave the reasons on why we should prioritize ourselves and how we can go about doing that without ruffling the feathers of family and friends. It was hearting to see our own Annet doing such a great job and all of us had many takeaways from the meeting. The meeting ended with the usual fellowship and dinner.



FELICITATION MEETING

A meeting to felicitate PP Rtn.R S.Maruti on him being nominated unopposed as the District Governor Nominee Designate for RI Dist. 3206 for the year 2026-27 was held at the Coimbatore Club on 14th February 2024. The meeting was hosted by many Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Texcity and many Rotarians from sister clubs too were invited. Past District Governors, Captain Mathew, Kuriachan, PV Pathy and Rajashekar were amongst those who showered their felicitations and good wishes on Rtn. Maruti. Serving District officers, Rotarians from other clubs besides Rotarians from Texcity felicitated Rtn.Maruti. An emotional Maruti gave an acceptance speech and vowed to live up to the expectations and deliver a Rotary year which would make all of us proud. The meeting ended with the cutting of a cake. The DJ took over and the Rotary family had a good time over cocktails, dance, and dinner.



DISTRICT CONFERENCE - SMILE

The three-day district conference – SMILE was organized at Hyatt Regency, Thrissur, on the 9th, 10th & 11th of February. Rotary Coimbatore Texcity was represented by 15 of its members, led by President Vijaykumar Sivanesan.

The conference had everything to offer – inspiring speeches, local and international thought leaders, top class entertainment and fellowship.

Rtn Sangkoo Yun and Eusun from South Korea were the RI President's representative at the conference. Rtn. Pratap Varkey, the conference chair delivered the welcome address. Dist. Trainer PDG A V Pathy give a brief on what was in store. The delegates had the pleasure of listening to PRID Rtn Dr.Bharat Pandya, Director Rtn Anirudha Chowdhury and the General Secretary Rtn ME Thomas.

This was followed by many plenary sessions. The entertainment was handled by Mr.Nabrun Ghosh, a popular singer cum entertainer from Chennai.

The stage was set on fire by prolific speeches from film stars Mamta Mohandas and Sarat Kumar, academician and author Debashish Chatterjee, activist Ms.Swarnalatha and Justice T Raja.

The food and fellowship were of the highest order and the Rotarians had a wonderful time networking with old friends and making some new friends.



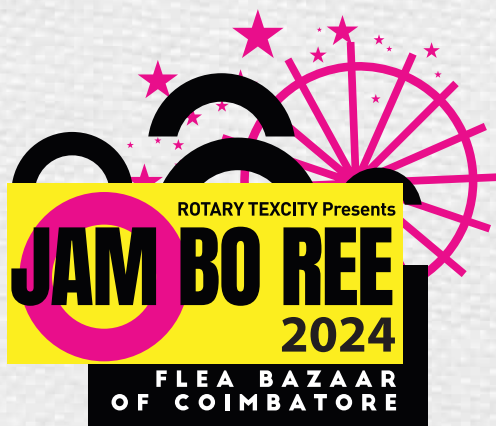
COVAI FLOWER SHOW

6TH EDITION

கோவை மலர் கண்காட்சி

Rotary Coimbatore Texcity along with Rotary Clubs of Coimbatore Uptown, Coimbatore Downtown, Coimbatore Centennial, and Thondamuthur joined hands with the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University to present to the city of Coimbatore the 6th flower show. The Covai Flower show attracted over 4 lakh visitors. The three-day mega event was organized at the University Botanical Garden where more than 200 varieties of loose flowers such as chrysanthemum, Aster, Petunia, Salvia, Pansy, Roses, Anthurium, Orchids, Liliium, Carnation, Gerbera, Bird of Paradise, Heliconia, Gypsophila, Statice and rare exotic flowers like Banksias, Ornamental Brassica, Hypericum, Peony, Kochia, Protea were on display.

The theme of the 6th flower show was "Let your Dreams Blossom". Anns of Rotary Texcity handled "Jamboree", a collection of 30 stalls which were showcasing many home-grown brands at the event. The Flower Show was a very well publicized event with multiple hoardings at bus stops and many autorickshaws carrying the posters around the city. It was very good image building for Rotary and a "garnering goodwill of the community" project.



ROTARY COIMBATORE TEXCITY'S VOCATIONAL VISIT



The Rotarians and Anns of Rotary Coimbatore Texcity on 27th February had the opportunity to visit the state of art facility of Swelect Energy Systems Ltd, the public Listed Company whose promoter and Managing Director is Rtn. Chellapan. This Solar PV Modules manufacturing facility is fully automated and equipped with cutting edge technology.

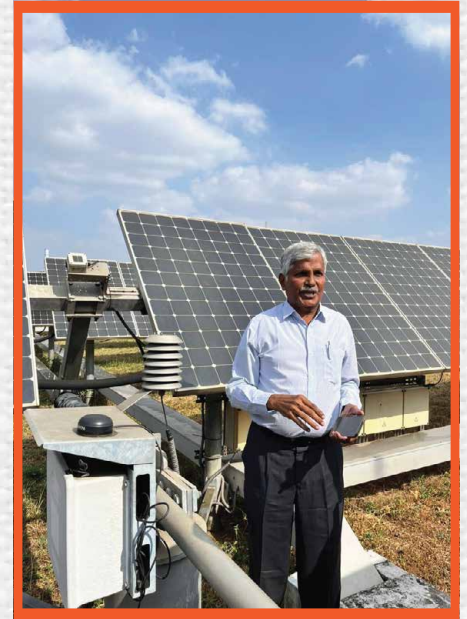
Our visit was not only enlightening but also inspiring, as we gained invaluable insights into the cutting-edge technology and sustainable practices employed at the facility.

From the moment we stepped foot into the plant, it was evident that their team's dedication to innovation and environmental responsibility is unparalleled. The thorough explanations provided by their knowledgeable staff members demystified the intricate process of solar panel manufacturing.

They also highlighted the significant business opportunities within the renewable energy sector and were more than willing to partner with the Rotarians to cash on these opportunities.

As Rotarians, we should be committed to making a positive impact in our communities and beyond. Their plant's commitment to sustainability and renewable energy resonates deeply with these values, and we Rotarians are eager to explore potential business partnerships that can further promote clean energy adoption and environmental stewardship.

The Rotarians and Anns place on record their gratitude for the invaluable experience and warm hospitality extended to them during their visit to the state-of-the-art facility. The day visit ended with a cocktail dinner arranged for the visiting guests at Hotel Lemon Tree. It was indeed a day well spent.



THE ART OF THINKING CLEARLY

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED



Berlin, 1927: a group of university students and professors visit a restaurant. The waiter takes order upon order, including special requests, but does not bother to write anything down. This is going to end badly, they think. But, after a short wait, all diners receive exactly what they ordered. After dinner, outside on the street, Russian psychology student Bluma Zeigarnik notices that she has left her scarf behind in the restaurant. She goes back in, finds the waiter with the incredible memory and asks him if he has seen it. He stares at her blankly. He has no idea who she is or where she sat. "How can you have forgotten?" she asks indignantly. "Especially with your super memory!" The waiter replies curtly: 'I keep every order in my head - until it is served.'

Zeigarnik and her mentor Kurt Lewin studied this strange behaviour and found that all people function more or less like the waiter. We seldom forget uncompleted tasks; they persist in our consciousness and do not let up, tugging at us like little children, until we give them our attention. On the other hand, once we've completed a task and checked it off our mental list, it is erased from memory. The researcher has lent her name to this: scientists now speak of the Zeigarnik effect. However, in her investigation she uncovered a few untidy outliers: some people kept a completely clear head even if they had dozens of projects on the go. Only in recent years could Roy Baumeister and his research team at Florida State University shed light on this. He took students who were a few months away from their final examinations, and split them into three groups. Group 1 had to focus on a party during the current semester. Group 2 had to concentrate on the exam. Group 3 had to focus on the exam and also create a detailed study plan. Then Baumeister asked students to complete words under time pressure. Some students saw 'pa-' and filled in 'panic', while others thought of 'party' or 'Paris'. This was a clever method of finding out what was on each of their minds. As expected, group 1 had relaxed about the upcoming exam, while students in group 2 could think of nothing else. Most astonishing was the result from group 3. Although these students also had to focus on the upcoming exam, their minds were clear and free from anxiety. Further experiments confirmed this. Outstanding tasks gnaw at us only until we have a clear idea of how we will deal with them. Zeigarnik mistakenly believed that it was necessary to complete tasks to erase them from memory. But it's not; a good plan of action suffices. David Allen, the author of a best-selling book aptly entitled *Getting Things Done*, argues that he has one goal: to have a head as clear as water. For this, you don't need to have your whole life sorted into tidy compartments. But it does mean that you need a detailed plan for dealing with the messier areas. This plan must be divided into step-by-step tasks and preferably written down. Only when this is done can your mind rest. The adjective 'detailed' is important. 'Organise my wife's birthday party' or 'find a new job' are worthless. Allen forces his clients to split such projects into twenty to fifty individual tasks.

It's worth noting that Allen's recommendation seems to fly in the face of the planning fallacy (We are not natural born planners. We want to be successful and achieve everything we take on. Second, we focus too much on the project and overlook outside influences. So step by step preparation amplifies the planning fallacy. It narrows our focus even more and thus distracts us even more from anticipating the unexpected); the more detailed our planning, the more we tend to overlook factors from the periphery that will derail our projects. But here is the rub: if you want peace of mind, go for Allen's approach. If you want the most accurate estimate on cost, benefit, and duration of a project, forget your detailed plan and look up similar projects. If you want both, do both.

Fortunately, you can do all this yourself with the aid of a decidedly low-tech device. Place a notepad by your bed. The next time you cannot get to sleep, jot down outstanding tasks and how you will tackle them. This will silence the cacophony of inner voices. 'You want to find God, but you're out of cat food, so create a plan to deal with it,' says Allen. His advice is sound, even if you have already found God or have no cat