

August 2020

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



Dharwad school bags Rotary WinS Award 2020

Team Rotary News



Block Education Officer, Dharwad, AA Khaji presenting the Rotary WinS Award 2020, along with PDG Ganesh Bhat, to the faculty of Vanita Seva Samaj School.

Rotary has brought the concept of handwashing with soap, hygiene, clean toilets to schoolchildren and teachers four years ago through the WASH in Schools programme of the Rotary Foundation in five countries, and now this practice has become compulsory to everyone across the world due to the Covid pandemic, said PDG Ganesh G Bhat, Co-chair, Rotary India Sanitation Committee, after presenting the Rotary India WinS Award 2020 to Vanita Seva Samaj School, Dharwad.

The WinS Award instituted by PDG Bhat and his family through RC Dharwad Central, RID 3170, consists of a trophy, citation and ₹10,000 in cash and is being presented to a

school in Dharwad district for the second consecutive year.

A school has to fulfil all the criteria for receiving 1-star recognition under WinS and match the requirements of Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar of the GoI such as providing clean drinking water, well-maintained, gender-segregated toilets, group handwashing with soap, handwash facility outside toilets, MHM training and facilities to girl children and overall cleanliness on its premises to be selected for the WinS Award.

Block Education Officer, Dharwad district, AA Khaji appreciating Rotary's work said the award has created a competition among 1,600 schools in the district.

"Because of this award, the entire environment in schools have improved. The behavioural changes in students is transforming the habits of their families too. We can see improvements in attendance and also enrolment in government schools with improved facilities," he said. Khaji urged Rotary club expand these awards to other districts also.

WinS Project Coordinator Kiran Hiremath, assistant governor Sanjay Ingle, club president Dr Kavan Deshpande, Secretary Sunil Bagewadi, Dr Satish Irkal, Vidya Bhat and School Committee Secretary Sunanda Hegde, teachers, and government officials were present at the awards ceremony. ■

On the cover: RC Jaipur Bapunagar, RID 3054, donated classroom furniture in a school to enhance seating arrangement for students.

Blood donation camp at Jabalpur

Team Rotary News

When RC Jabalpur South, RID 3261, heard about the government hospital in the region running out of blood bags, the club conducted a blood donation camp. Organised by Rtns Lokesh Patel and Archana Shukla with assistance from a team of students from the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Medical College, the camp collected over 30 units of blood.

All Covid precautions were taken for the safety of the donors, volunteering staff and Rotarians. Club president Akhil Mishra and secretary Rohit Mota, along with a few other members, were present at the camp. ■



RC Baran distributes dry rations to needy families



Rotarians with ration kits for distribution.

After the 21-day lockdown was imposed, Rotarians of RC Baran, RID 3053, distributed 100 dry ration kits to needy families in

Baran, Rajasthan. The kit included wheat flour, rice, lentils, oil and salt.

Club president Vishnu Gupta said the members delivered the

ration kits at the homes of the economically-weak families. The distribution of rations was supported and funded entirely by members of the club

which has drawn up plans to extend the food distribution until the lockdown is lifted in this municipality town. ■

Mussoorie Rotarians donate to PM CARES Fund

V Muthukumaran

In response to a call given by the then DG Jitendra Dhingra (2019–20), all the members of RC Mussoorie, RID 3080, contributed ₹1,100 each to help fight against the coronavirus. “We have been one of the first clubs in the district to deposit the collected amount of ₹45,100 to the PM CARES Fund” said Nitish Mohan Agarwal, IPP of the club.

Past AG Vipul Mittal has donated masks and sanitisers to the corona warriors of Mussoorie who are involved in the distribution of food packets, rations and cleanliness drive in the hill station.

Medical aid

The club gave medical aid of ₹20,000 each to two children for undergoing critical operations. Ansh, a seven-month-old son of a rickshaw puller had an emergency operation in intestine (laparotomy) at the Mahant Indresh Hospital in Dehradun.

Another patient who had received Rotary aid is three-year-old Vaishali who got severe burn injuries after she fell into hot water tub and was treated at the Landhour Community Hospital. Her father, a carpenter, was unable to raise money for the operation. PAG Mittal and then president Agarwal presented the cash assistance to the beneficiary families.



Masks being donated to corona warriors in Mussoorie.

Joint RYLA with ITBP

In association with the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), the paramilitary force guarding the Sino-India border, the Rotarians conducted a RYLA that saw 85 students from 11 government schools interacting with the senior officers of ITBP and getting to know first-hand the various activities including guarding a difficult frontier with China by this border force.

“The students got information on the activities and social responsibilities of ITBP and were inspired to join the armed forces,” said Agarwal.

The RYLA was conceptualised by the then club secretary Manoranjan Tripathi and implemented by RYLA Chairman M Karanwal and Youth Service director Sanjay Jain under the guidance of Agarwal.

Holi Milan was organised for club members and their families in which fun activities and games were held for bonding among Rotarians. The event attended by Anns and Rotaractors of Mussoorie saw the participants relishing special snacks prepared by Mamta Agarwal, wife of then club president. ■

Rotary reaches out to primary school in Kolkata

Team Rotary News



Rotarians with students at the Nibaran High School where an additional classroom was built.

Twenty sets of chairs and tables were donated to a government primary school in Tarkeshwar by RC Central Calcutta, RID 3291, to enhance the classroom experience for the students.

A fancy dress competition was held at this primary school with 25 students taking part in it. The event focused on environment protection and non-use of plastic, among other related issues. The top five winners were given prizes. Following the space constraint faced by the Nibaran High School with rise in their enrolment, they felt the need for one more classroom to accommodate the students. The club sponsored a temporary shelter to house the additional class for the time being, said Neeraj Agrawal, immediate past president of the club.

Sports meet

A sports meet was organised for children at the Tarkeshwar school that saw participation of over 200 students in athletics and games. All the participants were given mementos, while the winners got the awards separately. Wrist watches were given to meritorious students of the club's RCC School as a token gesture to motivate them to score high ranks in public examinations.

Awareness rallies

Banners and placards were used to highlight issues such as Save Water, Clean City, Green City, and non-use of plastic at an environment rally taken out by the club with 200 students taking part in the event. In another initiative, anti-dengue rally was held with the help of the Kolkata

Municipal Corporation at the Shyambazar area. The local councillor took part along with 200 volunteers and the event was appreciated by the residents, said Agrawal.

The club was one of the co-sponsors of a RYLA meet at Purulia that extended a platform for students to hone their leadership skills through interactive sessions and fun games. "School bags were given to all the 50 students at the RYLA," he said.

An eye check-up camp was held and spectacles were given to 35 persons and seven persons were referred for cataract operation. The club was a joint host in a district programme on 'Discover Pranik Healing'. Besides, it joined hands with other clubs to organise a motivational workshop by Guru Sneh Desai. ■

Care for elders

Team Rotary News

The members of RC Mangalore Metro, RID 3181, are providing eldercare regularly through their project 'Jeevan Sandhya'.

Recently, they visited the Sri Sai Seva Prathistanam, an old age home in Daigoli village near Mangalore. They distributed woollen blankets and pillows to the inmates and installed a generator set at the home to provide relief to the elderly people when there is a power disruption.

The club also contributed ₹5 lakh to take care of the plumbing and electrical work to be done at the new premises of the home.

The total project cost ₹7.5 lakh and it was met with DDF grants. PDG Krishna Shetty and DGE Ranganath Bhat were present along with the Rotarians. ■



Rotarians with the newly-installed generator set at the old age home. DGE M Ranganath Bhat, his wife Rajani, and PDG K Krishna Shetty are seen in the picture.

Rotary Distinguished Service Award for past president R Srinivasan



Veteran Rotarian R Srinivasan presented with an award by TN Governor Banwarilal Purohit in the presence of then DG Dr A Zameer Pasha and RI President's Representative PDG Janice Kurth.

R Srinivasan, past president of Rotary Club of Madurai Midtown, RI District 3000, was presented the Distinguished Service Award at the district conference in recognition of his "enthusiasm and commitment to community service" for more than four decades.

The award was presented by the Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit and then DG Dr A Zameer Pasha in the presence of Rotary International President's Representative for the Conference PDG Janice Kurth of RI District 5340, San Diego, USA.

Srinivasan has served Rotary in different capacities including district conference secretary, district secretary, group study exchange leader to Osaka, Japan, and chairman of various district committees during the past 43 years.

He is the director of the TVS group of schools in Madurai and has held key managerial positions in the TVS group for the past six decades. ■

Mega plantation drives at RC Agra Tajcity

V Muthukumaran

Following a call given by DG Dinesh Chandra Shukla, RID 3110, to take up mega plantation drives RC Agra Tajcity started this project in earnest by honouring the corona warriors with jade plants on Doctors' Day.

Seventy-five doctors were presented with jade plants as a token gesture for their selfless work against the pandemic and "all the 11 hospitals involved in the Covid fight were given tree saplings

of neem, bargad, peepal, amaltas and gulmohar," said club president Dr Narendra Malhotra.

Immediately after the installation of club office-bearers on July 26, Malhotra launched Green Agra Week in partnership with like-minded groups including the Photographers Club, Leaders Agra, Club 35 Plus, Smriti and Global Rainbow Healthcare. "Our club alone has planted over 8,000 trees in urban and rural areas of Agra till July 31 with the



Rtn Dr Neharika Malhotra with a sapling.

participation of Rotarians and their families," he said.

Harvijay Singh Bahia was felicitated with Environmentalist of the Year Award by the club as he was instrumental in distributing over 5,000 saplings under the club's banner. Past president Dr DV Sharma planted 2,000 trees in rural Agra, while Rtns Prabhat Mathur, Sameer

Mathur, Moti Lal Jain, Amitabh, Sanjay Goyal and Dr Amol Shiromany have planted over 50 trees each. Three new Rotarians — Dr Neharika Malhotra, Dr Amol Shiromany and Satinder Pal Singh Setia who were inducted during the installation planted 11 trees each. Dr Narendra Malhotra along with Ann Dr Jaideep Malhotra planted 250 trees in Suraj Bhan Colony.

Commendation certificates were given to 14 Rotarians who were each given a jade plant as memento by Dr Malhotra. "We thank DG Shukla (RID 3110) for this wonderful appeal of taking up the environment drive for our district clubs," he added.

Two years back, Dr Malhotra and Ann Dr Jaideep Malhotra, the then President of Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecological Societies of India, had planted over one lakh trees across India, along with 35,000 members of FOGSI, in a partnership with RC Delhi. ■



Rotarians at the mega plantation drive.

RC Madurai North provides spectacles to needy people

Team Rotary News

Under its *Kannoli* (eye-sight) Project, RC Madurai North, RID 3000, distributed spectacles to over 60 beneficiaries, mostly cab and bus drivers from under-privileged families, at the Madurai District Police Office. They were found to have defective eyesight at the eye testing camp held earlier by the club. Accepting the spectacles, the drivers assured the police that they would follow traffic rules while driving their heavy duty vehicles.

Praising the club, Madurai SP N Manivannan urged Rotary to hold similar projects across the district as “this would create awareness on following traffic rules among the

public” and assured support from police. Raja Govindasamy of RC Madurai West and 12 other Rotarians attended the event.

Eye camp followed by distribution of spectacles was organised at the Victoria Edward Hall benefitting around 50 people including transgenders, differently-abled and street vendors. With support from SMILE Micro Finance and Rtn S Sabarinath, a sumptuous lunch was served for those who had come for eye testing at the camp. The project cost ₹50,500 and 12 Rotarians were present at the eye camp. The then Club President DN Govardan (2019–20) was one of the architects of *Kannoli* Project

and he was present at all major eye camps to motivate Rotarians to take up similar events in remote areas of Madurai district.

In another initiative, around 80 spectacles were given to people at Sholavandan village. The then Club Secretary B Manojkumar gave instructions to the beneficiaries on how to use the spectacles for a long shelf-life. “The entire village appreciated our club and gave standing ovation to our members present there,” he said. Free spectacles were given to 90 persons out of 180 tested in an eye screening camp held a few days earlier at the Rahmania Jumma Masjid (New Mosque) in Meenambalpuram. ■

A woman IPS officer gives a spectacle to a policeman at a Kannoli camp in the presence of RC Madras North IPP DN Govardan (second from left).



RC Nagpur Vision holds medical camp in village

Team Rotary News

A multispecialty health camp was held at Neri village by RC Nagpur Vision, RID 3030, that saw over 350 locals turning up for medical examination of various faculties including skin, eye, orthopaedics, paediatrics, sickle cell, dental and general illness. Those in need of advanced care and treatment were referred to the hospitals of the attending doctors whose selfless service was appreciated by the villagers, said Dr Shivani Sule, the then club secretary.

While the primary ailments of the patients were managed during the course of the camp, the



Above: The winners of Vision Premier League cricket tournament.

Below: A multispecialty health camp at Neri village.

surgical cases, especially the cataract procedure, were scheduled in the coming days by the medical team. “A big thank you to all doctors and volunteers for making this medical camp a success and the event further enhanced Rotary’s image in the village,” said Shivani.

Vision Premier League

On the occasion of the 115th Rotary Day (Feb 23), the club hosted a first-ever Vision Premier League, a cricket tournament, at the Delhi Public School, Lava, with four teams competing in a professional manner in six limited-overs matches.

While KC Warriors emerged winners beating

Dhawad Superstars in a closely fought finals, Aces and Queens took the third spot in the tournament.

Over 100 family members of Rotarians came to watch and enjoy the matches. In the presence of a large number of spectators, Rotary Day was celebrated by the club members. “The VPL was conceived by the club’s Sports Director and his team. The cricket matches were enjoyed by all and we hope to continue the event in the coming years as it was a nice platform to nurture fellowship, camaraderie and opened up an avenue for good public relations with the rest of the society,” said Shivani. ■



D 2981

RC Kumbakonam Mahamaham

The club presented Nation Builder Awards to best teachers from 20 schools which had scored 100 per cent results in Board exams. Three teachers from seven schools which had Interact clubs were also felicitated. The club desilted Kottaiyur canal with a JCB to facilitate the flow of Cauvery River.



D 2981

RC Nagapattinam

To build immunity against Covid, the club distributed *Kabasura Kudineer*, a herbal concoction, to municipal staff, police and home guards. They also distributed masks to the frontline warriors.



D 2982

RC Attur Midtown

The club members distributed *Kabasura Kudineer*, an herbal concoction, to strengthen immunity against the pandemic. All the 33 wards of the municipality as well as the Attur rural panchayat were covered by Rotarians while distributing the herbal solution to the public and government servants.





D 3000

RC Madurai West

A three-day RYLA was organised for youth to hone their leadership skills through interactive sessions. The participants were evaluated based on their performance in various activities. The club president felicitated the finalists of Miss and Mr RYLA contest at the closing ceremony.



D 3020

RC Rajahmundry River City

The club members presented 800 dictionaries to libraries in municipal and aided schools around the town. DG M Veerabhadra Reddy was present at the occasion.



D 3040

RC Indore Meghdoot

During the fourth phase of its Covid-relief efforts, the club donated disease prevention kits comprising medicines, hand sanitisers, PPEs and masks worth ₹1.02 lakh to Indore police for distribution to frontline warriors. Then club president Ghanshyam Singh and Youth director Manish Sharma coordinated the project.

D 3053

RC Alwar Greater

The club in partnership with the V S Nursing Institute hosted a Health Education Exhibition for schoolchildren from Classes 5 to 12. PDG Rajkumar Bhutoria inaugurated the expo which aimed at inculcating good hygiene habits such as handwashing and teaching CPR technique. The club targeted over 1,000 students during the four-day exhibition.



D 3053

RC Jodhpur Sanskar

A new Interact club was installed at Mayoer Chopasni School and the Charter was presented to the new office-bearers. PDG Priyesh Bhandari inducted the new board and its members at a colourful event.



D3053

RC Gwalior Mahanagar

The club members donated sparsely used clothes at a destitute home near the Carmel Convent School. The clothes were collected by Interactors. A cake cutting was done to celebrate Christmas and New Year along with inmates of the home.





D 3054

RC Udaipur

A health camp titled 'Need of calcium for bones' was held in association with the Government Ayurveda Hospital. Over 100 patients were screened and given medicines. A medical camp was also held for children at Kid Zee School in which over 100 students were examined. Some were referred for further treatment.



D 3054

RC Udaipur Mewar

On World Tourism Day, the club hosted eight members from four clubs in Germany and two members from a club in the Netherlands. They exchanged flags and discussed the possibilities of joint projects. At the dinner meet, they agreed on a youth exchange project. The then club president Chetan Prakash Jain made a presentation on club activities.



D 3060

RC Bharuch

The club in association with RC Bharuch Femina hosted a one-day teachers training programme. Sixty teachers from government and private schools took part in it. The event was sponsored by RC Richmond Sunrise, Canada. Professional trainers from Pune and Australia were invited.

D 3060

RC Dondaicha Seniors

The club organised blood donation camps in four locations. Around 250 donors registered for the camps and about 100 units of blood were collected. The donors were given a bottle of hand sanitiser along with letter of appreciation.



D 3080

RC Dehradun Central

A special talk on healthcare for adolescent girls were given for students at the Government Girls Inter College. Rtn Dr Reeta Dhawan delivered the lecture and interacted with the girls. Kamini Gupta, secretary, Rajya Mahila Ayog, Uttarakhand, was the chief guest. Also, 400 hygiene kits were distributed.



D 3090

RC Faridkot

The birthdays of club members are being celebrated in government schools with the aim to help poor students and motivate them to study well. Recently, the birthday of AG Pritpal Singh Kohli was celebrated at a primary school on the premises of Jila Jail.





D 3110

RC Kanpur Shaurya

An awareness workshop on female hygiene and proper use of sanitary napkins was organised for students at Kailash Nath Balika Inter College in association with Nine Foundation. Rtn Naveen Mohini Nigam was the chief guest. Anns of the club took part in large numbers. The then club president Sharad Kumar Birla coordinated the project.



D 3131

RC Pune Sahwas

A webinar was organised for students to brief them about the admission process to higher secondary courses which were centralised by the government. More than 500 students took part in the online counselling. District officials extended help to make the webinar a success.



D 3132

RC Ahmednagar Priyadarshini

The club organised a one-day drive against the single-use plastic material. The Rotarians visited the hawkers and street vendors and discussed with them the hazards of polythene bags. They were also gifted eco-friendly cloth bags.



Participants at the Dhammaal Ghalli event.

Spreading cheer in the community

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Nandurbar, RID 3060, organised a '2D Echo' camp to screen children and young adults for cardiac ailments. Of the 178 screened in a day, 26 youngsters were diagnosed for surgery. The Rotarians arranged for their surgery at the SMBT Medical College Hospital in Nasik and organised a bus to shuttle them, along with their caregivers, to the hospital and back. Medicines were also sponsored by the club members.

In a novel greening initiative, the Rotarians distributed seed pencils to schoolchildren. This project was

conceptualised and implemented by the newly-inducted women members, said club secretary Durgesh Shah.

To popularise Rotary among the public, the club organised a fun event called *Dhammaal Galli* in the town. Over 600 people participated in the three-hour programme which included childhood games such as hop-sotch, marbles, tyre-racing, skipping etc. People of all age groups took part in the various games enthusiastically.

Other projects included a dental camp that benefitted 150 students and a kite-making workshop that enthused 70 children. ■

2D Echo camp in progress.





RC Belthangady distributes PPE kits, food, opens water bank

Team Rotary News

Rotarians at RC Belthangady, RID 3181, are contributing in many ways to the Covid relief efforts in this town panchayat in Dakshina Kannada region of Karnataka. The members distributed PPE kits to the Government Hospital, Belthangady, and gave away food packages to the needy and migrant families during the lockdown.

An amount of ₹25,000 was given to Sevadhamma, a rehab centre for spinal

cord injured patients, for purchase of wheelchairs. RID 3181 Director for Water Conservation Rajendra Kalbhavi inaugurated a water bank at Mundaje village in the presence of Rtn Prathapsimha Nayak, a member of State Legislative Council. The new facility will help the farmers and also recharge the groundwater table which will augment the drinking water needs of the villagers. On the eve of Press Day, the club honoured veteran journalist

A live TV programme was held to mark World Milk Day in which viewers' queries were answered.

and retired professor Nagaraja Poovani and spouse.

The club joined hands with RC Mangalore Hillside to celebrate World Tiger Day at the Pilikula Biological Park. They sponsored food for 11 tigers in the park for two days and DG Ranganath Bhat was the chief guest at the special programme in the wildlife park. A live TV programme was held to mark World Milk Day in which veterinarian Dr Dinesh Saralaya, Dhananjaya Rao, both Rotarians, and Niranjan Bavanthabettu shared their perspectives and interacted with the viewers. Rotarian couple Udayachandra and Manorama gave shelter to a Myanmar citizen in their house for two months during the Covid lockdown and extended their hospitality to him. ■



RID 3181 Director for Water Conservation Rajendra Kalbhavi at the inauguration of water bank in Mundaje village.

Educating rural women about cancer

Team Rotary News



Above: A lecture session on prevention of cervical and breast cancer at the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University.
Below: A Narikurava child being administered polio drops to mark World Polio Day.

A series of cancer awareness programmes was conducted by RC Nagercoil Gems, RID 3212, targeting the college girls and rural women who were educated on preventive steps against the disease. As part of this project, the club held an event for prevention of cervix

and breast cancer at the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University.

Similarly, for the Adivasi people in Chokampatti village in Tenkasi district, a cancer awareness programme was held for the benefit of rural women. Such programmes were held at the

Rojavanam Para Medical College and Parasakthi College in Tenkasi. The club members advocated problem-solving methods for students at a workshop on 'Behavioural changes and teenage problems' held at the Comorin International School, Aralvaimozhi.

Rotarians took a session on Communicative English as part of their vocational service at the SLB Government High School. Rtn Nagendran spoke on road safety awareness at the SMRV Higher Secondary School and Rojavanam Para Medical College in Kanyakumari district.

The club members joined hands to administer polio drops to Narikurava children on World Polio Day. Republic Day was celebrated at the Home Church Higher Secondary School in Nagercoil with a number of competitions for students. The winners were given prizes at the valedictory session. ■



Rotary provides ₹10 lakh-worth furniture to Jaipur schools

Team Rotary News

Under the focus area of Basic Education and Literacy, RC Jaipur Bapu Nagar, RID 3054, has delivered classroom furniture to 10

government schools worth ₹10 lakh in rural areas with the aim to make them Happy Schools with a slew of revamp projects.



RC Jaipur Bapu Nagar president Vipin Bahl (2019-20), seated fifth from right along with Rotarians and government officials.

While seven schools were located at the club's RCC village Manpura Machedi, 50km north of Jaipur, rest of the schools came under RCC Madhogarh village, 50km east of the city. The furniture sets were presented at a gala event in the presence of school authorities, students, gram panchayat officials and Rotarians with their families. The club raised the required funds through contributions from its members.

“Everyone was overwhelmed by the work that our club members have done for the schools. The atmosphere at the handing over event was of great celebration with joyous experience all around,” said Vipin Bahl, the club's immediate past president. The club has already built a computer lab, provided training to teachers and encouraged the local community to support their schools by providing them adequate drinking water and sanitation facilities. ■

As Swabhimaan Centre in Salwakalla village was started to impart functional literacy to non-literate adults by RC Jodhpur Padmini, RID 3053, in which two batches of 30 learners are being taught on basic skills in language and numeracy. The RCC of Salwakalla is running the centre with the club's guidance and soon a building will be ready for this purpose.

The club has taken up a series of WinS projects with CSR funding at seven government schools in Jodhpur. Rotarians are visiting the schools in and around Jodhpur to monitor the work under various stages of progress. Some of the WinS projects under progress are gender-segregated toilet blocks with overhead and underground tanks; sewage connection; water pump; drinking water station with water cooler and purifier; handwash and utensil wash stations; menstrual hygiene sessions for students; and distribution of sanitary napkins for girls. ■

Rotary opens literacy centre for adults in Jodhpur

Team Rotary News



Adults at the newly inaugurated Swabhimaan Centre.

D 3141

RC Mulund Hills

A two-day Rotary Youth Football Tournament was organised under the leadership of IPP Chirag Shah and Project Chair Vijay Narula. The 11th edition saw the participation of 56 teams and the winners were presented with trophies and medals. The then DGN Rajendra Agarwal inaugurated the tournament.



D 3160

RC Davangere Vidyanagara

The club distributed dictionaries to school students in an event. During the event, Rotarians urged students to develop the reading habit to broadening their knowledge for a bright future. The project enhanced the public image of the club.



D 3170

RC Hubli West

A rally of blindfolded was conducted to create awareness on eye donation among the residents. The rally was flagged off by Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation Commissioner Suresh Itnal in the presence of leading personalities including club president Ashok Patil and a large number of Rotarians. Around 800 students took part in the rally.





D 3181

RC Mangalore City

The club bagged the 14th Annual Rotary Awareness Quiz Trophy and a cash award of ₹2,000. PDG Dr Nagarjuna presented the trophy to the two-member team lead by then President Dr Ranjan R K. The quiz contest was hosted by RC Mangalore Central with PDG Dr Devdas Rai as the quiz master anchoring the event that saw 13 teams competing in it.



D 3182

RC Udupi

The club, in association with Childline Udupi, cleaned the premises of the Government Backward Community Hostel for girls at Patla, a remote village, that lacks civic amenities. The hostel campus was cleaned with a grass cutter and the plastic waste and discards were collected separately for safe disposal. At the open house programme, the girls aired their grievances and panchayat officials assured them all help.



D 3201

RC Cochin Lands End

Xmas Bake Off, a contest for food buffs, was organised during Christmas-eve at Oberaon Mall in Kochi. The baking event, open for both Rotarians and the public, saw 35 contestants whose skills were judged by a four-member jury. Fun-filled sessions were held for the audience.

D 3201

RC Coimbatore Industrial City

This new club was inaugurated with charter president B A Prabushankar taking charge of its affairs. All the 30 new members were inducted at the inaugural ceremony. IPDG Madhav Chandran as chief guest sworn in the new office-bearers at a gala ceremony.



3202

RC Tirupur South

The club sponsored construction of public toilets and bathrooms in a residential locality in the town. The project cost ₹12 lakh. The facilities were inaugurated by the Palladam legislator Karaipudur A Natarajan, in the presence of Project Chairman R P Raaj and club president N Muthurathinam, and handed over to the Tirupur Corporation for maintenance.



D 3231

RC Vellore Cosmos

A new interact club was inaugurated at a Government HS School, Sholavaram, with 20 Interactors being inducted at the installation ceremony. The Charter was presented to the new club secretary. The school faculty thanked Rotary for the initiative.





D 3250

RC Gaya City

The club members distributed over 100 blankets to students of Yateemkhana, a Muslim orphanage. Food packets were also distributed and Rotarians spoke on the need to preserve unity and community togetherness among people of different faiths.



D 3250

RC Patna City

A ramp walk was organised on the eve of Navaratri in which 21 girls from the local community took part. Three were declared winner, first runner and second runner and were presented with gift hampers. The rest of the participants were given gift hampers as a token of encouragement.



D 3261

RC Rourkela Riverside

The club's third Adult Literacy Centre was inaugurated by PDG Subash Sahoo and the then DGE FC Mohanty with 23 tribal women having enrolled for the next batch. Various programmes were held at the three centres to encourage adult learners who were given study material and bags.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

Rotary opens a Smart Class for visually-impaired girls

Team Rotary News



RC Pune Metro, RID 3131, set up an Annie Smart Class for 300 students of the Jagriti School for Blind Girls at Alandi village near Pune. The device 'Annie' named after Ann Sullivan, a teacher who tutored the deaf-blind American activist Helen Keller. She was a popular author, lecturer and political activist despite multiple disabilities. The device aids Braille literacy and runs on a credit card-sized computer with a Braille display, digital slate and keyboard.

The smart class inaugurated in March provided fun-based education for visually-impaired students and to motivate the children, the club brought out its bulletin in a Braille version. ■



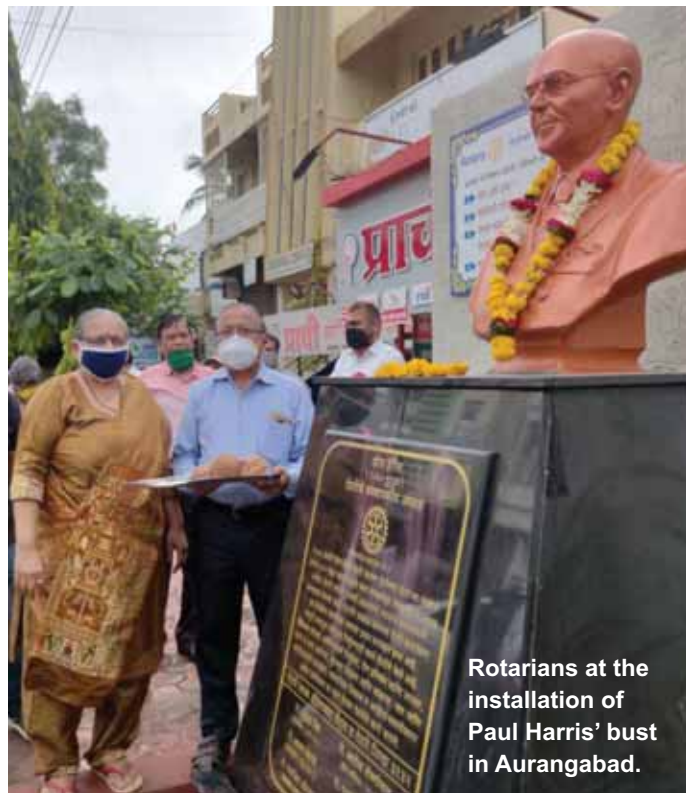
Top: Visually-impaired girls with the Annie device;
Above: Club bulletin in print and Braille versions.

Paul Harris' bust installed in Aurangabad

Team Rotary News

It was a day of great pride for Rotarians in Aurangabad when Rotary International Founder Paul Harris' bust was installed at a busy square in the city. "Both RID 3132 and RC Aurangabad Central took efforts to install the bust of Harris. Though we have done several projects, installing the sculpture of Rotary founder gave us pride and contentment," said Dr Vinod Ladda, Public Image, District Director. He expressed hope that more people will join Rotary after coming to know the contributions of Harris in promoting goodwill and friendship across the world.

Rtn Ashok Toshniwal, IPDG Suhas Vaidya, PDG Prafulla Mirajgaonkar have played a key role in this project which will lift Rotary's image in Aurangabad, Ladda said. ■



Rotarians at the installation of Paul Harris' bust in Aurangabad.

Government schools get Smart Classrooms

Team Rotary News



Above: Ration kits and cooked food being given to villagers; **Below:** Students at a Smart Classroom.

Thirty government higher secondary schools were installed with Smart Classrooms by Rotary Club of Siliguri Midtown, RID 3240, under its project 'eVidya'. The computers are loaded with West Bengal Board syllabus and the systems are equipped with solar power and battery backup.

The e-learning equipment will improve the learning experience for the students, says club president Pramod Kumar Agarwal, adding that it is a joint project with RC Bangalore South, RID 3190. DGs of both the districts — Dr Debashish Das and Dr Sameer Hariani — worked together for the successful implementation of the project which will benefit around 15,000 schoolchildren. Two corporates — Tata Power Solar and Powerlinks Transmission — have also extended support to the initiative.

Under its Covid relief initiative, the club has been providing ration kits and cooked food to the people in its adopted village Nimtala Kawakhali. ■



Traffic rules awareness and health camps in Alwar

Team Rotary News



RC Alwar, RID 3053, observed the Traffic Awareness Week at a government school with a lecture session. The SP of Alwar Parish Deshmukh inaugurated the event. A rally of 80 traffic police bikes patrolled the city and spread awareness on the importance of wearing a helmet and following traffic rules. A free medical and eye check-up camp was conducted by Dr Shroff Eye Hospital and the club organised a similar camp for truck drivers and traffic police.

On World Cancer Day the club conducted an awareness programme for the students of Jain Adinath Public School. Students and staff were sensitised on the causes leading to cancer and were encouraged to adopt a healthy lifestyle. ■



A number of events was held to mark Traffic Awareness Week with RC Alwar taking the lead in organising programmes for schools and traffic police.

Promoting education in Ichalkaranji

Team Rotary News

The Gajanan Daji Kulkarni Primary Marathi school in Ichalkaranji was transformed into a Happy School by RC Ichalkaranji Central, RID 3170. The club has been improving infrastructure in various schools across the town.

The Rotarians equipped the Sanmati Intellectual Disability School with a bus and set up a garden on the premises. An e-learning facility was installed at the Sarasvati High School and computers were donated to another school so that students can have hands-on lessons in cyber technology. A water purifier was installed at the Antarabharati High School for children and staff to have access to clean drinking water. ■



An e-learning facility at the Sarasvati High School.

Working with Interactors and students

Team Rotary News



Interactors campaigning for organ donation.



Right: Rotarians speak to schoolchildren about effective waste reduction strategies.





Interactors of the Karnataka High School at the field trip.

RC Bombay Chembur, RID 3142, took the interactors of Karnataka High School, Mumbai, for an educational field trip. The children visited the Maharashtra Nature Park where they got to see biodiverse plants, insects and animal life. Topics ranging from pollinators to birds and dinosaurs were discussed on the trip. The club spent ₹5,000 in arranging this field trip for 40 Interactors. At the end of the trip, they were each given a sapling to plant at their respective homes.

The club is also encouraging school staff and students to generate zero waste through source reduction, recycling, composting, and food recovery. Vidhyadhiraja School in Bhandup was the first school where the Zero Waste Programme has been implemented

and the club is helping the school to plan effective waste reduction strategies.

Members along with the interactors of Bombay Chembur West and students from Karnataka School participated in an eye, skin and organ donation awareness rally at the annual Chembur Festival Parade. Enthusiastic Interactors held out colourful banners and raised slogans on the need for organ donations.

E-learning kits at the cost of ₹5.26 lakh were donated to three government-aided schools in the region. Members of the club also provided food to 400 children at Aarambh, Turbhe, and Navi Mumbai under their Midday Meal project.

Recycled paper pencils and sharpeners were distributed to children at Vidhyadhiraja High School by the club. ■