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Rotary

NEWS PLUS



Membership growth is a survival strategy

Gurjeet S Sekon

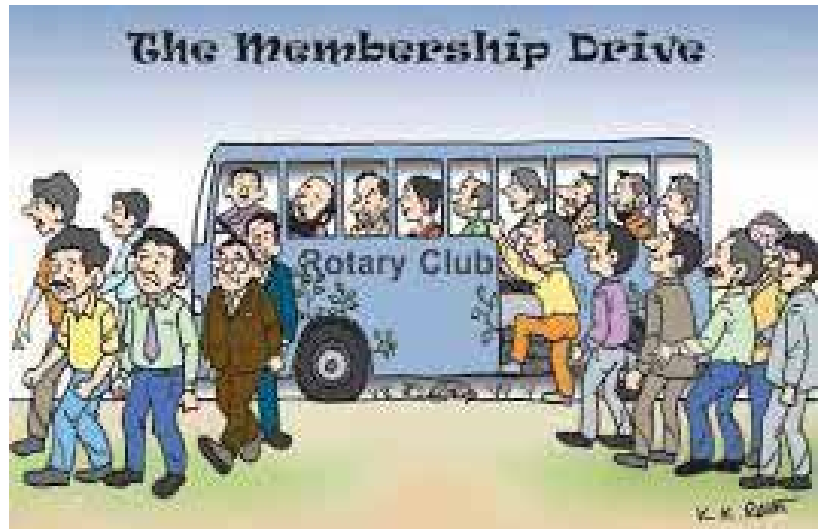
Rotary is a global network of 1.18 million neighbours; friends, leaders united in their desire to serve the ones who are less fortunate and derive satisfaction through their actions.

Why has our membership stagnated over the years? Why is the fluctuation year after year in a narrow band? Why does an organisation which serves before self, face this existential challenge? Do we have a problem attracting new members?

Surprisingly member attraction is not a problem. Retaining them is an issue. Investing 30 minutes in expectation management of prospective Rotarians can improve retention by fifteen percentage points. When we undersell or oversell ourselves, and there is a gap between what we say and what we do, we disappoint and lose our members.

All of us remember the Rotarian who invited us to become a member, yet nearly 70 per cent of us do not refer Rotary to another new member. We need to do an annual membership satisfaction survey and exit survey to determine what our members want and then deliver that. It maybe fellowship, leadership opportunities or service projects. This survey should form the basis of the next year's planning. The problem is when club leadership plans its activities by assuming they know what their members want without actually asking them.

Transparency in our day-to-day activities, financial integrity, and



mutual respect for each member enhances each member's experience. We need to focus on our members, their involvement, and engagement before fulfilling the community needs. We need to ask ourselves: Do we have the same focus on our internal and external customers?

It is vital to assess how non-Rotarians perceive our activities, whether it is fellowship or service projects. Do our clubs do enough

We need to have great storytellers who talk about the impact of Rotary on their lives, families and communities. We need leaders who happily give others credit and share the highs and lows of their members.

to create an aspirational value for potential members? We need to be flexible and innovative to attract new members. A mix of the hybrid model and outreach will strengthen our clubs. We cannot be prisoners of our traditions.

We need to have great storytellers who talk about the impact of Rotary on their lives, families and communities. Lastly we need leaders who happily give others credit and share the highs and lows of their members. Leaders who genuinely love and care for others. As Lao Tzu said, "A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: we did it ourselves."

Remember, Rotary belongs to all of us, and we are responsible for its growth and ability to serve others.

The writer is past district governor, RID 3070.

On the cover: A member of RC Sankagiri, RID 2982, giving a food packet to a hungry woman.

Furniture sets donated to Mussoorie school

Team Rotary News

Under its Happy Schools initiative, RC Mussoorie, RID 3080, handed over 50 sets of two-seater benches to the Mahatma Yogeshwar Inter College in a district project supported by the then DG Jitendra Dingra.

The club donated an amount of ₹45,000 to a couple Rakesh Joshi and Seema who were expecting twins, but one of the infants died in the womb and the mother has to undergo a complicated procedure to save the other baby. The club has also given medical aid to the tune of ₹60,000 to mothers of three other infants during the lockdown.

The club led by its immediate past president Nitish Mohan Agarwal distributed thousands of masks and sanitisers to the public, coolies and other frontline warriors in various phases of Covid-relief



Students with the new sets of benches.

projects. Three sanitiser dispensing machines along with sanitisers were installed at the Mahatma Yogeshwar Inter College, Mussoorie Girls Inter College and Ghananand Inter College during their board exams.

An attractive poster was released by Annette Shivansh and Ann Sarika to recognise the efforts of all the medical staff to mark International Nurses Day and to salute their 'self-less service' during the pandemic.■

RC Madras Chenna Patna holds eye camp for bank staff



An eye screening camp at the City Union Bank.

As part of its ongoing project, RC Madras Chenna Patna, RID 3232, organised an eye check-up camp in partnership

with Radhatri Nethralaya, a super specialty tertiary hospital, at the Thousand Lights branch of City Union Bank.

Two technicians from the hospital screened around 130 people including bank staff, security personnel and bank customers

for over four hours. "The technicians examined the people in minute detail for hours without a break," said N Anand, Club the then Secretary.

At the end of the camp, it was found out that four persons had to go undergo cataract surgery and some of them had to change their spectacles due to defective vision, while the rest had a normal eyesight. This is the second major eye camp conducted by the club in the last few months. The first one was held along with other clubs in The Banyan, a home for differently-abled persons in Mogappair.■

Two e-learning centres for online classes at Vizag

Team Rotary News

RC Visakha Port City president Capt R S Kali Prasad along with Rotarians at the newly-inaugurated e-learning facility at a community centre.



As part of enabling under-privileged students to attend online classes during the lockdown, RC Visakha Port City, RID 3020, inaugurated two e-learning centres at Musalayya Palem and Arilova, residential colonies in Visakhapatnam. They were set up at the community centres for children to attend smart classes and also for villagers to interact with government officials through zoom meetings.

The e-learning facility will provide a virtual platform for villagers to interact with doctors for consultations and other medical suggestions under the club's *Meet the Doctor* project which will be inaugurated shortly. "The online medical consultations will be held once in month. The centres are equipped with desktop computers with high-end configuration, high-definition web cameras, UPS, wireless dongles and smart TV for use during community

meetings or interaction with doctors by zoom or other apps," said Capt RS Kali Prasad, club president. The club has plans to open 10 e-learning centres in and around Visakhapatnam.

Rotaract, Interact clubs

An exclusive Rotaract and Interact clubs for the Annettes were inaugurated through physical and virtual meetings. Rotaract Club of Port City Tribe was chartered with Bhavesh Jain as president and Hima Varsha as secretary, while the Interact Club of Visakha Port City Tribe was chartered with Bhargav Aditya Varma as president and Aakanksha Saisri as secretary. Other Rotaract and Interact members also took oath at the installation ceremony. "This is the first time both Rotaract and Interact clubs were installed on the same day and with only Annettes as members," said Prasad. He said the new Rotaract and Interact members will "work together to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills and have fun through service." ■



RC Visakha Port City president Capt R S Kali Prasad with the newly-inducted Rotaract and Interact members.

RC Varkala takes up literacy project in right earnest

Team Rotary News

In a major initiative to promote the habit of reading newspapers among students as part of *Ente Kaumudi Literacy* project, a district initiative, RC Varkala, RID 3211, president G Krishnakumar handed over a copy of *Kerala Kaumudi* daily to Surya, a student of Njekkad Government Higher Secondary School.

The Malayalam daily was handed over in the presence of zone-6 AG Pradeepkumar M, school principal and other faculty.

The club president also presented newspapers to two children at the Varkala Sivagiri Higher Secondary School in the presence of school manager Vishalananda

Swamikal. A free delivery of newspapers to this school for one year was arranged by the club.

Under the H20 project, a decaying

pond was restored for the benefit of the local community. Krishnakumar, district project chair Sudhi Jabbar, panchayat

president AH Salim and other Rotarians were present at the formal handover of the renovated pond to the local people.■



Club president G Krishnakumar presenting a Malayalam daily to a student.



PDG Dhiran Datta dressed as postman delivers a certificate to a teacher.

Honouring teachers at their homes

As part of Rotary India Literacy Mission's teachers' support programme, RID 3040 honoured teachers for their dedication in imparting education to children in Bhopal and surrounding areas.

The Rotarians had initially planned an elaborate event for the occasion but post-Covid they decided to play it down and honour the teachers at their own homes considering the severity of the pandemic and the ensuing lockdown.

In Mhow some of the

Rotarians including past governor Dhiran Datta dressed up in khaki uniforms, replete with the caps, like postmen and delivered the certificates wrapped in brown envelopes with postal stamps stuck on it. Rotaractors of RAC Mhow Community also participated in the programme.

The teachers were thrilled to receive the certificates and interact with the Rotarians. The event was widely published in the print media across the region, thus helping build Rotary's public image.■

RC Jodhpur Padmini does 41 blood camps

V Muthukumaran

Union minister for water resources Gajendra Singh Shekhawat felicitated RC Jodhpur Padmini's IPP Rajshree Chowdhary for conducting 41 blood donation camps during her tenure (2019–20) in which over 2,000 units of blood was collected. The final blood camp was held at Galwan village in the presence of Shekhawat. "It was a moment of pride for this all-women's club when the minister honoured us for our work in the field of blood donation," said Rajshree who acknowledged the pivotal role by the Rotary Blood Bank, Jodhpur, in this project.

For the year ended June 30, the club had organised blood donation camps at Bodvi village with the help of RCC Salwa Kalla president Rajuram Kukna; Palasani village; Mata Ka Thaan with the help of volunteer Jaiveer Chowdhari and

his team; Khejarla village to mark World Blood Donor Day in which a tree plantation drive was held and masks were distributed to the villagers; Baada Kalla village with support from four RCCs and Jaiveer Chowdhari; Ramnagar village with the help of three RCCs and their volunteers; Bisalpur village; and Aratia Khurd village with help from RCC Khedi Charna.

In the first week of July, the club planted 70 trees in Khari Khurd Bawri village with the help of an RCC team and Jaiveer Chowdhari. A blood donation camp at Khedapa village was conducted in this month in which 55 units of blood was collected with support from Chowdhari and his team.

Two empty blocks under the Veer Durgadas Rathore flyover was adopted by the club for beautification and regular maintenance of the proposed green space. In August, the

club hosted a webinar on financial security for women, especially during tough times like the pandemic, which was much appreciated by the public and district Rotarians.

Covid-relief projects

The club joined hands with Dainik Bhaskar Foundation to provide food packets to the migrant families and daily wage earners during the lockdown. Moreover, the club donated 100 PPEs kits worth ₹1 lakh consisting of disposable overalls, gloves, caps, masks, etc for the doctors and paramedics at the Mathuradas Mathur Hospital in Jodhpur. An amount of ₹1 lakh was also donated to the PM CARES Fund. In partnership with RCC Kokunda, the club sprayed disinfectants to sanitise the entire village as a preventive step against Covid.

The Rotarians formed teams to supply grocery kits consisting of wheat, rice, sugar, masala powder, cooking oil and other essentials to over 100 families across four villages near Jodhpur. The food distribution was done in partnership with the respective RCCs. In a similar initiative, the club in association with RCC Akthali distributed fruits and vegetables to all the residents of Kokunda village during the lockdown. The RCC led by its president Bhagirath Bhadu extended support to Rotarians.

Rotarians help the needy

Rtn Mukta Kumari Rathore and her family vacated their Jodhpur house and moved to their village so that the district administration could use



Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat with RC Jodhpur Padmini's IPP Rajshree Chowdhary.

the building as a quarantine centre for treating Covid patients. She also provided grocery bags to around 250 families of daily wage earners at Viramdeogarh village.

Rtn Sushma Niraj provided lunch for 100 needy families in memory of her mother and donated cash for the purchase of fodder for a *gaushala* (cowshed) having around 500 cows. Another club member Nitika Daga gave 15 litres of sanitisers to the Mathuradas Mathur Hospital. Having learnt that her cook's home in Odisha was badly damaged in Cyclone Amphan with its roof blown off, Rtn Sushma Niraj Sethia helped him to repair his house with a cash donation of ₹20,000. Rtn Sandeepa Sancheti donated ₹5,100 to help a *gaushala* buy fodder for its cows at Chandpole in Jodhpur.

Tailoring class

With the aim to empower rural women, a Mahila Rozgar Kendra was set up in Ramnagar village in which 10 sewing machines (₹1 lakh) were installed to provide tailoring classes. All the necessary inputs such as fabrics, threads and other stitching accessories were supplied to the vocational centre. Rajshree and the then club secretary Vidhi Shah explained the importance of menstrual hygiene to the women of this village and distributed 150 sanitary napkin packs made at the Prayas Centre run by an NGO. "The first batch of 10 women has learnt tailoring under the guidance of Prema Devi at the Rozgar Kendra and all of them have become self-reliant now," says Rajshree.

The club partnered with the Rotaract Club of IIT Jodhpur to hold a medical camp in Jheepasani village. "The aim of the camp is to create awareness among the villagers who have no access to basic healthcare or knowledge about the diseases. Apart from the health camp, an eye check-up and a blood donation camp were also organised," said Rajshree.



Empty blocks under the Veer Durgadas Rathore flyover were converted into green hubs.

WinS project

An ambitious WinS project was taken up under a global grant by roping in a global partner — RC Kandy Hill Capital, Sri Lanka, RID 3220. The mega project will construct gender-segregated toilet blocks with overhead and underground water tanks, sewage connections, handwash stations, drinking water booths with water purifier and cooler at seven government schools. "We are also holding menstrual hygiene sessions for girl students who were given sanitary napkin packs at the end of the event." The club has also availed CSR funding for the WinS project in schools and Rotarians led by Rajshree make regular visits to oversee the work in progress across schools in Jodhpur.

The Interact Club of Shantiniketan sponsored by the club collected around 1,000 books for setting up libraries in government schools. Further, the Interactors visited the Rajkiya Uchch Madyamik Vidyalaya (government higher secondary school) at Peeperlai village to donate books for the library. "The Interactors engaged the students and emphasised the importance of cultivating the reading habit for a bright future," said Rajshree. "We are providing infrastructure and co-scholastic facilities to this government school which has been

adopted by the club to make it into a Happy School."

Rajshree was the chief guest at the annual day celebrations of the Rajkiya Uchch Madyamik Vidyalaya, Kokunda village. She presented a cash prize of ₹2,000 each to six girls who were selected for the state-level kabbadi championship. She announced a cash prize of ₹51,000 to students securing over 85 per cent in board exams. The club donated 125 sets of classroom furniture, 150 dictionaries, 350 notebooks and 150 stationery items to students. With the help of RCC Salwakalla, the club has started literacy classes for non-literate adults at Swabhimaan Centre, a new building constructed by the club in this village. Rajshree and secretary Vidhi led a tree plantation drive on the premises of the office of Additional District Project Coordinator, Education Department, Jodhpur. Chief district education officer, Jodhpur, Premchand Sankhla and other district officials took part in the sapling plantations.

A computer training centre was set up at Kokunda village with four computers, a printer, two computer tables and eight chairs. RCC Kokunda president Bhagirath Bhadu is running the centre in this village. An inverter was also installed at the computer centre. ■

Mirzapur Rotarians distribute food to needy during lockdown

V Muthukumaran

Following a call given by PM Narendra Modi, RC Mirzapur Diamond, RC 3120, urged the people to make Janata curfew on March 22 a big success with a campaign having a tagline *Corona ko harana hai, Janata curfew ko safal banana hai*. “During the lockdown period, we continued to distribute food packets to the needy families and

appealed to the public to stay home and follow social distancing,” said Pankaj Khatri, the club’s IPP.

Holi Milan was celebrated with Rotarians and their families enjoying a musical evening at the Vrindavan Gardens and playing with colour powders.

Mirzapur district magistrate Ashish Kumar Patel was felicitated by the club for leading

the fight against the pandemic with a team of corona warriors in the local administration. The club appealed to the public to wear masks and wash their hands with soap regularly as precautions against Covid.

Colourful posters and banners were installed at prominent spots and intersections in the town to mark the centennial year of Rotary



Rotarians distributing food to needy families to mark the fourth Charter Day of the club.



RC Mirzapur Diamond IPP Pankaj Khatri cuts a cake to celebrate the 115th Rotary anniversary. Also seen is past secretary Ashutosh Soni (4th from right).

in India. This project enhanced the public image of Rotary in the neighbourhood.

To mark the fourth Charter Day of the club, a mega food distribution event was held at the Zila Mahila Hospital which benefitted around 700 patients; while the 115th Rotary anniversary was celebrated by cake-cutting by club members.

As part of its efforts to shore up its public image, the club hosted the Republic Day celebrations at its adopted school in Mahewa village and gifted students for

staging variety programmes. In the vocational field, the club gave free computer training to poor students for a month. Lohri festival heralding the onset of harvest season was celebrated among Rotarians who enjoyed a traditional food at a guest house.

A health camp was organised by the club last year in which more than 200 people were checked for sugar and haemoglobin at the Lal Diggi Park. Having the theme of 'Health is wealth', the patients were advised on lifestyle modifications for disease-free life.

A *dandiya garba* dance for Rotarians and their families was organised in which the local people too participated. Mirzapur DIG Piyush Srivastava was the chief guest. "We celebrated Guru Nanak Jayanti as Prakash Parva and a lot of *diyas* were lit by Rotarians with their families at the Ganga ghat," recalled Pankaj Khatri. Snacks and pastries were distributed to children at the Bharatiya Vidya Mandir to mark Children's Day. The students performed a cultural programme for the Rotarians.

Woollen blankets were distributed in three phases for needy families at the Vindhyachal Railway station, Mirzapur bus stand and Jhuggi Jhopari Basti, a slum colony, to shield them against the wintry nights.

Last year, the club awarded 15 teachers at the Bhartiya Shishu Mandir and NP Vishwakarma to mark Teacher's Day and Engineer's Day respectively.

Dr Satyendra Prasad, principal, Govt Degree College, Aurai, gave a presentation on Mission Chandrayaan-2 at the general body meet of the club. An awareness rally on Swachhata Abhiyan was organised followed by schoolchildren performing a *nukkad natak* (street play) to spread the message of cleanliness.

All the five Rotary clubs in Mirzapur joined hands to give a warm reception to Rotary Yatra at its final camp in the town. A team led by Rtn Sachin Mishra staged a programme at the Rotary Bhawan on Swachhata and prevent the use of plastic for a clean environment. ■

A health camp was organised by the club last year in which more than 200 people were checked for sugar and haemoglobin at the Lal Diggi Park. The patients were advised on lifestyle modifications for disease-free life.

D 2981

RC Kumbakonam East

DG Balaji Babu served food to the needy people under the *Annapurna* project. More than one serving was done for the beneficiaries and the dishes were also given in containers for the needy to partake at home.



D 3000

RC Pudukkottai City

The club joined hands with the Duraisamy Nursing Home to conduct a diabetes and diabetic food screening camp on the premises of the Pudukkulam Walkers Association. Over 200 people were screened, of which 140 were diabetics and 35 were detected as having diabetes.



D 3040

RC Bhopal Hills

The first physical meeting of the club in this Rotary year was conducted by observing the Covid precautions in October. DGE Mahendra Mishra and PDG Narendra Jain attended the meeting that saw around 85 per cent of the members taking part in deliberations.





D 3040

RC Indore Meghdoot

The club organised a protest rally against the rape-cum-murder of Dr Priyanka Reddy on the suburbs of Hyderabad to create awareness on respecting womanhood. More than 100 women and 25 men from Rotary clubs in Indore, besides volunteers, took part in the campaign for gender equality.



D 3053

RC Alwar

Sweaters and winter jerseys were distributed to over 160 students at the upper primary government school in Kamalpur tehsil in Ramgarh. Rtms Shankar Khandelwal and Puneet Bhatia sponsored the jersey distribution project, while the event was coordinated by the then club secretary Shashank Jhalani.



D 3053

RC Bhiwadi Shakti

Over 2,000 canvas bags were distributed at various places as part of its campaign against single-use plastic. A programme was held at the Baba Mohan Ram Kissan College in Bhiwadi to drive home the message to students and faculty in the presence of IAS officers.

D 3053

RC Jodhpur Sanskar

Benches were donated to the Chopasni Housing Board Hospital under the club's *Gift a Smile* project. At the annual day programme of Bharti Sangrahit Shiksha Vikas Sansthan, the club donated notebook sets to underprivileged students.



D 3054

RC Himatnagar

A freezer box costing ₹70,000 was donated to the Himatnagar Municipality in the presence of DG Rajesh Agarwal, PDG Dr Arun Parikh and club president Dr Sanjay Vediya. A large number of Rotarians were present at the hand-over event.



D 3060

RC Surat Roundtown

More than 400 sweaters were distributed at five schools in Vyara and Kaprada tribal regions of south Gujarat. The school managements thanked Rotary for the gesture as it will help students from underprivileged families to protect themselves against harsh winter.





D 3080

RC Mohali

Project *Mamta* was launched by Punjab health minister Balbir Singh Sidhu and MP Manish Tewari at a vocational centre. Nutritious food packets are being given to lactating mothers at government hospitals for six months under this project.



D 3080

RC Panchkula

The club joined hands with Satya Darshana Charitable Trust to hold a blood donation camp during the lockdown. Sixty-three people donated blood and a pledge was taken to serve the needy. Deputy Commissioner Mukesh Kumar Ahuj inaugurated the camp in the presence of club president Jagmohan Garg.



D 3080

RC Panchkula Midtown

The club donated two ventilators — BPAP machines — to the Civil Hospital. The equipment were presented by Haryana Speaker Gian Chand Gupta on behalf of the club members who were present at the hand-over event.

D 3131

RC Pune Heritage

Under Project *Mahadaan*, the club approached 12 different housing societies for helping the Covid-affected families. They were able to collect three tonnes of food grains, over 550 bags of clothes and ₹3 lakh in cash. All the collected food, clothes and cash were handed over to NGOs in and around Pune.



D 3141

RC Mumbai Coastline

A Covid safety kit donation drive was taken up to help guard Mumbai police against the coronavirus. Youngsters came up with innovative ideas to generate funds and the club opened payment gateways on social media. The club hosted a two-day E-Ryla titled *Future gazers* attended by over 700 participants.



D 3160

RC Guntakal

Free homeo medicines against swine flu, dengue and Chikungunya were given to students at the Government SJP High School. Over 1,100 students benefitted from this project. Also, a dental camp was conducted by Rtn Dr Kakarla Prakash at the ZP High School, Nagasamudram, reaching out to 200 students.





D 3160

RC Kavali

A health awareness programme was held for the tribal people near the Kavali tank area. An ayurvedic camp was also organised in this area and free medicines were given for chronic ailments. At the blood donation camp at the RSR Engineering College, 45 Rotarians donated blood.



D 3170

RC Hubli West

Club president Narasimhamurthy's son has done a colourful portrait of Rotary founder Paul Harris and uploaded it in YouTube. In the video, Madhusudhan explains the history of Rotary and its milestone projects over the decades, thus inspiring people to join the organisation for service.



D 3190

RC KGF Prime

The charter president along with office-bearers were installed at this newly-inaugurated club in the presence of DG Nagendra Prasad and district trainer PDG Dr KP Nagesh. G Raghu and Dr KJR Mouni are the president and secretary of the club.

Honouring doctors and soldiers in Nahan

Team Rotary News



Clockwise:

Tree plantation drive to honour martyred jawans.

Doctors being honoured.

Milk being supplied during lockdown.

On the occasion of Doctors Day, RC Nahan, RID 3080, and the Innerwheel Club of Nahan honoured 160 doctors who served as frontline doctors at corona wards in the city. A certificate of appreciation was given out to these doctors as a mark of gratitude for their service. Doctors from the Government Medical College and Nahan Ayurvedic Hospital thanked club members for the gesture.

During the lockdown the club supplied 500 litres of milk at Govindghand, a contamination zone in Nahan. The count of Covid patients in the area had crossed 100 and local authorities has completely suspended all activity in the area. The

club president Ashok Sikhand said that “the milk was sent for children in the contamination zones, this was the least we could do for them.”

The club has also conducted a tree plantation drive to honour fallen soldiers. Members along with the help of the local forest department staff have planted 1,100 saplings in the names of soldiers who died in the line of duty. The Innerwheel Club of Nahan jointly sponsored this event. “Every tree we plant is not just going to help in making the environment healthier, but will also be a living memorial of those people that served in the Indian Army during times of war,” said Sikhand. ■

Greening Roorkee

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Roorkee, RID 3080, has implemented a massive sapling plantation drive in four phases. The initial two phases saw a huge turnout of Rotarians planting 1,000 saplings along the sides of a 1.5km stretch of road. Gaurav Goel, the Mayor of Roorkee, also participated in the programme. The saplings were protected with tree guards too.

Around 350 more saplings were planted in the next two phases.

The club members have vowed to nourish and protect the saplings until they grow to a reasonable height, said club president Prem Sarin. ■



Rotarians on a plantation drive.

Faridkot Rotarians extend Covid safety solutions



PPE kits and masks are being donated to the government hospital.

Rotary Club of Faridkot, RID 3090, gave a ventilator to the Government Civil Hospital in Faridkot. The Rotarians provided large number of PPE kits and masks to doctors and frontline staff in the hospital. Hand sanitisers

and masks are being distributed to the public, said club president Parvesh Rehan.

The club provided packed food and groceries to underprivileged families and migrants workers during the initial days after the

lockdown was announced. The Rotarians conducted extensive awareness programmes for the public in various localities on handwash, hygiene, use of face masks and social distancing to safeguard them from coronavirus. ■

Promoting good health and sanitation

Team Rotary News



Rotary Club of Kanpur North, RID 3110, installed a toilet block at the Rambagh Park in Kanpur. It was inaugurated virtually by DG DC Shukla. RISM zonal coordinator PDG Sharad Chandra, DGE Mukesh Singhal and DGN Pawan Agarwal, district secretary Swapnil Sharma and club members had logged in to witness the inaugural event.

Fifteen saplings were planted at the Rambagh Park and Geetha

Park in the city by the club members. They installed tree guards around all the saplings and have made arrangements at the parks for taking care of the plants.

The club began the year with a webinar on health management which focused on Rotary's *Project Positive Health – Stop NCDs*. The audience were urged to regularly check their weight, BP, blood sugar and control their consumption of sugar, salt and

Clockwise from top left:

A doctor being felicitated.

A new toilet block.

A tree plantation drive at a park.

oil for better health. The webinar stressed on *Ek chamachh kum, char kadam aage* shedding light on changing lifestyle and food habits for healthy living. ■

An Adivasi school gets a facelift

Team Rotary News

RC Nasik
Grapecity,
RID 3030,
raised funds
to build and renovate the
Zilla Parishad School at
Thakurpada, an Adivasi
village 48km away from
Nashik. The village with
87 families had earlier
received help by the club
to install a water distribu-
tion system to help end
their struggle for drinking
water.

When members of RC
Pune Grapecity visited the
village, they decided to
construct a new classroom
and a gender-segregated
toilet block at the school.
A committee was formed
under the chairmanship of



New building being inaugurated.

the club's past president
Rajan Pillai and the foun-
dation stone for the con-
struction was laid in June.
Club members Suruchi

Ranadive, an architect
and a member of the
Indian Institute of Interior
Designers designed the in-
teriors. By the end of June,

with proper sanitation and
hygiene facilities the new
classroom and toilet block
were handed over to the
villagers. ■



Rotarians at the newly-built classroom.

D 3201

RC Coimbatore Manchester

A dialysis centre was set up with two machines at the government hospital in Kolarpatti, near Coimbatore. The club entered into an MoU with the hospital to provide dialysis free to the needy patients, post-lockdown. AG CT Thiyagarajan inaugurated the facility.



D 3211

RC Alleppey

Two Covid testing kiosks were donated to the Women and Children's Hospital for swab and blood sample collections by the club as part of its relief work against the pandemic. The facilities enhanced the hospital's capacity to treat Covid patients.



D 3212

RC Nagercoil Blossoms

At the 47th Golden Heart Camp held at the St Antony's HS School, Kanyakumari, in association with the Apollo Children's Hospital, 150 children were screened. Of which 25 were selected for surgery. PDG H Shajahan inaugurated the camp. IPP Sridevi Prince coordinated the event.





D 3212

RC Srivilliputur

World Heart Day was observed in the town with a guest lecture followed by a health camp for chronic patients. Rtn Dr Selvarajan gave a talk on curative health. The lecture dwelt on lifestyle modifications and dietary changes for healthy life.



D 3231

RC Polur

School stationery items were distributed to over 100 tribal students at the panchayat union middle school, Kallathoor village, in Jawadhu Hills. Rtns Manoj Kumar, Senthil Kumar and Rajesh Kumar, the sponsors, were honoured by AG Ansar Basha.



D 3231

RC Tiruttani

A paediatric cardiac camp was held at the Dalapathy Vinayagam School in association with the Apollo Hospitals. The then DGE S Muthupalaniappan, RID 3232, PDGs Raja Seenivasan, A Subramaniam and members from RCs Madras West, Chennai Port City, Chennai Towers, Madras Esplanade and Anna Nagar Madras took part.

D 3231

RC Vandavasi

Independence Day was celebrated at the Government Girls HS School in Vandavasi. Club president S Veera Ragavan hoisted the tricolour and donated an audio speaker system to the school. The club planted 100 saplings at the Government Boys HS School in the town.



D 3231

RC Vandavasi Town

Literacy month was celebrated by awarding six teachers with the Best Teacher Award. Child Development Scholarships involving ₹2,000 each were given to six students. DGE WM Nirmal Ragavan was the chief guest. DGN JKN Palani and AG BN Anbalagan were the guests of honour.



D 3232

RC Chennai Green City

A cancer screening camp was held at Old Alamathi village in which over 100 women were screened. The camp enhanced the public image of Rotary in this village near Chennai. The then club president A Jithendra was supported by past secretary SR Kumaran and Rtn Dr Priya Kannan in this event.





D 3240

RC Siliguri Midtown

Project eVidya has installed smart classrooms with solar back-up in government higher secondary schools. More than 15,000 students would benefit from the digital classrooms which have e-learning equipment and software catering to the state board syllabus. This is a joint project with RC Bangalore South.



D 3250

RC Chanakya

The club donated 51 wheelchairs to AIIMS, Patna, to commence the new Rotary year. Club president Ashish Banka, project convener Dr Pragati Sinha and Community Services director Dr Vinita Trivedi were among those present at the handover event. The wheelchairs will benefit over 10,000 patients each year.



D 3250

RC Jamshedpur West

A mega tree plantation drive was held at Dhanchatani village near Govindpur with club president Anjani Nidhi leading from the front. Project director Dr Amit Mukherjee inaugurated the green drive. The villagers pledged they would maintain the newly planted 1,000 simul trees.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

A comfortable waiting room for patients

Team Rotary News



Above: DG Hanmanth Reddy inaugurating a new waiting room for patients at the Niloufer Hospital in the presence of state medical education director Dr K Ramesh Reddy and club president Sanjay Kedia.

Below: Club president Sanjay Kedia in front of the refurbished park on the hospital premises.



Rotary Club of Hyderabad Centennial, RID 3150, has set up a 1,900 sqft waiting hall at the Niloufer Hospital which is frequented by pregnant women for delivery or regular checkups. “At least 500 women visit the hospital daily but the waiting area is small forcing many of them to wait outside for their turn. So we decided to construct the waiting hall,” says club member Anitha Reddy, adding that it will benefit at least 1.5 lakh women annually.

The hall constructed at a cost of ₹4 lakh was inaugurated in September by DG Hanmanth Reddy in the presence of Dr K Ramesh Reddy, state director of medical education. Club president Sanjay Kedia, secretary Parag Shah and assistant governor Uday Pilani were also present.

The club beautified a play area on the hospital campus and installed few play equipment there. ■

A Rotary forest in Chitradurga

Team Rotary News

A mega plantation drive at the Bengaluru-Pune highway.



Rotary Club of Chitradurga, RID 3160, along with Inner Wheel Club of Chitradurga, is creating a 'Rotary Parimala Vana' on the Bengaluru-Pune National Highway. Three hundred flowering and fruit-bearing

plants have been planted at the venue.

The Rotarians are hopeful that the forest will serve as home for various bird species besides providing a green cover. "We were excited when RI announced environment

protection as its seventh area of focus as we are deeply involved in sapling plantation in our club," said club secretary Kalakayya Revanakimath, adding that this initiative will enhance Rotary's public image in a big way.■

A book on healthy living and simple cures

Never Visit a Doctor: How to Stay Fit & Healthy Forever written by Sapna Priyadarshini gives simple, easy to understand insights into your body and suggests *yogasanas* to maintain good health.

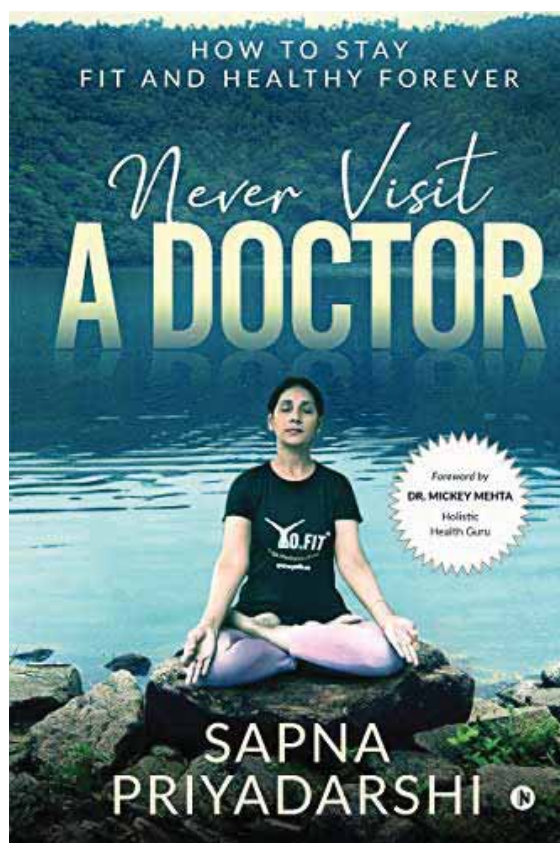
In the second part of the book Sapna talks about lifestyle diseases such as obesity, blood pressure and diabetes and suggests *asanas*, *pranayama*, meditation therapies and diet plans to control such disorders.

For instance, the book says consuming two fresh cucumbers for 2–3 weeks reduces BP, so does

including apple cider vinegar or lemon juice in warm water every morning. There are remedies for arthritis, migraine, back pain and depression in the book.

Sapna, secretary of RC Bombay Seacost, RID 3141, is a wellness coach and co-founder of Yo.Fit, a wellness organisation.

Her book is available online in Amazon India, USA and UK websites in paperback and kindle versions, Flipkart, Kobo, iBooks and Google Play. The paperback edition costs ₹498 while the Kindle version is ₹139.■



Sankagiri Rotarians reach out to the community

Team Rotary News

The Rotarians of RC Sankagiri, RID 2982, has been providing cooked lunch for the underprivileged on every Sunday since the start of this Rotary year. They plan to continue this good act for the entire year.

The club honoured frontline staff and volunteers for distributing Covid protective gears such as masks and sanitisers among the public. The RCC members were also felicitated for distributing a herbal concoction that is believed to improve the immune system and protect people from contracting coronavirus.



Frontline warriors and volunteers being felicitated.

The club members planted 5,000 palm saplings in various parts of the town. They plan to

plant 17,000 saplings to commemorate the club's 17th charter anniversary this year.

The Rotarians are implementing various projects in line with RILM's aim of seeing a 100 per cent literate India by 2025. Adult literacy classes, honouring teachers with Nation Builder Awards, installing e-learning classrooms and libraries are being carried out by all the clubs in the district. To create awareness among the public about Rotary's literacy plans, the club distributed t-shirts with Rotary's literacy slogans to around 70 autorickshaw drivers in the town.

A blood donation camp organised jointly with the Mohan Kumaramangalam Hospital helped collect 600 units of blood. ■



Rotarians on a greening mission.