

June 2022

# Rotary

## NEWS PLUS





# Cataract surgery camp in Mahemdavad

## Team Rotary News

A cataract screening and surgery camp was organised by RC Mahemdabad, RID 3060, in association with the Sankara Eye Hospital in Mogar. Ophthalmologists from the hospital examined over 100 people for various eye disorders and identified 20 patients who required cataract surgery. They were treated at the hospital soon after the camp.

The club arranged food and accommodation for the patients and their caregivers. ■

An elderly woman being screened at the camp.



## Glucometers distributed to diabetics



A diabetic patient receives a glucometer.

RC Sonapat, RID 3012, has been organising special medical and screening camps for diabetes patients on the 29<sup>th</sup> of every month under the name 'Dia-beat-this' at the Daryaram Hospital in the city.

Since May the club decided to distribute glucometers free of cost to patients to monitor their blood sugar level. The devices were given to 10 people and 42 people were screened for diabetes in one such camp.

In another initiative, the club installed two computers with accessories and a UPS to the Mahavir Prasad Jain Senior Secondary School in Shezadpur to help the students get trained in computer-related skills. ■

**On the cover :** Members of RC Nasik giving a solar lantern to a woman in a remote village that does not have electricity.

# A mega cyclothon in Mysuru

## Team Rotary News

**A**round 350 riders took part in a mega cyclothon hosted by RC Central Mysore, RID 3181, in partnership with other NGOs in Mysuru to spread the message of Rotary's immense contributions towards End Polio and create awareness on Covid vaccination. "We sponsored 25 bicycle riders and 10 among the 100 volunteers who coordinated the mega rally," said club secretary Vijayendra S. "Our motive is to sensitise the public about the work done by Rotary in eradicating polio from the world."

A government school at Hunsur taluk, near Nagarhole

forest range, was donated three blackboards and one overhead projector screen which would benefit 200 students in Classes 8-10. School headmaster Chandrashekar thanked the club for the facilities which would give a fillip to classroom education. Club president Anil Padaki, Vijayendra, Rtms Jayaprakash M S, Vivek Attavar and Ram Mohan K were present at the handover event.

The club joined hands with RC Mysore South East to donate 20 desk-benches and 13 *Nalikai* tables (which enables learning through fun) worth ₹1.5 lakh to a govern-

ment school at Hadinaru Mole village.

"A festive ambience prevailed at the school with around 150 students elated over the new facilities at their school. The headmaster and teachers appreciated our gesture. Village panchayat officials and a ranking officer from the Education Department were present at the handover event," said Vijayendra. AG Ravishankar from zone-8, zonal secretaries Venkatesh and Vasu were also present. Project chair Vivek Attavar was instrumental in the success of this Happy Schools Project.■





# Vocational Service Awards for professionals

## Team Rotary News



RID 3141 DG Dr Rajendra Agarwal (centre) with the awardees.

Ten professionals were honoured with Vocational Excellence Awards for their contributions to society by RI District 3141 at a gala event. “The glittering ceremony was attended by around 300 Rotarians from our district which has over 115 Rotary clubs with around 6,000 members,” said Manishi Vora, district chair, Vocational Excellence Awards, RID 3141.

DG Dr Rajendra Agarwal

presented the awards to the professionals in the presence of past governors and TRF Trustee Gulam Vahanvaty. RC Bombay Sea Face is the host club which was supported by RCs Bombay Central and Mumbai South and other co-hosts from RID 3141.

The awardees are Dr Devi Prasad Shetty, founder, Narayana Hrudayalaya Hospitals; Jaswanti Ben Popat, founder, Mahila Griha Udyog

Lijjat Papad; Iqbal Singh Chahal, commissioner, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation; Swati Paradkar, president, Mahila Griha Udyog Lijjat Papad; Adar Poonawala, CEO, Serum Institute; Dr Bharat Watwani, psychiatrist; Hormusji Cama, director, Mumbai Samachar; Chetna Gala Sinha, social activist; Dr Ramesh Raliya, inventor of Nano Urea; and Nehal Vora, CEO, Central Depository Services Ltd.■

## Caring for birds and animals

RC Bangalore Brigades, RID 3190, supports the Gully Animals Foundation that extends care to stray dogs, cats and birds in Bengaluru. The club has supported the vaccination of 150 stray dogs and the treatment of sick and injured animals. Sudeep, a club member, sponsors the birth control programme for dogs and cats every month. The club provides funds to the Foundation to procure animal and bird feeds.

The members also place earthen pots with water in their homes and in public places to help the birds and animals quench their thirst.■



Stray dogs are being vaccinated with the help of local NGO.

# RID 3100 signs pact with children's hospital

## Team Rotary News



DG Rajiv Singhal, along with PGICH director Prof Ajay Singh and Rotarians, at the signing of the agreement to provide healthcare services.

DG Rajiv Singhal, RID 3100, along with a group of Rotarians from the district, has signed an MoU with the Post Graduate Institute of Child Health (PGICH), Noida, to provide healthcare services to neonatal patients.

Under the initiative, around 2,420 members from 101 clubs of this district have signed up to help mothers of newborns from poor economic background with details on proper treatment and refer them to PGICH. People

living in far-flung areas with no access to modern healthcare will be provided help to reach this premier medical institute. On behalf of the institute, the agreement was signed by Prof Ajay Singh, director, PGICH. ■

## Wheelchair, walker for special children

A wheelchair and walker were donated by RC Pondicherry White Town, RID 2981, to orthopaedically-challenged students from Atthichudi Special School at Ellaipillaichavady village. The project was funded by club member Balaji and the beneficiaries were identified by Rtn Dr Ganapathy.

The club joined hands with RC Pondicherry Marina to sponsor ₹22,000 for meeting the travel expenses of 21 girls who were selected for the Junior Women's Hockey National Championship at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. ■



RC Pondicherry White Town president Vaitheeswaran (centre), along with club members, donate a wheelchair and walker to special children.



# Bicycles for ASHA workers

## Team Rotary News

RC Mumbai Kandivli West, RID 3141, gifted bicycles to 25 ASHA workers attached to the local primary health centre in Sphalae village in Maharashtra. The club members pooled in funds for the project.

The cycles will be a boon for the women and will help them visit houses across the village in a comfortable manner to deliver healthcare for the residents, said club member Yagnesh Bhatt. ■



Bicycles being given to ASHA workers.

## Promoting reusable sanitary napkins



DGs Pankaj Shah, RID 3131, and Santosh Pradhan, RID 3060, at the distribution of sanitary pads.

RC Poona North, RID 3131, and RC Gandevi, RID 3060, jointly promoted awareness about reusable sanitary pads in Billimora, Gujarat, by distributing such packs to 250 adolescent girls studying in the Ashram School in Arjai village. The pads can be used for three years, says Sameer Rupani, district director, Environment, RID 3131.

RID 3131 Green Periods chairperson Neena Raysoni explained the benefits of reusable sanitary napkins to the girls and the school staff. DGs Pankaj Shah (RID 3131) and Santosh Pradhan (RID 3060) were present at the school for the distribution event. ■

# Solar lanterns to light up village homes

Team Rotary News



Rotarians along with beneficiaries who had received solar lanterns.

**R**C Nasik, RID 3030, provided solar lanterns to 12 families in a remote village that does not have electricity supply. A number of settlements scattered across Darewadi, 50km from Nashik, is in the dark. "These settlements are still to be connected to the power grid. Being isolated, cattle as well as children

have succumbed to attacks by wild animals like panthers etc. Life indeed is very tough and hazardous, particularly at nights and during monsoon when it rains heavily, the villagers face extreme discomfort here," says club member Vinayak Deodhar.

The club is assisting children with their academics in a village school here and "we decided to

give solar lanterns to the families. Now the villagers can carry this lantern at night to go out without any fear." The lanterns were sponsored by club member Ravindra Mahadeokar.

The club is planning to install solar street lights and distribute solar lamps to the households in some of these settlements soon. ■



# Holi celebrations at Palia orphanage

V Muthukumaran

**O**n the eve of Holi (March 18), the members of RC Pallia Kalan, RID 3120, celebrated the festival with children and staff of Thakkar Bapa Seva Ashram in the city. Sweets and new clothes were distributed to the inmates and “our Holi celebrations at this special home was covered in the local media,” said club president Sandeep Bansal. A large LCD TV was donated to the management of the Ashram so that children can have a mix of entertainment and information at

the common hall which will help them to gain knowledge, he said.

During Holi celebrations, a get-together was arranged for the parents of club members at the farmhouse of Dheeraj Mishra at Palia Kalan. “We honoured the elders with a shawl and played games with them at the farmhouse. It was also an opportunity to discuss our service projects and plan for the upcoming months. The get-together party was shared on social media platforms and was covered in the local dailies. All

the Rotarians took part with their parents in this gala fellowship,” said Bansal.

Noted author Vijay Shankar Mishra and legislator Romi Sahni were honoured with mementoes at an event. Mishra’s five new books were released on the occasion. Refreshments were given to pilgrims visiting the Mahour Vaish Dharamshala in the presence of Sandeep Bansal, secretary Prashant Varnwal, Rtms Kumud Mahindra, Vijay Mahindra, D K Srivastava, Ankur Goyal, Ritesh Agarwal and



RC Pallia Kalan president Sandeep Bansal (3<sup>rd</sup> from L), along with Rotarians, at the refreshment stall for the pilgrims at the Mahour Vaish Dharamshala.



Club president Bansal donating an LCD TV to a staff at the Thakkar Bapa Seva Ashram.



Rajeev Gupta. In a similar initiative, the club provided refreshments to students at the Tharu Girls Hostel, Palia, on Mahavir Jayanti. “The event was also sponsored by Chand Kumar Jain who was present with his family at the venue.”

Mattresses were donated at the marriage of 39 poor girls

sponsored by the Mathiya Baba Mandir Samiti. A watercooler was installed at the Ram Leela Grounds, Palia, to quench the thirst of commuters and youth playing on this ground during scorching summer. During the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections in February, the club installed four

selfie points at different polling booths — Nagar Palika, Ram Leel Balika School, Kanya Pathala and Cane Society — with the aim to motivate the people to cast their votes. “Our selfie points enhanced Rotary’s public in Palia even as we tried to impress upon the public to exercise their adult franchise,” said Bansal.

A cash donation of ₹38,000 was made to a 14-year-old girl to undergo an intestine operation. “Each member helped to mobilise the amount to help the daughter of a poor man Ramiaya who was no more and she was unable to meet the surgery cost,” said Bansal. Every year in the first week of January, the club provides hot piping tea and biscuits to the public at the dawn under Project *Muskaan*. “This permanent service has earned us goodwill among the public in Palia,” said Bansal. ■

One of the selfie points put up by the club at the polling booths during the UP Assembly election.



**D 2981**

## RC Chidambaram

A medical camp was conducted at Kadavacheri, the club's adopted village, in which around 250 children were examined for general illnesses. Consultations and medicines were given. A number of Rotarians were present at the venue.



**D 2981**

## RC Kumbakonam Temple City

A seminar on adolescent healthcare was organised at the Little Flower Higher Secondary School. Over 500 students took part in the event in which doctors gave lectures on psychology, hygiene, food habits and created awareness against drugs.



**D 2981**

## RC Manora Pattukkottai

A mega eye camp was organised with the support of Sankara Eye Hospital, Coimbatore. Seventy beneficiaries were chosen for surgery at the hospital. The club arranged transport, accommodation, food and also sponsored the surgery for the patients. The club, in association with its RCC at Surappalam village, conducted a veterinary camp for the livestock.







**D 2981**

## **RC Thiruvaiyaru**

In a mega eye camp at the Srinivasa Rao Higher Secondary School, 111 patients out of 200 beneficiaries were selected for cataract surgery at the Sankara Eye Hospital, Coimbatore. Hearing aids were distributed in the presence of DG S Balaji and PDG Gunasekar at a family get-together among club members.



**D 2981**

## **RC Tiruthuraipoondi**

A one-day career guidance and counselling event was held at the Government Girls HS School in the presence of club president P Arivazhagan. School principal Kumudham presided over the event. Rtn Chezhiyan Rajangam explained to the students the importance of choosing the right career path for a bright future. AG V Senthil gave the vote of thanks.



**D 3000**

## **RC Dindigul West**

DG Dr R Jeyakkan inaugurated a waiting shelter (₹2 lakh) for visitors at the local registrar office. The club donated ₹25,000 to Annapoorani Trust which is doing the last rites of unattended corpses and providing food to the destitute. Students who got admission to medical colleges after passing NEET exam and the faculty who coached them were felicitated by the club.

**D 3000**

## RC Pallapatti

A PolioPlus camp was organised at the Panchayat Union Primary School in the presence of club president Jamalkadhar Wasim Raja and secretary JK Abdul Bari. Club advisor Dr Abdul Kareem, Jamaat administrator Rtn Kollavatti Haji Mohammed Ali, pharmacy shop owner Abud Tahir and Dawud Pumps owner Z Mansoor were also present. In the polio camp, over 2,500 children were given oral drops. The club is holding the PolioPlus camps since 1996.



**D 3030**

## RC Chopra

Club's charter member and former president BM Patil cut a cake to mark the golden jubilee year in the presence of former state assembly speaker Arunlal Gujrati, PDG Rajendra Bhamre, AG Yogesh Bhole Jalgaon, club president Nitin Ahirrao and secretary Rupesh Patil. It was also an occasion for fellowship.



**D 3030**

## RC Nashik Enclave

Twenty-five differently-abled including hearing-impaired children expressed their drawing skills in a competition titled 'Best from West' as part of Interact Week celebrations. DG Ramesh Meher gave prizes to the winners. A number of contests was held as part of Interact Week.







**D 3080**

## **RC Shahabad Markanda**

A fashion show was organised with the support of Inner Wheel club, Devi Bhagwati Bala Sundri Mandir and Singer India company. Prizes were given to the winners. Fifteen teachers were honoured at the Satluj Senior Secondary School to mark Teacher's Day.



**D 3090**

## **RC Patran**

DG Parveen Jindal and spouse Nalini inaugurated Rotary Bhawan in the presence of club president Parshotam Singla, secretary Bhushan Singla and other members. DGN Ghansham Kansal and AG Shiv Jindal were also present. The new building will enable the club to host a number of welfare projects in Patran, a remote area, and will enhance its public image.



**D 3090**

The district interact chairman Manik Raj Singla and his team conducted a series of career counselling and guidance sessions to help 5,000 students of Classes 11–12 in selecting the right higher education courses for a lucrative career. Around three-fourth of the beneficiaries were in government schools.

**D 3090**

## RC Sri Ganganagar

A sumptuous lunch was provided to the inmates at the Apna Ghar Ashram, a special home for the elderly destitute and orphans. Club president Jai Kumar Jasuja, secretary Harish Bhatia and PDG Ashwani Sachdeva were present at the venue.



**D 3110**

## RC Budaun Central

The importance of hand hygiene to prevent diseases was conveyed to 250 students at the Sant Pathik Uccha Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Chandausi, to mark Global Handwash Day. Soap packets were given to students and AG Dr Sanjeev Gupta spoke about personal hygiene, especially the need to consume food with clean hands for a healthy life. The faculty thanked Rotary for the gesture.



**D 3110**

## RC Kanpur Aryans

A dental camp was organised jointly with the Rama Dental College, Kanpur, at Barhat village in Bithoor taluk. Around 55 people, mostly children and elderly, were examined for oral disorders and advised on dental hygiene. The event was covered in local newspapers.







**D 3120**

## **RC Kushinagar**

Ration bags were distributed to 175 families at Piprahiya village in Kasia taluk in partnership with RC Gorakhpur Midtown and Nine Foundation, an NGO. A condolence meet over the demise of playback singer Lata Mangeshkar was held with club president Dr MH Khan laying the wreath on the statue of the late singer. Club secretary Wahid Ali spoke about the singer.



**D 3131**

## **Rotary E-Club Pune Diamond**

Reusable sanitary pads worth ₹82,000 were distributed to over 270 girls at the BT Shahani Navin Hind English Primary School at an MHM session held jointly with RC Pune Cantonment, Freedom from PCOS and Ruchi Malls. District environment director Sameer Rupani, Green Periods chairperson Neena Raysoni, club presidents Pawan Joshi, Binayak Chaudhry and project chair Saira Master were present.



**D 3142**

## **RC Ambernath Smart City**

DG Dr Mayuresh Warke inaugurated a Happy School at Shilandwadi village in Murbad taluk. Structural repair, plumbing work, handwash station, wall decorations, toilet blocks, a water purifier, inverter and solar system were done by the club. Besides, tables, chairs, a cupboard and computer were donated to this zilla parishad school.

# New interior at special home

## Team Rotary News

**O**n the World Autistic Day, RC Margao, RID3170, provided foam flooring to District Early Intervention Centre at Hospicio Hospital in South Goa. The foam flooring will help children with disabilities to play and attend therapy comfortably. This centre caters to close to 500 differently-abled children.■

Club president Mangirish Kakodkar along with members of RC Margao at the District Early Intervention Centre, Hospicio Hospital in South Goa.



## Rotarians celebrate World Peace Day with school students



Rotarians along with students who received prizes and certificates.

RC Muzaffarnagar Samarpan, RID 3100, celebrated World Peace Day with the students of New Horizon School, Muzaffarnagar.

Students participated in poster-making, slogan writing and speech competitions. Winners who secured first, second and third positions in all the three

competitions were given prizes and certificates.

Under the RILM initiative, the club honoured the school principal, Meenakshi Mittal with the Nation Builder Award. Club member Neeraj Kaushik addressed the students on the topic 'Importance of World Peace Day'.

"The world has been badly affected by war and terror. This day works as a reminder to promote global solidarity for building a peaceful and sustainable world," he said to the students.

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly.■



**A** multispecialty medical camp was organised at Komaratchi, a small town, by RC Chidambaram Central, RID 2981, in partnership with the pharmacy stores affiliated to the Prime Minister Bharatiya Jan Aushadi Kendra in which 250 beneficiaries were diagnosed for general ailments.

Dental, eye and breast screenings were done, while doctors examined children and infertility problems were also addressed at the mega camp. A team of Rotarian and Lions doctors screened the patients and gave consultations. Extractions were performed and patients in need of teeth alignment and capping were directed to clinics where they would be treated free of cost.

“Those in need of cataract surgery and glaucoma advice were referred to the Aravind Eye Hospital, Puducherry. Breast cancer screening was done and patients in need of follow-up treatment were urged to visit Rajah Muthiah Medical College Hospital, Annamalai Nagar. BP, blood sugar tests and body mass indices were taken for all patients,” said club president G Seenuvasan.

Some early stage cases of hypertension and diabetes were detected and the patients were accordingly given consultations. All the patients

were given free medicines, eye drops, mouth wash and disease-related prescriptions.

Rtn Kesavan, owner of a pharmacy shop affiliated to the PM Bharatiya Jan Aushadi Kendra, sponsored the medical camp. He also provided all

the medicines. Seenuvasan, club secretary P Rajasekaran, treasurer Dr V Nadanasabapathy, Rtn P Mohamed Yaseen, avenue chairs Jinendra Choradia, Sushil Challani, Sunil Bothra, P Pannalal, R Arul, R Karikalvalavan and K Pughalendhi were present throughout the camp taking care of logistics and other requirements.

Chidambaram MLA KA Pandian, also a club member, took part in the camp. “A big thanks to students of Rani Meyyammai Nursing College for their dedicated service during the camp. They belong to our Rotaract club in that college,” said Seenuvasan.

Project coordinator M Deepak Kumar delivered the vote of thanks. Five women Rotarians — Porselvi, S R Selvi, Dr M Prema, Dr R Srividhya and Dr A Deebika — were felicitated at an event hosted by the club to mark Women’s Day. ■

# A medical camp in Chidambaram

## Team Rotary News



RC Chidambaram Central president G Seenuvasan (centre), along with Rotarians and doctors, at the mega medical camp.



A child being examined at the medical camp.

**D 3150**

## RC Nizamabad

A water and sanitation awareness project was done at the Zilla Parishad High School, Kothapet. Also, 20 benches were donated to the school as part of Happy Schools project. A large number of Rotarians were present at the venue.



**D 3170**

## RC Kolhapur City

A projector, black board and computer were donated to Kolhapur English School under *E-Shiksha* programme. Club president Ravi Jadhav, Rtns Abhijit Pimpalkar, Kiran Powar, Sarjerao Gudalkar and principal Vivekanand Hiremath, along with teachers and students, were present at the handover event. Audio-visual classes will be held with these gadgets.



**D 3170**

## RC Hubli Central

DG Gaurish Dhond inaugurated a Happy School in the city. Sponsors V S V Prasad, MD, Swarna Group, and Usha Khobare, MD, Khobare Charitable Trust, were present along with DLCC Narinder Barwal, local councillor Shivganga Manshetkar and government officials. The beautification of the school was done by students of INIFD, a fashion design institute.







**D 3182**

## **RC Arehally**

A *Vanamahotsava* event was conducted in the presence of Padma Shri awardee Saalumarada Thimmakka, an environmentalist, during the visit of DG Ramachandra Murthy. Teachers were also honoured on the occasion for their service to society and Thimmakka was felicitated by the club for her efforts in protecting the forests.



**D 3182**

## **RC Quanta Hassan**

An oral cancer screening camp was held for the KSRTC staff at the government bus depot, Hassan. DG Ramachandra Murthy, club president Shiva Kumar BT and other members were present at the camp.



**D 3190**

## **RC Bangalore Brigades**

A workshop on natural farming was held at Malavalli town in Mandya district with the support of RC Malavalli. Dr Manjunath and Dr Senthil Kumar spoke on the farming techniques that will improve the livelihood of farmers. Club president Gayathri Nayak, Rtn Akashai Mallapa and RID 3190's agricultural committee members were present.

**D 3212**

## RC Tirunelveli Twin City

Date packets were distributed to 60 pregnant women at the Government Hospital, Pettai, to mark Breastfeeding Week. A Covid vaccination camp was held at the Scad Primary School at Narikuravar Colony, Pettai village, in which 54 persons were inoculated. A lookalike of former Tamil Nadu CM MG Ramachandran sensitised the public on Covid vaccination.



**D 3232**

## RC Madras Mount

Past president Dr Ramesh Kumar attended the luncheon weekly meet of RC Bellevue, Seattle. US. The host club president Steve McConnell welcomed the Indian guest. After speaking about his club's activities and projects, Dr Kumar exchanged the club flags with McConnell. Over 50 members were present.



**D 3240**

## RC Gangtok South

Under Project *Ujyalao*, an eye camp was held for workers at the Temi Tea Gardens with the support of Greater Lions Eye Hospital, Siliguri. Over 400 workers were examined. Some were given spectacles and 75 of them were identified for surgery. DG Dr Mohan Konwar, along with Rotarians from Singapore, was briefed about the club projects.







**D 3240**

## **RC Green Land Silchar**

Handwash solutions were donated to Shib Colony LP School, Silchar, for students to take care of their personal hygiene on the occasion of birth anniversary of Rotary founder Paul Harris. Rotarians urged students to wash their hands properly before and after eating. Charter president Ashim Bhattacharjee chaired the event.



**D 3261**

## **RC Sambalpur West**

Slippers were distributed to children at Genguntipali village near Dhankauda taluk with the support of Parmeswari Bai Memorial Trust. Healthcare kits and garments were given to mothers of newborns. Past president Suresh Tibrewal, Trust chairperson Santosh Devi and World Vision coordinator Anita Sarangi were present at the venue.



**D 3291**

## **RC Salt Lake Metropolitan**

Under Project *Matri Raksha*, 27 out of 70 women screened at an anaemia camp, a joint initiative with RC Nidau-Biel, Switzerland, RID 1990, were found to have low haemoglobin. Ultrasonography was done on 13 patients, of which four will be given further treatment.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

# Career guidance for students in Shirol

## Team Rotary News

**W**ith the aim to guide students in choosing the right career path, RC Heritage City Shirol, RID 3170, hosted a career counselling session for Class 12 students at the Shri Padmaraje Vidyalaya. Experienced professors from Kolhapur and

Jaysingpur gave details on various bachelor degrees and vocational streams available for around 270 students who took part in the guidance workshop. "We organised the career guidance event for the betterment of students by giving them information on higher education courses. They were

accompanied by their parents," said club president Sanjay Patil.

School principal C S Patil welcomed the professors from Mahavir College and Vivekanand College, Kolhapur. "The speakers gave information on the diverse courses offered in colleges and their career prospects for the students to make



Advocate Dilshad Mujawar speaking at an MHM workshop for students at the Shri Padmaraje Vidyalaya, Shirol.





Students at the career guidance event.



a choice after completing their Class 12,” he said.

The professors answered all the queries from the students during the interaction. Rtns Kashinath Bhosale, Sanjay Shinde, Ranjit Jagdale and Chandrakant Bhat were present at the event.

### Menstrual hygiene

An MHM workshop titled *Mulagi Vayat Yetana* was conducted for 300 girls studying at Classes 9–10 at the Shri Padmaraje Vidyalaya. Advocate Dilshad Mujawar from Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur, a member of state’s Child Welfare Committee, gave a lecture on the importance of menstrual hygiene. “She interacted with the girls on menstrual issues and told them not to tolerate oppression and injustice as they are not inferior to anyone in this world,” said Patil.

AG Rustum Mujawar spoke on the various initiatives of Rotary and praised the efforts of the club in taking up a host of community initiatives. Club president Patil said the MHM sessions were being

held across all the schools in Shirol taluk and a vocational centre was providing skills to girls which would fetch them a regular source of income. Club treasurer Dr Arvind Mane, project chair Dr Atul Patil and other club members were present at the event.

Shirol Mayor Amarsingh Patil and former AG Pradip Patil, winner of Shiv Chhatrapati Award, were the chief guests at the Vocational Excellence Awards ceremony. Industrialist Venugopal Mundada, hotelier Sushila Kumbhar and sports coach Navnath Puri were the recipients of the Vocational Awards; while Pandurang Pol, Hanumant Mhetre and Vimal Randive were given Nation Builder Awards for teaching students to excel in their education.

AG Rustam Mujawar and Mayor Patil congratulated the awardees who were presented with citations. Club president Sanjay Patil, secretary Rahul Yadav, treasurer Mane and Prof Atmaram Mulik were among those present at the awards ceremony. ■

# Promoting healthcare

## Team Rotary News



Nutrition kits being distributed to mothers at the General Hospital.

**R**C Bailhongal, RID 3170, organised a Covid vaccine camp in the town to encourage people to get vaccinated and safeguard

themselves from the illness. The Rotarians detailed about the benefits of the vaccine. "There were still several people in the surrounding rural

areas who have not been vaccinated and people are still hesitant," said club president Mahesh Ballad.

Over 500 people were vaccinated in the camp.

The club has scheduled to hold a follow-up camp in the local area.

In another initiative, the club held an organ donation awareness programme on World Organ Donation Day. Dr Mahantesh B Ramannavar, head, Department of Anatomy, at the KLE University in Belgavi explained about organ donation to the public and clarified the doubts raised by them.

A breastfeeding awareness programme was conducted by the club at the General Hospital in the town. Dr Nirmala Mahanshetti, CMO and gynaecologist Dr Vidya Gadag spoke on the benefits of breastfeeding and diet that must be followed to new mothers. Nutrition kits were distributed to them.

Around 100 young mothers were present at the workshop. ■



A Covid vaccination camp in progress.



# Fighting polio and TB in Pilkhuwa, UP

Team Rotary News



**Above:** TB patients receive the healthy food kits from club members.

**Below:** Polio drops being administered to a baby.



A polio camp was organised by RC Pilkhuwa City, RID 3012, in partnership with Lala Shri Ram Charitable Dispensary. Over 250 children were administered polio drops.

The club adopted 24 patients with TB and will ensure that their medical needs will be met on a daily basis. All the patients will receive a healthy food kit to improve their condition. The healthy kits include health mixes, jaggery, roasted gram, groundnut kernels, dal, protein powder, sesame and cowpea.

Members of the club provided fans for every classroom at the Sarvodaya Inter College, Pilkhuwa. Close to 400 students study at this institute. ■



# ‘Joy of Giving’ events at Agra

V Muthukumaran

To celebrate the 117<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of Rotary (Feb 23) with week-long programmes, all the Rotary clubs in Agra, RID 3110, collaborated to observe each day with different themes under which multifaceted events were held with a single message of ‘One Rotary, one aim — Serve to change lives’.

RC Agra, the oldest club in the region, took up two projects on this day under *Joy of Giving* theme — it extended financial support to an underprivileged boy for his treatment of thalassaemia major; and

distributed school kits to children from slum areas in Agra.

Jitendra Kumar Garg, father of five-year-old Ved Garg and a resident of Kheragarh, a small town in Agra district, approached the club seeking financial help for the treatment of his son inflicted with thalassaemia major since birth. Due to severe deficiency of haemoglobin chain synthesis, the boy suffered from symptomatic anaemia requiring lifelong transfusion and medical support.

There was a life-threatening risk factor attached to transfusion therapy and the doctors advised

Jitendra Garg to go for bone marrow transplant for a permanent solution to his son’s painful life.

“As the transplant process is very expensive, Garg who is a daily wage worker reached out to various social organisations for financial support. Meanwhile, his son Ved was examined by the South East Asia Institute for Thalassaemia, Jaipur. After many tests, they concluded that the boy’s mother to be the potential candidate as the bone marrow donor,” explained Rtn Manoj R Kumar, project contact from RC Agra.







**Above:** Jitendra Garg's family receiving a cheque from members of RC Agra. Club president Ashish Agarwal is to the right of Garg.

**Left:** RC Agra president Ashish Agarwal (3<sup>rd</sup> from R) and IPP Dr Alok Mittal (R), along with Rotarians and children, after donating the school kits.



The hospital quoted the total cost at ₹11 lakh for the six-month process of bone marrow transplant and the treatment was supposed to start by February-end. Through help from local NGOs and a campaign run by media houses like the Amar Ujala, the parents could mobilise ₹9 lakh and were still short of total requirement amount by ₹2 lakh. Then Jitendra Garg reached out to the club which agreed to pay for the medical expenses and handed over a

cheque of ₹2 lakh to them as part of Rotary Foundation Week celebration under *Joy of Giving*.

"The money was pooled in by the club members with Rtn Ram Saran Mittal making a big contribution of ₹71,000. The cheque for ₹2 lakh was handed over to Ved's parents by our club president Ashish Agarwal. We hope to see the boy come back hale and hearty after treatment to resume his schooling and studies like any other normal child," said Manoj Kumar.

### Back to School

In another outreach activity on Rotary Day, the club distributed school kits to 50 children at Taj Nagari, Phase 2, a slum colony. Each school kit has a school bag, notebooks, drawing copy, pencil box, sharpeners, erasers and pencil colours. Social worker Tina Singh, wife of wing commander Prabhjeet Singh, is closely working with the children to help them get all



Dr Tarun Singhal giving a talk on diabetes to Rotarians at the Nehru Nagar Park. Club president Ashish Agarwal and IPP Dr Alok Mittal are in the back row.

the resources for a good life by coordinating with the Rotarians.

“We are trying to get the children enrolled in nearby primary schools after identifying the classes they are suitable for,” said Tina. Another social worker Vikram said, “while the men work as daily wage labourers, their wives are employed as domestic help in residential apartments. But the pandemic has hit them hard depriving them of their daily earnings. And the most affected of them all are the children of these marginalised families.”

#### Lack of resources

Before the pandemic, 14-year-old Chandan studying in Class 3 was a top ranker and was regular to school. “However, during the Covid lockdowns, the boy could not attend online classes as he does not have a smartphone or access to any digital tools. He was compelled to assist his father in putting up manual swings at temples and residential complexes for the amusement of privileged children of his age,” said Kumar.

Six-year-old Sonam was excited to hold a drawing copy and colour pencils as she loved drawing and colouring her imaginations.

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While the men work as daily wage labourers, their wives are employed as domestic help in residential apartments. But the pandemic has hit them hard depriving them of their daily earnings.

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NGOs and social workers like Tina and Vikram organise classes for children from poor families so that they are “not totally detached from classroom studies. Senior Rtn Rajeev Lotchan Bhardwaj, a former professor, also took free classes to children in their studies as and when required.”

Club’s IPP Dr Alok Mittal, Manoj Kumar and Rtn Namrata Panicker engaged the children with fun activities and assured them of all possible help towards education in future. Club president Ashish Agarwal expressed his interest in helping the children in getting better education for which he said that the “club will support in all possible ways.”

#### World Cancer Day

A workshop was conducted for the staff at the Eskay Sales

Corporation, Runakata, to mark World Cancer Day (Feb 4).

Dr Surabhi Gupta, professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, SN Medical College, Agra, explained the several factors that cause cancer.

She explained the ways and symptoms to detect cancer at an early stage. “Cancer can be easily treated if diagnosed at an early stage and for the same reason it is important for the organisations like Rotary clubs to create awareness about early detection of cancer among the people at large,” she explained. Club president Agarwal launched a poster to create awareness on early detection of cancer. Dr Mittal, Rtns Surendra Jain, Rajesh Jain and Kamal Ashique were present at the event.

#### World Diabetes Day

An interactive session was arranged to mark World Diabetes Day at the Nehru Nagar Park, Agra, with Dr Tarun Singhal giving a speech. “The basic principle to control diabetes is ‘No fast, no feast’. A healthy and small meals at regular intervals is the key to control the blood sugar level,” he said.

A proper diet and physical activities are critical to prevent a spike in blood sugar, he noted. A video in the form of a Q&A session with Dr Singhal addressing various queries related to diabetes was launched by Rtn Deeksha Sharma from RAC Agra. Senior citizen Ram Saran Mittal who was diagnosed with diabetes 50 years back shared his experience of how he could manage and control his blood sugar level all these years. Over 100 people were tested for the blood sugar levels at a special camp. Club president Ashish Agarwal and secretary Pradeep Mittal, along with club members, were present at the diabetes awareness event. ■



# Virtual lecture on Rotary peacebuilding

Team Rotary News



An online meeting on 'Imagining Rotary for peace' hosted by Rotary E-Club of Pune Diamond with the support of other E-Clubs.

**O**n the occasion of Rotary Day, Feb 23, Rotary E-Club of Pune Diamond, RID 3131, hosted a special online meeting with the support of e-clubs of Bangalore Benevolents, Coimbatore Changemakers and Solapur Elite to celebrate the 117 years of global service by the organisation.

E-Club Pune Diamond president Pawan Joshi gave a brief account of club projects and community

activities of Rotarians, while president-elect Prakash Suthar introduced the guest speaker Rukmini Iyer, a Rotary Peace Fellow and founder-director of Exult Solutions. Addressing the virtual delegates on the topic of 'Imagining Rotary for peace', Rukmini, also a member of RI's DEI Task Force, dwelt on the need for Rotary to take up peace projects at the global level. She put forth some useful suggestions

on how clubs can contribute to peacebuilding through projects and individual actions. "After her talk, Rukmini answered questions from Rotarians and Rotaractors, thus sharing her experience as peacebuilder and a member of Rotary Task Force," said Joshi. The virtual meet was attended by around 50 Rotarians and Rotaractors from the four e-clubs.

## Diabetes Fortnight project

To mark World Diabetes Day, the club in partnership with RC Pune Tilak Road and Sinsan Pharmaceuticals conducted a number of diabetes screening camp across the city from Nov 14-30. Rtn Mahesh Dabeer from RC Pune Tilak Road and RID 3131 project team had supported the camps. "We had conducted 80 tests at Gandhinagar, Yerwada, on the first day and hundreds were screened for their blood sugar levels across Pune," said Joshi. ■



A series of diabetes camps was organised at several places in Pune.

# Mehndi workshop for Hubli women

## Team Rotary News

A five-day training workshop on Mehndi art was provided to 15 women, mostly widows and housewives in dire financial straits, by RC

Hubli East, RID 3170, at the Sacred Heart Convent High School, Keshwapur. "The Mehndi training will help the women from economically-weak background to support

their families with an income source," said club president Umesh Nashipudimath. AG Lorrain Francis was the project chairman and he was supported by

the club's vocational director Sharada Baddi in executing the Mehndi workshop.

Around 600 students were screened at an eye check-up camp at the Rotary Primary and High School, Bengeri. All the Interactors and other students were checked for eye ailments. Spectacles were distributed to 23 students under the *Ujjwal Drishti Abhiyaan*, an RID 3170 programme. Also, 140 students were identified for further eye tests at the Vasan Eye Care Centre. The club members along with



World Nurses Day was celebrated by cake-cutting at the Sushruta Hospital. Club president Nashipudimath is 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left.





**Above:** RC Hubli East president Umesh Nashipudimath (centre) along with participants at the Mehndi workshop.



president Nashipudimath visited the Sushruta Multispecialty Hospital and greeted the paramedics including the nursing staff by giving roses to mark World

The Mehndi training will help the women from economically-weak background to support their families with an income source.

**Umesh Nashipudimath**  
president, RC Hubli East

Nurses Day. “We cut cake and wished all the 65 nurses at the hospital.” Snacks and refreshments were provided to all the participants.

Earlier, a dental camp was held for Rotary School children at the Sushruta Hospital in which 39 Interactors were diagnosed for oral health and hygiene.

On World Water Day, students were given a handwash demonstration and told to save water. Slogans were also

inscribed on the walls of the hygiene facility.

PDG Bazil J D’Souza and club secretary Celestine Kittur handed over a mixer grinder, grocery items and food packets to Sneha Sadan, a destitute home being run by Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity, in the presence of club president Nashipudimath. “Our donations including groceries will benefit 38 inmates at the Sneha Sadan,” said Simon J D’Souza, club’s service director.

In January, the Rotarians distributed blankets and warm clothes to around 100 homeless people, especially those sleeping on footpath, bus stations and other busy junctions for protection against wintery nights. ■

# Water pots for birds at Hoshiarpur

Team Rotary News



RC Hoshiarpur Midtown president Parveen Palial (2<sup>nd</sup> from R), along with other Rotarians, placed water pots at a school for birds during summer.

Clay pots filled with grains and water were placed at the cremation ground and on the school campus at the Government High School, Bhagowal, by RC Hoshiarpur Midtown, RID 3070, to provide relief to birds during scorching summer. “We took up this

project under Rotary’s focus area of environment with the aim to protect the lives of birds. Already, we have uploaded the event at the Rotary Showcase in *My Rotary*,” said club president Parveen Palial.

Cement benches were installed at the Government High School,

Bhagowal, with the help of Interactors as part of Happy Schools project. Along with Interactors, the club members cleaned the water tanks of the school, repaired the taps of handwash station and wash-rooms at this school to mark World Water Day. ■

## Rotarians bond over cricket



DG Gaurish Dhond at the inauguration of cricket tournament.

RI District 3190 emerged winners and RID 3170 was the runner up in a multi-district leather ball cricket

tournament conducted by the Rotary clubs of Hubli and Dharwad. The tournament was held for two days in the first week

of May at the Hubli Sports Club grounds. Rotarians from RI districts 3170, 3190 and 3181 participated in the tournament.

DG Gaurish Dhond inaugurated the event in the presence of DGE Venkatesh Deshpande and PDG Avinash Potdar. Rtn Sumer Ostawal was the event convener and Sanjay Ingle was the event chairman. This is the first time such a multi-district sports event was conducted in RID 3170, said Ingle.

PDG Ganesh Bhat felicitated the winners and participants at the valedictory programme. ■