

December 2022

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



Rotary Unity Ride for heart surgeries

Team Rotary News



DG Ashok Kantoor and RC Gurgaon Cosmopolitan president Abhishek Aneja with the IFMR members during their *Unity Ride*.

DG Ashok Kantoor, RID 3011, honoured a group of Rotarians who were part of the IFMR (International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians) team and were on a *Rotary Unity Ride for Heart* from Bengaluru to Wagah/Attari border in Amritsar to raise funds for paediatric heart surgeries. The DG and spouse Alka felicitated the bikers during the installation of RC Gurgaon Cosmopolitan when Abhishek Aneja took charge as the new club president.

IFMR is a fellowship group of Rotarians who have a common interest of motorcycling. This group with around 2,800 members in 30 countries is one of the largest among the 100-plus Rotary fellowships. Each year,

IFMR riders met Rotarians and media persons across the Rotary districts on their way (Sep 11–22) to make an appeal for contributions for heart surgeries.

IFMR takes up a cause as part of its social outreach. During 2020–21, a team of 21 riders from India took part in the *Combat Covid Ride*, visited nine Rotary districts in 18 days to raise around \$15,000 directly for the cause. The Indian bike riders inspired other Rotarians during their tour which led to raising another \$40,000 in the joint fight against the Covid pandemic.

In 2022, they are doing the *Unity Ride* travelling a distance of 2,800km from Bengaluru to Wagah border with the aim to spread awareness and raise funds for paediatric heart surgeries. All the heart surgeries on children will be done through Rotary's Needy Heart Foundation.

IFMR riders met Rotarians and media persons across the Rotary districts on their way (Sep 11–22) to make an appeal for contributions for heart surgeries. IFMR president Arun Belur from RC Bangalore Belur and secretary Prashant Mishra led the team on the *Unity Ride* mission. IFMR was chartered in 1992 and has chapter in 30 countries with more than 2,600 bikers. ■

On the cover: Storyteller Dharanya Srinivasan with a moppet at a storytelling workshop organised by RCs Madurai Malligai and Madurai South, RID 3000.

A unique Raksha Bandhan in Jabalpur

Team Rotary News

Rotarians of RC Jabalpur South, RID 3261, celebrated Raksha Bandhan by distributing sarees to underprivileged women in rural parts of Jabalpur. This was followed by the distribution of chocolates to the children in the village who were later taken on a long drive in the cars of the club members.

DGE Akhil Mishra, PDG Sunil Phatak, club president Harish Rijwani and secretary Romesh Dengra were present at the event. ■



DGE Akhil Mishra (third from left) distributes new sarees to the underprivileged women in the presence of other club members.

Vegetables expo at Bhusawal

Farmers put up stalls of more than 50 crop varieties at the Ranbhaaji Mahotsav, wild vegetables exhibition, hosted by RC Bhusawal Railcity, RID 3030, to create awareness on consuming healthy food and supplement farmers' income. The wild vegetables exhibition was held with the support of agriculture department and local farmers. "We have published a booklet that informs about the health benefits of consuming local, wild vegetables that are grown during monsoon and uploaded a YouTube footage that details their recipes. The festival was a big success as more than 1,500 people visited the stalls to purchase fresh vegetables," said Dr Makarand Chandwadkar, club president.

A skating rally was conducted for children aged 3–15 years to mark the 75th year of Indian Independence. "Children skated over 5km



People buying vegetables from the stalls at the Ranbhaaji Mahotsav.

wearing tricolour outfits, waving national flags and chanting patriotic songs and slogans. Despite the heavy rain, the skating rally saw young ones displaying their patriotic spirit," he said. Under its KG to PG

theme, the club honoured students from the kindergarten to college for their "noteworthy academic excellence. Rotarians and their families were present to witness the felicitation event," said Chandwadkar. ■

A Rotarian visits RI Headquarters

Team Rotary News

Ishita Chukkaborty, a member of RC Calcutta Majestic, RID 3291, was invited to visit Rotary International's headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, a suburb about 10 miles north of Chicago, to participate in their local chapter's meeting (Lighthouse chapter) and then take a tour of the recently renovated facility.

The meeting began at 7 30am, and it was well-attended in person and via Zoom by over 50 members, all over 60. The primary agenda for this meeting was a discussion regarding an annual fundraiser called the *Taste of Evanston* during which the Lighthouse chapter had raised \$70,000. After the meeting Ishita, along with other foreign visitors, chapter president and the other Evanston chapter members, went on a 90-minute tour of the Rotary International office.

Room No 711 of the Unity Building in downtown Chicago where the first Rotary meeting was held in 1905 has been recreated in the headquarter building. It is in this room which was then the office of Gustavus Loehr that Paul Harris, along with his three friends, Loehr, Silvester Schiele and Hiram Shorey, began their initial discussions that eventually led to the birth of Rotary International. Just outside the office area is a metal statue of Harris; originally a Japanese sculptor had created two busts of Harris

and sent one to him. Many years later, the sculptor's son (a sculptor himself) discovered the second bust and used it to create a full figure of Harris. A popular snapshot is a visitor 'shaking the hand' of Harris' statue.

In the lobby is a wooden globe which displays the history of Rotary, highlighting the global nature of the organisation and its priority focus areas. One fact to note — women were not allowed to join Rotary until 1985 and only after Rotary lost a lawsuit in the US Supreme Court. Women were allowed to participate in Rotary 80 years after Paul Harris started the organisation.

In the bathroom, each toilet stall has a poster on its door,



Ishita at the
RI headquarters.



Above: Ishita Chukkabarty, member of RC Calcutta Majestic, with Chicago Rotarians.

Below: Addressing the Rotarians of the Lighthouse chapter in Chicago.



showing the toilets from around the globe, used by millions of people who do not have access to clean sanitation facilities, as a reminder to those working/visiting the RI building, that there are many who are far less fortunate than them.

On the 18th floor, the visitors saw the beautiful offices of the RI president, president-elect and president-nominee, overlooking Lake Michigan and the campus of the Northwestern University. “From the president’s office I could even see the Sears Tower and the John Hancock building, 25+ miles away,” says Ishita.

The visitors spent some time in the board room where the RI board meets regularly. Notable in the room are the brass bells that are used to start meetings and a designated booth with translators in eight languages who simultaneously translate from English to the various native tongues.

Near the boardroom are a series of digital displays that capture Rotary chapter data in a searchable format, by country, by local region, chapter, year and by name of leaders. Some of the data displayed included Rotary members who had donated \$250,000 and above to The Rotary Foundation.

The final and best area was the section with display of flags from more than 200 countries. “I enjoyed the display, and had goosebumps as I held the Indian flag,” she gushed. She hopes that the networking opportunity that she had during her visit will contribute to RC Calcutta Majestic in connecting further with the headquarters and to participate in some collaborative activities. ■

Teachers, students honoured in Chidambaram

Team Rotary News

Teachers' Day was celebrated at the Thillai Matric School by RC Chidambaram Mid Town, RID 2981, with students and teachers being honoured with mementoes. Club president S Pragadeeswaran presided over the event with the Poovalai Government High School headmaster Thiagarajan and TN Teachers Training Institute vice-chancellor Panchanathan as guests of honour.

AG Deepak Kumar, Annamalai University former principal

Kathiresan Annamalai, its director Ragupathy, and other academicians spoke on the occasion. Thillai School correspondent Senthilkumar presented gifts, along with certificates, to the meritorious students and faculty. Club secretary K Chinnaiyan gave the vote of thanks.

Eleven teachers were presented with Nation Builder Awards as part of Teachers' Day celebrations. Muthaiah Polytechnic College former professor M Govindarajan

RC Chidambaram Mid Town president S Pragadeeswaran (centre) and to his left AG Deepak Kumar at the Teachers' Day event at the Thillai Matric School.



Rotarians with teachers holding their Nation Builder Awards.





distributed mementoes and addressed the gathering.

He urged the teachers and students to give importance to their health to enjoy their life and “consume healthy and nutritious food to avoid medicines.” AG Deepak Kumar, charter president Gnana Ambalavanan and a large number of Rotarians were present at the event.

The club felicitated the hassle-free harvesting of eyes donated by deceased T Ananthi, daughter of Thangaraj. The pair of eyes was received by the Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry. Chidambaram municipality former deputy chairman and Thillai School correspondent Senthilkumar and Cuddalore Blood Donors Association president Ramachandiran coordinated the transfer of donated organs to the hospital. Club president Pragadeeswaran honoured siddha doctor P Manikandan at the Kamaraj Government Hospital, Chidambaram, to mark Doctors’ Day. ■

Storytelling workshop in Madurai

Team Rotary News



Club members with teachers after honouring them with awards. DGN Raja Govindasamy is seen at the centre. Club president Farsana Sirajudeen is seen 5th from L, and next to her is resource person Dharanya Srinivasan.



Delegates at the storytelling workshop.

Rotary Clubs of Madurai Malligai and Madurai South, RID 3000, along with the Madurai Preschool Teachers Welfare Association, organised a storytelling workshop for school teachers. Around 150 nursery and primary school teachers attended the workshop conducted by Dharanya

Srinivasan, a storyteller from Chennai.

Farsana Sirajudeen, president of RC Madurai Malligai, welcomed the chief guest DGN Raja Govindasamy in the presence of Balakrishnan, president of RC Madurai South. Dharanya shared the nuances of storytelling such as voice modulation, facial expression and body language with

the teachers. “You can hold the children’s attention on any subject through a story,” she told the teachers. She also taught them to make moppets and other crafts that aid the art. “It was an interesting session for us too,” said Farsana.

The clubs honoured six teachers with awards for their outstanding contributions to the student community. ■

Classroom libraries in Kolar schools

Team Rotary News



RID 3190 district literacy committee chair Kashinath Prabhu (centre) with education officials and RC Kolar members at the installation of 'Library in Classroom' at a government school in Kolar.

'Library in Classroom' is a simple library kit that hangs on the wall of a classroom and the books are categorised from Levels 1–4 based on their readability quotient for children.

RI District 3190 launched *Project Gift a Library* at the Government Model High Primary School, Vemagal in Kolar. The district literacy committee aims to distribute at least 1,000-plus 'library in classroom' kits that include a set of over 100 books from Pratham Books to government and aided schools meant for Classes 2–7 across the urban and rural areas of RID 3190.

'Library in Classroom' is a simple library kit that hangs on the wall of a classroom and the books are categorised from Levels 1–4 based on their readability quotient for children. RC Kolar hosted the inaugural event at the school in

the presence of DLCC Kashinath Prabhu; Krishnamurthy, deputy director, Public Instruction department, Kolar zone; Kanniah, block education officer; and school authorities. The Library in Classroom kits will be installed at 10 government schools with over 3,000 students across the Kolar zone.

In his address, Krishnamurthy thanked Rotary for taking up this massive literacy drive at rural government schools. "I am happy with the library initiative and in the coming months, I would like to take up more such joint programmes with Rotary targeting rural schools," he said. ■

D 2981

RC Manora Pattukkottai

A veterinary exhibition was organised for livestock breeders to provide tips on taking care of their cattle. Prizes were given to those who own healthy cattle to motivate them. A large number of livestock owners from nearby villages attended the exhibition.



D 2981

RC Mayiladuthurai

All the clubs in Mayiladuthurai came together and donated 16 goats to BPL people in the adopted villages. The livestock costing ₹80,000 was funded by AG CK Balaji. In another joint effort, a marathon was flagged off by SP Nisha to create awareness on road safety. Balaji and DRFC V Raman were present along with club presidents and secretaries.



D 2981

RC Muthupettai

Around 500 people were examined at the mega cardiac check-up camp organised with the support of KG Hospital. Following a number of medical tests, consultations were given to patients by a team of doctors. Some of the patients were advised on further treatment.





D 2981

RC Panruti

The club sponsored two-year school fees of a poor girl studying Class 12 at Neyveli as her family was unable to pay for her studies. Footwear sets were donated to poor students at the Adi Dravidar Welfare School, Panruti. The children thanked Rotary for the gesture.



D 2981

RC Vriddhachalam

A cooker, grinder and other essentials were donated to a tribal school hostel in Yercaud. AG Deepak Chand, club president Viruthagiri and RC Yercaud president Sunjay exchanged flags at the inter-club meeting.



D 2982

RC Rasipuram Royal

Engineers and Teachers, who got the Best Teacher Awards from the state government, were felicitated at a gala ceremony. Citations were given to the awardees who thanked Rotary for recognising their contributions to society. A large number of Rotarians took part in the event.

D 2982

RC Salem Majestic

Non-vegetarian food worth ₹1 lakh was given to 500 poor people under *Project Annapurna*. DGE Raghavan distributed the food. The four-year-old club has lined up a series of service projects reaching out to the underprivileged throughout the year.



D 2982

RC Salem Metropolis

During the installation of club president Karthikeyan, a delicious breakfast was provided to inmates at the Thaimai Anbu, an old age home. Also, the club sponsored the full educational expenses of two poor students. It was decided to take up awareness campaigns through the year. PDG Dharmesh R Patel, Salem Aeropark chief R Sundaram and AG Mohan Raj were the guests of honour.



D 3000

RC Dindigul

Around 200 students donated more than 200 units of blood at a blood donation camp organised jointly with the Rotaract Club of PSNA College of Engineering and Technology, Dindigul. The collected blood was donated to the Government Hospital and the event got good feedback from the college authorities.





D 3000

RC Madurai Sangamam

Rice bags and groceries were donated to parents of poor students at the Government High School, Virakanoor, ahead of Diwali. Club president Vanchinathan gave the welcome address and past president Nandakumar was the chief guest at the distribution of welfare kits.



D 3000

RC Srirangam

An Interact club was installed at the Thiruvanaikoil High School with past president Pugalenthi as the chief guest. Around 30 people donated blood at the blood donation camp hosted jointly with Dr Gopinathan Hospital and Uire Thuli Blood Bank. Rotarians and Rotaractors took part to make it a success.



D 3000

RC Tirunagar Madurai

A Rotary Study Centre (₹35 lakh) was inaugurated by DG I Jerald. The free hall will provide access to books, online study material to 50 students who will be guided by experts in their preparation for competitive exams.

D 3012

RC Kundli

Around 250 people from nearby villages were screened for health issues at a medical camp held with the support of GD Healthcare Academy, Kundli. General parameters like BP, blood sugar and body mass index were tested and consultations were given by doctors. Medicines were distributed to patients.



D 3020

RC Rajahmundry Rivercity

During his installation, club president PVSS Dorababu and secretary Krishna Rao donated two laundry on wheels (₹80,000) and six sewing machines (₹69,000) to needy women in the presence of DG V Bhaskar Ram. Charter president Madduri Siva Subbarao was present on the occasion. The beneficiaries thanked Rotary for the machines that will fetch them a regular income.



D 3020

RC Visakhapatnam

Club members donated ₹40,000 to the parents of a snake bitten child for her hospitalisation and treatment charges. The parents thanked Rotary for the timely financial help that will also meet the post-hospitalisation charges including the cost of medicines.





D 3070

RC Amritsar East

Ten ceiling fans were donated to the Government Senior Secondary School, Karampura, to enhance the comfort level in classes. Over the decades, the club has ramped up infrastructure at government schools to improve their amenities including classroom utilities.



D 3080

RC Kharar

Around 1,000 saplings and 500 earthen pots for feeding birds were distributed during a local mela at a gurudwara. Villagers were told to plant trees regularly to protect the environment. Rtn Harpreet Singh Rekhi is leading a team which is into motivating the communities to donate their organs.



D 3090

RC Moga Greater

A polio immunisation booth was set up at the Moga bus terminus and oral drops were given to children below five years for three days who were accompanied by their parents. Slogans and banners were put up to create awareness on polio eradication. Club president Ashok Sehgal and secretary Munish Manraj made the arrangements.

RID 3232 Interactors

focus on green issues

Team Rotary News



DG Rukmesh Jakhotiya and Rotary E-Club of Empowering Youth president Nandini Jaggi with Rotarians and newly-formed Interact Eco-Club of Don Bosco members holding posters of their environmental campaign.

A new cause-based Interact Eco-Club of Don Bosco was chartered by Rotary E-Club of Empowering Youth, RID 3132, to motivate youth to be responsible on environmental issues to protect the Earth. The Interactors have taken up tree plantation drives, 'Save water' campaign through stickers, and distributed *Save Mother Earth* posters. A number of songs was also composed as part of an environmental campaign.

The Ahmednagar district library was gifted a cupboard, computer, whiteboard, books, chairs, posters on the importance of reading books and a Rotary's 4-Way Test board. Its reading room was given a fresh coat of paint. "We have sponsored the library membership (one year) for 10 girl students which will help them to read a range of books



Club president Nandini Jaggi and Rotarians at the Ahmednagar district library which was given a facelift.

and update their knowledge," said Dr Bindu Shirsath, club advisor and district chair for women's membership development. The library project costing ₹25,000 was highlighted in major dailies.

Project Mindstrong

Around 60 students of Master of Social Work were trained as first aide helpers (*saathis*) by Rotary

E-Club of Empowering Youth which was chartered recently as a cause-based club with members drawn from across the world. Also, under *Project Mindstrong*, 250 girl students of a school were taught graphotherapy, the process of changing handwriting for a positive mental attitude, and anger management for better health. ■



DG I Jerald lights the lamp to inaugurate the seminar. DGE Anandtha Jothi is on the left and PDG M Muruganandam is behind DG Jerald.



Chief guest PDG M Muruganandam being honoured at the seminar.



The End Polio rally team at the seminar.

Public Image seminar peps up Trichy Rotarians

Team Rotary News

Over 750 Rotarians, along with their friends and family, participated in a mega public image seminar titled 'Imayam' that was hosted by RC Tiruchirapalli Midtown, RID 3000, in the city. PDG M Muruganandam was the chief guest. Club president PPD Thirunavukarasu, along with secretary D Veerasakthi and treasurer PPM Kanagasabai, coordinated to make the event a grand success. DG I Jerald, DGE Anandtha Jothi and PDG Zameer Pasha participated in the meet.

Film director Thankarbachan and public speaker K Gnanasambandan engaged the audience with their speeches. An 'End Polio' rally was organised from Madurai to the seminar venue to showcase Rotary's role in making India polio-free, and its ongoing strategies to eradicate the disease from the world. ■

D 3090

RC Patiala Mid Town

World Food Day was celebrated with the inmates of Birdh Ashram, a day care and wellness centre, at Rongla village. A cultural programme was arranged and the club donated ₹11,000 to the ashram. Club president Bhagwan Dass Gupa and his team distributed lunch and sweet dishes to all the inmates.



D 3100

RC Moradabad

Around 270 students at St Rajendra Singh High School, along with residents of Harthala village, were diagnosed for chronic ailments at a medical camp. They were given medicines by Dr Sonali of district health department and Dr Tabbasum. PDG Sudhir Gupta extended support to club secretary Sharmitabh Sinha for holding the camp.



D 3110

RC Bareilly Metro

Over 50 saplings were planted in a garden of a private company with club president SPS Chouhan, past presidents Anil Mehrotra, Dr Rajesh Gupta and Anil Kumar, among others, taking part. The club has taken up the greening mission at many parts of Bareilly.





D 3110

RC Kanpur Shikhar

A Navratri Dandiya night organised jointly with RC Kanpur East at the CSJM University had around 1,200 people dancing and enjoying the festival get together. Rotarians enjoyed the fellowship.



D 3131

RC Panvel Central

A Miyawaki forest is being created in the heart of Panvel. During the inaugural event, DG Anil Parmar, corporators, MLA, former MP, club presidents and RID 3131 office-bearers planted saplings. More than 5,000 saplings of large trees will be planted in the coming months under the Protection of Environment focus area of Rotary.



D 3132

RC Karad

A hepatitis awareness rally was conducted jointly with the Rural Hospital, Undale. Rtn Dr Shekhar Kognulkar, medical officer at the hospital, gave a talk about the disease and the preventive lifestyle to be followed for the rally participants. The rally added to the public image building of the club.

D 3142

RC Dombivli Suncity

Food grains were donated to transgenders under *Project Annadan* on Diwali eve. Rotarians along with their children spent time with the LGBTQ community with the aim to bring them to the mainstream of society. Club president Santosh Namboodri and his team interacted with the transgenders.



D 3160

RC Gulbarga

Children's Day was celebrated at the Shishu Kalyan Clinic of Rtn Dr Ramesh Yelsangikar. A cake was cut by his patients, their parents and staff at the clinic. Sweets, fruits and milk were given to children. Dr Yelsangikar gave a talk on World Polio Day at the Paul Harris Auditorium, VTS Memorial School in Kalaburagi.



D 3201

RC Coimbatore Monarks

Bicycles were distributed to three girl students at the Kottaipalayam Panchayat Union Middle School by DG Rajmohan Nair in the presence of PDGs Rajkumar, Sagadhevan, RID 3203, and city police commissioner V Balakrishnan. Headmistress D Jebapitchai Meadows selected the beneficiaries.





D 3212

RC Sivakasi

Club president R Natarajan donated rice bags and groceries worth ₹3,000 to Haridas, a physically-challenged, to mark Gandhi Jayanthi. Over 100 persons were screened at the eye camp conducted with the help of Sivakasi Vision Charitable Trust of Dr Anil Kumar Eye Hospital. Panchayat officials and policemen also got their eyes checked.



D 3212

RC Virudhunagar Elite

A two-day RYLA for 420 girl students was conducted at the VVV College for Women, Virudhunagar. The college Rotaractors and the Inner Wheel Club of Virudhunagar extended support to make the RYLA project worth ₹60,000 a success.



D 3291

RC Calcutta Samaritans

Under the district banner 'Ee Ze Ee School' an adult literacy centre with 25 learners was inaugurated at a slum colony in Dum Dum Park. While two teachers were felicitated, Rotarians distributed sanitary napkins and food packets to the beneficiaries with Rtn Sulekha Ghosh from the district literacy team as the chief guest.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

Medical camp for the elderly

Team Rotary News



A medical camp at a government school in Ganeshpur.

A medical camp for the elderly was organised by RC Basti Greater, RID 3120. Over 50 people above the age of 65 were examined for health issues. Snack kits consisting of fruits and savouries were distributed to those present at the camp.

The club also conducted medical camps at government schools in Ganeshpur, near Garwal, Uttar Pradesh. Close to 600 students were tested at the camp.

Aimed at combating environmental issues and enhancing the beauty of Basti, a district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh, club members conducted a plantation drive at various locations in Basti. Over 50 saplings were planted.

A 15-litre water tank was installed at the Gandhi Nagar police booth to help to patrol staff access clean drinking water. ■



A club member gives fruits to the elderly.

Uniforms for underprivileged students

Team Rotary News



Members of RC Latur along with beneficiary students after the distribution of the uniforms along with roses.

It's just a flower but most of the children were excited to receive the rose more than receiving a new uniform.

In a step to upgrade the educational experience at two government schools, RC Latur, RID 3132, distributed school uniforms to over 100 students. The two beneficiary schools — Upper Primary Vidyamandir Government School and Matoshree Kesharbai Kadtane Upper Primary School — organised a programme to thank the Rotarians for their gesture. In return, the Rotarians gave uniforms, along with roses, to

children. “It’s just a flower but most of the children were excited to receive the rose more than receiving a new uniform,” quips Dr Bhaskar Borgaonkar, IPP of the club.

Recently the club conducted an essay writing competition for students to improve their writing and communication skills. The students received dental kits post a dental check-up conducted by the club. ■

Greening Coimbatore

Team Rotary News



Rotarians of RC Coimbatore Monarks celebrating Independence Day at a government middle school that the club had adopted.

RI District 3201 led by district director Mylsamy Ramasamy, along with the district community chair Maruti Samba and Dhivya Vasudevan, founder,

DHI Green Foundation, commemorated India's 75th year of Independence by planting saplings in land areas varying from 10 cents to two acres in 75 locations across Coimbatore. All

RID 3201 is planting saplings at 75 locations in land areas varying from 10 cents to two acres to commemorate India's 75 years of Independence.



A sapling being planted as part of RID 3201's Independence Day celebrations.

Rotary clubs pitched in to make the project a huge success.

The project was inaugurated by state ministers KN Nehru, Senthil Balaji and Coimbatore mayor Kalpana.

RC Coimbatore Monarks celebrated the Independence Day with students at the club's adopted government middle school in a village near the city. Over 450 saplings were distributed to students, in association with RC Coimbatore North. ■

A medical camp in Bareilly

Team Rotary News



Members of RC Bareilly Metro, RID 3110, in the presence of club president SP Chauhan, secretary Shalendra Saxena and IPP Anil Mehrotra helped beneficiaries register for a medical camp organised by the club at Sadar Bazaar, Bareilly. Close to 100 patients were screened at the camp for BP, sugar and ENT issues. Post check-up patients were given free medicines.

Under *Project Mission Happiness*, since 2002 the club has been conducting medical camps every month to help underprivileged patients. ■

A Rotary peace seminar in Indore

To highlight and increase awareness about Rotary's role in fostering world peace and creating action steps to further its continued development, RC Indore Adarsh, RID 3040, in collaboration with Symbiosis University of Applied Sciences, Indore, organised a Rotary Peace Seminar for the university students. District Governor Jinendra Jain encouraged the students and Rotarians to jointly work for sustaining peace. ■



Anti-drugs campaign in Mannargudi

Team Rotary News

An awareness programme titled 'No to drugs' was conducted by RC Mannargudi, RID 2981, with over 30 Rotaractors distributing leaflets and flyers to the public on the main streets. More than 10,000 pamphlets worth ₹23,000 were distributed to the people to sensitise them on the need to avoid drug abuse, said M Cyril, club secretary.

Club president Meenakshi Surya Prakash and police inspector Annai Abirami felicitated the Rotaractors for their support to the anti-drug campaign in the town. In another event, awareness posters were put up on



RC Mannargudi president Meenakshi Surya Prakash (4th from R, front row) holding a placard with students and Rotaractors at the 'No to drugs' rally.

21 passenger autos and a rally was staged by Rotarians. Nutritious food bags worth ₹20,000 were given to 150 lactating and pregnant women at the primary health centre in

Vaduvloor village and at the district headquarters hospital, Mannargudi.

An awareness programme for breastfeeding mothers was also conducted on the hospital

premises. Meenakshi hoisted the national flag at the club hall to mark the 75th Independence Day. Rotarians distributed thousands of national flags to school students. ■

Scholarships for girl students



Beneficiary students display their scholarship cheques in the presence of Rotarians.

On the occasion of International Literacy Day, RC Burhanpur, RID 3040, awarded scholarship

cheques equivalent to the school fees for a year to eight girls of Class 10 at the Government Higher Secondary School,

Dakwadi. The club also distributed 300 notebooks among the school children. Last year, the club donated benches

worth ₹3.5 lakh to this school.

Sewing machines were made available to five women from underprivileged backgrounds, at a subsidized rate of ₹4,500 per machine. The women will have to pay ₹500 in installment each month to own the machine. Project chairman Parag Shah said that the aim of this project "is to make the beneficiaries self-reliant while enjoying a sense of ownership." ■



A Rotary-Rotaract blood donation camp

Team Rotary News



Rotarians along with a blood donor at the camp.

RC Sunam, RID 3090, in collaboration with the district's Rotaract conducted a blood donation camp at the Rotary Complex, Sunam. This camp was organised to meet the daily needs of blood for children suffering from thalassaemia and emergency patients. A total of 67 units of blood was collected.

DGE Ghanshyam Kansal, club president Sumit Bandlish, secretary Jindal, project chair Jagdeep Bhardwaj, along with other club members, were present at the camp.

The club recently conducted a tree plantation drive in which more than 400 saplings were planted. ■

Medical camp in Kochi

Team Rotary News



RC Cochin Titans, RID 3201, in association with the Carmel Youth Movement and St Joseph's Hospital Trust, Manjummel, organised

a medical camp at Ernakulam. Doctors from orthopaedics, acupuncture, general medicine, gynaecology, paediatrics, ENT, ayurveda and dentistry, along with

over 40 hospital staff and volunteers, extended their services to 300 people who visited the camp.

Medicines were given to the patients and lab tests for blood sugar,

blood pressure, ECG, HB test and HbA1c test were also conducted at the camp site.

Club president Vijayabhaskar inaugurated the medical camp. ■

Notebooks for students

Rotary Club of Surat East, RID 3060, distributed over 60,000 notebooks to around 11,000 schoolchildren in 25 government schools in the city. The club members visited the schools and addressed the students about the importance of education.

The heads of the schools thanked the club members. ■

