April 2024

Rotary News Plus

Rotary District 3132

Medicinal Plant Park

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l pledge to plant NATIVE TREE SPECIES I I pledge to REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE waste !

Promoting awareness on organ donation

Robust And the provided and the provided

Over 20 Rotary clubs participated in the project which created an impact on over 10,000 people, said club president Manoj Kabra.

RC Nashik Midtown organised the 'Khandesh Organ Donation Mahaprabodan Rath Yatra' from Nashik. It was flagged off by DG Asha

Team Rotary News



An awareness session in progress at a school.

Venugopal on Feb 4 and it passed through the other participating locations over 10 days. Avtar Singh Panfair was the project convenor. Seminars educating the public about organ/body donation was held in various locations. The event was extensively covered in the print and social media. Pamphlets with QR code of NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation) for pledging organs were distributed among the public.■

DG Asha Venugopal flags off the organ donation promotion rath in Nashik.



On the cover: Girls with their saplings at the Godavari Devi Lahoti Kanya Vidyalaya,Latur, during RYLA conducted by RC Latur Midtown, RID 3132.



Road safety through reflector tapes

Team Rotary News



n a bid to bolster road safety measures in Amritsar, RC Amritsar East, RID 3070 has been continuing to install reflector tapes on vehicles passing through highways and interior roads.

During the latest endeavour at Putlighar Chowk, Harpal Chharpal, the superintendent of traffic police, along with Rotarians affixed aesthetically crafted reflectors on hundreds of autos, tempos, pick-up vans and small trucks.

"These safety tapes have proven instrumental in averting accidents, particularly during nighttime. The presence of reflective markers enhances visibility, significantly reducing the risk of collisions," explains PDG Man Mohan Jerath, a club member. ■ **Above:** Rotarians, along with traffic police officials, installed reflector stickers on vehicles.

Below: PDG Man Mohan Jerath interacting with traffic police officials.





Food distribution in Kanpur

Team Rotary News

arriage anniversary of club members of RC Kanpur North, RID 3110, are celebrated through acts of service. Under the club's initiative named *Project Annapoorna* club member Ajay Shankar Dixit and his wife, Indu Dixit, distributed food to over 500 individuals at the Ursula Hospital, Kanpur. Similarly, club members Ajai Veer Singh and his wife Sumitra Devi distributed food to 500 individuals at the same hospital.

Inspired by their compassion, member Anuj Tewari and his wife Neetika doubled the impact by distributing food to 1,000 individuals at the Hallet Hospital and Medical College, Kanpur. The beneficiaries included patients and their attendants seeking medical care at the hospital's OPD.

In collaboration with Sayuri Investment, the club organised a financial literacy programme at Capsule restaurant, aiming to enhance the financial awareness among club members.

Celebrating 119 years of Rotary International, the club distributed essential hygiene kits to girls and their mothers from Classes 8 to 12 at Shikshit Aur Matra Vandit, Kanpur, under the RID 3110's initiative *Project Beti*.■





From top: Food being distributed as part of Project Annapoorna.



Students receive hygiene kits under Project Beti.

School kits for Muzaffarnagar students

Team Rotary News



Rotarians, along with students, after distributing notebooks, shoes and stationery kits.

he classroom at the Swami Kalyan Dev SD Inter College, Shukratal, in Muzaffarnagar, was filled with joy as RC Muzaffarnagar Midtown, RID 3100, distributed notebooks, shoes and stationery kits to students, alongside a hygiene awareness programme

for the girls. Under the guidance of DGE Nitin Kumar Agrawal, over 400 books, 20 pen drives, and 150 pairs of shoes were distributed.

Expressing his commitment to the cause, club president Rohit Kumar mentioned that "this project will continue, ensuring more students receive

educational kits." Reflecting on the club's previous initiatives, including the construction of school toilets and installation of water coolers, club member Suneel Aggarwal emphasised "our club's dedication to serving the community."

Rotarian Vinay Singhal was the project chair.■



Club members at the Swami Kalyan Dev SD Inter College.



DG Ravi Raman (seated, left), District Public Image chair Muthusamy and PDG J Sridhar (4th from left), along with club members and the local people, after upgrading the crematorium.

Promoting mental healthcare in Lucknow



Club president Sangeeta Mittal with psychiatrist Dr Shashi Rai at the National PG College.

otary Club of Lucknow, RID 3120, organised a mental health and wellness seminar at the National PG College. Over 100 students attended the seminar where Dr Shashi Rai, a renowned psychiatrist, taught them to identify mental health issues such as anxiety disorder and depression.

"Mental health issues are common disorders which have to be addressed on a war footing before it is too late. You should not sweep it all under the carpet and feign fineness. Do not hesitate to talk about your anxieties with a trusted wellwisher," he told the students.

The club is planning to hold such seminars more frequently, said its president Sangeeta Mital.

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Legal services seminar in Patiala

Team Rotary News



RC Patiala Mid Town past president Bhagwan Dass Gupta addressing students at a seminar.

uring a seminar on legal services, RC Patiala Mid Town, RID 3090, past president Bhagwan Dass Gupta, a para legal volunteer and social activist, gave a talk on the availability of free legal services and urged the students and their parents to make full use of it. The seminar was hosted by the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Patiala, at the Government High School, Barsat.

He gave information to the students about the types of legal interventions being offered by the DLSA and the national Lok Adalat. Para legal volunteers Amninder Singh, Ravinder Singh, Jagdeep Kaur and school principal Sunny Gupta addressed the seminar chaired by chief judicial magistrate and DLSA secretary Manish Arora.■

he Anns of RC Panvel Central, RID 3131, had a fun day out taking part in a T20 cricket tournament held exclusively for them titled Central Premier League. "We had five teams consisting of Anns and girl Annets of our club members who were selected through an auction following the IPL format at the Suruchi Hall, Panvel," said club president Ratan Kharol.

Following the auction, "our Anns started practising in earnest at the Zero Turf Ground, which added to the excitement of Rotarians. It was an enjoyable day as all the five strong teams played well, but only one could win the trophy."

The locals gathered in large numbers to see the net cricket at the ground. "Some of the neighbours said they were amazed to watch such fellowship events in Rotary and expressed their wish to join our club. We have created a good public image during the cricket tournament for the Anns," added Kharol.

Cricket tournament for Anns in Panvel



All the five Anns cricket teams of RC Panvel Central.

Inculcating love for plants



A club member gives a sapling to a student.

Fifty students from the Godavari Devi Lahoti Kanya Vidyalaya, Latur, were taught the importance of protecting our environment by planting trees through both theoretical and practical

methods at a two-month RYLA conducted by RC Latur Midtown, RID 3132.

Just like a mother nurtures her newborn, watches her growth closely, thus creating a "strong bond between them," the newly planted saplings have to be nurtured by the students, the girls were told. A month ago, the students chose the trees they wanted, planted them, and for the past month, they have been nurturing their trees by watering them from their water bottles.

The girls were also told to note down the growth of the trees by marking their height, and the sprouting of new leaves and buds. Now the girls have developed a bonding with their trees which will become a memorable part of their school life when they look back after growing up.■

A Happy School near Kolhapur

Team Rotary News

idya Mandir School, Chinchawade Tarf Kale, a small village in Karvir taluk of Kolhapur in Maharashtra, got a makeover under a Happy School project of RC Kolhapur Heritage, RID 3170. "Our member Dinesh Dulhani donated liberally for the project in which we painted the school building, levelled the compound which was not safe for children earlier, renovated both the girls and boys' toilets, and refurbished the classroom benches and desks," said Pooja Gandhi, club secretary.

An RO water purifier unit was donated by Kishore Parmar and a new handwash station was set up with tiles contributed by Rohan Sawant. "We also installed a new printer at the school. We are thankful to our club members who have been our pillar of support for service projects," she said.

The new look school building with upgraded amenities was inaugurated by Suli Sevakram Dulhani, father of Dinesh Dulhani, and AG Aniket Ashtekar. Club vice-president Amit Punamiya, secretary Pooja and other members were present at the inaugural event.■



RC Kolhapur Heritage members and teachers in front of Vidya Mandir School after completing the Happy School project.

Indian Rotarians visit Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan

Team Rotary News

inety-two Rotarians from RID 3090, representing clubs in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, visited the Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan. Led by DG Ghanshyam Kansal, the group paid respects at the gurudwara.

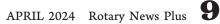
During their visit, the Rotarians offered prayers and presented a handkerchief at Guru Granth Sahib's shrine. Kansal highlighted the significance of Kartarpur Sahib, where Guru

Nanak Dev spent his last days. He praised the Indian and Punjab governments for "opening the Kartarpur corridor, making the pilgrimage accessible. Our visit aimed to foster unity and spiritual fulfillment among the members, carrying the spirit of Guru Nanak's teachings back to our communities."



Above: DG Ghanshyam Kansal waving the Indian flag at the Kartarpur Sahib.

Below: Rotarians from RID 3090 at the Kartarpur Sahib, Pakistan.





D 2981

RC Chidambaram Central

Diwali gifts worth ₹10,000 were given to 11 members of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Handicapped Welfare Association at the club meeting. Charter president Muhammad Yasin, AG B Sunil Kumar and past AG M Deepak Kumar spoke on the occasion. Principal Devi Murugan from the Panchayat Union Middle School, Poolamedu, gave a talk on 'Manitham Vellattum' (Let humanity win).





RC Manora Pattukkottai

A mobile billboard campaign against manual scavenging was kicked off with the help of the municipality. Club president Sathishkumar called for using mechanised device to clean-up the sewers. A helpline number was launched. On Teacher's Day, 75 teachers at the Government Girls HS School were honoured. Rtn Soundharajan donated \$50 to TRF on his wedding anniversary.





RC Nagapattinam

An awareness event on mutual funds was hosted jointly with Sri Financial Planners and ICICI Pru Asset Management Company. Tax consultant V Pandian gave a talk, while trainer G Vinoth Kumar provided valuable tips to the audience. AGs Avarani T Ananthan and K Sasikumar were present. Club president Karthikesan chaired the event.







RC Jayankondam

Around 1,000 students at the Fathima Matric HS School took part in the Road Safety Awareness seminar. Police inspector (traffic) Sahirabanu urged students to follow traffic rules and impress upon their parents to do the same. Former AG Kumanan conducted the sessions through songs, quiz and anecdotes. Stationery items were given to 100 winners. Maternity kits were given to pregnant women at the GH.



D 3000

RC Madurai Blossom

A short film on waste segregation made by Rtn Pankiraj was screened at the Government HS School, Andarkotaram. Waste bins were distributed to students. Saplings were planted on the campus by students and teachers. The club bulletin was received by the school headmaster.



D 3000

RC Madurai Sangamam

Pongal was celebrated with fervour at the Government High School, Virakanoor. Past president Vanchinathan gave away prizes to the 120 students, winners of various competitions. Breakfast was distributed to around 80 OPD patients and their attendants at the Government Hospital, Balerangapuram, to mark the birthday of past president Nandakumar's son.

Club

D 3000

RC Pudukkottai City

An orientation session, along with installation, was held for members of the newly-chartered Interact Club of Nizam Oriental Arabic High School. Interact club president Mohammed Abdul Ajees was sworn in by district Interact chair Shobana Ananth, along with the induction of 18 new Interactors. Pudukkottai MLA V Muthuraja presented the charter to the new president.





RC Ghaziabad Sapphire

Over 200 units of blood was collected at the first edition of *Mahadaan Raktdaan* held in tie-up with the IMS Engineering College. DG Priyatosh Gupta was the chief guest. District learning facilitator Subhash Jain and AG Anita Singhal were present. In the 2nd edition at the ABES Engineering College, supported by the Noida Blood Bank, over 160 units of blood was collected.





RC Pilkhuwa City

Iron and calcium supplements were distributed to pregnant women; while deworming tablets were given to 100 patients at the two medical camps. The health camps lifted the public image of the club. Thirty Rotarians visited the Bankey Bihari temple, Vrindavan, to mark the Kartik month, and offered prayers.







RC Sonepat Midtown

Lohri festival was celebrated with Rotarians and Anns to mark the end of winter and the beginning of longer, summer days. Traditional music, dance, Bollywood numbers and a ramp walk by children entertained the gathering. Club president Ravinder Bhardwaj greeted the members. It is custom for clubs in northern zones to mark Lohri with bonfire on the night before the onset of summer.



D 3030

RC Chopda

A health check-up camp for differently-abled children at the Prerna Matimand Vidyalaya was hosted by Chopda RotaKids. Paediatrician Dr Neeta Jaiswal examined the special children and gave medicines. Club president Chetan Tatia, RotaKids coordinator Prasanna Gujrathi and former Maharashtra Assembly speaker Arunbhai Gujrathi were present at the venue.



D 3056

RC Jaipur Gurukul

Mental wellness sessions are held for different sections of the society. For school girls, workshops on menstrual hygiene and mental wellness are being held; Also, sessions on physical and mental health are conducted for pregnant, lactating mothers at the anganwadis. They were made aware of postpartum stress and how to deal with it.

Club

D 3056

RC Jaipur Pink City

Four tricycles were donated to disabled persons as they have walking problems. The beneficiaries were happy as they could now lead a normal life and take efforts to earn a decent income. The project lifted the public image of the club in the neighbourhood. Over the years, the club is reaching out to vulnerable groups with many initiatives to lessen their hardships.





RC Bisauli

Wheelchairs were donated to two disabled persons and a computer lab was set up at the Government Primary School in Madanjudi village to mark Rotary Day. A cake cutting was done, followed by lunch for club members, their families, Inner Wheel members, local body officials and school teachers. Deputy collector Kalpana Jaiswal and police circle officer Sunil Kumar were chief guests.



D 3110

RC Kanpur Shaurya

Dr Anju Khanna, gynaecologist, gave a talk on menstrual hygiene at the Arya Kanya Inter College. Sanitary pads were distributed to 400 girl students. Kitchen utensils were given to a mother of an undernourished child who was admitted to the district hospital, Kannauj. Stationery, fruits and juices were distributed to students of Gurudwara Samiti Campus School with the support of IKMG, Kanpur.





D 3120

RC Allahabad Midtown

Diwali was celebrated with 30 elderly inmates at the Ravindra Nath Gaur Anand Vriddhashram, an old age home. Rotarians led by project chair Neeraj Bhargava felicitated the senior citizens. Around 90 students (Class 1–10) at the Saraswati Shishu Mandir took part in rangoli and diya decoration competition on Diwali eve. The first three winners got gifts and certificates, while consolation prizes were given to others.





RC Kushinagar

Over 490 people got their blood group checked at a blood testing camp on New Year under the aegis of the Kushinagar Charitable Blood Bank. The event was inaugurated by the municipality chairperson Kiran Jaiswal and Kasia tahsildar Narendra Ram. A team of doctors from the Arihant Hospital examined the people including political leaders, ward councillors and health officials. Blood ID cards were issued.



D 3131

RC Pune Kothrud

Around 50 Rotarians, Anns and Annets took part in the music competition, *Geet Gayan Spardha*, and displayed their singing talent, with some soulful numbers from Bollywood, Marathi films. The 21st edition of the singing contest was inaugurated by DG Manjoo Phadke. Urmila Haldankar is chairing the musical event for the last 21 years.

Helmets distributed to bike riders

Team Rotary News

n a bid to promote road safety, RC Kushinagar, RID 3120, distributed helmets to two-wheeler riders and insisted on wearing one whenever they ride their vehicle, even for a short distance. The Rotarians urged the pillion riders too to wear helmet for safety purpose. A special session on road safety was held for youngsters where the Rotarians highlighted the dangers of rash driving and riding without helmet.

To beat the wintery nights, the club members took to the streets of Kushinagar and provided blankets and warm clothes to rickshaw pullers, hawkers and street dwellers. Club president Wahid Ali, along with few club members, visited an old age home on his birthday and distributed gloves, caps and socks to the inmates.



Cloth bag being given to an individual.



Rotarians help a two-wheeler rider wear a helmet as part of the club's road safety campaign.

As part of their environment care endeavour, the Rotarians distributed cloth bags with Rotary logo imprinted on them to roadside vendors and buyers. They encouraged the use of cloth bags and discard use of plastic bags in the interest of the environment.



Rotarians present cloth bags for distribution to the Municipal Council chairperson Kiran Rakesh Jaiswal.

The Rotarians called on the Municipal Council chairperson Kiran Rakesh Jaiswal and handed over cloth bags for distribution among the public and the vendors.

Over 115 people donated blood at a blood donation camp organised by the club at the PWD Guest House in Kasia locality. This is part of the worldwide *Mahadaan* initiative where 75,000 units of blood was collected across 50 countries, says Ali. Akhilendra Shahi, vicepresident, Indian Red Cross Society, Uttar Pradesh, inaugurated the blood donation camp.

As part of the central government's TB-Free India campaign, the club has adopted 50 people suffering from the disease and is providing them monthly nutrition packages. ■

A Rotary food mela

Team Rotary News

Ver 15,000 people visited the Rotary food mela which was organised by Rotary Club of Ahmednagar Midtown, RID 3132, for three days in March. Apart from providing a gastronomic treat to the public, the event served as an image booster for Rotary.

"We had restaurateurs from all over Maharashtra showcasing their specialties across 51 stalls. The event helped promote small scale and household businesses to the masses," said Poonam Deodas, district chair for RI and *Rotary News*. Live demos, music and games entertained the public.■



The Rotary Food Mela being inaugurated.

Felicitating women Rotarians



Members of RC Chidambaram Central with award recipients.

O n International Women's Day, RC Chidambaram Central, RID 2981, felicitated eight women who have excelled in their field of work.

Chidambaram sub-collector Rashmi Rani, tahsildar P Hema Anandhi, regional transport officer K Vimala and Chidambaram municipal commissioner Malliga were among those honoured by the club. Further, the club felicitated its women members S R Selvi, HoD, Muthiah Polytechnic, for her coordination in blood donation camps; Dr M Prema, a cancer specialist who was instrumental in conducting cancer detection camps in Tiruchirapalli; Dr Srividya, a dentist who helped the club conduct medical camps every week; and S Porselvi, an active

Rotarian participating in all club activities. The club also honoured RC Chidambaram Midtown president K Nirmala.

RC Chidambaram Central president V Nadanasabapathy presided over the programme in the presence of sub-collector Rashmi Rani who also felicitated the awardees.■



Club



RC Kalyan

A Rotary run for 10, 5 and 3km was organised for the cause of de-addiction that saw the participation of 1,500 runners across age groups. People from Nashik, Raigad, Palghar, Jawhar, Mokhada, Jabalpur, Pune and Satara ran to spread the message of de-addiction. DG Milind Kulkarni was present and the project title was sponsored by DB Jadhav and club president Ram Marathe.





RC Koppal

A tree plantation drive was held at the Government Primary School at Kakkihalli village near Kukanoor town. Rotarians and students planted over 20 saplings on the campus. Club president Chinnappa Talawar urged the students to nurture the trees in his talk focused on protecting the environment. The faculty thanked the club for the project.



D 3203

RC Bhavani Komarapalayam

Grocery bags worth ₹3.5 lakh were distributed to around 350 flood-hit people in Tirunelveli. A 1,000-litre water tank (₹10,000) was set up at the Koothampoondi Government School which will benefit 80 students. Under the weekly *Project Thaimai*, nutritious food/fruits are being distributed to pregnant women and children at the government hospital.







RC Nilambur

Onam was celebrated at the Eden Convention Centre, Akampadam, with 150 Rotarians and their families taking part in the festival meet. Cultural programmes, indoor and outdoor games were conducted, followed by a Onam *sadhya* (feast) for all. DG Sethu Shiv Sankar and DSP Saju Abraham (Nilambur) inaugurated a police booth and front office built at a cost of ₹4.3 lakh.





RC Trivandrum Central

Artificial limbs were fitted to 130 amputees at a 10-day special camp titled *Santhwanam*, held jointly hosted with RC Kazhakoottam. PDG Scaria Jose Kattoor, ambassador, India Rotary Jaipur Limb, UK, interacted with the beneficiaries. Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan was the chief guest at the diamond jubilee event in which DG G Sumithran gave the keynote address.





RC Sivakasi

Pongal was celebrated at the Sivakasi Rotary Community Centre with club president AS Kalirajan presiding over the fun games conducted by the Anns and Annets. Past AG S Shanmuga Nataraj, along with spouse Saranya, was the chief guest. AG MN Manoharan, Ann Selvarani, vice-president Rm Thiagarajan and Rotarians and their families took part in the events.

Club

D 3212

RC Sivakasi Diamonds

A mega Speech and Dance Fest was held for special children at the Child Guidance Speech Therapy, a hospital for treatment of differentlyabled in Sivakasi. Over 30 children displayed their dance, music and other co-curricular skills. Club president Saradha distributed awards mementos to the participants.





RC Vaniyambadi

At the 252nd eye camp being held on third Sundays at the Gandhinagar School, around 190 patients were screened and 106 of them were chosen for surgery. A wooden cot (₹30,000) was donated to Siddha Hospital, Mannar, in Sri Lanka. Club president G Peethambaram donated ₹21,000 to TRF. Computer chairs were given to the Government Municipal High School, Konamedu.





RC Chennai Port City

A group of Rotarians led by DGE Mahaveer Bothra (RID 3233) met PDG Carolyn Johnson, chair, BELRAG, and vice-chair, TRF Cade of Technical Advisors, at the Jeeva Park, T Nagar, in the heart of the city to discuss global grant and joint projects. Vasanthi Ranganathan, a BEL technical cadre, had invited Carolyn to explore ways to join BELRAG.







RC Raipur

Rotarians had fun games with children at Over the Rainbow School. They narrated stories and danced with the little ones before distributing toys and other goodies. Principal Pooja Badghare thanked club secretary Jayant Kumar Thorat and other members for spending time with the children. School director Akanksha honoured the club members.



D 3291

RC Calcutta South City

Over 100 students and teachers attended a POCSO and thalassaemia awareness seminar at the Patha Bhavan Secondary School. The event saw experts - PDG Utpal Majumdar, inspector Tandrima Gupta, Dr Sharmila Sarkar, psychiatrist, and Dr Sritama Ghosh, child counsellor — giving talks to sensitise the students on child sexual abuse and ways to prevent thalassaemia.



D 3291

RC Howrah

Around 90 people including Rotarians, 10 cars and 30 two-wheelers took part in a polio rally sponsored by Maya Pal to mark the first NID camp of the Rotary year. PDG Mukul Sinha and Howrah Municipal Corporation chairman Sujoy Chakraborty were present.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

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A mega cycle rally in Ahmednagar

Team Rotary News





10-day cycle rally was held with the participation of around 60 Rotarians from Ahmednagar clubs, RID 3132, to create awareness against child marriage under *Project Beti Bachao Beti Padhao*. District collector Siddharam Salimath flagged off the rally which was supported by NGOs like Snehalaya, Udaan Foundation and the Cycle Association of Ahmednagar.

In the course of the journey, Rotarians held street plays, interacted with college students at Shegaon, and called for stringent action against child marriage during an event at the Trimurti International School, Newasa Fata.

The Rotarians also attended an event at the RB Narayanrao Borawake College, Shrirampur, during which they created awareness against child marriage.

Akola MLA Kiran Lahamate took part in the rally when it entered his constituency. In Sangamner, the rally team interacted with the students at the DJ Malpani College of Commerce. District Legal Services Authority secretary Bhagyashri Patil welcomed the rallyists at the Snehalaya, Ahmednagar, along with other local celebrities. The cycle rally under *Project Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* cost ₹50,000. ■

