

July 2024

# Rotary

NEWS PLUS





# Promoting literacy in tribal belts

## Team Rotary News

**A**s the new academic year began, around 45 students of the Kottaipalayam Panchayat Union Middle School were happy to receive two sets of school uniforms sponsored by RC Coimbatore Monarks, RID 3201. Club president CN Sharavana, secretary R Gurumurthy Vignesh, club director, Community Service, Prasanna Kumar, and Godwin Maria Visuvasam, district chair, Youth Service, visited the school to hand over the dresses to the children.

In a similar initiative, the Rotarians distributed stationery kits comprising writing materials and notebooks to 120 children studying in the Anaikatti Government Tribal Residential School. The Aeon Charitable Trust, Inner Wheel Club of Coimbatore Vriksham and an NGO, Aim for Seva, partnered with the club in this project. Club president Sharavana and members Aashish Agarwal and Abishek Ravi sponsored the project.

Seventy saplings were planted and tree guards installed at various places in Coimbatore by the club as part of its environment protection initiative. All the tree guards were adorned with billboards announcing the club name, district number and contact number as a public image effort. The club also designed and distributed fridge magnets with The Four-Way test written on it to 100 people. RI director Anirudha Roychowdhury who was present at the launch of the distribution drive received the first magnet. PDG KA Kuriachan and past assistant governor Sunku Radesh Kumar were also present.

The club members, along with RC Coimbatore Elite, visited an old age home to serve a grand feast for the 70 elderly people residing there. S Muthuraman, district chair, Community Service, assistant governor Sen Ramanathan and Governor's Group Representative SN Deepana were also present. ■



RI Director Anirudha Roychowdhury receives a set of fridge magnets sporting the 4-Way Test from club president CN Sharavana.



Club members with children at a tribal school in Anaikatti hamlet.



Food being served to the elderly at an old age home.

**On the cover:** Kavitha Senthil, IPP, RC Dindigul Queency, RID 3000, interacting with children at the Kasturba Sevikashram, Gandhigram.

# Homeopathy camp screens 1,500 people

Team Rotary News



Priest Krishna Das Maharaj of Panki Hanuman Temple being examined at the homeopathy camp.



Cotton bags being distributed to morning walkers at a park in Kanpur.

**A**round 1,500 patients were screened at a homeopathy health camp organised by RC Kanpur Aryans, RID 3110, at the Panki Hanuman Temple to mark the 269<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Dr Samuel Hahnemann (1755–1843), a German physician known as the father of homeopathy medicine.

Chief priest Jitendra Das of the Panki Temple and priest Krishna Das inaugurated the health camp in which a panel of eight doctors screened the

patients and advised them of suitable lifestyle changes. Free medicines worth lakhs were distributed. A mini exhibition displayed stalls of homeopathy firms such as Dr William's India, Naimish Herbs, Lord's Homeopathy, Burnett Company, SB Yale, Adven Biotech and B Jain Pharmaceuticals for which there were many takers.

Club president BN Acharya, his team of office-bearers and charter president Bhakti Vijay Shukla were present to

coordinate and ensure the smooth conduct of the medical camp. Cotton bags were distributed to morning walkers at Moti Jheel Park in Kanpur on World Plastic Bag Free Day (July 3) by club members.

Rotarians and other walkers led by charter president Shukla took a pledge to avoid plastic bags in their life. Rotarians went around the park and engaged the public on the need to avoid plastic as it polluted the soil and water bodies affecting human life on the planet. ■



# “Will you give that Rotary collar to me?”

V Muthukumaran

It was a ‘Magic of Rotary’ moment for Kavitha Senthil, the immediate past president, RC Dindigul Queencity, RID 3000, during her interaction with children at the Kasturba Sevikashram School, Gandhigram, when a young boy fascinated by the presidential collar she was wearing asked innocently, ‘what is this?’

The club president was having fun time with the children after delivering a motivational talk during the World Yoga Day event

at this NGO special school, which aims to empower marginalised and destitute children through education and vocational skills. She also distributed goody bags to them that evoked all-round smiles. “When this chit of a boy grasped my Rotary collar and asked me about this fabric, I felt proud and replied to him, ‘it refers to Rotary.’”

Not leaving at that, the boy held the collar tightly and said, ‘will you give it to me.’ To which, Kavitha explained, “when you grow

up and become a Rotary leader, they will surely adorn your neck with this collar. Rest assured.”

Excited about Kavitha’s reply, the boy said, ‘yes, when I grow big, I will also wear this Rotary collar.’ Hearing this solemn declaration from the young one, the club president felt instantly that the roots of Rotary have really gone deep in this region as reflected by the pride of this boy “who was eager to join Rotary and become a leader too.” She was also confident these



New clothes for children at the Sevikashram School, Dindigul.





RIDE M Muruganandam launches collection boxes for *Project Cervi Cure*. Also seen are RC Dindigul Queencity IPP Kavitha Senthil (2<sup>nd</sup> from L), DG Raja Govindasamy, RID 3233 PDG Raja Seenivasan and Asha Devi, wife of DG Govindasamy.

children will blossom as model Rotarians when they grow up.

Club members donate liberally to meet the daily needs of this special school at Gandhigram which provides home, food and education to children with troubled past and those from marginalised families. “While our members Malliga and Padmashini donated clothes

(₹18,000) and towels (₹14,000) during the Yoga Day events, we have sponsored the education of many children here till Class 12,” said Kavitha. Yoga master Ramraj taught the children some basic *asanas* (postures) and played with them. He also narrated stories animatedly which brought mirth of laughter and joy among the young ones.

### **Project Cervi Cure**

At the RI Convention in Singapore (May 2024), the then DGE Raja Govindasamy highlighted the Cervi Cure project of this all-women’s club to RIPE Stephanie Urchick at a special RID 3000 booth. In a phased manner, the members have taken up cancer awareness campaign among school girls, along with HPV vaccination drive, and screening camps for women in the age group of 30–35.

Collection boxes were launched by RIDE Muruganandam as part of fundraising activities for *Project Cervi Cure*. “Many people donate to our cause after understanding the need for vaccination against cervical cancer,” she said. In a joint initiative with Young Indians, Dindigul chapter, a youth movement of India, the club kicked off a mega yoga event for 3,000 students at the Achyuta Public School. “The yoga project done on a large-scale was aimed to transform the body, mind and soul to a realm of peaceful coexistence in the world,” smiled Kavitha. ■



DG Govindasamy briefs PRIP Kalyan Banerjee on *Project Cervi Cure* at the RI Convention, Singapore.

**T**hirty members of RC Pune Sarasbaug, RID 3131, visited the Khadki Paraplegic Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) to indulge in an 'Ice Cream Party' with the paraplegic soldiers getting treatment at the centre.

The PRC was established in the seventies to treat defence personnel with spinal cord injuries sustained during their service. "Col Dr Mukerjee greeted us warmly and showed us a film about the centre and its achievements,"

said club member Sanjay Shinde. The Rotarians watched a basketball match between two teams at the centre. "It was heartwarming to see the grit and determination of the wheelchair-bound jawans cheerfully playing the game, despite their physical inability. Some of them have won medals in Para Olympics," he said.

The visiting Rotarians distributed ice creams to the jawans and spent time with them. "We were all inspired by them and their positive attitude," said Shinde. ■

## An ice cream party with the jawans

### Team Rotary News



Wheelchair-bound jawans enjoying ice cream at the rehabilitation centre.

## Encouraging talent in children

**R**C Pudukkottai City, RID 3000, along with the District Silambam Development Corporation, organised the district-level silambam competition at the Pudukkottai Samskrutha Vidyalaya Oriental High

School in the city. Silambam is an ancient martial art form in Tamil Nadu and is performed with long bamboo sticks.

Around 600 students participated in the competition. Earlier the club organised a district-level poetry competition for school students. ■



Members of RC Pudukkottai City with participants of the silambam competition.



# Road safety tips for bus drivers

Team Rotary News



RID 3234 DG NS Saravanan giving a talk at the road safety awareness camp for bus drivers and transport workers in Chennai.

A road safety awareness event was held, along with a medical camp, for around 190 bus drivers and transport workers at the Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT), Koyambedu, by RC Chennai Mugappair, RID 3234.

During the health check-up camp, a general diagnosis was followed by eye screening and ECG test for all patients by a team of doctors. DG NS Saravanan and the Institute of Road Transport former joint director J Krishnamoorthy were

present at the medical camp which was arranged by Siva Ilangovan, chairperson, Road Safety, at RID 3234.

A wheelchair was donated to 95-year-old Karpagam and it was handed over to her legal heir at the medical camp in the presence of Community Service director Sundaravivelu and other district office-bearers.

Around 90 students at the Government Girls HS School,

Villivakkam, were educated on traffic rules, usage of seat belt, avoiding mobile phone while driving, speed control and pedestrian safety, among other issues, related to road safety by a team of Rotarians led by Bharathi Natesan, chairperson, Special Projects at RC Chennai Mugappair.

The students also took a pledge to abide by traffic rules during their commute to and from school. ■



School students holding placards at the awareness session on traffic rules.

# club matters



RC Chidambaram Mid Town



RC Karur Young Gen



RC Koothapakkam



RC Madurai West

## D 2981 – RC Chidambaram Mid Town

Annamalai University vice-chancellor R M Kathiresan distributed prizes to the winners of oratory and chess competitions held for Inner Wheel members, Interactors and Rotaractors as part of silver jubilee events. PDGs ISAK Nazar gave a special address.

## D 2981 – RC Koothapakkam

Past AG S Natarajan during his visit to the United States donated \$50 each to RC Dallas, the first club to be formed in Texas, RID 5810, and RC Denver Cherry Creek, RID 5450, Colorado, for their Polio Fund.



RC Nagapattinam

## D 2981 – RC Nagapattinam

Charter Accountants Day was celebrated with Lion V Annamalai, CA, giving a guest lecture. Doctors' Day was celebrated at the Government Hospital; 15 doctors were honoured.

## D 3000 – RC Karur Young Gen

DG Raja Govindasamy was the chief guest at the installation of new club president S Selvaraj and secretary S Nirmal. The investiture was attended by PDG S Rajendran, regional coordinator V Sundararajan and AG Nirupama Sreenivas.

## D 3000 – RC Madurai West

New Interact and Earlyact clubs were installed at the Adhyapana School, Madurai. Interact club president Vijjayanti and Earlyact president Mukundh took charge. An herbal garden was created by the Earlyact club and the Interactors took up *Project Adhya Reads*.





RC Vizianagaram



RC Allahabad Mid-Town



RC Visakhapatnam



RC Chandigarh Mid Town

**D 3020 – RC Visakhapatnam**

A freezer box was sponsored by Rtn Vamsi Mohan for use by the public. IPDG Bhaskar Ram donated a stretcher, first-aid kit and safety equipment to a tourist centre set up by the government at the RK Beach, Vizag, for use during the rescue mission by the coast guards.



RC Bikaner Marudhara

**D 3080 – RC Chandigarh Mid Town**

Over 50 units of blood was donated, 39 stem cell donors registered, and 21 organ donation pledges were received at a workshop at the Punjab University. Rtn Manjushri Sharma gave a talk on menstrual hygiene, followed by a talk on thalassaemia by Rtn Sanjay Kalra. Datri Foundation was the joint partner.

**D 3020 – RC Vizianagaram**

Rotary Dasigi Perraju Music Academy is training young aspirants in classical music and fine arts. Located at the club building, it will expand its reach through online tools. With the guidance of Sudarshana Acharya, Lead India Foundation will harness the youth power in the country.

**D 3053 – RC Bikaner Marudhara**

Independence Day was celebrated at the Government Blind Residential School, Bikaner. Food packets were distributed to 100 children, relatives and guests at the venue. A special programme was staged by the students.

**D 3120 – RC Allahabad Mid-Town**

Around 250 patients were screened at a health and eye check-up camp held at the IVD Clinic Karma, Chaka block. Dr Arpit Bansal and Dr Anoop Chauhan, both Rotarians, gave consultations. Medicines were distributed. Dr Bansal gave a talk on cervical cancer at the Bal Bharti School attended by 150 girl students.



RC Virar



RC Hubli Central



RC Panvel Central



RC Guindy

**D 3131 – RC Panvel Central**

A counselling session was held for students and parents at the Gokhale Hall. PDG Girish Gune and three other speakers gave inspiring talks which helped the participants to refresh their minds and prepare themselves for the academic challenges. The event was supported by Bharat Vikas Parishad and Thakekar Classes.



RC Nandyal

**D 3170 – RC Hubli Central**

Around 150 people had undergone BP, sugar, ECG and other tests at the health camp at the Government Hospital, Elavatti village. Heart surgeon Dr Vijay Kollur and his team from Vihaan Hospital diagnosed the patients. Rtns Shwetha Kollur made the arrangements and also erected Rotary banners at the campsite.

**D 3232 – RC Guindy**

Shreya Prabhu and Jai Aswin were installed as the president and secretary of the Rotary Club of Guindy Annette Club (2023–24) at the investiture in the Anna Alumni Club. Then District Annettes Council chairperson Devi Krishna and club president Bala Chandar spoke on the occasion.

**D 3160 – RC Nandyal**

Notebooks were distributed to students at NVS Rotary Bhavan, Nandyal. The project was sponsored by AG Malepati Raja Sekher in memory of his late parents, Malepati Chinna Subbarayudu and Tirupalamma. The school faculty thanked Rotary for the gesture.

**D 3141 – RC Virar**

Reusable sanitary pads were distributed to 30 girls at an MHM session which was supported by RCC National Anticorruption. Wildlife biologist Pankaj Jadhav conducted an organic Holi colour-making workshop at the RCC Paradise Tower.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran



# An auspicious beginning

## Team Rotary News

**A**n UPS inverter system for power back-up worth ₹55,000 was donated by RC Kallianpur, RID 3182, to the Karunya Special School at Padukere in Udupi district. The 2.3KVA UPS unit was sponsored by the Annets of the club.

In another initiative, study tables and chairs (₹58,750) were donated to the Rural Anganwadi Kendra, a kindergarten school, at Shanthipalke village, Karkala block, in Udupi. ■



Club members with DG R Raja Govindasamy and his wife Asha Devi at the Meenakshi Amman temple in Madurai.

## Making adults literate



PDG Ganesh Bhat (seated 2<sup>nd</sup> from right, second row) with Rotarians and teachers at one of the teacher training sessions.

**R**otary Clubs of Dharwad Central, Dharwad Mid Town and Hubli Central, RID 3170, undertook two literacy-related programmes to enhance the teaching experience of teachers, and promote adult literacy in Dharwad and Hubli districts, Karnataka.

The programmes were initiated by PDG Ganesh Bhat, National Committee member of the Adult Literacy programme. Initially 221 teachers drawn from as many schools were trained with the support of the State Education Department. Around 100 students

from Class 5–7 from each of the participating schools were identified and trained to teach basic literacy to illiterate adults aged above 15. Bhat says that the team plans to reach out to at least 20,000 illiterate adults in the next six months. ■

# A special installation in Belthangady

Team Roatay News

Soon after Pooran Varma was installed as the new president of RC Belthangady, RID 3181, a heartwarming incident unfolded... the new club president inducted his mother Sonia Yashovarma as a member of his club. “It was a proud, unforgettable moment for both of us as I pinned the Rotary Pin and shook hands with her welcoming my mom into the Rotary fraternity,” smiles Varma.

DGE P K Ramakrishna and assistant governor Mohammad Valavanoor were present at the event. ■



Club president Pooran Varma welcomes his mother Sonia Yashovarma as a new member to his club.

## Greening Delhi



Members of RC Delhi Mayur Vihar, RID 3012, actively participated in a sapling plantation drive. Several saplings were planted at Sector 19 in Noida, National Capital Region in Delhi. The Rotarians encouraged the residents also to participate in the greening initiative and urged them to nurture the saplings regularly. ■

Saplings being planted in one of the residential colonies.



# Notebooks, chairs donated to school

## Team Rotary News

Rotarians with children at the Education Development Day event at a government primary school in Madurai.



Notebooks and chairs worth ₹11,000 were donated for students at the Dr T Tirugnanam Government Primary School, Munichalai, by RC Madurai Sangamam, RID 3000, to mark the birth anniversary of former Tamil Nadu chief minister K Kamaraj.

The occasion is being celebrated as Education Development Day by government schools across the state in memory of the late chief minister who is still popular for

his pioneering initiatives in school education among the people.

RID 3000 AG Rajesh Khanna as chief guest distributed the notebooks to the students. While 15 chairs, sponsored by Vanchinathan, past president, were donated to the school authority. In memory of late past president Inbavanan, breakfast was distributed to around 60 patients at the Government Hospital, Balarengapuram, in the presence

of AG Khanna. Club president S R Ganesan and his team distributed the food to patients at the both the OPD and ward departments. Krithika, a second-year student of Thiagarajar College of Engineering, was given a cash assistance of ₹10,000 for college fees as she was from an underprivileged family.

Also, two school students were given uniforms worth ₹2,000, thanks to contributions from club members. ■

## Nutrition supplements for pregnant women



Nutrition supplement being given to a pregnant woman at a primary health centre.

On the occasion of Doctors' Day, members of RC Cheyyar Temple City, RID 3231, organised in a three-in-one programme at the Upgraded Government Primary Health Centre, Perungattur.

While the regional medical officer gave a special talk at the Doctors' Day event, club members distributed nutritious food to pregnant women at the child and maternity ward at the PHC. They also planted saplings on the premises of the medical centre. ■

# Essential items for health centre

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Tiruvannamalai Vegan, RID 3231, donated ₹25,000 to the Government Primary Health Centre in Samuthiram Colony, Tiruvannamalai, to improve maternal and child care facilities. The donation will be used to provide essential items such as benches, beds, toilet sanitation materials and induction stoves.

The club also planted tree saplings on the premises. Around 200 people will benefit in a month from the project. B Chandraprakash Jain, municipal councillor, Tiruvannamalai, was the chief guest for the event. ■



Club members handing over medical equipment to the doctors at the primary health centre.

# Cybersecurity training for students



Students at cybersecurity and sexual harassment training programme.

**R**C Koramangala, RID 3191, conducted a cybersecurity and sexual harassment prevention training for around 350 students and 15 teachers at a government school in Doddaneda. The training covered online safety practices and recognising and preventing sexual harassment at workplace. ■



# Tree plantation marks Doctors' Day

Team Rotary News



**R**C Kushinagar, RID 3120, marked National Doctors' Day by planting saplings at the Community Healthcare Centre, Kasia. Medical professionals were honoured with mementos. Club president Wahid Ali led the event that was attended by a large number of Rotarians.

The club also organised a free dental check-up camp for children at the Primary School, Premwalia near Kushinagar. Dental kits containing toothbrushes, toothpaste, tongue cleaners, and fruits were distributed to the students. Dr Ritesh Kumar and Dr Shyam Bihari Jaiswal examined the oral hygiene of children and educated them on best practices. ■

**Above:** Dr Ritesh Kumar interacting with the students after distribution of dental hygiene kits.

**Below:** Rotarians plant a sapling.

