

August 2024

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



A self-defence workshop

Team Rotary News

RC Coimbatore Cotton City, RID 3201 in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Police, held a self-defence workshop at the Traffic Police Ground in Coimbatore. The event, guided by city police commissioner V Balakrishnan and ACP A Shekhar, saw participation from over 500 community members, including Rotarians, members from the Sindhi Forum, police force families, and Interact club students of RC Coimbatore Sai City.

The workshop was chaired by club member Sandip Shah. Club president Krishna Samant emphasised on the role of self-defence in



mental well-being and was instrumental in organising the event. Participants were taught various self-defence techniques suitable for all age groups through hands-on training sessions. Each

participant received a certificate of completion.

IPS officer Balakrishnan stressed the need for more such programmes, especially for women, to enhance personal security and confidence. ■



Children learning self-defence techniques at the workshop.

On the cover: An Interactor on a cleaning drive, as part of the community service projects of RC Nainital, RID 3110.

Rotarian writers honoured at RID 3191

Team Rotary News



Authors with DG Uday Kumar Bhaskara at the felicitation meet.

In an event titled *Unveiling*, RID 3191's Rotary Fellowship of Authors honoured 29 authors. The event recognised Rotarians of the district who have authored books. The group included a wide range of authors, from first-time poets to Dr John Ebnezar, a Padma Shree awardee who has written over 200 books on orthopaedics and holds two Guinness World Records.

Ashish Dutta, chair of the Rotary Fellowship of Authors, curated the event that included discussions called *fireside chats* where the 29 authors were divided into four groups based on their genres: The Pro Group (business books), The Astute

Group (self-development and personal journeys), The Healer Group (medical, healthcare, and spiritual books), and The Dreamer Group (fiction and poetry).

The audience heard anecdotes, stories of inspiration, and challenges from the authors during the discussions. DG Uday Kumar Bhaskara presented a shawl and plaque to each author. The event was organized by Rotarians Vinutha Gowda and Guru Nagesh and included a musical performance and dinner.

For more information on the Rotary Fellowship of Authors contact Ashish Dutta at ashisdutta@gmail.com. ■

Kargil Vijay Diwas observed

Team Rotary News



RC Kolhapur Mid Town president Arundhati Mahadik felicitates an ex-serviceman on Kargil Vijay Diwas.

Around 60 ex-servicemen were felicitated by RC Kolhapur Mid Town, RID 3170, at Girgaon, known as Sainik village, at Karvir taluk, 12km from Kolhapur, as part of Kargil Vijay Diwas celebration. Club president Arundhati Mahadik assured the army men and their families all support including financial assistance.

Over 360 people have joined the army from this small village,

and many of them have retired, said BS Shimpukade, club secretary. "Around 75 soldiers are still in active service. There are 45 widows in Girgaon who lost their husband during military service," he said.

Every parent in this village used to motivate their children to join the army, and they even have an association called Aaji-Maji Sainiks that looks after the welfare of ex-servicemen. Rotarians spent

time with the families of the soldiers after they were felicitated. While the nation celebrated the silver jubilee of Kargil Vijay Diwas, "this is our golden jubilee year of our club," said the club secretary.

"Our project felicitating the army men at Girgaon village on Kargil Vijay Diwas was appreciated by the local authorities, and the event was widely published in regional papers and TV channels," said Shimpukade. ■



A wreath being laid to honour army men killed during the Kargil war.

Nainital club focuses on literacy and cleanliness

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Nainital, RID 3110, is focusing on cleanliness drive and adult literacy from the start of this Rotary year.

The Rotarians involve the Interactors of the club-sponsored Interact Club of Joseph's College and Interact Club of Naukuchiatal in their service activities. The Interactors of Naukuchiatal whitewashed the compound wall of a local temple and painted the wall. The Interactors also participated in a cleanliness drive near the Lake Naukuchiatal.

The Interactors of St Joseph's College are actively participating in teaching adult illiterates and school dropout children. ■



An Interactor teaches a woman to write.



Interactors paint on the wall of a local temple.



Interactors on a cleaning spree.

RC Kushinagar, RID 3120, and Synergy Specialty Hospital and Cancer Care and Research Institute, Gorakhpur, organised a mega health camp at Nirankari Inter College, Kasia.

The camp benefited around 590 patients, with 14 doctors providing medical services. Free tests for blood pressure and sugar levels were also done. Club president Wahid Ali noted that “camps like these raise public health awareness and offer opportunities for medical consultation and treatment for people from all walks of life.”

Healthcare gets a boost in Kushinagar

Team Rotary News



From top: Patients at the medical camp; Club members along with the medical team after the camp; Members of the club at the Community Health Centre in Kasia.

The club donated a semi-automated bed to the Community Health Centre in Kasia in memory of Bhagwati Devi, mother of member Pawan Agarwal. The bed will improve patient care in the emergency ward. Club members were present for the donation.

A voter awareness campaign for the Lok Sabha elections 2024 was launched by the club, installing hoardings and banners at various locations in the city. ■

Awareness on cybersecurity, sexual harassment

Team Rotary News



Students at an awareness session in a government school.

An awareness session on cybersecurity and prevention of sexual harassment was conducted for 350 children and 15 teachers at a government school in Doddanekundi by RC Bangalore Koramangala, RID 3191.

In cybersecurity, issues like creating a strong password, identifying phishing attempts and practising safe online behaviour were covered. “This session will help students to protect their personal data and navigate the digital world responsibly,”

said Jayashree Swaminathan, district chair, Public Image.

On prevention of sexual harassment, students were made aware of gender boundaries, recognising and reporting ‘inappropriate’ behaviour to the higher authorities. ■

Badminton tournament in RID 2981



Prizes are given to the winners of the badminton tournament. RC Manai Green City president GV Krishnamurthy is at the centre.

A one-day badminton tournament was held by RC Mannai Green City, RID 2981, with the support of Jaycees in Mannargudi. DSP Aswath Anto Arockiaraj distributed prizes to the winners.

Earlier, Rtn Thomas Arockiaraj from RC Kottai Pattukkottai and G Mathivannan, chairman, Indhu and Mathi Dreamlabs, were guests of honour at the inauguration. AG S Meenakshi was also present. The event fostered bonding among Rotarians led by club president GV Krishnamurthy. ■

club matters



RC Chidambaram Central



RC Madurai Sangamam



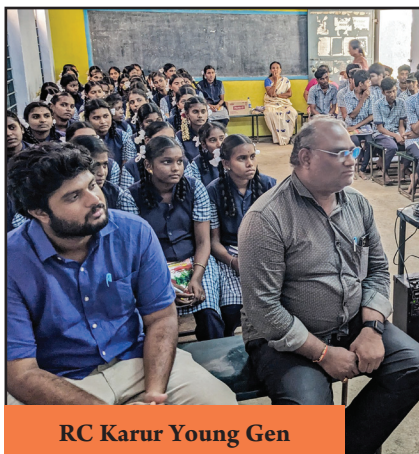
RC Kottai Pattukkottai



RC Madurai Paramount

RC Chidambaram Central — D 2981

Buttermilk was distributed to public at a water booth set up jointly with the Misrimal Mahaveer Chand Jain Trust to provide respite from summer heat. Chidambaram MLA KA Pandian inaugurated the booth, along with IPP Rajasekaran.



RC Karur Young Gen

RC Kottai Pattukkottai — D 2981

Completion certificates were distributed to 50 girls for undergoing tailoring course being run by the club, and among them two underprivileged trainees were given tailoring machines.

RC Karur Young Gen — D 3000

Around 180 students (Class 9–12) attended a goal-setting programme at the Government HS School, Thammanyakanpatti. Rtn M A P R Rengasamy curated the session. RC Virudhunagar was the joint partner.

RC Madurai Paramount — D 3000

During the club installation, lunch and sleeping blankets (₹30,000) were given to 120 students staying at the Sevalayam Boys Hostel. Nataraj Oil Mills owner Senthilnathan and AG Rajesh Khanna were chief guests at the installation.

RC Madurai Sangamam — D 3000

Education Development Day (July 15) was celebrated at the Virakanoor Government High School to mark the birth anniversary of former Tamil Nadu CM K Kamaraj. RID 3000 secretary Shantharam gave prizes worth ₹9,000 to 25 student winners of various sports.



RC Pudukkottai City



RC Bhopal Hills



RC Delhi Mayur Vihar



RC Surat Hazira Bay

RC Pudukkottai City — D 3000

Food plates were donated to a municipality school for students to have free breakfast. Municipality chairperson Thilagavathy Senthil and vice-chairman Liyakath Ali received the plates. An awareness-cum-demo session for accident-free Diwali was held for 100 children.

RC Bhopal Hills — D 3040

Kunal Singhal took charge as the new president and Nirvikar Yadava as the new secretary in the presence of PDG Jinendra Jain, then DG Ritu Grover and PDGs from other district clubs. The club activities and projects were read out by the outgoing secretary Amit Verma.



RC Chopda

RC Surat Hazira Bay — D 3060

Around 46 units of blood was collected at the blood donation camp at Chandkheda held jointly with Mani Prabhu School Alumni and Pratha Blood Centre. A new Interact club, an RCC at Damka village and a new Happy School were announced at the installation of club president Sapna Rathi (2023-24).

RC Delhi Mayur Vihar — D 3012

Rotarians, Anns and Annets staged a musical and dance performance at the Teej festival wherein married women prays to Goddess Parvati for good health of their husbands. It is celebrated in North India during the monsoon in July-August.

RC Chopda — D 3030

Rotarians celebrated the Palkhi festival by carrying a palanquin with saints Dnyaneshwar and Tukaram that went around as Warkaris (devotees) in groups chanted the name of Lord Vithoba of Pandharpur. The religious ceremony was done jointly with the Bhagini Mandal Sanstha.



RC Ambala Central



RC Bangalore Indiranagar



RC Meerut Samrat



RC Bangalore Rajarajeshwarinagar Centennial

RC Ambala Central — D 3080

District Grant chairman Manmohan Maini has donated blood for 61st time. He is giving blood since 1991 when he donated blood to a cancer patient in Nagpur. A blood donation camp was held on the death anniversary of Rtr Sunny Ahluwallia who died in a road mishap in which he gave blood.



RC Dombivli West

RC Bangalore Rajarajeshwarinagar Centennial — D 3191

A medical check-up, along with blood donation camp, was held with the support of Sankalp India Foundation, Divyadrushti Eye Hospital, Smile Dental Craft Clinic, RC Hospital, De Heal Diagnostics and Aisteth Cardiac Care.

RC Meerut Samrat — D 3100

Vocational Excellence Award was given to St Mary's Academy principal Edward Sebastian for his educational service during the installation of new office-bearers. The club honoured 14 PDGs, DGE Deepa Khanna and DGN Nitin Kumar Agarwal.

RC Dombivli West — D 3142

Seven Rotarians and three Rotaractors visited Badlapur Ashram to serve breakfast to girls and boys. A day before, a refrigerator, washing machine, sanitary pad vending machine and ceiling fans were donated to the ashram.

RC Bangalore Indiranagar — D 3192

Around 120 women were screened at a cancer detection camp held at the Rotary House with the support of Sakthi Manila Samaja Sangama and the Indian Cancer Society. Rtn Asha Vaswani, then chairperson, Health Camps Committee, was the project leader.

Compiled by V Muthukumar

Project Vision Care targets 2 lakh students

Team Rotary News

In a mega eye-screening project, Vision Care, RC Bangalore Lakeside, RID 3191, will reach out to over two lakh students at government schools by joining hands with the National Urban Health Mission, Family Welfare Society and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

Rotary Avoidable Blindness Foundation and Rotary Action Group for Blindness Prevention have also pitched in with their support to *Project Vision Care*. Rotary will be providing two portable devices (auto refractometer) which will be used for screening over two lakh children at the government schools in and around Bengaluru. The project was inaugurated at the BBMP head office in Bengaluru in the presence of city health special commissioner Vikas Kishor Suralkar, chief health officer Syed Sirajuddin Madni, RID 3192



RID 3191 director Kashinath Prabhu hands over a portable device to Bengaluru health special commissioner Vikas Kishor Suralkar at the launch of *Project Vision Care*. Also seen are Rotarians and city health officials.



Paramedics being trained on handling the screening device by a technical team.

director S Jayaraman, RID 3191 director Kashinath Prabhu and other officials from the partner groups. The eye-screening project will come under the Union health ministry's Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) which envisages early screening and intervention services for children in the vulnerable sections of the society.

Following the project inaugural, a demonstration of the screening equipment was given by a technical team which will train the staff at RBSK and BBMP as they will be conducting a series of eye check-up camps at the government schools. ■

Fitness awareness walk

Team Rotary News



RC Chidambaram president V Arun and Rotarians at the Fitness Awareness Walk.

Police inspector S Ramesh Babu flagged off a Fitness Awareness Walk, a rally organised by RC Chidambaram, RID 2981, to promote a healthy lifestyle among the residents.

AG Thirugnanasambandam, zone secretary Nirmala, club

presidents and Rotarians of Chidambaram, along with the public, walked the 3km rally, at the end of which a random blood test was done for around 200 people. Club president V Arun, secretary Balaji Saminathan, treasurer Sanjay and member B Senthil took care

of logistics. “Placards were held by Rotarians with messages on healthy life like regular walking and good diet to create fitness awareness among the public. The walkathon was covered in the local media boosting our public image in the town,” said club president Arun. ■

School uniforms for 150 students



Schoolchildren hold new uniforms along with Rotarians.

School uniforms were distributed by RC Solapur, RID 3132, to 155 students at Gajanan Vidyalaya, a government primary school which has children from the low-income groups and nomadic families living in and around the town.

School principal Sachin Nagtilak and teachers assured the club that the donation of uniforms will increase the enrolment of poor students and improve their confidence levels to attend classes regularly. Project chairperson Shalini Singhal led the initiative at the school with the support of Ketan Vora Friends group and she was guided by school advisor Chandrika Chouhan in this project. ■

Salute to the Armed Forces

Team Rotary News



An officer being felicitated. DG Sundaravadivelu is seen 5th from left.

Rotary Club of Coimbatore Millennium, RID 3201, commemorated the 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas (July 26) by honouring 30 personnel from the armed forces, including veterans

of the Kargil war fought in 1999 to combat the infiltration of the Pakistani troops.

Commander Amit Kumar Sharma of the INS Agrani, the chief guest, gave insight into the

various tactics and initiatives followed by the Indian defence forces to tackle the Pakistani troops in Kargil.

DG N Sundaravadivelu also participated in the event. ■

An eyecare camp

Rotary Club of Vaniyambadi, RID 3231, organised its 259th eye check-up camp in Vaniyambadi town in Tamil Nadu. The club has been conducting this camp on the third Sunday of every month where people are checked for eye disorders and treatment extended to the less privileged free of cost.

Over 200 people attended the camp and 122 people were identified for cataract surgery. The club provides food for all individuals attending the camp. ■



Rotarians with the registrants at the eye check-up camp.

Nasik school gets a new look

Team Rotary News



Rotarians with students at the renovated school in the tribal hamlet.

RC Nasik, RID 3030, renovated the zilla parishad primary school in Kacharwadi, an Adivasi hamlet near Nashik. "A team from the club visited the hamlet and were shocked to see the dilapidated state of the school. This triggered an immediate reaction from them to reach out to the school," says Vinayak Deodhar, director, public image-cum-PR of the club.

The club, with the help of Acron Plast and the Nasik Rotary Charitable Trust, renovated the school kitchen, handwash area, classrooms and toilets, and provided adequate water facilities for the school. The children were happy to see their school, freshly painted, when they returned after the summer vacation in June. ■

School bags for students

Schoolchildren with their new school bags gifted to them by members of RC Indore Meghdoot.



Rotary Club of Indore Meghdoot, RID 3040, in association with Ranveer Reality, distributed school bags and water

bottles to 500 students studying in various government schools across Indore. DG Anish Malik, DGN Sushil Malhotra and mayor

Pushyamitra Bhargav were present at the event. The club distributed lunch packets to the children at the end of the event. ■

Raincoats for milk vendors

Team Rotary News

RC Delhi Mayur Vihar, RID 3012, distributed free raincoats to milk vendors at Gaushala Gosadan in Noida, Delhi, to assist them in supplying milk during heavy rain. The initiative was led by club president Awdhesh Kumar, past president Sanjay Gupta and secretary Vimal Agarwal. ■



Club president Awdhesh Kumar handing over a raincoat to a milk vendor.

An old age home gets a new look

RC Pune Kothrud, RID 3131, recently renovated the Matoshree Old Age Home in the city with support from PRGX India. The toilets, walls and floors were repaired and the building was given a fresh paint. Around 60 elderly and as many children live in this home. ■



Donations to anganwadi school

Team Rotary News



Rotarians with children and teachers at the anganwadi school.

A ceiling fan and bureau cabinets, both worth ₹17,000, were donated to an anganwadi school by RC Jalakandapuram, RID 2982, with

the aim to make learning comfortable for children.

Also, hygiene kits were distributed to the Government Hospital for lactating mothers.

A couple of doctors gave suggestions and tips on how to take care of their newborns on the occasion to mark World Breast-feeding Week. ■

Sapling plantation in Sunam



Rotary Club of Sunam, RID 3090, organised a sapling plantation drive on the campus of the civil courts in the city. Shiv Jindal, the project chairman, announced that the club will plant at least five saplings every month in its efforts to promote greenery in the city.

In another initiative, the club members visited a *gashala* (shelter for cows) and provided fodder and jaggery to be fed to the cattle. ■

A food distribution drive

Team Rotary News

RC Navi Mumbai Garima, RID 3142, distributed food kits to 80 children at Bal Kalyan Nagri Mankhurd and 10 construction workers from Vashi, Mumbai. This project was done in association with the Chetana Foundation. Club members also celebrated Doctors' Day with the staff of PKC Hospital. ■



A club member handing over a food kit to a construction worker.



Club members planting a sapling.

Trees for tomorrow

RC Bhubaneswar Meadows, RID 3262, organised two plantation drives in Tulasipur and Begunia, planting over 200 saplings. The events were chaired by Priyabrata Mohanty and supported by Bichitra Lenka. Two local MLAs Debi Ranjan Tripathy and Pradip Kumar Sahoo attended the plantation drive. Members of the club also distributed juice at Ashayen Foundation, a charity supporting underprivileged children. The event, led by Bichitra Lenka, included interaction with 45 children and discussions on local development. ■