

# Rotary

## NEWS PLUS





# Safe drinking water for students

Team Rotary News

The Rotary Club of Shahabad Markanda, RID 3080, installed a water cooler at the DAV Senior School in the city. The machine was sponsored by past president Raj Kumar Garg's father Lala Ram Kishan Dass Garg.

In another initiative, the club members planted 350 saplings across various places in the city. A blood donation camp was organised by the club, in association with the Brahmakumaris Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya and Helper Society Shahabad Markanda.■

Water cooler at the DAV Senior Secondary School.



## Protection against cervical cancer



The Rotary Club of Surat Tapi, RID 3060, vaccinated second dose of the HPV vaccines for 100 adolescent girls at the CS Vidhyabharti School in Surat.

In another initiative a cancer screening camp was organised in remote parts of the city. Over 150 individuals were screened at the camp site. Those detected with abnormal conditions were referred to hospitals associated with the club.■

A student being given HPV vaccine.

**On the cover:** The Rotary Club of Hardwar, RID 3080, engages an excavator to clean the Ganga River in Hardwar.

# Career guidance for school students

Team Rotary News



A sanitary napkin dispensing device installed at the Jivan Shikshan Vidyalay in Nagpur.

**T**he Rotary Club of Nagpur Horizon, RID 3030, organised a career guidance programme for the higher secondary class students at the GH Rasoni Public School in the city. Rotarians spoke to the students about various career options and the colleges that offer higher studies.

As part of the programme, Ankita Dharmadhikari, a RotaKid and a

loco pilot of metro trains, shared her unique journey of becoming a loco pilot, and the exciting experiences in the profession. The Interact Club of Rasoni Public School helped arrange the event in the school.

In another initiative, the club installed sanitary pad dispensing machine at the Jivan Shikshan Vidyalay in the city. The club promised to stock the machine with sanitary

pads throughout the year. The pads will be dispensed at ₹5 each. The Interact club at the school will maintain the equipment.

PDG Prafull J Mukadam, club president Sudhir Mangrulkar, secretary Mrunalini Ballal, and Young Generation director Tushar Shrirao handed over the equipment to the school headmistress Kanchan Pawar. ■



Ankita Dharmadhikari (second from L), a RotaKid and a loco pilot of metro trains, with club members.



# A green crusader of Hardwar

Team Rotary News



Above: BM Gupta, past president, RC







Hardwar, planting a sapling.



**Above:** Gupta (L) with a club member all set to plant saplings.

**Left:** The Chhatt Ghat on the banks of the Ganga River in Hardwar being cleaned.



**F**or over five years, B M Gupta, past president of the Rotary Club of Hardwar, RID 3080, has been leading his club with an inspiring movement of planting saplings, nurturing them, and this passion has led the club to plant over 2,000 saplings every year.

“We call him Nature Guru. He would plant saplings wherever there is soil, space and sunlight. He doesn’t stop with just planting the saplings, but he ensures that they all survive,” says club president Alope Saraswat. Gupta visits plantation sites regularly, ensures watering and protection arrangements, and motivates local communities and institutions to take ownership of their green spaces.

His meticulous record-keeping and personal visits have set a remarkable benchmark for sustainability-driven Rotary initiatives, says Saraswat. From plantations done three years ago,

1,570 saplings continue to flourish; from the last Rotary year, 1,976 saplings are growing strong; and in the first three months of this Rotary year (2025–26), he has already planted 2,027 new saplings.

“Planting trees gives momentary satisfaction, but watching them grow gives lifelong joy,” smiles Gupta. His enthusiasm has expanded Rotary Hardwar’s green reach to schools, industries, and public spaces, turning environmental responsibility into a community-wide mission.

In October, soon after Dussehra, RC Hardwar launched a ‘Ganga ghat cleaning campaign’. The club engaged an excavator to remove sand and silt that had accumulated on the Chhatt Ghat on the banks of the Ganga River at Bahadrabad in the town. “We carry out this maintenance work every year during the days between Dussehra and Diwali when the Ganga canal will be closed,” informs Saraswat. ■



# club matters

RC Pondicherry Phoenix



RC Daund



RC Chinnamanur



RC Kalyan City



RC Pondicherry Phoenix — RID 2981

A Lactation Room was installed at the OPD section of Indira Gandhi Medical College and Research Institute, Puducherry, for public use. IGMC and RI director Dr C Udayashankar inaugurated the facility, along with hospital dean Dr Ramachandra Bhat and medical superintendent Dr Joseph Rajesh.

RC Sagar



RC Daund — RID 3131

Safety tools were distributed to Gram Suraksha Dal volunteers at Deulgaon Raje, a Happy Village adopted by the club. Medical kits were given to specially-abled students at the Subash Kul School; and Ideal Study Apps were distributed to students of Manoram School, Kedgaon.

RC Chinnamanur — RID 3000

Dress materials were gifted to 60 special children at the Vazhai Foundation, Royappanpatti, as club members celebrated Diwali with them. Sweets were distributed to all, bringing smiles to the inmates at this special home.

RC Sagar — RID 3040

A self-defence training was given to female volunteers by experts. A woman police officer gave a motivational talk to the participants. The martial arts training will enable trainees to ward off stalkers and violent eve-teasers.

RC Kalyan City — RID 3142

On World Cane Day (Oct 16), stainless steel plates, sarees and lunch boxes were distributed to 45 visually-impaired persons from Jaihind Andha Kalyankari Sanstha. A Vocational Excellence Award was given to Suresh Pawar, general secretary of the Sanstha, followed by a sumptuous dinner to the invitees.

RC Curchorem-Sanvordem



RC Mannarasala



RC Bangalore Whitefield Central



RC Chennai Mugappair



RC Curchorem-Sanvordem — RID 3170

Every Sunday, Aadhaar enrolment camps are held across the wards for residents to update the identity cards. Each camp has seen over 70 people getting benefitted. The Aadhaar camps are held in partnership with local civic authorities. Project chair Paresh Kamat took care of logistics.

RC Erode Nexus



RC Mannarasala — RID 3211

Chairs were donated to the Treasury Department, Haripad, for senior citizens who had to wait for hours to get their pension and grievances addressed. Club president Sony Samuel initiated this project to boost the public image of Rotary in this town in Kerala.

RC Bangalore  
Whitefield Central — RID 3191

Anti-ghutka campaign is being taken up jointly with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (East) and Indian Ploggers Association. Residents and commuters are educated about the harmful effects of ghutka, and how it affects the families and society. The volunteers also cleaned the local bus stand.

RC Erode Nexus – RID 3203

An awareness rally on saving energy titled *Flames of Change* was conducted through busy thoroughfares with torches, flashlights and impactful slogans that attracted many onlookers. DRO (Erode) S Santhakumar flagged off the march staged by 500 volunteers which was attended by government officials.

RC Chennai Mugappair — RID 3234

Around 190 schoolgirls benefitted from a menstrual health awareness camp held at the Government Muslim HS School in partnership with the Goodwill Trust. The camp had interactive sessions, live demos and visual presentations on the proper use of menstrual products.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran



# Dindigul Queens host Teachers' Day events

V Muthukumaran

**A**s part of Teachers' Day events across schools, an awareness session on digital detox titled 'Taking back control of your mind' was conducted by RC Dindigul Queencity, an all-women's club of RID 3000, at the SBC Academy of Excellence, a CBSE school in Dindigul. Psychologist Dr Kalaiselvi gave a talk on balancing digital usage for mental well-being.

In her address, she urged the students to practise writing as a habit to understand their mind better and fine-tune their lifestyle for a healthy living. Prizes were given

to the student winners of an essay competition held to mark Teachers' Day. In a similar event, an awareness session on child abuse (*Ethioli*) was held at the Luxor World School, Dindigul. The school management thanked Rotary for the initiative, and requested the club to conduct a follow-up session on 'Digital Detox'. Prizes were distributed to winners of essay contests held earlier. Club member Anusia sponsored the prizes for the competitions held at various Interact schools on Teachers' Day.

At the Gurumuki Vidhyashram School, an essay competition titled 'A teacher who changed my life' was

held with students divided into two categories across classes. Students took part in the contest with enthusiasm to show their bonding with teachers. Best essays were awarded and some of the teachers were recognised with mementos for their excellence.

During an event to promote water conservation held at the Kamarajar Vidyalaya, Kavitha, a club member, addressed the students on the need to avoid wastage of this precious resource, and answered the queries of students at the interactive session. The club is maintaining the MVM Park where cleaning work is done regularly under the supervision of Rotarians. Due to consistent efforts of club members, a green and clean ambience is being sustained at the park which was appreciated by the regular users.

Children at the Blossom Kids, a special care home being run by the club, had a memorable outing at the Trichy Bird Park. A delicious



A student awarded for winning the Teachers' Day competition.





**Above:** Dindigul Queens with special children at the Trichy Bird Park.



**Left:** Rotarians clean the MVM Park, Dindigul, regularly.

**Below:** RC Dindigul Queencity members at the Onam celebration.



A colourful floral rangoli was created by club members at Onam celebration at the RKG Hall. Each Rotarian dressed in typical Kerala saree brought a traditional dish, made at their homes, for the Onam Sadhya which was served on the banana leaves. The participation of new members brought more joy to the gathering who shared warmth and laughter, that strengthened their bond. Every month, on full moon day, they use to have potluck at one of their homes, where they have social interaction and bonding

### Rotaract installations

Two Rotaract clubs had their installations in the presence of district Rotaract leaders. RID 3000-CSR secretary and Awards chairman Kumarappan from RC Innovators Madurai was the chief guest at the ceremony in St Antony's College of Arts and Sciences for Women.

New office-bearers of the Rotaract Club of Dindigul Rockfort were sworn in by Sri Renganathan, district chairman-elect, Rotary Leadership Institute (2026-27) at a private office. During his speech he highlighted the ways in which Rotaractors can partner with the Rotary clubs to create an impact in the society. ■

lunch was sponsored by RCs Trichy Dynamic and Trichy Stars, while their members took good care of the children during the bird-watching tour. For the special children, it was non-stop excitement as they felt overawed seeing the colorful winged

creatures fluttering between trees and skimming on the waterholes.

Reaching out to the underprivileged, the club donated inner garments to children at the Sowbhagya Illam, an orphanage and special home, at an event in the RKG Hall, Dindigul.



# RID 3191 observes Mental Wellness Day

## Team Rotary News

**O**n World Mental Wellness Day (Oct 10) the RID 3191's Mental Wellness Team conducted a joint awareness programme for Rotarians. Seventeen Rotary clubs participated, with a total of 112 members attending the event.

The event focused on the influence of technology in the present world and tackling loneliness. The sessions highlighted that over 40 million Indians are affected by loneliness, with youth increasingly isolated due to addiction to gadgets, AI tools and social media, while many senior adults experience loneliness due to children living away or life circumstances such as widowhood.

An art therapy workshop led by art therapist Myna Bissineer



**Above:** PDG Udaykumar Bhaskara (R) participating in the art therapy workshop.

**Left:** Members participating in an activity.



encouraged all participants to express themselves creatively. This was followed by an insightful talk by Dr Jagadish A, senior psychiatrist and director of Abhaya Hospital, who spoke on mental well-being and coping strategies.

PDG Udaykumar Bhaskara and DGN Harini Rabindranath attended the event. ■



# Aiming for a TB-free Coimbatore

## Team Rotary News



RC Coimbatore New Town president S Thirunavukkarasu (with a placard) at the launch of *Project Marumalarchi*.

With the aim to root out tuberculosis from the city, RC Coimbatore New Town, RID 3206, has kicked off a *Marumalarchi* (reawakening) project, a global grant initiative, that will involve all the 100 primary health centres in the district. RC Novena, RID 3310, Singapore, is their global partner.

The medical project aims to educate the public and promote preventive healthcare practices through timely medical intervention. A special awareness poster was unveiled at the project launch held at the District Collectorate Office attended by the top health officers.

Nutritious food packages will be distributed to TB patients during the treatment, and in partnership with the National TB Elimination Programme and PHCs, the club will identify patients in need of nutritional support and deliver the food packages to them.

The latest information on TB, and the recovery process will be shared with the patients and their families, helping them to make informed dietary choices. “A team of healthcare professionals will monitor the progress of TB patients and ensure their nutritional needs are met during their treatment period,” said club president S Thirunavukkarasu.

On World Food Day (Oct 16), a special lunch was served to students at the Seva Nilayam Girls High School, Coimbatore, under *Project Annapoorani*. “We also distributed sweets and crackers to the children, thus spreading joy all around,” said the club president. Hostel superintendent Velammal VR thanked the club for the initiative from Rotary that brought smiles on the faces of children. ■



Club president Thirunavukkarasu presents Diwali sweets to children.



# Sustainability and celebration

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Balotra, RID 3055, began the Rotary year (2025–26) with *Gau Vandan*, a service activity at Shri Gaushala in Vrindavan Bagechi, Balotra. Club members distributed jaggery, lapsi and green fodder to cows. PDG Om Prakash Banthia spoke about the spiritual and social importance of *Gau Seva* (cow service).

The club also celebrated Chartered Accountant Day by honouring senior professionals and doctors for their contribution to society at an event held at the Rotary Bhawan. Santosh Kumar Mittal, president, Permanent Lok Adalat, and Amit Vaishnav, deputy commissioner, were the chief guests. Club president Pawan Garg highlighted Rotary's values and the role of professionals in nation-building.

A food packet distribution drive was organised in Jasol colony, where 150 packets were given to the needy. The event coincided with the wedding anniversary of Pawan Garg, Jitendra Maheshwari and Jitendra Chopra, who marked the occasion through social service. Club members also distributed biscuits to children.

To promote environmental conservation, the club carried out a tree planting drive at the Jasol Police Station. Each sapling was assigned to a member to ensure it was nurtured and the greening mission was carried out smoothly. ■



A club member distributing biscuit packets to children at a slum.



Rotarians feeding cows at the Shri Gaushala.



Tree plantating drive at the Jasol Police Station.



Club members with chartered accountants and doctors who were honoured by the club.



## Honouring teachers with Nation Builder Awards

### Team Rotary News

**R**C Chopda, RID 3030, hosted the Nation Builder Award ceremony at the Rotary Bhavan to recognise teachers for

their selfless contributions in moulding future citizens.

Dr Anil Zope, principal of the District Institute of

Education and Training (DIET), Jalgaon, emphasised the importance of nurturing both emotional intelligence and academic intelligence in children. “Teachers sow the seeds of values, goodness and knowledge in young minds. Since what we sow multiplies many times over, teachers must work with care and sensitivity. When emotional intelligence grows, children develop compassion and a spirit of service to society,” he said.

Teachers from various institutions, including Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Pratap Vidya Mandir, Chavara International School, Balmohan Vidyalaya and others received the Nation Builder Award.

Family members of the awardees and fellow teachers were also part of the event. ■



Club members with the teachers who received the Nation Builder Award.

## Health awareness for girls

**R**C Barsi, RID 3132, in collaboration with the Silver Jubilee School organised a health awareness programme on mental and physical health of adolescent girls.

Dr Manjusha Kulkarni addressed over 200 students, highlighting the four principles of mental health — satisfaction, balance, civility and culture — and spoke on confidence, social commitment and hygiene.

Principal Appa Chati welcomed the gathering, and

club member Ashok Hedda outlined Rotary's health initiatives.

Club president Sanjay Hingmire stressed the importance of such programmes for teenagers. Project chair Dr Kshama Bakal spoke on skincare and proposed the vote of thanks. ■



Students at the health awareness session.



# Bed linen for an old age home

Team Rotary News



Club members at the old age home after providing bed linen to the inmates.

The Rotary Club of Karwar Paschim, RID 3170, donated bedspreads, pillows and mattresses to an old age home in Halga village in Karwar.

The thoughtful gifts from the club will help the senior citizens at the home relax comfortably, said club member Dharmesh Tanna. ■

## Eyecare camps in Lonand



Members of RC Lonand at an eye check-up camp.

Since the start of this Rotary year, the Rotary Club of Lonand, RID 3132, has been organising eye checkup and cataract surgery camps on the second Saturday of every month.

Over 1,200 people have benefitted from these camps. Of this, around 500 people were treated for cataract and intraocular lenses have been fitted in their eyes to restore their eyesight.

The club adopted high tech for the last four camps where AI-powered fundus cameras were used for early detection of glaucoma, cataract and retinal disorders.

The club arranged counselling sessions at the camps to highlight the harmful effects of alcohol and tobacco. ■



## Painting contest for rural kids

More than 300 students from Ulgora and its neighbouring villages took part in a rural painting contest organised by RC Bokaro Steel City, RID 3250, as a platform to foster the hidden talent through cultural activity. “The enthusiastic turnout underscored the desire among rural youth to express themselves artistically,” said Ghanshyam Dass, club secretary.

The young participants were grouped into three categories and in each group three winners were selected under the guidance of team led by Prof Mohan Azad. While the winners received prizes and certificates, rest of the participants were given a token gift as encouragement. The rural painting contest increased Rotary’s visibility and earned goodwill in the villages, said Dass. ■



A painting competition in progress as Rotarians inspect the art work of students.

## Independence Day with schoolchildren

Team Rotary News



The Rotary Club of Varanasi Kabir, RID 3120, celebrated Independence Day with students at the Composite School, Bhadaini. Club president Abha Bhuwalka addressed the students about India’s freedom struggle and the country’s achievements in various fields.

A quiz competition was conducted for the students and prizes distributed. ■



# Community Diwali in Pune

Team Rotary News



Club members with performers at the Diwali event in Pune.

Over 2,600 people attended the 'Rotary Diwali Pahat' organised in Pune by the Rotary Club of Pune Nanded, RID 3131. This is the third consecutive year the club is organising this programme, and it has enjoyed a good reception in

all the editions, said the club's public image director Surpure Santosh.

This year the programme had Marathi singer Aarya Ambekar enthraling the audience with her soulful *bhajans* and *abhangs*. ■

## A medical camp at Noida



Medical camp in progress.

Around 50 people benefitted from a health check-up camp organised by the Rotary Club of Delhi Mayur Vihar, RID 3012, at the Community Centre, Noida.

The camp was supported by the Medanta Global Health Hospital; medical tests were conducted on visitors for blood glucose and blood pressure, and dental and eye checkup were done.

Medicines and vitamin supplements were distributed. ■





RID 3030 DGE Rajesh Patil being felicitated as RC Jalgaon president Girish Kulkarni (centre) looks on.

## A mega reading drive in Jalgaon

Team Rotary News

**A** mega reading drive was initiated by RC Jalgaon, RID 3030, at its Rotary Hall to mark the birth anniversary of former President APJ Abdul Kalam. District collector Rohan Ghuge and eminent citizens joined the reading mission to set an example to others.

The purpose of this unique campaign was to “promote a reading culture, encourage mindful time away from mobile and social media, and brand Jalgaon as a Reader’s City,” said club president Girish Kulkarni. From 9am to 6pm, volunteers completed 15,000 minutes of “silent, self-paced reading in a calm atmosphere.” PDG Chandrashekhar Sikchi inaugurated

the reading drive which also saw the presence of past president Prem Kogta, AG Aparna Bhat and project chair Vijay Joshi.

Participants chose from a set of curated selection of inspiring books recommended by Rotarians. A Reader Speaks section enabled one to record written or audio-video experience of this special event, while Reader’s Wall and a selfie point added delight to the participants, some of whom had brought their entire families.

District collector Ghuge urged the club to make the reading drive an annual event. DGE Rajesh Patil, president Kulkarni and district literacy chair Shubhada Kulkarni spoke on the occasion. ■



Reading session in progress at the Rotary Hall.



# Health camps for community welfare

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Shri Madhopur Sunrise, RID 3056, with financial support from the District Blindness Prevention Committee, Jaipur, and in association with the Sankara Eye Hospital, Jaipur, organised its 73<sup>rd</sup> cataract screening and lens implantation camp.

Over 65 patients underwent eye check-up, of which 21 were referred to the hospital for free cataract surgery and lens implantation. The selected patients received travel, food, and accommodation assistance from the club. Spectacles were also distributed to them including 36 patients who had undergone surgery in the previous camp.

During the 72<sup>nd</sup> cataract camp, 80 patients were examined and 42



A cataract screening camp.

underwent cataract surgery at the Sankara Hospital. To date, across 73 camps, 6,682 patients have been registered, and 2,190 surgeries have been performed. The club organises the free eye camps on the first Wednesday of every month.

The club also hosted a blood donation camp, jointly with the Punjabi Samaj Shrimadhopur, in

which 36 units of blood was collected and donated to Munshiram Mittal Blood Bank, Sikar. Several Rotarians and their family members donated blood.

In another major initiative, a cancer screening and awareness camp was organised, where 45 patients were examined by Dr Yashwant Sharma and Dr Nidhi Goyal and their teams. Tests such as mammography, PSA and X-rays were conducted and patients were given consultation based on their reports.

The club also continues its fortnightly homeopathy consultation camp, which reached its 462<sup>nd</sup> edition in August. At this camp, 116 patients from Shrimadhopur and nearby villages benefitted from free consultation and medicines were provided by the club. Dr SL Chaudhary offers consultation for ailments such as kidney stones, skin diseases, asthma, arthritis, and allergies. Over the years, more than 49,000 patients have benefitted from these camps. ■



Club members with a few beneficiaries of the cancer screening and awareness camp.



# Throwball tournament in Pondy

## Team Rotary News



RC Pondicherry Marina president R Saravanan (centre) along with the winners of the inter-college women's throwball tournament.

An inter-college women's throwball tournament was conducted by RC Pondicherry Marina, RID 2981, at the Pondicherry University Community College, Lawspet, to promote athletics and foster sportsmanship.

The sporting event, inaugurated by DG J Leone, showcased the spirit of women athletes from various

colleges in Puducherry. DGE K Vaithiyanathan, AG K Kandan, RID 2981 sports chairman K Velmurugan and ROTA Sports district chairman G Muthurajalu were present at the inaugural.

The throwball tournament was organised by a team led by club president R Saravanan and secretary Senthil Kumar, and the title sponsors were Trophy Mall and

Karupati Café. The tournament was held jointly with the PUCC and GenNext-ROTA Sports.

### Honesty shops in schools

RI District 2981 has launched a signature project this Rotary year where Rotary clubs are encouraged to set up 'Honesty Shops' in schools to promote moral values in children. These shops are unmanned and students can visit the shop, pick up what they wish to buy, and drop the amount in the cash box kept there.

One such shop was set up by RC Pondicherry Marina at the TTSTN Government Higher Secondary School in Kalmandapam.

The shop is stocked with stationery items with the price label pasted on each of the items. Students can take whatever they want and 'pay' the cash in the box provided at the shop. "This is a subtle way of teaching young children to practise honesty. We are confident that they will be true to their conscience," says Saravanan. ■



Club president Saravanan distributing essential items for an honesty shop at a government school.



# Safe disposal of floral offerings

Team Rotary News

As Ganesh Chaturthi festivities came to an end this year, the Rotary Club of Pune Pride, RID 3131, organised 'Nirmalya Sankalan,' an initiative to collect flowers that were used to adorn the deity during the immersion event, and dispose it responsibly.

Traditionally, these offerings would get discarded in water bodies during the immersion of Ganesh idols causing pollution and negatively impacting the environment. "We had set up collection centres at five immersion locations along the river to keep the river clean and pollution-free by preventing the direct immersion of offerings. Social awareness posters highlighting eco-friendly disposal were displayed at all the venues," said club member Shailesh Sirsikar.

Around 125 students from Vidyarthi Sahayak Samiti, a charity-run hostel for rural students from EWS community, were also a part of this project under an "Earn and Learn" initiative. They helped the club members to collect the *nir-*



Students of Vidyarthi Sahayak Samiti guiding the devotees at the immersion venues.

*malya* from the devotees rather than discarding it in the river or on the streets. Citizens were also urged not to mix plastic, thermocol, cloth or food items in the *nirmalya* for easy segregation. "Our initiative received overwhelming response from the devotees. We could successfully spread the message of safeguarding the environment and culture of our city to more than 10,000 people," said Sirsikar.

The Pune Municipal Corporation will convert the collected *nirmalya* into compost. Alternatives to create natural dyes and incense sticks are also being attempted. This is part of a large-scale eco-friendly waste management initiative done in collaboration with various NGOs. Biodegradable materials such as flowers, garlands and leaves are separated from dry waste such as plastic bags, cloth items and thermocol. ■



RC Pune Pride president Anil Kasodekar (3<sup>rd</sup> from L) with club members and volunteers.