

# Rotary

## NEWS PLUS



# Rotary makeover for Guwahati primary school

V Muthukumaran

**U**nder its Happy School Project, the Rotary Club of Guwahati City, D 3240, has adopted Gurunanak LP School which saw a number of dropouts due to the pathetic condition of the facilities and the building. The children also suffered from lack of a safe drinking water facility on the school premises.

The Rotarians organised a Wash in Schools (WinS) programme in the presence of DG Dr Sayantan Gupta who gave away school bags and study material to over 50 students. Two water filter systems were installed and the club members distributed handwashing and other sanitation solutions to the school.



DG Dr Sayantan Gupta donating school bag to a student.



DG Dr Sayantan Gupta presenting Vocational Excellence Award to Moina Srimanta.

As part of its mission to honour individuals who had made great contributions to the society, the club presented its Vocational Excellence Award to Moina Srimanta, a visually-impaired person who teaches at the Latasil LP School in the city. Due to his vision loss, he was swept away from his family by floods in Assam at the age of five.

He was brought up in an ashram called Srimanta. Hence, he got this ashram's name suffixed to his name Moina.

Moina has been in the teaching profession for the last 14 years and was presented the Vocational Excellence Award by DG Sayantan Gupta during his official visit to the club. ■

**On the cover:** Interactors creating anti-plastic awareness in Sidhpur.



# Chidambaram Rotarians reach out to Gaja victims

Jaishree



Rotarians of RC Chidambaram Central, D 2981, reached out to the people of Nagapattinam district in Tamil Nadu after the region was devastated by the cyclonic storm Gaja recently. A medical camp organised at two hamlets — Prathaparamarpuram and Kameshwaram — addressed general illnesses such as fever, cold and body pain typical to the aftermath of the storm.

In another activity, the club members sensitised the local people against the use of plastics of any form, highlighting the deterioration it causes to the environment and human health. They distributed thousands of cloth bags among the public and encouraged them to carry their own shopping bags



Cough syrups and pain balms being distributed to the flood victims in Nagapattinam.

**Top:** Cloth bags being given to public in an anti-plastic drive.

instead of getting their items packed in plastic bags.

In another green initiative, the Rotarians planted around 300 saplings against an ambitious target of 1,000 saplings to be planted across the district for the year.

The Rotarians distributed health supplements for TB patients for the fourth consecutive month. “We were happy to note that six patients have been cured of the disease now,” says Club President M Deepak Kumar. ■

# Honouring senior citizens

Kiran Zehra



**Above:** Senior citizens of Bikaner were honoured by the club.

**Right:** An open discussion between senior citizens and students.

**O**n World Senior Citizens Day, the Rotary Club of Bikaner Marudhara, D 3053, honoured nine senior citizens at Sister Nivedita Higher Secondary School. This was followed by an open discussion between students and the senior citizens about service and aging. Club member and organiser of the event, Anand Acharya said, "It was delightful to watch both of them exchange ideas. The







**Top and above:** Stationery kits and sweets being given to students.

youngsters listened attentively.” PDG Arun Prakash Gupta, in his address, said unlike foreign countries, in India “we still continue to live with our elders and hope that our generations to come will keep this tradition.”

As part of their annual service programme, members of the club visited a primary government school and distributed uniforms, stationery kits and sweets among 80 students.

A plantation drive was initiated by the club at different parts of the city. Rotaractors helped in planting saplings at the airport where the Director of the Airport, Radhesham Mani was invited as the guest of honour.

Apart from conducting regular medical camps, the club renovated and refurbished the OPD block at the Satellite Hospital, Bikaner. ■



# Interact Week Celebrations

Jaishree



**Top:** Interactors at an orphanage.

**Right:** Interactors after distributing gifts to destitute children.

**Below:** Interactors on an anti-plastic drive.

The Interact Club Sidhpur, sponsored by RC Sidhpur, recently celebrated the World Interact Week (Nov 5-11). The Interactors executed 14 projects in the week.

The first day coincided with Diwali festivities. So the Interactors distributed sweets and firecrackers to children residing in the Mangal Jivan Trust's orphanage in Sidhpur.

Other programmes included distributing lunch packets and toys to destitute children, a campaign promoting preservation of water, traffic rules awareness, sapling plantation and use of alternates to plastics. The Interactors also included Rotaractors in their celebration. ■





# A mega health camp in Nepal

V Muthukumaran

A mega health camp was organised by RC Butwal Downtown, D 3292, at Devdaha municipality in Rupandehi district of Nepal in partnership with Rotaractors, Inner Wheel members and Siddhartha Children and Women Hospital. Over 470 persons, mostly women and children, were screened for various diseases by a 25-member medical team. Around 40 Rotarians and Rotaractors led by AG Ajaj Alam were present at the medical camp. The project cost ₹2.50 lakh.

The club joined hands with Amar Buddha Mother Community to host an event at Kalika Mandir in Butwal in which 15 senior women were honoured for their community service. Deputy Mayor Goma Devi Acharya was the chief guest of the programme.



Senior women honoured for community service.

## Speech competition

DGE Kiran Lal Shrestha was the chief guest at a speech contest for school students who spoke on the topic 'Responsibilities of Rotary in the community'. Club President Pitamber Gyawali

was present and fifty students from 10 high schools in Rupandehi district took part with enthusiasm. Students displayed their oratorical skills by displaying their in-depth knowledge about Rotary and how the global NGO has reached out to the communities with service projects through partnerships with like-minded organisations.

"It was astonishing to find students are very much interested in Rotary and its activities in the society. This made all the Rotarians proud and the contest has further enhanced the public image of Rotary," said Gyawali.

The speech contest was organised in partnership with the Inner Wheel club at a cost of ₹60,000 with the aim to promote Rotary values in the society.

To mark World Cleaning Day, the Rotarians along with Rotaractors and Inner Wheel members spruced up the road divider and gave it a new look to sensitise the public on the need to keep public spaces neat and free from litter. ■



A patient at the mega health camp.

# RC Mumbai South focuses on health and sanitation

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Rotarians during the beach clean-up.



**M**ore than 600 girl students along with their teachers took part in the launch of Mission Pink for Healthy Girl programme by RC Mumbai South, D 3141, in partnership with the Indian Medical Association covering the entire State of Maharashtra.

The girls were tested for haemoglobin count and a follow-up treatment was also organised by the club. A goodies bag with toiletries and snacks was handed over to girl students at the SL and SS Girls High School in Chirabazar. Legislator Raj Purohit and local corporator Rita Makwana were also present and

motivated the children on right eating habits.

The IMA doctors spoke on the importance of Mission Pink which aims to improve the health of girls across the State. PDG Dr Bal Inamdar recalled his experience at a medical camp that he had conducted in a tribal village of Jawahar





**Left from top:** A goodies bag being given to girl students.

A thalassaemia camp in progress.

Rotaract office-bearers at the installation.



### Rotary ki Pathshala

District Training Facilitator Jhankar Ghadkari gave an interesting account of the genesis of Rotary with over 70 Rotarians from 12 clubs enjoying every moment of his presentation at *Rotary ki Pathshala*.

Assistant trainers Dr Rajesh Dave, Neena Kalra and Pankaj Tanna explained about the functioning of the club administration, strategic planning with activities and awareness of rubella. DG Shashi Sharma and PDG Jayant Kulkarni conceived this training session for new and old Rotarians who were exposed to the global projects of Rotary and their large-scale impact in communities.



### Beach clean-up

As part of its pre-event *Detour 2018* Fest of Jai Hind College, the club organised a beach clean-up at Girgaum Chowpatty under the slogan 'Clean Mumbai Green Mumbai'. Sanatan Mody took the lead and coordinated with over 600 Rotaractors from various city colleges in this mega Swachh Bharat drive.

The entire project was conceived and led by Avenue Head Dr Rajendra Agarwal at the district level. A thalassaemia camp was held at BM Ruia College, Gamdevi, and students from Classes 8–10 were screened. Sanatan Mody installed Rtr Niharika Gupta as the president of Rotaract Club of Nirmala Niketan College along with a new set of office-bearers on the college premises. ■

district. "The statistics there showed that nearly 85 per cent of children were anaemic. Hence the need to take on the challenge of eradicating anaemia on a war footing," he said.

State Education Minister Vinod Tawade stressed on the need to consume a healthy diet and urged children to avoid junk

food. School Principal Shamika Ajgoankar and the staff came in for praise by Club President Sanatan Mody for taking care of the arrangements and extending their hospitality. Dr Parthiv Sanghvi, Secretary, IMA Maharashtra, compered the programme.

D 3000

## RC Madurai North West

An Interact club was installed at Indira Gandhi Memorial School in Thirunagar. Club President L Vellayappan presided over the event. The students of Class 9 were felicitated for their exemplary speech in Tamil. State Child Protection Office Counsellor Shobana Kumar delivered a speech on child protection.



D 3030

## RC Chandrapur

A heart check-up and diagnosis camp was organised at the club's adopted village Moharli. Over 250 villagers were screened and given treatment. Routine check-ups like blood sugar and BP were also taken. A team of doctors from Meditina Hospital screened the patients.



D 3070

## RC Dharamshala Central

Rotarians celebrated Independence Day with Tibetan children who were showered with gifts. It is a first in the club's history to have celebrated I-Day with Tibetan people and the club members recognised the migrants for their unique culture.







**D 3080**

## **RC Paonta Sahib**

Newborns were welcomed with gift bags at the Civil Hospital in the city as part of their *Shishu Aagman Utsav*. Ten Rotarians presented gifts to the mothers of the babies. Rotarians celebrated Teej festival with Club President Himanshu Bhatia taking the lead.



**D 3090**

## **RC Faridkot**

Six teachers were honoured with Nation Builder Awards by DGN Vijay Arora as part of Teacher's Day celebrations.



**D 3160**

## **RC Nandyal Midtown**

DGN B Chinnapa Reddy conducted the installation by swearing in the new Club President C Mohan Rao, Secretary P Kesava Murthy and other office-bearers. Legislator Bhuma Brahmananda Reddy was the chief guest. DRFC K Ramalinga Reddy and PDG K Srirama Murthy were present.

**D 3170**

## RC Jaysingpur

The club has undertaken the renovation work of Jaysingpur Railway station which will have a spacious waiting room, clean toilet, lush garden and parking lots. Rtns Sanjay Ghodawat and Vinod Ghodawat are the major donors with their contribution of ₹30 lakh. The renovation is expected to be completed in two years.



**D 3201**

## RC Perumbavoor Central

DG A V Pathy kicked off a tree plantation drive at GVHS School and the club is aiming to plant 500 saplings in this green project.



**D 3202**

## RC Tirupur South

Health supplements were given to 150 pregnant women on World Breastfeeding Week at a primary health centre and they were advised on the need to take nutritious food for the wellbeing of the foetus.







**D 3231**

## **RC Vaniyambadi Midtown**

An eye camp was held at Brite Matric School in partnership with Dr Agarwal Eye Hospital, Vellore, which benefitted school students in the neighbourhood. Also, a blood donation camp was held at Islamiah College along with Rotaractors in the town and around 90 units of blood was collected.



**D 3240**

## **RC Jalpaiguri**

A district project *Shyamalima*, a drive for greener planet, is being taken up in a big way by the club. School students were roped in for sapling plantations across the city along with the involvement of the community for the maintenance of newly grown trees.



**D 3240**

## **RC Malda**

A WinS awareness programme was held with the participation of over 1,800 students who were given handwash solutions at BRS High School in Chandipur. Under the district project *Shyamalima*, over 2,500 saplings were planted and the rural people were sensitised on the harmful effects of global warming.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran



# Focus on students and youth

Kiran Zehra



Students and Rotarians at the RYLA programme.

Annual Garba dance festival.

**R**otary Club of Jabalpur, D 3261, honoured outstanding students of the Baiga tribal community at Eklavya Adarsh Vidyalaya on the occasion of Children's Day. Trophies and certificates were given to students. This was done with a view to encourage the tribal children and boost their confidence.

Over 300 women participated in the club's annual Garba competition. The programme started with a colourful aarti. Prize winners were felicitated on the final







A Science exhibition in progress.



Foreign students at the RYLA.



day of the 9-day event.

The club hosted two Rotary Youth Cultural Exchange programme students — Kaila Avent from Nebraska, USA, and Joao Pedro from Brazil.

On World Polio Day members of RC Jabalpur organised a rally. Many

local organisations participated in it. NCC and NSS cadets along with Rotarians chanted awareness slogans. The foreign students also took part in the anti-polio rally.

Club President Rachna Trivedi, in her endeavour to enhance

health and hygiene for girls, installed two sanitary napkin vending machines and two incinerators at the girls hostel in Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Government Medical College, Jabalpur. More than 600 girls will benefit by this project. ■



# WinS project transforms rural schools in Pune

Team Rotary News



The Rotary Foundation has helped transform four primary schools in Dhamane, Pait, Shive and Karanjvihire villages near Pune through a global grant project. The toilets in these schools were in disrepair, thus affecting the enrolment of students. Further, poor sanitation facilities led to dropouts because of ill-health, especially among girl students. RCs Pune Sports City and Khadki (D 3131) joined hands to rope in their global partner RC Fort Collins Breakfast, US, D 5440, for the execution of this project under its WinS programme.

The schools did not have handwashing stations and drinking water was unpotable. Now with the construction of new toilet blocks at an overall cost of ₹24 lakh, over 600

schoolchildren enrolled in the four primary schools in the villages had benefitted. Each school has a new toilet block with three toilets and eight urinals for boys; and four toilets and four urinals for girls.

“Gender-segregated handwashing stations and clean drinking water facilities with ultraviolet filters to kill coliform bacteria will go a long way in improving the health of students,” said Rtn Sandesh Savant, RC Pune Sports City.

## Awareness sessions

Cleaning equipment and chemicals have been provided for one year, besides training to the school staff on the maintenance of the toilet blocks. A cleaning team will take care of the toilets on a daily basis.

The students are taught sanitation and hygiene practices through regular drills so that it becomes a habit. Regular training and visits are planned to ensure the proper usage and maintenance of the WinS facilities, while awareness programmes on menstrual hygiene for girls are planned, explained Savant.

With an aim to motivate students, competition will be held between these nearby schools with rewards and incentives for children and staff.

A School Management Committee has been formed to ensure the WinS facilities are kept clean and in good condition. The village council and schools will come together to sustain the WinS facilities through budget allocation in the years to come. ■



# Rotary holds business orientation seminar in Puducherry

Team Rotary News

A business orientation and development seminar was organised by RC Pondicherry Central, D 2981, with a number of keynote speakers providing valuable tips and suggestions to the participants. Chief guests K T Srinivasa Raja, managing director, Adyar Ananda Bhavan and Syed Sajjad Ali, MD, Eaton Power Quality Ltd, delivered special address at the seminar.

DG Piraiyon was the chief guest at the marathon flagged off by SP Rachna Singh, IPS, and SP Balakrishnan (traffic) with the theme Save Water. Over 1,400 college students took part in the run and cash prizes worth ₹51,000

were distributed along with t-shirts. The marathon enhanced the public image of Rotary in Puducherry.

A multi-specialty health camp was organised at Rowthankuppam with the help of an IMA

team. Over 500 patients were screened for various ailments related to cardiovascular, ENT, eyecare and orthopaedic branches of medicine.

At the blood donation camp organised at Achariya Engineering College, around 70 units of blood was donated to Indira Gandhi Medical Hospital. A flood relief project headed by Rtn Vinod Nair collected material and food items for distribution in Kerala relief camps.

In a green drive, teakwood saplings were donated to over 250 farmers at Kazhuperumpakkam village. The club conducted a rally to create awareness on eye donation in the city. ■



Saplings distributed to villagers under a green drive.



A mega rally to create awareness on eye donation.

# Tirupattur schools get Rotary bounty

Team Rotary News



An eye camp for elderly people in a village.

**R**eaching out to government school students in backward areas with a host of amenities and classroom facilities have been one of the focus areas of

action for RC Tirupattur, D 3231. In step with this mission, the club distributed sports kits to 350 students and took up tree plantations at a government higher secondary school in

Pudupettai village in Natrampalli taluk. The club planted 20 saplings on the school premises, said P Somu, Club Secretary.

An RO filtration system was installed at the Government Boys Higher Secondary School in Gajelnaickenpatty village to enable 450 students to have access to safe drinking water. The project cost ₹1.5 lakh.

## Eye camp for elders

In association with Nalla Samarian Hospital at Matrapalli, an eye screening camp was organised at Mahalakshmi Primary and Nursey School in Kathirimangalam village. Over 30 patients had benefitted, of which 26 were referred for operation.

As part of their fellowship programme, the club organised a visit to Andaman and Nicobar Islands for about 30 Rotarians and their families.■



Rotarians involve students in the sapling plantation programme in the school.



# Recognising outstanding teachers and individuals

Team Rotary News



A teacher being felicitated with the Nation Builder Award.



Recipients of Vocational Service Awards.

Rotary Club of Bareilly Shree, D 3110, celebrated World Literacy Day by presenting 50 teachers from various government schools with Nation Builder Awards. The awards were conferred according to the guidelines set by Rotary International Literacy Mission (RILM). The teachers were selected on an evaluation based on marks given by students and head teachers of the respective schools.

The club also recognised individuals for their outstanding contribution to the society through their vocation by awarding them the Excellence in Vocational Service Award. Two new members were also inducted in the club.

The club is looking forward to do various projects in government schools including providing safe drinking water, handwashing stations, setting up library and making happy schools.■

# Rotary's services at Mannargudi

V Muthukumaran



A student being taught handwashing techniques.

**W**ith an aim to create awareness on the fundamentals of share market and how it affects the economy, Rotary Club of Mannargudi, D 2981, hosted a one-day seminar at its Rotary Trust Hall. R Sritharan, portfolio manager and a tax consultant from Mumbai, gave a guest lecture and over 80 delegates took part in the meet. Around 30 volunteers were present at the event.

The stock market expert answered the queries raised by the participants and the club spent ₹7,000 for the project.

Teacher's Day, the signature project under Literacy, was observed at Union Middle School in Maravakadu village. The club donated library material which would benefit over 80 students of this school. Moreover, 13 teachers were honoured with gifts to mark the occasion.

## **Rotaract installation**

TV celebrity Uma Maheswari gave a speech on women's empowerment and their role in society at the installation of a Rotaract club at Sengalamathayar Educational Trust Women's College in Sundarakkotai.

Over 350 participants including Rotarians and Rotaractors were present at the installation ceremony and the new office-bearers were sworn in at a solemn event.





**Above:** Newly sworn-in Rotaractors along with college students.



**Left:** A new Rotaract club being installed.

As part of its WinS project, the club organised awareness sessions at six government schools in which over 600 students were taught the right handwashing techniques by the Rotarians. WinS Project Chairman Meenakshi Suriyaprakash led the demonstration. Over one lakh seed balls were distributed to individuals and groups at Shanmuga Matric HS School in partnership with Inner Wheel club and the RCC. The club has sown 5,000 seed balls near Nammalvar lake in the town and also distributed the seeds to schools in nearby villages.

### **Breastfeeding project**

Each year, the club presents health supplements, dress material and soaps to mothers and their infants as part of their breastfeeding project which has been going on for the last 15 years at the District Hospital in Mannargudi. Over 50 lactating mothers are benefitted each year. ■



A seminar on share market.



# A meet for Interactors

V Muthukumaran



Interactors at the inaugural event.

A one-day Interact meet titled *Vaanga Pazhagalam* (Come, lets socialise) was organised by RI District 3232 at Vidyodaya School, T Nagar, in Chennai with over 750 Interactors coming together to learn through fun and variety entertainment.

Rotaractors who took on the role of the big brother made sure that

everything from the registration to handing over of the caps and badges went without any hitch. Chief guest DG Babu Peram inaugurated the Interact Club of Vidyodaya School in the presence of District Youth Service Director Om Prakash Seeba, Interact Chairman Dr Bhaskar and RC Madras President Ranjit Pratap.

Film critic and actor Rtn Mohan Ram gave an enjoyable presentation with movie clips which was imbibed by the children. Rtn Seshadri Subramanian gave a humorous talk on how the children should behave in public spaces. He had the auditorium rocking with his enthusiasm.

Sujith Kumar from Maatrum Foundation cited a number of real-life incidents to motivate children and urged them to take education seriously. In the afternoon, Rtns Jayashri Sridhar and Jaya Sathya conveyed some valuable information on ensuring personal safety during tough situations.

Speech and singing competitions were held and prizes were given to the winners. District RYLA Chairman Sesha Sai coordinated with the Rotaractors of RACs Loyola College and Chennai to organise this first-ever Interact conference of D 3232. ■



DG Babu Peram inaugurates the Interact meet.



# Rotary club expands its school in Sivakasi

Team Rotary News



**Left:** PDG Shahjahan inaugurating the silver jubilee building in the school.

**Bottom:** Water storage tank donated by the club.

lakh. The project was part-funded by the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (₹5 lakh) and the remaining amount was mobilised through public donations and club fund.

## New Interact club

Club President G Rajagopalan installed an Interact club at the Rotary School during which a WinS programme was conducted. The students gave a handwashing demo after the Rotarians taught them the right handwash technique. Soaps were distributed to the students.

Two water heaters were donated to the Government Hospital, Sivakasi — one each for the maternity ward and the burns ward. A Sintex tank along with a pipeline and water taps were provided for children at Sanarpatti Panchayat Middle School at a cost of ₹12,000.

Cash assistance was given to deserving students of SHNV School, Sri Kaleeswari College and Velankanni Matha HS School by the club which will help the underprivileged families in meeting the tuition fees of their wards. Free uniforms were given to students in and around Sivakasi by the club members. The club donated rice bags worth ₹5,000 to an orphanage having 25 inmates. ■

**R**otary Club of Sivakasi, D 3212, is running Rotary Matric Higher Secondary School for the uplift of rural poor. Now the school has added a new building at a cost of ₹1.86 lakh through CSR funds from the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank and Standard Fire Works. Among the donors is

Rtn S Maheswaran who has co-ordinated for the building project.

The new Silver Jubilee building was inaugurated by PDG H Shahjahan who is also a DRFC. As part of its WinS project, the club constructed a toilet block for students and teachers at SAV Sala Middle School in Mudalaipatti village at a cost of ₹6.7



# RC Katpadi conducts green drive, mass feeding

Team Rotary News



A mass feeding was organised by the club.

**Top left:** Cloth bags given to public; **Top right:** Eye camp in progress.

Under its green initiative, RC Katpadi, D 3231, has given 700 saplings to the public and conducted an anti-plastic awareness event to sensitise the public to keep their environment green and clean.

A mass feeding was organised for 10,000 people in association with Jayaseva Sangam at a temple in Vellore. The Rotarians created awareness among the public on Rotary's global activities to create a better world and its values like 4-Way-Test and Service above Self.

## Eye camp

An eye camp was organised in partnership with CMC Eye Hospital, Vellore, at Kangeyanallur village in which over 250 people were screened for various ailments. Free operation was done on 28 of them, and spectacles were also given. ■