

President's Message

The old gives way to new - New Year is the time to remind us that we come full circle. Something that started as a New Year, is soon going to be the past. With the tick of the clock at 12 midnight, we will enter another New Year riding on our accomplishments and cherishing the happy moments with new hopes, new aspirations, new dreams and new resolutions.

With the onset of 2023, one question that each one of us should ask is:

'In 2022, did we look around to touch the lives of people not as fortunate as us, so that they too can look back at the year and have good memories to cherish, happiness of an accomplishment, hope of a good future, and aspiration to accomplish their goals in the New Year?'

If the answer is yes, that would be a real Imagine Rotary moment for me.

As I look at the year gone by closely, I see our Rotary family have reasons to believe that they have put smiles on the faces of people with special needs, the underprivileged and the underserved communities.

Our members helped people with special needs by donating generously to provide prosthetic limbs to the *divyangs*, AFOs to children as old as 4 years, filling the hearts of their parents with hope, supported the school for blind through sponsorships for their various needs.

We also provided furniture and fans to govt. schools during hot summer months, uniforms and sweaters to children during winter months, organized health camps and provided eye glasses, installed solar plant at a residential school for underprivileged children, and another one at mentally challenged and abandoned senior citizens' facility to maintain continuity of power facilitating their lives.

We did not forget to meet, learn, share and grow. Our get-togethers and meetings with interesting topics like Cyber security, Marble story, Health through food, have all led to our family growing closer.

I hope this journey continues in the New Year.

Wish we all continue to bond and grow our friendships. Wish we all continue to contribute in our own capacities to give hope, aspirations and happiness to people around us who are not so privileged as all of us.

Wishing everyone a very happy and prosperous New Year 2023!!



Key Club Office Bearers 2022 - 23

President
Arti Agarwal

Meeta Ghosh
Immediate Past President

President Elect
Wg Cdr Baljit Ahluwalia

Vice President
Lalit Mattu

Hony. Secretary
Aparna Gupta

Treasurer
Rajeev Goel

Sergeant-at-Arms
Rajesh Adlakha

Joint Secretary
Muniinder K Anand

Director Club Service
Kapil Pahuja

Director Vocational Service
Reena Sawhney

Director Community Service
Gita Jain

Director International Service
Akhil Agarwal

Director New Generation
Sunil Khanna

Director Environment
Arun Gupta

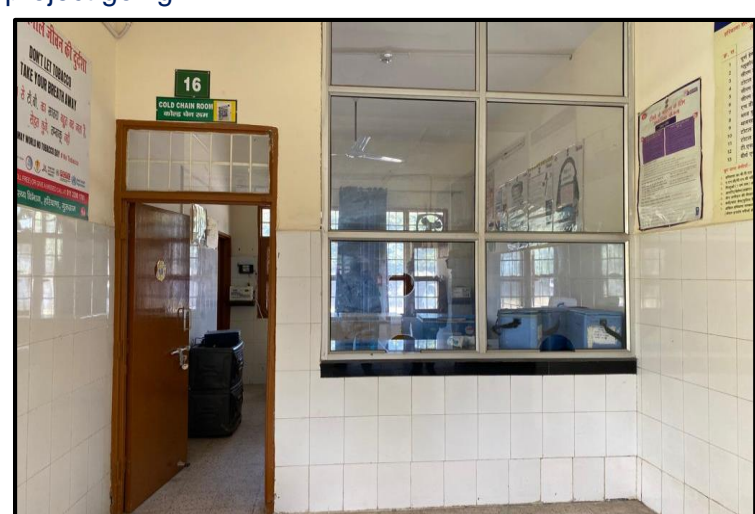
Club Trainer
Sushma Mattu

Events of the Month (December 2022)

SOLAR PROJECT INITIATION - Public Health Centre, Mandpura, Pataudi



PHC Mandpura supports **40 villages & a population of 57,000 people**, handles about **35-40 deliveries every month**. The random long & frequent power cuts have been a big challenge for the patients and hospital staff. The cuts at times stretch to 6-8 hrs. **which leads to candle light deliveries of babies, inoperational essential equipment like baby warmer, sanitizers, cooler/heater.** **Our Solar Power plant will ensure that the work at this PHC goes on uninterrupted and thus reduce the risks and health hazards caused by the power cuts.** In today's visit, our Rotary team was accompanied by representatives from our CSR partner-IGT and our execution partner PHD. We shall now be moving to the next level of completing the required paperwork to get the project going.



Club Meeting

The Marble Story Experience by Rtn. Muniinder K. Anand



The highlight of this meeting was a very interesting Speaker Session on **"The Marble Story Experience"** by member **Rtn Muniinder Anand**. It revolves around the concept of introspection and conversation with self for better self management and realisation. The fuse lit by Rtn Muniinder's deft handling of the concept is sure to become a fire raging within all those present in the session.



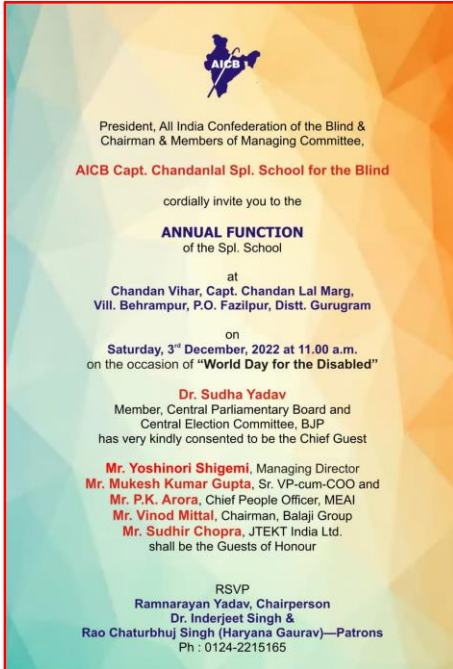
Members suggested that **"The Marble Story Experience"** be taken up once again as an exclusive, full session as and when possible in near future.

Besides the routine proceedings, club's new member **Rtn Manish Mittal** accompanied with spouse **Reena Mittal** received pin from Club Trainer **PP Rtn Sushma Mattu**.



'International Day of Disabled Persons' – 3rd December

Rotaract Club of Gurgaon Qutab Enclave at AICB Capt. Chandanal Special School for the Blind



On the occasion of 'International Day of Disabled Persons', the Rotaract club of Gurgaon Qutab Enclave **sponsored prizes and gifts for 30 children and food hampers for all 120 children of AICB Capt. Chandanal Special School for the Blind.**

They also joined the children in their Annual Day Celebrations, spending time interacting with them, playing games and also seeing some splendid performances. The Rotaract members loved spending their time at the blind school and can't wait to go back and spend more time with these children whose ability to do their own work, study, learn and use computers is simply astounding.

The Rotractors also prepared a Reel and posted it on Instagram. It can be watched using the following link:

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/ClvSL3rDFth/?igshid=MDJmNzVkJmY=>

Club President Rtn Arti along with some members joined the celebrations to mark the occasion and motivate the Rotaractors.

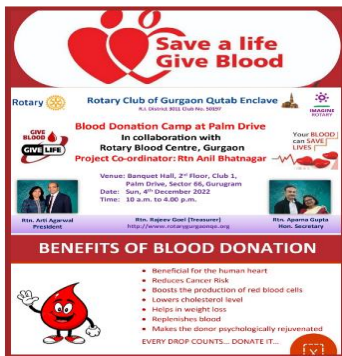


Blood Donation Camps

1) At Palm Drive, Gurugram – 4th December

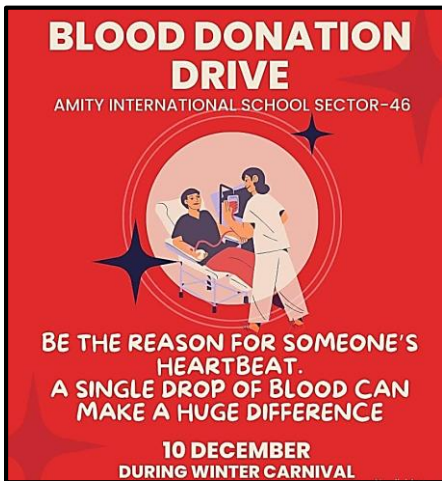
The first Blood Donation Camp of the year was organised at Pam Drive, Sector 66, Gurugram in collaboration with Rotary Blood Centre, Gurugram. The Blood Centre team was led by **Dr, Sunil Taneja, CMO, Blood Centre.** **Rtn Kanwar Singh Yadav, General Secretary,** Governing Body of the Blood Centre also dropped in for some time and expressed his appreciation for the work RCGQE is doing. Both can be seen in the picture below with the first donor of the camp.

Rtn Anil Bhatnagar, PE Rtn Baljit Ahluwalia along with veteran Rtn JK Puri took end to end responsibility of organizing the camp and making it a success. They were well supported by our members with their presence during the camp. 30 units were collected. **Notable among the donors were our own member Rtn Manish Mittal and Mr. Paramjit Singh, s/o Rtn Baljit Ahluwalia.**



2) At Amity International School Sec 46 - Winter Carnival

Amity International School, Sector 46, Gurugram and their Interact Club sponsored by RCGQE organized a Blood Donation Camp during their annual Winter Carnival. The camp was facilitated by PP Rtn Sunil Khanna of RCGQE with the Rotary Blood Bank Delhi. **The interactors motivated parents and staff to donate blood during the drive.** Rtn Rajesh Adlakha and R'Ann Neeru along with other members were present on-site to motivate the Interactors and the donors and help facilitate the camp. Around 15 units were collected.

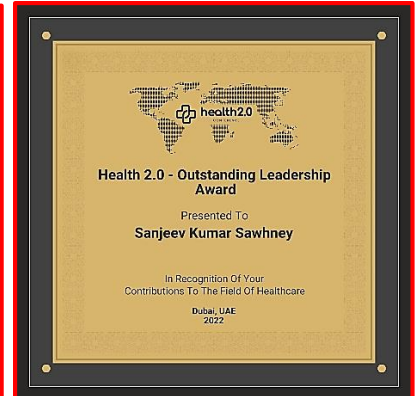


Principal of the school with members of RCGQE.



A Proud Moment For The Club

Our member and **PP Rtn Sanjeev Sawhney, Country Head, Medskin Solutions Dr. Suwelack AG** received a very prestigious “**Outstanding Leadership Award**” in recognition of his contribution to the field of Healthcare at the **International Conference “Health - 2.0”** in Dubai on the **16th December**. He is seen in pictures below receiving the award and with spouse **PP Rtn Reena Sawhney**.



Rtn Akhil Agarwal (Director International) at Rotary Club of Herndon, VA

Our Director International, **Rtn. Akhil Agarwal** attended a holiday dinner party with the members of the **Rotary Club of Herndon, VA USA**. He shared details of some of our key projects with them. He also shared copies of our monthly newsletter **Horizon** with members of the club to showcase our club's work.



RCGQE gets familiar with Rotary club of Lake Union, Seattle, USA

President Rtn Arti Agarwal & International Director Rtn Akhil Agarwal visited the Rotary Club of Lake Union Seattle, USA on 15th December. **President Arti exchanged the flag with President Joe Shickich of the Rotary Club of Lake Union** and shared details about the projects being undertaken by our club. They participated in the White Elephant Gift Exchange Event at the club which was a great way to increase fellowship. The warmth and hospitality offered to both of them was overwhelming.



PE Baljit S Ahluwalia at President Elect Meet-2

Our PE Wg Cdr Baljit S Ahluwalia along with spouse Anita Ahluwalia attended the PEM-2 Christmas Get Together at Hotel Golden Galaxy, Faridabad. Led by DGE Jeetender Gupta, the event was attended by almost 500 Rotarians from various clubs of the district. They ushered in Christmas with lots of fun, smiles and cheer.

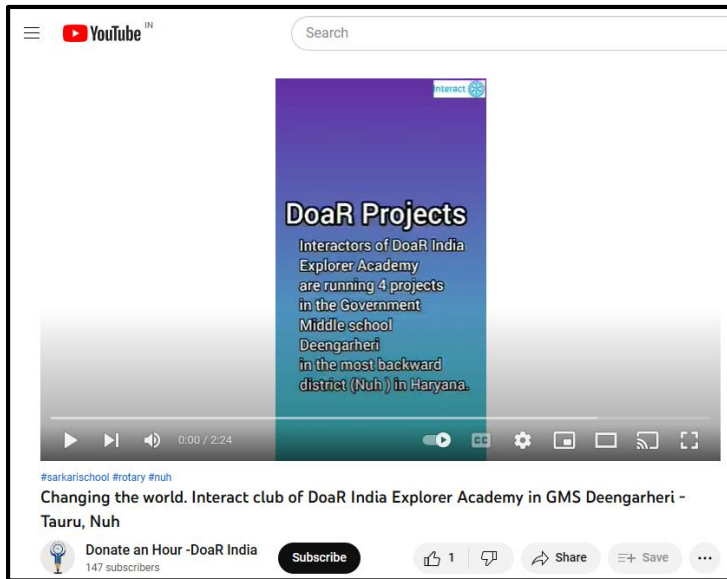


Special Feature

RCGQE Interact Club of Donate An Hour – DoaR – Explorer Academy

<https://youtu.be/K6c77LhDs8M>

This Interact Club is the newest addition to RCGQE's increasing list of such clubs at school level. What makes



it very special is that it is a school for underprivileged children staying and being taught in a residential campus managed by Donate An Hour – DoaR – Explorer Academy, one of the largest volunteer based organisations in NCR. It doesn't have the resources and facilities like other schools but the passion, determination and resolve of the children to learn, create their own place in the world and contribute to betterment of the society at large is really laudable. Their request for having an Interact club is a step in that direction only and proves the point.

Donate an Hour, popularly known as DoaR was founded by Divya Prakash and his wife Meenakshi, both qualified professionals who had returned to India in 2012 after working abroad for

many years. **Divya always believed that education is the key to an all-inclusive society.** Initially, they started teaching children at their residence. As the number of children grew, they moved to open parks.

'Donate an Hour', as the name suggests, was founded with the idea to encourage people to donate their time in teaching children. With his efforts, the idea gained traction and gradually many volunteers, even from remote and international destinations joined hands to teach children at DoaR which is now one of the largest volunteer-based organizations in NCR.

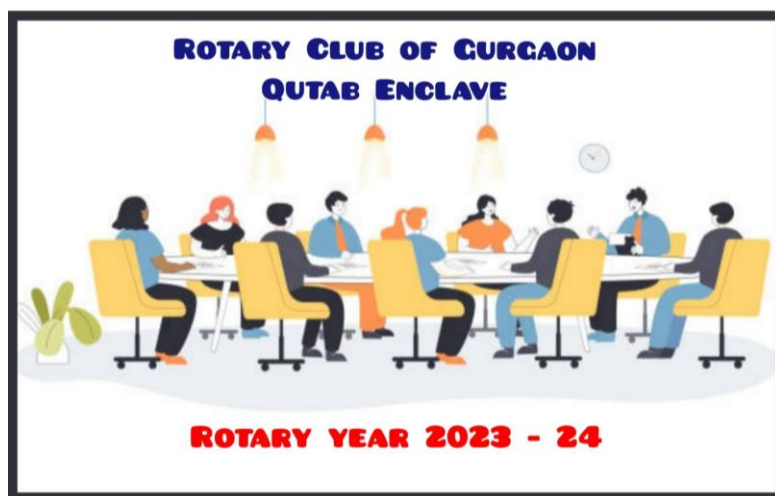
During his journey, Divya Prakash realized that there are underprivileged children who are smart and passionate about education but do not have the means to be in good schools. In 2018, he left his well-paying job as IT Head of Vodafone, Delhi NCR and founded Explorer Academy (EA), an experiential learning, day boarding school with 5 students. In 2020, as Covid posed an unimaginable challenge, Divya Prakash decided to convert his day-boarding school to a residential school in sector 45, Gurugram. He soon ran out of space as the number of students grew to 43 in the academic session 2021-22.

In Feb 2022, DoaR leased out land and built a new school and hostel campus for these underprivileged children. He worked with volunteer experts in designing the campus and making it completely environment friendly. Campus is built using reusable material, is 100% powered by renewable energy, uses gray water filtration system.

Divya Prakash is building leadership, collaboration, and responsibility in the students from the day they join Explorer Academy. They learn from experimenting, hands on experience, develop skills like music, painting, chess, programming etc. under the guidance from teachers from India and abroad. They are also shown the outside world through field trips to various monuments and places of national or public interest in NCR.

Children manage the campus themselves and are responsible for plantation, plumbing, and small masonry work. He is also the mentor of "**Interact Club of Donate an Hour Explorer Academy**". Under his guidance, interact club members of EA have taken various initiatives like teaching in nearby government middle school, and beautification of their campus. Check out their web site <https://donateanhour.org>

Club Elections for Office Bearers / Directors for Rotary Year 2023 – 24



Process for election of Office Bearers / Directors for the Rotary Year 2023 – 24 was completed on 2nd December 2022. **Returning Officer Rtn K C Agarwal** conducted the proceedings and announced the results.

The elected members to various posts are as follows:

President Elect – 2024 - 25	Rtn Rajeev Goel
Vice President	Rtn Sushma Mattu
Secretary	Rtn Gita Jain
Treasurer	Rtn Anil Kumar Bhatnagar
Director of Club Service Avenue	Rtn Meeta Ghosh
Director of Vocational Service Avenue	Rtn Reena Sawhney
Director of Community Service Avenue	Rtn Neera Verma
Director of International Service Avenue	Rtn Sanjeev K Sawhney
Director of Youth Service Avenue	Rtn Sunil Khanna

Heartiest Congratulations and Best wishes to Team 23-24 for a great and successful year.

GREETINGS

January	BIRTHDAYS
2 nd	Meeta Ghosh
8 th	R K Jain
11 th	Shalini Chabra
18 th	Ashish Kumar Mukharjee
22 nd	Vijay Chabra
24 th	Rajeev Goel
January	ANNIVERSARIES
19 th	Sunil and Neera Verma
23 rd	Mohin and Seema Bangia
23 rd	Atul and Vanita Naval



Club Calendar for January 2023

1 st Jan	Sunday	"ON LINE" Tambola – Fellowship Meet
8 th Jan	Sunday	Club PICNIC – at Aramgarh Resort, Gurugram
13 th Jan	Friday	Club Zoom Meeting
18 th Jan	Wednesday	BDC at IGT Solutions
26 th Jan	Thursday	NGO DoaR Interact Club Installation