



Issue # 02 - August 2023



HILLECHOES

Club Bulletin of Rotary Club of Thane Hills, RI District 3142

Gordon McNally
RI President, RY 2023-24

Milind Kulkarni
Dist. Governor, RY 2023-24

Govind Khetan
Club President, RY 2023-24

Dr. Anagha Karkhanis
Club Secretary, RY 2023-24



August: Membership & Extension Month

Govind Khetan

Club President



**My Dear Hillers,
Greetings!**

Thank you very much for your enthusiastic participation in the Engagement Survey. Your views and feedback shall be processed into a meaningful action plan to take our club to greater heights.

On 2nd July, a blood donation drive was organized by our club at Hyde Park under the astute leadership of Rtn Madhumita Ghosh. Hillers, Anns, and Annets participated in large numbers as donors and as volunteers to make this drive extremely satisfying.

The *Green Oasis* project - tree plantation drive with a difference' on 16th July at Rabale was a huge success with the enthusiastic participation of Hillers, Anns, Annet, and Rotaractors. It was heartening to see the joy on the faces of 25 kids from A. M. Naik school as they joined us in the tree plantation drive. Under this project, more than 300 saplings were planted in a Miyawaki style by our club.

All these plants will be maintained by NGO Hariyali and we will get regular updates and pictures. In about four months, we expect to be able to go back to the site and see the outcome of our efforts in the form of lush green vegetation. Kudos to Rtn Gururaj Agnihotri, Rtn Ramesh Satoor, Anns Aditi Date, and Radhika Padmanabhan for their meticulous planning and execution.

We have had encouraging attendance at our weekly meetings during the month as we invited a galaxy of eminent speakers to come and speak to address us on various thought-provoking subjects. The newly introduced 'Nok-Jhok' feature at our weekly meetings will go a long way in fostering bonds while helping us to understand our club members are their spouses better.

Friends, we have several interesting initiatives and projects scheduled in the next few weeks and months. Am counting on your active participation and support as we work together to make a positive difference!

Dear Hillers,

Following a satisfying completion of the first month of the excellent year, we are thrilled to present an exciting lineup of events and activities for this special month of August, which marks the Month of Membership and New Club Development.



'Project Sanjeevan': Empowering Life Savers: August 3rd, 2023

As part of our commitment to humanitarian efforts, we are excited to introduce 'Project Sanjeevan.'

This initiative aims to equip each one of us with life-saving skills such as CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and COLS (Compression Only Life Support). By acquiring this knowledge, we can become confident first responders during emergencies, potentially saving lives in critical situations.

Monsoon Club Picnic: August 6th , 2023

Amidst the refreshing showers of the monsoon season, we are delighted to announce our most- awaited Monsoon Club Picnic on the 6th of August. After a four-year gap, this day promises to be filled with merriment and camaraderie. All hillers are invited to join us on this journey to UK Resorts near Khopoli, where we shall spend a delightful day amidst nature & beauty.

The day will be brimming with laughter and enjoyment as we indulge in rain dance, pool frolics, water-park adventures, exciting games, and a delectable spread of sumptuous food. This day picnic is an opportunity for us to reconnect, strengthen bonds and create cherished memories.

'Swagat' - A Membership Induction Event: August 18th , 2023

As we celebrate the spirit of Rotary, we are delighted to announce our upcoming event, Swagat the Membership Induction event, scheduled for the 18th of August. It is an occasion that embodies the essence of our vibrant club as we open our arms to welcome new members into our fold. We encourage all our esteemed members to join us in making the newcomers feel embraced and a part of our Hillers' family.

Thoughtful Thursdays: An Array of Inspiring Speakers

Our Thoughtful Thursdays have become synonymous with inspiration, knowledge and growth. In August, we are set to host a diverse lineup of speakers who will enlighten us on a range of intriguing topics. These speakers include a marathon runner, a dental health expert, as well as an expert on corporate funding and CSR.

All in all, August is going to be nothing short of a profound sense of fulfillment through service and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you all at these wonderful events and making August 2023 a month to remember.

Yours in Rotary,

**Dr Anagha Karkhanis
Club Secretary**

Dear Rotarians,

As we embark on the glorious month of August, we embrace the theme of membership - the lifeblood of any thriving Rotary club. It is with great excitement that we delve into the realm of unlocking the power of membership to foster growth and strengthen our Rotary family.



We aim to build a strong Rotary family, it is essential to actively seek out new members who bring fresh perspectives, unique talents, and diverse backgrounds to the table. By embracing inclusivity, we strengthen our capacity to address complex issues and find innovative solutions.

One compelling way to attract new members is by sharing impactful stories that highlight the significant work our Rotary clubs are doing. Stories have the power to ignite passion and foster a sense of belonging, which are vital for attracting prospective members and retaining existing ones.

Moreover, mentorship and engagement are key components in building a thriving Rotary family. Nurturing the potential of new members and providing them with guidance and support aids in their personal and professional growth. Encourage mentorship programs that allow experienced Rotarians to share their knowledge, skills, and networks, fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment among all members.

Furthermore, it is crucial to harness the power of technology to engage with members and streamline our communication channels. The modern world offers us myriad tools that can enhance Rotary's membership experience exponentially. Social media platforms, online forums, and virtual meetings provide opportunities for increased connectivity, enabling members to stay engaged and active regardless of their physical location. Embrace these technologies to break down barriers and expand the Rotary family beyond geographical boundaries.

Lastly, let us not forget the importance of recognizing and appreciating the contributions of our members. Acknowledging their dedication, both big and small, fosters a sense of value and pride in being part of Rotary. Celebrate achievements, milestones, and exemplary service. By doing so, we strengthen the bond between members and reinforce their commitment to Rotary's mission.

As we reflect on the theme of membership this month, let us remember that it is through our collective efforts that we can unlock the true potential of Rotary. By embracing inclusivity, sharing impactful stories, offering mentorship, leveraging technology, and showing appreciation, we can build a strong and vibrant Rotary family that transforms communities.

Together, we can make a difference.

Yours in Rotary,
Pushpalata Chaurey
Editor



Vijay S. Shetty

Know Your Director



1) Educational Qualifications:

Chartered Accountant, DISA (ICA Systems Audit), CISA (Certified Information Systems Auditor, U.S.A.)
LLB (Mumbai University)

2) On the Professional Front:

- He is a PRACTISING CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT for the past 30 years practicing in the field of Income Tax ,GST & Audit
- Handled extremely challenging assignments

3) Joined Rotary: in 2004

4) Positions in Rotary:

- Past President of Rotary Club of Thane Hills 2010-11
 - Member of the District Stewardship Committee 2018-19.
 - District Treasurer for the Rotary Year 2019-20
 - General Secretary for Dist- 3142 R.Y. 2022-23
- Positions held in other organizations:-
- Chairman of Amber international School, Dhokali ,Thane
 - Secretary of Wamanrao Govind Patwardhan School in Pochari,Ratnagiri.
 - Treasurer of Pratha Samajik Sanstha.
 - Trustee in Vidya sagar Education Institute.

5) Achievements In Rotary

- Building of Old Age Home for the Tsunami victims in Nagapattinam in RY 2004-05, his first year in Rotary , he was also bestowed with the “BEST NEW ROTARIAN AWARD”
- Conducting Immunization camps in the slums of Atkoneshwar Nagar.
- Constructed a Career Training Center for Mentally Challenged Children above 18 years of age at Holy Cross, Thane, that received “The Model Vocational Service Project” from Rotary International in RY 2010-11. A 2 page article on this project was published in Rotary News. This Project has been visited by most of the PDGS of Dist 3140, and also by PRID Ashok Mahajan ,Immediate Past Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta, R.I. General Secretary. R.I. John Hewko along with his spouse Marga .
- Mstrumental in getting the Triumph Blood Bank premises from the Thane Municipal Corporation, for free of cost.
- Multiple PHF.

6) Awards & Recognitions:

- Model Vocational Project Award from Rotary International 2011.
- Club Builder Award-2017
- Avenues of service Award (Vocational)-2021
- Thane Gaurav Award-2022

7) Hobbies:

- PLAYING CRICKET, LONG DRIVE,WATCHING MOVIES.

8) Family:

Spouse:

- Shivani who is a Chartered Accountant and a Software Engineer presently associated with Larsen & Toubro Infotech Ltd. as a Senior Director SAP Implementation.

Children:

- Son Yash Shetty is 22 years old.
- Daughter Saanvi Shetty is pursuing her Schooling in Singhania School and is in the VII standard.

IMPACTING LIVES WITH CARE – CREATING HOPE

The Rotary Club of Thane Hills, known for its commitment to social welfare, recently organized a series of impactful initiatives. One such endeavor was a successful blood donation camp, where numerous volunteers came forward to donate blood, supporting the well-being of those in need. Another initiative involved the planting of trees, emphasizing the importance of environmental conservation and promoting cleaner air and a greener city. Additionally, the club distributed sanitary napkin dispensers to schools, aiming to improve menstrual hygiene management among young girls and empower them with greater access to essential resources. These commendable efforts by the Rotary Club of Thane Hills showcase their unwavering dedication to enhancing the lives of individuals and their community as a whole.

BLOOD DONATION CAMP

On a bright and auspicious day of 1st July 2023, the newly inducted team of - Rotary Club of Thane Hills wasted no time in making a positive impact on the community by organizing a highly successful blood donation camp. The event marked a significant milestone for the newly constituted club, reflecting its commitment to humanitarian service and community welfare.

The Rotary Club of Thane Hills members leveraged their social networks, local media, and various communication channels to spread the word about the event. The event garnered tremendous support and participation from not only the residents of Thane but also the neighboring communities.



The camp commenced early in the morning, with a steady stream of donors eagerly waiting to give the gift of life. The spirit of altruism was palpable, as individuals from all walks of life, young and old, came forward to contribute. The medical team at the camp ensured the donors' well-being, conducting thorough medical check-ups to ensure eligibility for donation.

The President of the Rotary Club of Thane Hills expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the donors and volunteers, acknowledging their role in making the event a grand success. He emphasized that this was just the beginning of their journey towards making a positive impact on society, and the club had many more initiatives planned for the future.

As the Sun set on 1st July 2023, the Rotary Club of Thane Hills took pride in its accomplishment. We can look forward to many more such endeavors, which will aim at fostering hope and compassion in the hearts of the people it aims to serve.

JULY 16TH 2023 - A rendezvous with Nature: Tree Plantation Activity at Tetavali Hillside

This year, the tree plantation drive, which is an annual event organized by RCTH, donned special colours. RCTH justifiably named it the 'Green Oasis' project. The site chosen was the



Tetavali Hillside in Rabale (Navi Mumbai). The activity was taken ahead, thanks to the vision of the RCTH President- Secretary duo of Govind Khetan and Dr.Anagha Karkhanis as well as the untiring efforts of the 'Environment and Sustainability projects' incharge Rotarian Gururaj Agnihotri.

The event was organized on 16th July 2023 in collaboration with the N.G.O. Haryali, thanks to the efforts of Ann Aditi Date, a Haryali founder member . As we entered the assigned area, we felt as if we were transported into a different world. This verdant place has been developed by Haryali in association with the Forest department. The green hilly zone is replete with check dam, cascading waterfalls, gurgling stream , natural as well as artificial ponds. RCTH today joined hands with Haryali to strengthen their efforts in this afforestation project . As the Hillers , Anns, Rotaractors and Annets walked for 1.5 km along a jungle trail, we could actually witness the fruitful efforts of planting saplings on the barren hill slopes. Today, the once wasted area has become home to many , many trees which pump in fresh air, bind the soil and provide shelter to wonderful fauna.

The RCTH members, joined by the Rotaractors braved it all; they had to cross fast flowing streams, bridges, rocky patches , slippery surfaces and steep slopes to reach the tree plantation site. With the help of the Haryali volunteers, they made the right mix of manure, soil and husk . They planted the saplings of some indigenous plants like kanchan, jamun, mango, custard apple and jackfruit, provided by Haryali and used a stick to support the supple, delicate plants. This was all done with abundant enthusiasm and dedication in the allotted time in the morning. The project "Green Oasis" involves the planting of 300 saplings . A noteworthy fact was that these saplings would grow to create a 'Miyawaki Forest ' in a very few years and blossom into a robust ecosystem teeming with life! The soil would acquire more fertility and strength; the icing on the cake is more oxygen to breathe! The project ' Green Oasis ' received a shot in the arm when school kids got ready to pitch in. Projects of this nature need the involvement of young minds and hands as they are going to shape the sustainable world of tomorrow. Ann Radhika Padmanabhan coordinated with A.M.Naik school and brought 25 students from grades 4 and 5 along with three teachers, three parents and two helping staff. These children who are the pillars of the nature club in their school, brought seeds of some traditional trees like mango and jackfruit which they had collected . These were handed over to Haryali.

The students were taught how to prepare the soil with the right mix of soil, rice husk , bio-compost and moisture. They were given tamarind seeds to sow in the soil kept in containers. The seeds would sprout , after which they will be kept in plastic pouches along with soil in the onsite nursery. The saplings, after reaching a particular height, would be planted on the hill slopes. As we could see, many tender hands did their bit towards the noble task of rejuvenating the hills. The Haryali officials Mrs.Neelima Kulkarni , Mr.Satish Athale and Mr.Gondhale engaged the students in a nature trail, talk on composting, sowing seeds and some related topics. This enlightened the students immensely. Everyone associated with the drive was provided with delicious refreshments and hot tea; after all , they deserved it for the hard work put in.

As 15 Hillers, 8 Anns, 1 Annet, 7 Rotaractors, four members from Team Haryali, 25 students, 3 teachers , 3 PTA members and 2 helping staff from A.M.Naik school posed for a picture after the successful completion of the

successful completion of the activity, one thing was certain. When collaboration is forged between proactive people, it works wonders.

As 15 Hillers, 8 Anns, 1 Annet, 7 Rotaractors, four members from Team Haryali , 25 students, 3 teachers , 3 PTA members and 2 helping staff from A.M.Naik school posed for a picture after the successful completion of the activity, , one thing was certain. When collaboration is forged between proactive people, it works wonders.

“Well begun is half done”, it is said. After the successful completion of this environmental activity, we can proclaim that the Tetavali tree plantation activity augurs well for RCTH.



Empowering Young Girls: Installation of Sanitary Napkin Dispensers

In an earnest endeavor to address a pressing social issue and empower young girls, our Rotary Club took a significant step forward by distributing sanitary napkin dispensers to schools. The project aimed at enhancing menstrual hygiene management among adolescent girls and providing them with greater access to essential resources.

Menstrual hygiene has long been a challenge in our community, often leading to hindrance in the education and well-being of young girls. Recognizing the gravity of this issue, our club decided to take action, understanding that access to proper menstrual hygiene products is a crucial aspect of a girl's overall health and confidence.

Through meticulous planning and collaborative efforts with local schools, the Rotary Club set out to install sanitary napkin dispensers in strategic locations, ensuring ease of access for students. These dispensers were thoughtfully designed to be discreet, convenient, and stocked with high-quality sanitary napkins to cater to the needs of young girls.

The project's impact extended beyond just the distribution of sanitary napkins; it also incorporated comprehensive awareness programs. We conducted workshops and educational sessions on menstrual hygiene, breaking the stigma and misinformation that often surrounds the topic. By encouraging open conversations and discussions, we sought to empower young girls with knowledge, instill confidence, and promote a positive attitude towards menstruation.

Our Rotary Club is immensely proud of this project and deeply grateful to all our members, partners, and donors who contributed to its success. By providing young girls with a vital resource and fostering a supportive environment, we believe that we have taken a meaningful step towards empowering the next generation of confident, educated, and resilient women.

As we continue on our journey of service, we remain committed to creating positive social impact and driving change that uplifts the lives of those in need. The sanitary napkin dispenser project stands as a shining example of the Rotary Club's dedication to making a difference in the lives of the community we serve. Together, we can continue to sow the seeds of progress, equality, and compassion, inspiring a brighter and more inclusive future for all.



THE LEGACY



Atul Bhide

The privilege of being Rotarian and 'ACE' President of RCTH Club President 2013-14
ACE District Year, RID 3140 Rotary International

It was December 2000 that in a way, I was reborn. I was 34. From son of my parents, owner of an enterprise, husband of Yashodhara, father of Gandhali to now a Member of a Rotary Club. Looking back this identity turned out to be a transformative one. It has shaped my life in so many ways. I had experienced Rotary when my father was a member of Rotary Club of Mulund for couple of years. Twenty-three years back, in Dec 2000, being invited to join a Rotary Club was matter of great pride. It was not just about an acknowledgement of one's professional success but much more. One would feel having 'being arrived' in life.

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Bhandup (RCMB) laid a strong foundation in me of what Rotary stands for. Though I enjoyed my four and half years there, the camaraderie among Hillers turned out to be irresistible. become a 'Hiller' at the end of my tenure as Club Secretary at RCMB during Rotary's Centenary year. In my second year at RCTH, it was the Club President Dr. Ashes that first invited me to take an additional responsibility, as the Club Polio Plus Chairman. Under his leadership and the guidance of the then District Polio Plus Chairman, our PP Dr. Suhas, he gave me the responsibility to arrange the District Polio Plus Seminar. RCTH as usual presented it in its own style, at the Chembur Gymkhana. Next Rotary Year, 2007-08 with Club President Rajesh Salaskar and PP Dr Ashes-PP Vikram as the Convener and Co-Convener, RCTH conducted one of its kind magnificent District Assembly at the Nehru Centre. Preparing and volunteering for the DA was such a great fun as well as a great learning experience.

Sharath invited me to join his BOD as Club Secretary in 2008-09. Apart from many personal learning, 'How to conduct a good Weekly Meeting' was the biggest take away for me sitting next to him as the Club Secretary.

Finally, when in 2011 I was invited to lead RCTH as the Club President for the year 2013-14, it was a big leap of faith for me. For me personally, every weekly meeting was a special event. I strongly believe in the power and potential of weekly meeting and I gave my best to make it interesting for Hillers as the Club President. Apart from undertaking our regular events like Triumph Run, District Table Tennis Tournament, Quiz, Charter Nite, Student Scholarship, Polio NIDs, ROTAL (RCTH won Most Talented Club Award with 27 trophies) or family nights like Onam Celebration etc., there are 10 unique features of ACE Rotary Year that I am proud of as Hiller & as Club President.

Some Unique features & events of RCTH in ACE Year (2013-14)

- 1) Installation Day : Chief Guest – Dr. Madhura Chatrapathy – Asia's First Woman District Governor, With PDG Srikant Chatrapathy (both from RID 3190), (Only One of its kind - Brother-Sister Past DG at RCTH event)
On Installation Day - Completion of 10 Toilet blocks - Rural Sanitation project – 'Right To Go'
- 2) Free of Cost Club Picnic for Hillers and family
- 3) Dr. Verghese Kurien Memorial Oration - Keynote Speaker - Dr. Sam Pitroda, father of India's telecom sector and the then Scientific Advisor to the then PM Dr. Manmohan Singh, along with Ms. Nirmala Kurien, daughter of Dr Kurien. (On the 1st death anniversary of Dr Kurien, Milkman of India, a house full event at Dr. Kashinath Ghanekar main auditorium)
- 4) Encounter with the Legend – Special Events – With Legendary personalities at RCTH (RCTH hosted these legends, interacted with & listened to them, here in Thane at Hotel Satkar)

Bharat Dabholkar , Padma Vibhushan and Ramon Magsaysay awardee R.K. Laxman and his

gracious wife, well-known author Mrs. Kamla Laxman with Dileep Padgaonkar ex-editor Times of India, Tom Alter, Nitin Desai, Dr Anil Kokodkar, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India, Director of BARC and Padma Vibhushan Awardee along with Aseem Gupta, IAS , TMC Commissioner F. C. Kohli, founder of TCS & Padma Vibhushan Awardee with Roger Pereira, Prabhakar S Deodhar, advisor to PM Rajiv Gandhi and founder of APLAB Ltd, Louis Banks, Joe Alvares, Dr. Charudutt Jadhav, India's representative in World Chess for Blind, who's software is used by blind chess player across the globe and a General Manager in TCS Ltd.

5)'Nish-Parichit' Vocational Awards: ST Bus Driver, Subhedar at Thane Central Jail, Gov School Teacher, ordinary people with extra ordinary work, were awarded for their excellent work record at their offices amongst their colleagues and seniors. Hosting of Indian Flag and Rotary Flag at every weekly meeting and special events on stage. Having a Club Theme for the year - first time in RCTH - Hakuna Matata - Welcoming of Guest by pinning 'Hakuna Matata' Badge.

Key happenings of the ACE year

1. Service of Self Award to PP Rtn. Chandrasekharan (Rotary International)
2. Club Builder Award to PP Dr. Ashes Ganguly
3. Introduction of Digital Roster and Club Bulletin first time in Rotary (initiative by Rtn Narendra Rao)
4. Second Major Donor of RCTH - Rtn. Anup and Ann Nandini Surve
5. isit of RI President Elect Garry Huang and Ann Corinna to our Triumph blood bank
6. Presidential Citation to the Club, Rotary Club Central Award, Award for Club's membership imitative - Awarded by RI President Ron D. Burton
7. Excess balance of Rs. 3,69,895/- of Donation funds for project 'Right-To-Go' at the end of the year for its additional future execution.

We had few weekly meetings with the screening of curated Short Films to make the weekly meeting exciting for the Hillers. 'Peshkash' was introduced for the first time at RCTH. Through this, a Hiller would be interviewed by some other Hiller that enabled all to re-discover their friends.

RCTH winning the Best Bulletin award in the District for that year was icing on the cake.

Rotary's unique opportunity through its RYE program has added new dimension to our daughter Gandhali's life through her yearlong stay in 2015-16 at Denmark. It introduced Gandhali to a new world with opportunity to make friends from across the globe. Hosting Marta (2015-16) and Magdalena (2012-13) from Spain and Austria respectively at our home, as part of RYE and Vocational Exchange program has been enriching experience for the Bhide family. Marta revisiting us again in 2019 with her father and brother and then her brother opting Mumbai for his RYE exchange, shows the warmth Marta has towards Hillers and towards India.

After all these years with RCTH, I continue to feel rejuvenated attending weekly meetings, interacting with fellow Hillers and getting introduced to new members. Especially with vibrant and active lot of new members in last two-three years, we are assured of a great future for RCTH. I am thankful to Arvind who introduced me to Rotary in the year 2000 and to Sharath for inviting me to RCTH. It has transformed Yashodhara's, Gandhali's and my life. No matter where we would geographically be in future, I will die as Rotarian.



Unifying Through Rotary Fellowship: Amplifying Our Impact Worldwide”

RMB - Rotary Means Business



I, as the Chairman of Rotary Means Business (RMB) R.I. Dist. 3142 corporate, bring you thrilling updates and heartfelt gratitude for your support. RMB has thrived amidst the pandemic, fostering connections and success stories through virtual events and online resources. Exciting initiatives lie ahead, including RMB Mega Meets for networking and business prospects. Engage actively with RMB to enhance your professional networks. I thank the RMB board members, district leadership, and passionate Rotarians for driving our success. Together, let's build bridges, forge partnerships, and transform lives through Rotary Means Business.

Yours in Rotary,
Rtn. Ramesh D. Sabnis
Chairman, Rotary Means Business

Fellowship in Rotary refers to the social aspect of being a member of Rotary International, a global service organization. Rotary Fellowships provide opportunities for Rotarians to connect with other members who share common interests, hobbies, or professions.

One such fellowship within Rotary is the Rotary Means Business (RMB) fellowship, it came to in existence on March 22, 2018 - District 3142 Corporate.

Rotary Means Business is a network of business professionals who aim to promote ethical business practices and create opportunities for networking and collaboration among Rotarians.

Initially, it was just Dr. Sanjaykumar Tiwari & Dr. Mangal Tiwari, who are founders of RMB District - 3142, today, they have over 150 members, with the support and dedication of Dr. Mangal Tiwari, Deoram Gagareji, A. Ravindran, Raghava Raju, Dr. Mayuresh, and many other unknown Rotarians who believed in our mission to empower Rotarians. RMB District 3142 Corporate is the fastest growing chapter in terms of business transactions and membership.

RMB District 3142 Corporate strictly adheres to the principles of the 4-Way Test and follows all rules and regulations. We have a system in place for administration and have appointed four chairpersons in a rotational fashion. We are in the process of registering a trust to ensure compliance with the law and periodic auditing for fiscal discipline.

The RMB fellowship encourages Rotarians to support one another's businesses, exchange referrals, and develop business relationships within the Rotary network. It provides a platform for Rotarians to showcase their businesses, products, and services and helps to enhance their professional lives. The Rotary Means Business fellowship provides a platform for Rotarians to connect, collaborate, and support each other's businesses while upholding the principles of Rotary International.

Rotary Means Business fellowships organize networking events, seminars, and workshops, where Rotarians have the opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals within their area or across the world. These events often feature guest speakers who share insights on various business topics and offer opportunities for personal and professional growth.

To become a member of Rotary Means Business (RMB), one must meet the following criteria:

Rotary Membership: Paid Membership in a Rotary club is a prerequisite for joining RMB. Individuals must be current Rotarians or Rotaractors, inner-wheel member, spouse of a rotarian, which means they should be affiliated with a local Rotary club or a Rotary-sponsored community service group for young professionals, Ex Rotarians can join as guests.,

“RMB has revolutionized my perspective on business and entrepreneurship. It offers an abundance of opportunities for individuals in their respective fields.”

SHIRISH KELKAR
PRESIDENT RMB - THANE



ANN'S CORNER



ANN SHOBHA BHAT

The desire to reach more and more people with her simple homemade khaana, inspired Ann Shobha Bhat to start her own YouTube Channel 'Shobha's Recipe Lab'. Through this channel, one can access her easy recipes prepared using readily available ingredients without any compromise on taste. Her culinary passion has resulted in numerous authentic preparations laced with a modern touch. Right from party recipes, salads, juices, sweets, upvas and lunch box recipes, you have it all on Shobha's channel whose link is as follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/@ShobhasRecipeLab>

Way to go, Shobha!!!

This year is Dilip's 25th year in RCTH family. So to express his feelings as Rotarian I have written few lines about Rotary. Please read this poem to the tune of Hindi song

ऐ दिल है मुश्किल जीना यहाँ
ऐ दिल तू बनजा मेंबर यहाँ
ये है रोटरी ये है रोटरी
ये है रोटरी मेरी जान
कई projects कई events
कई गावो को दिये नये Toilet
सदा ही किया समाज का भला
कही Blood Bank कही Triumph Run
दिव्यानगो को दिये कई दान
Members को दिया सेवा का अवसर
कभी picnic कभीमस्ती
Serve किया food सदा tasty
गाना और dance तो Rotal की है शान
ये है रोटरी ये हैं रोटरी मेरी जान

By : Anagha Damale

ANN Olive Rebello

Ann Olive Rebello was ISO (International Service Organizer) of Inner Wheel Club of Thane West last year. She was also the Past President of this Club. As ISO , Oliveji interacted with various Rotary Clubs in India. She also had the good fortune of interacting with the 4 Inner Wheel Clubs of Singapore during the course of which she had meetings and exchange of flag. Ann Olive was awarded a prize for making Christmas wreath out of waste material at an ISO meet .

The first 3 pictures are from her ISO meet in Singapore. The last picture is the image of Olive receiving a prize for making a wreath out of waste. Kudos to you, Ann Olive, for inspiring us!!



Hip Hip Murray

Ms. Maitreyee Likhite

Daughter of PP Varsha Likhite and PP Nilesh Likhite, received her M.S. Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from a prestigious American University.

She has joined Qualcomm, San Diego on June 26th, 2023 for full-time work as an AI/ML Engineer in the AI/ML Connected Camera Systems team. Hearty congratulations, dear Maitreyee from RCTH. We wish you the very best in life and career!



Master Archit Damle

ARCHIT ASHISH DAMLE, grandson of late Rtn Dilip Damle makes us all proud by qualifying in the Pre Upper Primary Maharashtra State Scholarship examination (5th STD) held in Feb 2023. Archit is currently studying in 6th STD. In St.Mary's Convent Convent school, Alibag. He has secured 3rd Rank in Raigad district and is a Topper in Alibaug Taluk. He has been declared a Merit holder.

Archit! Hearty congratulations. RCTH wishes you the very best in all your future endeavors!!

MAHARASHTRA STATE COUNCIL OF EXAMINATION, PUNE									
PRE UPPER PRIMARY SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION (STD. 5th) FEB. - 2023									
DISTRICTWISE MERIT LIST									
DISTRICT : (14) RAIGAD								RESULT DATE : 13/07/2023	
SR.NO	MERIT RANK	SEAT NO.	CENTRE CODE	UIDSE CODE	GENDER	CANDIDATE NAME	MEDIUM	PERCENTAGE	TOTAL SETS : 10
SET CODE : (E) NATIONAL RURAL									
1	1	M1141003128	141003	27240408501	FEMALE	VAIBHAVI RAJENDRA GAWADE	MARATHI	86.0000	
2	2	M1141005020	141005	27240413803	MALE	OMKAR SHIVAJI PATIL	MARATHI	83.3333	
3	3	M5140104120	140104	27240103802	MALE	ARCHIT ASHISH DAMLE	ENGLISH	83.3333	
4	4	M5140505033	140505	27240218008	MALE	ATHARVA RAVINDRA ITHAPE	ENGLISH	82.0000	
5	5	M5141009081	141009	27240418803	MALE	AMEY KALUSTUBH MORE	ENGLISH	82.0000	
6	6	M1140502111	140502	27240220701	MALE	YASH ABASAHEB BEDKUTE	MARATHI	81.3333	
7	7	M1140804019	140804	27241108201	MALE	HARSH GANESH WATVE	MARATHI	80.0000	
8	8	M5141011124	141101	27241000808	MALE	ATHARV DEEPAK PALKAR	ENGLISH	79.3333	
9	9	M1140901108	140901	27240503706	MALE	SWARUP AMOL HANGE	MARATHI + ENGLISH	79.3333	
10	10	M5140905113	140905	27240515914	FEMALE	CHETANA MANOJKUMAR MUDHOLKA	ENGLISH	79.3333	
NO. OF CANDIDATES SELECTED UNDER SET (E) NATIONAL RURAL : 10									
SET CODE : (J) RURAL GENERAL									
1	1	M1140901048	140901	27240506001	MALE	SHIVARAJ CHANDRAKANT JANGAM	MARATHI	78.0000	
2	2	M1141005039	141005	27240413803	MALE	VAIBHAV VIJAY PATIL	MARATHI	78.0000	
3	3	M1141011014	141101	27241001406	MALE	SHIV PRADIP DIXIT	MARATHI + ENGLISH	77.3333	
4	4	M1140802102	140802	27241112005	MALE	YASHARAJ SOMNATH CHAVAN	MARATHI + ENGLISH	76.6667	
5	5	M5140405063	140405	27241504108	MALE	AARUSH RAVINDRA PATIL	ENGLISH	76.6667	
6	6	M1140801069	140801	27240300403	MALE	VEDANT MAHADEO PALVE	MARATHI	76.0000	
7	7	M1141401030	141401	27240700702	MALE	SARTHAK SANJAY BANDARI	MARATHI	76.0000	
8	8	M5141009130	141009	27240418803	MALE	SOHAM SACHIN GOLE	ENGLISH	76.0000	
9	9	M1141202020	141202	27240606402	FEMALE	TANISHA NITESH PATEKAR	MARATHI	76.0000	
10	10	M5140309264	140309	27240806606	MALE	VIGHNESH ANAND RAIWOOL	ENGLISH	76.0000	
11	11	M1141003119	141003	27240408501	FEMALE	SWARANGI RAMCHANDRA SHINDE	MARATHI	75.3333	
12	12	M5141008076	141008	27240409502	FEMALE	GARGI AMIT YADAV	ENGLISH	75.3333	
13	13	M5140104185	140104	27240103802	FEMALE	SANAVI DIGVIJAY KARVEKAR	ENGLISH	75.3333	
		M5141009118	141009	27240418803	MALE	SATVIK SACHIN PAWAR	ENGLISH	75.3333	
		M1140804070	140804	27241108201	MALE	SANMARTH DILIP MONDE	MARATHI	74.6667	
		M1140804066	140804	27241108201	MALE	RUSHIKESH GANESH TEMBE	MARATHI	74.0000	
		M5141401030	141401	27240700702	FEMALE	OVI AMOL CHOLKE	ENGLISH	74.0000	
		M5141401030	141401	27240700702	FEMALE	BACHHAN AMOL THOKAL	MARATHI	73.3333	

MUSAFIRNAMA

Nilesh Puranik

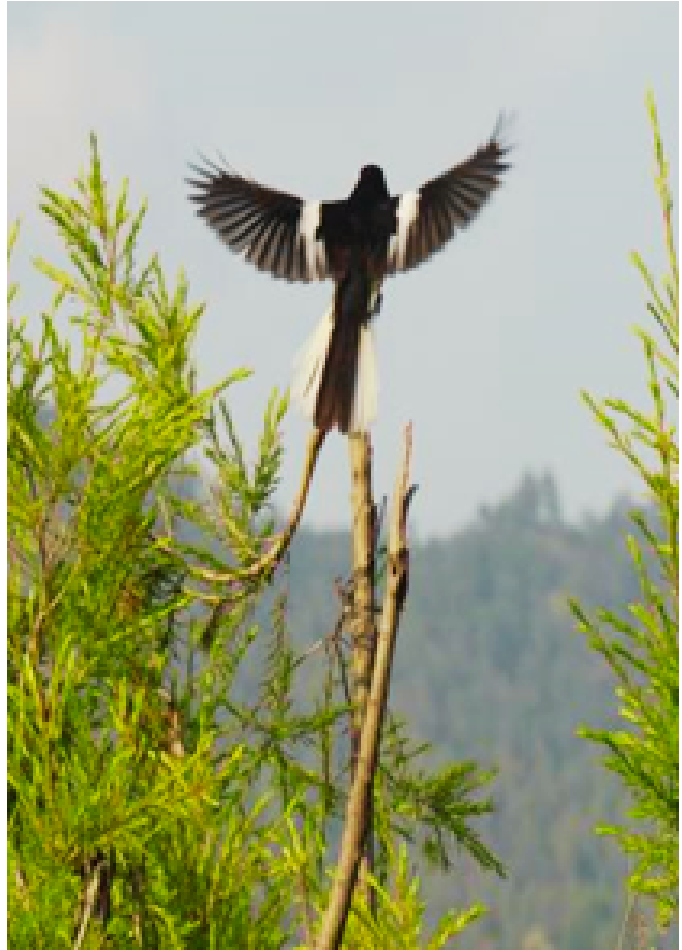
I was humming this song when I was in Binsar, in Almora district, in Uttarakhand State with my family in this summer vacation. Binsar is one of the most beautiful but not densely populated and not yet commercialized hill stations and is a great destination to enjoy your summer vacation. In summer, Binsar is pleasant with a maximum of 28 to 30 deg Celsius during the day and a minimum of 17 to 15 deg Celsius at night.

The nearest airport to reach Binsar is Pantnagar; to reach this place, one needs to take a connecting flight either through Jaipur or Delhi. From Pantnagar, it is almost a 6 hour journey via Kathgodam and Haldwani. Upto Kathgodam, it is after a one hour plain road, and that it a 5 hour journey through the mountains till Binsar.

Binsar, which is at higher level (at 8000 ft.) than Almora town (5000 ft.), is surrounded by hills, where you will find pine, deodar and oak trees. This hill station is blessed with varied species of plants and trees of medicinal importance; the locals are fully aware of their uses. Binsar is also home to more than 200 resident and migratory birds species. Different varieties of animals like monkeys, langurs, rabbits, jackals, Indian red foxes, wild pigs, wild boars, Himalayan black bears, barking deers, porcupines, leopards etc are found in this area.

Binsar, which is situated in Kumaon region is located near some famous tourist destinations like Nainital, Naukuchiatal and Bhimtal. Even tourist spots like Kausani and Ranikhet hill stations are near Binsar. Our stay was divided between two Club Mahindra properties called Binsar Villa and Binsar Valley. There are unique advantages of each location. Binsar Villa is built at the top of a mountain from where we could enjoy a magnificent view of the entire valley, which included the small villages situated in the valley with the terraced farmland. On the other hand, Binsar Valley had its own beauty with a cozy atmosphere and the scenic mountain view all around. Our day usually started in the morning at 6 a.m. with a cup of tea and stunning views from the balcony of the villa or valley.

“Inn hasin waadiyon se do char nazare chura le to chale”



The location of our resort was breathtakingly beautiful, that we generally preferred to stay in the resort and enjoy the resort campus. On very few occasions, we went out for sightseeing - one for 'Zero point', which is the highest point of the Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary, situated at a height of 8000 feet, from where one could see a 360-degree view of the Himalayan Mountain ranges, including Kedarnath, Shivaling, Trishul and the group of Nanda Devi peaks. But unfortunately, due to bad weather, there was reduced visibility. But we enjoyed a beautiful 5 km trek in Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary spreading across 47 sq. km. Here, we could see and capture in camera, different species of trees and rare species of birds.

Kasar Devi is another spot where we enjoyed stunning mountain and valley views. It is a very ancient temple of Goddess; Swami Vivekanand visited this temple in 1890. He spent some time in this peaceful place and meditated too. It was such a profound and calm spot, where we could feel the vibrations and experience absolute peace for a while. We also visited Jageshwar Dham Temple, a mandir of Lord Shiva which was built around 10th century.



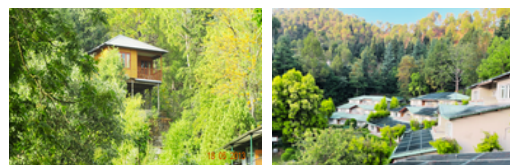
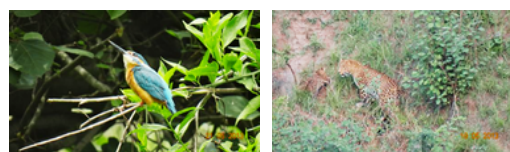
This place is situated in a beautiful valley on the bank of river name Jata Ganga where there are small and big 124 temples of all Hindu Gods and Goddesses. There is a huge 100 year old Deodar tree in the temple premises, which has a trunk branching out into twin trees.

Kasar Devi is another spot where we enjoyed stunning mountain and valley views. It is a very ancient temple of Goddess; Swami Vivekanand visited this temple in 1890. He spent some time in this peaceful place and meditated too. It was such a profound and calm spot, where we could feel the vibrations and experience absolute peace for a while. We also visited Jageshwar Dham Temple, a mandir of Lord Shiv which was built around 10th century. This place is situated in a beautiful valley on the bank of river name Jata Ganga where there are small and big 124 temples of all Hindu Gods and Goddesses. There is a huge 100 year old Deodar tree in the temple premises, which has a trunk branching out into twin trees.

Here in the wild mountain area, we got an opportunity to see different wild animals apart from birds. Rabbits and foxes are some of the few animals we could sight there. One of the most exciting sightings was of a mountain leopard. A local guide in Binsar, informed us that he could show us a female leopard and her two cubs in a cave in a nearby village about an hour drive from our resort. As we reached the village, we could see that there were

already few visitors and wildlife photographers who had already positioned their powerful lenses cameras in a tea stall at the bank of the river, which was approximately 50 metres away from that cave. We waited for a couple of hours for the leopard to come out along with her cubs from the cave. Ultimately the wait ended and we could see a female leopard and her two cubs coming out of that cave. All cameras instantly went about clicking pictures of the leopard. It is certainly a thrilling experience to see these big wild animals in their own habitat, rather than watching them chained and caged in a zoo. We came to know from locals that, due to man's unnecessary interference and unavailability of enough food in jungles, the leopards have started coming into the villages in search of food. Due to this, the killing of domestic animals and humans have increased in the villages of that area.

This trip gave us a very nice insight that if we, as human beings, decide to be happy and content with whatever is available and stop being greedy, Nature has abundant resources to offer us.



THE INNER WHEEL CLUB



The Inner Wheel Clubs play an important role in extending the reach of Rotary 's humanitarian efforts and embody the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self".

The Inner Wheel organization provides a platform for women to come together, exchange ideas, and work collectively towards the betterment of society. It offers opportunities for personal growth, leadership development, and community service.

Now let me shed some light on our club IWCTH under the leadership of President Radhika Tamne and her team.

So as a club our accomplishments are as follows:

The organization has distributed wheelchairs and specialized cerebral palsy chairs to those with mobility challenges. These chairs enable individuals to move more freely and improve their quality of life.

Festival Celebrations: Our Club recognizes the importance of cultural celebrations and actively participates in various festivals. The Club celebrated festivals such as Onam, Bhondala, and Christmas, promoting inclusivity and fostering a sense of community among members and the broader society.

Rakhi Making Workshop: our Club organized a workshop to create rakhis, traditional Indian bracelets, often exchanged during the festival of Raksha Bandhan. This workshop aimed at providing an opportunity for special children to engage in a creative activity.

Ongoing Projects: Our Club is committed to ongoing projects that support different sections of society. One such project involves providing support to Shree Ganesh Vrudhashram, a home for the elderly, ensuring their well-being and enhancing their living conditions. Additionally, we supported cataract surgeries at Wavikar Hospital, enabling individuals with vision impairment to regain their sight.

Women's Day Celebrations: we celebrated International Women's Day by organizing workshops focused on various aspects of personal grooming and self-care. Workshops included sari draping, self-makeup, dupatta draping, salad making, and dance. These workshops aimed at empowering women by enhancing their skills, boosting their confidence and fostering their overall well-being.

SUVARNA Jhankaar: This mega project organized by our Club is called 'SUVARNA Jhankaar'. It is an entertainment program specifically designed for young seniors. The event provided a platform for seniors to showcase their talents and enjoy various performances, fostering a sense of joy, inclusivity and active aging.

Groceries for TB Patients: Inner Wheel has donated groceries to support tuberculosis (TB) patients. This initiative aims to alleviate the financial burden on individuals undergoing treatment for TB and ensures they have access to nutritious food, which plays a vital role in their recovery.

Water Coolers Installation: Inner Wheel has taken the initiative to install water coolers at Thane and Kalyan Railway Stations, as well as in a school and municipal library. This project aims to provide access to clean and safe drinking water in public spaces, enhancing the overall well-being of individuals.

We donated newborn baby clothes and nutritious laddoos to new mothers. This initiative aims to provide essential clothing for infants and support the nutritional needs of both mothers and babies during the postpartum period. Such contributions help ensure that newborns receive proper care and mothers have access to healthy food.

We Donated Medical Instruments at Various Municipal Hospitals: our club has made significant donations of medical instruments to various municipal hospitals.

As Radhika's Presidency comes to an end, we can say that her dynamic leadership and impactful tenure will leave a lasting legacy within Inner Wheel. We hope that the legacy will take the Club to newer heights through the new team under the inspiring leadership of energetic and impressive Haima Deshpande

MONSOON MAGIC



RADHIKA PADMANABHAN

This morning, with the clouds just breaking away into a gentle drizzle, the view from my eighth floor balcony seemed so enchanting. The green hills, the swaying trees and the cool breeze did attract me undoubtedly, but the sight of a young boy on the road twirling an umbrella caught my attention immediately and carried me back to my grandparents' ancestral home in Kerala.

Kerala is fortunate to receive the first lash of rains during the south west monsoon season. My brother and I would be there during the summer vacations. The much awaited first 'Premonsoon' showers would gift us with the lovely fragrance of Earth . Subsequently the monsoon would arrive in a few days with full fury, bringing freshness and rejuvenation everywhere.

After a dose of rain-spell ceased, it was a great sight to see little sparrows coming out of the trees to gallivant. The vibrant butterflies would flutter a bit to steal the evasive sunlight. We would just stroll on the wet grass to get the feel of damp velvet.

When the downpour was heavy, our favourite pastime was to craft paper boats (both with and without a knife on the bottom of the boat) and to let them down a flowing stream. Whose boat would navigate the fastest? This was the silly competition in which we would engage ourselves.

Sadly the lives of today's children seem to be devoid of such fun n frolic. Rains meant piping hot rasam flowed from the kitchen to our plates and palates . Vadas and bhajjis with hot coffee provided the much needed zing. To me, when I was a school going girl, rains meant these small pleasures. (This included unscheduled holidays on days of torrential rain).

The rainy season also meant picnics to the hills with a group of friends. We enjoyed these trips thoroughly as we got wet in the rain and bathed under the splashing waterfalls. Most of my memories associated with rains have been pleasant ones but the 2005 deluge in Mumbai was a scary one. The cloud burst ripped the city apart in an unprecedented manner. My husband was stranded on the roads ; I and my son looked helplessly as water entered into our house. The incessant rains scared us out of our wits.

But this was an one off case. Generally, rains spread a sense of relief from the oppressive heat and soothes our minds. The arrival of the first spell of heavy rain brings joy to everyone and unfurls a spirit of buoyancy and optimism. No wonder.... not just me, the whole nation waits eagerly for the rains!

SPOTLIGHT - INSIGHT & INSPIRATION

Our weekly meetings which are scheduled every Thursday at 7.30 pm, serve as a platform for members and guests to come together, strengthen connections, and gain valuable insights from accomplished individuals in diverse fields. These meetings are an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions, broaden our perspectives, and make a positive impact on our community through shared experiences. In the Month of July, we had arranged a lineup of eminent speakers from various fields who shared their knowledge and expertise with us.

Sharing a glimpse of the inspiring speakers and thought-provoking subjects that featured during our weekly meetings in July 2023.



Click on the Link below to revisit these wonderful knowledge sharing sessions:

<https://www.facebook.com/100064812035373/posts/662020569301672/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v>
<https://www.facebook.com/100064812035373/posts/669902731846789/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v>



Inviting Cover Page & Last Page Design



Next Nonth's Theme Basic Education & Literacy

Musafirnama Inviting Travel Stories

Send your cover page, last page design, travel stories by 19th of August

 <https://rcthanehills.rotaryindia.org>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/rotary-club-of-thane-hills>

 [rotaryclubofthanehills](https://www.instagram.com/rotaryclubofthanehills)

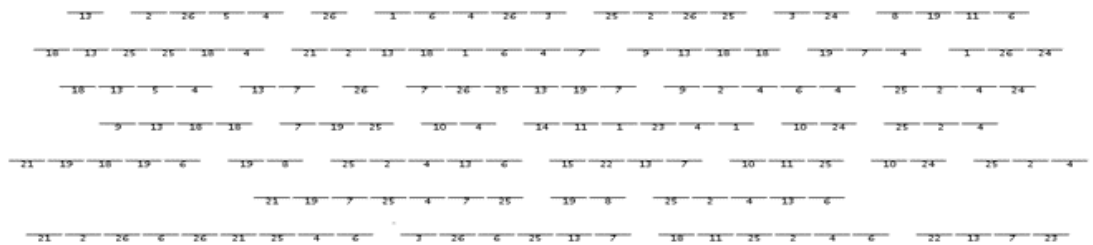
ECHOES OF FUN

PEHCHAAN KAUN



CRYOTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



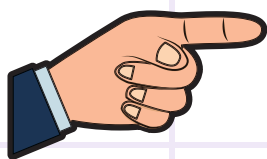
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



SUDOKU

		6	1	5	2	7
			7	4	9	
1					3	6
			1			3
			4	9	5	1
7						2
					6	4
6			3			
			9		1	7

THE WINNERS



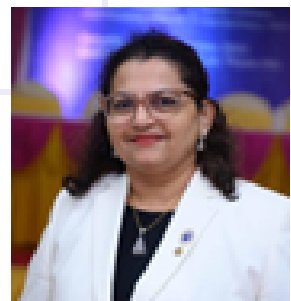
July 2023 issue

PEHCHAAN KAUN



Madhumita Ghosh

Cryptogram



Kalita Subramanian

Send in your answers @ 7977067550

Share your poems, stories, jokes, arts, achievements at :
introvision.pushalata@gmail.com