

Rotary Pulse

Governor's Official Monthly Newsletter

Issue 2 | 2025 - 2026

August 2025

ICONIC SPOTS OF DISTRICT 3080

Standing gracefully on the edge of Sukhna Lake, Chandigarh, the **Rotary Peace Monument** is one of the city's most photographed landmarks. Designed by Rotarian architect couple Rtn. Sandeep Luthra (RC Panchkula Midtown) and Rtn. Suchita Luthra (RC Chandigarh), the monument beautifully reflects Rotary's vision of peace and harmony.

In December 2003, the then RI President unveiled this monument, and in recognition of this historic occasion, Rotary International declared **Chandigarh** as a '**Rotary Peace City**'.



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EDITORIAL

August asks a simple, searching question to all of us as Rotarians – what sustains a Rotary club beyond agendas and attendance - what keeps the circle warm?

The answer is renewed membership as a living covenant: to invite with sincerity, to retain with meaning, and to grow with humility. **Membership Month is not about counting names; it is about recounting purpose.** As acclaimed poet Ahmad Faraz reminds us,

***"Tum takalluf ko bhi ikhlaas samajhte ho, Faraz
Dost hota nahin har haath milane wala"***

Formality is not fellowship;
not every handshake is from a friend.

Let the welcome be genuine, the mentorship attentive, and the journey shared.

May we, as an organization, choose inclusion over habit, mentorship over hesitation, and service that invites families, youth, and diverse voices. When belonging is intentional, impact multiplies – quietly and steadily.

May our clubs let their guards down, make space within, and watch leaders emerge.

This issue delves on stories of continued beginnings, growth, hope and fellowship in this rainy season!

Our team wishes & prays for the good health and safety of you and your families. – Soheb Malik, Dist. Editor

13th

ROTARY DINNER IN THE DARK

In a pitch-dark room, a team of visually challenged persons will serve you dinner: starters, main course and dessert. This ninety minute experience in darkness will surely change your perspective towards life.

Objectives of the Project:

1. To sensitize attendees towards the visually challenged
2. To generate scholarships from this fundraiser event for meritorious & economically weaker students for their higher studies

**30 October 2025 | 07:30 PM
Sip N Dine, Sec. 7, Chandigarh**

for more information Contact:

PP Govind Miglani

98141-79720

Rotary Club Chandigarh Shivalik

MONTHLY MESSAGE OF THE RI PRESIDENT | FRANCESCO AREZZO

August is Membership Month, but our commitment to growth and connection is year-round. When we focus on growing Rotary, we grow our ability to serve, to lead, and to bring lasting change.

Membership growth isn't just about numbers. It's about opening doors. It's about inviting more people who are ready to give their time, talents, and hearts to a cause greater than themselves. When we welcome new members, we bring in fresh ideas and new energy. We expand our impact, strengthen our clubs, and ensure that Rotary continues to evolve with the world around us.

Remember, there is now great flexibility in fashioning nontraditional club models. I'm inspired when I see these innovative clubs thrive by offering new and prospective members more ways to connect and serve. In Korea, the growth of satellite clubs has created opportunities for nearly 1,000 new members to find their place in Rotary. In Romania, the close collaboration between Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Interactors has built a pipeline of future leaders. **In India, some Rotarians gather around a shared interest — whether it's professional development or a passion for service — and those connections deepen their commitment and their joy in being part of Rotary.** And we've seen cause-based clubs thrive in regions as diverse as Southeast Asia, Africa, and Europe.

There's a common thread: Where clubs are growing, membership is a priority and there is a willingness to try something new. Rotary is not limited to one structure or tradition. We are a global network of people of action, and that means there is room for many kinds of clubs, many ways to serve, and many paths into our organization.

This spirit of innovation is also guiding our efforts to reach new communities. In places

where there has never been a Rotary club - or where a club once existed and faded - Rotarians are finding ways to grow Rotary. They are identifying areas of potential and building clubs that reflect the character and needs of their communities.

Every member plays a part in this journey.

Whether you introduce a friend to your club, support a new meeting format, reconnect with program alumni, or simply share your Rotary story, you are helping our organization grow stronger and more vibrant.

No one owns a Rotary club. It is a gift we pass on to the next generation. When we nurture that gift, when we invite others to share in it, we ensure that Rotary continues to be a force for good.

Let's prioritize membership growth — not just in August but every month of the year. Together, through friendship, creativity, and shared purpose, we will grow Rotary and Unite for Good.



Francesco Arezzo

Rotary International President 2025-26



FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

My Dear Fellow Rotarians,

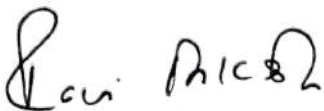
August, Rotary's month of membership, is less a task list and more a question: why do hands gather, if not to hold more hands; why do lights multiply, if not to brighten a wider circle?

August invites contemplation: membership is not a headcount but a heartbeat - each new member a promise, each retained member a living memory of service.

This season of Membership and New Club Development invites a return to first principles - service as fellowship, fellowship as shared meaning, and growth as the natural flowering of purpose lived well. **To grow is not to count more names; it is to widen the circle in which service makes us more deeply human.**

Commit to a warm invitation, a listening ear, and a mentoring hand; growth follows naturally when belonging is real and work is meaningful.

Let our membership this month be not an increase in numbers, but an increase in meaning.



Ravi Prakash
District Governor 25-26

MESSAGE OF THE DG PARTNER

Rotarians of 3080,

This August, the spirit of Membership comes alive in simple acts that have the power to change trajectories.

Who knows what the member you are bringing in to your club today may become tomorrow. Every great leader was once a mere member of their organization.

In Rotary, growth in membership is imperative because good work deserves more hands.

When new members arrive, let welcome be a practice, not a ceremony; and when old friends drift, let re-engagement be a conversation, not a campaign. Let people not just join, but belong. This is how hope is organized and compassion is scaled up.

Heartfelt thanks to all of you for your continued support to our family this year.

CA Rtn Shalini Prakash
DG Partner



NANHE DEEPAK

Mera Basta Meri Shaan



Under the leadership of visionary District Governor Ravi Prakash, the **School Bag Project – Nanhe Deepak: Mera Basta Meri Shaan** is making a **remarkable impact** across the district.

The initiative has received an overwhelming response from the majority of Rotary clubs. **Each high-quality school bag costs ₹275, but thanks to district support, ₹200 of the cost is absorbed, allowing clubs to provide these bags to children for only ₹75 each.** This project is not only creating massive Rotary visibility but also brightening the lives of young school-going children, leaving them with memories of Rotary that will stay with them as they grow.

DISTRICT 3080 IN ACTION

8400 +
Bags Delivered

87
Clubs Onboard



RC Doon Shivalik Hills



RC Hardwar



RC Ambala Central



RC Karnal



RC Panchkula



RC Solan Midtown



RC Morinda



RC Nahan

उजाला

U J A L A is a shining district initiative that not only **installs solar lights at prominent locations but also spreads the light of Rotary's goodwill far and wide.** By identifying suitable sites, making arrangements, and committing to long-term maintenance, clubs are ensuring both community benefit and sustainability. this project is creating a brighter, greener, and more visible Rotary presence across the district.

134 Solar Lights
demanded by clubs

102 Solar Lights
delivered till now...

Cost: Rs. 7,500/-

Club Pays: Rs. 1,500/-

District Absorbs: Rs. 6,000/-



40 Clubs Expressed Interest

10+ Wheels Being Installed

PEHCHAAN
Rotary 
THE 3080 WHEEL MISSION

PEHCHAAN is a landmark Rotary initiative designed to strengthen Rotary's public image and create a lasting identity in our communities. Through this project, the **Rotary Wheel - a universal symbol of service and goodwill - is being installed at prominent locations across the district.** The district provides the **Rotary Wheel free of charge**, while clubs proudly take responsibility for identifying the sites and arranging the installations.

RC Doon Ganga Chidderwala



RC Cheeka



DG's GOV's & CLUB INSTALLATION VISITS

1 August | RC PANIPAT SOUTH



2 August | RC KURUKSHETRA



3 August | RC DEOBAND



4 August | RC AMBALA INDUSTRIAL AREA



6 August | RC RISHIKESH ROYAL





9 August | RC SOLAN



10 August | RC ROORKEE UPPER GANGES



11 August | RC CHEEKA



22 August | RC E-CLUB DOON DIST. 3080





23 August | RC RISHIKESH CENTRAL



COLLEGE OF GOVERNORS (COG) MEET | 30 AUGUST 2025

HOTEL MADHUBAN, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND



The **COG Meet 2025-26** was held on **30 August 2025**. 22 RI Officers of the District including Past RI President Raja Saboo were present. RI Director KP Nagesh, RPIC Z4 Subhash Kulkarni and ARMC Ghanshyam Kansal also attended the meeting.

CLUB IN FOCUS

ROTARY CLUB SHIMLA | HIMACHAL PRADESH

Rotary Club Shimla, chartered in 1959, is one of the oldest and most active service organizations in the region, dedicated to the motto Service Above Self. Over the years, the club has initiated and executed impactful community projects such as the Rotary Cancer Sarai at IGMC, the Rotary Kanlog Crematorium, The Shimla Heartline Project, E-waste management, Cloth bank and recycling, as well as impactful contributions to mother and child care through a very unique project of Kangaroo Mother care baby bags and disease prevention through donations of cancer detection hospital equipment and many more.

With a strong commitment to education, health, environment and social welfare, the club continues to bring together professionals and community leaders who work selflessly to create sustainable change and improve the quality of life in Shimla and beyond.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MONTH OPENED INTERACT AND ROTARACT CLUBS

Interact Club at Auckland House School for Boys

Interact Club at Dayanand Public School, Shimla

Interact Club at Shimla Public School & GSSS Lalpani

Rotaract Club at Govt College Excellence Sanjauli



**Sound Healing Session
at Himachal Hospital
of Mental Health &
Rehabilitation**



**Milk Bag Recycling
1st Co-Pilot Project**



**Relief Material
for Flood Victims**



**Rain Water Harvest-
ing at GHS Sanhog**



**Developed and Distributed
Kangaroo Mother Care baby
carrying bags that offer mobility
and ease to working mothers.**



**Nanhe Deepak – School
Bags District Project
Honouring Unsung Heroes:
Elderly House Help Staff**



**Self Defence
Camp for Girls**



**Rotary Club Shimla goes On Air FM
106.4 – Sharing 66 Years of Service**



**Blood Donation Camp
on Independence Day**



**Shimla Heartline Project – Free Heart
Surgery for children below 16.**

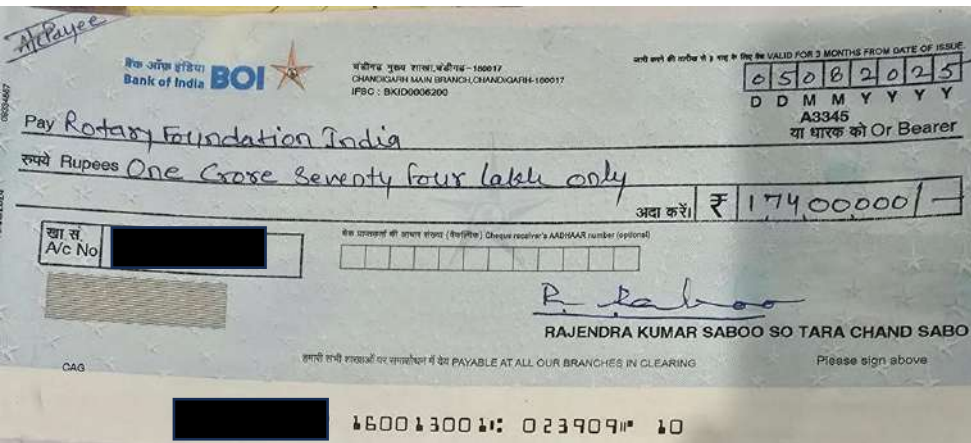


Club President Rotary Club Shimla **Rtn. Karan Bamba**, is an alumni of the prestigious **Lawrence School, Sanawar HP**. He has graduated in BA Hons. in Hotel Management from the University of Huddersfield, UK. He was a scholarship holder and was chosen for the Taj Management Training Program. He has worked with Taj Hotels, New Delhi. For his higher studies, he pursued his Masters in Family Business Management from Narsee Monjee Inst. of Management Studies, Mumbai and joined his family run business **"Hotel Surya"** at Shimla.

He joined Rotary in the year 2017 and being a very active Rotarian he quickly rose up to become the club secretary in the year 2023-24. He was also awarded as the most Outstanding Secretary of the year by the District. Looking at his dedication and sincerity towards Rotary ideals the club appointed him as the 66th Club President for the year 2025-26 and he is leading the club with impactful and unique service projects.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION

TRF CORNER



RID 3080's patriarchal figure, **Padma Shri Past RI President Rajendra K. 'Raja' Saboo,**

has once again set an extraordinary example of generosity and commitment to Rotary ideals. **At the age of 91;** the eminent industrialist, philanthropist and proud member of **RC**

Chandigarh has made a remarkable contribution of **US \$200,000 to The Rotary Foundation!**

The District warmly thanks and congratulates 'The Raja' for this gracious & praiseworthy gesture and salutes him for truly living his Rotary Presidential Theme **"Look Beyond Yourself"**.



CREATIVE CORNER

Saurabh Kannaujia, a Postman, wrote this **Hindi Poem for Rotary** and recited it at the **Felicitation of Postmen of Roorkee – a unique project by RC Roorkee Elite**

दिखे कहीं कमजोर कोई,
ये सबसे पहले जाता है,
लूट जाये गर मान कहीं,
उसकी आवाज उठाता है,
दबे, कुचले, गरीबों को,
सबको अधिकार दिलाता है,
रोटरी क्लब ये रुड़की का,
सम्मान से जीना सिखाता है

Wherever the weak are seen,
it is the first to step ahead;
if honour is ever plundered,
it raises a fearless voice instead;
for trampled, crushed,
and poor alike,
it wins each right so long denied
this Rotary Club of Roorkee
teaches how to live with pride.

कर्म अच्छे करता है जो,
सम्मान क्लब से पाता है,
करता है गुणगान कोई,
उसको आँखों में बसाता है,
करता है अभिमान कोई,
इसको एक आँख ना भाता है,
रोटरी क्लब ये रुड़की का,
सम्मान से जीना सिखाता है

Those who walk the path of deeds
are granted honour by this fold;
who sings of virtue from the heart,
is cherished like a gem of gold;
who struts in empty, haughty pride
finds not a welcome, nor a guide;
this Rotary Club of Roorkee
teaches how to live with pride.

रह जाये अशिक्षित कोई,
जूनून उसमे जगाता है,
अच्छे कॉलेज में करते एडमिट,
अपने खर्चे से पढ़ाता है,
पढ़ा लिखकर करते सक्षम,
भारत में नाम कमाता है,
रोटरी क्लब ये रुड़की का,
सम्मान से जीना सिखाता है

If any soul remains unlearned,
it lights a fire in that breast;
admits them into worthy halls,
and bears the cost to see them
blessed;
with learning, skill, and steady
hand,
they raise India's honoured tide;
this Rotary Club of Roorkee
teaches how to live with pride.

मानव सेवा है धर्म जिसका
रोटरी क्लब कहलाता है,
सेवा करने वालों पर रोज
इनाम लुटाता है,
हम भी कायल हो गये इनके,
हमारे मन को भाता है,
रोटरी क्लब ये रुड़की का,
सम्मान से जीना सिखाता है

Whose sacred creed is human
service
that name is Rotary, far and wide;
it daily showers due reward
on those who keep compassion's
stride;
our hearts, too, yield in
reverence,
for in our souls its virtues bide;
this Rotary Club of Roorkee
teaches how to live with pride.

INTERESTING ROTARY PROJECTS AROUND THE GLOBE



In March, the largest wildfires in Korea's history swept across the country's southeast, scorching nearly 120,000 acres and forcing more than 37,000 people to evacuate. Rotary districts swiftly assessed the needs and delivered essential supplies to shelters and affected communities. **Rotarians were able to reach even more people in need through \$100,000 in funding from The Rotary Foundation.** Some even provided heavy equipment, including to assist with reconstruction of the historic Gounsa temple in Uiseong.

In December, the **Rotary E-Club of Greece** began delivering wheelchairs to archeological sites and museums throughout the country. Through May, the e-club and three other clubs — Halandri, Preveza, and Psychico — had distributed 17 wheelchairs valued at \$2,600. Benefiting institutions included the Aegean Maritime Museum on Mykonos, the Archaeological Museum of Patras, the ESIEPIN Press Museum, and the Museum of Cycladic Art.



The **Rotary Club of Kigali Golf** is passionate about more than just hitting the links. Within months of its formation, the club began supporting programs to foster entrepreneurship within the deaf community and other underrepresented groups. In November the club delivered more than a dozen sewing, knitting, and textile heat-press machines to the Rwanda National Union of the Deaf and to Empower The Future, an organization supporting mothers of former street children. The equipment, valued at about \$8,500, was paid for with member donations as well as a golf tournament. "We look forward to building a long-term partnership with the Rwanda Union of the Deaf, Empower the Future, and other organizations supporting marginalized communities," says Tabvi "Mellow" Motsi, a member of the club's public relations committee.

Dogs are feeling especially lucky in the Yukon territory thanks to the **Rotary Club of Whitehorse-Rendezvous** which bakes, packages, and sells pet treats to raise funds. The club's annual dog biscuit sale has generated about CA\$3,000 since it began three years ago. Proceeds benefit the Mae Bachur Animal Shelter and the Food Bank Society of the Yukon in Whitehorse.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 2025

RID 3080 recorded an impressive addition of **326 New Members** during July and August 2025, reflecting the strong spirit of growth and inclusivity across the district. This expansion not only strengthens Rotary's reach but also ensures a more diverse and vibrant future for our district.

Notable Mentions

RC Kurukshetra	added 25 New Members
RC Doon Shivalik Hills	added 17 New Members
RC Rishikesh Royal	added 11 New Members
RC Ladwa	added 10 New Members

Notable Growth in Women Membership

RC Shimla Hill Queens	added 8 New Female Members
RC Doon Shivalik Hills	added 5 New Female Members
RC Nahan Sangini	added 5 New Female Members
RC Panipat South	added 5 New Female Members

UPCOMING ACTION

MEGA BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

**28 SEPTEMBER 2025
TO 4 OCTOBER 2025**

**BY ALL CLUBS OF
ROTARY DISTRICT 3080**

**FOR CREATING NEW RECORD FOR
MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CAMPS
AND MAXIMUM UNITS COLLECTED**



Answer of July's Question:
The Rotary Club of Winnipeg

QUESTION OF THE MONTH AUGUST 2025

Who pressed for adding
the keyway to the Rotary Wheel's
design,
what problem did it solve,
and
when was the design formally
described by Rotary?

answer in the next issue...

PUBLIC IMAGE AND MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR VISTAAR 2025 | DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

HOST: ROTARY CLUB DEHRADUN CENTRAL | 31 AUGUST 2025

Rain failed to play spoilsport at Vistaar - the Public Image & Membership Development Seminar! It was a day full of camaraderie and some amazing learning and fellowship.

The hosts RC Dehradun Central were geared up – in the lap of the Himalayas – the venue was nestled among the mountains!

Pitch black clouds had descended and there was a constant downpour halfway into the event. The hall was jam-packed with Rotarians and Annes. RI Director KP Nagesh, RPIC Z4

Subhash Kulkarni and ARMC Ghanshyam Kansal loved the event and the hospitality of the District. An amazing highlight was the collection of US\$ 50,000 from the district by RI Director KP Nagesh and a subsequent matching grant confirmation call from DGE Ravishankar Dakoju of Bengaluru for the Endowment Fund for Environmental Projects in the honour of Usha Ji & PRIP Raja Saboo. More than 650 Delegates and 22 RI Officers & their Partners were in attendance.



YOUTH SPOTLIGHT ROTARACT

Savidhi | Rotaract District Assembly 25-26

On 16th August, Rtr. Ritik Nagpal was ceremoniously installed as the District Rotaract Representative 2025-26 of Rotaract District 3080. The event also witnessed the formal installation and pinning of the District Rotaract Council, in the gracious presence of District Governor, Rtn. Ravi Prakash and District Rotaract Chairman Rtn. Amit Singhal.



The Rotaract Club of IMS Unison University Dehradun organized a highly effective 10-day "Road Safety Utsav" to instill safe driving practices within the campus community. Each day was centered on a specific theme, such as helmet safety, seatbelt use, and avoiding distracted driving. Students demonstrated their commitment through creative posters, reels, and slogans while pledging to follow road safety rules.



Street Skit on Fighting Drug Menace by Rotaract Club of GKNITM on International Youth Day

Ganpati Mahotsav 3080 was a resounding success, bringing together 11 Rotaract clubs from District 3080 in a celebration of unity and devotion for three days



Cleanliness Drive at New Sabzi Mandi grounds in Phase 11, Mohali, organized by Rotaract Club of Amity University, Punjab where more than 30 large bags of trash were collected.



Flood Relief Service by Rotaract Club Youth Ambala Central

CLUBS IN ACTION

RC AMBALA CENTRAL

Interact Club Formation



Independence Day Celebration at Govt. School



RC AMBALA DIAMOND

Independence Day Celebration at Arya School



RC BARARA

Blood Donation Camp



RC CHANDIGARH

Donation of Fruits to Girl Students



Heart Surgery of 3 Year Old



RC CHANDIGARH CENTRAL

Community Awareness Camp on Drug Deaddiction



Independence Day Celebration at Girls School



RC DEHRADUN CENTRAL

Mega Health Checkup Camp



Blood Donation Camp



Independence Day



Millets Awareness - Co Pilots



RC DEOBAND

School Bags – Nanhe Deepak



RC DOON SHIVALIK HILLS

Project Ujala



New Members Orientation



RC HARDWAR

Aid to Uttarkashi Flood Affected Area



Half Day RYLA at DPS



Blood Donation Camp



RC JIND MIDTOWN

RYLA Organized



RC KARNAL MIDTOWN

Computer Donation



Gau Seva / Poojan



RC KARNAL

Annapurna Day



Mega Tree Plantation – 101 Trees



Dental Checkup Camp



RC KHARAR

Plants Distribution



Eye Donation



RC LADWA

Fan Donated to Govt School



Computer, Bed etc. to Ashram



Independence Day Celebration



Kalaakriti – Youth Event



Family Trip to Kasauli - Fellowship



RC MOHALI MIDTOWN

Raksha Bandhan with Girls of Umeed Fdn.



Musical Tribute to Freedom Fighters



RC MORINDA

RYLA Organized



Cleanliness Drive



RC MUSSOORIE

Harela Campaign with ITBP



Gift of Care – Essentials for Newborns



RC NEW CHANDIGARH

Books & Almirah Donation to a School



Independence Day Celebration at Govt School



RC PANIPAT MIDTOWN

Ration Sewa



Green Jungle – Tree Plantation Initiative



RC PANIPAT SOUTH

Ambulance Flag Off



Scholarship



Donation of 5 Wheelchairs to the needy



Mega Blood Donation Camp



RC PAONTA SAHIB

RYLA Organized



Mega Blood Donation Camp



RC PAONTA SAKHI

Adolescence Awareness



Blood Donation Camp



Traffic and Rotary Awareness (TARA)



RC PARWANOO

Donation of Sitting Stools to Hospital



Mother & Child Care



Tree Plantation Drive



Nanhe Deepak – School Bag Project



Independence Day Celebration



Honoring Teachers



RC RISHIKESH DIVAS

Donation of Cooler



Blood Donation Camp



Friendship Day with Slum Children



Independence Day Celebration with Police



RC RISHIKESH CENTRAL

Nanhe Deepak – School Bag Project



RC RISHIKESH ROYAL

Financial Assistance for Medical Treatment and Education



Nanhe Deepak – School Bag Project



RC ROORKEE

Independence Day Celebrations



Financial Assistance to Ashram



RC ROORKEE CENTRAL

Festive Meet



Nanhe Deepak – School Bag Project



RC ROORKEE ELITE

RYLA Organized



Felicitating Postmen on Postman Day



RC ROORKEE MIDTOWN

Independence Day



Heart Surgery of 3YO



CPR Training @ School



Nanhe Deepak - Bags



RC ROORKEE UPPER GANGES

Nanhe Deepak – School Bags Project



Hemoglobin and Fruits Distribution at Girls School



RC ROPAR CENTRAL

Blood Donation Camps



Health Check-Up Camps



Cath Lab Installed



Dental Health Camp for Kids



Ration to Flood Victims



Drug Awareness Skit



RC SAHARANPUR CENTRAL

Tree Plantation



ROYAL SHAHABAD MARKANDA

Donation of Footballs to Girl Student Players



RC SAHARANPUR HARMONY

Janmashtmi Celebration



Independence Day Celebrations



RC SHAHABAD MARKANDA

Independence Day Celebration



Donation of Ceiling Fans



Water Cooler Installed



Dental Check-Up Camp



Tree Plantation



RC SILVERCITY MOHALI

Free Eye Check-Up Camp



Eye Surgery



Nanhe Deepak – School Bags Project



RC SHIMLA HILL QUEENS

Blankets Distribution at Hospital



TB Nutrition Kits



Tree Plantation



Legal Aid Camp



Sanitary Pads Distribution



Blood Donation with HPAP



Rakhi with Specially Abled



Independence Day Celebration



Webinar for Rotaractors



Track Suits



Nanhe Deepak – School Bags



Senior Citizen Day Celebrations



Cardiology Camp at Jail



Traffic Awareness Talk



Chairs for Jail Dispensary



Sports RYLA



RC SOLAN

Mega Tree Plantation Camp



RC THEOG HILLS

Donation for Hip Replacement Surgery



Raksha Bandhan with Nanhe Deepak



RC YAMUNANAGAR RIVIERA

Co Pilot Project by Anns at Civil Hospital



Tree Plantation Drive on Independence Day



CARVED IN STONE

Rotary is a microcosm of a world at peace, a model which nations will do well to follow.

- Paul P. Harris

ROTARY ACTION GROUPS

PEOPLE OF ACTION IN SPECIALISED SERVICE

Rotary gives us many ways to serve, and one of the most impactful platforms is through Rotary Action Groups (RAGs). RAGs are international, Rotary-affiliated groups of Rotarians, Rotaractors, family members, and experts who focus on specific areas of service and expertise. They provide technical assistance, share knowledge, and support clubs and districts in planning and implementing large-scale, sustainable projects. Examples include the Rotary Action Group for Family Health & AIDS Prevention, Water & Sanitation RAG, Disaster Relief RAG, Alzheimer's/Dementia RAG, and Environmental Sustainability RAG.

Unlike Rotary Fellowships, which are mainly about friendship and shared interests, RAGs are service-driven. They bring professionals and volunteers together to tackle global challenges in alignment with Rotary's areas of focus. By joining a RAG, members not only expand their professional networks but also amplify Rotary's impact across the world.

In short: RAGs transform Rotary's motto "Service Above Self" into meaningful action at a global scale.

37,500+ Rotary Action Group members in 150 countries

10,000+ Humanitarian service projects supported since 2009

US\$10 million+ Raised for service projects since 2009

In this issue, we highlight the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG). In upcoming issues of our GML, we will introduce you to more Rotary Action Groups, each dedicated to a vital humanitarian cause

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ROTARY ACTION GROUP (ESRAG)

ESRAG's mission is to empower Rotarians, Rotaractors, and partners across the globe to take collective action in sustaining our environment, reducing carbon footprints, and promoting eco-friendly practices that ensure a healthier planet for future generations.



ESRAG provides knowledge, tools, and inspiration for clubs and districts to design and implement impactful projects in line with Rotary's **seventh area of focus — Supporting the Environment**. These projects include:

- **Tree plantation and biodiversity conservation** to restore natural ecosystems.
- **Waste reduction and recycling initiatives** to minimize pollution and protect resources.
- **Renewable energy solutions** such as solar and wind power to promote clean energy.
- **Water conservation and pollution control measures** for healthier communities.
- **Awareness & education campaigns** to inspire communities to adopt sustainable lifestyles

Beyond providing resources, ESRAG serves as a **global platform for collaboration**. It connects like-minded Rotarians worldwide, enabling them to share project ideas, exchange best practices, and access technical expertise to scale their efforts. Through this international network, local environmental projects gain global visibility and support. By participating in ESRAG, every Rotarian has the opportunity to be part of a worldwide movement that not only protects our environment but also strengthens Rotary's commitment to "Service Above Self."

OLAYINKA HAKEEM BABALOLA

SELECTED TO BE 26-27 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Olayinka Hakeem Babalola, a member of the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria, **has been selected by the Board of Directors to become Rotary International's president for 2026-27.**

His term will begin on 1 July 2026.

The Board, guided by the RI code of policies, conducted a special session to select the organization's leader **after the resignation of RI President Elect SangKoo Yun, who decided to step back from his Rotary responsibilities** and focus on his recovery from recent cancer treatment.

Babalola began his Rotary journey in 1988 as a Rotaractor. He joined the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi six years later.



His leadership roles include serving as district governor (2011-12), RI vice president (2019-20), and member of the RI Board (2018-20). He was also an active leader and participant in RI committees such as the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee (2017-23) and the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee (2013-present, adviser 2016-present).

Babalola received a university degree in engineering in 1988. He has worked for 25 years in the oil and gas industry, holding senior positions in Shell PLC and carrying out projects on four continents. He is the founder of two companies: Riviera Services Ltd., an oil and gas infrastructure delivery company, and Lead and Change Consulting, an executive coaching and organizational performance advisory group.

Babalola's professional affiliations include the Nigerian Society of Engineers, the Institute of Safety Professionals, and the Association of Change Management Practitioners. He is a member of Jericho Business Club, an organization in his home city that provides input to governments on economic and social policy.

Babalola and his wife, Preba, live in the city of Port Harcourt. **He supports The Rotary Foundation with a named endowment and as an Arch Klumph Society member.** A trustee of ShelterBox UK and director of the Safe Blood Africa project, he is a recipient of the Africa Centennial Heroes Award, the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World, the RI Service Above Self Award, and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service.

The president of Rotary International serves a one-year term, presiding over the Board of Directors and providing inspirational leadership for the organization. As the spokesperson for the global network, the president visits clubs around the world to promote Rotary's values and represent the organization at major events. Rotary chooses its president from members who have demonstrated extensive leadership experience within Rotary, including service as a club president, district governor, and member of the Board.

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