

Rotary
The Nilgiris



President: Rtn Sunil Goyal
Secretary: Rtn Raja Venkatraman
Treasurer: Rtn Manish Jain

RI District 3203
Club No 15875
Chartered 1941

THE NILGIRI ROTARIAN

September 2024

Editor: Rtn Daksha Bhat

END POLIO NOW

one child affected

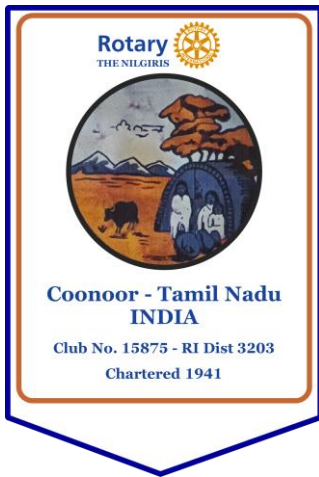
is one too many

Rotary
The Nilgiris



RB

President's Message



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As we conclude September, I feel immense pride and gratitude for our club's dedication to service and community improvement. This month has demonstrated the strength of Rotary's values as we expanded ongoing projects and took on new initiatives that positively impacted lives across the district.

Our **Eye Screening & Health Checkup Camps** reached the remotest villages in the Nilgiris

District, providing essential care to those in need. This service is a lifeline for many who lack access to such medical attention

We also partnered with **VG Hospital Coimbatore** and **Rotary Ootacamund** to conduct a comprehensive **health checkup camp at Ooty**, further reflecting the power of Rotary collaborations.

We proudly recognized & awarded the efforts of our **Interact Clubs**, whose enthusiasm and commitment continue to inspire us. These young leaders are becoming a force for positive change in their schools and communities. Additionally, the **Interactors of Laidlaw** participated in an international workshop on **environmental stewardship**, preparing to launch initiatives that promote renewable energy, waste management, and sustainability.

We also honored **Mrs. Geetha Lingaraj**, the dedicated spoken English teacher at Bettatti Panchayat Union Middle School, for her commendable work in empowering young minds through language skills.

A special moment was **Brig Hemant Paliwal's** inspiring presentation on his **Everest Base Camp trek**, a journey that highlighted the power of determination and perseverance.

Our participation in the **Swacchata hi Seva** cleanliness drive, led by the **Wellington Cantonment Board**, along with our efforts in **cleaning the Coonoor River** alongside **Clean Coonoor, HPCL, and Coonoor Municipality**, reaffirmed our environmental commitment.

Our club also actively participated in the **District Literacy Seminar**, reflecting Rotary's emphasis on education. We held **four regular meetings** and one **board meeting** this month, allowing us to further strategize and enhance the scope of our service projects.

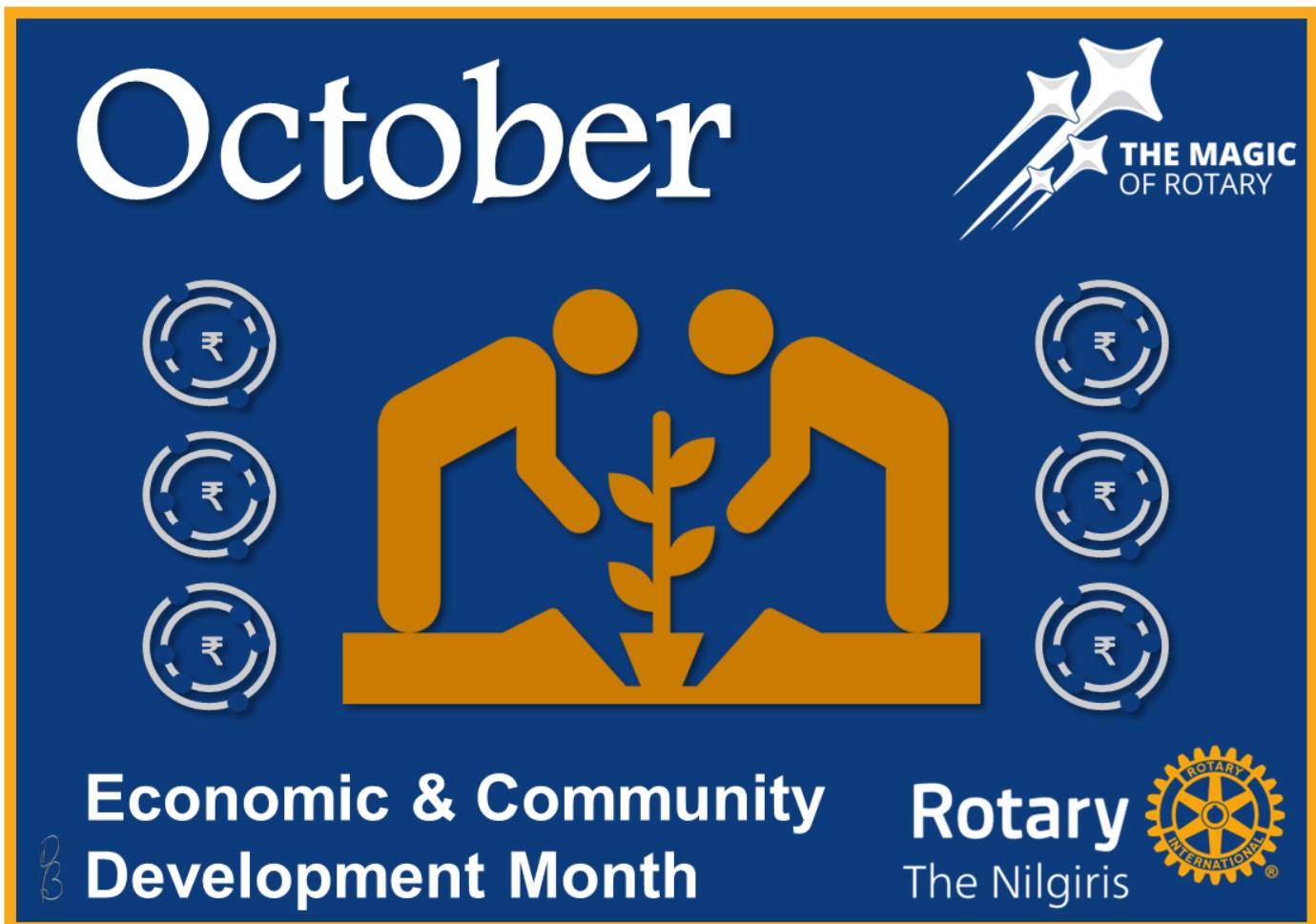
(cont...)

President's Message (cont...)

We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Sonalika Gadeock into our Rotary family, whose passion for service and commitment to community will undoubtedly enrich our collective efforts.

As we reflect on our accomplishments, I urge each of you to stay engaged and continue your valuable contributions. The road ahead is long, and the challenges are many, but with the collective energy of this wonderful club, we can achieve even greater heights and make a lasting impact on our community.

Yours in Rotary



October

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Economic & Community Development Month

Rotary The Nilgiris

Rotary International logo

Three rupee symbols (₹) arranged vertically on both sides of the central illustration.

Central illustration: Two stylized human figures in orange planting a sapling in a pot.

From the Editor's desk

Dear Fellow Rotarian,

World Polio Day, 24th October, was created by Rotary International to commemorate the birthday of Jonas Salk who led the first team to develop a polio vaccine.

Salk tested his experimental injectable, inactivated polio-virus vaccine on himself and his family in 1953, and a year later on 1.6 million children in Canada, Finland and the USA. The results were announced on 12 April 1955, and Salk's inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) was licensed on the same day. Six years later a "live" oral polio vaccine (OPV) was developed which became the vaccine of choice for immunization programmes across the globe.

In 1979 Rotary International initiated a multi-year project to immunize 6 million children in the Philippines to take on the disease, and in 1985 Polio Plus was launched to eradicate polio. A truly ambitious project, it has been called the first and largest internationally coordinated private sector support of a public health initiative.

Rotary International and the World Health Organization launched the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in 1988. National governments and CDC came together for the cause. The efforts were remarkable. From raising of funds, managing logistics, supply chains, people to outreach. In 1995 health workers and volunteers immunized a record 165 million children in China and India in 1 week. In 2010 India was removed from the list of polio endemic countries.

When PolioPlus was formed in 1985, polio paralyzed more than 1,000 children every single day across 125 polio-endemic countries. Because #VaccinesWork, today just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan remain polio-endemic. It is crucial to continue working to keep other countries polio-free. If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year.

As long as a single child remains infected, children in all countries are at risk of contracting polio. Failure to eradicate polio from these last remaining strongholds could result in a global resurgence of the disease. If we finish the job, polio will become the second human disease, after smallpox, to be wiped from the face of the earth.



From the Editor's desk (cont...)

Thanks to these efforts, more than 20 million people are able to walk today who would otherwise have been paralysed. An estimated 1.5 million childhood deaths have been prevented through the systematic administration of vitamin A during polio immunization activities.

The story of successful vaccination campaigns is not just one of creating facilities, raising funds and bringing together hundreds of people to administer the vaccines. Besides this, vaccine hesitancy also needs to be understood and addressed. In the age of social media the fast and free spread of misinformation is an additional challenge. Awareness campaigns that simplify the science, reiterate the benefits, build trust and clear doubts are an important part of vaccination programs.

I am proud to be part of a Rotary that has spearheaded this amazing campaign overcome challenges and brought us to a nearly polio free world. We are hopefully on the last lap to victory.

Yours in Rotary,

Daksha Bhat

THE FOUR WAY TEST



OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY, & DO

Is it
the
TRUTH

1 2

Is it
FAIR
to all concerned

Will it be
BENEFICIAL
to all concerned

3 4

Will it build
GOODWILL
& better friendships



2 Eye & Health Camp at Athigaratti

3 Board Meeting
Weekly Meeting

10 Weekly Meeting
Family Meeting

17 Weekly Meeting
Family & Speaker Meeting

19 Eye & Health Camp at Kotagiri

22 Eye & Health Camp at Kundah Kotagiri

23 Eye & Health Camp at Horasholai

24 Weekly Meeting

27 Weekly Meeting
Family Meeting
Swachhta hi Sewa Drive

28 River Cleaning with Clean Coonoor

29 Health Camp with RC Ootacamund

Awards

Our club is the proud recipient of the Rotary Citation award that recognizes work throughout the year. The credit goes to everybody who helped achieve our club goals.

2023-24 ROTARY CITATION



Awarded to the Rotary Club of

The Nilgiris

for helping **Rotary create hope in the world.**

R. Gordon R. McNally
President, Rotary International



Dear 2023-24 Club President,

Congratulations! Your club has earned the Rotary Citation, the most significant award a Rotary club can achieve, for 2023-24. This past year, your club demonstrated a commitment to achieve its goals, which ultimately helps strengthen Rotary and shape our future.

Once again, congratulations on a successful year as club president!

Sincerely,
Gordon R. McNally
2023-24 RI President

ONE ROTARY CENTER
1560 SHERMAN AVENUE
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201-3698 USA
ROTARY.ORG

Talk - Everest Base Camp Trek



The Everest Base Camp Trek is one of the most iconic and well-known treks in the world. Rtn Brigadier Hemant Paliwal completed the 130 kms trek in May walking an average of 10 kms a day in tough conditions. A most commendable achievement. He shared his experience with club members with a presentation and talk in which he spoke about the trek. The evenings after the daily treks gave him opportunity to contemplate and reflect, and he shared the factors that he found were conducive to success in any venture.

Some Take Aways

- Always have Insurance
- Communication is important
- Take the First Step
- Prepare well
- Pause when needed
- Pace yourself

Elevation

5,364 m	Everest Base Camp
4,940 m	Lobuche
4,410 m	Dingboche
3,985 m	Pangboche
3,440 m	Namche Bazar
2,800 m	Lukla
1,850 m	Coonor

New Member Induction



Asst. Governor Rtn Zubair Ahmed, inducted Mrs Sonalika Gadeock as a member of our Rotary Club. Rtn Diana Bharucha welcomed her with the Rotary Lapel Pin.



Mrs Geeta Lingaraj of Bettati School who was awarded the Dr Radhakrishnan Award for her contribution to improving education was felicitated with Rotary India Literacy Mission's Nation Builders Award, handed over by Rtn Javrilal

"Success is not measured by wealth, but by the positive impact you have on others."

– Paul Harris



02/09 @ Athigaratty

Total screening : 54

Defective : 24

Cataract : 4

Retina : 1

Pterygium : 2

Glasses Provided: 15

19/09 @ Kotagiri Taluk Office

Total screening : 86

Defective : 39

Cataract : 5

Pterygium: 2

Retina : 2

Glasses Provided: 17



23/09 @ Kundah Kotagiri

Total screening : 48

Defective : 17

Cataract : 3

Retina : 2

Glasses Provided: 6



22/09 @ Horasholai

Total screening : 87

Defective : 39

Cataract : 7

Pterigyem : 2

Retina : 1

Glasses Provided: 21



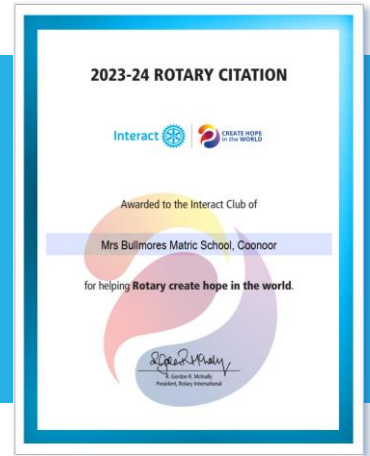
Rtn Colaso with the Secretary Rotary Club Ooty, and the Doctors, Nurses and Supporting Staff of V.G. Hospital, Coimbatore, at Health Camp held at Anandhagiri YMCA, Ooty. *29th Sep*



Cleaning the river at Jubilee Bridge. Rotarians with volunteers of Clean Coonor, CMC Sanitary Workers and HP officials. *28th Sep*

CITATION PRESENTATION

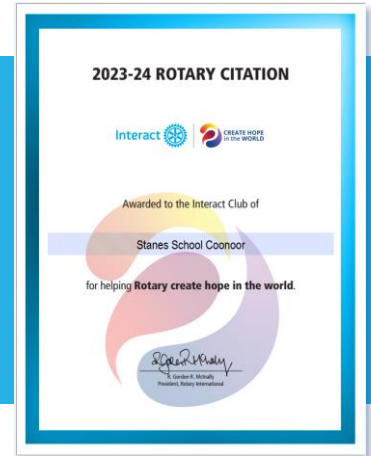
Interact 
Mrs Bullmores Matric School
Coonor



ACTIVITIES

- Spent time with the elderly at Little Sisters of the Poor's Sagayamatha Home, providing sweets and essentials.
- Organized an eye camp for students and teachers at the school.
- Distributed food to homeless individuals in Coonor.
- Removed lantana weeds from their respective areas.
- Celebrated Environment Day by giving a speech and planting fruit trees in the school garden.
- Cleaned the school campus to promote cleanliness.
- Planted medicinal plants in the school garden and tree saplings in public areas.
- Provided provisions to the home for the aged.
- Raised funds to assist two students in paying their school fees.
- Spent time with the physically challenged at Nanjanad, offering provisions and entertainment.

CITATION PRESENTATION

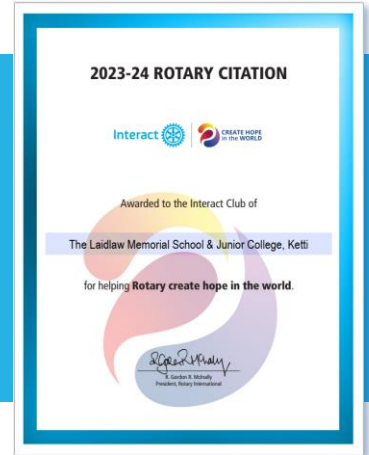


ACTIVITIES

- A poster competition on water conservation, which saw 40 participants vying for three prizes.
- A tree planting drive in collaboration with the school, where 1,500 tree saplings were distributed to students on Children's Day.
- A comprehensive talk on health and hygiene by Dr. Samantha, covering physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being.
- A garment collection drive, which yielded more than 4600 items distributed to tribal villages in the Gudalur district in collaboration with the NGO Palm Island
- A Joy of Giving Week celebration, where we
- extended warm clothing to the elderly in a village.
- Organized a fete to raise funds for purchasing stationery items, books, pens, and school bags for the tribal village, supporting their educational journey.
- Hosted a lunch get-together as a social activity, fostering bonding and camaraderie among Interactors, promoting a sense of community and teamwork.

CITATION PRESENTATION

Interact 
The Laidlaw Memorial School
& Junior College, Ketti



ACTIVITIES

- Participation in Rotary competitions, winning the Green Picnic Award 2024 and a slogan contest.
- Visits to tribal villages, Christmas celebrations at old age homes, and support for Wayanad landslide victims.
- Awareness programs on child rights, POCSO Act, gender equality, and road safety.
- Support for cancer, pulmonary fibrosis, leprosy, and brain tumor patients.
- Campus cleaning and menstrual hygiene programs.
- Organized an art exhibition raising Rs. 63,532 for intellectually disabled children at Rotary ASHIA Home, Ooty.
- Conducted a nutritional awareness program for pregnant and lactating women
- Tree planting, a sustainable lifestyle workshop, and plans for future eco-friendly initiatives.
- Providing essential groceries and educational materials for intellectually disabled, hearing-impaired, and visually impaired children.
- Financial contributions towards surgeries for children with cleft palate and lip.

October

Birthdays

- 01 Rtn Colaso Jayprakas
Ann Lorraine Spouse of Rtn Norman Wood
- 02 Rtn Dr. Trilok S. Chhabra
- 04 Rtn Daksha Bhat
Rtn Javrilal Parekh
- 05 Rtn Siva Kumar
- 06 Annet Dhanya D/o Rtn Raman Menon
- 09 Ann Pio Lidwin Spouse of Rtn Mohan Kumar
- 13 Annet Tina D/o Rtn Stephen Jayaseelan
- 21 Annet Theophilus S/o Rtn Colaso Jeyprakas
Rtn Pradeep Pandiaraj
- 26 Annet Vishnu D/o of Rtn. R. Muralidharan
- 29 Annet Tresa Jennifer Antony D/o Rtn. Colaso Jeyprakas

Anniversaries

- 26 Rtn Pradeep Pandiaraj