

HILLECHOES



Special
Inaugural
Issue

Stephanie Urchick
RI President RY 24-25

Dinesh Mehta
District Governor RY24-25

Harshad Divekar
Club President RY24-25

A. S. Kumar
Club Secretary RY24-25

Rotary



THE FOUR-WAY TEST
of the things we think, say or do

- ① Is it the **TRUTH**?
- ② Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- ③ Will it build **GOODWILL** & **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- ④ Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Rotary Club of Thane Hills – An overview

Date of Charter - May 20, 1991.

Number of members - 120 .

Name of the Charitable Trust : Triumph Foundation



Landmark Service Projects by RCTH

- Earthen Dam Project at Shirol
 - Tribal Employment Scheme
 - Self-employment Centre for Destitute women at Prem Daan at Airoli, New Mumbai
 - Triumph Garden at Jidd School
 - Triumph Run
 - Infrastructure for Vocational Training in Special School
 - Upgradation of Crematorium at Thane
 - Career Training Centre at Holy Cross Convent Special school at Thane
 - Infrastructural Assistance to Tribal school, Utavali Village, Wada.
 - Triumph Blood Bank and Thalassemia Day-care centre
 - 'Right to Go' – building Toilet blocks for villagers in Sogav.
 - Check dams at Shahpur and Murbad
 - 'Virtual eye' – a learning tool for visually-impaired
 - Pediatric Heart surgeries
 - 'Mission for Vision' – Eye sight corrective surgeries
 - Hamari Pari – Installation of sanitary pad machines in schools
 - Rotarian Rakesh Wadhawan Memorial Education Complex at Shenve village,
 - Check dams at Ambadi and Umroli in Shahpur
 - JV between Triumph Foundation and Seetabai Gadgil Trust Eye Care Centre
 - V.Subramanian Autism Centre
 - 5000 Girls Vaccinated against Cervical Cancer - Supported by Aditya Birla Group
- AND Many more significant projects**



Stephanie Urchik
RI President

RI President's Message



Stephanie A. Urchick
President, 2024-25
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22 February 2024

Dear fellow Rotary leaders:

As we begin a new year of service, let us not forget the importance of every one of Rotary's members.

We need your leadership now more than ever if we are to make every club and district an irresistible experience. Rotary has a chance to capture the world's attention and realize possibilities beyond our expectations. But we must build on the work that has come before us if we are to reach our goals, such as defeating polio and unlocking the power of girls and women.

Rotary offers people of action a chance to connect and find belonging, and this fellowship gives us the potential to improve our communities and the world. By following Rotary's Action Plan and helping make sure all members feel a sense of belonging in their club, you have a special opportunity to inspire members to new heights of service.

Our ability to create lasting change begins with our family of Rotary. Together, it is within our power to bring healing in a divided world.

Join me in making Rotary a source of strength for those who need it most, within and beyond our membership. Let this be the year we harness *The Magic of Rotary*, and let Rotary be known as an organization that takes care of its members as well as the people we serve.

It is within your power to help make Rotary a beacon of goodwill and fellowship in every community.

Remember that your work can and will change the world with *The Magic of Rotary*.

Warm regards,

Stephanie A. Urchick
Rotary International President, 2024-2025



Dinesh Mehta
District Governor , Dist. 3142

Governor's Message

Dear Awesome President and members of the Rotary Club of Thane Hills

Greetings to all of you!!!

As we approach the end of another remarkable and Excellent Rotary Year, we prepare to welcome new leadership and embrace fresh opportunities to serve. Rotary's strength lies in its ability to adapt, evolve and inspire through the commitment of its members.

July 1st, 2024 marks the advent of a new Rotary year - the Awesome Year.

It was legendary American President Abraham Lincoln who said " If you give me six hours to chop down a tree, I will spend the first four hours sharpening the axe " This is what Rotary Learning Facilitates for all of us. It prepares us for the Leadership role we are about to take on in the new Rotary Year.

Let's begin the year with renewed energy and dedication. We now have goals and plans in place and it is now time to execute them to perfection.

Friends, Only if there is Magic in Rotary, will you find it awesome to be a Rotarian and only through Awesome service will there be Magic in Rotary. I urge you, therefore to develop an Awesome Mindset for yourself to create the Magic in Rotary

The District has designed an awesome 31 Ready Made Projects , which every Club is free to choose from ; These are

1. The Eight MEGA Projects
2. The First Lady led COLS CPR Project
3. TB MUKT RID 3142, An initiative of GOI
4. The unique 12 Amrit Mahotsav Challenges
5. The Mega Mental Health, unique, initiative
6. The Eight JDS led Events
7. The Annapurna Project that commences 1st July 2024

In addition, in our drive to create Magic in Rotary, we should strive to ensure that every Rotarian donates at least \$ 75 to the Rotary Foundation and entuses atleast one new member to ask to be invited to join Rotary

The Key is not the Will to Win, ... everybody has that. To be a Winner, you must Plan to win, prepare to win and expect to win and to remember that Success is not final, Failure is not fatal but it is the courage to continue that counts.

I truly believe that nothing of major significance is achieved by doing small acts of kindness. It is though impactful projects that make a substantial and visible difference to the life of the community that Rotary will truly gain respect.

As President, learn to embrace the journey, trust the process and believe in your abilities. Dream Big, work hard and surround yourself with good people.

Always remember that the only impossible journey is the one you never began and that what you do has far greater impact than what you say

Jyoti joins me in wishing you and the members of the Rotary Club Thane Hills a truly AWESOME Year.

Yours truly

Dinesh Mehta

Dist Governor, RID 314



Harshad Divekar
Club President

Let the Magic begin !

Dear fellow Hillers,

As I step into the role of President for the Rotary Club of Thane Hills, I am filled with gratitude and determination. Thank you for entrusting me with this leadership position—a responsibility I accept with humility and enthusiasm.

Our club stands on the shoulders of past leaders, each one raising the bar, and I pledge to build upon their legacy. This year, our focus is clear: delivering an **Awesome member experience**. How do we create an environment where every Rotarian thrives? How do we drive engagement in a club that is 120 strong and growing? Let's explore three key pillars:

1. Fun and Fellowship: Our weekly meetings are getting a vibrant makeover. Expect fantastic speakers, fresh subjects, and engaging formats. We will collaborate with Rotary fellowships like IFRM, IFCR, and RMB to design dedicated events for the club—whether it's a musical nite or a spirited sports day. And our grand festival nites promise unforgettable evenings of camaraderie.

2. Service Amplified: We are committed to scaling up our existing projects. From the ongoing blood bank, autism center, Virtual Eye, and check dams initiatives to new endeavors like Project Samwardhanam for dry waste, Annapurna, and Samvidhan Chetana, our impact will be felt far and wide. Notably, we aim to build a vocational training center for special children at Holy Cross School—a testament to our unwavering commitment to the cause of special children.

3. Effective Communication: The heart of our communication lies within these very pages, in Hill echoes. Let's share stories, updates, and achievements. Beyond the printed bulletin, we'll enhance our social media presence, reaching a wider audience and inspiring others to join our cause. We will reach out to you for 'Vocational Minute' a unique initiative to to know what we do in our professional lives.

But our success hinges on your participation and involvement. Attend our weekly meetings, dive into projects, support a cause financially, or help grow the club by recruiting new members. In short, let's all get involved to experience the magic of Rotary firsthand. Together, we'll make this year one of fulfillment, friendship, and impactful service.

Yours in Rotary,

Harshad Divekar

**President,
Rotary Club of Thane Hills**



Subramanian Kumar
Club Secretary

Being Hiller !

My heartiest greetings to all the Hillers, Anns, Annas and Annettes and a warm welcome to the Awesome Rotary Year. As I assume the responsibility of the Club Secretary for the Awesome Rotary Year 2024-25, I extend my gratitude to all the Hillers for their support and warmth in my journey so far at RCTH.

Four summers ago, at the peak of covid pandemic, my visit to Triumph Blood Bank to donate blood for Thalassaemia children was one of the most humbling experiences of my life, that made me believe in the famous quote “Alone we can do so little, but together we can so much” (Helen Keller). In a couple of weeks, thanks to our Poet and Charter Member Dr Suhas, I became an Hiller.

In my short tenure in the club, I have realised that while Rotary epitomises the “Art of Giving” , Hillers symbolise the “Heart for Giving”. I would also reckon that a Hiller always carry the Pride of a Rotarian in her mind and the Attitude of a Hiller in his heart. I can’t help but recall one of our legendary Hillers Sharath Ail’s saying that Hillers have “A Tees Maar (Kh)CAN” attitude.

- Hillers Never Quit
- Hillers Always Summit

The legend of RCTH is extraordinary - whether it is our projects or our leaders. Our project ideas are unique and diverse. Our processes and compliances are uncompromising. Our leaders are inspiring. Let’s reflect on the tagline of RCTH : “ Bringing Leaders Together”. Over 30 years , if RCTH has retained its leadership position in conceptualising and executing social projects of significant scale it is only because of its leaders. We just don’t Bring leaders together, “We Upbring Leaders” who takes the legend of RCTH to newer heights and glory year after year.

The legend of being a Hiller is a responsibility and a challenge that has helped me evolve as a better human being by enabling me and my family to respond to the needs of underprivileged in a more organised manner. Am sure, that all the Hillers would share similar sentiments.

As Club Secretary I commit myself to contribute to further the Legend of RCTH and Magic Of Rotary, I look forward to all the camaraderie from hillers family in serving humanity and serving nature to the best of our ability.

To Triumph is the essence and foundation of Hillers. To be Awesome would be a tribute to Excellent(ce).

Yours in Rotary

AS Kumar

Club Secretary



Govind Khetan

Club President RY 2023-24

Best Wishes !

Dear Hillers,
Greetings !

It was an absolute honour and privilege for me to lead Rotary Club of Thane Hills during RY 2023-24 as your President.

RC Thane Hills is an organisation with a glorious past and an exciting future. I looked at my role purely as a custodian, a proud custodian of the glorious heritage of our illustrious club. Over the last year, we built on our inherent strengths but also took on new challenges, new directions.

Friends .. Rotary is changing, we are changing, the aspirations and expectations of our members are evolving all the time.

I would like to thank my team in the Board of Directors. You brought a lot of energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to the Board.

Would like to extend my warm congratulations and my best wishes to incoming President Rtn Harshad Divekar and his team as they prepare to take up the responsibilities and challenges of club leadership in RY 2024 -25.

My dear Hillers,

“Our compassion and our ability to open our hearts to those in need ,combined with our commitment to share our time, talent, and treasures with those who are less fortunate .. is what causes ordinary Rotarians such as ourselves to do the extraordinary things that we do. It’s what makes Rotary so magical “

अपने हौसलों पर जो ऐतबार करते हैं ,
मंज़िलें खुद पते बताती हैं, रास्ते इंतज़ार करते हैं।

Thank you very much !!!

Regards

Govind



Rajeev Tipnis
Bulletin Editor

RCTH Rocks !

Dear Hillers

The New Year in Rotary is just beginning. By the time you go through this special inaugural Issue of Hill Echoes 24-25 , it may be 1st July and thus the beginning of a fresh Rotary year.

The Rotary Club of Thane Hills is now entering into its 34th Year of existence . We have now grown into a matured young club of 33 years.

I joined RCTH in 1997 and since then RCTH has been an integral part of my life and my family. I cannot imagine life with out RCTH . For many of us who have been with this club for last so many years, RCTH is a habit. and habits die hard.

Many have given their time, efforts and money to bring this club to this level that we can be proud of. We have had all presidents in the past who were truly committed and worked hard to make their respective years memorable in some way or the other. Over the years, we together did some very large service projects in all avenues - Community service, Vocational service, International service as well as Youth Service. I have listed some of the land mark projects carried out by our club in the past on the second page of this bulletin. This list is certainly not exhaustive but long enough to make all of us proud of our collective efforts.

But what makes our club special is the 'Club Service' in RCTH. We have a special bonding amongst ourselves because we all believe in serving our club. There is never a vacant position of any club officer in the history of our club. Our members are always ready to take up the responsibilities of club administration and also managing various other service avenues. The desire to serve the community is the real glue that bonds us all together and then, we also have a lot of fun. Our family nights are the talk of the town and all those non Hillers, who get invited to our parties cherish the memories.

Let us congratulate President Govind for another extraordinary year that he added to the bank of Thane Hills. Club Secretary Anagha was a shining star on the horizon.

Please join me in complimenting our New President - Harshad Divekar and Club Secretary Kumar for taking up the mantle of RCTH leadership. We are sure that they will carry the legacy of our club with all grace and ease, with the support from each and every member of our club and their families.

Let us all look forward to another great year RY 24-25 .

Rajeev Tipnis

Club Bulletin Editor 24-25
rajeevtipnis@gmail.com

Board of Directors - RY 24-25



Harshad Divekar
President



A S Kumar
Club Secretary



Vasant Bhat
Treasurer



Bijay Yadav
Club Trainer



Anindya D
Vice President



Govind Khetan
Peace & Intl



Sameer Limaye
PN - Vocational



Dr. Radhikha B
CSR



Varsha Likhite
Membership



Suni Gwalani
Engagement



Vijay Shetty
Special Projects



Jayaram Mendon
TRF



Kalita S
Club Admin



Madhumita G
Skill Development



Dr Anagha K
Disease Prevention



Saket Gadkari
Youth Services



Pawan Adnani
Education



Satish Shetty
Environment



Sujit Gawayi
Water & Sanitation



Shrirang Date
Public Relations



Sujit Uchil
Seargent at Arms



**President
Nominee**



Dr Uday Gadgil
Eye Surgery



Nilesh Pitale
Blood Bank &
Thalassemia



Prashant Ojha
Anna Purna



Aalpa Shah
Waste Management



**Adv. Sanjiv
Deshpande**
Samidhan
Chetana



Senthil Kumar
Autism Cetre

We're ready

We have learned !

The Rotary Club of Thane Hills is well-prepared for the upcoming year with a comprehensive training regimen successfully completed. The President and Secretary have participated in essential learning seminars including PETS/SETS, as well as various leadership training programs. Moreover, the Board of Directors has completed the Directors Orientation Program (DOP), and several members have engaged in the District Learning Assembly (DLA).

Pre PETS -



President-Elect Learning



RCTH Organised PETS / SETS for the Awosome Year

Learning at Rotary Leadership Institute - South Asia



Directors' orientation program



District Learning Assembly



Let's have an Impact...

8.5K HPV vaccination

As part of Empowher program against Cervical Cancer

150 Autistic Children

Support with new Vocational training center at Holy Cross

80 Thalassemia Kids

Support Blood Transfusions From Triumph Blood Bank

1K+ Autistic Children

Trained with latest Therapies at V.Subramanian Autism Center

50K Trees Planted

With support from TMC under XX Program

2K+ NAT Blood

Saving lives in community , from Triumph Blood Bank

5 Check Dams

Check Dams for Rural Communities

1.5K Special Children

Have a special day during Triumph Run .

8 Addiction talks

Awareness programs in Schools on Mobile and Drug Addiction

30K Meals

Meals to underprivileged under our Annapoorna Program

We continue to do...



Good in the world

1 Camp

For Polio Corrective surgeries in rural Maharashtra

12 Blood camps

and Thalassemia Awareness talks

15 engaged Corporates

With our Annual BizQuest

250 aware Children

about wild life conservation with SaevUS EcoQuiz

13 Virtual Eye Sites

Empowering xx blind children

4L in Scholarships

To support education of deserving underprivileged

100 Cataract Surgeries

With support of Dr Gadgil Eye Hospital

50T Plastic Waste

Safely Disposed with our Project Samvadardhanam

4 Samvidhan Chetana

Constitution Awareness program for Children & Adult

And many more projects

Calendar for July 2024

JULY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 June Installation	1 Annapoorna Day	2 1st BOD meet	3 Blood Donation- Fortress	4 Club Assembly	5 Annapurna- Yogi Hills	6 Blood Donation- Reliance
7	8	9	10	11 Speaker Meeting	12	13
14 Books Donation- Nashik School	15 Tree Plantation	16	17	18 MLM – Story Telling	19	20
21 Know Your Numbers + Blood Donation	22	23	24	25 Speaker Meeting	26 Kargil Vijay Diwas	27
28	29 Tree Plantation	30	31			

Learning in Rotary

Because Learning never stops !

in Rotary too ...

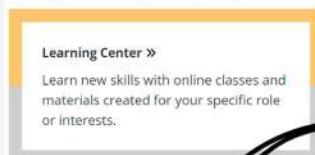
We recommend!

Please try it ...

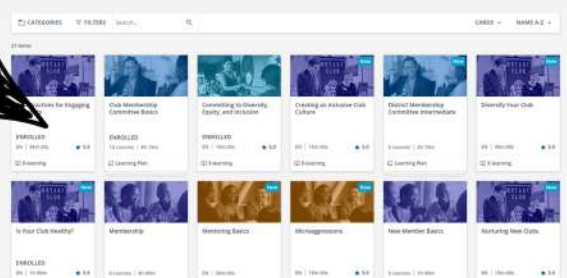
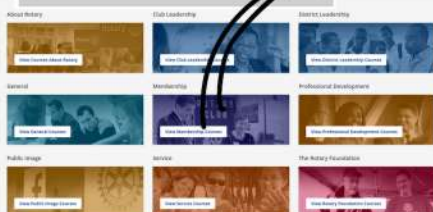
1. Register on rotary.org as Rotarian from RCTH

2. Log on to - <https://my.rotary.org/en/>

3. Click on



4. Select from a large menu of learning courses



Each of these sections will have multiple topics

Keep doing these nicely designed courses when you have time !