



Rotary
Thane Hills

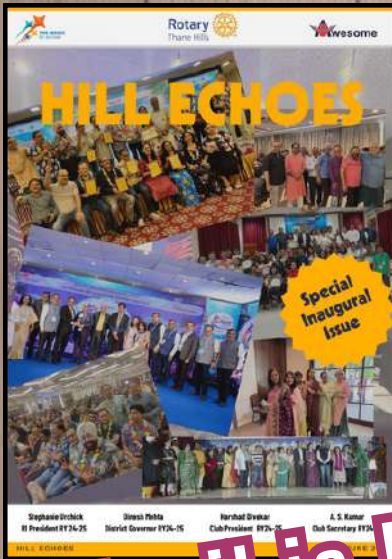


HILL ECHOES

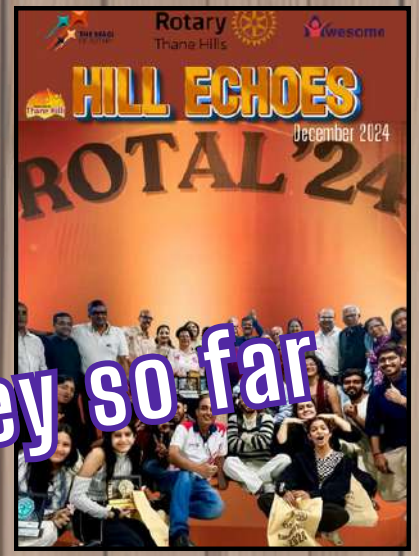
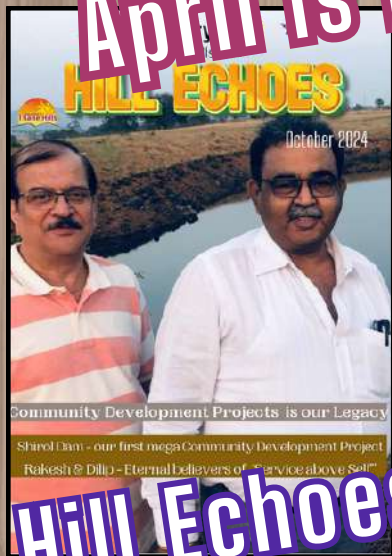
APRIL 2025



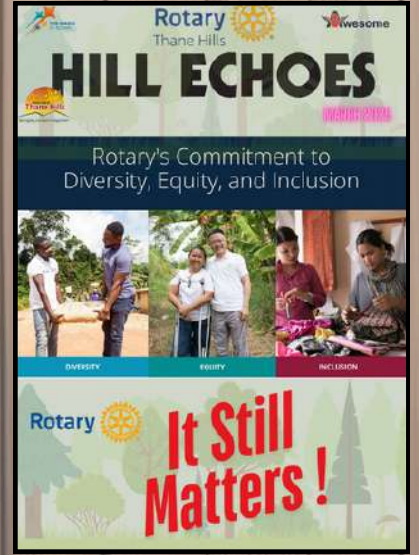
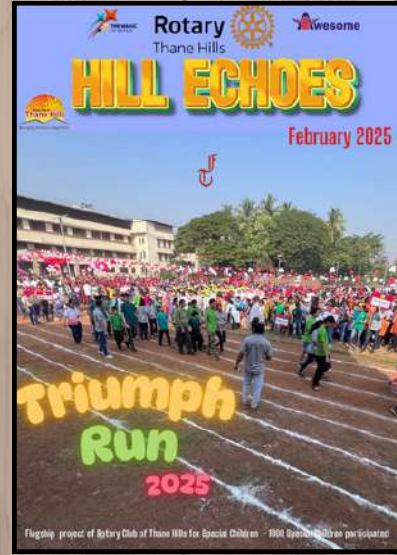
Bringing Leaders Together



April is Rotary - Magazine Month



Hill Echoes 24-25 - Journey so far





Rotary
Thane Hills



APRIL 2025

APRIL DESIGNATION IS

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH



Photo by Alyce Henson © Rotary International. Design layout by Gilbert Tinker Rotary Club of Miri.

“Every child deserves a chance at a life filled with love, laughter, friends and family.”

Marlo Thomas



TAKE ACTION: Join Rotary, Get Involved



Child and mother care is a vital focus area of Rotary, aiming to reduce maternal and infant mortality through improved healthcare access, education, and nutrition. Rotary supports initiatives that provide essential medical services, prenatal care, immunizations, and awareness programs, ensuring healthier lives for mothers and children in vulnerable communities worldwide.

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

Monthly Bulletin of
Rotary Club of Thane Hills
District 3142
Club ID : 28046

Rajeev Tipnis
Bulletin Editor



Happy and Prosperous FY 25-26

The New Financial Year 2025-26 has just begun. It coincides with the Hindu Calendar New Year too. Which proves that India had a wisdom to begin the new year just before the start of Monsoon - thus a new chapter for new earnings and new trade !

The Hindu New Year, celebrated with vibrant traditions across India, marks a time of renewal, joy, and cultural unity. Known as Gudi Padwa in Maharashtra, Ugadi in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, and Cheti Chand among Sindhis, this festival ushers in the spring season and the start of the lunar calendar.

the New Year symbolizes fresh beginnings, prosperity, and spiritual reflection. It is a beautiful reminder of India's rich cultural diversity and the shared hope for a bright, fulfilling year ahead.

We meet every Thursday at 7.30 PM
at
Savitri Devi Thirani School,
Vartak Nagar , Thane

ROTH-INSIDE



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*RCTH received RI Citation for *100 % club members' contribution* to the TRF Annual Fund during RY 2023 - 24.*

This prestigious citation was received on behalf of our club by our Excellent President, IPP Govind Khetan.

ROTARY CLUB OF THANE HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 24-25

| | |
|------------------------|--|
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| Senthil Kumar | Autism Center |
| Prashant Ojha | Annapurna |
| Sanjiv Deshpande | Samvidhan Chetana |
| Nilesh Pitale | Blood Donation Camps & Thalessemia |



Rajeev Tipnis Bulletin Editor

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April is the designated month for Rotary Magazine. PP Atul Bhide always enlightens us with the deep information about Rotary and in this issue he has explored the journey of this magazine since 1930 - when the first issue of this Rotary News was published Till its present day avatar with a very wide circulation.

Time is really flying. I was given a responsibility by President Harshad to bring out the monthly Hill Echoes, 10 months have passed and this is the tenth issue of Hill Echo in the current Rotary year.

The cover of this issue of Hill Echoes depicts the front page glims of all the previous nine issues just to stimulate the desire in the minds of my fellow hillers to scan through the past issues and take a moment to ponder upon what we have Collectively achieved during the year that is soon going to end in next three months.

I think we have achieved a lot as far as fellowship, service as well as TRF contribution is concerned. I am really proud of being a Hiller.

As usual we have very interesting contributions from Atul, Sarita, Madhumita, Inner when President - Neena and Rotaract President Omkar and PR director - Sayali. I thank them for supporting me in making Hill Echo truly reflect the sound of our club. Thank you once again and Happy reading.

Rajeev Tipnis

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TRIUMPH FOUNDATION

The charitable trust of Rotary Club
of Thane Hills

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Rtn. A.S.Kumar
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Rtn. Govind Ketan
Rtn. Samir Limaye



INSIGHTS & REFLECTIONS

ROTARY CLUB OF THANE HILLS: A LEGACY OF SERVICE IN WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

Harshad Divekar

Club President 24-25



Access to clean water and proper sanitation is essential for public health, economic development, and overall well-being. In many parts of the world, including India, communities face challenges in securing these basic needs. Waterborne diseases, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene contribute to high morbidity and mortality, especially among children. Recognizing these urgent needs, Rotary International has made Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) one of its core focus areas. The goals include equitable access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation facilities, and hygiene education to foster healthier communities.

The Rotary Club of Thane Hills has been committed to enhancing WASH since the early 1990s. Our first major project was the Earthen Dam at Shirol, Shahpur, Thane, Maharashtra, in partnership with the Zilla Parishad of Thane and funded by the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana. Despite challenges, the project's successful completion marked a defining moment for our club, setting the stage for future impactful work.

Among our flagship initiatives is the Right to Go project— a Rotary Foundation Global Grant collaboration with the Rotary Club of

Cherry Hills, USA. Since 2013, this effort has built 792 individual toilet blocks in rural homes, significantly improving sanitation and public health in the region.

Our Check Dam Project, started in 2015 and funded by the Deutsche Bank CSR Foundation, is another key contribution. We have built 15 check dams in Murbad district, enabling two villages to become water self-sufficient year-round. These dams ensure a steady water supply and sustainable water conservation.

In the area of menstrual hygiene, our Hamari Pari initiative supports underprivileged schoolgirls by installing sanitary pad vending machines and conducting awareness sessions. Five sessions were conducted this year on menstrual hygiene and good touch/bad touch, organized by Ann Radhika and led by Dr. Supriya, new member Dr. Geeta, and Dr. Rajalaxmi, significantly enhancing awareness and school attendance.

Currently, we are completing two check dam renewal projects at Vandre village, involving desilting and rebuilding a non-functional dam. With a ₹29 lakh outlay, this will benefit over 1,200 villagers. Funding came from PP Anindya

(Solar Turbines), PP Atul Bhide (RC Cherry Hills and RC Santa Monica), and support from PP Nilesh Puranik, PP Ravi, PP Vijay, and PE Samir. Execution is in partnership with Vasundhara Sanjeevani.

We also completed construction of toilet blocks and beautification work at a happy school in Sogav through a district grant, led by PP Atul, PP Nilesh, and IPP Govind.

Our newest project focuses on upgrading sanitation facilities in schools. Upon a request from the Zilla Parishad, we identified 7 of 17 targeted Gram Panchayat schools for Phase 1. Spearheaded by PP Atul, who raised \$25,000 from RC Santa Monica, the project represents a public-private partnership with the ZP contributing 45% and our club 55%. Last week, we inaugurated the first school where four new toilets (two each for boys and girls) and urinals for boys were constructed to replace an old, dilapidated structure. PP Atul and PP Nilesh have played leading roles in execution.

Through these meaningful and sustained efforts, the Rotary Club of Thane Hills continues to uphold the spirit of service and create a lasting impact in the community.

SECRETARIAL MUSINGS!

“LET US GET READY FOR THE LAST MILE”

A.S.Kumar

Club Secretary 24-25



Dear Hillers,

It is April and we have entered into the last quarter of this Rotary Year.

So far it has been a very satisfactory year for me and I am very thankful to you all hillers for the overwhelming support and commitment displayed by each one of you under the leadership of President Harshad.

The Month of March was truly a project month. We kick started the School Sanitation project (construction of toilets and other facilities) with the help of a generous grant of US \$ 25,000 received from Rotary Santa Monica - thanks to our PP Atul Bhide - who is a go getter and

Whose Commitment is exemplary.

He also followed up with the district administration for a private public partnership project.

Rotary DISCON was an astounding success and we had a great opportunity to interact with Rotarians from not only our district but also from District 3141 who were part of one district 3140 till 2017.

Our Cirvical cancer vaccination program is going at a good pace, thanks to the undeterred support from our mentor - Shri Ashok Mahajan ji and also from Aditya Birla group of companies.

Check Dam project ; Annapurna ; Sogav School and so many other major and valuable service projects continue to make advances as planned.

Friends , Our OCV (official Club Visit of the District Governor) is scheduled for 12th April and we are all ready to receive our DG to our club for a review and update of the service that we have collectively rendered to the society at large. I am sure , we at Thane Hills will showcase our wealth of experience and track record of service and fellow ship to the DG. Wishing you a great time ahead.



Congratulations!

Keep doing services above self, Vijay !

PP Vijay Shetty has been appointed as a permanent trustee of the Dharmaveer Anand Dighe Cancer Hospital, the largest cancer hospital in Maharashtra with 650 beds.

The Trust also does following service activities.

1. A 100 bed Shree Mahavir Jain Hospital in Thane.
2. Nursing College imparting Bsc (Nursing), GNM & ANM
3. Dharmaveer Anand Dighe Cancer Hospital (upcoming) it is a 1200 crore facility for Cancer treatment and will be the largest once it is operational.
4. Upcoming International school at Uthalsar etc.

RCTH would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to Vijay Shetty on this remarkable achievement and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.



Rotary News Magazine, a journey.

In Rotary, April is designated as "Magazine Month".

The exciting journey of 'Rotary News' magazine in India.



Compiled by:
Rtn. Atul Bhide
Club President, 2013-14.

- 1930** – Earliest Rotary magazine - The Eastern Rotary Wheel, founded and edited by Rtn. Alistar MacRae published by A MacRae & Co., from Bombay.
- 1947** – Rtn. Alistar MacRae immigrated to South Africa and sold his business. The new owners continued the publication of The Eastern Rotary Wheel.
- 1950** – RI closed down its Middle Asia Office in Bombay, The Eastern Rotary Wheel too closed.
- 1952** – Bangalore's PDG Debu Hosali took over the responsibility – first issue of Rotary News came out on July 15, 1952. The magazine covered areas comprising of India, Burma, Ceylon, Pakistan and Afghanistan. The magazine was printed in Hosali printing press. (Circulation 7000 by 1960)
- 1973** – Journey began to designate Rotary News as Official Regional Magazine of RI
- 1982** – Nov 30, 1982, the Rotary News Trust was formed and registered at Udipi by PDG T. Ramesh U. Pai. 1st secretary of the Trust - PDG M K Panduranga Setty.
- 1983** – Rotary Samachar, Hindi version of the magazine was introduced. The first issue was released by RI President-elect William B Skelton at the Asia Zone II Institute at Calcutta on January 8, 1983. Rtn. George Paul from RC Bangalore looked after the editorial content. PDG Madhura Chatrapathy was the Associate Editor.
- 1984** – RI recognised Rotary News and Rotary Samachar as the official RI Regional Magazine in July '84. PRIP PDG Raja Saboo played a crucial role for the same.
- 1988** – Both the magazines were taken to Bombay for publishing and PDG Jyotindra Vakil was the Editor of the magazines and Secretary of the Trust till 1990.
- 1990** – Magazines shifted to Madras, PDG B Viswanatha Reddy-Editor-publisher. Also, Secretary of the Trust.

For India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal.

- 1998** – PDG Krishnan V Chari became editor and Secretary of the Trust.
- 2005** – Won the 'Best Regional Magazine' under Rtn. T K Balakrishnan as Editor with combined circulation of 1,06,000 per month with a readership of 3,60,000.
- 2014** – Ms. Rasheeda Bhagat, a veteran journalist took over as the Editor.

Today, with 1.54 lakhs circulation Rotary News (RN) is published from Chennai in English, Hindi and Tamil covering India and Nepal. The RN-Plus reaches Rtns through email. The recent survey by RI's communications dept. indicates 100% satisfaction for the magazine content among the readers. Certainly, our RN has become a brand to reckon with. Kudos to editor Ms. Rasheeda Bhagat and 15 members of 'Team Rotary News'.

TECH DISRUPTIONS!

Information and Cognition: Gen AI Solution and Imperatives.

In previous issue, we discussed about specific aspect of the data transformation and information processing in Artificial Intelligence in the Life cycle of Data Science.

Generative AI (Gen AI) presents a transformative wave, offering unprecedented capabilities in content creation, problem-solving, and process optimization. From crafting compelling marketing copy and generating realistic images to accelerating drug discovery and personalizing customer experiences, its potential is vast and rapidly expanding.

The power of Gen AI comes with crucial imperatives. Organizations must move beyond mere adoption and strategically focus on:

- **Ethical Considerations** : Addressing bias in data and algorithms, ensuring transparency in AI outputs, and establishing clear accountability frameworks.
- **Responsible Deployment**: Safe Gen AI application requires robust testing, understanding limitations, and maintaining human oversight in critical decisions.
- **Talent Development**: Equipping the workforce for Gen AI is crucial, requiring skills in prompt engineering, data curation, and ethical AI governance.

- **Strategic Integration**: Gen AI should not be viewed as a standalone tool but rather integrated thoughtfully into existing workflows and business strategies to maximize its impact and create sustainable value.
- **Continuous Learning and Adaptation**: Due to Gen AI's rapid evolution, organizations must cultivate continuous learning and adapt strategies/infrastructure to leverage new advancements.

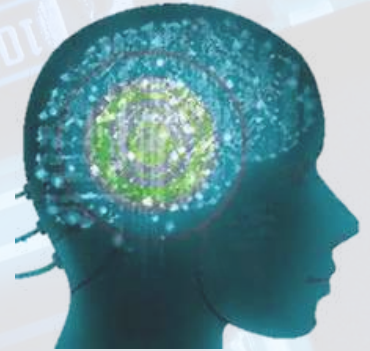
However, the world is transforming with emerging technology, but 'Trust and Adoption', 'Ethical Consideration', and 'Compliance & Regulations' are key for Long-term Viability. Responsible AI is a fundamental imperative in our increasingly AI-driven world. It demands a proactive and holistic approach to developing and deploying AI systems in a way that benefits humanity and minimizes potential harms.

The Key Pillars for Responsible AI are:

Fairness and Equity: AI systems must use diverse data to prevent bias and ensure equitable outcomes across demographics and geographics – this is non-negotiable.

Transparency & Explainability: For trust and accountability,

Madhumita Ghosh



understanding AI decision-making is crucial; interpretability efforts are vital, especially in high-stakes applications.

Ignoring these imperatives risks unleashing unintended negative consequences, eroding trust, and hindering the long-term potential of Gen AI. A thoughtful, ethical, and strategic approach is not just advisable, but essential to harness the true power of Gen AI for positive and sustainable outcomes.

In next issue, we would discuss further deeper into Gen AI Solution and imperatives.



Major Event



Rotary DisCon 2025 at Jio Convention Centre – A Glamorous Event with Purpose

The **Samanvay DisCon 2025**, a collaborative district conference of Rotary Districts 3141 and 3142, was held on **March 1-2 at the Jio World Convention Center, Mumbai**. This landmark event symbolized unity and shared purpose between the two districts, brought to life under the theme “Be Part of the Magic.”

The venue’s world-class ambiance and facilities provided the perfect backdrop for a grand celebration of service, fellowship, and learning. The conference featured a dynamic lineup of speakers, sessions, and performances. RIPR Sangkoo Yun, representing the RI President, praised the event’s scale and execution, applauding DG Chetan Desai (3141) and DG Dinesh Mehta (3142). Esteemed guests included PRIP K Ravindran, RID T N Subramanian, and several RI officers.

RC Thane Hills was proudly represented, with PP Shirish Songadkar receiving the Service Above Self Award and Rtn Padmanabhan (Paddy) being appointed Global Chair for IFRM. A special highlight was the inspiring inaugural address by Guru Gaurang Das of ISKCON, who shared that “Giving is healing for the giver.”

The event was truly memorable—with captivating talks, mesmerizing dance performances, and exquisite cuisine—all contributing to a celebration of Rotary’s spirit at its finest.



Major Event

3rd March 2025 - Visit of RIPE to blood bank

A moment of pride for the Rotary Club of Thane Hills!

Since 2013, our Blood Bank in Thane has been a lifeline for children affected by thalassemia, ensuring they receive the essential care they need. On 3rd March, we had the honor of hosting the Rotary International President Nominee (2026-27), Rtn. Sangkoo Yun, along with esteemed Rotary dignitaries and our mentor, Shri PRID Ashok Mahajan, at our facility. Their visit reaffirms our mission and strengthens our resolve to continue making a meaningful impact on our community.



3rd March 2025 : Autism centre - annual day

Major Event



IFRM3142 - organised a women's day celebration at the Kalyan Central Jail



Aarambh, first Parivartan President Nominees' meet (RY 26-27) @Navi Mumbai



Major Event

14.03.2025 - Holi Party



'Take-home' from the South Asia International peace conference SAIPC in Bangalore - attended by PP Varsha Likhite



Peace & Environment

Two Pillars of a Sustainable Future

◆ Both Are Fragile. ◆ Both Are Essential.

Peace

Environment

Needs harmony between people

Needs harmony between people & nature

Broken by conflict, hatred, or indifference

Destroyed by pollution, waste, overuse

Requires healing, listening, understanding

Requires care, conservation, restoration

Builds when we give more than we take

Grows when we protect more than we consume

*Peace & Environment: Two Pillars of a Sustainable Future**

our Role: Individual Responsibility

- ✓ Use kind words → Reduce emotional violence
- ✓ Plant a tree → Restore balance
- ✓ Save water → Preserve resources
- ✓ Listen more → Resolve conflict
- ✓ Consume mindfully → Lower your footprint
- ✓ Educate others → Multiply peace and awareness

Narrative - Research: Rtn. Neeraj Bhatnagar, RC Delhi South East, D-3011

HAPPENINGS AT INNERWHEEL CLUB OF THANE HILLS

MARCH MAGIC: A MONTH OF IMPACTFUL ACTIVITIES!

As we bid farewell to March, we reflect with pride on the impactful activities our club undertook. From empowering women to supporting special children, community service to recognition, March was truly memorable!

Empowering Women

We began the month by inaugurating the Inner Wheel District Rural Project, which included a new hostel for girls—an important step in promoting education and empowerment.

At Jidd School, we celebrated Women's Day with a creative competition where mothers and teachers dressed as iconic women and shared inspiring stories, accompanied by games, lunch, and prizes.

Brand Visibility

We proudly inaugurated the Inner Wheel Branding Project at Kala Ghoda—a prime location showcasing our commitment to community service.

Support for Special Kids

We organized a dental camp at Jagruti Palak Sanstha for special children and their parents, and sponsored two picnic buses for their annual outing, spreading smiles and joy.

Community Service

We provided groceries and diapers to Ganesh Home and sponsored painting of their interiors. We also donated bicycles and board games to Divya Prabha, a home for underprivileged girls.

Recognition & Celebration

We were honored with the Visionary Women Award by Thane Vaibhav. Our GBM featured an inspiring talk by Dr. Uma Bansal, followed by our annual Women's Day disco night.

As April begins, we look forward to exciting projects and the RCTHOCV!



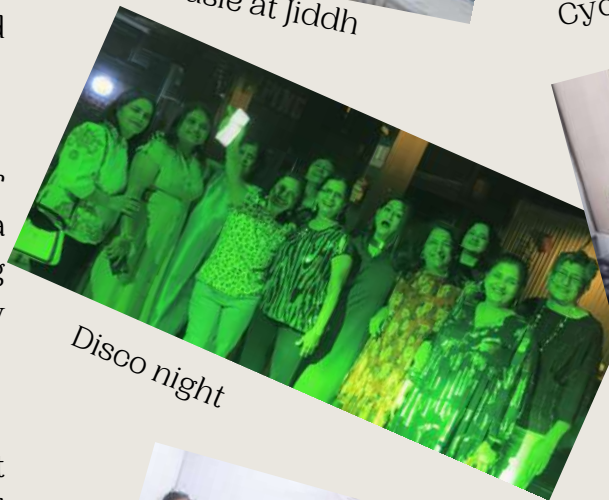
Neena Manchanda
Club President
Innerwheel club of Thane Hills



Housie at Jiddh



Cycle donation - Divyaprabha



Disco night



Dental camp - Jagruti



Award from thane vaibhav



Branding at Kalaghoda

ROTARACT CLUB OF THANE HILLS

March 2025: A Month of Service, Celebration, and Growth

March was a powerful month for the Rotaract Club of Thane Hills—one filled with service, celebration, and meaningful connections. During World Rotaract Week (March 10–16), our club united to create lasting change through impactful initiatives.

A key highlight was **Mahadaan 10.0**, our flagship multi-district blood donation drive. Conducted in two phases across Thane, it collected over **174 units of blood**. Now in its tenth year, Mahadaan has evolved into a movement of generosity, with donors and volunteers coming together for a life-saving cause.

We also organized **Talk Ovary It**, a women’s health awareness session at Kshmata NGO, a rescue center for women from red-light areas. The session fostered open conversations around reproductive health, hygiene, and well-being—an empowering experience for all involved.

World Rotaract Week was also a time for celebration. We teamed up with RC Thane East for Rangotsav, a joyful Holi event promoting fellowship and fun. Our digital campaign, **The Rotaract Effect**, spotlighted stories of veteran and alumni members, inspiring the next generation through shared journeys.

Our **mental health initiative, Aaina Ep 3**, focused on “Letting Go of the Past,” offering members a space for guided reflection and emotional growth.

March reaffirmed what Rotaract stands for—service, fellowship, and self-growth. We move ahead energized by the change we’ve made and the road ahead.



Joint G B Meeting with Rotary Club of Thane Hills



Alina Ep3



Holi Celebrations



Mahadaan 10.0

C'EST LA VIE !

SUCH IS LIFE !

Harnessing AI to amplify impact

By Sarita Bahl

Rotary International - committed to the idea of Service above Self, with its network of change makers, thrives on community service, collaboration, and outreach.

With the AI wave hitting industries, it presents Rotary with exciting opportunities to enhance its mission and deepen community impact—without losing the human touch.

Let us delve briefly about how AI can enhance the Rotary Experience

1. Smarter community insights

AI-powered tools can help our club analyze community needs more efficiently. We can use AI to scan local news, social media, and public data, through which clubs can identify emerging challenges—whether it's rising unemployment or health issues—allowing faster and more targeted project planning.

2. Streamlined member engagement

My vote goes for this one for sure – AI chatbots and CRM systems can automate routine feedback

collection—freeing up time for Rotarians to focus on meaningful conversations and mentoring.

3. Personalized fundraising campaigns

Our work is directly related to the funds we receive. What if we use AI to analyze donor behavior, personalize fundraising messages, and improving engagement and donations? Imagine RCTH using AI-driven insights to tailor appeals based on members' past involvement or specific community interests.

4. Amplifying Rotary's voice

AI tools like generative content creators and sentiment analysis can support Rotary's public image. AI can help draft press releases, social media posts, and even speeches while monitoring public sentiment on key initiatives, ensuring Rotary stays ahead in conversations that matter.

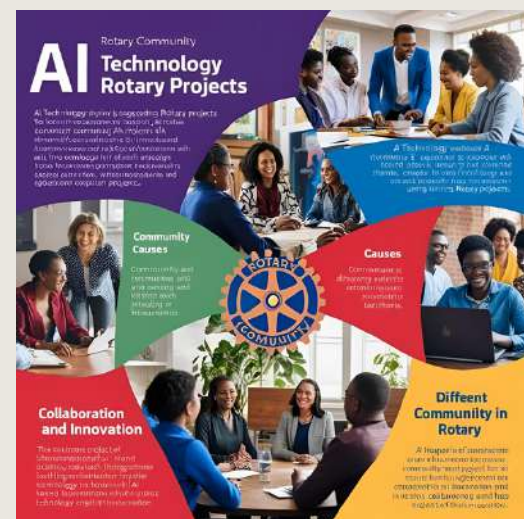
5. AI for good

Finally, Rotary can also champion responsible AI. Through panel discussions, workshops, or community projects, Rotary can advocate for ethical AI use,



especially in underserved communities.

This does not mean that we should replace Rotary's human-centric ethos. On the contrary, we should blend Rotary's empathy-driven service with AI's efficiency staying rooted in fellowship and integrity. The future of service is tech-enabled—but still heart-led.



community service

RCTH School Sanitation Program



Our School Sanitation Program is officially underway! Thanks to the generous donation of 25,000 US\$ from Rotary Club of Santa Monica – ***Rtn Dr Renuka Desai***, and the tireless efforts of ***PP Atul Bhide,*** we have secured government contributions and coordinated with various stakeholders to construct toilets at Zilha Parishad Schools in Shahapur taluka.

Special thanks to Atul for his dedication and perseverance in making this project a reality. We are set to start the first phase with construction at Thune and Ajrup Grampanchayats.

We will be equal partners with the government, who will bear half the cost, while we will bear a fixed amount per toilet. This is a true public-private partnership.

We also extend our gratitude to ***PP Vijay Shetty*** for his invaluable guidance throughout this process.

community service

Blood Donation Camp

Date : 9th March 2025



Blood Donation Camp
For Thalassemia Patients
of Triumph Blood Bank, Thane
 Organised by :
Rotary Club of Thane Hills
 in association with
Siddhachal Apex Body

On Sunday, 9th March 2025
Time : 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Venue : Siddhachal Club House,
Opp. Siddhachal Phase 3,
Pokhran Road No.2, Thane (W)

One Donor can save 3 Lives !

SERVICE PROJECTS BY RCTH

Education and community
service

Date : 30th January 2025

Project: Waste Management- competition for schools

The results of the first phase of Interschool plastic waste collection contest organised by RCTH in collaboration with Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth (SBV) for the period July 2024 to December 2024 are as follows:

First place : Smt.Sulochanadevi Singhania School, Thane : 650.86 kg

School coordinator for waste management project – Radhika Padmanabhan

Second place: Dnyan Ganga Education Trust's Degree College of Arts, Commerce & Science: 318.90 kg

Third place: Holy Cross Convent High School, Primary Section, Thane: 69.90 kg

Project Organised by Rtn Radhika Padmanabhan



SERVICE PROJECTS BY RCTH

DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

On March 19, 2025, the second dose of HPV vaccines was successfully administered to 184 young girls—130 from Sanket Vidyalaya and 40 from Majiwada School. A heartfelt thanks to **PP Sucheta** and **Ann Manjiri** for their support at the camp.

Special Acknowledgments:

- Aditya Birla Insurance Brokers for their generous contribution.
- Ashok Mahajanji for invaluable mentorship.

This vaccination drive is crucial for protecting young girls from cervical cancer, promoting a healthier future for the community. Jointly organized by RC Thane Hills and RC Thane Horizon, supported by Rtn Radhika Padmanabhan at RR Auditorium, MHADA, Mulund.

Vaccination Camp



Magic of Giving Back

The inspiring Magic of Giving Back by the our **Rotarian Guru Agnihotri and his family** through the **Possibilities Foundation**, which supports underprivileged students. Over 200 scholarships have empowered youth pursuing higher education. Beyond financial aid, mentorship is provided. Witnessing their dedication in Nashik was a heartwarming and fulfilling experience.



SERVICE PROJECTS BY RCTH

Community Service

Date : 22nd March 2025

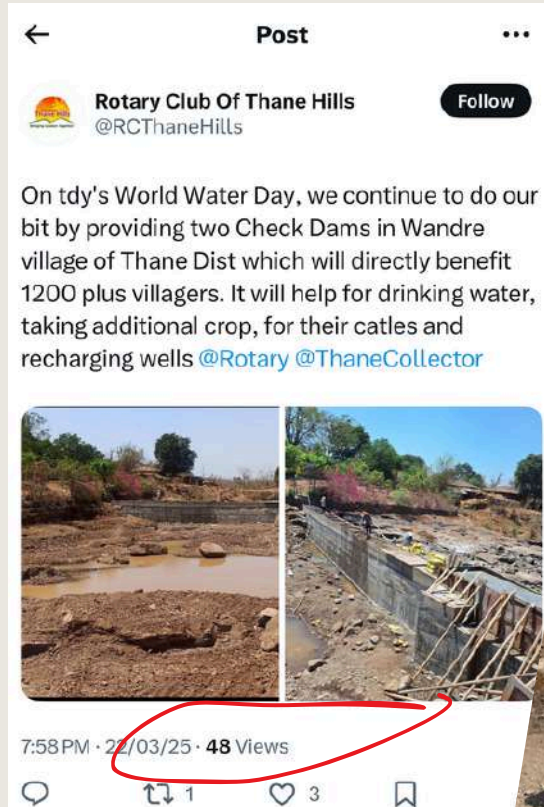
visited the construction site of the two check dams on the Kumbheri River in Wandre village, Thane District. This project will directly benefit ****over 1,200 villagers****, providing: Access to drinking water ; Additional crop cultivation ; Sustaining livestock ; Recharging wells

our execution partners: , **Vasundhara Sanjeevani Ltd.**

Rotarians visiting the site : PP Nilesh Puranik; PP Atul Bhide; Ramesh Sattur**, and President Harshad Divekar.

This project was possible with the generous support from Rotary Santa Monica and Solar Turbines

Check Dam Project



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Date : 26th March 2025

Venue: B N Bandodkar College of Science, Thane

Project Coordinator : Radhika Padmanabhan

Purchased and distributed eco-friendly spittoons to the college NSS students. These students will educate rickshaw drivers, vendors, and cleaners about the ill effects of spitting (under guidance) and hand over the spittoons to them. They will also study the change in their mindset.

Stop Spitting campaign



SERVICE PROJECTS BY RCTH

Community Service

Date : 29th March 2025

Venue: Yogi Hills Near Swapna Nagari , Mulund

On the occasion of *New Moon Day*, as is our tradition, the Rotary Club of Thane Hills successfully conducted the Annapoorna Project yesterday at Yogi Hills. Through this initiative, we supported **1,100 blind underprivileged individuals** by distributing essential groceries. 🙏

Annapurna



Thank you all donors

Community Service

Date : 29th March 2025

Venue: Sogav School

Received updates from Shri. Barde Sir, Principal of Sogav Zilha Parishad School. 🙏

Now Yoga on the lawn (that we provided in December, 2024) by students is a daily exercise at the school.

The school also planted fee plants along the lawn.

The new Toilets for Boys and Girls is also used and maintained.

Sogav School Update



SERVICE PROJECTS BY RCTH

Water & Sanitation /
Community Service

Toilet Block Project

Date : 29th March 2025

Project Site : Thane ZP School, established in 1945,

Beneficiaries : 36 boys and 46 girls, Std 1st to 7th

Project Scope : construction of 4 toilets (2 for boys and 2 for girls) and urinals for boys,

Project Initiative by PP Atul Bhide,

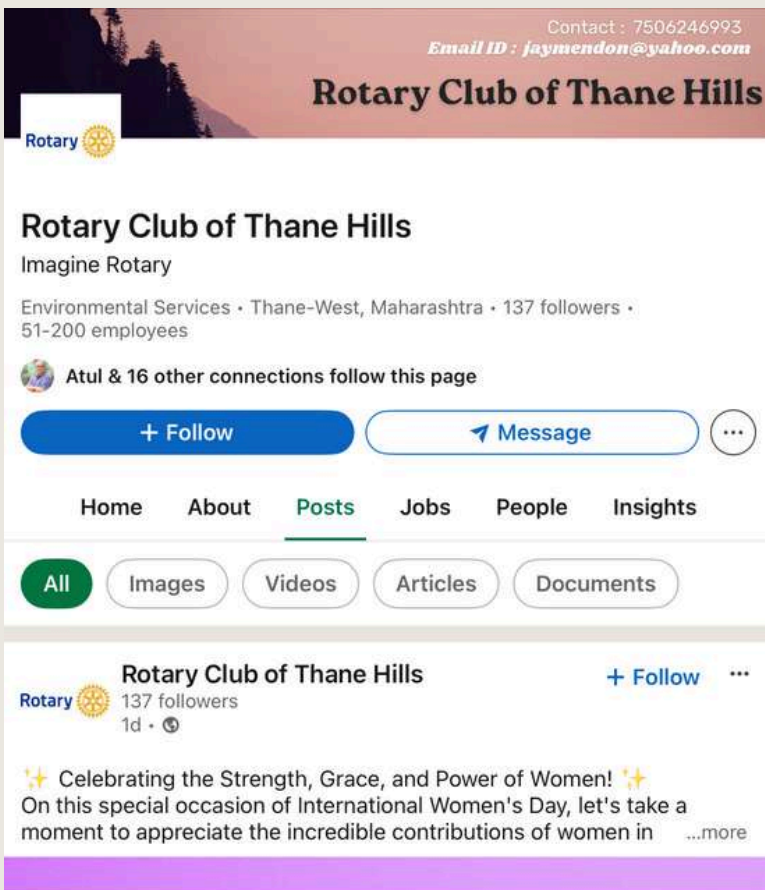
Funding : \$25,000 from RC Santa Monica

public-private partnership with ZP administration

Project Inauguration attended by : PP Atul, PE Samir, and President Harshad.



RC THANE HILLS IS ON LINKEDIN



Contact : 7506246993
Email ID : faymendon@yahoo.com

Rotary Club of Thane Hills

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🌟 Celebrating the Strength, Grace, and Power of Women! 🌟
On this special occasion of International Women's Day, let's take a moment to appreciate the incredible contributions of women in ...more

Follow us!

RCTH WEEKLY MEETINGS

08.03.2025 - Joint General Body Meeting with Rotaract Club of Thane Hills

We had a joint General Body Meeting with our Rotaract Club of Thane Hills on Sat 8th March at 5:30 pm, TMA 3rd floor. Intent was to exchange the progress on projects and events with Rotaract's.

We are very happy to inform that the Rotaract Club of Thane Hills is performing excellently with very enthusiastic members under the able leadership of President Omkar. They have been actively undertaking a number of projects of value to the society and we are very proud to have them as partners in service.



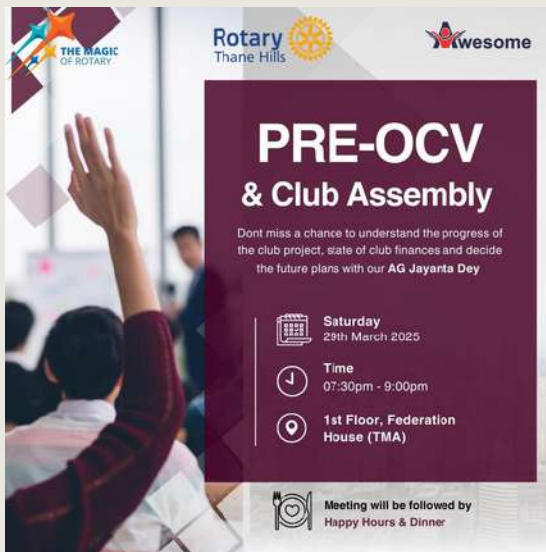
20.03.2025 - Weekly Meeting



Mr Damahe is the head of the skill development centre set up by Larsen & Toubro at Mud Island. This skill development centre imparts skill development opportunities to the teachers of ITI (Industrial Training Institutes set up by Government all over India in every Taluka and District). Retired experienced professionals from L&T and other industries provide their expertise free of cost. He explained the need for creating a strong manufacturing base in India.

RCTH WEEKLY MEETINGS

29.03.2025 - Pre OCV & club assembly



Pre OCV meeting was held on 29th March at TMA , Wagle Estate. It was presided over by our very soft spoken but well informed Assistant Governor - Rtn Jayanta Dey.

RCTH is stremely graful to AG Jayanta for being a part of our team and helping us achieve our club goals for service as well as fellowship.

Our club is also fortunate to have very committed Rotarians and thus the Pre OCV meeting and Club assembly provided an opportunity for each one of us to understand our club's achievements during the year

ME-MY-MINE



Vocation plays important role in Rotary membership. Through this new column, we will get to know our fellow Hillers beyond his/her profession. It's all about personal likes, dislikes and core aspects that shape our character.

Welcome to a journey to re-discover a friend.

Conceived and curated by:

Atul Bhide

Club President 2013-14

Name: Dr. Abhay Kulkarni

RCTH Member since: 28/01/1998

Invited to RCTH by Rtn: Paddy



1. **A family activity I enjoy the most:** Travel
2. **My favourite book:** Dyaneshwari
3. **Movie that I can see again and again:** Sarfarosh
4. **My fav movie actor M & F:** Sanjeev Kumar/Sharmila Tagore
5. **Sport that I love to play:** Cricket
6. **My fav sports star(s):** Sunil Gavaskar
7. **My first stage appearance:** **Never;** As Professor many times
8. **My favourite way of relaxing:** Gardening
9. **Best Gift I have ever received:** Blessings from patients
10. **Fav subject during school & fav teacher:** Physics/all school teachers
11. **Professionally, I would have loved to be:** I am happy whatever I have taught my students
12. **One quality I wish to imbibe in me:** Perseverance
13. **I am inspired by:** Knowledge
14. **Two things that I like about myself:** Fitness, Guidance
15. **My greatest high-five moment:** Daughters' achievements.
16. **The craziest thing I have ever done:** Don't remember
17. **If given a chance, I would love to make a call & speak with :** Our PM
18. **I joined RCTH because:** For concept of art of giving
19. **This year as a Rotarian I plan to:** More punctual.
20. **When was the last time you did something for the first time and what was it:** 1. Trying painting on canvas
21. **My Edu Qualification & Vocation:** MS, DNB, D Ortho. Surgeon

Name: Kalita Subramanian

RCTH Member since: 29th August 2021

Invited to RCTH by Rtn: Dr. Suhas Kulkarni



1. **A family activity I enjoy the most:** Watching Stand-up Comedy Shows on TV with my Sons
2. **My favourite book:** Fountainhead by Ayn Rand
3. **Movie that I can see again and again:** Zindagi Na Mile Dobara, 3 Idiots, Sound of Music
4. **My fav movie actor M & F:** Anil Kapoor & Madhuri Dixit
5. **Sport that I love to play:** Badminton
6. **My fav sports star(s):** Sachin Tendulkar
7. **My first stage appearance:** Class 4- Play on Christmas in School - my role as an Angel.
8. **My favourite way of relaxing:** Listening to Music with my Coffee
9. **Best Gift I have ever received:** The Gift of "Life"
10. **Fav subject during school & fav teacher:** English, Sr. Maureen
11. **Professionally, I would have loved to be:** Detective
12. **One quality I wish to imbibe in me:** Staying Cool
13. **I am inspired by:** Mother Theresa
14. **Two things that I like about myself:** I love MY Rules & Principles set BY me to live MY life.
15. **My greatest high-five moments:** A. Being awarded "The Best Employee of the Year" in 1996 & B. Prepared A Coffee-Table Book as a surprise GIFT on Kumar's 50th Birthday.
16. **The craziest thing I have ever done:** I do crazy things everyday – that's me.
17. **If given a chance, I would love to make a call & speak with (dead or living person):** My Grandfather - Edward
18. **I joined RCTH because:** Kumar convinced me.....
19. **This year as a Rotarian I plan to:** Participate in more social activities
20. **When was the last time you did something for the first time and what was it:** 1987 beat up a traveller in BEST for spitting paan on my dupatta.
21. **My Edu Qualification & Vocation:** M.A in Sociology & Insurance Consultant.

April 2025



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Name: Prashant Ojha

RCTH Member since: 24/11/2016

Invited to RCTH by : Rtn.Narendra Rao



1. **A family activity I enjoy the most:** Karaoke
2. **My favourite book:** 1. Catch 22 by Joseph Heller (When growing up I used to like Playboy also but then I realised it is a Magazine)
3. **Movie that I can see again and again:** Godfather
4. **My fav movie actor M & F:** Tom Cruise, Julia Roberts
5. **Sport that I love to play:** Mind Games with Shweta
6. **My fav sports star(s):** Shweta
7. **My first stage appearance:** Our Charter-Nite - played Sunil Dutt's role from Padosan
8. **My favourite way of relaxing:** Lazing in water like Hippopotamus
9. **Best Gift I have ever received:** A camera that my father got for me when I was 15.
10. **Fav subject during school & fav teacher:** English, only subject wherein I would get respectable marks and not be an embarrassment for my father. Fav teacher - my Dad.
11. **Professionally, I would have loved to be:** Shack owner in Goa, serving beer and egg bhurji.
12. **One quality I wish to imbibe in me:** I am complete, I could do with some vices.
13. **I am inspired by:** Chandru Sir and Badari Sir
14. **Two things that I like about myself:** my height and hair (Hair, Thanks to Dr Amit)
15. **My greatest high-five moment:** Birth of our boys
16. **The craziest thing I have ever done:** 4 road accidents over a 4-hour period in spite of not being drunk
17. **If given a chance, I would love to make a call & speak with (dead or living person):** my dad and three friends that I lost in last 5 years.
18. **I joined RCTH because:** Narendra Rao conned me
19. **This year as a Rotarian I plan to:** not be in any meetings, maximise the time for projects
20. **When was the last time you did something for the first time and what was it:** Today, Wrote this note bragging about myself
21. **My Edu Qualification & Vocation:** Science Graduate & MBA, Working on creating something of value in Interactive entertainment space

April 2025



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Name: R. SentilKumar Pillai

RCTH Member Since: 29/8/2021

Invited to RCTH by: Narendra Rao



A family activity I enjoy the most: Traveling to new places, different state or country.

My favorite book: Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand.

A movie I can watch repeatedly: 3 Idiots.

My favorite actors (Male & Female): Clint Eastwood & Manoj Bajpayee.

A sport I love to play: Chess.

My favorite sports personality: Viswanathan Anand.

My first stage appearance: Accidental—I tend to shy away from the stage. However, I have delivered many technical presentations.

My favourite way to relax: Watching movies, YouTube news, and music, or playing chess.

The best gift I have ever received: I do not enjoy formal felicitation. Personal satisfaction from accomplishing something meaningful is the greatest gift for me.

My favourite subject in school & my favourite teacher: Mathematics and Mrs. Rao.

Professionally, I would have loved to be: Content with where I am; I do not wish to be anything else.

One quality I wish to imbibe in myself: None—I am happy as I am today.

I am inspired by: Simple people and their genuine behaviour.

Two things I like about myself: (Pass)

My greatest high-five moment: Yet to achieve.

The craziest thing I have ever done: Many things that others may find crazy, but none that I consider so myself.

If given a chance, I would love to call and speak with (living or deceased):

Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister, India

I joined RCTH because: To do my bit in fostering positive change through strong platform of RCTH

This year as a Rotarian, I plan to: Support the president's initiatives remotely and contribute as needed.

The last time I did something for the first time and what it was: Travelled to Mahaakumbh Mela

Educational Qualification: B.E. (Mech), International Taxation

Vocation: In Oil & Gas segment – Procurement Specialist, Engineering & Project Management Consultant, Providing Reverse Engineering Services to MNC