



Chief Guest - Rtn G K Balakrishna



Pdg Rtn GK Balakrishna is an engineering graduate from Manipal. He runs an engineering business by name Geekay Enterprises. He is also the chairman of Padmaja Exim Pvt Ltd and director of many other companies. A member of rotary west, he has served as governor in the composite district 3180 in the year 1991-92, when our own fellow country man RK Saboo was the Rotary International President. He was invited as one of the best governors to Orlando convention, USA with the Presidents Golden

citation award. Served as district trainer, councillor and adviser several times. He has also served in the council of legislation of rotary in 1995 at Caracas, Venezuela. Served as nominating committee member to select RI director twice. He has represented RI president in several conferences as discussion and training leader in several rotary institutes. Also served as review committee of polio plus. Geekay is a major donor to Trf and has received rotary foundations meritorious service award in 1993 and Trf's highest distinguished service award in 1995. He has maintained 100% attendance since 42 years. Rotary's highest award Service above Self was bestowed on him in 1998-99. An honorary deputy sheriff Arizona USA. Kentucky colonel honour in 1998, udyog Ratna award, Delhi-Tampara Patra award. Kannada Sahithya and spastic award from govt of Karnataka. He has also served as president of Mysore sports club, committee member of Jwgc and chairman of Mrc Charitable Eye Hospital. Currently he is the deputy grand master, Mark grand lodge of India in Free Masonry. He is also associated in many cultural and social organisations in Mysore, Bangalore and Chennai. He has two daughters Dr Savitha and Dr Rohini both married and happily settled in USA, and blessed with four grandchildren.

Matru Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava



Matru Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava – A Celebration of Parents

Rotary Mysore Midtown is proud to present a unique and heartwarming program, "Matru Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava", dedicated to felicitating and honoring the parents of Midtown members. This special occasion is not just an event, but a tribute to the timeless values and selfless sacrifices of the elders who have nurtured, guided, and inspired the Midtown Rotarians we know today.

Behind every noble-hearted Midtown Rotarian stands a family rooted in values of service, compassion, and integrity. The parents, through their love, discipline, and wisdom, have shaped individuals who dedicate their lives to making the world a better place. Their quiet yet powerful influence has laid the foundation for countless acts of service that uplift society.

By honoring these parents, Rotary Mysore Midtown seeks to celebrate the very roots of service-acknowledging that the true inspiration begins at home. This event is not only an expression of gratitude but also a reaffirmation of Midtown's commitment to respect, cherish, and learn from the elders who have been the guiding light in the lives of its Rotarians.

In honoring them, Rotary Mysore Midtown honors the spirit of Rotary itself—a spirit that thrives on values passed across generations.

Last week's New Members Talk



One of the most meaningful traditions in Midtown's journey is listening to the talks of our new members. These sessions are not just introductions – they are windows into the lives, experiences, and aspirations of those who

have chosen to walk alongside us in service.

Every new member brings with them a wealth of knowledge, unique talents, and fresh perspectives that enrich the fabric of our club. Last Wednesday talks gave us an opportunity to understand their professional backgrounds, personal journeys, and what inspired them to embrace Rotary.

It gave us an insight in appreciating the value they bring and encouraging them to grow with us in fellowship and service.

Here is a glimpse of what the new members shared .



Dr. Chandan, one of the newest members of the club shared his journey and experiences. Introduced to Rotary by Dr. Kumar, Dr. Chandan spoke with humility, warmth, and a touch of humor, even describing himself in lighter vein as a “dignified plumber” – since his work as a vascular surgeon involves repairing veins and arteries of the body, except those of the brain and heart. He traced his inspiring journey, beginning from his humble roots in Bannur to

Belur, where he had his early schooling. His dedication to academics and medicine eventually led him to earn his medical degree from AIMS, Belur, followed by a Master's in General Surgery. He then gained valuable experience while working in Kannur- Kerala, before pursuing his super-specialization in vascular surgery in Chennai.

Dr. Chandan emphasized that his primary motivation as a doctor has always been to serve the poor and underprivileged, which drew him to join the prestigious Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research. There, he mainly treats older patients, many above the age of 60, offering them advanced vascular care with compassion.

Beyond his professional life, Dr. Chandan shared his personal interests. A lover of nature and travel, he finds joy in exploring new places and cultures. He is also deeply fond of music and movies, which bring him relaxation and inspiration outside of his busy medical schedule.

His talk not only introduced members to his professional achievements but also reflected his grounded personality, service-oriented mindset, and zest for life—qualities that make him a wonderful addition to Rotary.



Mallikarjun, a B.Com graduate from Mysore University, was deeply inspired by the values instilled in him by his parents. His late father, Basappa, who served in the Irrigation Department, taught him discipline and integrity, while his late mother, Jayamma, nurtured in him a love for cooking. Carrying forward her legacy, Mallikarjun is a passionate cook himself, confidently saying he can prepare more than 50 dishes. With this

talent, he is well-qualified to be the next chairman of Midtown's Cooking Competition this year.

His wife, Kavita, has been serving as a Senior Nurse at JSS Hospital since 2011, offering care and compassion in her profession.

Professionally, Mallikarjun started his career as a Marketing Executive with the BSNL Directory and went on to take up various roles before venturing into structural steel fabrication and supplies, where he has established himself successfully.

Beyond his professional achievements, he is a keen sportsman. As an enthusiastic cricketer, he has led and won several tournaments for the organizations he represented. He is also an avid biker, having covered over 40,000 kilometers with a close-knit group of childhood friends and colleagues.

Driven by a sense of purpose, Mallikarjun is keen to serve society through Rotary. With his spirit of innovation and passion for contribution, he aspires to take up the unique challenge of fabricating a Rotary Wheel atop RMA – a symbolic gesture of dedication and service.

Puneet, Son of Chandrashekar and Kusuma, has built his journey on a foundation of hard work, vision, and determination. His early experiences were shaped while working alongside his uncle in the agricultural equipment field, where he learned the values of perseverance and business acumen. These lessons became stepping stones for his entrepreneurial journey.



He later ventured into the transport business with just a single vehicle, which marked the beginning of his ambitious path. Through dedication and smart management, Puneet gradually expanded his fleet and today successfully operates six vehicles. His story is a true example of how consistency and focus can transform small beginnings into meaningful enterprises.

Outside of business, Puneet has always been passionate about sports. During his college years, he was an accomplished kho-kho player, securing victories in over 250 tournaments. His sporting spirit reflects his discipline, teamwork, and never-give-up attitude—qualities that also fuel his professional and personal endeavors.

Looking ahead, Puneet dreams big. His vision is to expand his transport business to an impressive fleet of 4,000 vehicles. Yet, his aspirations go beyond personal success—he strongly believes in giving back to society. Through his association with Rotary, he wishes to serve the community and contribute meaningfully to social causes.

Puneet's journey so far stands as an inspiring tale of humble beginnings, relentless ambition, and a heart committed to service.

Ibrahim's life has been a journey of perseverance, resilience, and purpose. Coming from a humble background where education was never given much importance, he had to overcome several challenges early on. He studied in Urdu medium until primary school and later shifted to Kannada medium, where he often found himself isolated as there were no other Muslim students.



Though he was deeply passionate about chemistry, repeated failures initially dampened his confidence. On advice, he joined a job-oriented course at Mahajana's and later worked at BM Hospital. Yet, his love for chemistry never faded—he gave himself another chance and eventually succeeded, proving his determination.

Seeking better opportunities, he moved to Saudi Arabia, where he faced fresh challenges—this time due to language barriers, as most Indians there spoke Malayalam. After returning from Saudi, a personal experience changed the direction of his life. An uncle, a diabetic patient, suffered repeated amputations due to gangrene. Around the same time, Ibrahim witnessed anaemic patients struggling to survive because of the acute shortage of blood. These painful realities planted in him a strong resolve—to establish a state-of-the-art blood bank in Mysore.

He later joined St. Joseph's Hospital, where he continues to work with dedication while nurturing his dream of creating a modern blood bank that can serve countless lives. Today, he aspires to combine the 45 years of Rotary Midtown's legacy with his own 49 years of experience to make this vision a reality. His story is a true example of how personal struggles can ignite a mission that benefits society at large.



Manoj, An accomplished engineering graduate from Bagalkot, has carved an impressive path as the CEO of Uplift Academy, and more recently, as the CEO of DSc Healthcare. In his talk, Manoj shared both his professional journey and his personal aspirations with warmth and sincerity.

He began by fondly recollecting his college days at Maharaja's College, going back to the year 2003. Speaking from the very same hall where he once

attended a programme as a young student, Manoj felt a deep sense of nostalgia and gratitude. The moment brought back cherished memories of his student life and the people who shaped his outlook.

Manoj emphasized that while he has been fortunate in his professional achievements, his true dream lies in contributing to society. He expressed his heartfelt desire to establish a school and take education to remote villages, ensuring that children in underserved areas receive opportunities that can transform their lives. Education, he said, is not just about literacy, but about empowering communities and breaking the cycle of limitations.

He also shared his love for spending time with friends and family, highlighting that these bonds give him the strength and inspiration to pursue his larger goals. Introduced by Dr Manu, Manoj came across as a person rooted in values, vision, and humility.

The gathering was further enriched when Rotary Midtown President Rtn Rakesh assured Manoj of the Club's full support in his noble endeavour. This promise reflected the spirit of Rotary – standing together to uplift society through collective action.

Manoj's talk left the audience inspired, reminding everyone that professional success attains its fullest meaning when combined with service to humanity.



Suraj Vishwanathan, began his talk by candidly admitting that, although he has trained many people during his years in the Gulf, he still felt a touch of nervousness while addressing the Rotarians. Originally from Kerala, he fondly recalled how his grandfather advised him to move to Karnataka in search of better opportunities. His father, too, gave him valuable guidance: "If you are in a room full of Kannadigas, you can learn Kannada in just a month." This simple yet powerful advice encouraged him to adapt quickly and integrate into his new environment. During his school days, Sooraj was often told that science was too difficult and that he was bound to

fail if he pursued it, while arts and commerce were considered easier options. Following this advice, he chose commerce in college. However, his passion for computers could not be suppressed, and he went on to pursue a Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA), followed by a Master of Computer Applications (MCA).

Eager to start earning early, he also completed a diploma in Health and Safety, which opened opportunities for him to work in the Gulf. For nearly ten years, he built his career there. But the demanding lifestyle—with no holidays and a sense of loneliness—eventually left him feeling restless and unfulfilled.

On returning to India, Sooraj took on the role of CEO at DSc Healthcare, a position that brings him both responsibility and satisfaction. He humbly admitted that he initially knew little about Rotary, but expressed his gratitude to Dr. Manu for introducing him to Rotary Midtown. He strongly believes that the more people join such an organisation, the greater the positive impact on society. Sooraj concluded his talk by sharing his happiness in being part of Rotary Midtown, which he now regards not just as a club, but as a family.

The Question-and-Answer session turned out to be one of the most engaging parts of the evening. Members of the club posed thought-provoking and light-hearted questions to the newly inducted Rotarians, giving everyone a chance to know them better. The new members responded with remarkable poise, honesty, and a touch of humor, which made the interaction both insightful and entertaining.

Questions ranged from their personal experiences, reasons for joining Rotary, and their expectations from this journey, to lighter ones about hobbies, passions, and even fun anecdotes from their daily lives. Each answer reflected their sincerity, their eagerness to learn, and their heartfelt commitment to contribute to the ideals of Rotary.

The atmosphere was filled with laughter, applause, and warm camaraderie, as the session not only highlighted the individuality of the new members but also showcased their readiness to become a part of the Midtown family. It was more than just an exchange of words—it was a true bonding moment that bridged the gap between the old and new members, leaving everyone with a sense of connection and shared purpose.

*Birthdays
&
Anniversaries*



Rtn. Francesco Arezzo
President - Rotary International



Rtn. Ramkrishna P K
District Governor RI-3181



Rtn. Rakesh Babu K L
President 2025-26



Rtn. Bhaskar Sainik
Hon. Secretary 2025-26



Rtn. Sulaiman Sait
Editor 2025-26