



# Enigma

September 2024 - Vol.3

## BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

GO  
THROUGH  
SOME  
AMAZING  
PROJECTS  
FROM  
AUGUST

CATCH RTN.  
GANESH'S  
PERSONAL  
STORY  
ABOUT  
STAMPS

"Education is the  
most powerful  
weapon which you  
can use to change  
the world." —Nelson  
Mandela



# Enigma

**Rotary**  
Bangalore Koramangala



## BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY



Rotary's Area of Focus for the month of September is Basic education and Literacy. Rotary's goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy. We support education for all children and literacy for children and adults.

RCBK over the year's has supported numerous Literacy initiatives. Some notable projects from this year.



### Launch of the Adult Literacy centre in Anekal District

This project is targeted for Adults to give them basic literacy and impact livelihood and skilling of people.



Ongoing support for government schools and underprivileged students for donations for requirements , sessions like cyber security , good touch bad touch and mental health etc.



Supporting education of over 1000 students for notebooks and stationary requirements. These donations from our rotarians play a huge role in enabling learning.

The Rotary Club of Bangalore Koramangala (RID3191), in partnership with the Rotary India Literacy Mission (RILM), has taken a significant step towards empowering underserved communities through education by inaugurating eight Adult Literacy Centers in Anekal Taluk. Launched on October 6, 2024, this impactful project is designed to provide adults with foundational literacy skills, offering them a second chance at education and opening doors to new opportunities.

Supported by key partner Sansera Engineering, this initiative is part of Rotary's larger mission to combat illiteracy and uplift communities. Rtn. Anuradha Biswas, President of Rotary Club Bangalore Koramangala, emphasized the transformative power of adult literacy in building self-confidence and fostering financial independence. Rtn. Sanghvi of Sansera Engineering echoed this, expressing the company's dedication to education as an investment in brighter futures for individuals and their families.

With the ability to benefit 250 adult learners through structured learning programs under Rotary's Vidya initiative, the centers, supported by Rotary Clubs of Bangalore Ullal and Bangalore Spandana, represent an ongoing commitment to social progress. This project is not a one-time effort but a sustainable movement to bridge educational gaps and create long-lasting change for generations to come.







# August HIGHLIGHTS

## MEGA HEALTH CAMP - 15th August

The Rotary Club of Bangalore Koramangala, in partnership with Bosch India Foundation, successfully organized a Mega Health Camp on 15th August 2024 in the remote village of Gowrenahalli, Anekal Taluk, 30 kilometres from Bangalore. They are supported by the Suragajakkanahalli Panchayat, the camp aimed to address the healthcare challenges faced by the residents of Anekal's 30 villages, where access to government hospitals is limited. PP Rtn. Janet lead this project and brought together doctors for this outreach project.

In preparation for the camp, pamphlets were distributed in five villages, raising awareness and ensuring those needing healthcare services could benefit. The camp offered various medical services, making it a one-stop healthcare solution for the community.

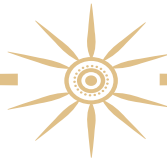
**Eye Care:** Bangalore Netralaya conducted eye refraction tests and cataract screenings. Forty patients were prescribed spectacles, and five were diagnosed with cataracts, for which they will receive free surgery.

**Dental Care:** The Bangalore Institute of Dental Sciences provided dental check-ups, including cleanings, extractions, and fillings.

**General Healthcare:** Dr. Raghavendra, a retired physician, examined patients, prescribed medications, and oversaw the distribution of free medicines.

The event commenced with the lighting of a ceremonial lamp. Volunteers ensured the camp's smooth running, catering to 136 villagers. The camp concluded with a sense of accomplishment, providing much-needed medical care to a rural population. Efforts are a crucial step in their mission to bridge healthcare gaps in remote regions.





## Preserving Indian Independence – A Military Perspective

As we approached the 78th Independence Day of our country, it felt important to understand the emotions and challenges faced by our armed forces. This thoughtful idea, from our DEI Chair Rtn. Jayashree Swaminathan, was presented to several nearby Rotary Clubs by our President Rtn. Anu Biswas. The result was a Joint Meeting of 7 Rotary Clubs coming together with Rotary Koramangala. The participating clubs were:

- Rotary Bengaluru HSR
- Rotary Silkcity Ramanagara
- Rotary Bengaluru Ullal
- Rotaract Club of Koramangala
- Rotary Bangalore Bugle Rock
- Rotary Bangalore City Center

Our esteemed speaker, Group Captain Janakiraman Balasubramanian SC VM, was commissioned into the Indian Air Force on December 30, 1978. Over his remarkable career, he held numerous critical roles until his retirement on June 30, 2008. As a skilled Flying Pilot, he had the honor of flying the President, the Prime Minister, and numerous foreign Heads of State, both within and outside India. His recognized expertise as a Flying Instructor and Air Force Examiner also saw him serve as an esteemed instructor at the College of Defence Management for over three years. His leadership was evident as he commanded the 33 Squadron of the IAF and served as the Chief of Operations at Chandigarh.

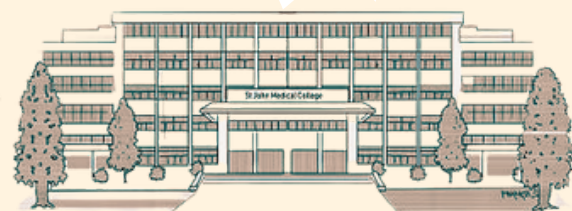


Group Captain Balasubramanian's service in various operations is nothing short of exemplary. He participated in the war in Sri Lanka, was actively involved in the Male operations, and is a proud veteran of the Kargil conflict. His service has been acknowledged with numerous honors, including the Shaurya Chakra in 1982, the Vayu Sena Medal in 1996, and a commendation by the Chief of Air Staff in 1990.

During the session, Group Captain Bala guided us through the Indian Air Force's role during peacetime and conflicts. He elaborated on a few significant incidents, beautifully illustrating them with public domain videos and narrating the intricacies of the situations. One particularly moving story recounted an Indian soldier, with a partially damaged tank, who heroically destroyed 10 Patton tanks of the enemy before his own tank was destroyed. The intensity of the visuals and Group Captain Bala's narration left the audience teary-eyed and on the edge of their seats.

He also shared insights into the preparations and events leading up to the Balakot airstrikes. The details of the operations, along with anecdotes about the individuals involved, accompanied by videos, made for a gripping and unforgettable session for the audience.

The event concluded with a highly interactive Q&A session, moderated by Rtn. Nageshwar Vijapur, followed by a Vote of Thanks from Rtn. Shridhar. Special guests Lt. Gov. Rtn. Jaishankar, PDG Rtn. Rajendra Rai, and President Rtn. Ramanan participated enthusiastically. In conclusion, the participating clubs will be contributing a donation to war veterans as a token of gratitude.







## Construction of Toilets

Rotary Koramangala's construction of a toilet in a local school marks a pivotal step towards enhancing sanitation and hygiene in educational institutions. This initiative ensures students have access to clean, safe facilities, directly contributing to improved health and increased attendance, particularly for girls. By addressing this fundamental need, Rotary Koramangala is not only creating a healthier learning environment but also empowering students to focus on their education. This project underscores Rotary's unwavering commitment to community welfare and sustainable development, leaving a lasting impact on the school and its future generations.



## Donation of bedsheet for natural disasters

The Rotary Club of Koramangala recently donated essential bedsheets to support victims of natural calamities, providing comfort and warmth during challenging times. This contribution aims to improve living conditions in emergency shelters, offering significant relief to those affected by disasters. The initiative underscores the club's commitment to community welfare and its compassionate response to crisis situations, ensuring that those in need receive care and support when it matters most.

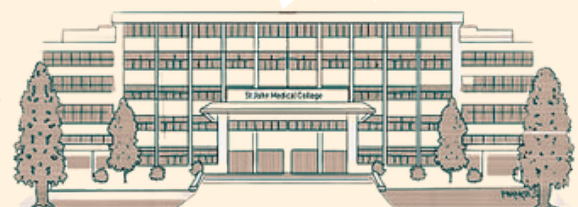
## Addiction Prevention Initiatives

Train the Trainer - on Addictions and Stress in collaboration with NIMHANS took place. The Rotary Club of Bangalore Koramangala recently conducted an impactful addiction prevention awareness program under the banner of "Wave Against Addiction" (WAA) at KPS Govt Primary and High School, Jeevan Bhima Nagar, Bangalore. This initiative aimed to educate young minds about the dangers of addiction and equip them with the knowledge to make informed and healthy choices.



## Tree Plantation - Banaswadi military garrison

1000 Tree Plantation initiative at the army area represents a significant step towards environmental sustainability and community involvement. This project not only enhances the green cover but also strengthens the ecosystem by promoting biodiversity. With the collaboration of soldiers and local volunteers, the plantation is meticulously planned to ensure the survival and growth of each tree, contributing to cleaner air and a healthier environment for future generations. This effort underscores the army's commitment to ecological stewardship.







## NGS Updates - Launching 2 new Interact Clubs



### Interact - Ananya Trust

An Interact club was started at Ananya Trust. An orientation and installation took place lead by PP Rtr. Frank and Rtn. George.



### Interact - KPS School

An Interact club was started at KPS School. A career guidance session as well as cyber security session was also conducted.

## NGS Updates - Highlights of August - Rotaract Club of Koramangala



### Janani Usiru Phase 1

On 11 August 2024, the "Janani Usiru Phase 1" initiative was held at H. Siddiah Referral Hospital in Bangalore. The project, focused on raising awareness about maternal health, emphasized the importance of nutrition and hygiene for mothers. A team of volunteers, along with specialist Dr. Bharathi A.V., visited the government maternity hospital to interact with new mothers. Dr. Bharathi provided valuable guidance on postnatal care, nutrition, hygiene, and child health. The session included a Q&A segment, where Dr. Bharathi addressed concerns and offered practical advice to the mothers. As part of the initiative, nutrition kits containing roasted groundnuts, milk, sprouts, fruits, and a shawl were distributed to the patients. This meaningful event contributed to improving maternal health education in the community.

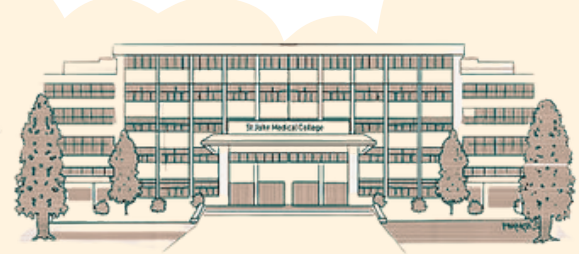
### Swathandra Saakshigalu

On 15th August 2024, the Rotaract Club of Koramangala organized "Swathandra Saakshigalu," a community service initiative to celebrate India's 78th Independence Day with the specially-abled residents of FMR Asha Nikethan in Koramangala. The event began with an introduction session, where club members interacted with the residents, learning about their experiences and the importance of valuing freedom. Residents shared memories of India's independence, creating a meaningful exchange. The day included a drawing session and various team-based games that fostered creativity and connection between the residents and volunteers. Food items and fruits were donated to the residents as a gesture of care. The event concluded with a tour of the facility, where the residents showcased their handmade candles and clothes, demonstrating their skills and creativity. "Swathandra Saakshigalu" was a heartfelt initiative, bringing joy and fostering meaningful connections with the specially-abled community.



### RCK Escapes 1.0

On 3rd-4th August 2024, the Rotaract Club of Koramangala embarked on "RCK ESCAPES 1.0," a club outing to Puducherry designed to strengthen the bonds between new and old members. The trip was filled with fun, laughter, and unforgettable moments. Day 1 kicked off with beach games at Auroville Beach, followed by a visit to Rock Beach and a memorable group photo session. The evening was spent relaxing by the pool at the villa, where members enjoyed a delightful dinner. On Day 2, the group explored the charming French colony and enjoyed a peaceful boating experience. The trip ended with a fun-filled dance session, leaving everyone with cherished memories and stronger connections. As a final gesture, the club decided to donate the saved funds to support the Wayanad landslide disaster relief efforts.







## NGS Updates - Highlights of August - Interact Club of Sophia High School



### Road Race - 31st Aug

Under a clear blue sky, younger students from classes 5 to 7, including Interactors, gathered on the sports field for an eagerly anticipated 800-meter race. Dressed in white T-shirts printed with "Education for Service," the event served both as a competition and a charity initiative, with proceeds supporting education for marginalized groups. The race demonstrated the students' determination and focus, successfully highlighting their commitment to athletic and charitable causes. The event concluded successfully, exemplifying the students' dedication to making a significant impact through community service.

## NGS Updates - Highlights of August - Rotaract Club of Jyoti Nivas College

### Magic Connection - Club Service - 3rd Aug

Over 60 members gathered for the "Magic of Connections" event, an afternoon filled with laughter, games, and meaningful moments. The event started with lively games like Pictionary and Would You Rather, creating a joyful and relaxed atmosphere, with smiles and enthusiastic participation filling the room with positive energy. Connections were formed and strengthened throughout the day. The highlight was the "Gratitude Circle," where participants wrote and read aloud heartfelt notes expressing appreciation for their friends, moving many to tears. This celebration of friendship and community left everyone with a renewed sense of connection and appreciation, making the event a magical and unforgettable experience.



### Hand of Hope - Community Service

Rac JNC, in collaboration with Bangalore Malayalis and Rotaract District 3191, organized two flood relief drives to support communities affected by severe floods in Wayanad, Kerala, and North Karnataka. The "Hand of Hope" drive mobilized students and staff to donate essentials like biscuits, water, sanitary pads, and medicines, providing timely relief to Wayanad. This was followed by the "Neravu" Flood Relief Drive, which extended help to both affected regions, with donations including biscuits, soaps, and shampoo packs. These efforts underscored the club's commitment to humanitarian aid, demonstrating the profound impact of community unity in crisis response.



### Mitrotsav - Community Service - 3rd Aug

The "Mitrotsav" project was organized at Vatsalayapuram Trust NGO in Jayanagar, aiming to spread joy, happiness, and reinforce the importance of friendship among children. Volunteers crafted colorful friendship bands with care, which were then exchanged among 16 children at the trust to symbolize their bonds. This initiative not only brought immense happiness but also fostered a sense of unity and belonging. "Mitrotsav" highlighted the importance of friendship and togetherness, teaching the children that friends are a supportive and caring presence. The event aimed to inspire the children to build strong, meaningful relationships and positively impact their growth and development.





## NGS Updates - Highlights of August - Rotaract Club of APSCE



### Samvardhanam - 4th Installation

The fourth installation of the Rotaract Club of APSCE was a grand event held in a seminar hall beautifully decorated with a Phoenix theme. Board members received their badges, and the gathering included district members, HODs, teachers, and students. The outgoing President was honored, while the incoming President was awarded the collar and gong before leading a vote for confirmation. The event featured an inspirational speech from the outgoing President and a dramatic address from the incoming President, alongside well-wishes from other speakers. The new club logo was unveiled, concluding with a vote of thanks by the secretary and a shared lunch.

### Trivia Trials 1.0

An online quiz competition was held on Instagram to celebrate India's Independence Day, testing users' knowledge of key historical events and freedom fighters. Participants answered questions through Instagram stories, with the format likely including multiple-choice options and time-based challenges.



## NGS Updates - Highlights of August - Rotaract Club of Krupanidhi Group Of Institutions



### Installation

On 30th September 2024, the KGI Rotaract Club held its installation ceremony for the 2024-25 term, guided by Prof. Dr. Prakash A., in collaboration with Rotary Club Bangalore Koramangala. Outgoing President Harish KV reflected on the club's achievements and thanked members for their dedication. Rtn. Anuradha Biswas, President of Rotary Club Bangalore Koramangala, delivered an inspiring keynote, praising the club's community service and encouraging the new office bearers to innovate. Rtn. Sumit Anand, Director of Youth Service, emphasized professional and leadership development, while Prof. Dr. Prakash A. highlighted the importance of youth engagement and collaboration in community service.







## RCBK CORNER

*Member's Expression and  
Creative Zone*

**Philately: A story through stamps**  
- by Rtn. Ganesh Prabhu

I was introduced to Philately at a fairly early age by an uncle who would give me stamps he got on letter received from International companies. I now specialize in the Pre-Independence period of India with specific focus on the Princely states India had about 650 Princely states with varying sizes ranging from a few acres to the largest state of Hyderabad (80,000 sq miles). This leads to a fascinating variety of specimens available – a key focus area of a stamp enthusiast who thrives on variety. This area of Indian Philately is very vast and I can but give only a small glimpse of the fascinating world of Pre British India and states whose names we do not hear in normal conversations.

**1. Postal stamps:** The states were divided as Convention states (who had an agreement with the British to run their postal system) and the Feudatory states which ran their own postal systems. The former used the British postal stamps with an overprint of the state name while the latter had their own postal stamps



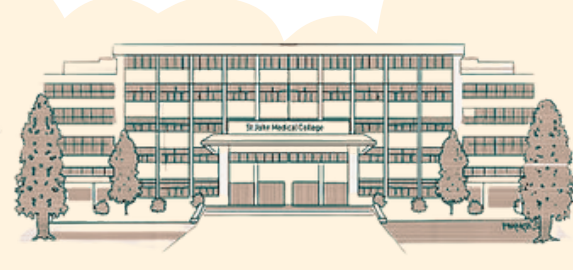
**2. Court Fees:** used on court documents. Like this court fee stamp of the state of Kotda-Sangani and Baghal state with a portrait of the rulers



**3. Revenues:** used to collect revenue from the sale of stamps. Some states used the British revenue or Postal stamps with overprint for this purpose while others had designed specific revenue stamps with the rulers portrait for their use



**4. Copy Fees:** Collected fees for copies of court documents | **5. Entertainment Fees:** Collected fees on entertainment activities





6. Motor Vehicle fees issued in some states to collect taxes from Motor vehicles



7. Hundi stamps: Hundi is a Bill of exchange which is to be paid to a 3rd party on demand at a specified time like this Hundi of Hyderabad



8. Forest permit stamps used as a levy on people collecting wood from state forests like this stamp from Hyderabad



9. Writing stamps: Some states like Barwani and Jobat issued writing stamps which were used as payment for officials who would prepare legal documents



10. War taxes: States also issued stamps to collect revenue to cover expenses of War.

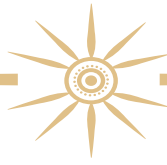


Typically, stamps which have not been used or available in full sheets have greater value. Errors in printing of the stamps also has higher philatelic interest. A philatelist would aspire to have one specimen of each variation available in his collection though this is a fairly daunting task. I have found acquiring these stamps easier in Western nations than in India. This peculiarity could be due to the fact that local interest on these stamps would be low when large Stamp estates come into the market. Ebay is another source of these stamps.

Philately is still not a very popular hobby and one hopes that more people take an interest in viewing the Indian history through the lens of the stamps of that period







# SEPTEMBER

HAPPY  
*Birthday*



**4th Sep - Annette. Rahul**  
**4th Sep - Annette. Vrinda Kedia**  
**5th Sep - Annette. Sanjana**  
**7th Sep - Annette. Abhishek Gupta**  
**8th Sep - Rtn Ikram Ahmed Khan**  
**9th Sep - Ann Sri Priya**

**12th Sep - Annette. Anumita Devarajan**

**15th Sep - Ann. Haleema Wahab**  
**15th Sep - Rtn Devarajan Kalladan**

**20 Sep - Annette. Rajiv Ramnane**

**24 Sep - Annette Shivani Chittaranjan**

**26 Sep - Ann Lekha S**

**30th Sep Rtn Madhurima Ghose**

**30th Sep - Annette Suma**

