

## Dear fellow Rotarians,

There was a proud teak tree in the forest. He was tall and strong. There was a small bush next to the tree. The teak tree said, "I am very handsome and strong. No one can defeat me." Hearing this, the bush replied, "Dear friend, too much pride is harmful. Even the strong will fall one day." The teak ignored the bush's words. He continued to praise himself. A strong wind blew. The teak stood firmly. Even when it rained, the teak stood strong by spreading its leaves. During these times, the bush bowed low. The teak made fun of the bush.

One day, there was a storm in the forest. The bush bowed low. As usual, the teak did not want to bow. The storm kept growing stronger. The teak could no longer bear it. He felt his strength giving way. He tried his best to stand upright, but in the end, he fell down. That was the end of the proud tree. When everything was calm again, the bush stood straight. He looked around. He saw that the proud teak had fallen. Do not let your pride get in the way of overcoming great difficulties. The teak was so proud; he thought he was stronger than the howling wind. His inability to yield eventually caused his own fall.

When we consider the present difficulties faced by the economy due to COVID-19 pandemic it is like a storm in the forest but we Rotarians as we have strong bounding must be able to overcome all such storms and get back to our usual Rotary activities. Attendance in our regular meeting is improving but it has to improve much more. It is right time to reschedule our Rotary activities so that we accelerate ourselves in achieving Rotary objectives and goal.

For those who have nor registered their names for our District Rotary Conference I once again request to register themselves. The conference is or-ganised in Mangalore itself and the organising team for the Rotary Conference "Abhaya' is working hard to give the Rotarians the best.



Yours in Rotary P Raghavendra, President

The Head

We celebrate the Wedding Anniversary of ... Nalini—Rajmohan Rao on 1st, of March.

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Conveys our Special Greetings to them on these special occasions.

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 and better friendships ? 4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Editor Rtn. Dr. Harikrishnan S Rao 9740556156 www.rcsurathkal.org email: esuhrithbulletin@gmail.com Facebook Connect: SuhrithRotarySurathkal Click HERE for viewing all the back issues of



We meet every TUESDAY . At VIRAT, near GD PU College or Online for now. Contact Secy. For the time



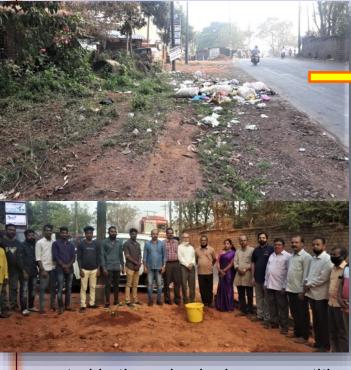
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## The week that was....

An annual scholship was awarded to Miss Anusha of Govindadasa College on 8th Feb..



As our **41st Campaign of Swaccha Surathkal phase II**, a garbage dump was cleared and transformed into a garden on MRPL Road at. *Kana* on **13th Feb.** 





Rotarians Raghavendra, Harikrishna Pejathya, Kumaraswamy and Ann Sathyavathi Kumaraswamy were our representatives in Ganakogile Zonal Singing Competition event, held at Balabhavan, hosted by RC Mangalore North on 14 Feb. Rtn. Pejethaya partici-

pated in the solo singing competition.



## Dr. Aravind Bhat, Secretary

Rotary In the News: Rtn Dr B R Samaga had been selected for the annual award of Kannada Sahitya Parishad, on their 24th Dist. Confefence, for Science—Research.



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Gallery Link: https://sites.google.com/site/rotarysurathkalgallery/

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# LEADERSHIP IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

### RI President Holger Knaack's address to the Virtual International Assembly on 1 February 2021 (Text).

#### Dear friends,

It is my pleasure to address this International Assembly. When I spoke in San Diego last year about great changes underway in the world and how they would soon affect Rotary in profound ways, I wasn't trying to be a fortune-teller. But the world soon showed us how dramatic change can happen far more quickly than any one of us would anticipate. become more difficult for people everywhere, and more people than ever need help. We have been forced to give up so much — not just simple handshakes but our entire way of life.

But this has not just been a year of loss. It has also been a year of new opportunities. And even before this crisis, people met and kept up with friends in different ways than before. Social media and online connections have become more important. Now, we are all used to meeting virtually.

And a new global village has emerged with new social rules. People who normally would not look each other in the eyes as they spoke have now become accustomed to doing so in Zoom. Today, physical distance is required. But we are now getting to know a whole new closeness.

We hope that in 2021, with new vaccines and treatments, the world will start to return to something closer to normal. But it will be a different normal and we have no choice but to embrace this age. Going forward, we will need to prepare carefully for unanticipated events. Adapting to the future also means connecting truthfully to ourselves.

The Four-Way Test is such an important tool for doing just that, because it requires us to use self-reflection. These days, you cannot even be sure of the things we see with our own eyes. But we can know ourselves and our motivations. Through The Four-Way test, we can continue to ask ourselves: Am I being honest? Am I doing the right thing? That is important.

In Rotary, we are proud of our five core values of service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership. These values form the basis for our organization. Even if we have to make major changes today and in the future, we will not change our values. But to be a community built around those values, we must represent them in their entirety. We cannot just ignore one of them because it suits us in the moment. We cannot pick and choose. If we do not embrace all the values all the time, everything is just talk.

Tolerance is once again becoming a critical issue in the world, and Rotary's core value of diversity has never been more important. I am so pleased that we have formed a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force and taken strong steps to ensure that Rotary meets and exceeds the diversity goals that we have established.

So too, we must all show leadership on issues of intolerance and we must all stand up and speak out whenever we see injustice. There are forms of discrimination everywhere in the world, but the issues are different country to country and culture to culture. They must be addressed at a local and countrywide level as well.

Your leadership can make a tremendous difference, and nothing will help us deliver our diversity, equity, and inclusion goals better than making them your personal commitments.

And now, the environment is an area of focus for Rotary. It is high time for Rotary to act. And it is so important that we emphasize environmental concerns in our programs and service projects. Young people — Rotaractors included — expect us to take clear positions on environment issues and also want us to show leadership, with vision and solutions. We can point the way toward intelligent solutions. Our incredible members give us the capacity to make an important and lasting impact.

So much of what has happened in 2020 has been building for quite some time. Terrible pandemics have been predicted for years. The social injustice that led to unrest was just beneath the surface for years. And the transition to a digital, online world was well underway until COVID-19 made it a necessity.

We have faced these challenges by showing greater care for each other. Our clubs have taken on an important mentoring role for members with businesses who are struggling through the pandemic. And we have learned that renewed focus on each other is often an important service work that we can do.

Despite all that we have been through and all of the rapid change we have endured, we are surviving this crisis and becoming stronger.

Rotary is not just a club that you join. It is an invitation to endless opportunities. It opens opportunities to service, most notably in our historic project to end polio. And it opens opportunities for you to live a richer, more meaningful life, with friends around the world, based on our core values.

As Rotarians, we are blessed to take on leadership roles in this moment for our organization. Now is your time. Now is your moment. If you hesitate, it will pass you by. Everything we do opens another opportunity for someone, somewhere.

Thank you.

Source: Rotary International Courtesy: eFlashOnline



Rotary Information

On 13th January 2014 India was officially declared as Poliofree.





Rotary International



### One of the better stories I have read in a long time.

Dr. Frank Mayfield was touring Tewksbury Institute when, on his way out, he accidentally collided with an elderly floor maid. To cover the awkward moment Dr. May field started asking questions.

"How long have you worked here?"

"I've worked here almost since the place opened," the maid replied.

"What can you tell me about the history of this place?" he asked.

"I don't think I can tell you anything, but I could show you something." With that, she took his hand and led him down to the basement under the oldest section of the building. She pointed to one of what looked like small prison cells, their iron bars rusted with age, and said, "That's the cage where they used to keep Annie Sullivan."

"Who's Annie?" the doctor asked.

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Annie was a young girl who was brought in here because she was incorrigible—nobody could do anything with her. She'd bite and scream and throw her food at people. The doctors and nurses couldn't even examine her or anything. I'd see them trying with her spitting and scratching at them.

"I was only a few years younger than her myself and I used to think, 'I sure would hate to be locked up in a cage like that.' I wanted to help her, but I didn't have any idea what I could do. I mean, if the doctors and nurses couldn't help her, what could someone like me do?

"I didn't know what else to do, so I just baked her some brownies one night after work. The next day I brought them in. I walked carefully to her cage and said, 'Annie, I baked these brownies just for you. I'll put them right here on the floor and you can come and get them if you want.

"Then I got out of there just as fast as I could because I was afraid she might throw

them at me. But she didn't. She actually took the brownies and ate them. After that, she was just a little bit nicer to me when I was around. And sometimes I'd talk to her. Once, I even got her laughing.

One of the nurses noticed this and she told the doctor. They asked me if I'd help them with Annie. I said I would if I could. So that's how it came about that. Every time they wanted to see Annie or examine her, I went into the cage first and explained and calmed her down and held her hand.

This is how they discovered that Annie was almost blind."

After they'd been working with her for about a year—and it was tough sledding with Annie—the Perkins institute for the Blind opened its doors. They were able to help her and she went on to study and she became a teacher herself.

Annie came back to the Tewksbury Institute to visit, and to see what she could do to help out. At first, the Director didn't say anything and then he thought about a letter he'd just received. A man had written to him about his daughter. She was absolutely unruly—almost like an animal. She was blind and deaf as well as 'deranged.

He was at his wit's end, but he didn't want to put her in an asylum. So he wrote the Institute to ask if they knew of anyone who would come to his house and work with his daughter. And that is how Annie Sullivan became the lifelong companion of Helen Keller.

When Helen Keller received the Nobel Prize, she was asked who had the greatest impact on her life and she said, "Annie Sullivan."

But Annie said, "No Helen. The woman who had the greatest influence on both our lives was a floor maid at the Tewksbury Institute."



Helen Keller

Rotary 🛞 👖

NTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3181 CONFERENCE 2020-2021

Abhaya April 30, May 1&2 The registration fees for the conference is as follows: Rotarians – ₹ 5500 Anns, Annets, Johns(above 18 years)– ₹ 3,500 Annets & Johns (12-18 years)- ₹ 2,000 Annets & Johns (Below 12 years)- NIL

Suresh Kamath, Conference Treasurer.

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