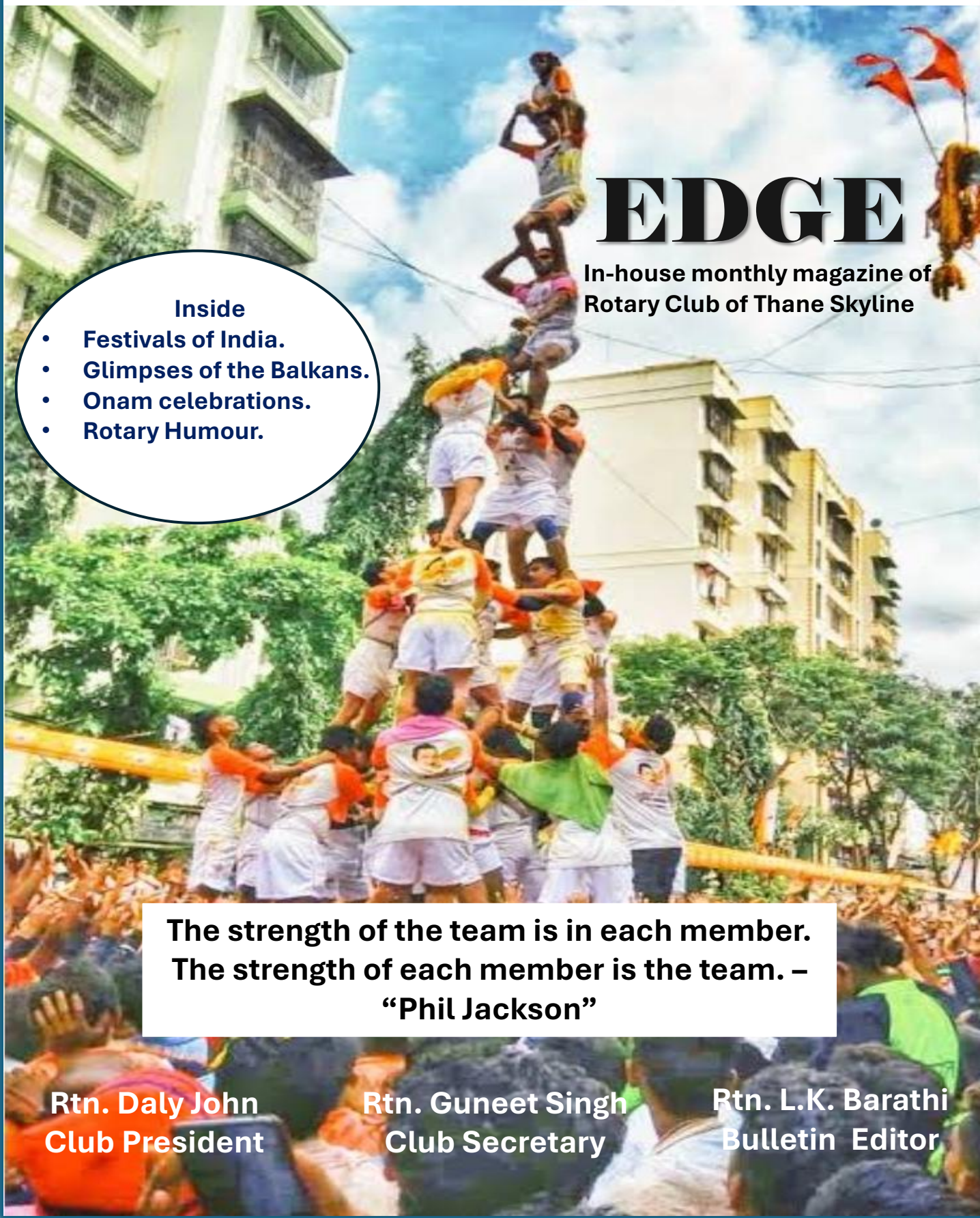
UNITE FOR GOOD

Thane Skyline Rotary Club

TiTEN



EDGE

In-house monthly magazine of Rotary Club of Thane Skyline

Inside

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The strength of the team is in each member. The strength of each member is the team. – "Phil Jackson"

Rtn. Daly John
Club President

Rtn. Guneet Singh
Club Secretary

Rtn. L.K. Barathi
Bulletin Editor

Through the Governor's Lens

My Dear TiTEN Rotarians,

On this auspicious occasion of Dussehra, I extend my warm greetings to you and your families. This festival reminds us of the eternal truth—good always triumphs over evil. In Rotary too, every project we undertake is a step towards defeating challenges such as illiteracy, poverty, disease, and inequality. Just as Lord Ram's victory inspires us, let us continue to create victories for humanity through service.

October is also observed as Economic and Community Development Month in Rotary. This is the perfect time to engage in projects that strengthen local economies—supporting self-help groups, guiding small businesses, empowering women entrepreneurs, mentoring our youth, and building sustainable opportunities.

Let us make this month one of action and impact, where communities see and feel the strength of Rotary.

As we look back, September ended on a beautiful note with our **TRF Seminar – Dhaan Mudita: The Joy of Giving.** Your presence, your generosity, and your contributions to The Rotary Foundation lit up the hall with true Rotary spirit. My heartfelt gratitude to every Rotarian, our donors, and CSR partners who made the event such a resounding success.

Now, as we move towards the festive season, I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous Diwali. May the festival of lights bring health, joy, and peace to your homes, and may we together spread that light to the lives of those in need.

Let us celebrate responsibly, safely, and with hearts full of gratitude and service.

Enjoy Rotary. Unite for Good.
Yours in Rotary Service,
Rtn. Harsh Makol
District Governor 2025–26

With an Eye on Care

My Dear Rotarian Family members

As the nine days of Navratri come to an end, we celebrate the many strengths of Goddess Durga—courage, compassion, wisdom, and resilience. These virtues inspire us to nurture our families, strengthen our communities, and spread light where it is most needed.

On this special occasion of Dussehra, I extend warm wishes to you and your loved ones. Just as good triumphs over evil, let us also work together to overcome poverty, despair, and inequality by empowering people through Rotary's service.

October is also Rotary's month of Economic and Community Development. One of the most impactful ways we can make a difference is by encouraging Bachat Gats and Self-Help Groups. These not only create financial independence but also open doors for families to dream bigger.

With Diwali around the corner, this becomes a wonderful opportunity to support local entrepreneurs and women-led businesses while also spreading happiness in our communities.

As we celebrate Diwali, may the lights of the festival bring peace, prosperity, and joy to your homes. Let us remember that true celebration lies in sharing our blessings and making sure others too can smile this festive season.
Wishing you all a Happy Dussehra and a bright, safe, and joyous Diwali!

With warm regards,
Priya Makol
First Lady, District 3142

Monthly letter from President Daly John

September was a month that beautifully reflected the Rotary spirit of service and fellowship. While our community immersed itself in the festivities of Ganesh Chaturthi and Navratri, our club too combined celebration with meaningful action.

One of the most impactful initiatives this month was our cervical cancer vaccination drive, aimed at safeguarding the health of young girls and spreading awareness about preventive healthcare. It was heartening to see members come together and donate to support this cause, reinforcing Rotary's commitment to building a healthier tomorrow.

Alongside this, we responded with compassion to those affected by the recent floods. Our club's leadership in the flood relief drive reached families in distress with timely aid, reminding us that even small gestures of care can bring hope in difficult times.

September was also special as we celebrated Onam on a grand scale with our members and their families were in other sister clubs and their members joined in too . The colorful traditions, fellowship, and the spirit of togetherness brought vibrancy and joy to our club. It was not just a festival gathering but a celebration of unity and culture that strengthened our bonds even further.

As we look back, September stands as a reminder of how service and celebration can go hand in hand. Every project and every moment of fellowship reflected our Rotary motto of Service Above Self.

Let us carry this warmth and enthusiasm forward into the coming months, continuing to serve with open hearts and celebrating life together as one big Rotary Family.

Yours in Rotary
Daly John
President

We celebrated Onam with great enthusiasm and reverence for its traditions. The event took place in a church, which emphasised the secular nature of the occasion. The ceremony was blessed by the vicar, who provided an insightful explanation of the significance of this popular Kerala festival. The lighting of the lamp was accompanied by a beautiful invocation song in Malayalam sung by Nithya. In keeping with the spirit of the festival, we enjoyed a dazzling display of vibrant native songs and colourful dances that captivated the audience.

The Onam celebrations led and organized by our President Rtn. Daly, and Rtn. DR. John Mathew symbolized joy, fellowship, friendship, and brotherhood. The event was attended by nearly 200 people, including our District Governor, Rtn Harsh Makol, the First Lady, and PDG Bal Inamdar from District 3141. Most of the men were dressed in traditional dhotis and angavastrams, while the ladies wore sarees and other traditional attire. The highlight of the event was a banana leaf lunch featuring over 20 delicious South Indian dishes.

The Unseen Europe – the Balkan Countries

By: IPP.Murli Sundrani

When we (Reetu & I) were offered an option of signing up for an 11-day trip to the Balkan countries, we were not too sure what to make of it. I had not heard much about these countries and their significance. However, upon conducting online research, I discovered a rich and significant history of these countries, which were part of the former Yugoslav state. And which later on, due to internal conflicts, got separated and got new county names. Additionally, this visit was planned for mid-September, which meant we would be able to enjoy the natural beauty of these countries with the colours of the Autumn season and avoid extreme weather conditions.

The countries to be visited were:

Hungary – Budapest – this was going to be the entry point to these Balkan countries
Serbia – Belgrade – with very historical significance of the regime of Marshall Tito, who, along with President Nasser of Egypt and Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru of India was the architect of the Non-Aligned Movement, popularly known as the NAM countries

North Macedonia – Skopje – popular as the place of Alexander the Great, while the South Macedonia is now known as Greece

Kosovo – Pristina, a very small country, but with a vibrant history and some of the most popular educational institutes

Bulgaria – Sofia and Plovdiv – are rich with historical buildings and monuments. Bustling streets with various cafes and beer bars

Romania – Bucharest – a bustling city, which boasts of having the second largest building in the world as its Parliament Palace

In ten days, we travelled more than 2000 kilometres by road journey between these countries/cities, in addition to local sightseeing of around 200 kilometres in the 10 days.
While the distance travelled looks very high, it was quite comfortable and enjoyable due to very good roads and a high-quality bus with excellent shock absorbers (It was a Mercedes Bus). Plus, we had very knowledgeable group members and very articulate local guides.

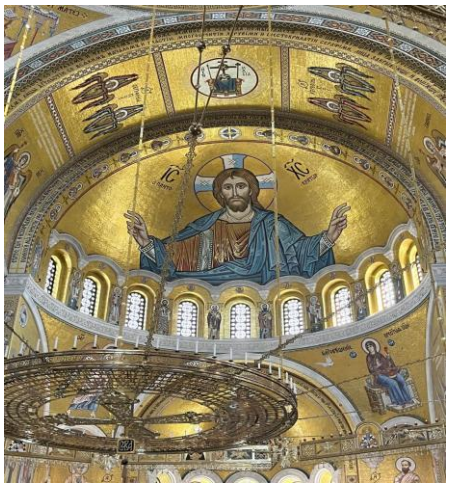
These countries are home to several spectacular monasteries, churches, and cathedrals, all following the Orthodox Christian tradition. The food at these locations was excellent, offering both local cuisine and vegetarian Indian dishes, which enhanced our travel experience. The highlight of our journey was the knowledgeable and enthusiastic local guides who shared insights into the country's history, its monuments, and their significance. This added depth to our trip and made it truly enjoyable and educational.

As they say, travelling enriches you and makes you aware and familiar with so many diverse countries, their people, culture, food habits and living styles. This tour of the Balkan countries surely did for us.

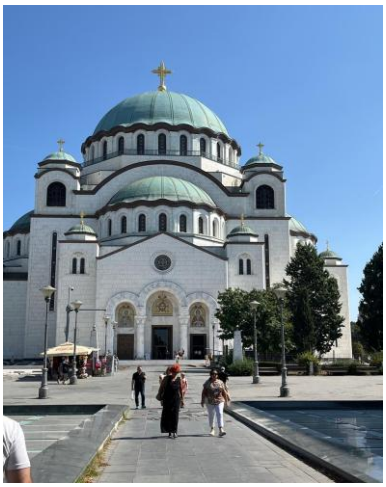
Visuals on the next page

Glimpses of the Balkans

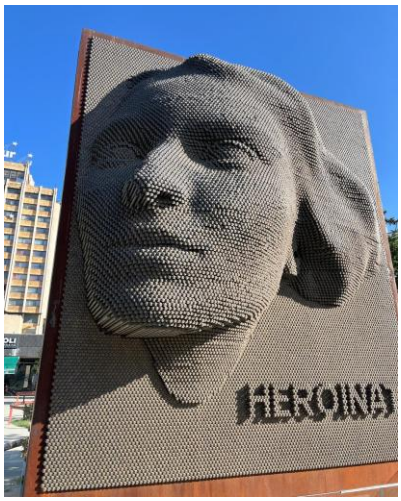
The very beautiful RILA Monastery in Sofia, Bulgaria



Belgrade – St. Sava Church from inside



Belgrade – St Sava Church –from outside – One of the biggest in Eastern Europe



HERONIA – the memorial to remember the several women who were abused during the War in Kosovo. Made of Pins, each with the name of the woman

Lake Matka – the largest and deepest
Cave lake – Skojpe

Statue of Alexander the Great – 24 ft high
– Skojpe- North Macedonia

In collaboration with the Rotary Club of Thane Creekside, we administered 337 doses of the HPV vaccine (designed to prevent cervical cancer) to teenage girls in Nasik, Thane, Chandwad, Lasalgaon, and Shirdi. This initiative aims to reduce the risk of cervical cancer for these girls as they grow up.

The cervical cancer vaccine is the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, which helps protect against the HPV strains that are responsible for most cases of cervical cancer and genital warts. It is recommended for both boys and girls, typically starting between the ages of 9 and 14, before they become sexually active. The vaccine is administered in a series of doses (either one, two, or three, depending on the individual's age and vaccination schedule) and is safe and effective in preventing HPV infections and related cancers.

An awareness and informational session on Thalassemia was organised, along with the Rotary Club of Thane Horizon, for 90 students from Vasant Vihar High School at the Blood Bank run by the Triumph Foundation in Thane. For many of these students, this was their first experience visiting a blood bank.

Rtn. Chandrasekhar, our senior member, distributed over 50 educational software programs to Xth standard students during a well-organised function in his native village in the Ratnagiri district. With this, our club has distributed over 400 software kits to eligible students at various schools in and around Thane

What messages do What do Indian festivals convey?

Indian festivals are more than just celebrations of religion or culture; they are central to the nation's social and cultural identity. These vibrant occasions, celebrated with great enthusiasm nationwide, serve as vital links between the past and present, preserving ancient traditions and communal values.

Each festival, from the brilliant lights of Diwali to the colorful powders of Holi, carries significant meaning rooted in mythology, history, or the changing seasons. They provide a powerful way for people to come together, transcending differences in caste, religion, and social status. At their core, festivals promote unity and social cohesion.

They create shared public spaces filled with joy, laughter, and mutual respect, strengthening family bonds and community ties. During these events, people engage in collective rituals, share traditional foods, and participate in performances passed down through generations. This sense of togetherness is especially evident during regional celebrations, such as Onam in Kerala and Durga Puja in Bengal, which showcase local art forms, traditional cuisine, and unique customs.

Beyond their social significance, many festivals hold deep spiritual meaning, offering opportunities for reflection, devotion, and renewal. These celebrations often commemorate important events or honor deities, reminding individuals of core values, such as the triumph of good over evil—a message central to festivals like Dussehra. Furthermore, festivals have a notable economic impact, stimulating local markets and supporting artisans who create traditional crafts and goods.

In essence, these festivals are a dynamic expression of India’s rich tapestry, fostering a sense of belonging and promoting harmony in a beautifully diverse society. They stand as a powerful testament to the nation's enduring spirit and its ability to find joy and unity within its rich heritage.

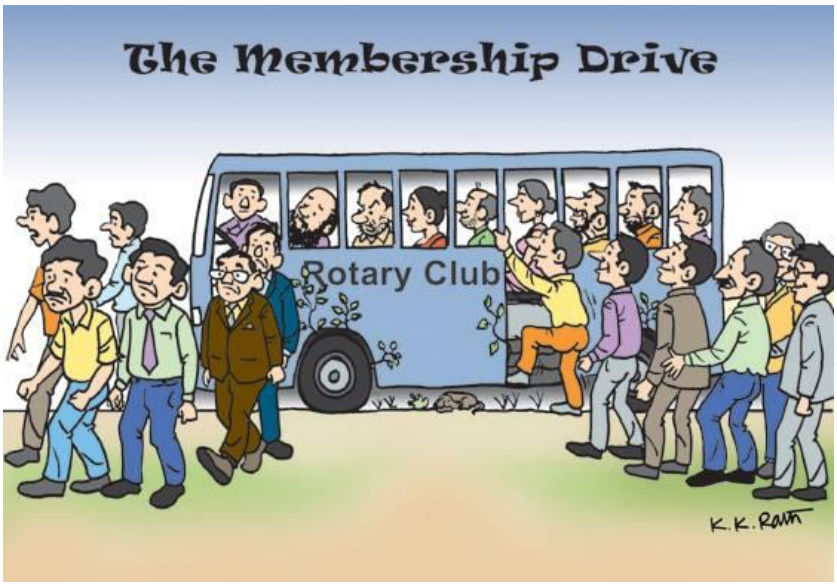
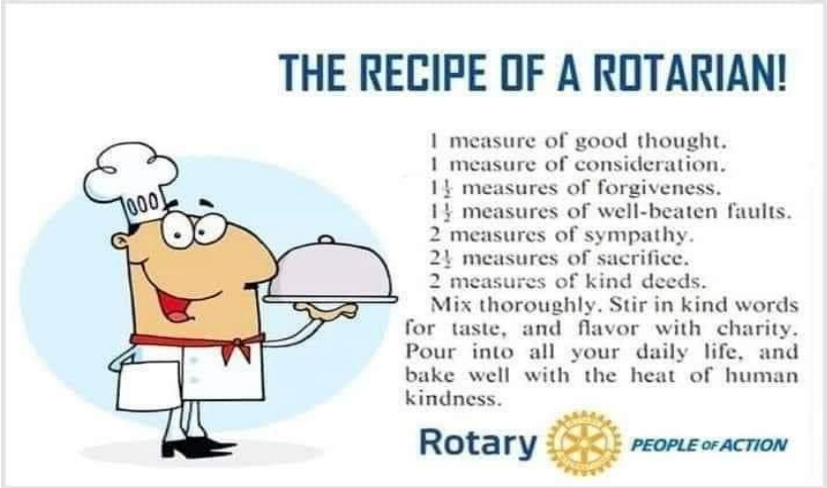
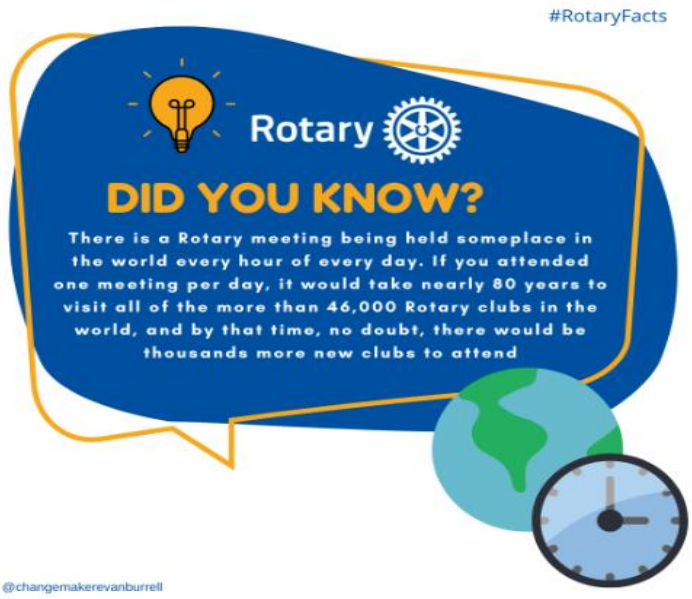
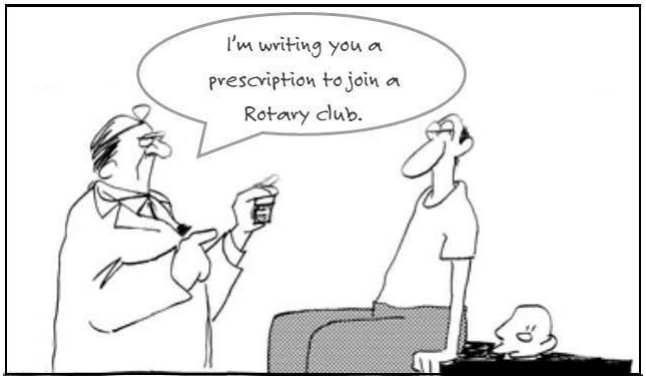
Our club has taken action to assist those affected by food shortages in Punjab by mobilising relief supplies at Mangala School in Thane East. Sister clubs in Thane, Kalyan, Ambernath, Badlapur, Bhiwandi, and other areas contributed to this significant effort. Nearly 6 tons of essential supplies were collected and sent to Punjab in time to help alleviate the suffering of those in need.

PE. Mahendra and R'ann Bharati shared their life experiences as part of our "Tapestry of Life" series. It was fascinating to learn how life is similar yet has so many different faces through different people.

FAMILY CORNER

Our new members, Rtns. Sanjeev and Anjali celebrated Ganapati Puja this year by sharing their happiness and blessings with fellow Skyliners. It was a wonderful fellowship gathering. Ganpati Bapa Morya.

Happy birthdays

02//10 – Rtn. Hemant.
13/10 – Rtn. Satish Khetwani.
25/10 – Rtn. Dr. John.
26/10 – Rtn. Guneet.
26/10. Kritika D/O. PP. Ashok & R'ann. Kanchan.
28/10 – Prerana D/O. Rtn. Vijay & R'ann. Pooja.

Rotary Humor