



Friends In Service **Amigo** Rotary Club of Bicholim



Issue No. 07

Volume XXXIII

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026



R I President
Rtn Francesco Arezzo



District Governor
Rtn Arun Daniel Bhandare



President
Rtn Damodar S Prabhu



Secretary
Rtn Dr Jyoti S Sawant

FREE DENTAL HEALTH CHECKUP CAMP FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



Totally 41 Senior Citizens took benefit of "Free Dental Health Checkup Camp" organized for Senior Citizens of Second Innings Day Care Centre at Baba Sawaiakar Seva Pratishthan in association with Goa Dental College and Hospital, Bambolim



DONATION OF SCHOOL BENCHES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Date : 12th December

Club distributed 15 school benches to Government High School, Shirgao as part of its ongoing commitment to support educational infrastructure in the community





**ROTARY DISTRICT
CONFERENCE**
30th-31st Jan & 1st Feb 2026

AWARDS CEREMONY 2024-25. RI DISTRICT 3170



BRAVO....
IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit receives BEST PRESIDENT Award in Medium Club Category



We did it....
IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit, Rtn Sargam and Rtn Atreya receives "BEST CLUB" Award



KUDOS.....
Rtn Swapnil receives the Club Award from Past DG Rtn Dr Vinaykumar Pai Raikar and IPDG Rtn Sharad Pai



IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit pose for a photo after receiving Individual Award from Incoming DG Rtn Dr Lenny Da Costa



CLICK FOR A PHOTO-FRAME
Rtn Swapnil Dixit and Rtn Sargam Falari with the collections of Awards for RIY 2024-25 after Awards Night at District Conference

President Message



Dear Members of my RCB Family,

As we complete the first half of six months of RIY 2025-26, our focus will now shift on Permanent Projects of Club in the second half of the Rotary Year. We have two projects which are approved by the BOD and the work has already started on these projects.

Bus Stop Shelter at Assonora Para Junction: Our 9th Bus Stop Shelter is completed and will be inaugurated in the month of February. This Bus Stop Shelter is sponsored by Mr Vishal R Padwal. This permanent project reflects Rotary's commitment to Community Welfare and Public Convenience.

House to Homeless (H2H) Project: On 17th December 2025, a devastating fire destroyed the residence of Mr Umesh Kandolkar in Bamanwada - Nanoda, causing extensive damage to wedding preparations including cash, gold, ornaments and new clothes. The estimated losses exceeded Rs 10 Lakhs. The incident occurred when the house was empty after both father and daughter had left for work in the morning. Besides damaging the TV, Refrigerator, Wooden Cupboard,

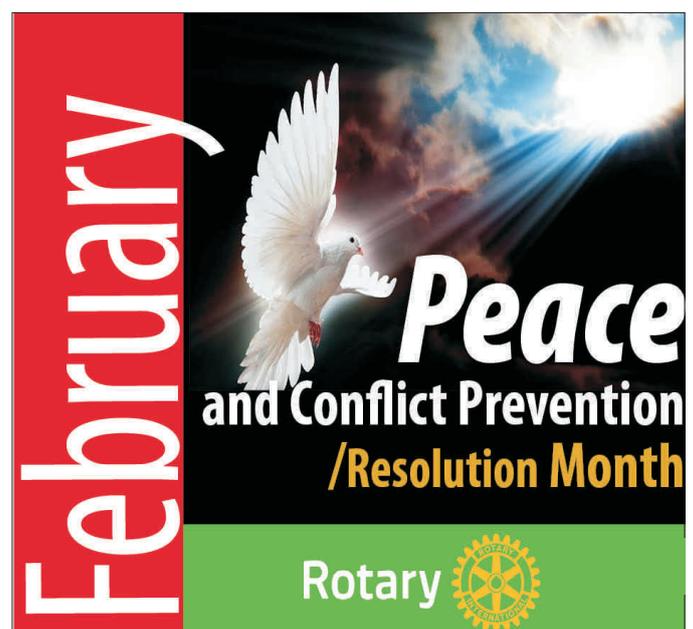
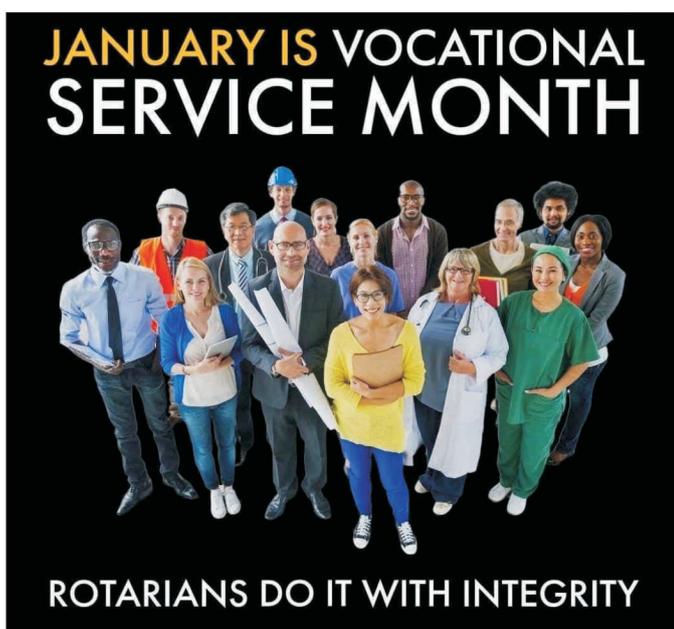
Electrical Wiring and Electronic Items, the family lost cash to tune of Rs 2.5 lakhs which they had borrowed for wedding in the family.

Club received request from local MLA for constructing a new house under our signature H2H project and the proposal has been approved by BOD at an approx. cost of Rs 5 Lakhs. Club has already started work on this project and we are committed to construct this house before the arrival of rains. When completed, this will be our 27th House constructed under H2H Project.

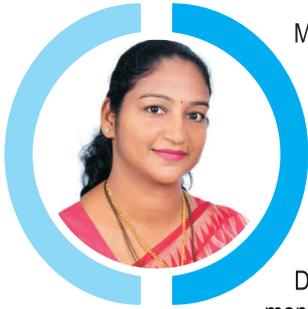
Month of January is designated as Vocational Service Month and is to celebrate the importance of vocational service-a core tenet of Rotary's mission. Vocational Month is a time for Rotarians to reflect on the role of their professions in shaping communities and to recommit to using their skills, knowledge, and ethical practices to make a positive difference in the world.

Month of February is designated as Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month. The month of February is very special in the Rotary Calendar because it includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, now designated as the World Understanding and Peace Day. Rotary International urges all Clubs to undertake special activities in this month to emphasize "understanding and goodwill as essential for world peace".

-Rtn Damodar



Secretary Report



Months of December and January are significant/contrasting months in English Calendar since month of December marks the conclusion of the year while the month of January signifies the arrival of new year.

The last month of the year-December is a festive, action-packed month known for Christmas (25th Dec), New Year's Eve Finale (31st Dec) and the winter solstice. This month also sees a surge in shopping and celebrations.

After closing the passing year with New Year's Eve Finale, we welcome the First Day of New Year (January Month) with joy and hope, embracing fresh opportunities for success, health and happiness. Beside fresh start to the year, it is also time to celebrate major winter festivals like Lohri, Pongal and observe National Days namely Republic Day (Jan 26), Shaheed Diwas (Jan 30) National Youth Day (Jan 12) and National Girl Child Day (Jan 24).

Let us look at the details of the projects/activities which were conducted by the Club in the months of December and January.

No of Weekly Meetings – 05 (In December) and 02 (In January)
No of Board of Directors Meetings – 02 (On 7th January and 28th January)

Quiz during Weekly Meeting:

Charter Member Rtn Arun Salkar conducted Rotary Knowledge Quiz Competition for the members during weekly meeting on **3rd December**. This was the third Quiz Contest conducted by Rtn Arun for this Rotary Year.

WGM Event for Polio Fund:

During a delightful get-together with close friends on **7th December**, IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit and Ann Anjali Dixit graciously conducted a WGM (World's Greatest Meal) event at Hotel Savali, Banda, located along the Goa–Mumbai Highway.

In true Rotary spirit of service and fellowship, an amount of \$50 was contributed towards the Polio Fund of The Rotary Foundation (TRF), strengthening our collective commitment to the global fight against Polio.

Advocate Day Celebration:

Advocate Day is celebrated on 3rd December and Club felicitated Advocates in RCB family on **10th December** to recognize the legal community's dedication to justice, integrity and the rule of law. Club felicitated following 6 members of RCB family who are professionally Advocates, with a memento and certificate.

- ✓ Rtn Mohandas Sawaikar
- ✓ Rtn Vishwas Sardesai

- ✓ Rtn Amol Sawant
- ✓ Rtn Smita Mardolkar
- ✓ Rtn Vallabh Naik
- ✓ Ann Pallavi Vallabh Naik

Donation of School Benches to Govt High School, Shirgao:

On **12th December**, Club distributed 15 school benches to Government High School, Shirgao as part of its ongoing commitment to support educational infrastructure in the community. The hand-over program was held in the presence of the School Headmaster, teachers, Club President, and Club members.

The initiative aims to provide a comfortable and conducive learning environment for students, addressing the classroom seating requirements highlighted by the school authorities. The newly provided benches will directly benefit the students by improving classroom arrangement, reducing inconvenience, and enhancing their overall learning experience. The project reflects Rotary's dedication to the cause of education and its continued efforts to strengthen local schools through meaningful service initiatives.

Pulse Polio Immunization Drive Support:

Club actively supported the Pulse Polio Immunization Drive conducted at CHC Bicholim on **14th December**. As part of the Club's commitment towards public health and community welfare, three vehicles were provided for mobilisation activities to ensure wider coverage and smooth implementation of the drive.

The vehicles were generously sponsored by Rtn Sachin Salkar (Salkar Constructions), Rtn Damodar Prabhu and Rtn Sagar Shetye. Several Rotary family members actively participated in the drive by bringing their children and family members to take Pulse Polio dose, thereby setting a strong example and reinforcing the importance of immunization in the community.

This initiative reflects Rotary's continued dedication to eradicating Polio and promoting preventive healthcare through active participation and support at the grass root level.

RYLA for Special Children:

On **17th December**, Rtn Dr Samira Falari conducted RYLA for Special Children of Keshav Seva Sadhana's Narayan Zantye School at a scenic picnic spot "Nature Inn" located at Nanoda. Dr Samira thoughtfully guided the students on healthy nutrition.

Blood Donation Camp:

On **21st December**, Club joined Rotaract Club of Bicholim to organize Blood Donation Camp in association with North Goa District Hospital (Asilo) at Rotary House, Bicholim. Total of 15 units collected from voluntarily donors were handed over to District Hospital's Blood Bank for patients in need. Club supported the project by providing the venue, guidance, and coordination assistance. The initiative was aimed at promoting community health and encouraging voluntary blood donation.

Release of November Issue of "Amigo":

On the eve of Christmas (**24th December**), December Issue of Amigo was released at the hands of Charter Member of our Club Rtn Vallabh

Contd. on page 9

QUIZ AT WEEKLY MEETING



Date : 3rd December

Charter Member Rtn Arun Salkar conducted Rotary Knowledge Quiz Competition for the members during weekly meeting

CLUB ASSEMBLY BY AG



Date : 14th December

AG Rtn Ramesh Tiwari conducted 3rd Club Assembly before District Conference. He appealed to the members to attend the Conference in large numbers



Rtn Smita Mardolkar Rtn Amol Sawant Rtn Vallabh Naik Ann Pallavi Naik

ADVOCATE DAY CELEBRATION

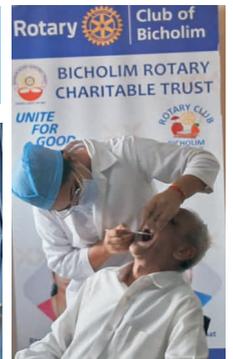
Date : 10th December

Club felicitated Advocates in RCB family to recognize the legal community's dedication to justice, integrity and the rule of law

FREE DENTAL CHECKUP CAMP

Date : 27th December

Use of Mobile Dental Clinic Bus was made during the "Free Dental Health Checkup Camp" organized for Senior Citizens of Second Innings Day Care Centre. This camp was conducted in association with Goa Dental College and Hospital, Bambolim



BLOOD DONATION CAMP

Date : 21st December



Club joined Rotaract Club of Bicholim to organize "Blood Donation Camp" in association with North Goa District Hospital (Asilo) at Rotary House, Bicholim. Total of 15 units were collected from voluntarily donors

RYLA FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN

Date : 17th December



Rtn Dr Samira Falari conducted RYLA for Special Children of Keshav Seva Sadhana's Narayan Zantye School at a scenic picnic spot "Nature Inn" located at Nanoda

Congratulations!



Annette Dr Rohit Milind Shirodkar (Son of Rtn Milind and Ann Rupa) inaugurated State of the Art Vision Care Center "SHIRODKAR EYE CARE" on 31st January at the hands of Chief Minister of Goa Mr Pramod Sawant in presence of local MLA Dr. Chandrakant Shetye. The function was graced by invited dignitaries from Bicholim and other parts of Goa. Members of the Club attended the function and conveyed Best Wishes to Dr Rohit



Rtn Vindesh Vinayak Shirodkar is elected unopposed as Director of The Bicholim Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd for term of five years (2026-2031)

LIC
भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

CONGRATULATIONS

SHRI D S PRABHU , 0033891F , 91F-MAPUSA

You participated in the
GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS
title attempt for
**THE MOST LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES SOLD
IN 24 HOURS IS 588,107**
achieved by Life Insurance Corporation of India, across India
on 20 January 2025

*"Your power packed performance made this record possible.
Thank you for your valuable contribution."*

Siddhartha Mohanty
CEO & MD LIC of India

OFFICIAL
ATTEMPT



President Rtn Damodar Prabhu successfully participated in "Guinness World Record for Most Life Insurance Policies sold in 24 hours" by Life Insurance Corporation of India. Totally 588,107 policies were sold on a single day on 20th January 2025

Celebration

Rtn Prashant Chanekar organized get-together on 24th December for his well-wishers and members of Voluntary Organizations with whom he is associated to celebrate his birthday and wedding-anniversary at scenic place belonging to Dr Dayanand Rao



Rtn Maya Damodar Prabhu celebrated her 60th Birthday on 5th December. Rotarians and Anns visited her place to greet her. Rtn Maya donated \$1024 to Annual Programme Fund (APF) on occasion of her birthday and thus becoming a PHF



IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit celebrated his birthday during the weekly meeting on 14th January. AG Rtn Ramesh Tiwari along with the members of the Club joined Rtn

Swapnil in Birthday Cake Cutting



WALKATHON 2.0 FOR SENIORS

Rtn Santosh Sawal participated in the "WALKATHON 2.0 FOR SENIORS" organized by Rotary Club of Panaji Riviera on 7th December 2025. He participated in 5 kms walk thereby emphasising his motto KEEP WALKING

REPUBLIC DAY



President Rtn Damodar Prabhu was invited as Chief Guest for Republic Day Celebration (26th January) at Radhakrishna Vidyalaya, Bicholim. He unfurled the National Flag and also inaugurated a Wall Paper Competition

SPORTS MEET



President Rtn Damodar Prabhu was invited as Chief Guest for Annual Sports Meet of Govind Gunaji High School, Sarvan on 17th January. He was presented with a memento by Chairman of Pujya Sane Guruji Dyanopasana Mandir Mr Yashwant Gauns

ROUND-UP OF ACTIVITIES OF ROTARY SCHOOL



BIENNIAL SPORTS MEET

Date : 21st December



Biennial Sports Meet of Bicholim Rotary Charitable Trust's - Rotary English Medium Primary and KG School was held at Shree Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Maidan, Bicholim. Besides regular sport activities, the highlight of the event was colourful Physical Drills performed by the students of Primary and KG School



President of Inner Wheel Club of Bicholim Ann Milinda Kamat attended the Sports Meet and handed over the medals and certificates to the winners



School Manager Rtn Ramanand Natekar with the winners of an event conducted during Sports Meet



Secretary Rtn Dr Jyoti Sawant pose for a photo with the winners of the sporting event



Physical Drills demonstrating co-ordination and rhythm were performed by the students, Such drills also helps students for team building and for physical fitness



Dark Blue House was declared the BEST HOUSE and received the Rolling Trophy sponsored by School Chairman Rtn Sudath Mandrekar. Rtn Damodar Prabhu (President, Rotary Club of Bicholim) hands over the trophy to house leaders Master Karthikraj Singh and Miss Dhriti Polji in presence of distinguished guests

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

Date : 26th January



77th Republic Day was celebrated with pride and patriotism in the School by unfurling the National Flag at the hands of School Chairman Rtn Sudath Mandrekar in presence of School Manager Rtn Ramanand Natekar



Students dressed in colourful costumes danced on the tune of patriotic songs and also posed for the selfie with National Flag



ANNUAL SCHOOL PICNIC

Date : 28th January



Students from Nursery to Standard IV participated in Annual School Picnic held at scenic Raut Farm, Sal-Bicholim. Students enjoyed Dancing, Singing, Sharing their tiffin's and fun day outside their classrooms

Secretary Report *Contd. from page 4*

Salkar. Rtn Vallabh was celebrating his birthday on this day and members of the Club joined him at his residence to wish him, for cake cutting, and also to release monthly issue of Amigo.

Dental Health Checkup Camp for Senior Citizens:

Club organised Dental Health Checkup Camp for Senior Citizens of Second Innings of Day Care Centre on **27th December** at Baba Sawaikar Seva Pratishthan in association with Goa Dental College and Hospital, Bambolim. A total of 41 beneficiaries attended the camp, comprising 27 male and 14 female participants.

After thorough dental examinations, 17 patients were provided treatment. The treatments included tooth extraction, dental cleanings and dental fillings, addressing common oral health issues among the elderly.

The camp was efficiently conducted by a dedicated team of 10 doctors and technical staff from Goa Dental College and Hospital under the able leadership of Dr. Atrey Pai Khot. The initiative was well appreciated by the beneficiaries and contributed positively towards improving oral health awareness and care among senior citizens.

General Knowledge Quiz Competition:

On **16th January**, General knowledge Quiz competition for Std XI was organised for students of Shri Shantadurga Higher Secondary School, Bicholim. This competition was sponsored by our Charter Member Rtn Vijay Sardesai (Chairman of Vidyavardhak Mandal) and Ann Tara Sardesai under the aegis of the Late Shri Shashikant Jaiwant Sardesai Welfare Trust.

Totally 450 students from Std XI actively participated in the competition, displaying enthusiasm, knowledge, and a healthy competitive spirit. The event aimed at enhancing general awareness, logical thinking, and confidence among students. Competition was conducted with support and cooperation of management, Principal, teaching and non-teaching staff of the institution.

Participation and Representation:

Biennial Sports Meet of Poira High School:

President Rtn Damodar Prabhu was invited as Chief Guest for Biennial Sports Meet of Poira High School at Poira on 2nd December.

Walkathon 2.0 for Seniors:

Past President Rtn Santosh Sawal participated in "Walkathon 2.0 for Seniors" organised by Rotary Club of Panaji Rivera on 7th December. He participated in 5kms walk category for Senior Citizens.

Biennial Sports Meet of Rotary School:

Biennial Sports Meet of Bicholim Rotary Charitable Trust's -Bicholim English Medium Primary School and K.G.School was held on 21st December at Shree Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Maidan, Bicholim. President Rtn Damodar Prabhu was invited as Guest of Honour. Members of Club attended this sporting event to encourage the children who participated in Physical Drills and various sporting disciplines. The participation of Ann and Annettes as Volunteers made this event a grand success. Parents of the students attended the event in large numbers and also participated in the games specially designed for them.

It was a vibrant and memorable day celebrating sportsmanship,

teamwork, and the spirit of healthy competition among our blooming buds.

Bon Voyage Get Together:

On 4th January, Club President Rtn Damodar Prabhu, Past President Rtn Dr Sandip Sawant, IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit and President Elect Rtn Abhijeet Teli attended Bon Voyage Get-together for Incoming-DG Rtn Dr Lenny Da Costa, who was travelling to attend the RI Assembly at Florida (USA), the event was hosted by Rotary Margao Parivar.

Annual Sports Meet of Govind Gunaji High School:

President Rtn Damodar Prabhu was invited as Chief Guest for Annual Sports Meet of Govind Gunaji High School at Sarvan on 17th January. The event was held at the Sports ground of Narayan Zantye College for Commerce at Vathadev.

Republic Day at Radhakrishna Vidyalaya:

On 26th January, President Rtn Damodar Prabhu unfurled National Flag to mark Republic Day Celebration at Radhakrishna Vidyalaya, Bicholim. As Chief Guest for this function, he also inaugurated Wall Paper Competition.

Rotary District (3170) Conference "ऋणानुबंध":

From our Club a total of 15 members, including 3 Anns attended the 67th Rotary District 3170 Conference held at Vijay Palace and Lawns, Kolhapur-Sangli Road, Near Shirol. on 30th- 31st January and 1st February. Members attended the different Plenary Sessions conducted by eminent speakers on topics namely Artificial Intelligence (AI), Emotional Intelligence, Women Careers in India and National Security. Members also enjoyed the fellowship and Entertainment programmes at conclusion of scheduled programmes planned on each day.

Our Club bagged following awards during District Awards in Medium Club Category during this Conference.

Club Awards:

1. Best Club
2. Highest TRF per capita contribution
3. Best in TRF program participation
4. Special Award for Endowment Fund Contribution
5. District Award for Global Grants

Individual Awards:

1. Best President Rtn Swapnil Dixit
2. TRF Major Donor Level 2 Achievement Award- Rtn Swapnil Dixit and Rtn Sargam Falari
3. District Service Award for TRF – Rtn Sargam Falari

Congratulations to IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit for exceptional leadership during RIY 2024-25 and his entire team for bringing laurels to the Club.

-Rtn Dr Jyoti Sawant



The Rotary Information



Rotary International President Elect Rtn Olayinka H Babalola called on members to “Create Lasting Impact” by making their clubs more welcoming, carrying out impactful projects, and allowing their Rotary experiences to transform them personally



Rtn Ravishankar and Paola Dakoju (Rotary Club of Bangalore) on 13th January declared at 2026 Rotary International Assembly in Orlando, Florida-USA, that they will contribute approx. \$50 million (4.6 billion Indian Rupees) to The Rotary Foundation

Fellowship Greetings

JANUARY 2026

BIRTHDAY

17	Sat	Mandar s/o Pradip Lad
22	Thur	Neha d/o Narahari Sawant
23	Fri	Rtn Mario Fernandes
24	Sat	Salil s/o Santosh Sawal
24	Sat	Ann Sheela Sagar Shetye
30	Fri	Nikhil s/o Sagar Shetye
31	Sat	Rtn Prashant Bhonsle
31	Sat	Shreen d/o Samir Falari



FEBRUARY 2026

BIRTHDAY

01	Sun	Rtn Sadashiv Dhond
04	Wed	Shravan s/o Sargam Falari
04	Wed	Rtn Sadguru Shetye
19	Thur	Rtn Abhijeet Teli
21	Sat	Ann Nutan Arun Salkar
23	Mon	Radha d/o Pramod Kade
28	Sat	Peenak s/o Abhishek Sardesai



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

15	Sun	Shilpa & Sandeep Desai
21	Sat	Rushita & Vivek Popkar
27	Fri	Aparna & Durgesh Karapurkar



MARCH 2026

BIRTHDAY

06	Fri	Suvrat grand-son of Santosh Sawal
11	Wed	Nandan s/o Narahari Sawant
15	Sun	Ann Nandini Sudath Mandrekar



OBITUARY

Beloved mother of Rtn Prashant Bhonsle left for heavenly abode on 13th December 2025.

The Rotary Family shares the grief of the bereaved family and pray Almighty that the soul may Rest in Eternal Peace.




Total of 15 members, including 3 Anns attended 67th Rotary District 3170 Conference held at Vijay Palace and Lawns, Kolhapur-Sangli Road, Near Shirol



Club was awarded with Certificates of Recognition and Medals for its efforts in Active Participation and Continuous Support to
 ● End Polio Now Challenge ● "WGM-Polio Fund" Campaign



President Rtn Damodar Prabhu, Secretary Rtn Dr Jyoti Sawant and President Elect Rtn Abhijeet Teli pose for a Photo with Incoming DG Rtn Dr Lenny Da Costa



During the Conference, Lady Rotary Members and Anns stole the Limelight by dressing for the occasion



RCB Family members attending the Conference enjoyed fellowship on and off the Conference Venue



When visiting Kolhapur, Darshan at Mahalakshmi Temple is a MUST

PULSE POLIO IMMUNIZATION DRIVE

Date : 14th December



Club actively supported the Pulse Polio Immunization Drive conducted at CHC Bicholim. Club supported this drive by providing three vehicles for mobilisation activities and also by bringing their children and family members to take Pulse Polio dose



RELEASE OF CLUB BULLETIN "AMIGO"

December Issue of Club bulletin "Amigo" was released at the hands of Charter Member of our Club Rtn Vallabh Salkar, who was celebrating his birthday on the same day. Members in large numbers attended this release function

Date : 24th December

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ COMPETITION

Date : 16th January



Total of 450 students took part in General knowledge Quiz competition for Std XI organised for students of Shri Shantadurga Higher Secondary School, Bicholim. The competition was sponsored by our Charter Member Rtn Vijay Sardesai (Chairman of Vidyavardhak Mandal) and Ann Tara Sardesai under the aegis of Late Shri Shashikant Jaiwant Sardesai Welfare Trust

WGM EVENT FOR POLIO FUND

Date : 7th December

IPP Rtn Swapnil Dixit and Ann Anjali Dixit graciously conducted a WGM (World's Greatest Meal) event at Hotel Savali, Banda. An amount of \$50 was contributed towards the Polio Fund of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) through this event

