



RI District 3203
Club No 15875
Chartered 1941

THE NILGIRI ROTARIAN

December 2025

Editor: Rtn Daksha Bhat

Looking forward
to an

AMAZiNG

2026



Service Above Self

President's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As I look back on the year 2025 and my six months as your President, I do so with a deep sense of gratitude, humility, and pride in all that we have achieved together as a Club.

One of our most meaningful milestones this year was the successful completion of the Home Guard project—a collective effort that reflected Rotary's commitment to disciplined service and community partnership. It was encouraging to see our members come together with such focus and resolve, supporting those who quietly stand guard for our safety and well-being.

Even as this chapter came to a close, we turned our attention firmly to the future with the launch of Young Titans – Idea Veerans. Through this initiative, we hope to enthuse the youth of the Nilgiris to think entrepreneurially, to build enterprises rooted in our hills, and to stay connected to the place that nurtured them. Our aspiration is simple yet powerful—to help young people create opportunities here and, in doing so, give back to the community that raised them.

We have also grown our Rotary family with the induction of new members, bringing fresh energy and ideas into the Club. Equally important was the announcement of the leadership team for the Rotary year 2026–27. I am happy to share that Rtn. Daksha will take on the role of President, with Rtn. Dr. Rajesh Chandra serving as Secretary. I am confident that under their leadership, the Club will continue to grow in purpose, unity, and impact.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to every member of the Club, their families, and the larger Nilgiris community for your unwavering support throughout the year. Your trust, encouragement, and quiet contributions have been the backbone of everything we have accomplished.

I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to serve and am filled with optimism for the road ahead. Together, we remain committed to the ideals of Rotary and to meaningful service in the hills we call home.

With warm regards,

**Rtn. PHF Harikrishnan H
President
Rotary Club of The Nilgiris**



From the Editor's Desk

Dear Fellow Rotarian,

The New Year brings an opportunity to look ahead and imagine a better us. Most resolutions span a familiar range of aspirations! Each year we resolve to eat less sugar and carbs, exercise more, spend more time with the people who matter in our lives and do things that are more meaningful to ourselves and the planet.



The change of the calendar gives us a chance to pause and reflect. We remain the same person though the year changes, however the psychological separation creates an opportunity for a fresh start. It gives us a chance to evaluate our choices and reset how we manage our lives.

Making resolutions is about recognizing where we stand and choosing, deliberately, where we want to go next. We cross into a new year as the same people we were the day before, same strengths, same flaws, same quirks. The opportunity lies in deciding what deserves more attention.

Change rarely happens in dramatic bursts. It unfolds quietly, through repeated choices. A resolution doesn't magically transform us on the flip of the calendar, it merely gives shape to intention. It is a declaration, -this matters enough to try. Behavioural scientist Dan Ariely offers three bits of advice for resolutions. First, don't start too big, start with something modest. Second choose something that we can control. While the kilos of weight we can lose is often subject to biology and not under our control, our eating and activity habits are. Third, set the resolution around a shorter timeline because it might pay dividends over the long term and become a habit.

Often resolutions are abandoned when we stumble or fall back into old patterns. But slipping does not erase progress. Growth is not linear, and commitment is not measured by flawless execution. The real change happens when we return to our intentions again and again, even after we drift.

The New Year offers no guarantees. It makes us older, not necessarily wiser. It does offer us a much needed opportunity to reset priorities, space to make small promises, and encourages us to believe that efforts matter. We don't need a new identity to move forward. We only need the willingness to keep going, carrying who we are into what comes next, with purpose.

And with that spirit, I would like to propose one addition to the resolution list for 2026: **Attend More Meetings!** Let us commit to showing up, engaging fully, and making it a truly wonderful year in Rotary.

Yours in Rotary

Daksha Bhat

“You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget the errand.”

-Woodrow Wilson



DECEMBER 2025

- 01** Eye Camp Kercombai Hatty
- 02** Weekly Meeting
Board Meeting
- 03** Eye Camp Cliff House Yellanali
- 04** Eye Camp Tea Board of India Coonoor
- 06** Inauguration of Renovated Home Guard Office
- 09** Weekly Meeting
- 11** Installation at Interact club of Stanes School
- 15** Eye Camp Sundatty Kotagiri
- 16** Weekly Meeting
- 21** Eye Camp Athigaratty
- 22** Eye Camp High Field Estate Coonoor
- 23** Weekly Meeting
- 29** Eye Camp Indco Factory Selas
- 30** Eye Camp Kattabetu Forest Office



The renovation of the Home Guards Office at Coonoor was completed early this month and the inauguration of the premises was done at a function attended by Rotarians. This was made possible by allocating an amount of ₹3.5 lakhs out of a generous donation of ₹5 lakhs arranged by Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma, through Black Hat Talent Solutions & Consulting Pvt. Ltd.





Rotarians attended the installation ceremony of officials Interact club at Stanes School. The program was executed flawlessly, with impressive performances by the children.





The Interact club of Stanes Anglo Indian School, Coonoor hosted a celebration of World Disability Day with Kinder Trust. The school students and Kinder Trust trainees performed. Return gifts were distributed and everybody had a wonderful time.



The charter for two new Interact clubs was received this month. The formation of the Interact clubs of Wellington Cantonment Board Secondary School, and Kendriya Vidyalaya Wellington, brings the number of Interact clubs sponsored by RC Nilgiris to ten. Congratulations to Rtn Sunil Goyal for the achievements.

Rtn Sanjay Khanna shared the progress at the PUMS Bettati school, where the grand new archway at entrance is making students proud!



The 4 way test of the things we think, say, & do

1 is it the truth

2 is it fair to all concerned

3 will it be beneficial to all concerned

4 will it build goodwill & better friendships

Rotary The Nilgiris 

Eye Camps



Kattabetu Forest Office



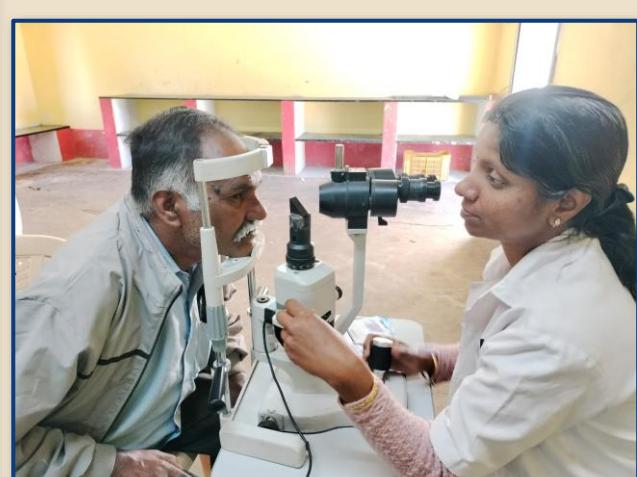
Athigaratty



Indco Tea Factory Selas



Kercombai Hatty



Sundatty Kotagiri

A stroll down memory lane

– by Rtn Krishn Dev

The first Rotary club in India was the Rotary Club of Calcutta, chartered on 1st January 1920, and it sponsored the Rotary Club of Madras in 1929. The Rotary club of the Nilgiris was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Madras at the request of the late Lt Col KRK Iyengar. The historic inaugural meeting took place at the Coonoor Club on 18th June 1941 in the presence of Sir Arthur Hope, the then Governor of Madras Presidency. The club's Charter No 5441 was signed on 25th November 1941 and was presented to the club on 10th March 1942 by the then District Governor Rtn HM Desai.

As the Rotary movement grew, the Rotary Club of the Nilgiris in turn sponsored new clubs at Coimbatore, Palghat and Mettupalayam as well as three clubs at Ooty. With continued growth the Rotary International District covering this region has been renumbered and its boundaries revised many times. Two Rotarians from the Rotary Club of the Nilgiris have been elected as District Governors, Rtn Lt Col KRK Iyengar for RI District 89 in 1942-43 and Rtn Sir CP Ramaswami for RI District 59 in 1952-53.

Ever since its founding, the Rotary Club of the Nilgiris has carried out its role of service to the community through a variety of projects. One early notable project was the Toda Welfare Scheme to rid the Toda community of diseases which, by lowering the birth rate, threatened the very existence of the community. With the help of the Pasteur Institute the problem was identified and controlled by means of intensive antibiotic treatment. Protected water supply was provided to a Toda school and later, fully equipped hospital wards and medical equipment were donated for the benefit of the hill tribes. Between the years 1963-1972 the club built various facilities for the Nilgiris Adivasi Welfare Association (NAWA) Tribal Welfare Hospital

In 1980 the Rotary Club of the Nilgiris Charitable Trust was formed for providing sustained support to worthwhile causes. Some of the

notable projects carried out include construction of school buildings and classrooms as well as donation of furniture and books. Numerous medical and eye camps have been organised over the years and donations made towards facilities for needy patients. Most of these still exist and are in use.

The Rotary Club of the Nilgiris has sponsored several clubs including

- ✳ The Rotary Club of Coimbatore in 1943
- ✳ The Rotary Club of Palghat in 1958
- ✳ The Rotary Club of Mettupalayam in 1961
- ✳ The Rotary Club of Ootacamund in 1972, previously known as RC of Nilgiris North
- ✳ The Rotary Club of Gudalur in 1974 (now de-chartered)
- ✳ The Rotary Club of Ketti Valley in 1986



January

Rotary
The Nilgiris



Vocational Service Month

Januadry

Birthdays



03 Ann David Tee Spouse of Rtn Sangeeta Shinde

04 Annet Tanya D/o Rtn Jacob Mathew

06 Ann Lt Gen Tony Spouse of Rtn Sonalika Gadeock

Annet Manika D/o Rtn Jacob Mathew

08 Rtn Chandana Roychoudhury

09 Ann Priyanka Spouse of Rtn Sushil Parekh

10 Annet Parikshit S/o Rtn Vijaya Dar

11 Rtn Jayanthi Premkumar

13 Rtn Shirley George

20 Ann Kasthuri Spouse of Rtn B Chandra Kumar

22 Ann Geetha Spouse of Rtn Raman Menon

26 Annet Kriti D/o Rtn Sushil Parekh

28 Annet Anusha D/o Stephen G Jayaseelan

29 Ann Jaishree Spouse of N K Devaraj

Ann Surabhi Spouse of Rtn Raunak Jain

31 Annet Priya Kaul D/o Rtn Asha Wazir

Anniversaries

01 Rtn Mathew Jacob

15 Rtn Dr Megha Srikanth

Rtn Ullas Menon

17 Rtn Javrilal Parekh

20 Rtn R Muralidharan

29 Rtn Dr Rajesh Chandra

30 Rtn Vaishnavi

