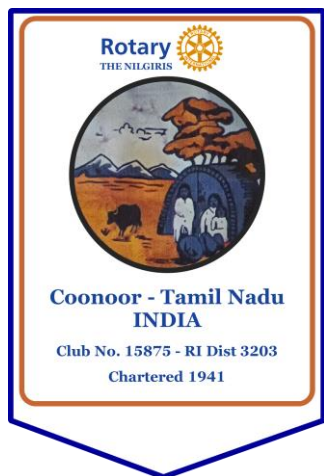


Helping young people to develop leadership skills
while discovering the power of
Service Above Self



At the installation ceremony of the Interact Club of St. Antony's Higher Secondary School Coonoor, Sergeant at Arms Rtn. Colaso, presented the gavel to newly installed Interactor Sergeant at Arms Tamil Selvanstik. President Rtn Sunil Goyal, Secretary Rtn Raja Venkatraman and Rtn Nithya Ashish participated in the event. Past President Rtn. Muralidharan administered the oaths and officiated as the Chief Guest & Installing Officer.

President's Message



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As we move forward in our Rotary journey, February has been yet another month of impactful service, strengthening our club's commitment to making a meaningful difference in our community. I extend my gratitude to each one of you for your continued enthusiasm and dedication towards our service initiatives. A major highlight this month was the **Installation Ceremony of our fourth Interact Club at St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Coonoor**, held on 7th February. It was a proud moment to witness the induction of young minds into the Rotary movement, guided by

Principal Brother Thomas, Chief Guest & Installing Officer Rtn Muralidharan, and the presence of enthusiastic Interactors, parents, and fellow Rotarians.

We are also pleased to announce that the **charter for the Interact Club at St. Mary's Girls Higher Secondary School, Coonoor**, has been received, and the installation ceremony will be scheduled soon. The revival of the Interact Club at St. Mary's is progressing well, with an **orientation program conducted on 14th February**, attended by Rtn Javrilal, Rtn Stephen, and myself. With over 800 students in the school, this marks another milestone in expanding Rotary's youth engagement.

Another significant event was the **rededication of the fully upgraded LPG Gas Powered Crematorium to the community**. In the presence of **Chief Guest Brigadier Krishnendu Das, Chief Executive Officer of Wellington Cantonment Board Shri Vinit Lote, citizens of Coonoor, members of social service organizations, fellow Rotarians, and Interactors**, we reinstated this vital facility.

The crematorium has long served as a dignified farewell place for our departed loved ones, and over time, its wear and tear necessitated a complete overhaul. Through our collective efforts, we successfully upgraded key infrastructure, including replacing the old MS chimney with a stainless-steel one and enhancing internal components like the blower unit, pipes, and tubes.

In our continued commitment to **healthcare initiatives**, multiple **eye screening camps** were conducted in various locations, providing essential services to underserved communities. Our outreach ensures that individuals receive necessary care, reinforcing our pledge to service above self.

A special mention to **our Treasurer, Rtn Manish Jain, and his family**, who donated **two oxygen concentrators, a bed, and a mattress worth Rs. 2,00,000/- to the M N Trust Old Age Home at Denalai**. Their generosity will significantly improve the quality of life for the elderly residents, exemplifying the true spirit of Rotary service.

Our month was also enriched by the contributions of kind-hearted individuals. **Mrs. Jaswinder K Atwal, a friend of Rtn Sonia, donated Rs. 2,00,000/-**, which facilitated the purchase of a medical bed and trolley, with the remaining amount allocated to our Scholarship Fund. **Rtn Vijaya Dar also contributed**

(cont...) 2

President's Message

Rs. 10,000/- towards the Scholarship Fund, reinforcing our commitment to supporting education.

Our club extended its support to the **Half Marathon organized by MRC on 9th February** by **sponsoring Rs. 25,000/- and providing our ambulance services**. The event was attended by myself, our secretary Rtn C. R. Venkatraman and Rtn Dr. Rajesh Chandra. I had the privilege of **flagging off the 55+ years category** and presenting awards to the winners. Brigadier Krishnendu Das, Commandant MRC, expressed his heartfelt appreciation for our club's sponsorship and participation.

A truly inspiring contribution was made by **AKS Shirley George, sister of Rtn Sheela Bhasin, who donated an incredible \$4,65,000/- to the Rotary Foundation**. Recognizing her exceptional generosity, the members unanimously approved offering her an **Honorary Membership** of our club.

In our Speaker Meeting this month, **Rtn Dr. Rajesh Chandra delivered an insightful talk on "India's Para Military Forces and His Journey in the Border Security Forces"**, offering a deep dive into his experiences and the role of paramilitary forces in national security.

We also had an engaging discussion with **Mr. Srikumar & Col Ram representing the Rotary Club of Savannah**, who highlighted the **prevalence of Sickle Cell Anemia among the tribal communities of the Nilgiris**. His club is keen to collaborate on this initiative, and it was suggested that we coordinate with **Dr. Tarun Chhabra**, who has been working extensively with the tribal population. **Rtn Diana also expressed interest in involving her organization**, which is currently in discussions with representatives from six tribal communities.

Apart from our service initiatives, we also conducted **four regular meetings**, ensuring active participation and engagement of our members.

As we look ahead, let us continue to build on this momentum and strive towards greater service and impact. Your unwavering commitment and spirit of giving make our club stronger each day.

Yours in Rotary



It is just as easy to acquire the habit of speaking kindly as it is to acquire the habit of speaking unkindly.

- Paul Harris



From the Editor's desk

Dear Fellow Rotarian,

The information age brings both conveniences and challenges. As the tentacles of the internet reach far into our lives we find it reshapes the way we live in myriad ways. From changing the way we pay, the way we shop, the way we communicate with family, friends and foes, to a decrease in the traditional experience of community.



Because people increasingly socialise online, there is the danger of erosion in social skills, and a need to relook and redefine at what is a community in the age of WhatsApp, Facebook and Twitter? Can we define community by common interests or shared physical spaces? Is it by a shared history or experiences or common goals.

All it takes to begin a community is a group of people who care about each other's well-being. With some engagement and shared goals communities grow and may evolve from there. All it takes is an investment in each other to begin that process.

Rotary brings to us the opportunity to explore and create communities that create meaningful experiences and opportunities, both within our immediate circle of connections and outside. The creation of communities that value commitment with no expectation of return is the key. This can be termed generosity, or giving back to society. It is also sometimes the act of stepping outside the familiar, and risking discomfort or even rejection.

Every journey begins with a single step. In Rotary we have faith in one another and in the collective energy of our supportive community. Today's digital connectivity enables us to expand our community of service minded Rotarians beyond our shores. Let us believe in the power of Rotary to create a better world, one step at a time.

Yours in Rotary,

Daksha Bhat



04		Weekly Meeting Board Meeting
05		Eye Camp at Traffic Police Office Kotagiri
07		Installation Interact Club St Antony's School Eye Camp at KET Tea Factory
09		Co-sponsorship and provision of Ambulance for Wellington Half Marathon
11		Eye Camp at Fire Office Coonoor
11		Weekly Meeting Family & Speaker Meeting Eye Camp at Fire Office Coonoor
13		Rededication of LPG Crematorium
14		Eye Camp at EB Main Office Orientation for Interact Club at St Mary's School
18		Weekly Meeting
21		Eye camp at Kerbetta Estate
22		Eye Camp at Kilijada Selas
23		Eyecamp at Krishnapuram Coonoor
25		Weekly Meeting Family Meeting Eyecamp at Sivagami Estate
27		Donation of Oxygen Concentrators to MN Trust Old Age Home



A donation of Rs. 2 lakh was received from Mrs Jaswinder K Atwal, through Rtn Sonalika Gadeock. This would be utilised for the purchase of a medical bed and trolley, and balance contributed to the scholarship fund.

Our club co-sponsored the Wellington Half Marathon with a contribution of Rs. 25,000/-. President and Secretary handed over the check to Brig Krishnendu Das, Commandant MRC. The service of our ambulance was also provided at the location.



The installation ceremony of officers of the Interact Club at St Anthony's Higher Secondary School was attended by Rotarians. Rtn Muralidharan was the Installing Officer.





Rtn Dr Rajesh Chandra delivered a wonderful and very interesting talk on India's Para Military Forces and spoke about his experiences in the Border Security Forces.

The 4 Way Test

of the things
we think,
say, and do

is it the Truth

**is it Fair to all
concerned**

**will it be Beneficial
to all concerned**

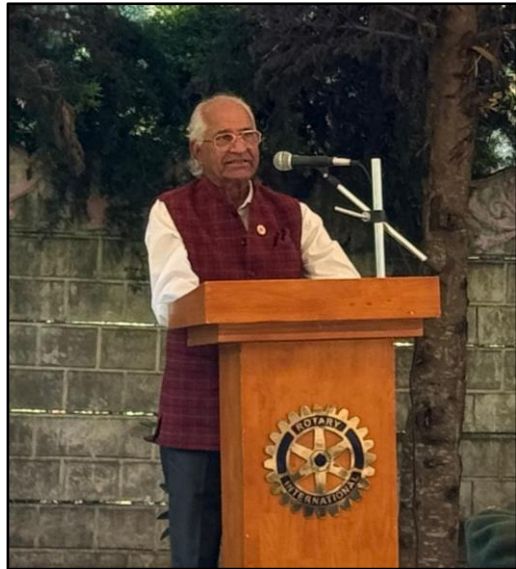
**will it build Goodwill &
Better Friendships**

Rotary
The Nilgiris



Brig Krishnendu Das, Commandant MRC, Station Commander Wellington was the chief guest at the rededication ceremony of the Rotary Sorga Bhoomi LPG Crematorium. A new chimney has been installed and facilities upgraded.







An orientation program was held at St Mary's Girls' Higher Secondary School for the creation of an Interact club. Previously the school had an interact club that was initiated by Rtn Javrila. The new interact club was granted recognition on 18th February. Rtn KrishnDev has kindly sponsored the Gong & Gavel, Collar, and Pins etc for the Interact club. This is the fifth interact club sponsored by our club.



Events



Rtn Sonalika Gadeock hosted breakfast at the Little Sisters of the Poor, Old Age Home, and distributed fruit baskets at the P&G center. She was accompanied by Rtn Sheela Bhasin & Ann Sharon Mathew.

18/02



Donation of two oxygen concentrators, a bed and a mattress to MN Trust Old Age Home, Denalai

27/02



11/02 @
Fire Office
Coonoor



14/02 @
EB Office



22/02 @
Kerbetta
Estate



**22/02 @
Kilijada Selas**



**23/02 @
Krishnapuram Coonoor**



**25/02 @
Sivagami Estate**

March

Birthdays

02	Annet G. Gokulakanan S/o Rtn M Gopalakrishnan
	Ann Cyrus spouse of Rtn Diana Bharucha
04	Rtn Gopalakrishnan M
	Annet Vaishnavi D/o Rtn Muralidharan
12	Annet Tarun Kumar S/o Rtn B Chandra Kumar
	Annet Nishant S/o Rtn Mohan Kumar P.R
	Ann Sasikala spouse of Rtn Muralidharan R
23	Rtn Jacob Mathew
	Annet Divya D/o Rtn Ullas Menon
	Annet Jonathan S/o Rtn Tini Korah
27	Annet Michael George S/o Rtn Sheela Bhasin
30	Rtn H. Harikrishnan
	Annet Safina D/o Rtn Sonalika Gadeock

Anniversaries

02	Rtn H. Harikrishnan
11	Rtn Nithya Ashish