

Open Hand

WEEKLY CLUB BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB CHANDIGARH | ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3080 | INDIA

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HOME CLUB OF **Rajendra K. Saboo**
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
1991-92

Francesco Arezzo
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
2025-26

Ravi Prakash
DISTRICT GOVERNOR
RI DISTRICT 3080

Abha Joshi Sharma
CLUB PRESIDENT

Arun Aggarwal
CLUB SECRETARY

AN EVENING OF SOULFUL SUFI MELODIES

The Rotary Club Chandigarh hosted an enchanting musical evening celebrating the rich heritage of Sufi and traditional music. President Rtn. Abha J Sharma commenced the proceedings by updating members on recent club events and upcoming service projects. She then handed over the proceedings to Past President Rtn. Neenu Vij, who introduced the talented ensemble of young Sufi traditional singers and musicians to an appreciative audience.

The program was curated under the direction of Deepak Sharma, Assistant Professor, Music Vocal, Department of Higher Education, HP Government. A distinguished disciple of the legendary Pt. Yashpaul of the Agra Gharana, Deepak Sharma brought together an exceptional group of artists representing the finest traditions of Hindustani classical and Punjabi folk music.

Featured Artists:

Jatinder Dhiman – Vocals & Tumbi

A renowned Punjabi folk artist and Voice of Punjab fame, Jatinder Dhiman has released numerous music albums. His powerful vocals and mastery of the tumbi brought authentic Punjabi folk flavours to the evening.

Vasundhra – Classical Vocalist



A disciple of Pt. Yashpaul of the Agra Gharana and an All India Radio empaneled artist, Vasundhra captivated the audience with her command over classical ragas and Sufi renditions.

Nand Lal Thakur – Tabla

Presently serving at SVSD College, Bhatoli, Una, Nand Lal Thakur is a disciple of Ustad Zafar Hussain of the Punjab Gharana. His rhythmic accompaniment added depth and energy to each performance.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

Let food be thy medicine

DR DEEBA ARIFF
Wheat grass and probiotics specialist

Monday 4th May 2026
at 6 pm

Rotary House . 107a Sector 18a Chandigarh

Monday 4th May 2026
at 6 pm

Fellowship Hosts

Rtn Ripudaman Vats & Namrata

Rotary House . 107a Sector 18a Chandigarh



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An Evening of Soulful Sufi Melodies

Shashank Sharma – Harmonium

A dedicated student of Hindustani classical music, Shashank Sharma provided melodious harmonic support, enriching the overall musical texture.

Raman – Guitar

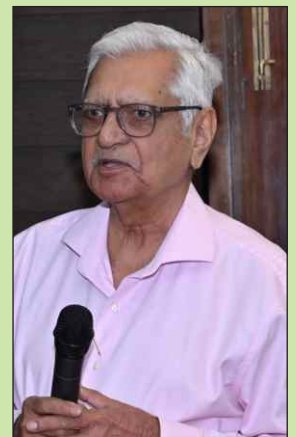
A renowned music composer and singer, Raman's contemporary guitar interludes beautifully blended with traditional compositions, creating a unique fusion.

Indrajeet Saini – Vocals & Percussion

Pursuing his PhD in Music Vocal and serving as a music teacher in Himachal Pradesh, Indrajeet Saini impressed with his versatility in both vocals and percussion.

The audience remained completely engrossed in the melody, with the spiritual essence of Sufi music creating an atmosphere of peace and happiness. The soulful renditions of Bulle Shah and other Sufi poets left everyone spellbound.

The evening concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks proposed by Rtn. R.K. Taneja, who eloquently expressed his deep admiration for the works of Bulle Shah and thanked the artists for a memorable performance. President Abha J Sharma commended the organizing team and reiterated Rotary's commitment to promoting art, culture, and community fellowship.



CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays Greetings:

- 3 MAY** Rtn Ripudaman Vats 9915523556
- 9 May** Rtn Kanwaljit Singh Sekhon 9814014368
- 10 May** President Rtn Abha J Sharma 9814861054
- 10 May** Rtn Dr. Pushpinder Chahal 9814243126

Anniversary Greetings:

- 5 May** Rtn Dr. Mangla Dogra & Dr. M. R. Dogra 9876508019
- 5 May** PRIP Rtn Rajendra K. Saboo & Ann Usha 9814096755
- 6 May** Rtn Saakshi Katyal & Dr Vinod Katyal 9915000082
- 7 May** Rtn Anand Chhibbar & Ann Geetanjali 9814006721
- 8 May** Rtn Arvind Mehan & Ann Sadhana 9815815900
- 9 May** PE Rtn Teena Avninder Virk & Mr Ravinder Singh 9872670095

With Best Compliments from
Rtn Jagesh Khaitan

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Bhavan Vidyalaya, Chandigarh Organises Blood Donation Camp

Small Act, Big Impact: Every Drop of Blood Counts

Chandigarh, 25 April 2026: The Interact Club of Bhavan Vidyalaya, Chandigarh, in collaboration with the Rotary Blood Bank organised a 'Blood Donation Camp' in the school premises. The camp aimed to raise awareness about voluntary blood donation and instil a sense of social responsibility among parents and students. The event was inaugurated by the Director Education cum Senior Principal, Mrs. Vineeta Arora, who appreciated the noble initiative and added that such events remind us how a small act of kindness can bring hope to someone fighting for life.

The parents and teachers contributed to the noble cause with great fervour and enthusiasm, exemplifying the true spirit of community service. A dedicated team of doctors and paramedics from the Rotary Blood Bank ensured the smooth conduction of the camp, while following all safety and hygiene protocols. The overwhelming response served as a powerful reminder that the spirit of giving helps build an empathetic



community. An impressive 34 donors contributed to the collection of 30 units of blood.

Mrs. Vineeta Arora expressed her gratitude to the donors and volunteers for their selfless service and congratulated everyone on the resounding success of the event.

**Sr. Principal
Bhavan Vidyalaya, Chandigarh**

PROJECT WINS

24th April 2026 **Government Model Senior Secondary School, Raipur Kalan, Chandigarh** conducted the Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and Gender Sensitization Session for Boys with Pads distribution drive for girls students and it went very well. The session was coordinated by Ms.

Facilitators: Ms. Vinita Shah, Ms. Kirti, Ms. Rimpi and Mr. Inderpal

Total Sessions Conducted: 08

Total Students Covered: 1143

Students Covered: Class 6th to 10th

Today, **Government Model High School, Makhan Majra, Chandigarh** conducted the WASH (Water Sanitation and Hygiene) session, and it went very well. The session was coordinated by Ms. Kiran

Facilitators: Ms. Rimpi, Mr. Vishrut, and Mr. Inderpal

Total Sessions Conducted: 08

Total Students Covered: 540

Students Covered: Class 1st to 10th

Voluntary Blood Donation Camp...Date: 28 April 2026

Organized by: TestingXperts Pvt Ltd & Rotary Club Chandigarh

A successful blood donation camp was held at the TestingXperts office, IT Park, Chandigarh.

We are pleased to announce that 41 staff members volunteered and donated blood.

A heartfelt thank you to Rtn Manish Gupta and Mrs. Archana Gupta of Rotary Club Chandigarh for their invaluable support.



Drug De-Addiction Awareness Session Conducted at SD Public School, Sector 32

The Rotaract Club of Chandigarh in collaboration with the Interact Club of PML SD Public School, successfully organized a Drug De-Addiction Awareness Session at SD Public School, Sector 32.

The session witnessed the active participation of over 200 students aged 13 to 18 years. Designed to educate young minds, the session focused on spreading awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse and promoting a healthier, responsible lifestyle.

Through an engaging and interactive approach, students were encouraged to make



informed decisions and understand the long-term physical, mental, and social consequences associated with



drug use. The enthusiastic response and participation from the students made the initiative highly impactful.

MEMBERS UPDATE



Manit Katyal S/O Rtn Sakshi katyal and Dr Vinod Katyal won silver medal in Sub Junior category in Inter District Roller Hockey Tournament organised by Roller Skating Federation of India at Chandigarh.

He represented Chandigarh as a Goalkeeper of his team and has represented Chandigarh at States and National level 4 times

PP Neena Singh's haiku selected at the 13th Golden Triangle Haiku Competition this year on the theme "Joy of Nature."

The contest had an outstanding global participation - nearly 5000 entries from 90+ countries from poets of all age groups! About 100 haiku were selected. Neena's haiku is up opposite Hampton Inn, close to the White House in Washington, D.C. and will be displayed till May, brightening the Spring days with haiku poetry.



Club Secretary Elect, RtnShabana, as a speaker on mental health at a function organised by Rotary District Chair Mental Health, RtnDr. Ramneek Sharma.

