

KANHERI

Monthly Club Bulletin

YOUTH IN ACTION

Empowering Youth.
Transforming Futures.



EDUCATION



GROWTH



SERVICE



INNOVATION

Rotary Club of Borivli

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President : **Ketal Tapiawala** | Secretary : **Jaynisha Sampat** | Bulletin Editor : **K. V. Premraj**

From the President's Desk



As we step into the month of May, Rotary reminds us of one of its most meaningful areas of focus — Youth Service. The youth of today are not just the leaders of tomorrow, but active changemakers of the present. Through Interact, Rotaract, Youth Exchange, leadership programs, and community initiatives, Rotary continues to empower young minds with values of service, compassion, and leadership. Let us continue encouraging and mentoring our youth, giving them opportunities to grow, lead, and create a positive impact in society.

At the same time, we are now entering the final stretch of this Rotary year, with only two months remaining. This is the moment for all of us to come together with renewed enthusiasm and give our best push towards achieving our goals, strengthening fellowship, and completing the year on a memorable high. Every meeting attended, every project supported, and every initiative promoted adds value to the spirit of our club.

The past month has been truly fulfilling and impactful. One of the most heart-touching projects was the Samuh Lagna at Juchandra, where 40 couples from needy and rural communities were blessed through a dignified mass wedding ceremony. Witnessing smiles, hope, and happiness on the faces of these families reminded us of the true meaning of “Service Above Self.”

Another meaningful initiative was our visit to the Shahpur region, where we identified the urgent need for water wheels for rural women who walk long distances daily carrying water. The need is immense, and this project has the potential to bring significant relief and dignity to many families.

We also proudly launched the Model Society Contest, an innovative initiative aimed at promoting better environmental practices, security, cleanliness, and community living among housing societies. I sincerely appeal to all members to encourage societies in their vicinity to participate. This project is not only impactful but also a fantastic public image opportunity for our club.

As we move ahead, excitement builds for our much-awaited Hungama Night on 5th June — our grand annual family fellowship event. This evening celebrates talent, togetherness, and joy, where members and families showcase their abilities through singing, dancing, skits, comedy, and much more. I urge every member and family to participate wholeheartedly and make this evening truly memorable.

Finally, we will conclude this wonderful Rotary year with Shukriya on 27th June — our annual award and gratitude ceremony. It will be an evening to celebrate, applaud, and acknowledge the incredible work done by our members throughout the year. Let us come together in large numbers to appreciate every effort that made this year meaningful and successful.

Together, let us finish this Rotary year with energy, unity, pride, and gratitude.

Warm regards,

Rtn. Ketal Tapiawala
President, Rotary Club of Borivli



Youth Service: Rotary's Investment in Tomorrow



Every generation believes it is preparing the next one. Rotary goes one step further — it does not merely prepare young people; it places trust in them, gives them responsibility, and invites them to lead.

That is why May, observed in Rotary as Youth Service Month, is not just another theme in the Rotary calendar. It is a reminder that the future of Rotary is not sitting somewhere far away. It is already present — in our schools, colleges, Interact Clubs, Rotaract Clubs, RYLA participants, young volunteers, and first-time changemakers.

Historically, Rotary's work with youth has deep roots through programmes like Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and Youth Exchange. In 2010, Rotary formally strengthened this commitment by recognising "New Generations" as the fifth Avenue of Service; it was later known more widely as Youth Service. Rotary International describes its youth programmes as platforms to help young people build leadership skills, expand education, and learn the value of service.

In District 3141 too, Youth Service continues to be a lively space. The District's New Generation Service project records show activity around Rotaract installations, Interact projects, competitions, digital de-addiction awareness, CPR training, cultural festivals, and youth-led service initiatives

For the Rotary Club of Borivili, Youth Service has never been a decorative idea. It has been action on the ground. In the current Rotary year itself, our Club has supported students through notebook distribution, education kits, student adoption, English-speaking courses, school health check-ups, menstrual awareness sessions for girl students, cyber safety sessions, exposure visits to our Eye Bank, and continued work with special children. These are not isolated projects; they are building blocks of confidence, dignity, and opportunity. Over the years our connect with the schools through our projects with Interact schools is making an enormous difference to the lives of the younger generation.

As May 2026 unfolds, our Club can make Youth Service even more meaningful by bringing young people closer to Rotary — not as spectators, but as partners. We could host a youth leadership dialogue, invite Rotaractors and Interactors to a Club meeting, conduct a career-readiness or financial-literacy session, organise a mental wellness or digital safety workshop, and identify one school or college where Rotary mentorship can become a sustained initiative.

Because when Rotary serves youth, it does not merely change young lives.

It quietly strengthens the future leadership of our community — and the future leadership of Rotary itself.

K.V. Premraj
Managing Editor

Distribution of Study Buddy App

Rotary Club of Borivli successfully distributed the Study Buddy App (District Coordinated Project) on Thursday, 9th April 2026 at the following schools:

- Shree Dyaneshwar Vidyalaya, Bandar Pakhadi, Kandivali (W).
- Mangubhai Dattani School, Borivali (East)

A total of 200 students benefited from this meaningful educational initiative.

The Study Buddy App contains textbooks, guides, notes, and educational videos to support students in their self-study and academic preparation.

We were fortunate to have Vandana Madam from the District accompany us and guide each child about the features and usage of the app. The children were extremely happy to receive this valuable learning support and enthusiastically promised to work hard and strive for a higher percentage in their Std. X examinations.

A heartfelt thank you to R/Ann Sonal Chandarana for conceptualising this project and for her dedicated coordination with the schools, which made this initiative a success.



Service of the Community

On 11-04-2026, the Rotary Club of Borivli, in association with Ram Roti Foundation, proudly served free lunch to the needy at Shatabdi Hospital. This initiative benefits over 500 patients and their relatives, bringing comfort and nourishment to those in need.

Going forward, our club will be participating in this noble cause every Saturday.

Lunch was sponsored by IWCB Member Utsavi Sankhe.

Menu Served:

Puri, Sabzi, Khichdi, Samosa & Aamras

Members who attended the Project:

Rtn. IPP Harish Chandarana, Rtn. Kkunal Vorra, IWCB Pres. Sarita Gujarati, IWCB Sec. Rizwana Kapoor, IWCB CC Monalli Vorra & IWCB Member Utsavi Sankhe (Donor)

We remain committed to Service Above Self.

You Can Celebrate your BIRTHDAY - ANNIVERSARY or ANY HAPPY MOMENTS by Giving Donation for this project at Shatabdi Hospital or at Shankar Lane, wherein Approx 400 - 500 persons will have Lunch/snacks inclusive of Pregnant Women's Joy of Giving.

You may connect with Annapurna Project Team RMM.



Study Buddy App distribution

On 15-04-2026, the Rotary Club of Borivli successfully distributed the Study Buddy App to students of Priyadarshini School, Anandrao Pawar School, Vidya Vikas School, Ramkrishna School, Cosmos School, and Abhinav Vidya Mandir School. R/Ann Sonal Chandarana visited each of these schools along with Vandana Madam, who guided the students on how to effectively use the app for their studies. Total 350 apps coupons to be given, he have distributed 300 coupons.

A special note of gratitude to R/Ann Sonal Chandarana for her dedicated efforts in executing this project and for devoting her entire day to ensure its successful completion across multiple schools.



Service of the Community

On 20th April 2026, our member Rtn. Trupti Sampat donated jaggery, ragi flour, almonds, and flaxseeds at DESIRE Society, a residence for HIV-positive girls.

These items were generously contributed by her in loving memory of her late husband, Mr. Umesh Sampat.

We sincerely thank Rtn. Trupti Sampat for her kind and thoughtful gesture.

A special thanks to Dr. Dharmaji Shinde for his efforts in coordinating and executing this initiative seamlessly.



Free Coaching Class Project

We are glad to inform you that our Gyan Prakash Free Coaching Class project of the Rotary Club of Borivli has successfully shifted the N. L. Khatta Centre, Dahisar East, to the Square Ft (Broker Ki Pathshala) office of Rtn. Vinod Thakar at Dahisar East.

We sincerely thank Rtn. Vinod Thakar for generously providing the space for our centre.

A special note of appreciation to Bharti Madam and Rtn. Ann Sonal Chandarana for their dedicated efforts in managing all the arrangements seamlessly.

We are confident that this well-equipped and fully furnished centre will greatly benefit our students of 9th and 10th standard.

Thank you all for your continued support and guidance.

We are delighted to share that our Gyan Prakash Free Coaching Class project of the Rotary Club of Borivli has successfully started a new centre on 13th April 2026 in association with Atul Bhatkhalkar at Rashtramata Jijau Mahila Aadhar Bhavan, Kandivali East.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to R/Ann Sonal Chandarana and Dr. Madhuri Ashok Shah for their dedicated efforts in arranging the venue and seamlessly managing all the preparations.

This marks our 23rd centre, and we are confident that it will greatly benefit many deserving students of the 9th and 10th standards.

Details of the official inauguration will be shared shortly.

On behalf of the Gyan Prakash Team, we sincerely thank each one of you for your continued support and encouragement.

Regards,

Rtn. Harish Chandarana, Chairman

Rajendra Kinariwala Memorial Rotary Borivali Education Centre
(Project of Rotary Club of Borivli)



Pot Party at Sanjay Gandhi National Park

A fun-filled Pot Party amidst the lush greenery of Sanjay Gandhi National Park began on a cheerful note with a delightful breakfast brought by members, along with hot tea, coffee, and crispy bhajiyas thoughtfully arranged by PP Narendra Shah.

Post breakfast, the energy soared as we formed two cricket teams led by our enthusiastic new members—young in age but carrying the charm of seasoned players! The mixed teams ensured everyone joined in, making it a lively match filled with sixes, fours, wides, and no-balls, along with plenty of laughter and fun.

We were delighted to have our new members Siddharth Shah, Ullash Rahate, Pratap Bhagchandani, and Nishit Agrawal, who joined along with their family members and truly enjoyed the fellowship, adding warmth and vibrancy to the gathering.

The celebration continued at the villa with a musical session led by our in-house singer Sunil Sodha, who enthralled everyone with Hindi and Gujarati songs. One of our new

members also added a special touch by singing a beautiful Marathi song. This was accompanied by light refreshments like fruits, peppermints, and chikkis, making it a perfect bonding time.

Soon, it was time for the much-awaited main course lunch, featuring a wide variety of delicious dishes lovingly brought by members. The spread was truly sumptuous and reflected the spirit of togetherness and sharing.

In the evening, we enjoyed snacks prepared by Bhairavi Desai along with tea and coffee again managed by PP Narendra Shah, wrapping up the day on a warm and satisfying note.

A heartfelt thank you to PP Narendra Shah for arranging and managing all the bookings within the National Park, and to Ashwin Gala for his valuable support in making this event a success.

It was indeed a wonderful day filled with great food, laughter, and fellowship. We missed all those who couldn't join us on this lovely occasion.



QR Transactions to Creditworthiness

~ How Digital Payment Data Is Reshaping Lending in India ~

Incorporating digital payment data into credit assessment frameworks has the potential to enhance financial inclusion in India, while enabling small businesses to gain easier access to formal credit systems.

India's digital payment revolution has fundamentally reshaped the way transactions take place across the country. From roadside tea vendors to neighbourhood grocery stores, QR codes and mobile-based payment platforms have become an integral part of everyday commerce. What began as a convenience-driven shift is now evolving into a powerful financial ecosystem that is generating vast amounts of data with every transaction.

Each digital payment, regardless of its size, creates a financial footprint. This growing pool of transactional data has the potential to transform access to credit, particularly for millions of individuals and small businesses that have historically remained outside the formal financial system. Traditionally, institutional credit in India has relied heavily on formal documentation such as salary slips, tax returns, collateral, and established credit histories. However, a significant portion of India's economy operates informally, where such documentation is either limited or non-existent. As a result, many small entrepreneurs and freelancers, despite having stable and profitable businesses, often struggle to secure formal credit.

The rapid adoption of digital payment systems, driven largely by the success of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), is beginning to bridge this gap. UPI has emerged as the backbone of India's retail digital payments, enabling real-time, low-cost transactions across banks and platforms. Its scale is remarkable—handling billions of transactions monthly, reflecting both widespread adoption and deep penetration into everyday economic activity.

Beyond facilitating payments, these transactions generate valuable behavioural financial data. Patterns of income flow, spending habits, and business activity can now be observed through digital trails. When used responsibly, such data allows



lenders to build a more accurate and dynamic profile of borrowers. For instance, a small shop owner who may not have formal financial statements could still demonstrate consistent revenue through daily digital transactions, offering credible insights into their financial stability.

India's evolving digital public infrastructure is enabling this transformation. Frameworks like the Account Aggregator system, regulated by the Reserve Bank of India, allow individuals and businesses to securely share their financial data with lenders through a consent-based mechanism. This shifts credit assessment from static paperwork to real-time, data-driven evaluation, improving both accessibility and efficiency in lending.

Importantly, the reach of digital payments is no longer limited to urban centres. Rural and semi-urban regions are witnessing increasing adoption, allowing small traders and enterprises in these areas to build digital transaction histories. Over time, these records can serve as alternative credit profiles, enabling lenders to extend financial services to previously underserved segments.

However, this shift also brings critical challenges. Issues of data privacy, informed consent, and transparency in algorithmic decision-making must be carefully addressed. Ensuring that individuals retain control over their financial data is essential to building trust in digital lending systems.

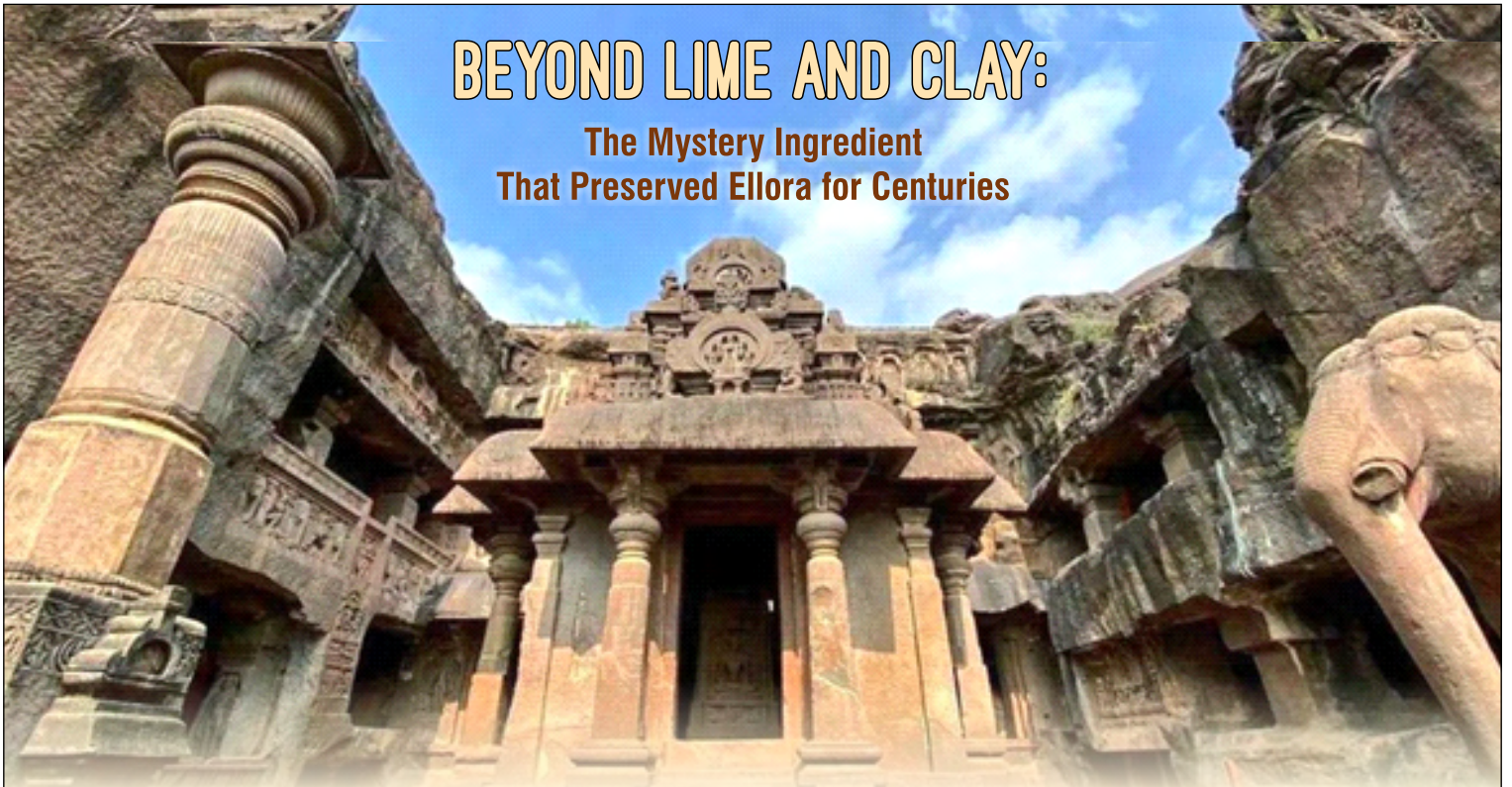
If managed responsibly, the integration of digital payment data into credit frameworks could mark a significant step toward financial inclusion in India. For millions who have relied on informal borrowing channels, this transition offers a pathway into the formal financial ecosystem. In this context, a simple act like scanning a QR code is no longer just a transaction—it is a building block in redefining how creditworthiness is assessed in a rapidly digitising economy.

Contributed by Ashish Tapiawala

An advertisement for QR payments. It features a QR code sticker on a wooden surface. The sticker has the text 'BHIM UPI', 'BHARATQR', and '₹' (Rupee symbol). Below the QR code, it says 'Swaraj Kirana Store' and 'Scan and Pay with any UPI app'. To the right of the QR code, the text reads 'NOW ACCEPT UNLIMITED QR PAYMENTS AT 0% FEE'. Below this, it says '"67.8 Crore+" QR Codes are now active in India'. At the bottom, there is a green and orange button that says 'Simple, Secure & Powerful'. Logos for UPI and RuPay are also present.

BEYOND LIME AND CLAY:

The Mystery Ingredient That Preserved Ellora for Centuries



Sustainable housing has rapidly moved from a niche concept to a global movement. From mud homes in Rajasthan's deserts to houses crafted from recycled bottles, builders today are experimenting with a wide range of eco-friendly materials such as bamboo, straw bales, cork, rammed earth, and reclaimed wood. Yet, one remarkable material has largely remained absent from mainstream conversations—hemp, derived from the cannabis plant. Recent findings, however, are bringing this ancient solution back into focus.

If you've ever had the chance to visit the Ellora Caves in the Mumbai Harbour — around 10 km east of the main city — you'd recall marvelling at the magnificent complex of rock-cut caves with artwork dating back to 1000 CE, stepping into the cool, hearing the steady drip of water somewhere in the distance, and gaping at the fact that after all these decades, the formations have stood the test of time.

The reason, as has now been found, is the cannabis in the architecture.

A compelling example of hemp's durability can be found in the Ellora Caves of Maharashtra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its intricate rock-cut architecture and centuries-old artwork. Visitors often marvel at how these caves, carved over 1,500 years ago, have withstood the test of time



with minimal degradation. The answer, as revealed by scientific research, lies not just in the stone but in a unique blend of natural materials used in their construction—specifically, a mixture of clay, lime, and hemp.

For decades, archaeologists and conservationists puzzled over the exceptional preservation of Ellora. Questions ranged from the type of rock used to the architectural techniques employed by ancient craftsmen. In 2016, a study conducted by experts including Rajdeo Singh of the Archaeological Survey of India and botanist Milind M. Sardesai provided a breakthrough. Using advanced methods such as electron microscopy,

infrared spectroscopy, and microscopic analysis, they discovered traces of hemp fibres in the plaster used within the caves.

The duo used various methods to arrive at this conclusion. These included scanning using the electron microscope, Fourier transform, infrared spectroscopy and stereomicroscopic studies. In order to determine if the building blocks did indeed contain hemp, cannabis samples were collected from Jalna in Aurangabad and Delhi and matched with one of the Ellora caves.

It was a perfect match!

The findings were striking. Approximately 10 percent of the

Beyond Lime and Clay: The Mystery Ingredient That Preserved Ellora for Centuries

plaster composition consisted of cannabis sativa fibres. These fibres were not merely incidental; they played a critical role in enhancing the structural integrity of the material. Hemp's natural binding properties helped strengthen the mixture, while its antimicrobial qualities prevented insect activity—one of the primary causes of deterioration in similar heritage sites. This explains why Ellora remains significantly better preserved than nearby sites like the Ajanta Caves, where such protection was absent.

Beyond durability, hemp offered several functional advantages. Its fibrous composition improved cohesion in the plaster, making it more resistant to cracking. It also provided thermal insulation, helping maintain a cool and stable environment inside the caves. Additionally, hemp has excellent sound-absorbing properties, contributing to the serene and quiet atmosphere that would have been ideal for monks and spiritual practitioners who once inhabited these spaces.

As modern architecture increasingly embraces sustainability, hemp is re-emerging as a promising building material. Internationally, it is being used in the form of "hempcrete," a bio-composite made from hemp fibres, lime, and water. Hempcrete is lightweight, breathable, fire-resistant, and highly energy-efficient. More importantly, it is carbon-negative—absorbing more carbon dioxide during its growth than is emitted during its production. Countries such as the United Kingdom have already begun incorporating hemp-based materials into eco-friendly housing projects, particularly



for community-driven and self-built homes.

However, the use of hemp in India is not without challenges. While hemp and marijuana belong to the same plant species, they differ significantly in their chemical composition. Hemp contains very low levels of THC, the psychoactive component responsible for the "high" associated with marijuana. Despite this distinction, cannabis remains heavily regulated under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. Currently, only limited cultivation of industrial hemp is permitted in certain regions like Uttarakhand, and its broader application in construction would require clearer legal frameworks and regulatory oversight.

Experts have also raised concerns about potential misuse if hemp were to be widely adopted without proper controls. This calls for balanced policymaking that recognizes both the risks and the immense environmental benefits of hemp-based construction.

The story of the Ellora Caves serves as a powerful reminder that ancient knowledge often holds solutions to modern challenges. At a time when the world is seeking sustainable alternatives to conventional building materials, revisiting such time-tested practices could offer valuable insights. Hemp, once a forgotten component of traditional construction, may well become a cornerstone of future architecture—combining durability, sustainability, and innovation in a way that truly stands the test of time.

***Contributed by Ashish Tapiawala
Source : The BetterIndia.com***



YOUTH IN ACTION:

Shaping the Future through Rotary's Commitment to Youth Service

Young changemakers in action - learning, serving, and leading across communities



May, celebrated across the Rotary world as Youth Service Month, is a powerful reminder that the strength of tomorrow lies in the energy, ideas, and integrity of today's youth. Rotary has long recognized that meaningful and sustained progress begins by investing in young minds. Through thoughtfully designed programs and a culture rooted in service, Rotary continues to nurture youth into capable leaders, responsible citizens, and compassionate individuals. "Youth in Action" is not merely a theme—it is a living reality witnessed across communities where young people are learning, growing, serving, and innovating under the Rotary umbrella.

Learning Beyond Classrooms

Education forms the foundation of Rotary's youth initiatives. Beyond textbooks, Rotary encourages intellectual curiosity and global awareness through scholarships, mentorship, literacy drives, and international exchanges. Programs like Youth Exchange enable students to experience diverse cultures, adapt to new environments, and return with broadened perspectives. This exposure builds confidence, independence, and respect for diversity—qualities essential in a connected world.



Rotary's approach emphasizes holistic growth. Young individuals engage in project planning, leadership roles, and collaborative activities that build communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. These experiences shape resilient personalities ready to face real-world challenges. Growth here is not just personal—it is collective, teaching youth to work together and respect diverse viewpoints.

Service & Impact

Service, the cornerstone of Rotary, plays a defining role in youth engagement. From organizing health camps and environmental drives to supporting underprivileged communities, young volunteers actively contribute to society. These experiences instill empathy and responsibility, transforming "Service Above Self" from a motto into a way of life.

In a rapidly evolving world, innovation is essential—and Rotary provides youth with the platform to think creatively. Whether

through digital outreach, social enterprises, or innovative service models, young minds are redefining impact. Rotary encourages experimentation, allowing youth to bring fresh perspectives to longstanding challenges.

Innovation & Empowerment

Empowerment lies at the heart of this journey. By placing youth in leadership roles and decision-making positions, Rotary builds confidence and ownership. Young individuals are not just participants—they become leaders, driving initiatives and inspiring others. This empowerment prepares them for leadership in both professional and personal spheres. Rotary achieves this through structured programs that place youth in decision-making roles, allowing them to lead projects, manage teams, and take ownership of outcomes. This sense of responsibility fosters self-belief and prepares them to take on leadership roles in their professional and personal lives.

Skill development further strengthens this mission. Workshops on entrepreneurship, communication, leadership, and emerging technologies equip youth with practical tools for success. These initiatives bridge the gap between academic knowledge and real-world application, ensuring they are future-ready. By focusing on skill development, Rotary ensures that youth are not only educated but also empowered to create opportunities for themselves and others.

Programs & Leadership Pipeline

Among Rotary's most impactful initiatives are the Interact and Rotaract programs, which serve as gateways for youth engagement at different stages of life. Interact introduces school students to leadership and service early in life, while Rotaract empowers young adults with opportunities for professional growth, networking, and impactful service. Rotaractors lead projects, organize events, and collaborate with Rotary clubs, gaining valuable experience that shapes their future careers and community involvement.

This seamless journey—from



Interact to Rotaract and eventually Rotary—creates a lifelong commitment to leadership and community service. The bonds formed often extend beyond the organization, building lasting friendships and professional networks. Mentorship plays a vital role, with experienced Rotarians guiding young members, creating a unique exchange where wisdom meets innovation.

A Future Driven by Youth

The impact of Rotary’s youth initiatives extends far beyond individuals. Communities benefit from the creativity, dedication, and fresh perspectives of young volunteers. From sustainability efforts to social innovation, youth-led projects are shaping a better society.

As we celebrate Youth Service Month, it becomes clear that investing in youth is investing in the future. Rotary’s commitment to education, growth, service, innovation, and empowerment reflects a vision that nurtures leaders who are knowledgeable, compassionate, and driven by purpose.

“Youth in Action” is a celebration of potential and possibility. It showcases what can be achieved when young individuals are given the right platform and support. Every young person who learns, serves, and leads becomes a beacon of hope—carrying forward Rotary’s spirit and shaping a brighter tomorrow.

In the end, the true success of Rotary’s youth service lies not just in the programs it offers, but in the lives it transforms. Every young individual who steps forward to learn, serve, and lead becomes a beacon of hope, carrying forward the spirit of Rotary and shaping a better tomorrow for all.

Contributed by Ashish Tapiawala

Empowered Youth. Stronger Communities. Brighter Future.

EMPOWERED YOUTH. STRONGER TOMORROW.

Leadership today. Impact tomorrow.



EMPOWER



LEAD



DEVELOP SKILLS



CREATE IMPACT

**Building confident leaders.
Equipping them for life.**



Shantanu Naidu:

Bridging Generations with Compassion and Innovation



Shantanu Naidu, a young entrepreneur and close associate of Ratan Tata, has emerged as a unique voice in India's social innovation space. Known for his empathy-driven ideas and commitment to meaningful impact, his journey reflects how compassion, when combined with action, can create powerful change. From designing reflective collars for

stray dogs to building a companionship startup for the elderly, Shantanu's work is deeply rooted in solving real human and social challenges.

Born in Pune in 1993, Shantanu completed his Mechanical Engineering from Savitribai Phule Pune University and later pursued an MBA from Cornell University. His early career began as a design engineer at Tata Elxsi, where a simple yet impactful idea took shape—Motopaws. Disturbed by the number of stray dogs getting injured in road accidents at night, he designed reflective collars that made them visible to drivers. This initiative caught the attention of Ratan Tata, who not only appreciated the idea but also became a mentor and supporter of Shantanu's journey.

Building on this spirit of empathy, Shantanu went on to co-found The Goodfellows in 2021 along with Niki Thakur and Gargi Sandu. The idea was simple yet profound—to address the growing loneliness among senior citizens by connecting them with young individuals. What began as an Instagram post inviting interest quickly evolved into a structured and impactful startup. Today, The Goodfellows has grown into a meaningful social



venture that pairs “goodfellows” (young companions) with “grandpals” (elderly individuals), creating bonds similar to those shared between grandparents and grandchildren.

The model is carefully designed with a strong human touch. Each pairing is done after detailed interactions, ensuring compatibility in interests, personality, and emotional needs. The aim is not just to provide basic companionship but to create enriching relationships that bring joy and purpose to both generations. Goodfellows assist with daily activities such as running errands, accompanying grandpals for outings, or simply spending quality time together over conversations, meals, or shared hobbies.

What sets this initiative apart is its sensitivity and depth. The team understands that companionship goes beyond presence—it involves emotional connection. They observe

subtle behavioral cues, understand personal histories, and ensure that every interaction adds value. The role of a goodfellow is not transactional; it is deeply personal and impactful. Recognizing the emotional investment

involved, the organization also provides mental health support through counselors and psychologists, especially during difficult moments such as the loss of a grandpal.

The stories emerging from The Goodfellows reflect the true impact of this initiative. For many elderly individuals, the arrival of their goodfellow becomes the highlight of their week. Bonds are formed over shared interests—watching plays, going for walks, writing memoirs, or even simple conversations. For the youth, these relationships offer wisdom, emotional growth, and a sense of purpose. It is a two-way exchange of energy and experience, bridging generational gaps in a meaningful way.

The success of the model lies in its authenticity. Unlike many modern solutions driven by automation, The Goodfellows consciously avoids artificial intelligence in its core processes. Shantanu strongly believes that human emotions and connections cannot be replaced by technology. The

recruitment process itself reflects this philosophy—candidates are made fully aware of the responsibilities involved, ensuring that only those genuinely committed become part of the initiative.

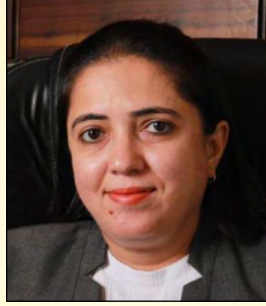
Today, with over 65 young goodfellows and more than 400 grandpals impacted, the venture continues to grow steadily. It

addresses a pressing social issue in urban India, where nuclear families and fast-paced lifestyles often leave the elderly isolated. By creating a system of companionship rooted in empathy, Shantanu and his team are not just offering support—they are restoring dignity, joy, and a sense of belonging to senior citizens.

At its heart, Shantanu Naidu's journey is a story of compassion in action. Whether it is protecting stray animals or caring for the elderly, his work reflects a simple yet powerful belief—that small, thoughtful ideas can transform lives. Guided by mentorship, driven by purpose, and grounded in empathy, he represents a new generation of entrepreneurs who measure success not just by growth, but by the impact they create.

Contributed by Ashish Tapiawala





Hon. Secretary

As the Secretary of the club, I feel immensely proud and grateful to reflect upon a year filled with meaningful service, impactful initiatives, and remarkable teamwork. During this tenure, our club successfully identified, planned, and executed numerous worthy projects that will create long-term benefits for the beneficiaries and society at large.

This journey has been an enriching learning experience for me personally as well as professionally. Throughout the year, I had the opportunity to learn various aspects of club administration and project management, including planning and execution of service projects, resource mobilisation, fund generation, coordination with members, documentation, and ensuring timely completion of activities.

Every project brought with it new experiences and valuable lessons. From conceptualising ideas to executing them on the ground, the process demanded dedication, teamwork, and continuous efforts. We also encountered several hurdles and challenges during execution. However, with collective support, determination, and a clear vision, we successfully overcame every obstacle.

What truly helped us move forward was our transparency, honesty, and clarity in all our actions and decisions. Our club functioned with a strong sense of purpose and commitment towards service, ensuring that every initiative undertaken was meaningful and impactful.

I sincerely thank all the office bearers, members, donors, supporters, and well-wishers who contributed wholeheartedly throughout the year. Their cooperation, trust, and encouragement played a vital role in the successful execution of our projects.

As we will conclude our tenure in a month, I carry forward not only memories of successful projects but also invaluable lessons, stronger relationships, and immense satisfaction of serving the community with dedication and integrity.

Rtn. Jaynisha Sampat
Honorary Secretary