

From the President's Desk

If the month of July was hectic, then August 2023 was super hectic.

It all started with a visit to St Xavier's School to meet the Principal to solicit his support to start an Interact Club in the school. He was more than forthcoming and the process has been initiated.

We provided support to the inmates of ESF Bandhwari on 6th August by positioning a mobile dental van. The services were well utilized.

Plantation of 50 fruit saplings was carried out in DSEU Rajokri on 8th August and I had the opportunity to interact with the Members of Rotary Club Delhi South on 9th August on a topic - Armed Forces vis-s-vis Corporates - challenges and opportunities.

11th August was a landmark day - we inducted three new Members and honoured 12 Past Presidents.

Independence Day was celebrated with gaiety and splendor with the 37 Inmates of Deepashram. We unfurled the national flag, interacted with the residents and distributed sweets.

Two Blood Donation Camps - one each at Google and Concentrix on 21st August and 29th August were carried out with a record collection of 188 & 224 units of blood respectively.

We wound up the month with an address on 25th August by the Guest Speaker Ambassador Anil Trigunayat. He spoke about G 20 - it's ramifications for India. We were totally spellbound by his coverage.

An eventful month. We look forward to September 2023.

Jai Hind



Key Club Office Bearers 2023 - 24

President
Wg Cdr Baljit S Ahluwalia

President Elect
Rajeev Goel

Vice President
Sushma Mattu

Hony. Secretary
Gita Jain

Treasurer
Anil Kumar Bhatnagar

Sergeant at Arms
Dr Dinesh Saxena

Joint Secretary
Seema Bangia

Director Club Service
Meeta Ghosh

Director Vocational Service
Reena Sawhney

Director Community Service
Neera Verma

Director International Service
Sanjeev Sawhney

Director Membership
Arun Gupta

Director Youth Services
Sunil Khanna

Club Learning Facilitator
Ashok Thussu

Chair - CSR
Lalit Mattu

Chair - BDC
J K Puri

Chair - Public Image
Mohin Bangia

Project Chair
Muninder Anand



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

R. Gordon R. McInally

President 2023-24

September 2023

The International Day of Peace takes place on 21 September. The United Nations General Assembly declared this a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

It is not enough, as People of Action, to simply avoid making war. If we are to *Create Hope in the World*, we must aggressively wage peace.

Where can we begin? There are countless armed conflicts around the world, and the global population of displaced people is higher than ever. The opportunities are nearly limitless, but the cycles of violence and hardship seem endless.

My advice is to start small but think big. I look to Rotary members in Pakistan and India for inspiration.

In March 2020, about 50 Rotary members from Pakistan met about 50 Rotary members from India at Kartarpur Sahib, a shrine in Pakistan. The sanctuary honors Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, a religion practiced in both countries. Tensions between the two countries barred many religious pilgrims from India from visiting the shrine. That is, until Pakistan opened a visa-free pathway to them in 2019.

Earlier this year, Rotary members from opposite sides of the border again met at the shrine, this time with about twice as many participants.

Any work toward building peace needs to be brave and bold. What these Rotary members have done is just that. The Pakistani government took an important step toward peace when it admitted Indian pilgrims to the Kartarpur Sahib shrine, but Pakistani Rotary members took the next step when they welcomed Rotary members from India as friends and family. That is Positive Peace at work.

These peacebuilders did not stop there. Club representatives at this year's meeting signed twin club certificates to recognize their long-term commitment to continue to learn from each other and to work together on more peacebuilding efforts, and they have held joint meetings via video chat.

The importance of communicating with and learning from another culture cannot be overstated, and Rotary is making it even easier to do so. One way of engaging in cross-cultural dialogue and building relationships across borders is through virtual international exchanges that build on our current programs and make them more accessible.

A virtual exchange uses online platforms to connect people from different parts of the world so they can share their traditions, priorities, values, and more. Virtual exchanges can serve as a window to another part of the world through activities such as teaching a digital cooking class, learning a new language, or even designing service projects with a global impact.

These online chats have the potential to inspire new connections and more respect between societies. Taking that knowledge and using it to better the lives of our fellow human beings is the next step.

Let's see where it takes us.

Events of the Month (August 2023)

Dental Care Camp at Earth Saviours Foundation - 5th August



In a heartwarming display of community care, our club organized a dental care camp at Bandhwari catering to the dental needs of ESF inhabitants.

The camp, equipped with a dental care mobile van and dedicated staff, saw a remarkable turnout from the inhabitants. As they received quality dental care, smiles

adorned the faces of the inhabitants. The camp not only addressed their oral health concerns but also brought confidence and happiness to them. The inhabitants expressed heartfelt gratitude to the members present for curating an unforgettable and invaluable experience.



Tree plantation at Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU)



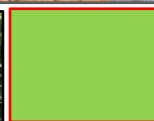
A Tree plantation drive was organized by our club at DSEU Rajokri. Principal Porusu Ramanaiah, Ms. Monika, and staff, along with trainees, participated in planting 50 fruit-bearing saplings. The event saw enthusiastic participation by Club Members and esteemed guests AG Rtn Vivek Duggal and PP Rtn Amit Chaudhary. This effort aligns with plans to establish a Skill Development Centre by our club with 3 other Gurgaon Clubs at DSEU premises.



Saplings were arranged by Rtn Vinod Sud with appreciable effort. Thanks to other members and spouses too who turned out in good numbers to help the cause. President Baljit Ahluwalia with R'anne Anita Ahluwalia led the group comprising of PE Rtn Rajeev Goel, Rtn J K Puri, Rtn Sunil Verma, Rtn Neera Verma, Rtn Capt. Surender Chaudhary, Rtn Anil Bhatnagar and R'anne Geeta Bhatnagar.



Principal Porusu Ramanaiah, President Baljit S Ahluwalia and R'Anne Anita Ahluwalia flagging off the plantation drive.



Club Meeting - 11th August – Honouring the Past Presidents

11th August 2023 will go down as a red-letter day in the history of RCGQE. Whilst we are generally sharing updates and arranging engaging Speaker meetings, the agenda for the Club Meeting on this day was unique. The RCGQE decided to honour its Past Presidents who have rendered yeoman service to the Club over the years. It came as a pleasant surprise to us and a matter of pride that we have in our midst 12 Past Presidents – six gentlemen and six lady Presidents.



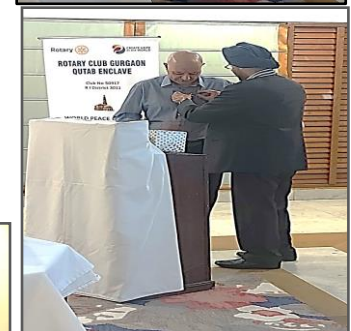
The meeting started with President Baljit S Ahluwalia presenting the Prestigious Rolling Trophy for the best Club Newsletter in District 3011 for the year 2022 – 23 to Rtn Anil Bhatnagar who, as President Ahluwalia said, had singlehandedly taken the club's Newsletter HORIZON to such heights, winning acclaim from the district as well as outside. This Rolling Trophy is shared with two other clubs from Delhi.



Honouring of the Past Presidents followed with the Hon. Secretary and the Treasurer taking it upon themselves to read individual citations highlighting their achievements one by one. The Past Presidents included PP Lalit Mattu, PP Ashok Thussu, PP Sushma Mattu, PP JK Puri, PP Arun Gupta, PP Seema Bangia, PP Sunil Khanna, PP Mohin Bangia, PP Anila Chaudhary, PP Reena Sawhney, PP Sanjeev Sawhney and PP Meeta Ghosh.



Every Past President was pinned with a Past President Pin and given a gift by President Ahluwalia on behalf of the club. Being abroad at the moment, PP Rtn Anila Chaudhary was represented by her husband Rt. Capt. Surender Chaudhary.





President Ahluwalia also presented a gift to a Charter Member Rtn Dr. D N Saksena in recognition of his invaluable service to the club as in charge of Health and Hygiene activities.

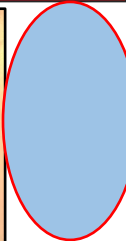
If one unique initiative of honouring 12 Past Presidents on 11th August meeting was unique, then there was another one which was equally impressive. We were able to induct three new Members. Businessmen with different backgrounds - Ram K Agarwal, Sanjay Kakkar and Sanjay Sharma were introduced by their Buddies PP Ashok Thussu, PP Sunil Khanna and Rtn Dr. Dinesh Saksena respectively. The Buddy concept has been recently



introduced in our Club wherein tenured Rotarians will handhold new Members and help them in settling down in quick time.



We are now **44** Member strong and surely and steadily moving to the magical number of 50. A very special evening to remember indeed.



Independence Day celebration at Deepashram – 15TH August

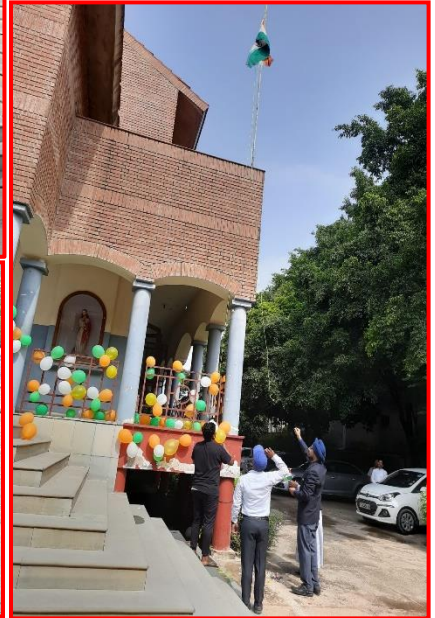
Our Club's annual visit to Mother Teresa's Deepashram in Gurgaon cannot be missed. This Ashram houses around 40 inmates who are physically and mentally challenged. It was a pleasure to be with them this morning to ring in the Independence Day. Despite all their



challenges, the inmates chug along and embrace life with cheer and smiles. Hats off to the staff ably led by Father Benedict who look after the inmates with utmost care.



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The programme started with a heartwarming march past by the inmates who could walk. President Baljit joined them adding to their happiness and then hoisted the Tricolour on a high mast. What came next really touched all present – the inmates singing SARE JAHAN SE ACCHA HINDOSTAAN HAMARA and the members joined in the chorus. Club members distributed sweets to all the inmates after presenting 200 adult diapers needed for the inmates.

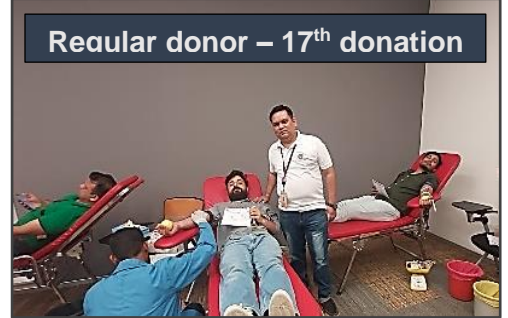
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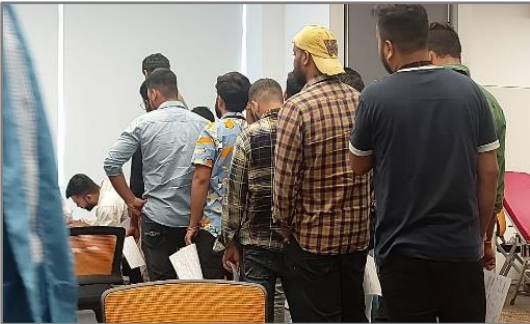
Blood donation camp at Google -21th August

The efforts of Rtn J K Puri, Chair – BDC and Rtn Anil Bhatnagar to rope in big corporates for Blood Donation have paid off with Concentrix, a renowned BPO giant agreeing to associate itself with our club's efforts in this most noble cause.

The first camp with Concentrix was held on 21st August at one of their biggest clients Google's premises. The response was overwhelming with the majority of the staff there being very enthusiastic about donating blood. President Wg Cdr Baljit S Ahluwalia, First Lady R'anne Anita Ahluwalia and Chair – BDC Rtn J K Puri, Rtn Anil Bhatnagar were present to welcome the first donor and set the tone for the day. Quite a few were regular donors and one of them disclosed that this was his 17th donation. He donates blood every 4 to 5 months in a hospital or camp.

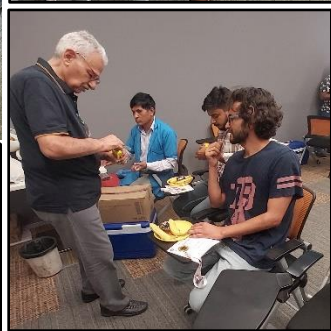


Blood Bank team had set up 10 beds for donors that remained full most of the time resulting in a total tally of a record **188** Units of blood collected in just about **8 hours**. Thanks to Gaurav Saxena, Ops Manager – Concentrix, the facility staff there, the entire Rotary Blood Centre team and our members Rtn Anil Bhatnagar, Rtn Vinod Sud, R'anne Indu Sud, Rtn Meeta Ghosh, R'anne Reena Mittal, Rtn Dr. Dinesh Saksena and R'anne Dr. Manju Saksena for lending a helping hand and ensuring smooth conduct of the camp.




Gaurav Saxena, the camp coordinator and the driving force behind a successful endeavour.





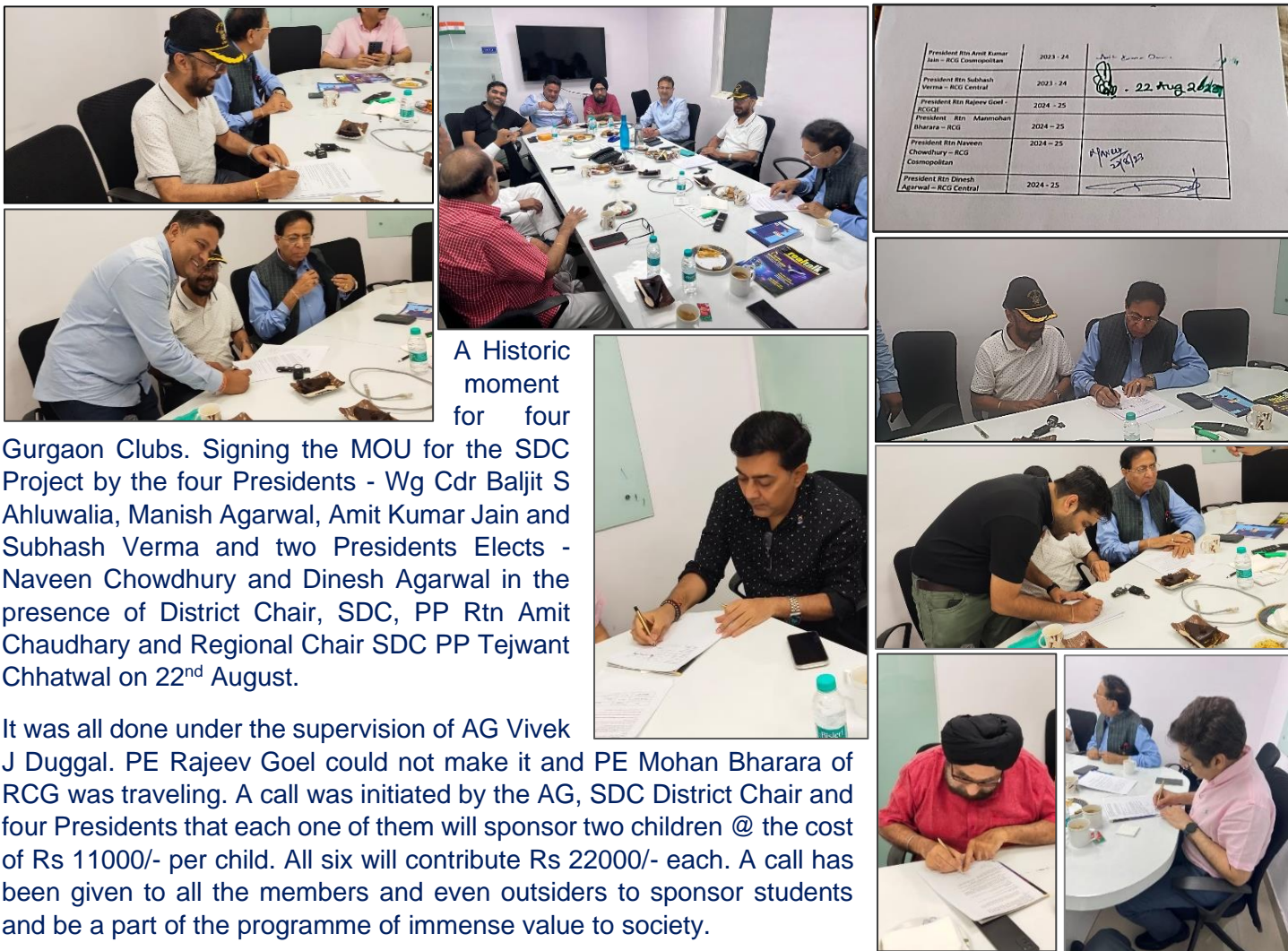
Dr. Mahima and the Blood bank team 



 Certificate of appreciation for Blood donation presented by Rotary Blood Centre team leader Dr. Mahima to Team Concentrix. Receiving it is Gaurav Saxena of Concentrix, In charge- Google ops who was the initiator and driving force behind this highly successful camp.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Flagship project getting ready to take off



Our President Addresses Rotarians at Rotary Club Delhi South



Our President Wg Cdr Baljit S Ahluwalia was invited to address a 60-member elite group of Rotarians of Rotary Club Delhi South at Clarridges Hotel on Wednesday, 9th August.

The 30-minute talk focused on Armed Forces vis-a-vis the Corporate - Challenges and Opportunities. QA session generated a great amount of interest amongst the Members.

CLUB MEETING – Honouring PPs and Speaker Session - 25TH AUGUST



The meeting commenced with a comprehensive update on recent developments by our President Wg Cdr Baljit S Ahluwalia.

On August 11th, our club had honoured 10 of our 12 Past Presidents. PP Seema Bangia and PP Mohin Bangia who were traveling on 11th were honored in this meeting. Citations for both, highlighting their illustrious tenure were read out by the Treasurer Rtn Anil Bhatnagar whereafter R'anne Anita Ahluwalia joined President Baljit S Ahluwalia to present a gift and pin them with a Past President pin.




The highlight of the day was a captivating talk delivered by a distinguished guest speaker Ambassador Anil Trigunayat IFS (Retd) on India's G20 Presidency. Having served as Ambassador in Libya, Malta, and Jordan, he has immense knowledge of foreign relations and related subjects. He spoke to us on G20 and its ramifications for India. The Q&A session that followed was deftly handled by him. A great



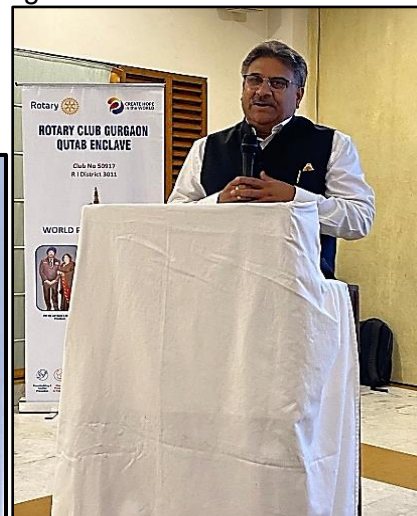
learning experience for our members. This event provided valuable insight into India's role in the G20 and Global Geopolitical affairs.





**India's G20 Presidency amidst
the Geo- Politics- SWOT Analysis**

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Blood Donation Camp at Concentrix – 29th August

The Third Blood Donation Camp of the year and the second in August itself was organised at Concentrix, a big name in BPO sector with a high number of young Blood Donation enthusiasts. The Rotary Blood Bank team was led by the Head of the Centre, Dr. Sunil Taneja himself to ensure smooth conduct of the camp with all necessary equipment and man power.



The CSR team of Concentrix, led by Ms. Swati Arora and most ably supported by Ms. Harsimrita, Mr. Ved Pratap, Ms. Kashish Arora and Mr. Amit Chandel left no stone unturned to ensure that being in SEZ, all permissions from the Commissioner – Customs were in place in advance, the camp ran well and donors kept coming till the closing time in the evening.

Rtn J K Puri, Chair – BDC, flagged off the camp with Dr. Suni Taneja and Mr. Ved Pratap, the camp coordinator from Concentrix. Thanks to President Baljit S Ahluwalia, Rotarians Anil Bhatnagar, Mohin Bangia, Vinod Sud, Neera Verma, Arun Gupta, Sunil

Kakaar and R'Annes Anita Ahluwalia, Geeta Bhatnagar, Indu Sud, Alka Gupta and Archana Kakkar who took turns to help in smooth conduct of the camp.

The camp yielded a record 224 units of blood.



President Ahluwalia, Rotarians Anil Bhatnagar, Vinod Sud and R'anne Geeta Bhatnagar with Ms. Swati Arora, Head – CSR, Concentrix (centre), her own Team and Facility team led by Mr. Ved Pratap.



Dr. Taneja, Head of Rotary Blood Bank team presenting a Trophy and Certificate to Mr. Ved Pratap.



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विविध गतिविधियां

शिविर में 222 यूनिट हुआ रक्तदान

रोटरी क्लब के शिविर में रक्तदान करत युवक व मौजूद लोग • सौ. रोटी क्लब
 वि. मुख्यालय: रोटरी क्लब आफ गुडगांव कुतुब एन-लेव ने साइबर सिटी में रक्तदान शिविर लगाया। इसमें लोगों ने रक्तदान कर अपनी भूमिका निभाई। शिविर में कुल 222 यूनिट एकत्रित हुआ। इस दौरान अध्यक्ष विंग कमांडर बलजीत सिंह

अहल्यालिया ने बताया कि रोटरी क्लब मानव सेवा करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। उन्होंने कहा कि रक्तदान महादान है। इससे जरूरतमंद मरीज की जान बचाई जा सकती है। स्वस्थ लोगों को आगे आकर रक्तदान में करना चाहिए।



September	BIRTHDAYS
6th	Sanjeev Sahni
19th	Ashok Thussu
September	ANNIVERSARIES



Club Calendar for September 2023

5th	Tuesday	Donation of Double Seat Desks to Islampur School
14th	Thursday	Club meeting
23rd	Saturday	GOV