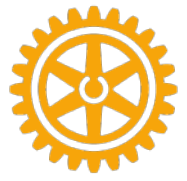


# NEWS WHEEL

## MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

ROTARY YEAR 2025-26 | ISSUE NO: 9 | MAR 2026

Rotary  
Club of Udhna  
**UNITE FOR GOOD**



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CHARTER DATE: 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 1965



### PRESIDENT'S PULSE

Rtn. Sumita Shah



As President, I sincerely thank each one of you for your unwavering support, generous sponsorships of our events and fellowship dinners that enabled us to proudly contribute ₹1.25 lakhs towards an excellent event "Science Fair/Teachers awards/ Scholarships to 12 students" that was held jointly with NJCF in December 2025. Let us continue this spirit of unity and service, and I look forward to the same enthusiastic support.

### EDITOR'S CORNER

Rtn. Dr. Manish Patel



The primary color for March is aquamarine inspired by the March birthstone. This color represents peace, calmness, and the ocean. As we move into a new season, may this soothing shade remind us to serve with steady minds, kind hearts, and clear purpose—bringing refreshing hope to every project and every life we touch.

### PROGRAMS REWIND

#### Intra-Club Sports Day (8<sup>th</sup> Feb):

PP Rtn Dharmesh Chorawala planned and managed the sports day event at Oneiros Sports Club. Four teams - Red, Blue, Green, and Yellow - competed in Box Cricket, Table Tennis, Pickle Ball, and Carrom. **Team Red**, led by PP Rtn Pragnesh Banderia, took home the trophy! Loads of fun and fantastic fellowship made this event a huge success!

#### Rotary Vocational Excellence Award Presentation Ceremony (12<sup>th</sup> Feb):

The Rotary Vocational Excellence Awards presentation ceremony organized at Amore, to honour outstanding individuals for excelling in their chosen vocation. Dr Faruk Patel (Founder, KP Group), Mr Janak Mistry (MD, Lexus SoftMac), and PP Rtn Bankim Dave (Renowned Architect) received them

IPP. Rtn. Praveen Kakkur



from Chief Guest Dr Daxesh Thakar (Provost of Vanita Vishram University). RCU welcomed 2 new members, Binita Chevli and Farnaz Singaporita, who were inducted by PDG Santosh Pradhan on the same evening.

#### Welcoming RFE Team from Brazil (16<sup>th</sup> Feb):

RC Surat & RC Udhna jointly welcomed the RFE team from Brazil at Rotary Hall, Jeevan Bharti School. The team shared unforgettable experiences and insights from their India visit, making it a fantastic evening of cultural exchange and Rotary spirit.

#### Ladies Night Celebration (28<sup>th</sup> Feb):

The Ladies night was celebrated at Leela Heritage, Dumas, wherein lady Rotarians and Anns came together for an evening filled with fun games, warm fellowship, joyful laughter and great camaraderie.

### ROTARY LANDSCAPE

PDG Rtn. Santosh Pradhan



RI Director (2025- 27) Rtn. AKS Muruganandan M (MMM) has been appointed as Vice President, Rotary International (2026-27).



(Contd. Overleaf)

## ROTARY LANDSCAPE (Contd.)



PDG Basudev Goliyan from Rotary Club of Biratnagar, Nepal got elected as R. I. Director 2027-29 from Zone 6.



Past RI Director Rtn. A S Venkatesh (Venky), a leader widely admired for his vision, exemplary leadership, & remarkable consistency in service to Rotary, has been appointed Rotary Foundation Trustee 2026-30.

## DESI DELIGHTS

Rtn. Maharukh Chichgar



### હોળી - ધુળેટી નો પવિત્ર પર્વ



ફાગણની પૂનમની પવિત્ર રાત્રે પ્રગટતો હોળિકા દહનનો અગ્નિ અહંકાર, દ્રેષ અને અંધકારના દહનની પ્રતીતિ કરાવે છે. પ્રહલાદની અડગ ભક્તિ આપણને સત્ય, શ્રદ્ધા અને ધૈર્યના માર્ગે અડગ રહેવાનું સંદેશ આપે છે. ધુળેટીના રંગો જીવનમાં પ્રેમ, ક્ષમા અને સહઅસ્તિત્વના સુગંધિત સ્પર્શ ભરે છે. વિવિધતાભર્યા આધુનિક ભારતમાં આ પર્વ એકતા, સમરસતા અને આનંદનું જીવંત પ્રતિક છે.



સંત કબીર કહે છે :

“મન લાગો મેરો યાર ફકીરી મેં,

હોલી ખેલૂંગી કહ બિસમિલાહી।”



આ દોહામાં સંત કબીર સમજાવે છે કે સાચી હોળી બહારના રંગોથી નહીં, પરંતુ અંતરમાં ઉપજતા ઈશ્વરપ્રેમ અને વૈરાગ્યના રંગોથી રમાય છે. જ્યારે મન ફકીરી એટલે કે, સાદગી અને ભક્તિમાં લીન થાય, ત્યારે જીવન સાચા અર્થમાં રંગીન બને છે. રોટરી ક્લબ ઓફ ઉદ્ધના પણ સેવા, મિત્રતા અને માનવતાના રંગોથી સમાજ જીવનને ઉજ્જવળ બનાવવાની સતત પ્રતિબદ્ધતા ધરાવે છે.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR

PP. Rtn. Bankim Dave



While many choose the reassuring comfort of a predictable career path, **Mr. Vishal Merchant** chose the boundless horizon of possibility. In 2003, he relinquished banking to pursue a vision far greater than personal stability — a mission to transform cautious savers into confident, informed investors, that culminated in the rise of one of Gujarat's foremost financial product distribution firms. Under his astute leadership, SAFEinvest now oversees assets exceeding INR 3,300+ Crores in AUM and stands proudly as the largest partner of NJ India Invest Pvt. Ltd.. His stewardship has garnered SAFEinvest more than 100 prestigious accolades. Beyond the boardroom, he channels the same discipline and commitment into community service, having served as President of the R. C. of Udhna.

His personal pursuits — reading, cycling, swimming, and continuous self-development — reflect a philosophy of constant growth. His favourite maxim encapsulates his mindset: “Are you free tomorrow? No — I am expensive”. A statement not of arrogance, but of value, conviction, and self-worth.

## OUR TINY BIT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



**MCH-HUMF District Project:** On February 17, 2026, a heartwarming initiative under our District's Maternal and Child Health (MCH) project brought joy to 10 mothers and 22 children at the Aanganwadi in Piplod. The visit, led by IPP Rtn Praveen Kakkhar, and Rtn Amit Gribnawazwala, was marked by the distribution of nutritious treats, including almonds, peanuts, gud chikkis, biscuits, roasted channa and bananas.

This small yet meaningful effort reflects Rotary's unwavering commitment to 'Service Above Self,' as we strive to make a positive impact in the lives of those in need.

## ON THE HORIZON

IPP. Rtn. Praveen Kakkhar



### 5TH MARCH

**Charter Night Celebrations** including felicitation of past presidents.

### 12TH MARCH

**Women's Day Celebration:**  
An Interesting ચર્ચા.

### 19TH MARCH

A Program on IYE – to be hosted by PP Rtn Devang & Ann Tejal Munim.

### 28TH MARCH

**Fire-side Meeting**  
Preponed from 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025.

## Community Service

### 10TH MARCH

MCH-HUMF at aanganwadi, Piplod.

## HUMOUR IN ROTARY

- March in Rotary: we don't just spring into action—we schedule it, minute it, and then take a group photo.
- March brings new beginnings—like our tradition of 'one last announcement' that needs three more announcements.
- Every meeting has two parts: service above self... and selfies above all.
- In India, we judge punctuality in two units: minutes... and 'बस 5 मिनट'.

## MEMORIES

PP. Rtn. Harshal Desai



### Birthdays

Ketan Shah	2 Mar
Shetal Mehta	7 Mar
Kishor Gohil	10 Mar
Vibha Sharma	12 Mar
Sachin Shah	13 Mar
Insiah Lokhandwala	14 Mar
Krishna Jariwala	17 Mar
Hema Mehta	18 Mar
Dharmesh Chorawala	23 Mar
Dr. Ekta Mehta	28 Mar
Vishal Merchant	29 Mar

### Wedding Anniversaries

Ami – Anil Merchant	6 Mar
Anand - Shilpa Bakshi	9 Mar



## AGRA ACCOLADES

At RID 3060's Sang-e-Marmar District Conference in Agra, our club celebrated a proud milestone as our member & Hon. Secretary **Rtn. Maharukh Chichgar** was **1<sup>st</sup> runner-up in Mrs. 3060 contest**—a truly inspiring win. Equally memorable was the IYE students' stage performance, made possible by the dedicated coaching and rehearsals led by **Rtn. Mahazarin** and Hon. Secretary **Rtn. Maharukh**, whose tireless training, choreography, and encouragement helped the students shine with confidence and poise before the Rotary family.