



# POONA SERVICE WHEEL



R.I. District 3131

ROTARY CLUB OF POONA

Club 04-3131-15536

Vol.88 2023-24 Issue No. 26

Monday, 15th January 2024

For Private Circulation Only

Secretary

President

Editor

Rtn Paramjit Pabby

Rtn NPS Bakshi

Rtn Trupti Gowariker

## EVENT OF THE DAY - INDIAN FESTIVALS



## EVENTS OF LAST WEEK - MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

### Is Santa Claus a real person?

Last year of my whole family was over at my house and we were putting up Christmas decorations and singing Christmas carols and enjoying ourselves when my little granddaughter Raya, just 10 years old suddenly piped up and said, "Papa Colin, I have a question for you" and I said "Yes Raya, what is your question?". She said "Papa Collin is Santa Claus a real person?". There was pin drop silence in the room as everybody waited to see what I would reply. I said "Yes Raya that is a very interesting question and I would like to give you an honest reply."

"Santa Claus is a real person but Santa Claus is not a person who wears a red cloth with a white beard and comes from the North Pole or with his reindeers. That's not the real Santa Claus. It's just a story which we grown ups tell little children."



Contd. On next page...

## EVENTS OF LAST WEEK (CONTD.)

“Santa Claus is this real person; Do you see your daddy over there? He goes to work every day, works very hard to collect money to pay for your home, your school, your books and your food. He is the real Santa Claus! And you see your Mummy? She works very hard to cook food for you, make lovely dresses for you, and when you fall down and bruise your knee, put some red medicine and make your bruise better. She is the real Santa Claus! Can you see your grandmother? She is sitting there knitting a cardigan for you to wear, keeping you warm in the winter. She is the real Santa Claus! And the driver of your school bus who takes you everyday to school and brings you back safely? He is the real Santa Claus! Also your school teacher who teaches you history and geography every day, and lovingly says so many nice things to you and teaches you so many things. She is the real Santa Claus!”

And little Raya said “Thank you Papa Collin, I now understand but I would like to ask you, are you also Santa Claus?” And I replied, “Raya, you know that I am a Rotarian and every Monday I go to Poona Club to attend the Rotary meeting. There I meet all my friends and we all work towards helping underprivileged people to have a better life. So all of us are Santa Claus!” She said “Oh wow! that’s wonderful Papa Collin!”

I then added, “Raya I want to tell you one more thing. Santa Claus cannot work alone. He needs helpers. Just like in our Rotary Club we have Anuradha, Mahinder and Mr. Khambata (who takes photographs), and we have new Rotarians who are all learning to be Santa’s helpers, one day these new Rotarians too will become big Santa Clauses in our Club. You also must help your mommy and your daddy to keep the house clean, to wash the dishes, do your studies and help your sister Vedika. Then you too are Santa’s helper and one day when you grow up, will become Santa Claus. Do you understand little Raya ? This is the message of Santa Claus.”

### *Let the Games Begin!*

IPP Maithili and Rtn. Priya had planned a couple of very interesting games where they made Santa Claus sit in the midst and he kept asking for different things from the crowd. The crowd was divided into 4 groups - *Hope Joy, Peace & Love* and all the Rotarians were part of this group. Santa Claus asked for many interesting things and they had to run up and give these things to him. The second game was a quiz on Christmas where Santa Claus asked them different questions like, ‘What



are the names of the reindeers?’, to which they had to answer. Then the whole audience got together and merrily sang 3 songs. First song, ‘*We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*’ the second song, ‘*Jingle Bells*’, and the third song, ‘*Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer*’.

After the meeting was adjourned there was lovely music and everybody came on to the dance floor and had a wonderful time. Later the bar was opened and a lot of good cheer was happily imbibed by everyone. Then followed a gala dinner which started with hot cream of tomato soup with croutons, roast chicken with potatoes & brown gravy, a live pasta counter, vegetable cutlets, baked vegetables and then the famous pudding of Poona Club ‘*Fruit Funny*’. Everybody had a good time and it was a wonderful start to the new year!

*By Rtn Dr. Collin Louzado*



*Contd. On next page...*



## EVENTS OF LAST WEEK (CONTD.)



Handing over Of RC Poona flag to visiting Rotarians from Brazil



Brazilian Rotary couple attended our weekly meeting along with RYE student for whom they were host in Brazil

**Hercules Alves** -  
Counsellor of  
Exchange, Past  
President 2019-2020  
D4560 Tres Corações  
Club

**Karina Nishiyama** -  
Counsellor of  
Exchange, Member  
of ASR - Rotarian  
Women Association  
D4560 e-club  
Emma Hildinger



The Rotary Youth Exchange programme is the jewel in the crown of Rotary. Youth in the age group of 15 to 19 can study and live abroad with Rotary Families for one year. Please contact Collin Louzado for further information on this subject.

## PROJECT - MOTHER & CHILD

The Rotary Club of Poona's 'Mother & Child' project team visited Kamala Nehru Hospital at Mangalwar Peth on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to provide support to newborn babies and mothers in need. The team distributed blankets and mosquito nets to the newborn children and their mothers in two maternity wards.

President NPS Bakshi emphasized the importance of nutrition during this visit and requested the hospital staff to promote mother milk donation. This initiative aims to ensure that new-borns receive the necessary nutrition for their healthy development. Director of Community Service Rtn Vaijayantii and Joint Secretary Aarti Thacker were responsible for the procurement and coordination with the hospital, ensuring the smooth execution of the visit and distribution of blankets and mosquito nets. During the visit, R/Ann Dilshad, Rtn Zarir, and First Lady Inderpal were present to support and participate in the activities.

The Rotary Club of Poona's 'Mother & Child' project continues to support needy new-born babies and mothers at government hospital's maternity wards every year by providing essential items such as blankets and mosquito nets. This visit to Kamala Nehru Hospital is a testament to the club's commitment to improving the lives of mothers and children in need. The club's efforts in promoting nutrition and mother milk donation are commendable, as they play a crucial role in ensuring the well-being and healthy development of new-borns. The collaboration between the club and the hospital staff demonstrates the importance of community partnerships in achieving positive outcomes. This visit serves as an example of their ongoing efforts to make a difference in the lives of these vulnerable populations.



*By Rtn. Vaijayantii Khaladkarr*





## PROJECT - BLOOD DONATION CAMPS



The first of the three blood donation camps was held on 6th evening with Ghlop Blood Bank, from 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm at Mahan Kirtan Darbar, Ayurvedic College Hostel ground, Quarter Gate, Pune.

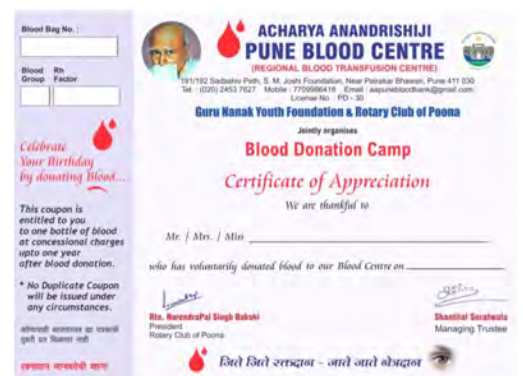
16 units were collected. Rtn Pradeep Govil, Rtn Manohar Jagdale, R/Ann Shalini Govil, R/Ann Madhuri Jagdale and First Lady Inderpal Kaur volunteered at the drive.



The second blood donation camp was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January, with Acharya Anandrishiji Pune Blood Centre, from 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm at Mahan Kirtan Darbar, Ayurvedic College hostel ground, Quarter Gate, Pune.

Rtn Daljeet Raizada, despite her ill health, along with President NPS Bakshi and First Lady, volunteered for the entire time. 25 units were collected.

Rotary Club's gesture to support Blood Donation was well appreciated by devotees and management of the Kirtan Darbar. It was also a great public image camp for the Rotary Club of Poona.



Contd. On next page...



## PROJECT - BLOOD DONATION CAMPS (CONTD.)



The third blood camp was held on the occasion of Swami Vivekanand Jayanti & National Youth Day 2024. Rotary Club of Poona in association with Gholap Blood Bank, organised the Sankalp Blood Donation Camp on Friday, 12th Jan, 2024, at Sarhad College Of Arts, Commerce & Science, Katraj, Pune, between 9am to 4pm. 50 units were collected. An interesting point to note was that 60% of the donors at the camp were girls!

*By Rtn. Vijayantii Khaladkarr*



## IN GRATITUDE!

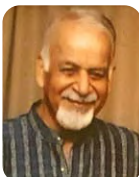
Generous Donors for Development of infrastructure and setting up Maternity Ward at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Cantonment Multispeciality and Critical Care Hospital, Pune.



- ♦ PP Kailash Monga has agreed to support this project with Rs . 5,00,000/- through his firm 'M/s Monga Strayfield' CSR.



- ♦ PP Dr. Deshpande has agreed to give Rs. 3,00,000/-.



- ♦ Rtn. Ravi Budhraj has agreed to give Rs. 2,00,000/-.

*By President NPS Bakshi*

## THE ROTARY FOUNDATION (TRF)

### TRF Awards for RC Poona for Generous donations in RY 2022-23

IPDG Dr. Anil Parmar & Dr Hema Parmar received the following Awards at hands of RI President Gordon R. McNally in presence of Trustee Dr. Bharat Pandya, RI Director Raju Subramanian and other dignitaries for the RY 2022-23 during the TRF Seminar at the Rotary Institute in Bengaluru.

- \* Highest APF Contribution in Zone 7 of 7,32,000 USD. This is highest ever APF collection of RID 3131 and 2nd highest in India in RY 2022-23.
- \* Highest Per Capita contribution to APF.
- \* Highest Total TRF Contribution of 2.615 million to TRF in Zone 7 and 2nd highest in India and 5th in the World. Highest ever for RID 3131.
- \* 100% Contributing Clubs.
- \* District Citation for APF Challenge. Only 2 districts in India have got this Citation.
- \* 153 Individual Received APF Challenge Awards and 9 Clubs received APF Challenge Awards. 2nd in India.

IPDG Dr Parmar thanked the generous donors of RID 3131, Presidents 2022-23, TRF Team 2022-23, Team Pinnacle 2022-23 and all Rotarians of RID 3131 for these new milestones and recognition at National and International Level.

Our District 3131 also received Public Image Champion Award at hands of RI President Gordon McNally in presence of RI Director Raju, PRID Venkatesh and Dist. Trainer 2022-23 PDG Dr. Girish.

On Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024, we had a CoPs get-together to celebrate the success of RY 2022-23, along with the felicitation of DGND Nitin Dhamale followed by Award function.

Rotary Club of Poona members received the following Awards;

### Golden Rotarian Award for Annual Fund Challenge 2022-23

1. PP Kailash Monga
2. IPP Maithili Manakawad

### Silver Recognition : Certificate of Appreciation for APF Challenge 2022-23

1. PDG Sam Irani
2. PP Kishor L. Rath
3. Rtn Pramod Shringarpure
4. Past Rtn PP Sanjay Kher



By IPP Maithili Manakawad





## ROTARY ANNUAL THEMES



Rotary International President-elect Stephanie Urchick revealed the 2024-2025 presidential theme, The Magic of Rotary, at International Assembly.

"We are not going to end polio or bring peace to the world by waving a wand. It's up to you. You create the magic with every project completed, every dollar donated, and every new member."

[Link to source here](#)



### Annual Presidential Theme to be Discontinued

The Board: agreed to eliminate the creation of an annual presidential theme and logo starting in Rotary Year 2025–26. <https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/about-rotary/board-decisions>

## A Quick Recap

### Rotary International Themes put forth by Past R.I. Presidents from India

1962-63 : Nitish C. Laharry (RC of Calcutta, West Bengal, India) : *'Kindle the Spark Within'*

1991-92 : Rajendra K. Saboo (RC of Chandigarh, UT, India) : *'Look Beyond Yourself'*

2011-12 : Kalyan Banerjee (RC of Vapi, Gujarat, India) : *'Reach Within to Embrace Humanity'*

2021-22 : Shekhar Mehta (RC of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India) : *'Serve to Change Lives'*



**QUIZ**  
**QUESTION**  
GUESS THE  
ROTARIAN?

## Programmes Ahead

**22nd Jan** - Talk by Arun Nayyar

**29th Jan** - DG Visit

Dates	Birthdays & Anniversaries	Dates	Birthdays & Anniversaries	Attendance Report 8th Jan 2024	Count
15 Jan	Jayashree Kuber	20 Jan	Bhogaraju Leela Madhuri	Rotarians	61
17 Jan	Pushpa Jayapalan	20 Jan	Hufreez Jambusarwalla	Anns	37
17 Jan	NPS Bakshi & Inder Pal Kaur Bakshi	20 Jan	Rohit & Alka Mittra	Spouses	02
				Guests	07
				<b>TOTAL</b>	107

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Poona,  
At 27A, 1st Floor, Manisha Terrace, Moledina Road,  
Pune - 411010

Edited & Published by:  
Rtn. Trupti Gowardiker  
Email: [trusamgo@rediffmail.com](mailto:trusamgo@rediffmail.com)