



POONA SERVICE WHEEL



RI District 3131

ROTARY CLUB OF POONA

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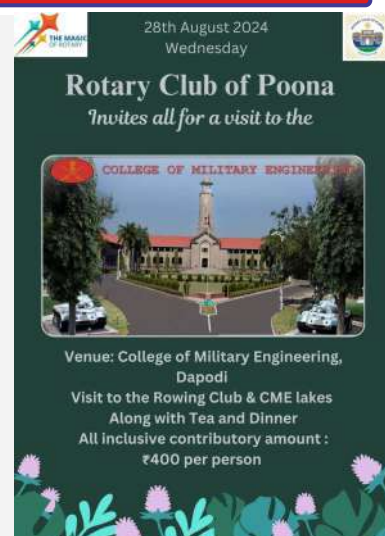
VISIT : COLLEGE OF MILITARY ENGINEERING

Program - 28th Aug - Visit to CME

- 4.15 to 4.30 PM : Arrival at CME Main Gate. Park vehicles at the Main Gate.
- 4.45 PM : Board two buses at the Main Gate and depart.
- 5.00 PM : Arrival at the Rowing Club, listen to the briefing given by an officer, view the layout of boats.
- 5.45 PM : Depart for the Sailing Club.
- 6:00 to 7:00 PM : At the Sailing Club. Weather permitting can walk around the lake, also a boat ride.
- 7:00 PM : Leave for the Officer's Institute for dinner.
- 9:00 PM : Buses bring us back to the Main Gate.
- 9:30 PM : Departure from CME.

CME : INTERESTING INFORMATION

- The College campus is spread over an area of 3600 acres. It is situated on the banks of Mula river.
- **Headquarter Building-** One of the first buildings to be constructed in the College in the early fifties, this imposing structure is constructed of stone quarried from the rocky outcrop located West of the bldg (adjacent to the structure). The Headquarter building is a heritage building and stands testimony of the design and construction skills of the Corps.
- **Corps of Engineers Archives & Museum-** The Corps of Engineers Archives and Museum is located in the Campus and forms the foundation for ensuring that the history and heritage of the Corps is preserved for posterity. Containing a number of collections of documents, media and memorabilia it ensures the history of the Corps is available for the coming generations and forms a precious and noteworthy heritage asset for the Corps the Engineers and the Indian Army.
- **The CME Rowing Channel-** Rowing at CME dates back to 1948 when the CME Rowing Club was established on the banks of the Mula River, next to the Sailing Club. The Corps rowing club was named 'CERA', the Corps of Engineers Rowing Association, and it has nurtured many medal winners at the Asiad and other international championships. The Rowing Federation of India (RFI) was also born through the efforts of CERA, which was a founding member. The first medal winners in the country in rowing have learnt their skills and trained at this course. Later this dream for rowing has led to the construction of India's only international level rowing channel, where rowers of the Services, the Army and the country undergo their training.



Raksha Bandhan, or Bond of Protection, is a popular traditional rite celebrated across the country on the last day of the Hindu calendar month of Shravan. The celebration centers around the tying of an amulet called Rakhi on a brother's wrist by his sister, symbolizing her entrustment of him with the responsibility of protecting her from harm. Although the religious myths connected to this festival are disputed, popular history dates its origin to 1535 when Rani Karnavati of Chittor, a widow, is believed to have sent a Rakhi to Mughal Emperor Humayun to seek protection from the invading army of Bahadur Shah, the Sultan of Gujarat. However, this story finds no supporting mention in recorded history. It was Rabindranath Tagore who transformed this practice into a mass celebration in 1905 to unite the diverse population of Bengal against British colonial rule.

Our club has adopted the tradition of celebrating this festival with the commandant, doctors, patients, nurses, and other staff of the Command Hospital. This year, we celebrated with great enthusiasm, reflecting our gratitude, respect, and affection for our beloved Faujis, who are our Rakshaks. We aptly titled the celebration "Rakshak Bandhan." The Charak auditorium, the venue, was festively decorated with colorful marigold garlands arranged around the stage. Our Anns, clad in rich traditional sarees, tied Rakhis on the wrists of the Fauji brothers and fed them sweets.

Our resident poet, Rtn. Arun Nayar, opened the variety entertainment program with his recitation of his own poem, "Veer Jawan," written specially for the occasion. It was a heartfelt tribute to our Faujis. The patriotic duet "Hum Hindustani" filled the auditorium next, melodiously rendered by PP Bharat Haladi and our nightingale Rtn. Vyjayanti Khaladkar. Ann Gauri Shikarpur and her team of musicians then took the stage, regaling us with popular film songs on their sitars. Beginning with M. Iqbal's eternally loved "Sare Jahan Se Achha," Rtn. Gauri and her team presented a well-chosen selection of old and new favorites from popular Hindi films. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a citation to the commandant of the hospital, Maj. Gen. Nambiar, followed by Rtn. Sanjay Kher's vote of thanks brought the proceedings to a close. A sumptuous high tea concluded the evening on a delightful note! ... By Rtn Mandakini Tata



RAKSHAK BANDHAN—GLIMPSES



In keeping with the tradition of celebrating Raksha Bandhan with our brave soldiers, the Rotary Club of Poona and the Inner Wheel Club of Pune Downtown came together to host a special event at the Military Police Unit near Camp Gurudwara. This annual celebration honors the dedication of the Military Police personnel who serve diligently, often away from their families.

Event Highlights : Raksha Bandhan Celebration: Despite it being a working day, the unit managed to participate in the celebration by rotating personnel to ensure everyone could join in. The Commandant, Deputy Commandant, and all ranks were adorned with Rakhi and offered sweets. Inner Wheel Club President Rtn. Daljeet Raizada, along with other Inner Wheel members, brought Rakhi and sweets, performed prayers, and extended blessings to the jawans.

Tree Plantation: Following the Raksha Bandhan festivities, a tree plantation drive took place. The Rotary Club of Poona and Inner Wheel Club of Pune Downtown provided fruit saplings for the unit. A notable addition was the pomegranate garden, which has been thriving. The clubs' emphasis on planting native and fruit trees aims to enhance the environment, mitigate global warming, and provide healthy, naturally grown fruits for the jawans, while also benefiting local wildlife.

Acknowledgments : The Military Police expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Poona and the Inner Wheel Club of Pune Downtown for their participation and efforts in making the festival celebration memorable. The presence of President Gen Amar, Rtn Narendra Pal, Director Community Rtn Zarir, Inner Wheel President Daljeet Raizada, R/Spouse Suraj Taneja, and numerous Inner Wheel members contributed significantly to the success of the event.

This initiative not only strengthens community bonds but also supports environmental sustainability and the well-being of those who serve in challenging conditions.

..... Rtn Daljeet Raizada



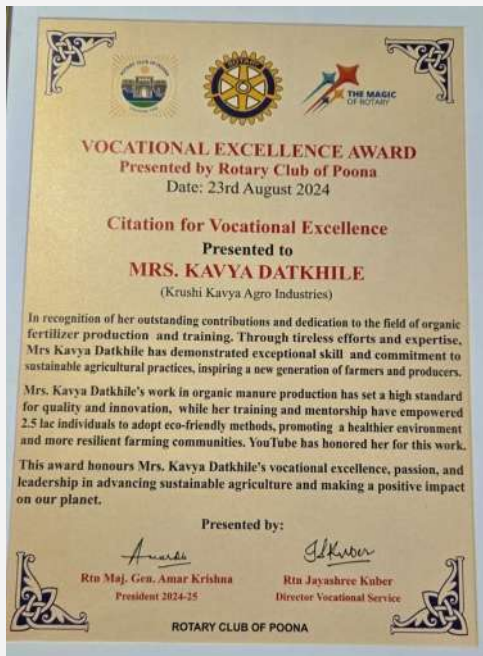
RAKSHA BANDHAN—SCHOOL CHILDREN EXTENDING GRATITUDE TO PATIENTS



VISIT—ADIVASI GIRLS HOSTEL, RAJUR



RC POONA VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD TO KAVYA DATKHILEWADI & OTHER EVENTS



Gift A Vision

As part of our ongoing project, "Gift A Vision," I am pleased to inform that today, we have sent 2 pairs of corneal tissues (4 corneas in total) to H.V. Desai Hospital in Pune for corneal grafting.

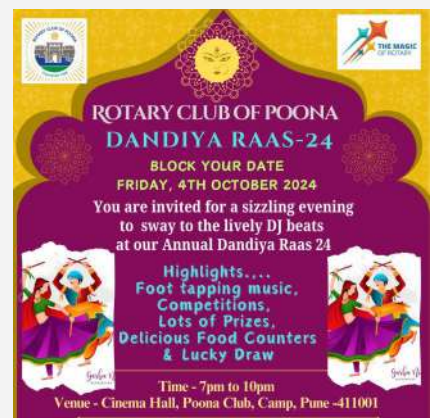
With these 4 corneas from Indian Red Cross Society, Ahmedabad, RC Poona will be completing restoration of vision to 25 individuals in need.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the generous donors from RC Poona family and extending support to this noble cause.

RYLA—T J COLLEGE, KHADKI



DANDIA RAAS—24



VISIT—JUNNAR



| Dates | | Birthdays / Anniversaries | Programmes Ahead | Attendance Report 19 Aug 2024 | Count |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|
| 22-Aug | | R/Ann Dilshad Dadachanji | <p style="text-align: center;">02 Sep : The Art of Story Telling by Arvind Mittal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">09 Sep : Operation Maldives by Gp Capt Bewoor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16 Sep : Holiday—Eid-e-Milad</p> | Rotarians | 30 |
| 23-Aug | | R/Ann Madhura Atre | | Anns | 13 |
| 26-Aug | | Rtn Jaideep Parekh | | Spouses | 02 |
| 29-Aug | | Rtn Praful & R/Ann Sunita Shah | | Visiting Rotarians | — |
| 31-Aug | | Rtn Chandrashekhar Agarwal | | Guests, patients, Hospital staff, relatives, soldiers | 215 |
| 31-Aug | | R/Ann Sudha Kanitkar | | TOTAL | 260 |
| 31-Aug | | R/Ann Subhadra Rathi | | | |