

RCKP PULSE

ROTARY CLUB OF KOREGAON PARK **DISTRICT 3131** **CLUB ID: 85375**

President: Rtn. Ajaya Khullar | Hon. Secretary: Rtn. Shani Naushad | Editor: Rtn. Ramkrishna Bhagwat

IT'S THE SHARED PURPOSE THAT BRINGS US TOGETHER

Greetings, fellow Rotarians!

The new Rotary Year is underway, and the RCKP's new President and Board of Directors have been installed with great enthusiasm. IPP Rtn. Ajaya's annual fellowship was a wonderful success.

Numerous activities have already begun in the Literacy vertical, and we have much more planned in the coming months. Stay tuned for exciting updates!

Cheers!

| Index | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| In this issue | Page No |
| From the Editor's Desk | 1 |
| From the President's Desk | 2 |
| Be Alert ...!! | 3-4 |
| A Sea of Devotion | 5 |
| Installation Ceremony | 6-9 |
| President's Fellowship | 11-12 |
| Visit to BSSK | 13 |
| Brainstorming | 14 |
| Uniform Distribution | 15-17 |
| Learning Kits / Felicitation | 18 |
| Our Good Samaritans | 19-20 |
| Birthdays | 21-22 |

From the desk of the President

Dear Fellow Rotarians and Anns of RCKP,

I am deeply honored and excited to embark on my journey as President of the Rotary Club of Koregaon Park for the 2024-25 Rotary Year.

Our club boasts a rich history of service and fellowship, a legacy I am dedicated to upholding and expanding upon.

As we set forth on this new year, our theme is "Creating Hope in the World, through The Magic of Rotary." Together, we will channel our efforts into initiatives that uplift our community and aid those who need it most. Our projects will prioritize education, health, environmental sustainability, and skill development.

I invite every one of you to share your passions and ideas. Our collective strength lies in our diverse talents and shared commitment to creating positive change. Let us collaborate to identify new opportunities for service and innovation.

Thank you for your unwavering trust and support. I anticipate a year filled with meaningful service and shared accomplishments.

Yours in Rotary,

Rtn. Navin Gupta President, Rotary Club of Koregaon Park, Pune



4th July: Be Alert

On July 4th, Rtn Vivek Velankar delivered a captivating lecture where he initially addressed the audience as MPs and MLAs. He went on to explain that the Right to Information (RTI) Act of 2005 has effectively elevated every Indian citizen to the level of MPs and MLAs. This groundbreaking law empowers citizens to request information from any government agency, something that is known only to the elected representatives.

As a legitimate State Bank of India shareholder, Rtn. Vivek was shocked by the details of loans given and written off, revealed through an RTI request. It exposed a troubling pattern of public sector banks writing off massive loans with minimal recovery, often with significant haircuts.

The lecture also highlighted other scams, such as excessive road tolls collected well beyond the cost of construction, with governments compensating toll agencies for losses during the pandemic.

Insurance premiums were identified as another area of concern, where companies recover compensation payouts through marginal premium increases for millions of customers.

While RTI provides access to such information, the limited options for stopping these practices left attendees with a bitter taste.



4th July: Be Alert

Despite this, the first meeting of the 2024-25 Rotary year had a positive atmosphere, with generous contributions to the sunshine box for birthdays, anniversaries, and various other reasons.

The meeting also celebrated Mr Hari Sargovind, our meetings coordinator, for becoming a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF). He has been serving our club for last over 10 years. His APF contribution was aptly supported by Rotary club of Pune Central to make him an eligible PHF. Rtn. **Harry** presented the Paul **Harris** pin to **Hari** ...!!

Rtn. Niranjan continued his generosity by providing a check to Rtn. Mamata Tai for Ann Vijaya's birthday celebration on July 8th, and sponsoring meals for children at Sanmati Bal Niketan.



5th July: A Sea of Devotion

The Pune Warkari procession, also known as the Wari, was an experience unlike any other. This annual pilgrimage sees thousands of devotees, or Warkaris, embark on a 250-kilometer journey on foot, from Pune to Pandharpur, to worship Lord Vitthal.

Myself along with Sandesh and Pramod decided to participate in this unique event. We stationed ourselves at Velha, in the Purandhar district, to distribute chikki (a peanut candy) and water bottles to the Warkaris.

Being there was like being swept into a sea of humanity. Devotees from all walks of life came together, united by their unwavering faith and devotion. The atmosphere crackled with an infectious energy. As we walked alongside the pilgrims, we could feel the powerful current of collective devotion and spiritual energy. The procession was a vibrant tapestry of Maharashtrian culture and traditions. From the colorful clothing to the chanted prayers, every element was a testament to the deep-rooted faith of the Warkaris.

The Pune Wari procession is an experience that leaves a lasting impression. It touches your heart with its sheer devotion and stays with you long after the last chant fades away.

- In the words of President Rtn. Navin Gupta ...!!



8th July: RY 2024-25 Annual Installation Ceremony

Rotary Club of Koregaon Park Holds Annual Installation Ceremony

The Rotary Club of Kingsway celebrated its much-anticipated annual Installation Ceremony on July 8th. This event marks the induction of the new President and Board of Directors for the upcoming year.

The ceremony was graced by a number of distinguished guests, including PDG Rtn Mohan Palesha as the Chief Guest, AG Rtn Asis Ray, ALF Rtn Pallavi Sable, District Membership Dir Rtn Sachin Parmar, and Rtn Shalini H, President of the Rotary Club of Pune Airport. We were also honored by the presence of our Honorary Members, Rtn. Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D.B. Shekatkar and Rtn. Mamta tai of Sanmati Baal Niketan. The ever-enthusiastic Rotaractors from Viman Nagar and Koregaon Park added to the celebratory atmosphere.

Annette Sanjana Takale served as the emcee for the well-organized event. Following the National Anthem, IPP Rtn. Ajaya presented a comprehensive report on the club's achievements during the past year.

A highlight of the ceremony was the distribution of annual awards to deserving members across various categories. The outgoing President then ceremoniously handed over the reins to the incoming President. The Board of Directors were introduced individually, and Chief Guest Rtn. Palesha bestowed upon them the prestigious Rotary pins signifying their respective positions.



8th July: RY 2024-25 Annual Installation Ceremony: Awards

Best Upcoming Rotarian

Rtn. Amit Hiremath
2023-24



Highest Foundation
Contribution

Rtn. Ramkrishna Bhagwat
2023-24



Best Project

Rtn. Sandesh Gupta
2023-24



Best Supporting Ann

Ann Beena Hiremath
2023-24



Best Membership
Development

Sudesh Hadke
2023-24



Vibrant Rotarian

Rtn. Satish Deshchougule
2023-24



Friend and Confidant

Rtn. Srinivas Naidu
2023-24



Best Rotary Couple

Ann Vijaya and Rtn.
Niranjan Bijoor
2023-24



Outstanding Rotarian

Rtn. Mahesh Shah
2023-24



Best Buddy

Rtn. Navin Gupta
2023-24



Best Director

Rtn. Ratnakar Shetty
2023-24



8th July: RY 2024-25 Annual Installation Ceremony: The BoD

Rtn. Navin Gupta

President



Rtn. Purnima Pendse

Director Service Projects:
Non Medical



Rtn. Ajaya Khullar

Immediate Past President



Rtn. Sandesh Gupta

Director Service Projects:
Medical



Rtn. Shani Naushad

President Elect and Club
Administration



Rtn. Mahesh Shah

Director Service Projects:
Literacy



Rtn. Amit Hiremath

President Nominee and
Honorary Secretary



Rtn. Rathnakar Shetty

Director New Generation



Rtn. Aditya Kumar

Treasurer



Rtn. Pramod Sharma

Director Public Image



Rtn. Sudesh Hadke

Director Foundation



Rtn. Satish Deshchougule

Director International



Rtn. Niraj Mehta

Director Membership



8th July: RY 2024-25 Annual Installation Ceremony

Following a warm introduction by Rtn. Rakesh, Rtn. Mohan Palesha captivated the audience with his insightful speech, interwoven with poems and shayari. He emphasized the importance of contributing to the Annual Program Fund, using many compelling anecdotes to illustrate the power of collaboration and selflessness. The stories resonated strongly with the audience, leaving a lasting impression.

The event ended after Rtn. Pramod Sharma presented the vote of thanks.



11th July: Visit to Ashram School

On July 11th, Rotarians Navin, Harry, and Mahesh visited the Ashram School in Wagholi, operated by BVJSS (Bhartiya Vimukta Sati Shikshan Sanstha). BVJSS is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing hope and support to orphans, children with disabilities, and those who are blind or deaf. Since 1987, they have been serving these vulnerable children, with 350 currently residing in the hermitage.

The visit provided the Rotarians with valuable insight into the school's specific needs in the area of skill development. Based on this experience, we are considering assessing the requirements of VVM school, Dighi school, and Sanmati Bal Niketan as well.

The Ashram School visit was a significant learning experience, and it was felt that more members and Anns from the Rotary Club could have participated.



12th July: IPP Ajaya's Fellowship

On July 12th, we gathered for IPP Ajaya's annual fellowship at the Cocoon Hotel in Magarpatta. The event, though without a specific dress code, was a vibrant affair, thanks to the colorful attire of our members. Unfortunately, the monsoon season and persistent traffic jams prevented some from attending.

The party was split between an indoor hall and an open area where many of the men enjoyed drinks. However, the women eventually ventured out to join the lively crowd.

Much of the evening was spent in small groups, enjoying casual conversations, punctuated by an entertaining game. Participants were asked to pick a folded paper with a word written on it. They then had to describe five qualities or traits about their spouse related to that word.

To everyone's amusement, most participants struggled to come up with even two qualities without enthusiastic help from the audience. This was a stark reminder that even after years of marriage, we may not truly know our partners as well as we think. Yet, it ended on a humorous note, with participants finding solace in the fact that even if their spouses didn't know much about them, the audience certainly did! 😂

As always, the drinks, snacks, and food were outstanding. Many members also took to the dance floor, showing off their moves.

Overall, it was a refreshing and memorable fellowship, one we'll cherish for a long time.



12th July: IPP Ajaya's Fellowship



15th July: Visit to Bharatiya Samaj Seva Kendra

On July 15th, we visited the BHARTIYA SAMAJ SEVA KENDRA (BSSK) orphanage in Koregaon Park.

BSSK is licensed to admit children from birth to 6 years of age. Every child admitted to BSSK comes through the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). The BPCA (Birth Parent Child Admission) programme focuses on the birth parent (minor/adult), family members, and children who are either surrendered, abandoned or under temporary care. It involves counselling, investigative processes and rehabilitation (when the birth mother is a minor or when birth mother or father is mentally ill).

After a documentary on BSSK's work, we interacted with Sr. Executive Ms. Rajeshri Deokar and Executive Director Ms. Naganandhini S. The facility, with a 56-child capacity, currently houses 30. It was insightful to learn about their operations and challenges, relying entirely on charity. Those wishing to help can find their wish list online and contact Ms. Deokar (+91 98909 14446).



19th July: Brainstorming

In their first meeting of the new year on July 18th, Rotary Club of Koregaon Park (RCKP) President Navin and the Board of Directors engaged members in a brainstorming session to gather ideas for projects, fundraising, and fellowship activities. Following are the Key Updates:

Community Projects:

Rtn. Mahesh shared details about a visit to the Ashram School and their Skill Development program, with a particular focus on nurse training.

He also described a visit to the Bharatiya Samaj Seva Kendra, where RCKPians donated a mind development kit to children.

Rtn. Sandesh provided an update on the upcoming distribution of umbrellas to street vendors to offer protection during the monsoon season. The identification process will be completed soon, with distribution to follow.

Fellowships: Members discussed the frequency of fellowship events and decided to hold them every other month.

Communication: Secretary Amit, with the assistance of Harry George, will be responsible for uploading information about RCKP events to Rotary International and Rotary 3131 district platforms.

Donation Opportunity: Rtn. Sandesh mentioned that a donor has 12 teak wood cradles available for a worthy organization.



27th July: VVM School - Uniforms Distribution

The Rotary Club of Koregaon Park (RCKP), has been proudly associated with Vidya Vikas Mandir in Andgaon, supporting education and other needs, for many years. The school is now known for its dedication to education, consistently achieving a 100% pass rate in the 10th standard exams. RCKP is committed to supporting this success, and each year, we help provide essential resources for the students.

This year, we have noticed a significant increase in the cost of uniforms, with stitching charges exceeding the cost of the fabric itself. To address this challenge, RCKP decided to sponsor uniforms for all 200 students (100 girls and 100 boys). The total cost came to Rs. 1,10,000, with Rs. 40,000 for fabric and Rs. 70,000 for stitching, averaging Rs. 550 per student. Thanks to a heartfelt appeal from Rtn. Mahesh, many club members generously contributed to this worthy cause.

On Friday, July 27th, Rotarians Ashok Sadalkar, Pramod Sharma, Aditya Kumar, Rathnakar Shetty, Ann Beena, and members of the Rotaract Club of Koregaon Park, visited the school to distribute the uniforms to the students.



27th July: VVM School - Uniforms Distribution

The installation of the Interact Club Board of Directors for 2024-25 then followed. Secretary Rtn. Amit Hiremath presented a pin to incoming President Chaitanya Marne, and Director Rtn. Mahesh Shah presented a pin to Secretary Ms. Riddhima Marne. President Marne led the Board members in taking the oath of office and expressed gratitude to RCKP members and school authorities, pledging to conduct meaningful activities with RCKP's support.



Local Zilla Parishad and Panchayat members praised RCKP's ongoing financial support for the school, and School Trustee Shri Marne expressed deep gratitude for RCKP's unwavering support.



Rotaractors from Koregaon Park shared their personal experiences with 10th-grade students, offering insights on transitioning from rural backgrounds to professional colleges and campus life. They also distributed biscuits to all students.

President Rtn. Navin Gupta, though absent, ensured the event's success, and Rtn. Sandesh and Rtn. Niraj coordinated a delightful breakfast at Hotel Prasad for the returning RCKP members.

Overall, the early Saturday morning outing was a fulfilling experience, enjoyed in pleasant weather.



27th July: VVM School - Uniforms Distribution



Learning Kits / Felicitation

During Rtn. Ajayaji's tenure, two e-learning kits (TVs) were purchased for Ramchandra Gaikwad Vidyalaya in Dighi. These kits were delivered on July 12th, and the school expressed their sincere appreciation for the generous donation.

The school management sent the following message:

"Today we received 2 smart projector sets for educational purposes. On behalf of all the staff and functional members of Navjeevan Education Trust, we are heartily thankful. We cannot express our gratitude enough, for the Rotary Club of Koregaon Park."

This message highlights the importance and usefulness of these e-learning kits, and demonstrates the positive impact that the Rotary Club of Koregaon Park is having on the community.



Mr. Sateesh Bhide of Randack Fasteners India, a generous benefactor, fulfilled RCKP's request to construct a modern, spacious hall and setup a computer laboratory, at Vidya Vikas Mandir, Andgaon. This project, valued at approximately Rs 8 lakhs, was made possible by Mr. Bhide's kind contribution. In recognition of his generosity, RCKP felicitated Mr. Bhide on July 27th. Kudos to Mr. Bhide ..!!



Our Good Samaritans ..!!

न हि ज्ञानेन सदृशं पवित्रमिह विद्यते ।

Knowledge is the purest pursuit, and our club members embody this belief by supporting eager students from VVM school who aspire to great academic heights. Many among us are proud sponsors, empowering these students on their educational journey.

Rtn. Niranjan and Ann. Vijaya Bijoor have generously stepped up to sponsor the education of Ms. Kalyani Zunjurke, a bright student from VVM School, Andgaon. Having completed her 12th standard, Kalyani is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) in her second year and dreams of becoming a Chartered Accountant. The Bijoor's support covers not only her college and hostel fees but also a laptop, ensuring Kalyani has the resources she needs to succeed in her studies.

Rtn. Ajaya and Ann Anuradha Khullar have sponsored the entire education of Ms. Pratiksha Vishwas Marne, who also aspires to become a Chartered Accountant. In addition to covering all her fees, they have also provided her with a mobile phone and a laptop.

Rtn. Pramod Sharma, Rtn. Sandesh Gupta and a friend of Rtn. Pramod Sharma have been sponsoring the higher education of Ms. Rutuja Mokhar for the past three years. Ms. Mokhar, a bright student, completed her 12th grade at VVM School, Andgaon. She is currently in her 3rd year of Engineering at Sinhagad Institute, Lonavala, and maintaining good academic performance. The sponsorship covers all her expenses, including tuition fees, hostel accommodation and food.



Kalyani Zunjurke



Pratiksha Marne



Rutuja Mokhar

Our Good Samaritans ..!!

Rtn. Bharat Assudani generously funded Ms. Vaishnavi Maloji Marne's education for a full year. Ms. Marne graduated with a First Class and a Distinction in her Bachelor of Engineering degree from Savitribai Phule Pune University in May 2024.

Rtn. Ashok Sadalkar, Rtn. Swarupa Tembwalkar and Rtn. Aditya Kumar have generously covered the Standard XI expenses for Anjali Pawar, Akshay Hiram and Vishal Walhekar, all students from VVM School. They are doing their Arts studies in Pirangut English School, Mulshi.

Sponsoring a student through higher education is a very generous and impactful thing to do. It's a significant financial commitment, but it can also be incredibly rewarding to invest in someone's future and help them achieve their academic goals.

Kudos to all our Good Samaritans ..!!



Vaishnavi Marne



Anjali Pawar



Akshay Hiram



Vishal Walhekar

Happy Birthday ..!!



Ann Harsha
Jethmalani - 2nd
August



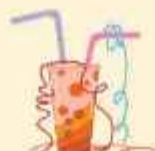
Ann Shruti Gupta -
3rd August



Ann Chetana
Nathwani - 6th
August



Rtn. Mahesh Shah -
16th August



Happy Birthday ..!!



Annette Alfred
George - 23rd
August



Annette Parth Danait
- 24th August



Annette Aditya
Hiremath - 25th
August

