



District 3131

Rotary Club of Pune Metro

Club No. 31769

METROPOLITAN

President Rtn Amita Nene

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March – Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

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MARCH CALENDER

March 1 Vocational
Excellence Award
March 9
Bawarchi Day &
Women's Day
March 20
प प पत्रिकेचा
March 27
Holi Celebration &
Musical Night



March कलायात्री

Amita & Sachin Nene
Rajas & Milind Phadke
Avinash & Vaijayanti Satpute
Shubhada & Abhay Joglekar
Altaf & Shubhada Chikodi

PRESIDENTIAL – Rtn Amita Nene



My Dear RCPM family members,

Today at this special occasion of DG visit, I am elated to present the 9th bulletin of the year to all of you. I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the wonderful strides we have made together.

From enriching our community with service projects to receiving recognition for our work, it's clear that our collective efforts are making a lasting impact.

In the past weeks, 11 of our members took part in the truly enriching 2-day Rotary 3131 District Conference DisCon T-25. This was an eventful and inspiring occasion, where we connected with fellow Rotarians, shared insights, listened to the most captivating and inspiring talks. This two days event has certainly renewed our energy and enthusiasm for the work ahead.

A notable highlight of our month was the completion of the ***Wheels of Progress*** project, part of the Playing 11 initiatives of the district. Through this initiative, RCPM proudly donated 11 new bicycles to underprivileged tribal children from the Pardhi Adivasi community at Sankalp Vasatigruh in Rashin village, Tal. Karjat, Ahmednagar. The *Adivasi Pardhi Samaj Seva Sanstha* has been doing incredible work to provide education and shelter to the children of this nomadic tribal community and we at RCPM are honoured to support them. The donation of these bicycles will help ensure that these children are not hindered by geographical barriers in

accessing education, and we believe this will be a significant step towards a brighter future for them.

We also took another significant step with the completion of *Project **Cherry Blossom*** another initiative under the Playing 11 basket. RCPM, in association with the *Family Planning Association of India*, conducted anaemia testing for 307 girls in classes 8 and 9 at the Renuka Swaroop Memorial Girls School. Few girls who were identified with low haemoglobin levels, were provided with the necessary nutritional counselling and iron supplements. This project reflects our commitment to ensuring the health and well-being of children, empowering them to reach their maximum potential.

I also take this moment to recognize a special contribution that has truly made us shine. **PP Avinash Joshi** has graciously **donated USD 5000** to the Rotary Foundation, in celebration of his 50 years of professional success and 40 years of Rotary service. This generous donation is a reflection of his deep commitment to the Rotary cause and a testament to the spirit of giving that defines our club.

On 13th February, we had an exceptionally well-planned and a thorough execution of our AG Visit. Many congratulations to our entire RCPM family for being an active and enthusiastic part of this memorable event. Our Board of Directors, in particular, deserve special recognition for presenting their work with such conviction and passion. With such strong support, we have now geared up for a vibrant and remarkable DG Visit.

On top of our various initiatives, our work continues to gain recognition in the press. Our *Book Donation Project* received **coverage in local newspapers**, marking our third press

mention this year. Earlier this year, we also received media attention for the Charter Installation of the new Interact Club at the Blind School and Home for Boys, and the Silver Jubilee of our Women Entrepreneurship Development Program.

As we move into the final four months of this Rotary year, I urge each of you to continue to give your best and help us achieve even more remarkable milestones. Let's keep working together, in the spirit of service, to ensure that our club remains a beacon of hope and change for all those we serve.

Let's make the remaining months of this Rotary year truly impactful and memorable!

With lots of warm wishes,

Rtn Amita Nene

President RCPM RY 24-25



RCPM PROJECTS

1) Sankalp Vasatigruh, Rashin

Under the Playing 11 initiative of RID 3131, RCPM provided bicycles to the students of Sankalpa Vasatigruh, Rashin on 31st January.



2) Cherry Blossom Project

सोमवार दि ३ रोजी रोटरी 3131 चा cherry blossom project रेणुका स्वरूप शाळेत, फॅमिली प्लॅनिंग असोसिएशन ऑफ इंडिया, यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने आयोजित केला होता.

एकूण ३०७ विद्यार्थिनी लाभार्थी होत्या.

प्रथम त्यांना हिमोग्लोबिनचे शरीरातील महत्त्व आणि त्याचं संतुलन टिकवण्याकरता दैनंदिन जीवनातला आहार, याबद्दल माहिती देण्यात आली.

नंतर मुलींचा रक्तगट आणि हिमोग्लोबिन तपासले गेले. फॅमिली प्लॅनिंग असोसिएशनचे नऊ जण आणि आपल्या क्लबच्या प्रेसिडेंट रो अमिता, रो अंजली, रो मंजिरी आणि रो वंदना उपस्थित होते.

३०७ मुलींपैकी ३२ मुलींमध्ये हिमोग्लोबिन कमी आढळले. ज्या मुलींचे हिमोग्लोबिन कमी आहे त्यांना गोळ्या देण्यात आल्या आणि त्या मुलींचा चेकअप तीन महिन्यांनी परत घेतला जाईल असे ठरले.



3) स्नेहबंध HIV वधू-वर मेळावा २०२५

हा आपला गेल्या १६ वर्षातील १७ वा मेळावा. कोविडमुळे एक वर्ष हा मेळावा घेता आला नाही. सुरवातीपासून हा मेळावा आपण चार किंवा पाच संस्था मिळून घेतो. मानव्य, रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पुणे मेट्रो, रोटरी क्लब पुणे मिड ईस्ट, अक्षदा विवाह संस्था, नेटवर्क ऑफ महाराष्ट्र पीपल लिव्हिंग विथ HIV+, प्रयास आणि या वर्षी माणूसkey ही संस्था जोडली गेली. इतक्या संस्था मिळून गेली १७ वर्षे एकत्रित पणे सातत्याने हा प्रकल्प करत आहेत आणि त्याला चांगला प्रतिसाद मिळतो आहे.

या मेळाव्यात ११२ उमेदवारांनी सहभाग घेतला. त्यामध्ये मुलींची संख्या फक्त २१ होती. यावर विचार मंथनाची गरज आहे असे वाटते. सकाळी साडेआठ पासून उमेदवार येऊ लागले ती रीघ दुपारी एक दीड पर्यंत सुरु होती, खूप लोक बाहेरगावाहून येत होते.

या प्रोजेक्ट चे समन्वयक PP अनिल आणि अॅक्टिंग समन्वयक रो. राजेश यांनी सर्व्हिस प्रोजेक्ट डायरेक्टर PP अंजलीच्या पुढाकाराने प्रकल्प सुंदर पार पडला. काही मुलामुलींच्या आयुष्यात आपण सर्व जण काहीतरी चांगला बदल घडवून आणण्यासाठी निमित्त ठरत आहोत ही खूप समाधानाची बाब आहे. कालच्या मेळाव्यात ४ ते ७ लग्ने ठरतील असे वाटते. कालच्या मेळाव्याचे उदघाटन प्रे. अमिता च्या हस्ते झाले. PE माधवी, PP अभय, Ann संगीता, Ann अश्विनीताई, PP शिरीष, Ann उज्वला यांनी सहभाग घेतला. रोटरी मिड ईस्ट च्या अध्यक्ष शमिका पवार, PP डॉ राजेंद्र भवाळकर हे देखील उपस्थित होते. प्रयास संस्थेच्या विजया जोरी यांनी मुलांचे सेशन घेतले.

या संपूर्ण मेळाव्याचे आयोजन मानव्य मधील स्टाफ व मुलांनी केले होते. कार्यक्रमाचे सूत्र संचालन मानव्यच्या जमिला इनामदार यांनी केले.



RCPM MEETINGS

1) **A G Visit**

We had an exceptionally well planned and executed AG Visit on 13th February.

Our RCPM family has been taking very active part in the commendable journey so far. Each of the club member has put in best efforts and dedication, culminating into a very fruitful and successful AG visit.

BOD members did very crisp and to the point presentations. The avenues covered were Secretary, Treasurer, Club Admin. Projects, Foundation, Membership, Youth, Public Image, IT, Bulletin and CLF.

Rtn PP Makarand, Convener of AG visit did an exceptionally nice job as always. AG Atul Atre and ALF Vasavi Mulay were felicitated at the hands of President Amita Nene.

Rtn PP Vasavi Mulay spoke regarding her impressions about RCPM over the years. AG Atul Atre spoke about his bond with RCPM, his contact with President Amita Nene as well as his impressions about the overall administration of RCPM, the prizes received in cultural activities, the depth and breadth of the projects, along with the work related to Membership and Foundation.

With praise and grand appreciation from our AG, RCPM is geared up for a remarkable DG Visit and for the vibrant four months ahead.

Glimpses of the AG visit





2) Weekly meeting 2

वीस तारखेची मीटिंग पक्षी निरीक्षण या विषयावर झाली, वक्ते होते सिद्धार्थ बिनीवाले. शांतीवन येथे इंटरन म्हणून गेले असताना पक्षी कसे ओरडतात ते ऐकले व पक्ष्यांचा कानोसा घेताना पक्ष्यांच्या आवाजात काय असेल यावर एक कविता त्यांनी म्हणून दाखवली. त्यात कोणता पक्षी कसा आवाज करतो ते सांगितले.

वेगवेगळे आवाज काढून त्यांची नावे सांगितली. त्याचा कोणती यंत्रे वापरून आवाज रेकॉर्ड करायचे तेही सांगितले. पक्ष्यांच्या आवाजाची लायब्ररी असते त्यामध्ये ते कसे आवाज बदलतात ते समजू शकते. पक्षी ब्रीडींग सीझनप्रमाणे आवाज बदलतात. नवे आवाज काढतात.

हॉर्नबिल उडताना कसा आवाज करतो, रॉबिनचा आवाज हा त्यांच्या आरोग्याशी संबंधित असतो, पक्षांचे कॉल वेगवेगळ्या प्रकारचे असतात. पेरणी करण्यासाठी तो पेरते व्हा असे सांगतो अशी खूप माहिती मिळाली. त्यांच्यातही गाण्याची स्पर्धा असते.

ड्रामा बाय फॅनटेल क्रो हा ही वेगवेगळे आवाज करतो. कुकुकु हा छान गातो. सनबर्डच्या घर्ट्यात अंडी घालतो व सनबर्ड त्याचेच पिल्लू असल्याप्रमाणे वाढवतो. हॉर्नबिलच्या गमतीजमतीही त्यांनी सांगितल्या.

आपण सर्वांनी पक्षांच्या आवाजाचा अभ्यास केला पाहिजे आणि जरी त्यांना बोलता येत नसले तरी ते कसे व्यक्त होतात हे आपल्याला समजले पाहिजे. पक्ष्यांचे विविध आवाज व अर्थ त्यांनी समजावून सांगितले. सर्वांनाच ही माहिती आवडली.



RCPM NEWS

1)

Rtn PP Avinash Joshi completed his journey of 50 years of professional career and 40 years in Rotary.



Foundation Giving.... USD 5000!! Congratulations PP Avinash Joshi!!

On 9th Feb, Friends and Family of PP Avinash Joshi celebrated and commended his 50 years of Professional Success and 40 years of Rotary Service

To commemorate this very grand occasion, he donated USD 5000 to the TRF

Being in Rotary for over 40 years – Rtn PP Avinash Joshi

A question often asked to me--- what makes you keep your interest in Rotary activities alive even after 40 years in Rotary? What would be your advice to our members to help them continue sustained interest in Rotary?

- Interest in Rotary means interest in Rotary activities and interest in fellow Rotarians
- Interest in Rotary activities can wane over a period of time due to various reasons like professional commitments, career, family commitments, other avenues of interest getting priority, familiarity/ repetitiveness etc. But one should ensure

that interest in Friendship/Fellowship with Fellow members should remain and grow over the period.

- To do this, one need to spend time and money in fellowship activities and also need to take initiative in organizing such activities. Strengthening friendship is the key to life and Rotary gives you those opportunities on a continuous basis.
- As one starts becoming a senior member, one should allow younger/ newer members to take lead. One should remember not to become overbearing and avoid pushing old ways or remaining resistant to change & to trying out new things. One should offer advice only when asked for, but always be ready to offer your help and expertise when any member approaches you. One can take initiative in grooming and mentoring new leaders in the club.
- To play a long innings, one must take a fresh guard (as in Cricket) after every few years and then one realizes that there are many more challenges and much more fun waiting for you in Rotary.

2)

In this month RCPM family witnessed sad demises of Anna Prashant Kelkar (spouse of Rtn Shama), Ann Rajyashree Sakunde's father and Ann Aparna Mahajan's mother.

RCPM family is deeply saddened by this loss and offers its sincerest condolences to the families.

3)

President Amita was specially invited to attend the Annual Gathering of the students of RSICC – Renuka Swarup Institute of Career Courses.



4)

Rtn **Girish Ranade** and **Datta Deshpande** were felicitated at the hands of **Mr Sanjay Kirloskar**, Chairman and MD (Kirloskar Brothers Limited) and President (MCCIA - Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture) on 25th February in a grand function at JW Marriot, Pune during the MCCIA Annual Awards Ceremony – “Celebrating the Spirit of Entrepreneurship”.



RCPM in RID 3131 Events

1) DisCon 25

RID 3131 conference was held on 31st Jan and 1-2 February at Nishigandha Lawns with full enthusiasm. Stalwart Guest Speakers as well Rotary speakers made the conference a memorable one with combination of knowledge sharing and entertainment.

RCPM attended this conference with 11 participants. RCPM member's names were shining in various district forums such as Literacy, RYE, RYLA, Admin, Strategy as well as the recently conducted Sahitya Sammelan. As AG of four clubs, Rtn PP Sneha Subhedar received 1st prize for Maximum Registrations for Conference.



2) EYE C MAGIC

"Rotary District 3131's DEI team celebrated Rotary's 120th birthday in a unique and thrilling way - with the 'Eye C Magic' car rally! This extraordinary event featured visually impaired individuals as navigators, expertly guiding drivers through the course with remarkable precision and confidence.

This event was arranged by the DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) team of district. The host club was Rotary Club of Poona with co-host clubs as Baner, Bavdhan Elite, Nigdi, Pimpri Elite, East, Warje and Central. This day also happens to be Wedding Anniversary of DG Shital and FL Ragini Shah.

The event was a testament to the incredible capabilities and spirit of our visually impaired friends. Despite the challenges they face, they showed remarkable courage, strength, and determination. Technology has certainly empowered them, but there's still much work to be done to make life more accessible and easier.

With over 150 cars participating and a crowd of over 500 people, the 25 KM 'Eye C Magic' was more than just a car rally - it was a powerful message of inclusion, capability, and hope. This event will be etched in the memories of all who attended, serving as a reminder of the importance of empathy, understanding, and empowerment."



Nostalgia Section

In this unique section we bring you some nostalgic memories of projects conducted by RCPM in previous years

1- AIDS Awareness Project – Rtn PP Narendra Dravid

I vividly remember a project carried out in my presidential year.

Do you remember the same?

It was the AIDS Awareness Project.

We had made a film for this project. We completed this in just four days. It was screened in each and every corner of the red light areas on specially mounted TV sets. In addition, we had taken help from the NARI Institute to get more films and screen them also. We had learnt that many college students visit these area regularly. So we screened such films for a full week. In addition we had also screened them in cinema theatres as advertisements.

AIDS situation was at its worst in December 1998. Everywhere, AIDS Awareness Weeks were observed. Rotarians and Anns from our club had worked very hard during this period. Late VijayaTai Lawate, mother of Rtn Shireesh had done tremendous help. Our Anns had arranged a Haldi Kunku event for the sex workers.

All this was made possible because of the help from Ann Sangeeta, Mrunal, Vaijayanti and cooperation from VijayaTai, PSI Rekha Salunkhe and social worker Pooja Yadav madam.

Today we miss VijayaTai, Mrunal and Yadav madam.

The stories told by the women were horrifying. Their lives were terribly hopeless, however they were compelled to pull on like that. The fact that youth was charting a wrong path was extremely disturbing to me. So also the characterless men and their perversion. The so called elite Puneites brought shame to me. I was more disturbed as I was unable to help the situation.

The talk of the leader of those women proclaiming “the young girls and married women of the society were truly safe due to the sacrifice of women like them” actually left me speechless. The daily news of rapes, atrocities and sexually harassment didn't show a civilised and evolved society. One felt restless.

Now something regarding our film. This film was the creation of students from Symbiosis. They had written the script and shot it in the campus of Pune University and a plot on Paud road. They had even selected two star actors. My role was that of a grandfather of a boy affected by AIDS, who ultimately guides him to the right path.

I will not write more about the same, however, I feel extremely nostalgic to remember that project.

2- International District RYLA – Rtn PP Altaf Chikodi

When I reminisce and roll back to the centennial year 2000-01 many pictures of my Presidential year flash before me, some very vivid and some very faint.

With a bench strength of 22, the Club boasts of many highs. Hosting four District events including a Zonal one was commendable for 22 young soldiers along with GG of \$2000 from RI Presidents pool and other ongoing projects. Along with RC Pune Uptown, we hosted an International District RYLA for about 120 students including about 12-14 foreign students at Balewadi for a full 7 days.

The registration fee was Rs.1, 200/-. Rtn. Narendra Dravid as Co-convener was a pillar of support. It was a residential RYLA. Theme of the RYLA was Challenges of the next century. Inaugurated by DG Dr. Shivdas Bhosale it saw a galaxy of speakers from District as well as industries. A special bulletin was released by Rtn. Achyut Ghare.



Rtn. Narendra spoke on Public Speaking. Every evening was an entertainment programme like bonfire, orchestra, garba, variety entertainment etc. Valedictory function took place on 5th.November 2000 at the hands of the then Vice Chancellor Pune University Dr. Sonawane. DGE Dr. Madhav Borate concluded the session.

3- VIVAH MELAVA FOR HIV+ve PEOPLE – Rtn PP Aneel Joshi

December 12,2009 Saturday was an eventful day in the life of the persons afflicted with HIV who visited the VADHU VAR MELAVA arranged by Rotary club of Pune Metro (RCPM), Rotary club of Pune Dhayari (RCPD), Manavya, Network of Pune by people living with HIV (NPP+) and AKSHADA This Get together was the result of lot of brain storming. In fact PP Shireesh Lawate, Trustee of Manavya, an organization hosting born HIV+ve children proposed that we should conduct a vivaha melava specifically for HIV+ve positive people. December is AIDS month we would arrange this MELAVA for HIV positive patients in December. The club whole heartedly accepted this proposal & also Rtn Hemant Godbole President RCPD also rendered his and his club's assistance for this project. PP Rtn. Shireesh Lawate accepted to be the convener for the project. Dr Rajandra Bhavalkar, who is the member of RCPD, also runs a marriage bureau named AKSHADA has rendered his wholehearted support and helping hand.

Rtn. Shireesh and Ann wife Ujwala (managing trustee of Manavya) decided to meet Ms. Manisha Kudale & Ms. Anjali Yadav of NPP+. NPP+ also accepted to actively support this event. The publicity of this project was done through routine meetings conducted by NPP+ throughout the Pune district so that the prospective candidates will get confidence and we will get maximum genuine participation. Posters were placed at various ART & ICTC centres, where these patients visit regularly for medication & counselling. NPP+ were also looking for the organizers for such an event. The venue was Niwara old age home auditorium. Initially we expected about 100 participants both male & female put together.

On December 12, 2009, the participants started to reach the venue (NIVARA Old age home auditorium) since morning 8 am although the timing given was 10 am. To our utter surprise the participants have come not only from all parts of Maharashtra but also from far of places like Vijaywada in Andhra Pradesh, Belgaum Karnataka, Sambhajinagar, Ahilyanagar, Satara, Kolhapur, Nanded, Beed etc.

Totally we had 95 male participants and 45 female participants. There was total crowd of about 200 including their relatives.

District Governor Dr. Deepak Purohit inaugurated this VADHU VAR MELAVA. In this function Dr. Dipak appealed the entire HIV positive to adopt positive approach towards life and live life with pride. HIV infection is one of the negative incidences of life you have to overcome it and not let that infection overcome you. DG Dipak granted Rs.5000/- donation from the Rotary district 3131 to this novel project. This kind of donation is perhaps the FIRST of its kind by a DG during any project. One of the relatives of the participant who on his own donated Rs. 500/- to this project which speaks about the importance and need of the project. This gentleman even refused to disclose his identity. In this function Mr. Nitin Theurkar & Mrs. Suvarna Theurkar were felicitated, who have got married recently and both are HIV+ve. Mr Nitin also accepted Suvarna's two children from the first marriage. One more couple of Mr. Ramesh & Smita (Names Changed) was felicitated in absentia, as both of them were not ready to disclose their identity.

In this whole project the information given by the participants will be kept strictly confidential and will not be used for any other purpose than matrimony. In this whole function media was strictly not allowed to photograph or video graph any of the participants without their written consent. The photographs were taken with backs of the participants facing the camera.

At the end of the day, two marriages were fixed & another six marriages were on the verge of getting finalised. This is the immediate success of the project. Actually this is the starting of an on-going project. All the data collected in this project was kept in Akshada organizations office & is still available.

What was more important was a marriage function was organized at a marriage hall & AKSHADA took initiative to arrange for the marriage function of five couples jointly in one common ceremony in the near future. Six couples tied their knot for the life in this

marriage function. The function was carried out in the regular & traditional fanfare.

I am happy that the project started in 2009-10 is still an important project of our club. Such is the importance of the need of this project.



4- Tata Sumo donation to Blood Bank – Rtn PP Padma Shahane

In our club's major service project in June 2011 (biggest from club formation till then) our club donated

“Fully Equipped Service Vehicle” i.e. Tata Sumo with 3 Italian Mobile Refrigeration Units- Total worth Rs. 10 lakhs to Janakalyan Blood bank. Handover function was done on world's blood donation day- 14th Jun 2011 at the hands of Dr Sancheti. Dr Atul Kulkarni was Managing Director of Jankalyan Blood Bank.

This vehicle helped Jankalyan in carrying Blood and Blood Components at right temperature maintaining cold chain from blood camps as well as to user hospitals and service centres in and around Pune and also took their staff from and to blood collection camps. They used this vehicle effectively and efficiently till 2018 for the benefit of society.

Later on it was transferred to needy school in Pune for carrying students.



5- A variety of projects – Rtn PP Neelkanth Joshi

Some projects and photos during my Presidential year.



Blood Donation



Deaddiction workshop at Girivan



Completion of first global grant project

6- Vocational Service Awards to Rescue Agencies and Curriculum of JOY – Rtn PP Mukund Chiplunkar

In the Rotary Year 2019-20, our Charitable Trust executed several interesting projects. Huge Happy School Global Grant Project GG2011064 involving work in six rural schools all around Pune, Tarunyabhan, Teachers' Day & Vocational Excellence awards, RYLA, HIV Vivah Melawa, etc. to name a few. However two Projects which were quite innovative and path-breaking, which I still remember & cherish are: Vocational Service Awards to Rescue Agencies, and Curriculum of JOY to increase happiness quotient in school education.

Vocational Service Awards to Rescue Agencies – We collaborated with Giripremi for this innovative program. Identified rescue agencies all over Maharashtra, especially in Sahyadri mountain ranges, as well as some individuals who reside at the foot of various forts, and who go out of the way to provide rescue and relief to trekkers, mountaineers and stray travelers stuck in unfortunate circumstances. Lots of people came forward to help us with their cash donations and support in kind to recognize the noble work that they are engaged in. We felicitated them with roll of honor and lots of useful tools, materials and implements which could help them achieve their mission of saving lives. The function in Garware College auditorium was a grand success, as the photos will testify.

7- Phalode Cluster Integrated Development – Rtn PP Makarand Phadke

During my presidential year (RY 2020-21), we had planned on initiating a watershed development project to build up on the work done by our club in Phalode area during RY 2018-19 and before. When we came to know that Watershed Development projects was also the district focus area for Global Grants, it added to our motivation for the project.

We got support commitment from 43 German Rotary Clubs from RID 1830. Six clubs from our district also agreed to join as partner. Both RID 1830 and our district committed substantial DDF. With this support committed we could plan substantial sized project.

Recognizing that a project of this nature would be a challenging project to execute given the distance of the project site from Pune, its scale and lack of experience with similar projects in our Club, we needed a strong & committed core team. Fortunately, a stalwart in Rtn Sunil Gokhale agreed to become the primary contact and Rtns Kavita and Datta Deshpande agreed to become part of the core team.

	Objective	Status
1	Provide access to drinking water in the villages	600 + population is now getting drinking water in their villages
2	Creating Irrigation facilities for supporting Rabbi and summer crops	Irrigation facilities established for 50 Ha by construction of 4 Check dams, 6 diversion dams & 4 irrigation wells and deepening of two existing tanks
3	Soil and Water Conservation Activities	150+ Ha of land covered
4	Increase RICE productivity	40%+ improvement in rice productivity due to use of SRI method and use of Jeevamrut
5	Space for carrying out Livelihood activities	Reconstructed Hall in Savarali village for carrying out livelihood activities
6	Stitching Machine for ladies	Provided 17 machines and taught ladies to stitch table runners & quilts
7	Provide Rice Mill to produce Brown Rice	Villagers can fetch a price of 90/kg of rice vs. Rs 50/kg for polished rice.
8	Backyard Poultry(BYP) & Goat Rearing Sheds	40 families took up BYP & 10 families took up Goat Rearing
9	Introduction of value added crops	Strawberry, Onions, Potatoes additional crops are now planted
10	Reconstruction of School Toilet at Phalode	Toilet building completely rebuilt.
11	Improve Literacy amongst Adults (women)	15 Adult Literacy classes supported by Rotary Club of Pune Metro

We got the project approved in November 2020 and funds were received by January 2021. Value wise (USD 193,750 or Rs 1.45 Cr) this is the single largest project that our Club has carried out. We have further augmented the value of the project with funding from CSR partners (e.g. Marico, Pratham Technologies, who have been regular contributors).

The project is in its fourth year and we have made significant progress. The project will be concluding by March 2025. We have achieved/exceeded the project goals in both the watershed development & in livelihood generation. Key accomplishments are noted in the Table on the next page. Few pictures are also added.

As I reflect on the challenges that we had to overcome, following learnings stand out.

- a. Making WOTR as partner of the project. They have the expertise and have been able to put boots on ground.
- b. A very committed core team and on-going support from Club members. I want to specially mention Rtn Sunil Gokhale, primary contact for the Global Grant for his dedication and perseverance.
- c. Very hands-on approach to manage the project including weekly zoom calls and at least monthly visit to the project site.

It has been lots of hard work for the whole team but when you see the results on ground it feels all the hard work is worth it.

8- CSR Project with Atos Syntel – Rtn PP Sneha Subhedar

Rotary Club of Pune Metro was extremely happy to complete the project under Women Empowerment at Renuka Swaroop Institute of Career Courses on 12/05/2022.

DGN Rtn Manjoo Phadke was the Chief Guest and AG Rtn Sandeep Patil made it a point to be present.

The staff of Renuka Swaroop made immaculate arrangements to make sure that the function would be a grand success.

About 20 Rotarians, Anns and Annas attended this function. Dignitaries from Atos Syntel our CSR partner for this project were present.

Rtn PP Mohan Chhatre was the Convener of the project and Ann Anagha Gokhale him invaluable support. Rtn PP Mukund Chiplunkar gave him free hand in executing this project worth Rs 12 lakh.

With this amount RCPM was instrumental in revamping the following sections

- 1- Training Unit
- 2- Computer Laboratory
- 3- Sewing Section and
- 4- Beauty Parlour Section

The above sections of practical course education became completely prepared to attend to training requirements of hundreds of needy women.



9- Cervical Cancer Vaccination GG Project – Rtn PP Vivek Kulkarni

Since RY 18-19, RC Pune Metro (RCPM) took up this challenge of bringing together 25 other Rotary clubs across the district/world and executing this USD 96,574 worth project.

In spite of severe Covid related disruptions, we fully Vaccinated 1556 Girls (with 2 doses), and 665 Girls with single dose (Single dose is far better than No dose). The total number of girls getting benefitted from the project = 2221

Unlike other GG projects, this project was really challenging and involved conducting numerous Vaccination Camps (25+) all over the district. Each Camp was a project by itself. We needed to have partnerships with hospitals, on site awareness sessions, signed consent forms from girls' parents, carry vaccines with due care/ice box from a centralized cold storage location in Pune, Monitor Consumption of Vaccines at the camp, get medical team to vaccinate girls, keep an ambulance with Oxygen Cylinder/Allergy medication in standby mode near the camp, provide pack of snacks to girls to ensure vaccines are not taken on empty stomach, monitor girls for 30 minutes after vaccination and get back the unused vaccines to centralized cold storage and then share learnings with other lead clubs in the district.

All Metropolitans, specially Club leaders namely Bhavana Chahure (RY 18-19), Mukund Chiplunkar (RY 19-20), Makarand Phadke (RY 20-21), Sneha Subhedar (RY 21-22), Vivek Kulkarni (RY 22-23), Surekha Deshpande (RY 23-24) and Anna Milind Chahure provided solid support for the project

Few Synergy Rotary clubs took up the ownership of Vaccination for a set of school girls in their local areas. Medical experts from Rotary clubs assisted with actual Vaccination. Lady Rotarians/Anns played an important role of comforting the young girls during vaccination. RCPM Volunteers kept control on Vaccine Logistics, Camp Registration/Execution, Budget control, TRF Interactions and compliance.

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) supported with flexibility by approving repurposing/deviation requests (additionally delivering 400 PPE Kits and extending coverage to older girls/ladies) to address the unforeseen challenges faced by community at ground level, during Covid era.

Overseas Clubs continuously supported this project. Together, we further enhanced our relationship, which was evident from these clubs supporting our other Global Grant projects,

Apart from the noble objective of protecting girls from Cervical Cancer, Project also achieved the purpose of bringing 25 Rotary Clubs, their members closer to each other. It will surely result into many social initiatives in synergy mode in future.

Rotary Club of Pune Metro (Lead Club) is thankful to RC Pune Metro Members/Anns/Annas, The Rotary Foundation, District 3131 Project team, all Local and overseas Synergy Clubs, Partner organizations for the great work and support extended, over these years, in fulfilling this Rotary's dream.





Service Above Self

HEALTH SNIPPETS – Ann Ashwini Joshi

Self-Body Scan - Blessing Our Bodies

As the living vehicles for our spirits, our bodies deserve loving attention and care. We can have a positive effect on our health, prevent illness, and heal injuries by regularly focusing our mental and spiritual energy on the workings of our bodies.

This can be done by performing a body scan on yourself.

Begin by lying in a comfortable position and taking three deep cleansing breaths. Imagine a sunbeam entering the top of your head. Feel this light slowly scanning each part of your internal body. Allow it to scan every cell in your body. Keep breathing. Every time you exhale, blow out negative energy you may feel. Notice any changes in your body. Sensations may vary from person to person. You may feel a shift in body temperature, see a colour or flash of light, or hear a voice or music. If you feel a block in a certain area of your body, sit with that block and feel into it. Ask your body why that block is there and what you need to do to release it. Often, we experience energy blocks in our body because our body is trying to tell us something.

You may breathe into that area until you feel the block dissolving. When you have finished your scan, take one last deep breath and exhale any energetic residue that you are ready to release.

The body doesn't lie, and it has much wisdom to share with us. Any injuries or blocks that exist in our bodies are there so that we can learn from having them in our bodies. An existing injury can teach us to slow down or help us recognize that something is out of balance in our bodies. The more you scan your body, the better you will become at it. If you sense that something is not right in your body, you may want to visit a doctor and tell them about your experience.

When finish your scan, don't forget to thank your wonderful, amazing body.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: MARCH 2025

Mar	2	B	Rtn PP Jayant Bokil
Mar	2	B	Rtn Nayana Joshi
Mar	2	A	Rtn Varsha and Atul Dawle
Mar	8	B	Rtn Vaidehi Jog
Mar	8	B	Rtn PP Avinash Satpute
Mar	20	B	Rtn Sunil Gokhale
Mar	23	B	Rtn PP Sneha Subhedar
Mar	28	B	Rtn Dr Rajas Phadke

Social Media Presence of RCPM

 Website <https://rotarypunemetro.com/>

 Twitter <https://twitter.com/RotaryPuneMetro>

 Instagram <https://instagram.com/rcpunemetro?igshid=Y2IzZGU1MTFhOQ==>

 YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/@rotaryclubofpunemetro5768>

 Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofPuneMetro?mibextid=ZbWKwL>

