



# POONA SERVICE WHEEL



R.I. District 3131

## ROTARY CLUB OF POONA

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## PROGRAM OF THE DAY - A.G.M.

30th December 2024

**Rotary Club of Poona  
Annual General Meeting**



Venue: Conf Hall no 2, Poona Club  
Fellowship: 6:30 to 7:00 pm  
Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 pm  
Dress Code: Semi Formals



*Kailash is celebrating his 75th Birthday  
Dinner and Madira sponsored by him!*

We have come to the end of an amazing Half RY 24 – 25.

All Avenues of Service have exceeded targets that we had set for ourselves for this period. I thank all members of RC Poona for their very active and wholehearted contribution and cooperation throughout, in whatever was planned. A very special thanks to all members of BOD 24-25 for planning and executing very meaningful projects in all Avenues of Service. All Directors and Chairpersons of various committees have excelled in all fields.

Today, let's hear and see a glimpse of all our important achievements, so far. Second Half RY 24-25 is more challenging and exciting. I am certain that RC Poona will continue to deliver and achieve even greater heights.

Wishing all members the very best in 2025.

Thank you.

*By President Maj Gen Amar Krishna*

## EVENTS OF LAST WEEK - CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

*We wish you a Merry Christmas...*

Christmas was in the air! The red clad gentleman from the North Pole had descended on Conference Hall No. 1 of Poona Club where members of Rotary Club of Poona had assembled for their weekly meeting. The hall was festooned with balloons and bunting artistically arranged by multi-talented R/Ann Turan Desai. The imaginatively set up Nativity was invoking the spirit of Christmas.

It was that time of the year when Rotarians put on their dancing shoes and shake a leg with gay abandon! The ball was set rolling by the Krapps Choir of the Innerwheel Club of Poona Downtown. 'Choirmaster' Turan conducted the singalong which was enjoyed by all.

The spirited dancing that followed was inspired by the well-chosen music provided by resident DJ PP Col Bharat Haladi. As always, our zestful Anns took the initiative in swaying and pirouetting. They were soon joined by the gentlemen. Together they set the floor on fire!



## EVENTS OF LAST WEEK CONTD.

A sumptuous dinner brought the festivities to a close. The very enjoyable evening was made possible by the imagination, planning and hard work put in by PDG Vivek Aranha, R/Ann Turan Desai and their team of volunteers. Spouse Chandrashekhar Manakwad played his role as Santa with consummate artistry! PP Bharat Haladi with his technical expertise and flair for music is always a big contributor to the success of every celebration.

As we approach the end of 2024 here is wishing everybody a happy, healthy and productive 2025.

*By Rtn Mandakini Tata*



## VOCATIONAL TRAINING



The Vocational Training program at the Naralkar Institute began on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2024, initiated by RC Poona & RC Heritage.

This will benefit 10 girls of Nutan Bal Vikas Mandir, Sadashiv Peth who have enrolled for the Graphic designing course. Both RC Poona & RC Heritage, have sponsored 5 girls each. This training will be given every Saturday for 2 hours totalling to 45 hours. The amount spent by the club is ₹6,000 × 5, i.e. ₹30,000/-

*By Rtn Jayashree Kuber*

## VOCATIONAL TRAINING (CONTD.)



## PROGRAM OF SCALE GRANT

The Prized US\$ 2 million PROGRAM OF SCALE GRANT was awarded to 'Partners for Water Access and Better Harvests in India' to improve livelihoods of 60,000 farmers across four Indian States. The Award will help sustainable agriculture and water management practices and support Rotary Members' work with farmers affected by climate change. Foundation Trustee Chair Barry Rassin announced the grant at the Singapore Convention held from 25-29<sup>th</sup> May 2024.



This program will aim to increase groundwater tables, extend cultivation areas and raise incomes of nearly 60,000 farmers by up to 30%. Indian farmers are responsible for producing much of rice, wheat and other food staples. But the groundwater is fast vanishing. Climate change is making rainfall erratic leading to conditions of drought. Bary said "we are working with Indian farmers on a five year program to plant seeds for sustainable farming in India for generations to come."

'Partners for Water Access and Better Harvests in India' will build rainwater collection systems such as check-dams and ponds to increase groundwater collection by 10-15% each year. It will reduce soil erosion on 4,100 hectares of land by introducing drip irrigation and by planting native species and fruit trees.

The Rotary Foundation Award is given to evidence-based sustainable, successful programs that target at least one of the seven focus areas of the Foundation. The Programs are sponsored by Rotary Members in collaboration with local communities and partners that offer additional expertise and support.

**The Rotary Health Communities Challenge** was launched by Rotary International in Partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and World Vision. The Program was formally announced in the Singapore Convention. This US\$30 million program addresses some of the deadliest child diseases in four African countries: Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria & Zambia. Dy Director of Gates Foundation's Program Advocacy and Communications Obinna Onyekwena presented the program along with a video address by Bill Gates at the Singapore Convention.

*By Rtn Sanjay Kher*

Dates  Birthdays & Anniversaries		Programmes Ahead:	Attendance Report	Count
			23rd Dec 2024	
30th Dec	Rtn Vaijayantii Khaladkarr	<b>6th Jan</b> - Meet Sharmilla Oswal: The Millet Evangelist of India	Rotarians	51
1st Jan	Rtn Hasnain Bahrainwala		Anns	31
1st Jan	Rtn K.P Jayapalan	<b>13th Jan</b> - Vocational Excellence Award to Dr. Kalyani Mandke	Spouses	1
2nd Jan	Rtn Praful Shah		Guests	13
3rd Jan	Rtn Sanjay V Kher	<b>20th Jan</b> - DG Visit	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96</b>