ROTARY CLUB OF PUNE CENTRAL

CENTRAL TURF

PRESIDENT: RTN. BRIG. PK MURALIDHARAN RAJA | HON. SECRETARY: RTN. SAGAR KHANDELWAL

EDITOR: RTN. BEHZAD RANDERIA | ASSISTANT EDITOR: R'ANN SONIA RAJORE

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From The President's Desk

Dear Rotarians & R'Anns,

As Christmas approaches and the New Year draws near, let us take a moment to reflect on our achievements as members of the Rotary Club of Pune Central. You will be delighted to know that we have made significant progress in initiating and executing the humanitarian projects we committed to.

As promised during our Annual Fundraising event in August, a detailed update will soon be shared on the various projects supported by our members and the generous contributions from corporate sponsors.

I understand that many of you have been busy over the past few months and may not have been able to participate actively in club activities. We look forward to reconnecting with you in the coming months.

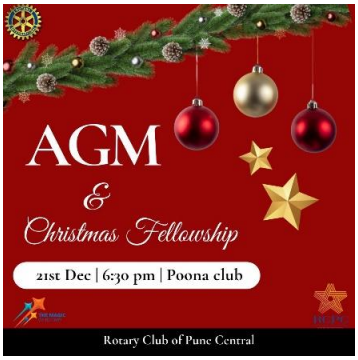
This evening, we have our Annual General Meeting, which will be the final session for this calendar year, as the meeting on 28th December is a club holiday.

The New Year 2025 promises a series of exciting programs and impactful projects, and we look forward to your enthusiastic participation. Please mark your calendar for a special occasion – our Club's 41st Birthday celebration on Sunday, 12th January 2025, at the Terrace of Poona Club Golf Course.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM this evening, followed by a Christmas fellowship dinner.

Warm regards,
Brigadier PKM Raja, President RY 2024-25

Today



The Annual General Meeting of our club will be held at 6.30 p.m. on **Saturday, December 21, 2024 at Poona Club – Conference Hall 1.**

The AGM's agenda includes presentation and approval of the Club and Charity Trust Accounts for the year ended June 30, 2024 (Audit report has been already sent by email on December 11, 2024).

Additionally, there will be a half-hour Pre-Meeting Fellowship starting at 6:30 PM, with the meeting officially commencing at 7:00 PM.

We look forward to seeing you this **Saturday December 21, 2024 at 6.30 p.m. for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) followed by Christmas Fellowship.**

The Bulletin contains news and views from the RCPC and Rotary community and may not reflect the view of RCPC's Board of Directors

The Week That Was – December 14, 2024

(From Rtn. Sagar Khandelwal)

This week's meeting was a heartwarming reflection of the spirit of giving and the power of service. We gathered to engage with impactful updates, inspiring stories, and a thought-provoking session that highlighted the essence of Rotary's values.

Our session commenced with President Brig. PKM Raja calling the meeting to order. A special welcome was extended to our guest speaker, Dr. Rishikesh Wadke, from Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, Kharghar.

Spirit of Giving.

The generosity of our members was celebrated:

- **Rtn. Jeevan Mahaldar** contributed ₹91,000.
- **Rtn. Dilip Karnik** contributed ₹15,000.

Project updates from the President:

- On December 12, an eye check-up camp was conducted at NFBM Jagruti School for Blind Girls, Alandi. Fifty-one girls were screened, resulting in plans to provide optical devices, electronic magnifiers, and spectacles to 27 beneficiaries.
- The Events at Mulshi on December 8 showcased our commitment to health and community service, including the handing over of medical equipment, a health camp, an eye camp, and a blood donation camp. These efforts, led by Rtn. PP Madhu Rathi and Rtn. Yogesh Shah, marked a significant milestone in our outreach initiatives.
- A RYLA Career Guidance Program on December 10 in Male village brought together 550 students, with motivational talks and skill-building sessions that left a lasting impression.
- On 2nd day of RYLA financial literacy training for 150 students in Mulshi was successfully completed under by Rtn. Rajesh Yadav, with the suppor of Rtn. PP Madhubhau Rathi.

Guest Speaker Session.

Dr. Rishikesh Wadke delivered an inspiring presentation on the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani model, which provides free healthcare for congenital heart disease and maternal health. His insights into the holistic approach of the organization were both enlightening and moving, underscoring the importance of accessible healthcare for all.

Celebrations and Pleasantries.

We celebrated the **following birthdays**:

- **R'Ann Mangal Bora** – December 15
- **R'Ann Shruti Jindal** – December 17
- **R'Ann Kiran Pallod** – December 18
- **Rtn. Juhi Mathur** – December 19
- **R'Ann Shweta Vijaivergia** – December 19

We also extended warm **anniversary wishes** to:

- **Rtn. Pradeep & R'Ann Deepa Dharane** – December 17
- **Rtn. Mukund & R'Ann Kokila Sheth** – December 18

Upcoming Events:

- **Annual Christmas Party**: On December 18, 2024, at the Poona Ladies Club, our annual party brought joy to special needs children, cancer survivors, and orphans.
- **Vocational Awards Nominations**: Members are invited to nominate deserving individuals or organizations for this year's awards, celebrating excellence in service and vocation.

Looking Ahead.

The **Annual General Meeting of RCPC** will be held on **December 21, 2024, at 6:30 PM at Poona Club** to discuss and approve the Club and Trust Accounts for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Let's continue to serve with passion and commitment as we look forward to the festive season and a new year filled with opportunities to make a difference!

Some interesting happenings to take note of

Distribution of Specs

On November 21st, The Rotary Club of Pune Central organized eye checkup camp was held at the Shivraj Vidya Mandir School, Wadgaon Sheri. As part of this community outreach initiative, Opto Apoorva generously donated 26 specs to students of shivraj Vidya mandir school wadgaon Sheri. This charitable effort aimed to provide essential vision correction to those in need, promoting better eye health and improved academic performance among the beneficiaries.

A Joyous Christmas Celebration for the Underprivileged

A heart-warming Annual Christmas Party was organised at Poona Ladies Club on 18 December for the lesser privileged, bringing together approximately 325 children from various Institutions. The event was a humbling and inspiring experience, spreading joy and cheer among the young participants. **This is the 18th year that this event was organized.**

Our active partner, Inner Wheel Club of Pune Central, arranged the attractive gifts for the children as well as the entertainment program. The Xmas party for the special children has been arranged for more than 15 years thanks to the initiative of former members of RCPC Rtn. PP Munir Chinoy and Rtn. Anil Bora, and supported by many of our Rotarians and R'Anns. Mr. Satish Shetty has been equally kind hearted by offering unlimited sumptuous snacks for the children as his contribution towards seeing the happiness and joy on their faces.

Our special thanks to Inner Wheel Club of Pune Central, President Deepa Dharane ably supported by R'Ann Hutokshi Pundole, R'Ann Jasma Asher and all other members of Inner Wheel Club for an enchanting event which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children as was very evident from their beaming faces all through the evening.

The Venues and Participating Institutions

- Prakalp Gruh at Laxmi Nagar, Yerwada: 53 kids attended the Christmas party, enjoying games, gifts, and festive food.
- Bharari Interact Bhandarkar Road: Hearing-impaired students participated in the celebration, which included specially designed activities to ensure their inclusion.
- Sayudh Interact Hadapsar road: Another group of hearing-impaired students joined in the festivities, enjoying the tailored entertainment and educational programs.
- Mahatma Gandhi English Medium school: This institution, which supports 525 orphans, brought its students to the party, providing them with a day of fun and celebration.
- St. Claire School: Needy and deserving students from this school were also part of the celebration, receiving gifts, enjoying food, and participating in activities designed to bring happiness and joy.

The Impact of the Event: The collective effort brought smiles to the faces of these children, making their Christmas a memorable one. The event not only provided a day of enjoyment but also served as a reminder of the importance of giving back to the community and supporting those in need.

A Message of Hope and Giving: This Christmas celebration for the underprivileged was more than just a party; it was a testament to the power of kindness, generosity, and community spirit. It highlighted the impact that collective efforts can have on the lives of others, especially those who need it most.

As we reflect on the joy and happiness brought to these children, we are reminded of the importance of continuing such initiatives. By supporting and participating in community-driven events, we can make a tangible difference in the lives of the underprivileged, fostering a more compassionate and equitable society for all.

'Cherry Blossom' Anemia Testing & Treatment

Rotary Club of Pune Central in Association with Family Planning Association of India (FPAI) has undertaken the project named **'Cherry Blossom' for Anaemia Testing & Treatment for young girls** in twenty schools in and around Mulshi Area. The project has commenced from the first week of December 2024 and likely to be completed by February 2024.

On 10 December the Anaemia Testing Camp was held at Rihe School Mulshi, wherein out of the 357 children tested for Haemoglobin and blood grouping done, 44 were identified as Anaemic and provided with medicines. On 10 December the tests were held at Marunji School and out of 314 Children tested, 3 were found to be Anaemic. On 17 December the Anaemia Testing Camp was held at Pirangut English Medium School and out of 300 children tested, 24 were found to be anaemic. And on 18 December, when tests were held for another 420 children at Pirangut School, 31 girls were found to be anaemic.

Photos of Cherry Blossom Project being carried out by FPAI with Rotary Club of Pune Central as Host Club are given below.

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Career Counseling

From Rtn. Shrireesh Nadkar

Rtn Jitendra Sandu and R'Ann Dhanashree conducted one event at Shreemant Dagdu Seth Halwai Sarvajanik Ganpati trust (SDHSGT) School on 17 November and 24 November.

They explained to students and teachers on Career Counseling and Psychometric Analysis with Features, Benefits, Execution, End Game. Evaluation on Smart Phones

Vocational Awards

From Rtn. Arun Shroff, chairperson Vocational Award Committee

Every year we recognize and honour those who have risen beyond themselves and served their vocations meritoriously and selflessly, be it from your own organisation or any another. Additionally, the philosophy of giving and caring is an integral part of Rotary. Fortunately, there are wonderful and amazing people and organisations who battle enormous odds and make great personal sacrifices towards excelling in their vocations.

These individuals should demonstrate one or more of the following attributes:

- Goes above and beyond to serve others with a positive and willing spirit.
- Demonstrated leadership or an ability to motivate others in pursuit of excellence.
- Considered situations and problems from novel and diverse perspectives; addressed challenges in an innovative manner.

We need your assistance in identifying such people/organisations for this year's **Vocational Awards.** Nominations can be from the fields of Business, Industry, Health, Environment, Education, Livelihood, or Empowerment and Advocacy. These awards are not about winning or losing. They are about sharing, encouraging, and inspiring.

If you know anyone doing **exemplary** work, please nominate him/her and email their details for our consideration in the nomination form attached. The least they deserve is recognition of their effort.

You may send your recommendations to Gajanan on his email ID: office@rcpunecental.org with a copy to me on my email ID shroff.pune@gmail.com or on Gajanan's WhatsApp no. +91 95277 16505.

The Vocational Awards are scheduled to be distributed at our meeting on Saturday 01 March, 2025.

I would appreciate your revert latest by January 31, 2025.

50 things every Rotarian should know about Rotary

(Inputs from Rtn. PP Suhas Merchant

21 - Opportunities for Fellowship

Most Rotarians are successful professional and business executives because they hear opportunities knock and take advantage of them. Once a week the opportunity for Rotary fellowship occurs at each club meeting, but not all members hear it knocking.

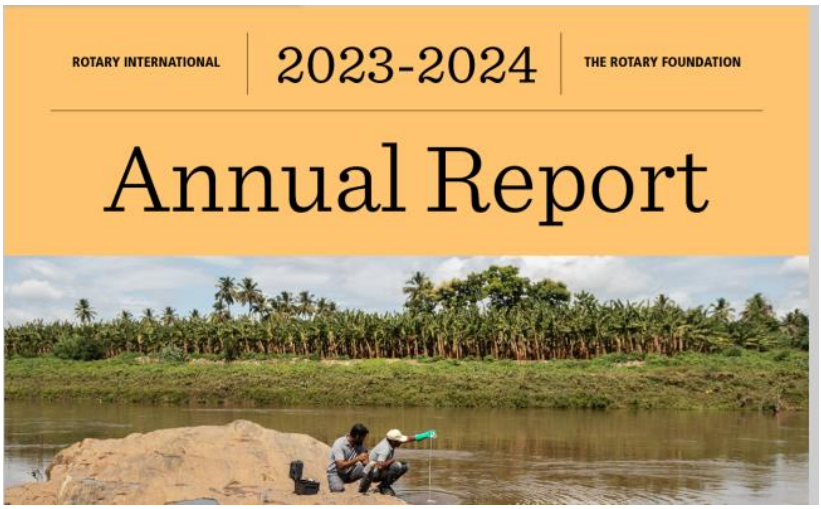
The weekly club meeting is a special privilege of Rotary membership. It provides the occasion to visit with fellow members, to meet visitors you have not known before, and to share your personal friendship with other members. Rotary clubs which have a reputation of being "friendly clubs" usually follow a few simple steps: First, members are encouraged to sit in a different seat or at a different table each week. Second, Rotarians are urged to sit with a member they may not know as well as their long-time personal friends. Third, members invite new members or visitors to join their table just by saying: "Come join us, we have an empty chair at this table."

Fourth, members share the conversation around the table rather than merely eating in silence or talking privately to the person next to them. Fifth, Rotarians make a special point of trying to get acquainted with all members of the club by seeking out those they may not know.

When Rotarians follow these five easy steps, an entirely new oppor1tunity for fellowship knocks each week. Soon Rotarians realize that warm and personal friendship is the cornerstone of every great Rotary club

A Message from John Hewko- Rotary International

(Inputs from Rtn. PP Rakesh Bhargava)



Thank you for your generous support of The Rotary Foundation. This past year, more children have had opportunity to grow into healthy adults, more healthcare workers have gained skills to save lives, and more ecosystems have been restored because people like you choose to invest in solutions that empower individuals and strengthen communities.

We are building a healthier, more resilient, and more peaceful world. I invite you to be among the first to read about the difference we're making together in our 2023-24 annual report. We have reason to celebrate. More than 400 million children were vaccinated against polio in 2023,

with the support of Rotary and our polio eradication partners. We also have much to be thankful for and to hope for in the future. Our donors contributed more than US$417 million in gifts and commitments, and we awarded US$82 million in total funding to more than 1,200 global grants.

The stories about our impact and supporters, alongside the financial information, in this year's report testify to the strength of our partnership. I have confidence in the good the Rotary community will continue to achieve together, locally and globally.

Please access the report through this link:
Annual Report 2024 | Rotary International

Sincerely,

John Hewko
General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer
Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation

Pune Branch of Association of Physicians of India Honors Eminent Physicians with Lifetime Achievement Awards

The Pune Branch of the Association of Physicians of India (API) was established in 2004, thanks to the tireless efforts of senior physicians like Dr. Vikas Pai, Dr. Mahesh Tulpule, and Dr. Nasir Kazi. Dr. R.S. Wadia, a renowned physician and neurologist, was nominated as the first Chairman. Dr. Nasir Kazi later took over as Chairman for two years, before resigning to take on the role of President Elect of RCPC in 2006-07.

Dr. Kazi remained active in API and was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015-16. Recently, at the Annual Event of 2024, held at Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital on December 15, five senior physicians were bestowed with Lifetime Achievement Awards.

One of the awardees was Dr. Amir Khoja, a distinguished chest physician attached to Ruby Hall Clinic. Dr. Khoja has several 'firsts' to his credit, including being the first to introduce flexible bronchoscopy in Pune and the first in India to use endobronchial stents. He has received numerous awards for his contributions to the field of medicine.

Dr. Nasir Kazi had the honor of presenting the award to Dr. Khoja. In his acceptance speech, Dr. Khoja expressed his gratitude to Allah, his parents, and teachers. He made a special mention of Dr. Kazi, acknowledging him as his teacher, guide, and philosopher, and thanking him for his invaluable support in shaping his career.

The event also saw our own esteemed RCPC member, Dr. Subhash Pallod, being honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Pallod is well-known for his remarkable achievements and charitable endeavors, which have greatly benefited RCPC.

We extend our warmest congratulations to both Dr. Khoja and Dr. Pallod, wishing them continued success in their future endeavors, as they continue to make a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

The Globe Totters Are Back

R'Ann Hina Shah, Rtn. Amita Munot, Rtn. PP Jinendra Munot, Rtn. VP Yogesh Shah

A special Accolade for Khushie Randeria

Khushie Randeria, Daughter-In-Law of Rtn. Behzad and Mr. Histas Randeria won the Prestigious 'Blogger with an Impact' Award at the Mom of the Year 2024 awards held in Mumbai.

The much-awaited Mom of the Year Summit & Awards 2024, presented by Momsleague Global, unfolded at Someplace Else, BKC, as a spectacular celebration of motherhood, ambition, and resilience.

You can read all about it here:
Momsleague Global Hosts the Prestigious Mom of the Year Summit and Awards 2024

Food For The Soul

Here's a classic Christmas biscuit recipe that's easy to make and delicious:

Ingredients

- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 3/4 cup white granulated sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- Colored sugar or sprinkles for decoration (optional)

Instructions

1. Preheat oven: Preheat your oven to 375°F (190°C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone mat.
2. Whisk dry ingredients: In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Set aside.
3. Cream butter and sugar: In a large bowl, use an electric mixer to cream together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy, about 2-3 minutes.
4. Add egg and vanilla: Beat in the egg and vanilla extract until well combined.
5. Gradually add dry ingredients: Gradually mix in the dry ingredients (flour mixture) until a dough forms.
6. Chill the dough: Wrap the dough in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes or up to 2 hours.
7. Roll out the dough: On a lightly floured surface, roll out the dough to about 1/4 inch thickness.
8. Cut out shapes: Use your favorite Christmas cookie cutters to cut out shapes. You can also use a glass or a knife to cut out shapes.
9. Place on baking sheet: Place the cut-out cookies on the prepared baking sheet, leaving about 1 inch of space between each cookie.
10. Bake: Bake for 10-12 minutes, or until the edges are lightly golden.
11. Cool: Allow the cookies to cool on the baking sheet for 5 minutes, then transfer them to a wire rack to cool completely.
12. Decorate (optional): If desired, decorate the cooled cookies with colored sugar or sprinkles.

Tips

- Use a variety of cookie cutters to create different shapes.
- If you want a crisper cookie, bake for 12-14 minutes.
- To make the cookies more festive, use red and green colored sugar or sprinkles.

Consider making a double batch of dough and freezing it for up to 2 months

Do please contribute your recipes to Behzad.randeria@gmail.com

Here are 10 Christmas carol guesses with Hindi translations

1. "नाता एक बच्चे की कहानी है"
Answer: "The Story of a Baby Boy" (from Away in a Manger)
2. "स्वर्ग के दूतों ने गाया"
Answer: Angels We Have Heard on High
3. "एक छोटे से शहर में एक बच्चा पैदा हुआ"
Answer: O Little Town of Bethlehem
4. "तुम्हारे लिए एक उपहार लाया है"
Answer: We Three Kings of Orient Are
5. "शांत रात, पवित्र रात"
Answer: Silent Night, Holy Night
6. "यीशु का जन्म हुआ है"
Answer: Joy to the World
7. "नाता के समय स्वर्ग में गाया जाता है"
Answer: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
8. "एक प्यारा सा बच्चा पैदा हुआ है"
Answer: Once in Royal David's City
9. "स्वर्ग के दूतों ने कहा, 'डरो नहीं'"
Answer: Fear Not, for Behold I Bring You
10. "यीशु के जन्म की खुशखबरी"
Answer: O Come, All Ye Faithful

New Year's resolutions are important for several reasons:

1. Reflect and Renew: The start of a new year provides an opportunity to reflect on past experiences, accomplishments, and setbacks. Resolutions help you renew your commitment to personal growth and self-improvement.
2. Set Goals and Priorities: Resolutions help you identify and prioritize your goals, allowing you to focus on what's truly important. By setting specific, measurable objectives, you can create a roadmap for success.
3. Boost Motivation and Confidence: Making resolutions can be a powerful motivator, helping you build confidence and momentum. Achieving your goals can reinforce positive self-talk and encourage further growth.
4. Improve Physical and Mental Health: Many resolutions focus on improving physical health, such as exercising regularly, eating a balanced diet, or quitting unhealthy habits. Similarly, resolving to practice mindfulness, meditation, or therapy can enhance mental well-being.
5. Enhance Personal Growth and Development: Resolutions can help you develop new skills, explore new interests, or pursue new passions. By challenging yourself and stepping outside your comfort zone, you can foster personal growth and self-awareness.
6. Create Accountability and Support: Sharing your resolutions with friends, family, or a mentor can provide a sense of accountability and support. This can be especially helpful when faced with challenges or setbacks.

7. Celebrate Progress and Success: Achieving your resolutions can be a tremendous source of pride and satisfaction. Celebrating your progress and successes can help reinforce positive habits and motivate you to continue striving for excellence.
8. Develop Resilience and Perseverance: Not all resolutions will be easy to keep, and setbacks are inevitable. However, by learning to overcome obstacles and persevere, you can develop resilience and a growth mindset.
9. Foster Gratitude and Appreciation: Reflecting on your resolutions can help you appreciate the progress you've made and the blessings in your life. Practicing gratitude can lead to a more positive and optimistic outlook.
10. Create a Sense of Purpose and Direction: Resolutions can give you a sense of purpose and direction, helping you navigate life's challenges and stay focused on what's truly important.

From the Editor

Dear fellow Rotarians,

As we stand at the threshold of a brand-new year, I am filled with immense gratitude and joy reflecting on the incredible journey we've shared in the past year. Our collective efforts have made a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals and communities, embodying the true spirit of Rotary.

As we welcome the new year, I urge you all to recommit to our shared values of Service, Fellowship, Diversity, Integrity, and Leadership. Let us continue to strive for excellence, push beyond our comfort zones, and support one another in our pursuit of creating positive change.

I wish each and every one of you a joyous, peaceful, and prosperous New Year. May it be filled with love, laughter, and opportunities to make a meaningful impact. Together, let us make the upcoming year an unforgettable one!

Warmest wishes,
Behzad Randeria
Editor, RCPC CentralTurf Bulletin

What to Expect in the Next Four Weeks

- **December 28 –** X'Mas and New Year Eve Holiday
- **January 05 (Sunday) –** Vocational Visit to NDA (Followed by Lunch)
- **January 12 (Sunday) –** 41st RCPC Club Birthday followed by Fellowship Dinner
- **January 18 –** Internal Program

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Rtn / R'Ann	Birthday
R'Ann Rajashree Shah	December 25
Rtn. Jeevan Mahaldar	December 31
R'Ann Ruby Jhunjhunwala	January 3

Member and Spouse	Wedding Anniversary
Rtn. Anil and R'Ann Mangal Bora	December 24
Rtn. Sunil and R'Ann Jasma Asher	December 27
Rtn. PP Arvind and Rtn. Vidya Saraf	December 28