



UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD



# ROTARY CLUB OF PUNE CENTRAL

## CENTRAL TURF

*The Bulletin*

PRESIDENT: RTN. LEKHA NAIR | HON. SECRETARY AND BULLETIN EDITOR: RTN. KRISHNA KUMAR

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### Rotary Club of Pune Central celebrates



*of Service - Fellowship - Friendship*

## Speaking of which .....

Robert Frost summed up life in just 3 words:

### IT GOES ON.

This is a truth that the celebrated American poet captures succinctly. One that feels deeply personal and universally relatable. Life moves forward, quietly and steadily, no matter what the times are and what the challenges are.

RCPC completed its 42 years of service, fellowship and friendship on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2026. Its high impact community service work remains indelible in the memories of all connected to it – the givers and the receivers.



Whenever you speak to any of the longstanding members of the club or its Presidents, we get positive, encouraging and awe-inspiring tales of the work done. Rarely anyone speaks about the challenges they faced. I am sure – absolutely sure – that all the 42 years of its existence must have seen hardships, challenges and they were certainly not insurmountable. Because the show went on for over 4 decades, and torch bearers walked the path, fearlessly, and confidently.

Let us not forget, that these Rotarians, were all engaged with the business of their life – rising careers, growing businesses and yet, they found time, space and the money to do their duty as a Rotarian.

RCPC is proud of you! You have laid the foundation and have helped scores of new members become part of your story.



We thank you.

Krishna

[Krsnarti@gmail.com](mailto:Krsnarti@gmail.com)

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## Tracing the story of RCPC.....in brief

The **Rotary Club of Pune Central (RCPC)** is a prominent member of Rotary International District 3131, recognized as one of the largest and most active clubs in Pune.

### Formation

- **Charter Date:** The club was chartered on **7th January 1984**.
- **History:** It has completed 42 years of service experience and currently maintains a membership of about 130 professionals from diverse backgrounds.

### Principles and Values

RCPC operates under the global guiding principles of Rotary International:

- **Core Values:** Service, Fellowship, Diversity, Integrity, and Leadership.
- **The Four-Way Test:** A cornerstone of their ethical standard—Is it the **truth**? Is it **fair** to all concerned? Will it build **goodwill** and better friendships? Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?.
- **Motto:** "Service Above Self".
- **2025-26 Theme:** "Unite for Good," focusing on unity in purpose and action to address city-wide challenges.

### Key Achievements and Projects

The club has a track record of implementing high-impact projects through its [Rotary Club of Pune Central Charity Trust](#).

- **Water & Environment:**
  - **Rajapur Dam Repair:** Restored the dam in Satara, providing drinking water to approximately 5,000 people; featured in *Rotary News India* in 2025.
  - **Mega Tree Plantations:** Regular drives in collaboration with local foundations.
- **Healthcare:**
  - **Gift of Sight:** Conducted over 8,300 cataract surgeries (ongoing through December 2025) and regular eye check-up camps for thousands of students.
  - **Congenital Heart Disease (KOCHD):** Organized "Rotary Fight Night" boxing events to fund corrective surgeries for children with CHD.
- **Education & Technology:**
  - **The Green PC Project:** Distributes low-power (10-watt) computers to rural tribal schools to bridge the digital divide in areas with limited electricity.
  - **Happy Schools:** Provided modern infrastructure and e-learning kits to multiple schools.
- **Awards:**
  - Frequently ranked as the **Best Club** or **Platinum Rank** in District 3131.
  - Recognized for the "Highest CSR Grant by Value" and "Highest Total Contribution to The Rotary Foundation" in the 2023-24 Rotary year

## *The torch bearers – List of RCPC Presidents since the inception*

1.	1984-85	Rtn. S P Malhotra
2.	1985-86	Rtn. Phiroze Anklesaria
3.	1986-87	Rtn. Dr. Ramesh Butani
4.	1987-88	Rtn. Ramesh More
5.	1988-89	Rtn. Bahri Malhotra
6.	1989-90	Rtn. Ebe Chaney
7.	1990-91	Rtn. Dr. BS KS Chopra
8.	1991-92	Rtn. Suhas Merchant
9.	1992-93	Rtn. Narayan Rathi
10.	1993-94	Rtn. Dr. H. C. Saxena
11.	1994-95	Rtn. Abhay Shah
12.	1995-96	Rtn. Dr. A V Umranikar
13.	1996-97	Rtn. Raja Kharadkar
14.	1997-98	Rtn. Nani Desai
15.	1998-99	Rtn. Madhu Rathi
16.	1999-00	Rtn. Manjulla Viswanathan
17.	2000-01	Rtn. Prakash Gurbaxani
18.	2001-02	Rtn. K. K. Jhunjhunwala
19.	2002-03	Rtn. Amitava Majumdar
20.	2003-04	Rtn. Dr. Aruna Umranikar
21.	2004-05	Rtn. Ashok Ghia
22.	2005-06	Rtn. Dr. Anand Bhatia
23.	2006-07	Rtn. Rajendra Shah
24.	2007-08	Rtn. Polly Patel
25.	2008-09	Rtn. Dr. Nasir Kazi
26.	2009-10	Rtn. Neeraj Handa
27.	2010-11	Rtn. Munir Chinoy
28.	2011-12	Rtn. Vasudev Bhojwani
29.	2012-13	Rtn. Arjun Jethwani
30.	2013-14	Rtn. Rakesh Bhargava
31.	2014-15	Rtn. Parmod K Bhalla
32.	2015-16	Rtn. Dr. Ramesh Dumbre
33.	2016-17	Rtn. Sanjiv Kumar
34.	2017-18	Rtn. Arvind Saraf
35.	2018-19	Rtn. Ravi Kapoor
36.	2019-20	Rtn. Jinendra Munot
37.	2020-21	Rtn. Ajay Dubey
38.	2021-22	Rtn. Amitabha Mukhopadhyay
39.	2022-23	Rtn. Uday Dharmadhikari
40.	2023-24	Rtn. Cmde Ajay Chitnis
41.	2024-25	Rtn. Brig. PK Muralidharan Raja
42.	2025-26	Rtn. Lekha Nair

## Valuable comments from some of our seniors

Service above self this Rotary way. I have given my time and money for Rotary over 40 years. Uplifted Mulshi and Alandi area. Worked on all committees. Board member and now past President. I was very regular attendance except this year. Always insisted on assimilation, which is the key to bring new member together which is missing

Rtn. Madhu Rathi  
(President: 1998-99)



Based on my 8 years with Rotary Club of Pune Central, I can happily say this:

RCPC is where experience meets purpose and service finds meaning. Every effort given creates impact far beyond us. Through fellowship, we build trust; through service, we build communities.

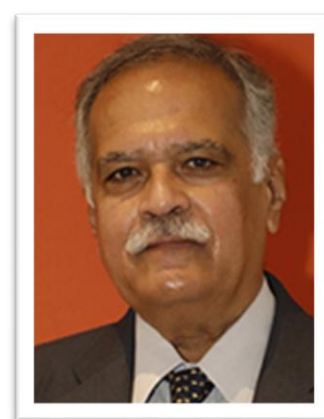
Show up, serve wholeheartedly, and become part of something that lasts...

Rtn. Uday Dharmadikari  
(President: 2022-23)

Rotary is a way of life for me. After having spent more than half my life in the organisation in RCPC, I found the bonding that motivated me to serve through Tan Maan Dhan. I always look forward to avenues I can serve. May it be the Board, committees or projects.

I enjoy the fellowship which is the foundation of service. For Me RCPC is an extended family.

Rtn. Nitin Rajore



Helping new members find their way is how we keep Rotary's spirit alive. A warm welcome today becomes a committed leader tomorrow. When we guide others with patience and pride, we build a stronger club.

Through mentorship, we turn newcomers into lifelong Rotarians.

Rtn. Suhas Merchant  
(President: 1991-92)

Real friendships, in life and in Rotary, are built around working together on projects which serve the community, and also give us a sense of fulfilment simultaneously.

For me, the strongest pillar of spirituality is beyond religion, and is none other than giving back or serving the community.

'Give till it hurts ' was what Mother Teresa said.

Our time, money , ideas, encouragement, support for good causes-we can give a lot once we decide.

In that respect, our Rotarians are the best and that's what has kept Rotary and our club going for such a long time with increasing levels of energy and performance. .

Rtn. Raman Nanda



Meeting friends who share a bond of giving at Rotary meetings is something to forward to.

Rtn. Ebe Cheney  
(President: 1989-90)

Your question reminds me of the blind men who touched different parts of the elephant's body (community service, club service, donations etc)and decided what the animal looked like. It was only in a meeting with a wise man that they realized they were all partially correct. So regular meetings (and fellowship) bring it all together in harmony

Rtn. Prakash Gurbaxani



In times when friends, relatives, acquaintance have very limited attachment to anybody. Rotary is community which think and act beyond self.

Let's Be part of movement with contribution of time and financial resources.

Rtn. Vinay Biyani

Attending Regular meetings is important  
Togetherness starts with being there; every meeting  
strengthens our mission of change and every presence adds  
power to service above self.

Rtn. Arun Shroff



"You are in Rotary so that you may do life changing  
community service. Give your तन to participate in the  
service projects, give your मन to plan and manage the  
projects and give your धन to enable the projects"

Rtn. Rakesh Bhargava  
(President: 2013-14)

The Rotary organisation provides a platform for  
successful business & professional people who come  
together to make new friends under the Rotary Club  
banner. These friends then do projects together which  
are beneficial to community under different avenues of  
service. While considering the projects three steps  
should be followed: First is to survey the needs of  
community; Second is to conceive the project which will  
create sustainable impact & raise the funds from  
outside, and finally do the planning & execute the  
project.

To make long term friends it is essential that  
ROTARIANS attend weekly meetings regularly so  
that they can meet, talk & over a good fellowship  
can exchange ideas which through Rotary platform  
can be converted in to projects for the benefit of  
community at large.

Rtn. Raja Kharadkar  
(President: 1996-97)





### My Rotary Moment

In early 2017, while planning my presidential year & community focus, I visited a thatched roof ramshackle of a school in Mulshi.

Sitting on the floor with barefoot children in a dimly lit mud floored classroom, I felt something shift in me & tears welled into my eyes.

It was my true Rotary Moment— a tipping point - when Service Above Self became deeply personal.

I realised Service Above Self is not an idea—it's a responsibility.

Rtn. Arvind Saraf  
(President: 2017-18)

Participation in projects and attending meetings regularly awakens my professional drive and collaborative spirit..

Rtn. Shireesh Nadkar



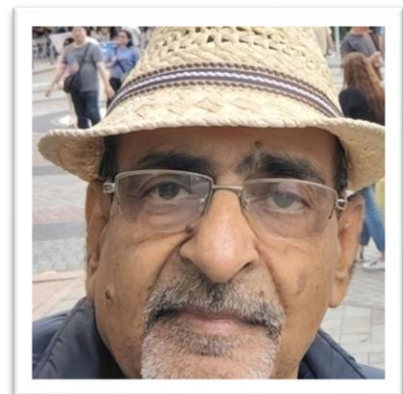
Rotary cares for people by caring for the planet."

धरती की सेवा, मानव का सम्मान,  
रोटरी का यही है सच्चा अभियान।  
प्रकृति की रक्षा, मानव का कल्याण,  
धरती बचेगी तो बचेगा इंसान।

Rtn. Parvin Malhotra  
(President Elect: 2026-27)

It has been a memorable and personally satisfying experience for me to have many books transcribed into Braille at the National Federation of Blind Maharashtra Press at Alandi, Pune District to benefit the visually challenged students of Jagriti School of Blind Girls, Alandi & of other Blind Institutions, with assistance of committed fellow Rotarians of Rotary Club of Pune Central, during November 2025.

Rtn. Pankaj Mehrotra



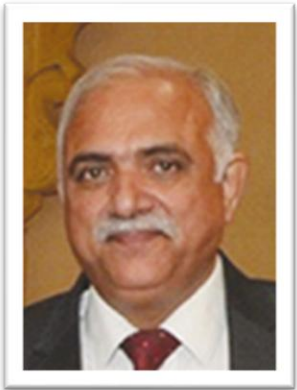


In Rotary, giving is not limited to money alone. It is equally about giving time, ideas, and commitment. When we contribute in any form, we become partners in change and builders of a better community.

Rtn. Lekha Nair  
(Current President: 2025-26)

Rotary gave me the opportunity to serve beyond uniform, rank and profession. Participating in RCPC projects that turn good intentions into real impact on the ground has allowed me to directly contribute to improving lives in our communities; the Satara Dam Repair project and the Green PC Projects have given me enormous satisfaction. I urge all new members to quickly join projects of their liking.

Rtn. Cmde Ajay Chitnis  
(President: 2023-24)



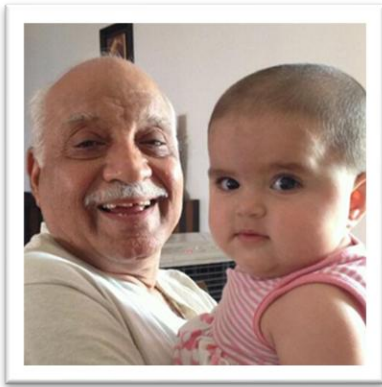
As a Rotarian for two decades, i have enjoyed ability to participate with Tun Mun and Dhun. Life puts one under pressure at different point of times. Every Rotarian can pick one of the three options and prove to be an active member.

Rtn. Parmod Bhalla  
(President: 2014-15)

The Rotary Foundation is where our goodwill turns into real-world impact. Every contribution—big or small—becomes a vaccine, a scholarship, clean water, disaster relief, or a brighter future for a community in need. When Rotarians give to the Foundation, we don't just donate money—we multiply hope. Through global grants, and local projects, our contributions come back to us as measurable change, powered by Rotary's unmatched transparency and trust. Let us give generously, not because we can, but because we care. Together, we can ensure that Rotary continues to do good in the world—to CREATE LASTING IMPACT.

Rtn. Sanjay Karwa





Service above Self" is the beacon guiding Rotary. Helping under privileged meet their basic needs is highly satisfying. Participation in implementation of projects as well contributing financially are the keys to success "

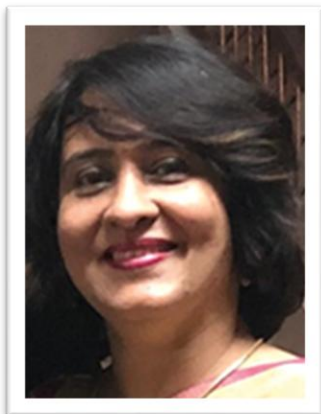
Rtn. Shashi Talwar

The work we do on improving water availability in the drought prone regions of Satara district, helps to release the productive energies of the entire local populace. The physical, mental, intellectual, spiritual landscape of the beneficiaries undergoes a profound and continuous positive change

Jal hee jeevan hai..nothing can be truer.

It is truly soul satisfying

Rtn. Giri Sakhrani



I believe saving the environment is the priority. Sustainability is no longer a choice, it is the need of the hour, and it begins with us. Use glass or reusable cups instead of disposable ones.

Avoid plastic bottled water, microplastics, harmful chemicals, and bacteria don't belong in your body.

Encourage environmentally responsible choices among members.

Rtn. Vaishali Karwa



RCPCians WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE



Photograph of President Elect Training Seminar-12th November 2021, at Dukes Retreat, Khandala.

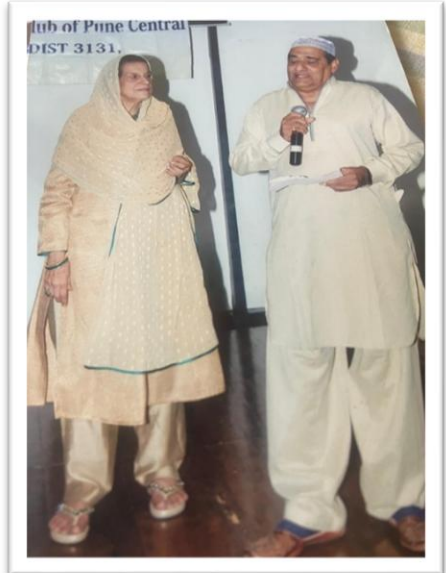
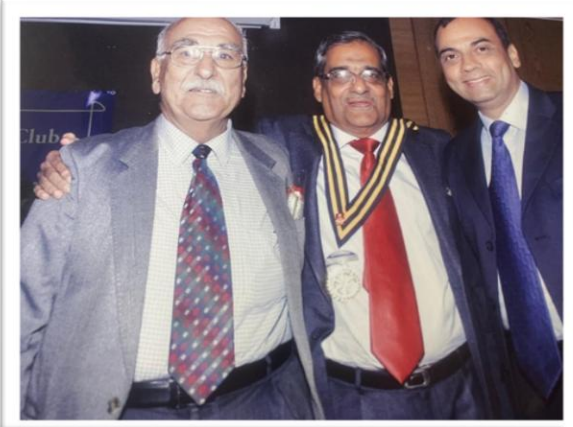


At Velloni Vineyard



Inauguration of Bund Garden jogging park developed & operated by RC Pune Central. Pic shows Rtn Raja Kharadkar, then President, with Bollywood celebrities







## Rotary Int'l director visits vocational training school

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Pune:** Rotary International's director K R Ravindran, Rotary district 3131, district governor Pramod Jejurikar and president of Rotary club of Pune Central Munir Chinoy recently visited the Madhavi Ogale vocational training school of the Prism Foundation to see how physically challenged and special children had benefitted from learning to make carry-bags from recyclable material.

The training was given by Rotarian Surendra Shroff, director service projects (non-medical) of the Rotary club of Pune Central, as part of the international social service organisation, Rotary International. Rotary club of Pune Central is the largest club in Pune with 125 members.

The objective of the training carried out by Shroff was to create self-employment opportunities for students to help them become self-sufficient and confident.

Ravindran was satisfied with the results of the project and has requested Shroff to visit Sri Lanka and conduct a training workshop for trainers there so that they, in turn, can impart this kind of a training to special students, self-help groups and others, like senior citizens. Once this is accomplished, the experiment will be repeated in various countries through Rotary International with the help of local Rotary Clubs.

The Rotary Club of Pune Central has conducted over 500 workshops during the last four years in various places in India and has trained over 7,500 persons and each of them has trained 12 to 15 persons. About 5,000 persons have produced over two crore carry bags from newspapers during the last year. These bags are suitable for carrying between 1.5 kg to 15 kg of material. Rotary members are also donating newspapers for this project on a regular basis.

## Pune experiment to be replicated in Lanka

Rotary president requests training for special students

DNA Correspondent

Rotary International president, KR Ravindran, has requested Rotary Club of Pune Central to visit Sri Lanka and conduct a training workshop in making multi-wall paper bags. The president was impressed with the Rotarians' work of training students of Madhavi Ogale Vocational Training School of Prism Foundation on Prabhat Road.

Ravindran, along with Rotary 3131 district governor, Pramod Jejurikar, president of Rotary Club of Pune Central, Munir Chinoy, and other dignitaries visited the school last Monday. Handicapped students, slow learners, mentally challenged and special students are trained to make multi-wall carry bags using newspapers and other recyclable materials. This school is engaged in imparting vocational training to the special students. "The objective was to create self-employment opportunities and also help students keep their minds alert and create confidence in them. It was to make them realise that they are not a burden on society and can lead their lives with self-respect once they complete their education and join their parents," said

Surendra Shroff, a member. He said Ravindran has requested him to visit Sri Lanka and conduct a training workshop for trainers there.

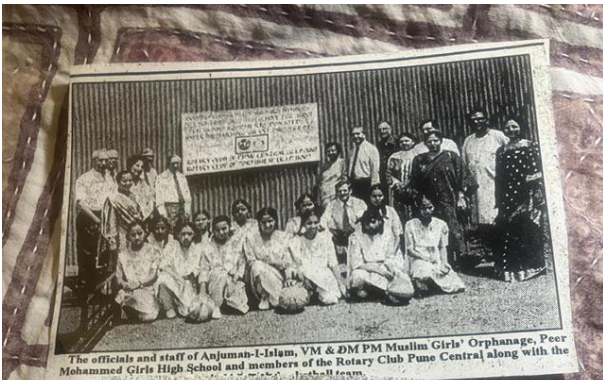
**Ravindran, along with Rotary 3131 district governor, Pramod Jejurikar, president of Rotary Club of Pune Central, Munir Chinoy, and other dignitaries visited the school last Monday**

so that they can impart the skills to special students, self-help groups and senior citizens. "He also told us that he wants to replicate the training programme in other countries with the help of local Rotary clubs," added Shroff, who is the club's director of services (non-medical).

According to Shroff, Rotary Club of Pune Central has conducted over 500 workshops during the past four years in various places in India and has trained over 75,000 people and each of them has pledged to train 12 to 15 people from their area.



Rotarians teach special students of Madhavi Ogale Vocational Training School to make paper bags



The officials and staff of Anjuman-i-Islam, VM & DM PM Muslim Girls' Orphanage, Peer Mohammed Girls High School and members of the Rotary Club Pune Central along with the sports team.

## A friendship and goodwill event

An event with international ambience of friendship and goodwill was organised by Anjuman-i-Islam Peer Mohammed High School and Muslim Girls' Orphanage, on June 11.

Rtn Capt Rajan Vir, highlighted the excellent spirit of international friendship and goodwill at the inaugural function graced by Rtn President Nani Desai, PP Rtn Raja Kharadkar, Rtn K D Shroff, P P Umranikar, Rtn Dr Kazi, Rtn M Paerbhoy, incoming president for 1999-2000 Rtn Manjula Vishwanathan, Rtn Patel, Rotary Ann Alaka Chia and Rtn Munir Chinoy.

The basketball equipments were donated under the matching grant project by the Rotary Club of Pune Central, RID 3130 and Rotary Club of Portishead, RID 1100 and Rotary Foundation.

Other dignitaries present on the occasion were, Ms Nazura Hamed Sattar, Adm. Officer Prof P C Haidar, Ms Naseem Iqbal Shaikh and Head Mistress Saheeda Taher Shaikh along with the teachers in charge of the Club Ms Zakia Riaz Shaikh and Ms Shauikh Irfana.

A short game of basketball was also organised on the occasion.

## Christmas party organised by Rotary Club for special children



**HAPPINESS:** Rotary Club of Pune Central and Innerwheel Club of Pune Central had jointly organised a Christmas party for around 250 special children from various NGOs across several venues in the city.

ST CORRESPONDENT  
reporters@sakaltimes.com

**Pune:** Rotary Club of Pune Central and Inner Wheel Club of Pune Central had recently organised a special Christmas party for special children in the city. Around 250 special children from various organisations who are mentally challenged from Navshiti Institution, leukemia stricken children from Cancer Patient Aid Association (CPAA), children suffering from thalassemia, cancer patients

from Sofosh Society of KEM Hospital, deaf and mute students from the Bharati School were present.

There were also children from Eklavya, an organisation that works with children from the red light area and street children, visually challenged college going students from the Vasudeo Pratishthan and students from the Anjuman Islam orphanage were also present among others. The organisations had organised various fun and entertaining activities

such as music, dance, tattoo artists, games, bouncy and magic show for these challenged children. There were two Germany-based young volunteers from Navshiti Sanstha who were dressed as Santa Claus to cheer up the children at the party.

The members from Rotary Club, Anil Bora, past president Munir Chinoy past president Manjula Vishwanathan, Chandrakant Tulpule, Jiten Sandu, Ramesh Arora and president of Inner Wheel Club Uma Kejriwal were present.

Sakal Times 24/12/2012



Installation of President Dr. Nasir Kazi



Relief material sent to flood affected Bihar 2008



District seminar 2008



Pulse polio vaccination 2008



Christmas with cancer affected children 2008



Silver jubilee of RCPC



Republic day at Joggers' Park



District event with RIPE John Kenny 2009



President Dr Nasir Kazi as Guest of honour at District Membership seminar



RCPC awarded trophies

