

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

Rotary
Club of Thane Hills



10
TITEN

HILL ECHOES

MAY ISSUE

Francesco Arezzo
RI President - 2025-26

Harsh Makol
District Governor - 2025-26

Samir Limaye
Club President - 2025-26

Nilesh Pitale
Club Secretary - 2025-26



Youth Service

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Reflections by Club President

April truly reflected the spirit of fellowship, bonding, and celebration as we marked it as the Month of Amity Group, ably led by our Past President Nilesh Likhite.

The warmth and camaraderie were beautifully experienced during the wonderful fellowship evenings hosted at PP Nilesh's home and Rtn. Milind's home. These gatherings offered us a perfect opportunity to connect beyond meetings and strengthen our Rotary family bonds.

The engaging panel discussion on "kal aaj aur kal" gave meaningful insights into our club's journey and showcased glimpses of our impactful activities. A special highlight was the MasterChef Fellowship, a unique and fun-filled contest exclusively involving our male members — a perfect blend of participation, creativity, and laughter.

We also celebrated the rich cultural diversity of our country with festivities like Poila Boishakh, Baisakhi, Tamil New Year, and Vishu, complemented by a traditional dinner, vibrant dances, and soulful music. A special and meaningful initiative during the month was Ann Daan at Yogi Hills, reflecting our commitment to service and compassion towards the community.

Another important milestone was participation in the District Learning Assembly for Rotary Year 2026–27, equipping our members with knowledge, vision, and preparedness for the year ahead. We also undertook a visit to Shahpur to evaluate the proposed check dam construction sites, followed by a meeting with the CEO, Zilla Parishad, reinforcing our focus on sustainable water conservation projects and collaborative impact.

In line with our commitment to healthcare initiatives, we are also in the process of signing MoUs with Wavikar Eye Hospital and Jupiter Hospital, which will further strengthen our ability to serve the needy through structured and reliable medical support. It was indeed a privilege to come together and honor distinguished personalities from various fields through our Vocational Excellence Awards, recognizing their outstanding contributions to society.

The month concluded on a high note with joyful happy hours, delightful dinners, and the cherry on the cake — an energetic Salsa dance workshop, bringing smiles, rhythm, and enthusiasm to all.

April has truly been a month of connection, celebration, service, and purposeful action. Please join me to welcome new members in Hillers family and strengthening our spirit of fellowship and service.

Enjoy Rotary!

Samir Limaye

Club President



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Updates by Club Secretary

The month of April was marked by meaningful service initiatives, active participation, and continued fellowship among our members.

The month began on a wonderful note with a significant service initiative—signing an MOU with Wavikar Eye Hospital to provide **free cataract surgeries for the needy**, reaffirming our commitment to accessible healthcare.

We also had a regular meeting featuring an engaging **panel discussion with members across three decades**, reflecting on their experiences and ideas. It was an inspiring exchange on how Rotary helps professionals find purpose and passion through service, and how vocational expertise can be meaningfully used for the betterment of society.

Adding a fun and unique touch to our fellowship activities, we organized a **Master Chef program**, where the men of the club took charge of the kitchen. It brought out hidden talents among Hillers and created a lively and enjoyable atmosphere.

Members also came together for a vibrant celebration of the **festivals of India**, showcasing Marathi, Bengali, Malayalam, and Punjabi dances. The event beautifully reflected the diversity, unity, and cultural richness within our Rotary family.

On **25th April**, we hosted the **Vocational Excellence Awards**, where we felicitated distinguished personalities from diverse fields—ranging from renowned doctors, the head of the city's disaster management cell, and hospital founders, to a sports coach and an accomplished actress. Each of these individuals has excelled in their respective professions and used their skills to create a meaningful impact in society. Listening to their journeys, challenges, and motivations was truly inspiring and served as a reminder of how dedication and purpose can drive positive change.

Continuing our focus on impactful healthcare initiatives, we partnered with Jupiter Hospital to support **pediatric heart surgeries**, bringing new hope and life to children born with congenital heart conditions.

The month concluded on a happy and energetic note with the **induction of three new members**, further strengthening our Rotary family, followed by a lively **salsa dance workshop** where members enjoyed fellowship and fun.

As we step into the month of May, which in the Rotary calendar is dedicated to **Youth Service**, we are reminded of the importance of nurturing young minds, supporting future leaders, and creating opportunities for the youth to grow, lead, and serve.

Warm regards,

Nilesh Pitale
Club Secretary



HILLERS at CLLS held at
CIDCO Convention Centre, Vashi
on 26th April 2026

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Message by Club Bulletin Editor

Hillars,

Glad to present the May 2026 edition of Hill Echoes bulletin in the TiTen year. It gives an update of projects, meetings and activities done in April 26 as well as what is coming in May 2026.

We have also covered information related to Rotary International, District as well as interesting articles by members n spouses.

May is designated as 'Youth Service Month' in Rotary, focusing on the 5th Avenue of Service. This month highlights initiatives that empower young leaders and professionals through programs like Rotaract, Interact, Rotary Youth Exchange, and Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). It celebrates the impact of young people and fosters mentorship.

Key Aspects of Youth Service Month:Empowerment: Focus on supporting young leaders up to age 30.
Programs: Clubs are encouraged to focus on Interact, Rotaract, RYLA, and Youth Exchange projects.

Service & Leadership: Recognizing young people who serve their communities and developing new leadership skills.
Recognition: Celebrating the 5th Avenue of Service, which recognizes the importance of youth in Rotary's mission.

Look forward to inputs, content, feedback. I am just a call , mail , sms away !

PP Varsha Likhite

Bulletin Editor RY 2025-26

varshalikhite@rediffmail.com

CALENDAR FOR MAY 2026 - YOUTH SERVICE MONTH						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Guest Speaker at Thirani	8 Rotary Action Group Formation & Launch TMA Hall - 1st Floor	9
10	11	12	13	14 Regular Meeting Thirani	15	16 Ann Daan
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Charter Day Celebration - TMA Hall - Gr. Floor
24	25	26	27	28 Regular Meeting - TMA	29	30
RI THEME	RCTH OFFICIAL MEET	FELLOWSHIP & FESTIVALS	PROJECTS	EVENTS	DIST. EVENT & PROJECT	

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Inner Wheel Updates

By Innewheel Club President Nayana Gala



April 2026 – A Month of Meaningful Impact

April has been a powerful reflection of our commitment to serve across diverse sections of society—creating impact with purpose, compassion, and collective effort.

Healthcare – Pediatric Cardiac Surgeries

Our flagship initiative continues to give children a new lease on life.

24 surgeries successfully completed

26 more scheduled between April–June

This project remains a cornerstone of our service, restoring not just health, but hope for families.

Community Welfare – Ganesh Vridhhashram

We continue our consistent monthly support to the वृद्धाश्रम, ensuring care, comfort, and dignity for the elderly. Our sustained contribution reflects our commitment to their long-term well-being.

Special Needs Support – Aarambh Foundation

A meaningful milestone this month was the successful handover of a dedicated Maruti Eeco AC van, supporting 120 children with special needs by making their daily commute safer and more comfortable.

Correctional Welfare – Training Hall, Thane Jail

An unused space was transformed into a 1500 sq. ft. training hall for 160 women inmates—creating a space for learning, creativity, and rehabilitation, and reinforcing dignity and hope.

Mental Health – Art & Wellness

Through Warli art* workshops and laughter therapy sessions, we brought joy, expression, and emotional healing to residents at the mental hospital.

Member Engagement

Our “Chai, Charcha aur Connect” session focused on women's health, encouraging strength and active living.

Total Financial Impact – April 2026

Pediatric Cardiac Surgeries: Rs.12,75,000

Aarambh Foundation Van: Rs.8,00,000

Training Hall Project: Rs.6,00,000

Ganesh Vridhhashram: Rs.26,500

Grand Total : Rs.27,01,500



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Message by Editor - Rotaract Club of Thane Hills

**Sayali Korgaonkar**

President Rotaract club of Thane Hills

***“Community is not built in grand moments alone,
but in the quiet rhythm of shared laughter, movement, and meaning.”***

April arrived with a vibrant shift in energy—one that celebrated expression, movement, and connection. It was a month that brought members closer through creativity, play, and shared experiences, reminding us that community thrives not only through service, but also through moments of joy and genuine interaction. In stepping beyond structure, we discovered the strength of spontaneity and the beauty of simply showing up for one another.

We began on 11th April with Twist and Tell, a joint initiative with the Rotaract Club of Navi Mumbai Sunrise. Conceptualised as an editorial activity, the session transformed language into an engaging and dynamic playground. Through games like tongue twisters, Taboo, and Heads Up, participants explored communication in its most interactive forms—enhancing creativity, spontaneity, and clarity of expression. More than an activity, it became a space where words evolved into bridges of connection, fostering both confidence and collaboration.

On 19th April, the day unfolded across two distinct yet complementary experiences. The morning began with Paddle Battle at Pickleball Gawand Baug, where members engaged in friendly matches of singles and doubles. The court resonated with energy, enthusiasm, and a strong spirit of sportsmanship, creating an atmosphere that was both invigorating and unifying. It was a reminder that sometimes, the strongest bonds are formed not in conversation, but in shared movement and collective spirit.

The day gently transitioned into a more relaxed setting with The Breakfast Club at Thhikana Cafe, Meadows. Over simple comforts—tea, bun maska, and light-hearted games of Uno—members connected in an unfiltered and authentic manner. Conversations flowed with ease, laughter lingered, and stories found space to unfold. In these unstructured moments, relationships deepened organically, reinforcing the quiet strength of belonging.

As April draws to a close, it leaves behind more than memories—it leaves a feeling.

A sense of lightness, of connection, of being part of something that extends beyond roles and responsibilities. It reminds us that while initiatives shape our impact, it is the moments in between—the laughter, the pauses, the shared experiences—that shape our identity.

With this spirit, we move forward—grounded, connected, and inspired to continue building a community that not only serves, but truly feels.



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Rotary's Journey - Global & India

PP Nilesh Likhite



On the evening of 23 February 1905, Paul Harris (19 April 1868 – 27 January 1947) invited three friends to a meeting. Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer, Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor, and Gustavus Loehr, a mining engineer, gathered with Harris in Loehr's business office in Room 711 of the Unity Building in downtown Chicago on Dearborn Avenue. The model of this venue is created at Rotary Headquarters, Evanston, Chicago. They discussed Harris' idea that business leaders should meet periodically to enjoy camaraderie and to enlarge their circle of business and professional acquaintances. The club met weekly; membership was limited to one representative from each business and profession. Though the men didn't use the term Rotary that night, that gathering is commonly regarded as the first Rotary club meeting.

As they continued to convene, members began rotating their meetings among their places of business, hence the name Rotary. After enlisting a fifth member, printer Harry Ruggles, the group was formally organized as the Rotary Club of Chicago.

The Rotary then grew in America and was then known as National Association of Rotary Clubs with 16 clubs. Founder Paul Harris was the 1st President of the Association.

In 1912, Rotary started growing outside USA with formation of Rotary Club of Winnipeg in Canada. Then Rotary marked its presence in Europe with formation of Rotary Club of London in the same year. The name of the Association was changed to International Association of Rotary Clubs. With the continuing growth of Rotary, the name Rotary International is formally adopted.

James Wheeler Davidson took a journey to the East with the task of growing Rotary. This trip went on for 2 and half years, during which Davidson was successful in forming 23 clubs across 12 countries from Greece to Thailand. He was named as Marco Polo of Rotary.

RJ Coombes, a British National formed 1st Rotary Club in India at Calcutta in 1919. S C Rudra is the 1st Indian to be admitted to Rotary Club. Nitish Laharry, who went on to become 1st Rotary International President from India, was appointed as 1st Indian Club Secretary in 1926. The movement kept increasing with formation of Rotary Club of Bombay and then Rotary Club of Madras in 1929. Accordingly, Rotary Club of Bombay is the 1st Club in our undivided District. Our District was numbered 314 and then was numbered as 3140, before it was divided in 3141 and 3142 (our current District).

In our District, the oldest club is Rotary Club of Kalyan formed in 1956. Kalyan Club then sponsored Rotary Club of Thane in 1958 and Rotary Club of Ambarnath in 1959. Rotary Club of Thane then sponsored Rotary Club of Thane North in 1977. After 24 years, Rotary Club of Thane North sponsored our Club, Rotary Club of Thane Hills in 1991.

Rotary International has grown to over 36,500 Rotary clubs and approximately 1.14 million members worldwide. The clubs are organized in 34 zones and approximately 537 Districts in over 220 countries. Our District falls in Zone 8 now with 108 clubs and 3943 members.

Long live Rotary and LONG LIVE ROTARY CLUB OF THANE HILLS.



INFORMATION UPDATES

Thursday, 2nd April 2026

Continuing our commitment towards supporting the underprivileged, our club and foundation are taking another meaningful step in facilitating cataract surgeries for those in need. Though small in scale, this initiative is certain to make a significant impact on many lives.



We are pleased to share that RCTH has formalized an arrangement with Wavikar Eye Institute to further this cause.

We sincerely acknowledge the valuable guidance extended by Girija Rao in shaping this initiative.

We also appreciate the able support and cooperation from Director (Medical) Sandeep Bhatia and CS Nilesh Pitale in making this collaboration possible.

We do have funds specifically for cataract and wish to re start project.

Together, we move forward in our mission to serve and make a difference.

Rotary District 3142 | UNITE FOR GOOD | Rotary Club of Thane Hills | 10 TITEN | Mental Health Initiatives Rotary Action Group DISTRICT 3142 CHAPTER

ROTARY ACTION GROUP MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE (RAG MHI)

DISTRICT 3142 CHAPTER LAUNCH

FOCUS ON
YOUTH | TEENAGERS | ADOLESCENTS

Let's build a healthier mind, stronger youth, better tomorrow.

DATE Friday, 8th May 2026	TIME 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM	VENUE TMA Hall, Federation House 1st Floor, Wagle Estate, Thane West.	COVERAGE AREA Thane City, District Thane & Navi Mumbai
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PROGRAM AGENDA

- 1 Introduction & Welcome
- 2 Information about RAG MHI
- 3 Messages from Rotary Dignitaries
- 4 Formal Launch of RAG MHI Chapter for 3142
- 5 Announcement of Board and Officers
- 6 Panel Discussion with Experts and Way Forward
- 7 Q&A
- 8 Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Invitation to School Teachers, Rotarians, District Dignitaries, Parents.

You can also invite others and let us know headcount for arrangements.

FOLLOWED BY
Mini Dinner

RSVP
SAMIR LIMAYE
9820063775

SCAN TO RSVP (WhatsApp)

Guests welcome - please confirm headcount.

66 Mental health is not a destination, but a process. It's about how you drive, not where you're going. **
-Mark Twain

FREE CATARACT SURGERY CAMP

For Economically Weaker Citizens

Organized By: Rotary Club of Thane Hills

Poor vision should never stop someone from living a full life.

We are arranging Free Cataract Surgeries for needy and economically weaker individuals.

Residents of Thane, Please Come Forward & Refer Those in Need!

Eligibility	How to Refer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economically weaker sections. • Diagnosed / suspected cataract patients. • Residents from nearby areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Name • Age • Address • Contact Number (if available)

Single Point Contact
Club Secretary
Nilesh Pitale
Phone: 98211 17305

Together we can restore sight and transform lives.

Over 65% of blindness in India is caused by cataract—yet it is completely treatable.

UNITE FOR GOOD | Rotary Club of Thane Hills | 10 TITEN

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Saniy in Chaos : Drawing the Line Calmly When It Matters

Madhavi Naik Kanade



It was a normal, smooth flight, with a well known celebrity singer on board. Everything was going as planned. Until it wasn't.

In the lounge, the singer had consumed alcohol, slightly drunk, but more than that, throwing attitude and refusing to board on time. What should have been routine quickly turned tense. Passengers began noticing. Questions turned into murmurs, and the calm flow of boarding started to slip.

We tried coordinating, persuading, waiting but it became clear this wasn't going anywhere. As the flight in charge, I took the decision to offload the passenger. Since it involved a celebrity, I spoke to the country manager over a call. We both agreed on one thing, no drama, just handle it as a procedure.

There was a brief delay as baggage had to be retrieved from the hold. Fortunately, being business class, it was located quickly, and the impact was minimal.

The decision was firm and quiet. No confrontation. No exceptions. And almost instantly, the tension eased and order returned.

Celebrities may be special, but every individual's time and priority deserve equal respect. Delays can be justified in real emergencies, but attitude is not one of them.

And even when decisions are tough, you can stay calm. Being firm is important, it doesn't always have to be loud or rude.

That day taught me that sanity in chaos isn't always about calming people; sometimes it's about drawing a clear line.

Sometimes, all it takes to restore order is to quietly stand your ground.



President Samir... When One Leader Creates Many
He scattered months like colors in spring,
Each group got a canvas, a theme, a wing,
Old hands blending with minds brand new,
Ideas took flight in every hue.
From whispered plans to vibrant display,
Each month unfolded in its own way.
Some found rhythm in steps they never knew,
Feet dancing stories, fresh and true,
Some walked the ramp with heads held high,
Confidence blooming under the sky.
Some sang notes that touched the soul,
others spoke words that made hearts glow
In an era where "my term" is proudly claimed,
Where victories are counted, compared, and named,
He rewrote the script without making a sound,
Let others take center stage and he stayed in background



Not a leader who clutches the reins tight,
But one who trusts others to take flight,
No craving for claps, no hunger for fame,
No need to have every win to his name,
Instead, he built moments others could own,
And smiled as their confidence steadily shone.
For in letting go, he gave so much more,
New leaders, strong bonds at the core,
Seeds of confidence he has sown,
Blossomed the Club in ways it had never known.
And before anyone could pause or say
"Let's hold this moment just one more day,"
The year slipped by, light as a sigh,
A joyful blur, in a blink of an eye.
What remains is a club, united and strong,
Where each cheers the other, all sing the same song,
Hands clapping in joy till they're happily sore,
A club that is everyone's—now evermore.

Rtn Sonali Bijur

MAY 2026

Service That Holds When Systems Fail

Rtn Sarita Bahl



We are living through a period of profound turbulence. Wars redraw borders and beliefs, geopolitical equations shift rapidly, supply chains fracture, and uncertainty seeps into everyday life. For millions, these forces are not abstract headlines—they translate into disrupted livelihoods, fragile access to essentials, and an erosion of basic security. The impact is felt most sharply by ordinary people, long before institutions recalibrate or systems respond.

It is in such moments of disruption that a deeper truth becomes visible: recovery is not driven by grand declarations, but by steady acts of service that restore dignity and continuity to daily life. Normalcy does not return on its own. It is rebuilt—through clean water that prevents disease, roads that reconnect livelihoods, power that restores safety, and systems that allow families, communities, and local economies to function again. These are rarely dramatic interventions. Yet they are the very foundations upon which hope quietly re-emerges.

For Rotarians, this understanding sits at the heart of Service Above Self. Our work is not about visibility; it is about reliability. Not about reaction alone, but about preparedness, foresight, and sustained commitment to the communities we serve.

True resilience is not measured by how loudly a society responds to crisis, but by how quickly people can return to a sense of continuity—children back in school, patients accessing care, workers resuming livelihoods. And that continuity is built through service that is practical, ethical, and grounded in local realities.

Rotary's strength lies precisely here. Across vocations and geographies, Rotarians bring professional judgement, ethical leadership, and collective intent to address real needs—before, during, and long after disruption. Whether through health, water, education, livelihoods, or community infrastructure, Rotary's interventions are designed to endure, not impress.

At the centre of this work are you and me. Volunteers who listen before they act. Professionals who apply their skills with humility. Clubs that collaborate with communities rather than prescribe solutions. The Four-Way Test is not a slogan—it is a daily compass that ensures our actions are fair, trustworthy, beneficial, and rooted in goodwill.

Resilience is also shaped by foresight. By anticipating risks, strengthening local capacity, and designing solutions that can adapt over time, Rotary moves from charity to stewardship. From episodic help to sustained impact.

Equally important is *how* we serve. Respect for communities, responsible use of resources, and sensitivity to environmental and social contexts are not optional—they determine whether service truly lasts. What ignores context may deliver short-term relief, but it cannot build long-term resilience.

In a world that often feels fragile and fragmented, Rotary offers something quietly powerful: continuity with conscience. Service that strengthens communities not just in moments of crisis, but in everyday life. Leadership that measures success not by scale alone, but by trust earned and dignity preserved.

That is the Rotary promise—to stand ready, to serve without spectacle, and to build resilience through purposeful action, long before it is ever tested.



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हवा हवासा उन्हाळा

विजया गोडे
श्रेयसी मुळे यांची आई

उन्हाळा म्हटलं की सर्व लोक थंड हवेच्या ठिकाणी जाण्याचे ठरवतात. आम्ही मात्र आमच्या गावाला जात असू. रायगड जिल्ह्यातील महाड हे आमचं गाव. तिथे उन्हाळा खूप असायचा. चवदार तळ्याचे पाणीही आटलेलं असायचं. तरीसुद्धा आम्ही महाडलाच जात असू. तो उन्हाळा नव्हता तर त्यात माहेरची ऊब होती.

मार्च महिना आला की मुलांना परीक्षेचे वेध लागायचे आणि आम्हा बहिणींना माहेरपणाचे! मग एस्.टी.चे रिझर्वेशन करणे, तारीख निश्चित करायची. सर्वांच्या सोयीनुसार महाडला जाण्याची तारीख निश्चित व्हायची. आम्ही सर्व मिळून वीस जण असायचो. त्यामुळे चार-पाच जणांना रिझर्वेशनच्या रांगेत उभे राहावे लागत असे. मग आमच्या सेनेतल्या वीरांना उभे करत असू.

परीक्षा पार पडल्यानंतर प्रवासाची तयारी. आमची मुले तशी लहान होती. अगदी तेरा वर्षापासून चार वर्षांपर्यंत सर्व मुले होती. त्यामुळे चार-पाच तासांचा प्रवास होता तरी खाण्या-पिण्याची जख्यत तयारी करावी लागत असे. त्यावेळी गाडी बंद पडण्याचे

प्रकारही खूप वेळा होत असत. पेणला गाडी थोडा वेळ थांबत असे. तेवढ्या वेळात सर्वांचे विधी आटोपत नसत. मग गाडी थोपवून धरण्यासाठी कोणीतरी पुढे जात असे. कधी कधी गाडीने आपली जागा सोडलेली असायची. कंडक्टरची मनधरणी करून गाडी थांबवावी लागायची.

एरवी दहा महिने बंद असलेलं घर आमच्या आगमनाने दुमदुमून जायचं. आमच्या आळीतल्या लोकांनाही खूप आनंद व्हायचा. आता कसं घर भरल्यासारखं वाटतं म्हणायची! सर्वांची एकी पाहून त्यांना खूप कौतुक वाटायचं. झोपाळा गाण्याच्या तालावर झुलायचा तर जावईबापूंचे पत्त्यांचे गप्पांचे फड जमायचे. मुंबईच्या धाकाधकीपासून तेवढाच निवांतपणा मिळायचा. आईची स्वयंपाक घरात गडबड चालू असायची. माहेरवाशिणींना आणि जावयांना काय काय करून घालू अशी गडबड चालायची. आई दरवर्षी म्हणायची पुढल्या वर्षी मी असेन-नसेन !

मुलं तर वारं प्यायलेल्या वासराप्रमाणे हुंदडत असायची. झोपाळा त्यांना खूप आवडायचा. सगळ्या गप्पांची पारायणं होत असत. एरवी आम्हाला ओरडणारे वडील नातवंडांकडे कौतुकाने पहात असायचे ! आठ दिवस केव्हा संपून जात ! आई भरल्या डोळ्यांनी ओटी भरत असे ! पुढलं वर्ष कोणी पाहिलं आहे हाच भाव तिच्या डोळ्यांत असायचा ! आमच्या नशिबाने आई ८६ वर्षांची व वडील ८९ वर्षांपर्यंत आमच्या बरोबर होते ! आम्ही भरपूर माहेरपण उपभोगलं ! आज आई-वडील नाहीत ! आमचं चवदार तळ्यावरचं घरही नाही ! आता मे मध्ये महाबळेश्वरला जातो चार दिवस ! हवा थंड असते पण मायेची ऊब नसते. निव्वळ व्यवहाराची देव-घेव !

महाबळेश्वरला जाणारी गाडी महाडवरून जाते. गाडी वळताना आमच्या घराचा परिसर दिसतो. नकळत डोळे भरून येतात ! धूसर डोळ्यांनी त्या सिमेंटच्या जंगलात आम्ही आमचं घर शोधत असतो जे आता आमचं नसतं !



प्रिय लाडक्यास

विजया गोडे
श्रेयसी मुळे यांची आई

बसले होते बागेत एकटीच उदास आपल्याच तंद्री मध्ये
नव्हती कसलीच घाई, घरी परतण्याची वा रांधण्याची.
डोक्यावर पक्षी किलबिलत, परतत होते घरट्याकडे.
बागेतली चिमुरडी पडत होती, पळत होती भविष्याकडे.
माझ्यापुढे मात्र प्रश्नचिन्ह होतं --

जगायचं का, कशासाठी, कुणासाठी?

इतक्यात एक चिमुरडं आजी म्हणून बिलगलं.

आणि जगण्याचा जणू अर्थच सांगून गेलं .

ते चिमुकले हात, तो मऊ स्पर्श, ते जावळ हुंगून घेत होते मी.

तेवढ्यात त्याची आई त्याला शोधात आली. त्याला चल म्हणाली.

आपले चिमुकले हात हलवत तो निघून गेला,

उद्या भेटण्याचा जणू वायदाच करून गेला.

तो भेटत होता , मी सुखावत होते.

त्याची ओढ मला खेचत होती बागेकडे.

एक, दोन, आठ दिवस झाले तो बागेत आलाच नाही.

मग स्वतः लाच दोषीत राहिले, पत्ता कसा घेतला नाही.

भरल्या डोळ्यांनी मी वाट पाहत राहायची,
चिमुरड्यासाठी आणलेला खाऊ परत घेऊन जायची.
वाट पाहून पाहून थकले, चिमणं रूप आठवत बसले.
आठ वाजले, माळ्यानं शिट्टी वाजवली.
म्हणाला, आज, बाग बंद व्हायची वेळ झाली.
होय रे बाबा, जायलाच हवं घरी.
जरी वाट पाहणारं कोणी नव्हतं तरी.
मुलाचा फोन येणार आहे अमेरिकेहून.
तो विचारेल, कशी आहेस?
वेळेवर खात पीत जा.
सांगावंसं वाटतं, कसलं खाणं नि कसलं पिणं.
तूच परत ये रे राजा.
हे सुनं सुनं घरच मला खात आहे.
हे सुनं सुनं घरच मला खात आहे.

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Life Through Her Lens



Priya Pillai

1. Describe yourself in two words

Ans: Loyal and Honest

2. What's a life lesson you have learned the hard way

Ans: just do your duty properly n correctly.

3. What creative activity makes you lose track of time

Ans. I like to dance.

4. What's your comfort food—and the story behind it

Ans. Idli. Nothing special or story behind. Liked it as I have it since my childhood

5. If your life were a book, what would be its name

Ans: Don't judge this book by the cover.

6. Rotary project is closest to your heart, and why

Ans: Because whatever work they carry out they all do it with utmost sincerity and hard work concerning the welfare of common people. There are many works I like specially they organise a yearly event for mentally challenged children.

Sheela Joseph

1. Describe yourself in two words

Ans- Compassionate and Loving.

2. What's a life lesson you have learned the hard way

Ans -Friends & family support and help us very much but during some crisis we realise that only we can fix it.

3. What creative activity makes you lose track of time

Ans -Spending quality time with both my grandchildren.

4. What's your comfort food—and the story behind it

Ans - Being a Malayali, I've always relished Rice and fish curry because during my childhood, I have seen my grandfather bring fresh semi live fish from the market and my grandma cooking it in coconut oil with our entire house soaked in the aroma of fish curry. Occasionally sambar & pappadam is also soothing.

5. If your life were a book, what would be its name

Ans- 5. A Caring human being.

6. Rotary project is closest to your heart, and why

Ans -Triumph run. Seeing the glee / happiness on the faces of the special children gives a satisfying feeling which one can never forget.



Compiled by IP First Lady
Prachi Divekar



Neela Salaskar

1. Describe yourself in two words

Ans- Sincere and passionate

2. What's a life lesson you have learned the hard way

Ans- Adaptation is a key to progress in life and I have tried my best to do it.

3. What creative activity makes you lose track of time

Ans-My hobbies make me lose track of time

4. What's your comfort food—and the story behind it.

Ans- Some sweet and savoury dishes made at home is my comfort food because it reminds me of a person associated with it.

5. If your life were a book, what would be its name

Ans-The Real me

6. Rotary project is closest to your heart, and why

Ans-Triumph run for special children because it helps them to improve their social skills and self confidence.

Ruckmani Agarwal

1. Describe yourself in two words

Ans- Deeply emotional, overthinker.

2. What's a life lesson you have learned the hard way

Ans-Not everyone who shows care truly means it—some people wear kindness as a mask. I've learned that protecting my peace is just as important as protecting relationships.

3. What creative activity makes you lose track of time

Ans-Recently Mandala art—it feels like meditation for me. Also going for trek makes my soul completely forget the world exist.

4. What's your comfort food—and the story behind it

Ans-A simple home-cooked meal, especially paratha, home made white butter, pickle and tea made by my mom. It reminds me that comfort doesn't come from luxury, but from warmth, familiarity, and the feeling of being emotionally safe.

5. If your life were a book, what would be its name

Ans-Between Strength and Sensitivity

6. Rotary project closest to your heart, and why

Ans-Projects related to emotional well-being, women's health, and community healing are closest to my heart. I believe true service begins where people feel seen, heard, and cared for—not just physically, but emotionally too.



MAY 2026

Club Projects



Project 33 — Ann Daan

Friday, 17 April 2026 | Yogi Hills, Mulund

Yet another Amavasya (no-moon day) observed in the true spirit of service — a tradition dedicated to sharing with those in need.

Due to working day and very few volunteers were able to spare time, however the commitment to serve remained unwavering. Over 1200+ needy, poor, and blind citizens from across Maharashtra attended and were served.

Dr Geeta & Paresh invited one prospective member also today to venue for seva. Just last month they were first timers and thoroughly emersed themselves for doing service.

Month after month, the trio Pawan, Satish, and Prashant continues to be the strong glue binding nearly one-fourth of our club through this noble project — a shining example of dedication, consistency, and compassion.

Service sustained by spirit, strengthened by teamwork.

MAY 2026

Congratulations!

**HILLERS Congratulate all the successful students
and Wish Them All the Best for their Future !**



Neha Vasant Bhat

D/o Vasant Bhat & Shobha Bhat
Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhania School
98.8% - ICSE



Vivan Kundetkar

S/o Yamini & Nandan Kundetkar
Hiranandani foundation School
97.5 % - SSC



Kaveesh Agarwal

S/o Dr. Ruckmani & Ashutosh Agarwal
Smt. Sulochana Devi Singhania School
91% - ICSE



Adiv Karkhanis

Son of Anagha & Amit Karkhanis
Sulochana Devi Singhania School
83% - ICSE

Saanvi Shetty
Daughter of Shivani & Vijay Shetty
Singhania School
90% - ICSE

Soham Sakpal
Son of Suhas Sakpal
78% - SSC

Club Upcoming Events

SPEAKER SESSION ON

Preparing Will and Living Will

SESSION WILL BE DELIVERED BY



P.K. MALHOTRA
(MD & CEO)
IDBI TRUSTEE SERVICES



MS. ANJALEE ATHALYE
(SR. VICE PRESIDENT)
IDBI TRUSTEE SERVICES

&



MS. MANASI MACHAVE
(VICE PRESIDENT)
IDBI TRUSTEE SERVICES

DATE
Thursday
7th May 2026

TIME
7:00 PM

VENUE
Thirani School,
Thane.

Join us for an insightful session and engaging discussion.
ALL HILLER FAMILY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME

Block Your Dates

Charter Day
CELEBRATION

SATURDAY 23RD M A Y

Shukniya

SATURDAY
20TH JUNE

MAY 2026

Club Meetings

Club Meeting – 39

Thursday, 2nd April 2026 | Thirani School

Panel Discussion

An engaging meeting with members across three decades, reflecting on what makes a true Rotarian. Inspiring discussions on how Rotary helps busy professionals find purpose and passion through service. Such a wonderful start by Amity group and kudos to Facilitator PP Nilesh Likhite. Members standby for more updates on April events.

Strong participation with 45 attendance, along with 7 prospective members and more in the pipeline- thanks to Sarita Bahl, Dr. Sanjay Koyande, Prem, and guidance from PP Varsha + PP Dr. Suhas Kulkarni.

Appreciation for 1000 USD contribution by Dr Sanjay Koyande. PP Sucheta (Convenor – Charter Day) shared upcoming program details. The club also appreciated the March month engagement, thanks to the Joymakers.

With growing community needs around us, our work must continue - and grow - with more leaders and members stepping forward.

कल, आज और कल... Rotary forever relevant.



Weekly Meeting – 40

Thursday, 9th April 2026 | TMA Hall Wagle Estate

Fellowship: MasterChef

The concept for this unique fellowship event took shape through engaging conversations, with a clear focus



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on bringing freshness, ensuring a wholesome experience, and encouraging participation from all during the TiTEN year. The highlight of the evening was the innovative “men doing cooking” theme, which formed the core idea behind the MasterChef contest—adding fun, camaraderie, and a spirit of friendly competition. A special thanks to Facilitators PP Nilesh Likhite and PP Sucheta for curating and executing a fantastic fellowship experience.

Grand attendance of 75 members, making it a truly memorable event. Kudos to entire April month group Amity. Big Thank You. Heartfelt gratitude to Rtn. Anna Sunil Rege for sponsoring the gifts.

Club Meeting 41

18th April 2026 | TMA Hall, Wagle Estate

The evening was a vibrant celebration of the Festivals of India, beautifully brought alive through colorful ensembles and dance performances representing diverse regions of our country. While most of dance performances are easy to attempt. On a lighter note word of caution to members, please do not attempt Ranish-Pranjul dance moves or consult doctor. They are truly inspiring couple and energetic. We were also delighted to welcome two prospective members, reflecting the club's continuous efforts and outreach.

A special highlight was the insightful session by Chandru Sir, who explained the significance of celestial bodies and their impact on human life and agricultural cycles, adding a meaningful dimension to the festivities. We also had Paddy share his enriching experiences, offering valuable perspectives and strengthening our spirit of learning and fellowship. The flag exchange ceremony further symbolized Rotary's global connect and camaraderie.

Kudos to the Amity Group and facilitator PP Nilesh Likhite for yet another thoughtfully designed and engaging event. The enthusiasm continued, with many members still enjoying the afterglow of the fun-filled MasterChef competition from the previous meeting. The club deeply appreciated the benevolence, commitment, and active participation of Chandru Sir and Shyamala Ji, whose presence enriched the evening.

Dance practices at Anuja Kulkarni's home and Anuja Tipnis's home provided additional bonding opportunity. The program concluded with a delightful traditional dinner, adding warmth and togetherness to the celebration.

A special mention to Dr. Sanjay Koyande, our Discovery of the Month, as we continue to provide a platform to showcase the hidden talents within our club.

76 attended and celebrated together.



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Club Meeting 42 & Vocational Excellence Awards
Saturday, 25th April 2026 | Orchid Ballroom, Vihangs Inn, Thane

We, the Hillers, are truly honored to have had the privilege of recognizing achievers from diverse professions. We are deeply grateful to our esteemed awardees — Dr. Ajay Thakker, Dr. Boman, Swati Chitnis, Shubhangi Gokhale, Yasin Tadvi, and Shrikant Vad — for accepting our invitation and sparing their valuable time. Their collective experience of over 200 + years, shared through their inspiring journeys, enriched and motivated everyone present.

Their dedication to serving the community reflects the true spirit of our motto — Service Above Self.

As always, recognizing our own Hiller has been a cherished tradition. This year, we had the honor of acknowledging a most deserving member - CA Vijay Shetty, who has been supporting the Club and Foundation tirelessly for over one and a half decades.

A heartfelt thank you to all Hillers and Anns who shouldered responsibilities and ensured a flawless experience. We would especially like to recognize the efforts and dedication of PP Suhas, PP Vikram , PP Rajeev, Dr. Atul Gupte, Lata Gwalani, Dr. Seetha, Sonali Korde , Kalita, Sonu, Bhavana Jadhav, AS Shankaranarayanan, Dr. Sanjay Koyande, Dayal Dudeja, Aniket Kanade, Gautam Banik and Sunil Rege. .

A special note of gratitude to our strongest supporter, PP Sucheta, for always being there and contributing on every possible front. We also acknowledge the silent yet strong support of our Past President Jayaram , whose steady presence and guidance made a meaningful difference.

Director – Vocational Services, Sunil Gwalani, as always, led from the front and anchored the event seamlessly.

141 attendance is a testament of success of our program .



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Vocational Excellence Award

Meet our Awardees



Dr. Ajay Thakkar
CMD, Jupiter Hospitals



Dr. Boman Dhabhar
Leading Oncologist



Shrikant Vad
Badminton Coach



Shubhangi Gokhale
Indian Actress



Swati Chitnis
Indian Actress



Yasin Tadvi
Head - Thane Disaster Management Cell



PP Vijay Shetty
Practising Chartered

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Club Meeting 43 - Fellowship with Salsa Workshop Venue: Rotary Centre, TMC School 19, Vishnu Nagar, Thane

Club Meeting 43 was a vibrant celebration of fellowship, energy, and joy, centered around an exciting Salsa workshop. We were delighted to induct our new members — Ravi Iyer, Rohit Sharma, and Aanchal Joshi — each bringing unique strengths and fresh enthusiasm to our club.

An impressive 55 members participated in the Salsa workshop, truly living the spirit of “age is just a number.” Members let go of inhibitions and grooved to the lively rhythms, creating an atmosphere filled with laughter and camaraderie.

Special appreciation to Shardul Joshi, who ensured everyone got into the rhythm and enjoyed every beat of Salsa. A heartfelt thank you to Sonali Korde for her valuable support in organizing the session.

The evening concluded with a delightful Mexican cuisine dinner, generously sponsored by the Amity Group Facilitator Past President Nilesh Likhite.

As we reflect on an amazing month of April, the Amity Group curated a diverse and enriching series of events - from the colorful Festivals of India, insightful panel discussions, and prestigious Vocational Excellence Awards, to the fun-filled MasterChef contest, culminating in this energetic Salsa workshop.

Truly, a month filled with fellowship, learning, celebration, and unforgettable memories — showcasing how to live life with zest and enthusiasm.

