

ROTATOR

Bulletin of the ROTARY CLUB OF THANE

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Bulletin Editor

Visit to Niti Foundation, Yeoor

Myself and Vandana visited Niti Foundation at Yeoor. The purpose of the visit was mainly to handover the cheque of Rs.25,000/- which we have donated through our TRUST. Secondly, it was also to spend time with the elderly parents who reside there. NITI is a non-profit NGO dedicated to providing holistic care for elderly individuals, ensuring they receive dignity, love, and emotional support in a nurturing environment. It is managed by Ms. Archana Margi - who is from a Nursing background and taking care of elders is her passion. Currently there are 22 aged parents residing there the eldest being 98 years of age. They have various medical conditions, and some are completely bed ridden. As is the case with other site visits (Community Service), this visit too was a very humbling experience. Once again both me and Vandana felt proud and also blessed to be a part of ROTARY FAMILY and more specifically - of OUR CLUB as it gives us an opportunity to reach out to the needy.

Girish Vartak
Club President



अभिनंदन अभिनंदन !!

शासकीय शिष्यवृत्ती परीक्षेत ज्ञानपीठ विद्यालयाचे घवघवीत यश

ज्ञानपीठ एज्युकेशन सोसायटी संचलित ज्ञानपीठ विद्यालय व कनिष्ठ महाविद्यालय जीवन संग्राम मैदान मनोरमानगर ठाणे या विद्यालयाचा उच्च पूर्व प्राथमिक शिष्यवृत्ती परीक्षा (इयत्ता 5वी) व पूर्व माध्यमिक शिष्यवृत्ती परीक्षा इयत्ता 8वी या शिष्यवृत्ती परीक्षेत घवघवीत यश.

पूर्व उच्च प्राथमिक शिष्यवृत्ती परीक्षा इयत्ता 5वी पात्र विद्यार्थी

- कु.धनश्री दीपक व्हनकळस
- कु.नक्ष राकेश शिरुडे
- कु.आरती सुनिल पाटील
- कु.स्पृहा समीर लाड
- कु.सिद्धी संदीप तनपुरे
- कु.दीपक शंकर कांबळे
- कु.तनया अनिल सावंत
- कु.मयूर सूर्यकांत बेद्रे

इयत्ता 8वी पूर्व माध्यमिक शिष्यवृत्ती परीक्षेत पात्र विद्यार्थी

- कु साहिल संतोष गमरे
- कु.आर्या मंगेश कालगुडे
- कु.श्रद्धा व्यंकट शिंदे

Rotary Donors Visit Snehvan, Koyali

On 3rd March 2026, our club members including First Lady Ann Rhucha Vartak, Ann Kalyani Kale visited Snehvan in Koyali village near Pune to personally hand over a donation of Rs.25,000 to the home and spent time with the children. The visit reached approximately 70 beneficiaries, all children aged 10 to 16 years, whose farmer parents (primarily fathers) have died by suicide due to mounting debts and financial distress.

Snehvan, founded and managed by Mr. Ashok Deshmane, operates under the motto "From Darkness to Light" and provides a safe, nurturing environment for these vulnerable children. The home is well managed and features multiple labs, technical training facilities, and in-house kitchen and dormitories, ensuring that the children received quality education along with proper shelter, nutrition and holistic care.

Our Club "Community service project" has appeared in the ROTARY MIRROR MAY 2026 edition.

Previous Meeting Reports

7th April 2026

President Girish was on the dias. He requested Dr. Mangesh Ghadge to be on the stage.

Dr. Ajit introduced the speaker Dr. Ghadge. He is the professor of Forensic Medicine in Rajeev Gandhi Medical College. He is attached to many government medical committees and institutions. He is an authority on the Post Mortem Science and Methods. He is training many students in this speciality.

Dr. Ghadge said post mortem is a very touchy subject for an ordinary person. Whenever there is a discussion after the patient's death about the post mortem, relatives come forward to ask to avoid it, as they do not want their near one to be cut after the death. Of course they are unaware about the indication and importance of post mortem. He said post mortem is done when the cause of death is not known. It is also indicated in suspicious or

criminal deaths. Sudden death outside the home of the patient is also an indication. Patient brought dead in on admission can not be certified without post mortem.

The post mortem findings are very important in court of law and giving the cause. The cause is also important to apply for insurance and compensation.

He has done at least 25000 post mortems in various circumstances.

Question-answer session was very informative.

Kalyani Kale proposed vote of thanks.

Attendance : Rtn.22 | Anns 9 | Guests & Doctors 14 | Total 45



14th April 2026



This day was a Bank Holiday and Rotary Anns Get-together. The Rotary Anns had a good get-together and discussions on some lively topics.

20 Anns attended the get-together and discussions.

Ann Seema Ramakrishnan gave an informative talk on Affirmations in Our Daily Life, in this ladies members and Anns function.

Seema's Speech

Seema Ramakrishnan facilitated a discussion on "Affirmations in our daily life". Our life is decided by the choices we make. Every moment of our life we have to make a choice. When we wake up in the morning, we can make a choice to look forward to an awesome day or make a choice to crib about the weather, the job you have

to go to, the traffic that you will face etc.

In every situation, you can also let things happen on its own and be ready to face the consequences or make an attempt to align the Universe to do things in your favour.

Affirmations are a way to tell the Universe that an outcome that you want is already achieved. It has been proven that the Universe will believe it and make it happen for you.

This doesn't mean that you tell the Universe something and expect that things will happen in your favour. You need to say the right thing and say it repeatedly. Even better, if you write the affirmation multiple times during the day so that it becomes part of you. Do you believe this? Maybe yes. Then, go ahead and make affirmations for every area of your life. Maybe No. Then go ahead and make affirmations anyway. What's there to lose? You can create these affirmations for every area of your life, influence the Universe to give you outcomes that you deserve and design your own life.



Water : the key to health and dignity

Water is essential to life. It sustains communities, supports livelihoods and prevents diseases. Yet, millions around the world still lack access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), leading to severe health risks and social inequalities. Safe water and proper sanitation are not just necessities - they are fundamental human rights. Rotary is committed to addressing this global challenge. Through our WASH initiative, we have installed water purification plants in Indian Villages, water tanks in Nepal and solar powered water treatment systems in Amazon basin, South America.

Rotarians play a crucial role in making these efforts successful. Across the world, they are implementing WASH programmes.

You can also be part of this mission. By working with the Water Sanitation and Hygiene, Rotary Action Group (WASH IRAG). Rotarians can access expertise, resources and a global network dedicated to sustainable WASH solutions.

Together, we can ensure that clean water and sanitation become a reality for all.

Previous Meeting Reports

5th May 2026

President Girish and Secretary Kedar were on the dias. There were 13 chairs arranged in semi-circular style on the stage for 13 poets reading the poems on the Vachak Katta Vardhapan Din. PP Ulhas Vaidya informed the members about our ongoing Thalassemia Blood Testing Rural Project, in association with Wamanrao Oak Blood Bank.

Mr. Gangurde from the blood bank invited the members for the related functions in Shriram Hall between 10 to 1 on 8th May.

Our club celebrated the anniversary of our Vachak Katta by arranging a literary program of Kavya Vachan. First Lady Vandana introduced the 13 participants and the nature of the programme. She said poems are an important part of literary portion. All over the world poets are respected for their creativity.

Vandana's introduction and comments about the various poems interested the audience. Many poems were prepared by the poets.

Audience enjoyed the program very well. Neha sent her English poem on the internet. It was very meaningful poem.

Bulletin was released by Editor and President Girish. Suhas covered our borewell project at Gharkul, Khoni.

On 22nd May the borewell brought out the desired flow of the ground water making the project successful.

Borewell project was attended by President Girish, Dr. Milind, Suhas and Anita.

The poets who participated in the recital were Neha, Mandar, Achyut, Rajeev, Ashwini, Dr. Purohit, Naina, Aditi, Medha, Rekha, Amita. Aditi explained that a simple poem when analysed by a music director becomes a song which is remembered for generations. She sang 'Ka re durava' song. President Girish proposed the vote of thanks and thanked the members for good attendance. Meeting was followed by family dinner.

Total Attendance : 51



12 May 2026

President Girish and Secretary Kedar were on the dias. Girish invited the speaker Mrs. Arti Chavan on the dias. President Girish introduced as a successful gardening specialist and cultivator of vegetables, plants on the terrace of her society. She had received many prizes from Municipal Corporations and State Government. She has moved in other countries for her interest in the plants. She spoke on terrace farming and related subjects.



She said her Garden receives no chemical fertilisers hence the vegetables and fruits taste differently and are easy to cook. The soil required for the pots is minimal. Selection of seeds makes lot of difference. Liquid Soaps, Garlic Water and Onion Water are used as disinfectors.

The gardening is a stress buster. Large Cauliflower, long chillies are the sites to see.

Garlic wine creeper can prevent rats in the garden. Neem juice can also be used to prevent the fungus. She invited the members to visit her garden and solutions to the problems.

Kalyani proposed the vote of thanks.

Attendance : Rtn.11, Anns & others 8 | Total : 19



19th May 2026

MEET THE TEACHER

मला समजलेली समाजसेवा



Dhiraj Dongare Sir

Founder President :
Wings for Dream Foundation

Education and Student Adoption
in Rural Tribal Areas, for the
underprivileged students, for
more than 20 years

'शाळा महाविद्यालयातील गुणांवर माणसाचं भविष्य ठरत नाही' हे अनेक उदाहरणांनी सिद्ध झालंय. ज्ञानसाधना महाविद्यालयात शिकणाऱ्या धीरज डोंगरेची 'ज्ञान साधना' अशी हेटाळणी करणाऱ्या शिक्षकांना कल्पनाही नसेल की, हाच धीरज उद्या कित्येक मुलांचा आधारवड होणार आहे ते !आईच्या आग्रहावरून डीएड केल्यावर धीरजची पहिली नेमणूक शहापूर तालुक्यातील दुर्गम अशा बेलवली गावातील जिल्हा परिषदेच्या शाळेत झाली. तिथली अनावस्था पाहून आल्या पावली परत फिरणाऱ्या या २१ वर्षीय गुरुजींना गावकऱ्यांनी गळ घातली. त्यांच्या वेदनेने धीरजची संवेदना जागी झाली आणि तो तिथेच

राहिला... (शहापूर) तिथलाच झाला. अत्यंत खडतर परिस्थितीशी सामना करून त्याने मुलांचं प्रेम आणि गावकऱ्यांचा विश्वास मिळवला. एवढ्यावरच तो थांबला नाही तर शहापूरच्या डोंगर कपारीत वसलेल्या, दुर्गम भागातील शाळांमधील गरीब गरजू मुलांच्या पंखांना बळ देण्यासाठी त्याने २०१६ मध्ये 'विंग्स फॉर ड्रीम्स' ही संस्था सुरू केली. या संस्थेतर्फे- दरवर्षी जून महिन्यात शेकडो मुलांना शैक्षणिक साहित्याचे वाटप, जवळपास ५०० कुटुंबांना फराळ वाटप (त्यासाठी बचत गटांची योजना), दहावीच्या पुढे शिकणाऱ्या मुलांसाठी दत्तक पालक योजना(आज पर्यंत २५०+ विद्यार्थ्यांना संस्थेने दत्तक घेतले असून, यातील अनेक विद्यार्थी शिकून स्वावलंबी झाले आहेत), स्त्रियांना रोजगार मिळवून देण्यासाठी स्वयंसिद्धा प्रकल्प, सर्वांसाठी वाचनालय असे अनेक उपक्रम सुरू आहेत. डोंगरे गुरुजींनी आपली शाळाच नव्हे तर आसपासच्या दुर्गम भागातील कित्येक शाळा ही डिजिटल बनवल्या आहेत. डोंगरे गुरुजींचं हे डोंगराएवढं काम बघून आता ज्ञानसाधनातील शिक्षक त्यांचा उल्लेख 'आमचा अनमोल हिरा' असा करतात, यापेक्षा मोठी पावती कोणती?

उपस्थिती : एकूण २५



आभार प्रदर्शन - अश्विनी वैद्य

26 May 2026

President Girish and Secretary Kedar were on the dias. Girish invited the speaker Mr. Vivek Joshi. Naina introduced him. Mr. Vivek Joshi is an expert Sarod Player and singer. He had been praised by many prominent classical singers including Ravi Shankar. He has played Sarod on TV, Radio and many prominent get-togethers. His speciality is application of music to relieve the illness. He has played Sarod in front of many mental hospital audience like JJ, Sion Hospital and Thane Hospital.



There are certain Ragas which have calming effect on the restless mind. He had the great opportunity to learn and teach music in Singapore.

Mr. Joshi said riaz is the most important part in the music career. Basically Mr. Joshi is Ayurvedic Pharmacologist and Medicine Dealer. But the application of music for the mind and body effect is his researched expertise.

He has been awarded for vocational excellence award by the Rotary Institute.

Audio visual presentation was not possible due to laptop problem. His students are now being recognised by Government of Maharashtra.

He said Yaman Raag influences the disturbed mind the most.

Priti proposed a hearty vote of thanks. The program was followed by family night. Secretary Kedar read the future programmes.

Attendance : Rtn 34 | Anns 14 | Guests 5 | Total : 55

