

Rotary
District 3141



LAKERS LIGHTHOUSE

**LIGHTING THE WAY WITH
SERVICE AND STRENGTH**



Monthly Bulletin – Sept
Edition

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From the President's Desk

August has been a month of pride, compassion, and commitment for the Lakers. We celebrated our nation's freedom with dignity, extended our hands to those in need, and planted seeds for a greener tomorrow.

Each project was not just an activity, but a reflection of our values as Rotarians. What inspires me most is the way our members come together—not just to serve, but to share joy, fellowship, and purpose. As we look forward to September, let us carry forward this spirit of unity and action, lighting lives wherever we go.

— Eakta Menon



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Car Rally: Thrill on Wheels, Purpose in Motion

The August sun rose over Powai, glinting off polished bonnets and fluttering flags as the Lakers Car Rally roared to life. It wasn't just a gathering of cars—it was a congregation of purpose, pride, and fellowship.

Dozens of vehicles lined up, each uniquely decorated with banners that spoke of Rotary values and community spirit. Families piled in with excitement, children waving from windows, while drivers gripped their wheels with a mix of enthusiasm and pride. What made the rally special wasn't speed but spirit. The convoy moved as one, winding through Powai and surrounding areas, catching the attention of pedestrians and passersby. Every honk was a call of celebration, every flag a reminder of unity. At pit stops, members laughed, exchanged stories, and cheered each other on.

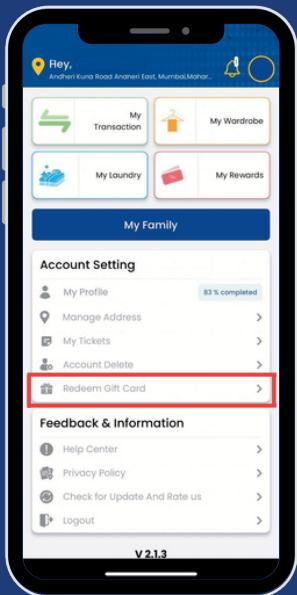
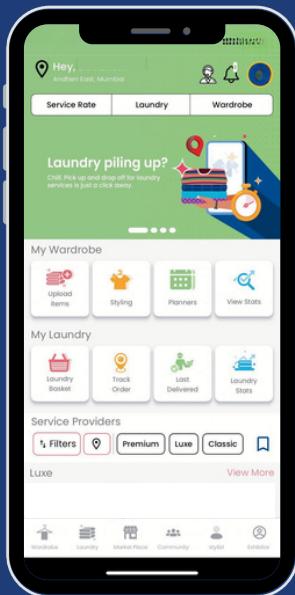
The rally was dotted with games, quizzes, and small competitions that kept the energy high. By the time the cars rolled into the final destination, the Lakers had not only enjoyed an exhilarating drive but had also amplified awareness of Rotary's ongoing service projects. Closing with refreshments and fellowship, the event left behind more than just tire tracks—it left a trail of togetherness.





OTERRI

Car Rally



Oterri! What a Ride

On 3rd August, Oterri and the Lakers community drove from Powai to Karjat in a rally that was as much about the journey as the destination. Pit stops turned into mini-events with fun games organised by Oterri, adding laughter and friendly competition along the way. From the drive to the games to the rewards, Oterri made sure the rally was unforgettable.

The winners celebrated with ₹1000 worth of Oterri service vouchers, while every participant took home a goody bag that included a 25% off voucher on services.

How to Avail Your Voucher

Open the Oterri app and log in. Tap on your profile in the top right corner. Under the Account Settings tab, select Redeem Gift Card. You can then scan your QR code or enter the code manually to apply your voucher.



OUR WINNERS



O'terri
life simplified

SCAN ME



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Independence Day: A Celebration of Pride & Patriotism

On the morning of August 15, the Lakers gathered dressed in hues of saffron, white and green. The tricolour was hoisted against a clear monsoon sky, fluttering in the wind as the national anthem resonated with emotion.

Independence Day was more than just ceremonial. It was deeply reflective. Members spoke about the meaning of freedom in today's world - the freedom to learn, to serve, to dream without barriers.

Cultural performances by children brought colour to the day—patriotic songs, short skits, and even a spontaneous poetry recital. Each performance was a tribute to the sacrifices that won us independence and a celebration of the responsibilities we carry forward.

The event ended with a pledge: to continue upholding the values of service, compassion, and unity.

As the celebrations concluded, the Lakers carried home not just the pride of their nation but the resolve to strengthen its communities.





Motivational Corner

-Sunil Gambhani

The happiest people don't have the best of everything; they make the best of everything.

The best way to take care of the future is to take care of the present moment.

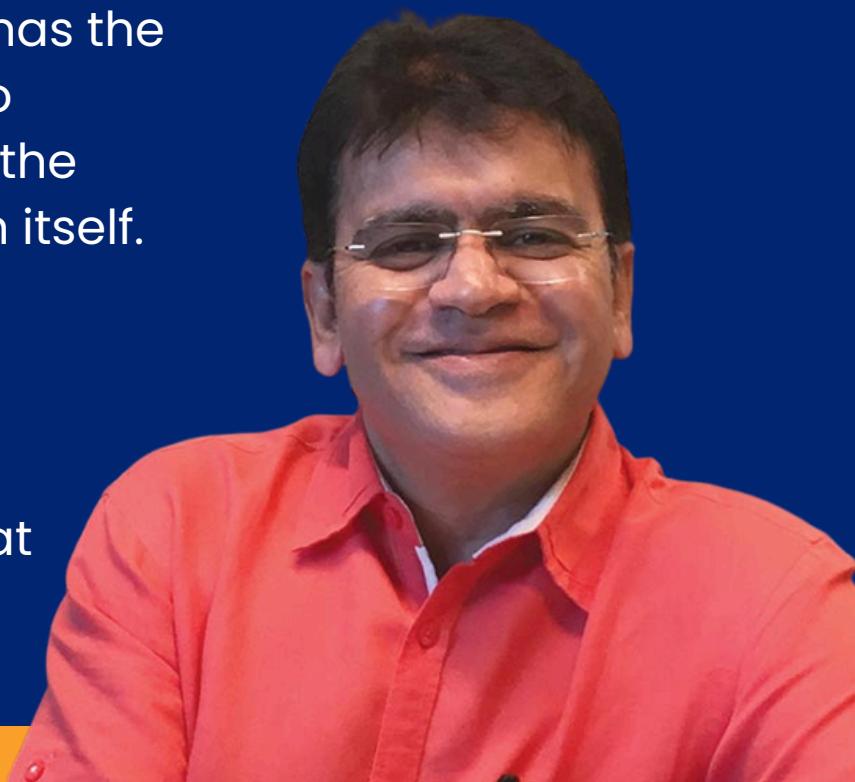
Never regret anything in life. If it's good, it's wonderful. If it's bad, it's experience.

We have great magical power within us, it's called imagination.

Our reaction to a situation literally has the power to change the situation itself.

Life's rollercoaster ride never becomes easier...

We master the ride by the experiences that life throws at us.



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Meals on Wheels: Serving Smiles, One Plate at a Time

Behind every meal served is a story. In August, the Lakers' Meals on Wheels project once again became a lifeline for many in Powai and nearby areas.

Every afternoon, come rain or shine, volunteers oversaw the distribution of over 100 meals across Powai Gurudwara, Sangarsh Nagar, and Parksite. For recipients, it wasn't just about food—it was about dignity, care, and the reassurance that they were not forgotten.

One elderly gentleman, teary-eyed, told a volunteer:
“It’s not the food, beta, it’s the love you serve it with.”

Moments like this underline why Meals on Wheels is more than a project—it's a movement.



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Hearing Aid Donation: The Gift of Sound

For many, silence had become a way of life. Until the Lakers stepped in. This August, the club donated hearing aids to individuals who had struggled in silence.

What followed were heartwarming reunions—with sound, with communication, and with confidence.

Parents watched in tears as their children reacted to sound for the first time. An elderly woman, upon hearing her granddaughter's laugh, whispered:

"This is God's blessing."

The initiative highlighted Rotary's power to restore not just senses, but hope. Each donated hearing aid wasn't merely a device—it was an invitation back into the world of connection and belonging.



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Tree Plantation Drive: Rooting for the Future

With sleeves rolled up and shovels in hand, the Lakers turned a rainy August morning into an act of environmental stewardship. Saplings of neem, peepal, and gulmohar were planted across community spaces, with members explaining to children the importance of each tree. Laughter mixed with muddy hands, and the drive became both educational and joyful.

“Every tree is a living promise to the future,” a member reflected, as the rains soaked newly planted roots.

The plantation drive was more than a one-day event—it was a statement. A statement that **Lakers** are committed to a cleaner, greener tomorrow.

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Veganism: A Way of Life- Sapna Kele

This month's feature explored veganism—not as a fad, but as a conscious lifestyle. Through essays, recipes, and reflections, members explored how veganism contributes to better health, compassion for animals, and environmental sustainability. A plant-based diet, many pointed out, is not about restrictions but about choices that align with values of empathy and responsibility.

The piece sparked discussions at meetings, with some curious to try vegan meals and others reflecting on mindful consumption.

Veganism, in this context, became more than diet—it became a conversation starter.

A Paw-sitive Step in Powai: Mumbai Lakers – Pet Shelter Initiative

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers has always believed that service extends beyond human lives – it embraces all living beings. In yet another heartwarming step, our club recently set up pet shelters across Powai, offering safe havens for our four-legged friends who often go unnoticed in the hustle of city life.

Why Pet Shelters?

Powai, like most parts of Mumbai, has a growing community of stray dogs and cats. While local residents and animal lovers do their best to provide food and care, the lack of structured shelters has left many animals vulnerable to harsh weather, injuries, and neglect. Recognizing this gap, Lakers decided to take action by building sturdy, weather-proof shelters that provide safety and comfort.

The Lakers Touch

These shelters are not just functional, but thoughtfully designed:

Weather-Resistant Build – ensuring pets stay protected during Mumbai's heavy monsoons and scorching summers.

Strategic Placement – installed at locations where stray animals are most often seen, ensuring they are accessible.

Community Care Model – residents are encouraged to add bowls of food and water, making it a collective effort in kindness.

Beyond Shelters: Building Compassion

This initiative is more than just about structures; it is about building a culture of compassion. The Lakers' Pet Shelter Project has sparked conversations in housing societies, schools, and local groups about responsible co-existence with animals. Children, in particular, have shown great enthusiasm in decorating the shelters and naming the furry residents who frequent them.

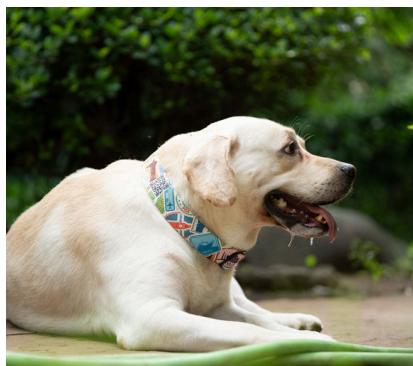
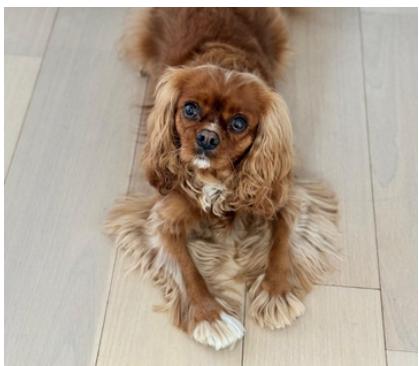


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Know the Laker Pets: Our Furry Family

They wag their tails at meetings, feature in Zoom backgrounds, and bring boundless joy at home. The Know the Laker Pets section introduced members to the adorable four-legged companions who are very much part of our Rotary family.

From golden retrievers with soulful eyes to mischievous cats who think they own the house, each pet was celebrated through stories and photographs. The section was lighthearted, but meaningful—it reminded us that companionship, love, and loyalty are values not just for people but for all living beings.



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Plastic-Free Powai: Towards a Cleaner Tomorrow

Plastic pollution is one of the biggest threats to our environment, and the Lakers have taken a firm step toward addressing it. August saw the launch of Plastic-Free Powai, an initiative aimed at reducing single-use plastics in our community. The campaign began with awareness drives at local markets, where volunteers distributed cloth bags and educated residents on the long-term dangers of plastic waste. Flyers, posters, and interactive sessions with schoolchildren made the message clear: small changes in daily habits can make a big difference. One memorable moment was watching shopkeepers proudly display "**Plastic-Free Zone**" stickers outside their stores. Some even pledged to switch entirely to biodegradable packaging within the next few months.

As part of the initiative, Lakers are also planning workshops on waste segregation and sustainable alternatives, ensuring that Powai leads by example in building a cleaner, healthier urban environment.

Plastic-Free Powai is not just a campaign—it's a promise to the next generation.

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Upcoming Events in September

As we turn the page to September, the Lakers calendar is brimming with activities that promise service, fellowship, and growth. Here's what's lined up:

- **Health Awareness Camp** – Free health check-ups and wellness sessions for underprivileged communities.
- **Ganesh Chaturthi Eco-Initiative** – Promoting eco-friendly idols and responsible immersion practices.
- **Blood Donation Drive** – Partnering with local hospitals to address critical shortages.
- **Rotary Fellowship Evening** – A night of bonding, performances, and laughter as we strengthen our community ties.
- **Youth Interaction Sessions** – Engaging with college students to inspire them towards leadership and service.

Each event is not just an item on the calendar—it's an opportunity to make a difference, strengthen bonds, and carry forward the Lakers spirit into the festive season.

Closing Note

From rallies to plantations, from feeding the hungry to gifting sound, from celebrating freedom to pledging a plastic-free future—August was a month of action and compassion for the Lakers. As we step into September, we do so with greater resolve, ready to create impact, foster fellowship, and keep lighting lives.



PEACEBUILDING AND
CONFLICT PREVENTION



DISEASE PREVENTION
AND TREATMENT



WATER, SANITATION,
AND HYGIENE



MATERNAL AND
CHILD HEALTH



SEVEN AREAS OF FOCUS

“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”



BASIC EDUCATION AND
LITERACY



COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT