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2022 - 23

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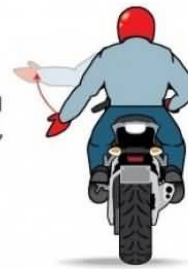
**Left turn**  
Arm and hand  
extending  
left, palm  
facing down



**Right turn**  
Arm out, bent  
at 90° angle,  
fist clenched.



**Stop**  
Arm extended  
straight down,  
palm facing  
back.



**Speed Up**  
Arm extended  
straight out,  
palm facing up,  
swing upward.



**Slow Down**  
Arm extended  
straight out, palm  
facing down,  
swing down to  
your side.



**Follow Me**  
Arm extended  
straight up  
from shoulder,  
palm forward.



**You Lead/Come**  
Arm extended  
upward 45°, palm  
forward pointing  
with index finger,  
swing in arc from  
back to front.



**Hazard in  
Roadway**  
On the left,  
point with left  
hand; on the  
right, point  
with right foot.



**Single File**  
Arm and index  
finger extended  
straight up.



**Double File**  
Arm with index  
and middle  
finger extended  
straight up.



**Comfort Stop**  
Forearm  
extended, fist  
clenched with  
short up and  
down motion.



**Refreshment  
Stop**  
Fingers  
closed, thumb  
to mouth.



**Turn Signal On**  
Open and close  
hand with  
fingers and  
thumb extended.



**Pull Off**  
Arm positioned  
as for right turn,  
forearm swung  
toward shoulder.



**Cops Ahead**  
Tap on top of  
helmet with  
open palm down.



**Fuel**  
Arm out to  
side pointing  
to tank with  
finger  
extended.



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## Arun Belur

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President, IFMR

Dear friends,

It is with a mixture of gratitude, pride, and a touch of sadness that I write this parting message as the President of the IFMR. Serving as your president has been an incredible honor and privilege, and I am filled with deep appreciation for the trust you placed in me to lead this extraordinary community.

Over the past year, we have accomplished so much together. We have embraced our shared passion for motorcycling and harnessed it to make a positive impact in the world. Through our projects, we have touched countless lives, bringing hope, joy, and support to those in need. From pediatric heart care initiatives we have truly exemplified the spirit of Rotary. Our fellowship has grown stronger and more vibrant, with members from diverse backgrounds and cultures coming together as a united force for good. We have fostered meaningful connections and friendships that transcend borders, and I have been deeply inspired by the generosity, dedication, and selflessness that each one of you has shown.

As I pass the torch to the next President, I urge you to continue nurturing the values that make our fellowship special. Let us always uphold the principles of Rotary, fostering fellowship, promoting peace, and striving for the betterment of our communities. Embrace the power of motorcycling as a tool for goodwill and bridge-building, and use it to create lasting change in the lives of those we serve. Remember, the road ahead may have its twists and turns, but we are a resilient and adaptable group. Let us remain open to new ideas, embrace innovation, and adapt to the changing needs of our world. Together, we can continue to make a difference, one ride at a time. Thank you, each and every one of you, for your unwavering commitment, your passion, and your friendship. It has been an unforgettable journey, and I am forever grateful for the opportunity to have served as your President. I have full confidence in our future, and I look forward to witnessing the continued growth and impact of our fellowship.

My special thanks to IFMR secretary Prashanth Mishra, Prashanth babu, Vinod Agarwal, Naveen and the entire core committee for exemplary contributions they made through the Year.

Safe travels, my friends. Keep the wheels turning, the engines roaring, and the spirit of Rotary alive in your hearts.  
Yours in service,

Arun Belur



## Prashant Mishra

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Secretary, IFMR India

Dear IFMRians,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to each and every member of the IFMR India. As 2022-23 is coming to an end, we celebrate another successful year of camaraderie, adventure, and service, I am reminded of the remarkable journey we have undertaken together. The annual magazine, Rearview, serves as a testament to our shared passion for motorcycling and the values that drive us as Rotarians. It encapsulates the incredible moments we have experienced on the road, the friendships we have forged, and the positive impact we have made in our communities.

Within the pages of Rearview, you will find captivating stories of our thrilling rides, inspiring accounts of our philanthropic endeavours, and heartfelt reflections on the bond that unites us as Rotarian riders. It is a tribute to our collective spirit, dedication, and commitment to making a difference. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the entire core team of IFMR India and our magazine editor Rtn Vinod Agarwal and President Rtn Arun Belur for their tireless efforts in bringing this magazine to life. Their unwavering dedication, creativity, and attention to detail have resulted in a publication that truly captures the essence of our motorcycling fellowship.

I also want to acknowledge the unwavering support and encouragement we have received from our Rotary community. It is your belief in our mission and your commitment to service that continues to inspire us and drive us forward. As we turn the pages of Rearview, let us reflect on the incredible memories we have created together, the challenges we have overcome, and the friendships that have blossomed. May this magazine serve as a reminder of the impact we have made as Rotarian motorcyclists and the difference we can continue to make in the world.

On behalf of the entire core team, I extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every member of IFMR India. Your passion, enthusiasm, and dedication are what make this fellowship so special. Together, let us ride on, united in our love for motorcycling and our unwavering commitment to service above self.

Wishing you all safe travels and exciting adventures in the coming year.

Prashant Mishra





## Vinod Agarwal

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Editor, IFMR India

Dear Friends,

It has been a pleasure in editing REARVIEW for the last one year. It was wonderful to edit it because the year was full of activities and action. Hope you all like the last and final edition of 2022/23 covering each and every ride/event and activities. My sincere thanks to President Arun Belur for believing in me and entrusting the work with complete faith and 100% creative liberty.

Looking forward for your feedback and suggestions for the future improvement. Thank you all once again. Enjoy going through the REARVIEW.

Regards

Vinod Agarwal



Team IFMR









## Kanva Reservoir

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4 July 2022

Bangalore to Kanva - 69 kms.

We had 16 member riders and 2 guest rider registered for this ride. All had gathered at scheduled time of 6.45 am near Nice Road Junction. On the way we stopped for breakfast, took a detour from Ramnagar and traveled 16 kms inside thru villages and small towns, the roads leading to Kanva was very scenic and beautiful, weather was awesome, in fact it was little overcast. From distance we spotted the reservoir, it is a 15 km long.

The dam was built in the year 1946, a marble stone at the gate gave the history of this beautiful reservoir, in fact it was built under the supervision of Sir MV, most respected Kannadiga/Indian scientist. The place looked very calm and quiet, we could walk upto to the centre of one side and spent some time clicking pictures and video. A perfect place for fishing and bird watching. All spent some quality time discussing future rides and safety aspect.

Soon we realised that it may rain, all started for the return journey to Bangalore. After a final goodbye break near Nice Road Junction all left for their homes. Most of us were back by 11.30 am to their homes.

Great beginning to a new a riding year.









## Blind Blinders Pillion Motorcycle Rally

31 July 2022

Bangalore - 22 kms.

This event was organised by Awake Vishwa Seva Foundation in association with 8 Rotary Clubs of District 3190, with lead club being the Rotary Club of Tavarekare and Lalbagh headed by Rtn. Ravi, Rtn. Gautam and Rtn. Rajnish.

It was an open invitation rally for all but restricted to 50 eligible riders only as they had 50 visually challenged pillions. It was a unique rally, where in the route was not announced before hand to rider, the pillion rider is a visually challenged navigator and he will read the route instructions written in Braille and then guide the rider. In fact it was a record of sort that a rally of this type was organised involving motorcycle, in past few such rally were with Cars. From IFMR 6 riding members were in attendance to participate at Hotel Chancery by 8.30 am, event was flagged off by DG Rtn Jitendra Aneja around 10 am. Our members who participated were Prez Arun Belur, Sashidhar, Sharat, Rajshekhar Patil, Vinod Agarwal and Zarryl Lobo. Few IFMR members like Adarsh and BK Krishnamurthy were also present at the venue. Every one took time for many group and solo pictures. All were assigned a visually challenged navigator with helmet and Braille instructions.

One by one all the riders were flagged off with their sequence/ bike assigned number and flag off timing by the organisers.







**AWAKE**  
Empowering the Individual



**THE CHANCERY  
PAVILION**



**Rotary**  
Bengaluru Tavarekere

**ROTARY BENGALURU TAVAREKERE  
INVITES AND WELCOME  
PARTNERING CLUBS TO ONE OF THE UNIQUE PUBLIC IMAGE PROJECT  
COME BE OUR  
ALLY AT THE  
BLIND BLINDERS PILLION MOTORCYCLE  
RALLY**



**CAUSE: TO RAISE FUNDS FOR VISUALLY CHALLENGED FOR FREE EDUCATION,  
ACCOMMODATION, FOOD AND SKILL ENHANCEMENT**

**EVENT GLIMPSE:**

- Enrich the communication between sighted and visually impaired.
- Sighted will be riding the vehicle and the blind will be sitting in the pillion seat and navigate to reach checkpoints with the help of a braille map
- Celebrities to join the event
- The route map of 22KM across Bangalore

**BENEFITS:-  
-MEDIA COVERAGE  
-CLUBS LOGO WOULD BE DISPLAYED ON THE BANNERS, SOCIAL MEDIA,  
ONLINE MEDIA PUBLICATION,  
PARTNERING CERTIFICATE AND ON MEMENTOS.**

**DATE: 31-07-2022 ON SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM  
VENUE SPONSORS: CHANCERY PAVILION  
PARTNER BY PROVIDING RS,5000 FOR CAUSE**



All of us were on the busy roads of Bangalore, trying to understand the instructions from navigator and reaching the 7stop point to collect a color coded coupons for having completed the ride fully. All were racing against time but all were following traffic rules and were more concerned on the safety of our pillion rider who is a visually challenged person. After 50 minutes of ride, slowly one by one riders started arriving at the finishing line, which was again Hotel Chancery on Lavelle Road.

Organisers were noting the arrival time and number of colored coupons collected and submitted to them. After a gap of 30 minutes all the riders were back, only 10 riders had managed to collect all the 7 coupons and were eligible for prizes subject to best timing calculations.

Awake Foundation had arranged a mega function in the Lavelle Hall of the hotel for prize distribution and to make a presentation about their overall activities. The Chairman of Trust Shri Gururaj, himself visually challenged, and DG Elect 3191 Rtn Uday Bhaskar presided over presentation ceremony and all were in awe of the work done by this foundation, big bow to them for working tirelessly for visually challenged people in our society. Many other people associated with foundation were present, including budding Film Actor Yuvaan Dev. Finally the winners of the rally were announced, IFMR bagged two position from top 3 awards, Prez Arun missed first prize just by 20 seconds and was 2nd and Vinod Agarwal was given 3rd prize, first position was won by Rtn. Suresh of Lalbagh Club. Again many group pictures were taken and after big round of vote of thanks and gratitude to people involved in today's function, all were asked to join for great lunch hosted by Chancery Hotel.

A very happy and satisfying day for all the people involved in this rally.

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## Chota Ladakh

9 August 2022

Bangalore to Chota Ladakh - 50 kms.

The assembly point for today's ride was ITI Gate after the hanging bridge of Krishnarajpuram at 6.15 am. All interested riders were present at sharp 6.15 am, we were 15 member riders and 2 prospective riders, despite last minute few cancellation we were in great strength for today's ride.

Prez Arun Belur welcomed everyone, without wasting time, requested Rajshekhar Patil and Lakshmi ji to recite the prayer for the safety of all the riders and success of today's ride, rider sequence was announced, Prashant Mishra was the lead and Raju was the sweep. Sharp at 6.30 am the ride started towards Chota Ladakh, around 50 kms from the start point.

Weather was awesome, it was overcast and cloudy but no signs of rains. After a non stop of ride we were at Chota Ladakh, last two kms was a little rough and was off roading experience for all. We were at the spot close to 7.30 am, all spent 15 minutes to take photos of this amazing Rocky/stone quarry with big water body in the centre, saw many other bike rider there and crossed them while reaching there. Soon at 7.45 am all started our ride back towards Bangalore to YELE MALLAPPA SHETTY Lake near K R Puram, close to 50km ride back. Past president Prashanth Babu, member of Rotary Lakeworld club had organised a joint meeting with their club members and breakfast for all.



On reaching the lake, all were greeted by their President Rtn Varsha ji and fellow members of Lakeworld. We were taken around the beautiful facilities of this hidden Kayaking and Canoeing managed by the club and the parent body of Kayaking and Canoeing facilities. We had three more IMFRians members joining us here for the joint meet. After a hot hot sumptuous breakfast, all joined for the joint meeting.

President Arun greeted the members of Lakeworld and explained about our Fellowship group, presented a cap and flag of IFMR to Lakeworld President Rtn Varsha, subsequently she spoke and thanked IFMR team for visiting them and briefed all about the association with Kayaking club and sought help from IFMR'ian. Many group pictures were taken and then few bid goodbye and left and rest wanted to use the facilities of Kayaking and Canoeing, they had come prepared for same.

Members like Raju, Asad, Prashant Mishra and Rajshekhar Patil went for Kayaking and enjoyed the experience. After spending more than an hour of Kayaking all left.

A very satisfying ride and a great day spent.







## Hampi

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26 August 2022

Bangalore to Hampi - 650kms

The year 2022 as far as I can remember has been the year with the longest monsoons, starting from the month of May and continuing till August end the month in which this report is being written. Hence the 26th of Aug 2022, a Friday morning was a rainy one. It did dampen the spirits of a few of us but eventually we all rose up to the magic of spirit de corps and the ride begun.

Delayed by an hour but that wasn't an issue because it was an easy short ride of 330kms. One of us had a issue with the his bike starting and had to eventually join in his car as a support vehicle this time. It took some of us close to 2 hours to reach the staring point near KLE Collage, With the unprecedented development Bangalore has undergone in the past 2 decades, it has become a bit of a labyrinth and one kind of signs a relief when he gets out of it and hits the highway. The roads till Chittaradurga was straight and simple but with quite a bit of the usual truck traffic, sometimes hogging all three lanes and other vehicles having to break their momentum to overtake. But once we took right towards Hosapete on the NH50 things were much calmer, very little traffic and straight plain roads. Only thing to watch out for was a random cow or a buffalo jumping out of the divider and running across the road. We found a lot of wind turbine farms all along this region, and a lot of those propellor parts being transported via trailer trucks.

Soon we were on the bridge overlooking the Tungabhadra Dam







and after a small misadventure with google maps which wanted us to cross a swamp with crocs and scale a 12 feet wire mesh, we finally found an alternate route and decided to have our lunch at a hotel named NH50. After a scrumptious lunch. We headed to the Hotel in Hosapete called Hotel Malligi. This is a huge hotel complex, moderately maintained. There was some expansion work in progress with scaffolding all around. This setup must have been the largest employer in that region. We by being the patrons of this hotel had added fuel to the engine of economy in that region which felt just right. We decided to visit the Tungabhadra Dam for the evening and we all huddled inside the small car of Rtn.Vinay and Rtn.Deepak and Rtn.Prashant rode down in a Vstrom650.

We entered the Dam complex and took a bus till the bridge of the dam gates it was already getting dark and we managed to take a few photographs, with Rtn.Naveen being creative with his poses and a few others joining in. we saw some good colorful lighting for the water flowing through the gates as it got darker, we decided to walk back and we went through the fountain garden which was almost nonfunctional and in a very bad shape some lights were broken some pipes were broken some jets were spewing water like a flooded commode.

We wondered how much more tourists it would have attracted if it was maintained in pristine condition, what a lost opportunity. We eventually made our way to the musical dancing fountain, called “nruthya karanji” in kannada and were glad that there was a saving grace to the other wise damn good dam, it could have easily done with some good quality loud speakers though. After this we went back to the hotel and we had a good gathering for the evening over drinks and foods, with Rtn.Vijay taking full control of the F&B supply we were at ease and thankful.

The next day morning we got into an air conditioned TempoTraveller to explore hampi as finalized last night at the gathering and we stopped at a crossroad where there were a lot of uniformed guides waiting and one of them got into the cabin and started selling himself but as he could not speak hindi and also seemed a bit dull we had to let him go then came another one who spoke hindi and after a bit of negotiation we decided to hire him. Soon there was a squabble between him and the driver about places to be shown to us. The raised voice arguments were marring our hampi experience before it even begun. But thanks to the air-conditioning they both cooled down and there was a agreement between them. So much for fueling the local tourism economy.

The first place we visited was the Virupaksha temple. A Beautiful ancient structure with some modern day elements like Electical wires, switchboards, pvc pipes, distemper paints, fabricated grills plonked on it and there by spoiling the beauty of our ancestor's works of art. Even the main diety was highlighted with a florocent tubelight in the garbha gudi. Whereas I preferred taking darshan of the deities being visible through the natural light from the deepams, like they are still followed in some temples of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. I wondered what went wrong with these locals. Was it the climate or the ground water or maybe bad local leadership?

The guide was showing us different carvings which had the puzzles in them with multiple heads, bodies of the carvings, Next we went on to visiting other beautiful structures and we went beserk with our cell phone cameras taking selfies and pics et al. soon it was time for lunch and with stomachs grumbling we headed towards a restaurant, but were specific about making it a fellow "sip" hence with no other option we made it a car-o-bar session inside the tempo traveller just outside a wine shop and then headed to a local restaurant for heavy meals.

Then we headed to the Vijaya Vittala Temple with the stone chariot. This was the real symbol of ancient civilization as it had a kilometer long market stall for the sole purpose of trade. it even had a horse trading center. The next thing that struck me was that there were carvings of Chinese, dutch, Mongolian traders buying horses from this region. That made us think how less of explorers and adventurers we were in comparison to our international ancestors. It was a hot day but we somehow finished it with 10,000 steps and counting, again thanks to the spirit de corps. We felt that to do proper justice to Hampi one needs at least a week to see all of it. In the evening we had another gathering with some small chit chat and we retired early to start the ride early to Bangalore. It was raining moderately and since we were riding to the comforts of our homes with hot shower, dry towels, washing machines, tumble dryers and piping hot meals, we decided to bear it all. Since we were riding in the first half on Sunday. We avoided the upcoming stampede like traffic of Sunday evenings on the highways.

Ride Summary by Rtn. Vinay Venkatramana

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## Joint Ride

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26 August 2022

Bangalore to Koli Hills - 585 kms.

Two members from IFMR India Chapter Rtn. Ajit Setu Ram & Rtn. GK Arun Kumar started the ride from Girias, Bommanahalli at 6.45 AM & reached Murugan Idli, Krishnagiri for breakfast at 8.45 AM. Due to heavy crowd in the hotel waited for 15 min. for the turn, had a yummy breakfast and could able to finished the breakfast only by 9.40 AM. Started the ride at 9.50 AM from Murugan Idli, Krishnagiri and took fuel + coffee stop after riding 90KM near Salem for 20 min.

The ride continued from our 2nd stop towards Namakal, to meet the IFMR Sub Chapters Members from Cochin & Trissur, at a given location via Kolli Hills. Took 20 min. break for Greetings + Coffee stop with Sub Chapter Members. The most excited moment ride in Ghats with 70 Pin Curves to Kolli Hills with 18 members of IFMRians including Sub Chapter members. Had a beautiful ride & enjoy the nature. Reached SLR Resort, Kolli Hills at 1.45 PM. Had lunch at 2.30 PM with IFMR members and took a nap for few hours.

Official Meeting: Started at 7.30 PM, Rtn. Ajit Setu Ram provided orientation to members of Sub Chapters, briefing about IFMR, protocols, Importance of safety gears, measures during ride, planned rides, etc... etc... Each presented member provided their self introduction, about them joining Rotary, IFMR experience, etc... etc... Had a good fellowship & followed by dinner with Members.



On 28-Sep-22 (Sunday) we all had breakfast together at 7.45 AM and started from the resort at 9.30 AM. We rode together upto Namakal, from their Sub Chapter members took the deviation to Cochin/Trissur & IFMR India members continued the ride towards Bangalore. Had stopped to drink Thunder Coconut at Salem and rode 95 KM towards Saravana Bavan Hotel at Krishnagiri for lunch stop. Resumed the ride at 3.15 PM & reached Bangalore by 4.45 PM.

Ride Summary by G K Arun.

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## Devarayana Durga Hills

4 September 2022

Bangalore to Devarayana Durga Hills  
- 150 kms.

It was a cool and breezy morning after last night's downpour in Bangalore but that didn't deterred 15 IFMR'IAN and 5 prospective members to reach the starting point of KLE Dental college gate near Yeshwantpur by 6.30 am, Prez Arun Belur welcomed everyone and briefed all about today's ride and explained about the upcoming ride to Attari Border from Bangalore and the cause for it, to raise funds for paediatric heart surgery for children, appealed all Rotarian to take it up in their club and try to get sponsorship commitment for same. Target is to get 500 surgery funds. He also emphasized on mandatory wearing of riding gears with zero tolerance. Riding sequence was announced with Rtn. Ajit as lead and Rtn. Prashant Mishra as sweep. Soon the the convoy of 20 bikers were on the highway, a sight to behold.

After cruising for nearly 40 kms our breakfast point, Namaste Bangalore a popular restaurant, reached, all took some time to unwind and bio break and had super duper tasty breakfast of Idly, Vada, Dosa and Kesari Baath with mandatory filter coffee. Took some pictures while having breakfast and after that also infront of bikes and restaurant. Started our final leg of another 35 kms to DD Hills, road to DD Hills was great, before 10 kms to hills, the greenery all around was mesmerizing, a beautiful lake, straight from some hill station was spotted and soon we were climbing to the hills on a curvy road. The stretch was beautiful.



On reaching the hills, saw good number of bikers already present, one guy called Ojus was excited to see our group and enquired how he can be part of us. He was explained by our seniors and he agreed instantly to join Rotary to be part of IFMR. After a quick tea and photo opp, few decided to go for trek to the temple and mountain and few decided to part ways and leave for Bangalore to attend urgent work. Members who stayed back had great time visiting the place and slowly by 1 pm all returned to their homes, a highly satisfying short ride.

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## Unity Ride

11 - 22 September 2022 to

Bangalore to Attari

On a bike no one asks 'are we there yet'... our annual ride for a cause this year is to inspire people/corporates to generously donate for paediatric heart surgery... we IFMRians say we are getting there. When Unity Ride was conceptualized, we were clear we wanted to unite hearts, by taking the message of peace across our Rotary Districts and miles we cover to inspire contributions for enabling paediatric heart surgeries. 12 IFMRians set aside 12 days of their professional life to ride for this worthy cause. The ride officially began with blessings of Lord Ganesh and flag off by our DG Rtn. Jeetendra Aneja. It was a divine Saturday morning with fellow IFMRians and district officials flagging us off.

IFMR President Rtn. Arun Belur thanked DG Rtn. Jeetendra Aneja, PDG Rtn. Rajendra Rai, Dist Sec BK Krishnamurthy, International President IFMR Rtn. Sunil Telkar and all friends of IFMR for their enthusiasm and best wishes. With immense gratitude and thanks to Mr. Rohit Punja NITTE Education Trust (Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology Bangalore) our ride sponsor we headed back home to prepare for the next day. In anticipation of the adventure ahead most veterans of long rides reported at 5.45am opposite to Esteem mall. A morning with chill in the air was warmed with hot coffee by IFMRian Rtn. Shoba, IFMRian Rtn. Vijay Mane was his charming self with a hint of envy to cheer us and IFMRian Rtn. Manjunath evoked Lord Ganesh's blessing we



set off. The first stop was 150kms and 2 hrs later was breakfast, we all settled down into a nice rhythm on the road. The 2 groups led by Arun and Rajesh with Ajith and Prashant as sweep herded us all riders at safe speed. Some of us riders experienced the bindas use of roads that would send shivers to any non Indians - our fellow Indians taught us to be every more alert and careful. Biryani, egg masala, rotis fuelled our energy to cover the last 150kms to Hyderabad. We were greeted by a deluge of fellow travellers all accompanied us all the way to our hotel at Jubilee hills. Dist Sec Rtn. Ramprasad's cheer greeted us and the famous Hyberbadi hospitality in play we all checked in. Our ODO meter boasted almost 600kms for day and our thrilled self eagerly looking forward to a good night's rest and evening of fun and tales of the day !

Well rested we assembled for breakfast the conversations were introspective as a group and as individuals. Reiterating the responsibility of the ride rests with each rider. Biryaniwalla beckoned us and Rtn. Ram Prasad hosted a sumptuous lunch, satiated we all got back to using the time at will. Our mission on hand we all rode to Jubilee Hills International Center to address Presidents of various clubs in Hyderabads hosted by Rotary Club of Jubilee Hills. President Ravi Kumar called the meeting to order, Rtn. Ram Prasad introduced IFMR riders and briefly talked about our ride and he applauded IFMRs role in promoting Rotary image and committed to contributing to the heart surgery.

**Rotary**

**INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF MOTORCYCLING ROTARIANS - INDIA**

Rotary District 3190   Rotary District 3150   Rotary District 3131   Rotary District 3040   Rotary District 3053   Rotary District 3011   Rotary District 3070

**NITTE** EDUCATION TRUST | **NITTE MEENAKSHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BANGALORE** PRESENTS

**UNITY RIDE**

**FUNDRAISER RIDE FOR PEDIATRIC HEART SURGERIES**

**ROTARY**

**ROTARY UNITY RIDE FOR HEART**

**HURRY AND DONATE**   **HURRY AND DONATE**

BENGALURU - HYDERABAD - NAGPUR - BHOPAL - GWALIOR - DELHI - AMRITSAR - ATTARI  
11<sup>th</sup> SEP - 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

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Secretary IFMR - India  
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PDG Rtn. Ratna Prabhakar addressed the gathering and represented DG Rtn. Rajshekar Reddy, he carried DG's wishes and support for the Unity Ride cause. He said he heard about IFMR 10 years ago and felt - these must be a crazy set of members and wondered what will they accomplish by riding - now, he applauded the ride for a cause and extended his support. He briefed about the stupendous work District 3150 has done in mending hearts, he talked about conducting 63 heart surgeries dedicated to IPRIP Rtn. Shekar Mehta and inspired us with the aim to conduct 2025 operations by end of 2025.

IFMR India President Rtn. Arun Belur addressed the gathering he thanked Dist 3150 for hosting us and mentioned the special care taken by Rtn. Ram Prasad for making us feel at home. He briefed the gathering about IFMR and thanked Mr. Rohit Punja of Nitte Education Trust for fuelling the 'Unity Ride', he handed over to IFMRian Rtn. Naveen to brief about the Unity Ride.

Rtn. Ram Prasad facilitated flag exchange between District 3150 & IFMR. The Rotary Friendship Exchange team led by Rtn. Sarathy Iyengar felicitated representative riders from District 3190, 3182 & 3201.

Our evening reached a crescendo of big-hearted contributions for the cause (sponsoring paediatric heart surgeries) by Rtn. Ram Prasad, Rotary Club Sainipuri, Rotary Club Hyderabad Legends, Rtn. Sarathy Iyengar from the friendship exchange team and Rtn. TMN Choudary, with promise of more our day felt accomplished.

IFMRian Rtn. Rajesh urged Rtn. Ram Prasad to start a IFMR sub chapter and in response enthusiastic future members of IFMR stamped a resounding affirmation. They said by the time we travel to Hyderabad next, the sub chapter will be in play.

Amazing conversations filled the room with lots of goodwill and promise of more collaboration and support for the Unity Ride we rode back thinking of the ride to Nagpur ahead.

More miles to burn and new sceneries beckons.

Sharp at 5.30am the frenzy of 12 riders saddling up was a display of chaotic symphony. Rtn. Ram Prasad flagged us off and we hit the road, Hyderabad seemed different at this hour as we made our way onwards to Nagpur.

Hyderabad Nagpur stretch is a must for all riders, we travelled at a brisk pace soaking in the lush greenery around, cloudy morning kept us cool and in a pack we covered 100 kms in little over an hour. After a quick breakfast, the 3rd day of the ride all riders having found their rhythm we cruised.

The next 200 kms was a visual of million scenic nature, every minute transforming ahead ever so beautifully. We cruised for the next 200kms, a frantic slow down signal by the rider ahead also signalled an absolute example of human greed, the roads that looked like a parking tarmac in sophisticated mall converted into pitted track, the tucks with dysfunctional indicators seems to snake ahead of us albeit warning. This bad stretch of 50kms brought us to high alert and soaked in all our energy. Lunch was 60 kms shy of Nagpur, so diverse are flavours - from Biryani to Marathi Thali our palates was on a ride too. And just like that the pitted track became a tarmac again, we were welcomed into Nagpur by a deluge, we hit safe speed on wet tracks and soaked our way into the city. We were greeted by our











good friend Cyrus Watchmaker along with couple more bikers they escorted us to the beautiful CP club for some rest and change over. Our evening engagement was hosted by RC Nagpur West, we were part of their speaker meeting, Dr. Ravi Wadekar's talk on organ donation revealed if organs harvested at the right time our bodies can change 7 lives. We all seemed to be reminiscing that thought. President Rtn. Gajanand invited IFMR President Rtn. Arun Belur to talk about the Unity ride, he introduced all riders that was greeted with applause, we sort support and sponsor for the paediatric heart surgeries. We felicitated friends of IFMR in Nagpur and club leaders. We retired for the night for rejuvenation and a departure after breakfast next day meant we could grab little extra sleep.

The traffic was just about waking up in the city, we reached the highway soon and once comfortable we opened our throttle devouring miles. The brisk pace meant we allowed ourselves the luxury of well timed breaks. The roads near Itarsi seemed absolutely fit for landing airplanes a scene that would challenge any highway in Europe, the clean air strip like road, lush greenery, flowing river by the highway, a waterfall and empty roads – almost perfect riders dream realized. Along the way yet to be completed sections of the road took us through single lane small villages and bridges that held evidence of being submerged by over whelming Tawa river. Tawa flowing at its brim navigating through the huge potholes – at one section so close to the edge one could see the whole might of the river and the narrow patch helping us all across the bridge sending exhilarating energies through the spine. All this was tackled with abundant caution. After having covered almost 250kms and 100kms short of Bhopal we stopped for a break, this provided a great opportunity for a photo op. Some moments just happen and the result unique and memorable pics. Egg curry, delicious dal, hot rotis fueled our energies. Our spirits were further lifted when 2 people enquired about the ride and contributed towards the cause. We entered Bhopal and were greeted by DG Rtn. Jinendar Jain and his team. Their warmth made us all feel at home, this visit to Bhopal was special as it is IFMRian Rtn Prashanth Mishra's home town.

With absolutely no agenda for the morning we all enjoyed the time, most of us waking up at breakfast time huge luxury. Local boy Rtn. Prashant took us to visit the tribal museum on Bhopal – a must visit for all visitors. We all were lost in the bygone era admiring in awe, salute to well curated museum. Lunch was chole bature, paw bhaji, lassi and ice cream falooda.

Satiated we got back for a quick change and headed to the felicitation function DG Rtn. Jinendra Jain had organized. 3 clubs from Bhopal hosted the meeting. Rtn. Amit Tenaja set the proceedings in motion. President from RC Bhopal Midtown Rtn. Jai Sobani .welcomed the riders and President from RC Bhopal Hills Rtn. SK Srivastava shared the agenda for the evening.

All riders were felicitated and given mementos to remember. IFMR President Rtn. Arun Belur briefed the gathering about the Unity Ride cause and appealed to DG Rtn. Jinendar Jain to support the



cause. DG magnanimously offered to do his bit and support whole heartedly. Local boy IFMR Secretary Rtn. Prashanth Mishra briefed about IFMR and gave details of the requirements for starting a sub chapter. The enthusiastic Rotarians vowed to set the ball rolling for commencing the IFMR sub chapter in Bhopal. Rtn. Prashanth Mishra gave details of how rides are organized and sequence of safe travel we follow at IFMR. In his speech DG Rtn. Jinendra Jain talked about the free heart surgeries Dist. 3040 undertook and appreciated IFMRs efforts for raising funds for the pediatric heart surgeries. The vote of thanks was rendered by President of RC Bhopal Shahpura Rtn. BP Patidar. This was followed by a press brief and fellowship.

All bikers built new connections and expressed their gratitude to Rtn. Kunal Singhal, Rtn. S.K. Bhargava, Rtn. Dipesh Bhandari, Rtn. Om Asnani, Rtn. Vishal Garg, Rtn. Nirvikar Yadav, Rtn. Abhas Jain among others.

A brief stop at Bake & Shake for coffee and cookies was hosted by Rtn. Prashant's friend Manan Manohar. The insistent drizzles on our way back to the hotel meant we would have an adventurous ride to Gwalior, and so we retired with those thoughts.

True to our thoughts of an adventurous ride, it was raining when we came down to saddle up. It took us a little longer than normal to saddle, the skies unrelenting, we began our ride for the day – our motto rain or sunshine we ride...

We eased ourselves on to the highway very quickly and the skies cleared a bit to allow us the rhythm to set in. Just when we were cruising the rains lashed drenching us completely. Our spirits unfazed we took on the rains and only stopped after 130+ kms, our adrenaline soaked self needed some warmth and hot cups of chai – with the excitement and the thrill of having covered significant distance in a downpour, our hearts wanted more.

The road ahead were amazing and a must ride for all enthusiast as we roared our way to Gwalior, missing were friends who weren't riding along our side. Hot rotis, dal and panner introduced us to flavors of MP and just like that we reached Gwalior in pretty quick time. We were received personally by DGN Rahul Shrivastav and Mr. Yogesh Khandelwal at Sun City Gwalior played host.

We got time to rid of our drenched attires and freshen up for a meeting at Gwalior's famed Jiwaji Club. The club adorned with pics of our royal past took us back in time and gave us a flavor of how the land of Kings were. President Rtn. Atul Chhiroliya himself a bike enthusiast from RC Gwalior Central hosted us. A galaxy of leaders welcomed us with the traditional Tilak and Garland, ushered and orchestrated by PP Rtn. KG Dixit we all posed for pics in front of the historic monument. The meeting began in the presence of DG Rtn. Rajesh Chura, President of Jiwaji Club Mr. Sangram Singh, DGRR Rtn. Arun Gupta, DGN Rahul Shrivastav, Rtn. Pradeep Laha along with 8 PP's we were really honored. President Rtn. Atul Chhiroliya welcomed all the dignitaries and the Unity Riders, he offered the dais for us to talk about our cause. IFMR Seceretary Rtn. Prashant Mishra thanked all members and briefed the gathering about our cause and the Needy Heart Foundation.











Mr. Sangram came forward to help our cause and asked us to circulate soft copies of the brochure. IFMR President Rtn. Arun Belur presented mementos to the dignitaries and briefed the gathering about IFMR and the previous cause rides. He talked in detailed about the surgeries for patients from SAARC countries and summed it up by thanking our ride sponsor Mr. Rohit Punja from NITTE Education Tust, NITTE Meenakshi Institute of Technology Bangalore.

By now we were all seeped in a bit of our Royal past, a Scindia myself, felt the presence of my past among the walls of the club and in the historic city. The fellowship was filled with the exuberance of possibilities and promises of enabling our cause and friendship we bit farewell.

An early morning departure to Delhi meant we needed to soak in as much rest as possible before dawn and we all did.

The conversations this morning was the excitement and prospect of driving on the 90 kms stretch Yamuna express way from Agra to Delhi. We checked our gears and bikes in anticipation. PP Rtn. Prashanth got busy fixing much needed brake pads and ensuring all bikes are road ready. We left Gwalior to be welcomed by crowded roads, the drive all the way to Agra was smooth. We stopped over for a quick breakfast and headed towards the express way. there are times when the throttle falls short, on the express way each one of us challenged our courageous self to push our bikes more like a test pilot (Top Gun like... ;) ) to see how far we can go. The 90kms was covered in less than an hour. It felt like we were abruptly asked to get a grip on our adrenaline high. We all surrendered as we exited the highway for a quick regroup, chai and made our way to Gurgaon. The deluge of traffic and multiple exits and lane changes kept us all astutely alert and we ensured all riders in the group were together. Drained and drenched in the Gurgoan heat we all parked our bikes and were greeted by a brave soul whose eyes were puffed (almost closed) and with super chubbier cheeks. It required a little careful inspection to recognize our PP Rtn. Prashanth, he had rode through all the way disappointing the unfortunate bee that took the pain to sting – GRIT.... Adventures of the day drained us all and the soft cozy beds ensured many of us dosed off, some of us brave ones ventured out to explore Delhi and many of us resigned to rid our sweaty dirty clothes of its agony. Dinner was a scattered affair each small groups taking care of all and thus began our last leg of the Unity Ride.

On a long ride a late morning and lazy breakfast relished, the day was spent taking care of our pending professional commitments. Each of us enjoyed the time for ourselves and looked forward to our meeting in the evening. We were witness to installation ceremony of Rtn. Abhishek Aneja RC Gurgaon Cosmopolitan in the presence of DG Rtn. Ashok Kantoor, President Rtn. Vivek Duggal, PP Rtn. Deepak Jain, Rtn. Amit Kumar Jian, PP Rtn. Ruchi Rai and PP Rtn. Gopesh Aneja.

The new team was inducted, the new President Rtn. Abhishek Aneja welcomed us and invited IFMR India President Rtn. Arun Belur to introduce the riders and share the details of the 'Unity Ride'. Rtn. Arun



talked about the “Unity Ride” cause and passionately asked the DG and all Rotarians to contribute towards the cause and he thanked our ride sponsor Nitte Education Trust, Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology, Bangalore. We were all felicitated and our ride acknowledged.

In his speech DG Rtn. Ashok Kantoor welcomed the riders and he extended his good wishes to his Co-DG Rtn. Jitendra Aneja. He talked about the significant projects and expressed his best wishes for the cause and rendered his support for the cause. IFMR India President Rtn. Arun Belur exchanged flags with DG Rtn. Ashok Kantoor.

The conversations during the fellowship were about our ride adventures and details of the pediatric heart surgeries, with promises of helping and supporting the cause secured, we headed back to the hotel in preparation for the ride the following morning.

Little did we realize we would be saddling for the last time together as we got ready for the ride ahead. Photo op was a must and allowed ourselves the luxury of being present to be clicked.

As we eased our way through the famous Delhi, traffic even so early morning surprised us. By far we were experiencing the most congested ride and we felt blessed that we were on the other side to witness a km long traffic jam. With prayers and pity for those stuck way behind the traffic tail and hoping none had to catch a flight we bid adieu to our National Capital. It did however linger for quiet long – what is this fetish obsession about Bangalore traffic others talk about with such relish and vengeance.

Our ride all the way to famous Gulshan Dhaba was like riding on Avenue road (in Bangalore) – expect the road and vehicles much bigger. When our lead signaled a stop glee plastered on our face we regrouped. The soft paratas with dollops of desi butter, lassi, gulab jamun, jelebi and rabadi quenched our lusting stomach. A bike with a side car meant ‘A Dosti.... had to be relived’. With song in heart and belly quenched we set out to Ambala.

We were received by a young in spirit and enthused fellow Rotarians of RC Ambala Industrial Area at Ambala, our rendezvous was at the city railway station that offered great parking pace. We were recognized, pinned, flag exchanged, platform to speak about Unity Ride cause to the local media provided, refreshments given and amazing photos clicked all in less than 40mins. The most productive meeting of the trip. A template to follow for future cause rides. Now the hurried efficient welcome described our gratitude and thanks goes to President Rtn. Neelam Sharma and Seceretary Rtn. Madhu Kumar Julka.

Hearing us speak Kannada a young man enquired, turned out to be a solider, a Gowda from our very own Mandya. Dilonko Joodthehowe.... On the outskirt's of Amritsar a chai break was absolutely required... happened to be the last for the trip, guided by fellow local travelers we were eager to reach the city of ‘Amrit’ nectar. We reached Amritsar in quick time and the emotions of completing the Unity Ride was hard to describe.. An accomplishment that will go down as stories for our twilight years....

Once we were settled we were personally welcomed by PDG





Rtn. Davinder Singh who along with PDG Rtn. Nagendra Prasad facilitated by then Dist Sec. now IFMR India President Rtn. Arun Belur had planned this 'Unity Ride', three years in the making.

The euphoria unfazed we all settled down for a nice long conversation, Rtn. Simarjeet Singh taking on the responsibility of guiding us through our stay we said our byes to the Amritsari hospitality we were yet to drown in. The celebratory dinner was at a famed restaurant and we all retired for the night feeling absolutely overwhelmed!.

After a royal relaxed breakfast we headed towards the reception to be met by our friend and host Rtn. Simarjeet Singh who ushered us to the Golden Temple. Maharaja Ranjit Singhji's towering statute welcomed us and in preparation we got turbaned, matched to the T we all loved our new look.

12 Unity Riders together in attire & The Balle Balle moment captured we entered the revered Golden Temple. As we entered the premise of Golden Temple we were filled with divine vibrations, we rendered our prayers, did our seva in the langar, enjoyed the prasaad, some of us took the blessed holi dip and felt one with the divine. For some of us it was a life time aspiration to visit the Golden Temple and seek Guruji's blessing, our prayers were filled with gratitude for keep us safe through the Unity Ride and fulfill all aspirations. As we headed back from the divine abode we had to complete it with a giant glasses of Lassi.

Our meeting was at the renowned 'The Amritsar Club'. President of RC Amritsar Rtn. Vikas Kumar and Secretary Rtn. Mohinderpal Sharma were our host. The meeting was called to order by the President Rtn. Vikas Kumar he welcomed the Unity Riders. AG Rtn. Raman Gupta, DGE Rtn. Vipin Bhasin, PDG Rtn. Davinder Singh, Zonal Chair Rtn. Dr. Jaspreet Grover, IFMR President Rtn. Arun Belur and IFMR Secretary Rtn. Prashant Misha adorned the dais. PDG Rtn. Davinder Singh addressed the gathering and shared very many great insights about the history of the club whose charter member was father of Gen Manek Shah and started in 1933. He spoke about the achievements of the club, significant being setting up a cancer hospital at the cost of Rs 7 Crores in 1993. He welcomed the riders and invited IFMR President Rtn. Arun Belur to speak. Rtn. Arun introduced all the riders, spoke about the Unity Ride, talked about IFMR, exchanged IFMR flags with the PDG and Presidents present. He invited IFMRian Rtn Naveen to talk about the Unity Ride. Rtn. Naveen began by thanking the ride sponsor Nitte Education Trust, Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology Bangalore. He urged the Rotarians' to contribute generously towards Pediatric Heart Surgeries and shared the information from the handouts. All the riders were felicitated with a Siroha and fellowship that followed filled the evening with pure masti and affection. It seemed as though the club was waiting for our departure to shut down and we all dabbled our way to our transport to take us to the Marriot Fairfield our home @ Amritsar.

Some of us going went early to the Golden Temple to complete the divine dip while most of us choose the late



morning, humongous breakfast and retire approach. Our agenda for the day was to shuttle our bikes to a courier company to be transported back home and head to the Atari boarder in the evening. We stopped for a photo-shoot organized by the hotel capturing memorable memories. We headed to the courier and bid adieu to our bikes until we meet them back at home several days hence. The kulcha, chicken Amritsari, dal, Lassi became our energy inducers – the chai that followed signaled our lunch was done. We all for the first time travelled in a mini bus singing and dancing all the way to Atari Border carrying the euphoria...

Our driver reconfirmed if we are seated in section 20, his enthused response of 'dus sal may yeh phele bar yahan park karne milrahahai' – at this moment we did not make much of what he was saying. It was a separate entrance and tall handsome soldier Sudher (from Belgaum) enquired our allocated seating and hearing us speak in Kannada – he took over. We were privileged to visit places that is generally not open to public. The museum, zero stone marking, photo ops and being invited to the officers lounge and treated with tea in bone china cup and saucer made us feel extremely privileged. We all expressed our gratitude and thanks to IFRian Rtn. Mandar Dixit who made it possible for us and we were getting soaked in the spirit of Bharat Mata.

Completely aware of the thousand gazes upon us we 12 in IFMR T-shirts felt special. We were ushered to the best seats in the gallery, multiple checks done on precise seating we began to soak in. There was sudden action and we saw a group of girls and ladies take our tri color and ran towards the border waving with energy and pride. A symbolic gesture it just kick started our Desh Prem. All ladies who were willing to participate were invited down to sing and dance on patriotic songs. The spectacle etched in our memories – difficult to share in words. What followed was flow of emotions, exalted pride, exhibition of courage, precisely coordinated charge and the ceremony of beating the retreat. With both flags coming down in unison the ceremony concluded. Witnessing this ceremony is an ABSOLUTE MUST for all Indians. Drenched in multitude of emotions, our throats hoarse, our energies peaked, in absolute awe we returned to our hotels in the mini bus... felt different and already were missing our bikes. The evening was spent with an inspiring octogenarian Rtn. BM Singh who drives a hand crafted battery operated car he built (an amazing feat at his age), in his words if you don't fill purpose at this age life becomes very boring, his enthusiasm and wanting to do more inspired us. Celebrations and thoughts of our amazing day continued all way to our dreams

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## Kurudumale

2 October 2022

Bangalore to Kurudumale - 110kms

As announced earlier the destination for this ride was Kurudumale, 110 kms from ITI gate towards Kolar/Mulbagal. Despite Dussehra festivities all around, there were 9 members and 4 guest riders along with a junior pillion rider, all assembled by sharp 6.30 am near ITI gate, Prez Arun Belur welcomed everyone and briefed about today's ride/destination and announced the sequence of riders, requested Rtn. Sunil Telkar to offer prayer for today's ride success and everyone's safety. Rtn Sunil recited Lord Ganesh Mantra. Prez Arun Belur informed that we ride non stop to a restuarant Anand Bhavan near Mulbagal on the highway for breakfast, which is approx 100kms from starting point. Prez Arun was the lead and Rtn Sunil was asked to be the sweep. Soon we were on the NH 75, initial few km were full of traffic but soon we were out of it and cool breeze and wind was welcoming us, there was no sun to be seen, hidden in clouds, weather was perfect for a bike ride. After a non stop ride of one and half hour we had reached restuarant Ananda Bhavan, famous for Mulbagal Dosa, a speciality one gets in this part of Karnataka, where in the Dosa is absolutely crisp on one side and soft on the other side, a unique preparation.

All were in great mood as many of us were meeting after long time, Rtn Mandar did not lose the opportunity of taking many group pictures. Rtn. Samratt offered to sponsor the breakfast for all as a treat for his birthday, which was on previous day, all thanked him for his great gesture. All enjoyed the crispiest



and fluffiest Mulbagal Dosa with Coffee and all were ready for Kurudumale Temple visit, the final destination of today's ride. In no time we were at the temple, the temple has a rich history and dates back to more than 5000 years, all went inside the temple offered prayer/archana to Lord Ganesha, the presiding deity of the temple, the size of lord Ganesha sculpture is 13 and half feet . Special puja was done for all the IMFR'ian families well being.

Riders did not lose chance to eat fresh gauva sold outside the temple, few bought in kilo's for their home. Soon all were riding back to Bangalore, reached non stop to Battarahalli by 12 noon and stopped for final dispersal, shock hands with each other and bid goodbye to all. A very satisfied group ride came to an end

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## Felicitation function of Unity Riders

17th October 2022

In a grand gala event on the evening of 17th October 2022, the felicitation function of Unity Riders was held at the most prestigious hall of KSCA, the Diamond Box, wherein all the top cricket players and VIP's watch the international cricket matches held in Bangalore, it could not have been a better venue for an equally important Felicitation function. Almost over 50 IMFR'ian were present to cheer and felicitate the Unity Riders.

The event was sponsored by DGN Rtn. Mahadev Prasad, an IFMR'IAN himself. Prez Rtn Arun welcomed everyone and narrated the highlights and experience of the Unity Ride from Bangalore to Attari border, covering a distance of 2800 kms, he was ably supported by Secretary Rtn Prashant Mishra, who shared his experience and terrain of the ride. Soon we were joined by the Chief Guest DGN Rtn Mahadev Prasad and he shared his journey as a biker and was requested to honour all the 12 riders with a special memento made up of an iron plate properly machined in the shape of a rider sitting on a motor bike, a proud possession for any rider.

Group pictures of all riders with prized possession with DGN was taken, but anti climax was waiting to happen, soon DGN Mahadev Prasad along with his support staff had brought special gifts for



all the riders from his side. As an avid wildlife photographer, he had made special photo frames of different animals whom he had clicked in various trips of wild life sanctuaries. All photo frames had personalized name of riders to give a personal touch and along with it he had carried specially made garlands and shawls for all 12 riders, a traditional way to recognise a celebrity in Karnataka/India. All were called upon one by one and DGN Mahadev Prasad recognised each by giving photo frame, shawl and garlands. It was a great moment for all the 12 riders of Unity Ride. Many group photos were taken.

As planned earlier, the first quarter magazine of this years activities of IFMR was planned and Prez Arun Belur requested DGN Mahadev Prasad to release the same, he obliged it graciously. Prez Arun Belur wanted to felicitate and thank few IMFR members who had worked behind the scene for Unity Ride and requested DGN Mahadev Prasad to present them a newly made caps of IMFR as a token of appreciation. Soon Secretary Rtn Prashant Mishra gave vote of thanks and requested all to join for the cake cutting of DGN Mahadev Prasad, who had celebrated his birthday previous day and asked all to stay back for fellowship and dinner hosted by DGN Mahadev Prasad, all joined for the same and party continued for very long. It was a great evening, missed members could not make it, there is always next time.





## World Polio Day Ride

24 October 2022

Bangalore

World Polio Day is celebrated on 24th October world over, since it was clashing with the biggest festival of India, Deepawali, our District 3190 decided to celebrate it on 23rd October which happened to be a Sunday, perfect day for any public relations events and what better way to utilise the services of IFMR for it by holding a motorbike rally with in the city of Bangalore CBD area to get maximum coverage. Over 25 members of IFMR had gathered at the stipulated time of 7.45 am at Town Hall, venue to flag off the bike rally and a walkathon to celebrate World Polio Day. DG Rtn Jitendra Aneja with his district team were all geared up for the event, many group pictures were taken along with people who were to participate in bike rally as well as for the Walkathon. DG flagged off the bikers of IFMR around 8.15 am, all were riding bikes in two columns and slowly we were getting the glances of all the people in street and from other vehicles on road, all were in IFMR outfit getting maximum attention and all bikes sporting END POLIO flag fluttering on the bike handle giving maximum publicity.

After covering a distance of 3 km, reached our breakfast point SLV restaurant near Jainagar, all had best of Idly/Vada/Dosa/Coffee and soon started next round of rally and reached our culmination point, world famous Lalbagh. Joined the team of Walkathon for their mob flash dances and Street play. Soon all bikers climbed the top of Lalbagh for many group photo opportunities and which slowly all started dispersing wishing all a VERY HAPPY DEEPAWALI.









## Melkote

7 November 2022

Bangalore to Melkote - 310 kms.

As informed about this ride last month itself, number of registration for same was overwhelming and around 28 riders had sent in their confirmation but on the day of ride, early in the morning received few last minute regrets from few and finally there were 20 riders at the starting point at 6.30 am. To manage such large group it was sub divided into 3 groups of 6 to 7 each with respective lead and sweep. Prez Rtn Arun, welcomed all the riders, briefed all about the safety aspect and wished a safe ride to all. Slowly at 6.45 am, at the gap of 5 minutes each group started their ride one by one. For the first time we were entering the newly built Mysore express way in any IFMR ride and it was just awesome and breathtaking one, totally 10 lanes express way was mind-blowing one.

After non stop cruising for 70 kms our breakfast stop was at Shivalli Restaurant, all three group had rejoined and had a sumptuous breakfast of Idly/Vada/Dosa and filter coffee. Again, with a gap of 5 minutes, each group started for final stop at Melkote, took 90 minutes to reach Melkote after crossing few small towns and beautiful water bodies and forest. The entrance of Melkote had big arch welcoming one and all, the place has a rich history and plays an important role in all Iyengar Hindu's. The place has popular Cheluvanarayana Swamy Temple, popular incarnate of Lord Vishnu. Saw many devotees visiting the temple.



Luckily our Prez Rtn Arun Belur had made arrangement of special darshan of Cheluvanarayana Swamy, all were escorted inside the main temple and special puja were offered for the group and IFMR family. It was very special moment for all of us, that we had the closest darshan of Cheluvanarayana Swamy.

Soon we were taken to an Ashram/house of the pujari, here again we had the privilege of having special Prasad, duly prearranged by Prez, big thanks to him. After which all ventured to see the remains of the big temple left over structure and climbed all over it and took many solo and group pictures. Since it was a long ride of over 150 kms to reach Melkote, everyone were in a relaxed mood and spent quality time here. Around 12.30 pm, we started our return journey. It was decided to take Hassan side route instead of Mysore side for return trip, luckily this route seemed far better and less traffic one, after covering a distance of 60 kms, all stopped at Swathi Delicacies for Tea/Coffee break, spent half an hour here chit chatting. Prez Arun made a small impression talk on today's ride and highlighted the importance of sequence riding and safety gear. It was decided to close the ride officially here itself and all can leave as per their wishes for Bangalore. All had reached their homes by 3.30 pm to 4 pm safely. Another great ride from IFMR ended successfully.







## Safe feet safe ride

19 November 2022

Bangalore

Cause Ride on 19th November, Saturday at 8 am. The theme is SAFE FEET SAFE RIDE. This time it was KIER HOSPITAL & Foot Care had arranged a public awareness rally to promote the ill effects of diabetic on individuals feet. It was organised by the prediabetic department of the hospital, by Dr. Pavan.

It was a joint rally with Rotary District 3190 to promote the same and what better way to create awareness thru IFMR by bringing out a bike rally. Over 10 riders from IFMR were present at 8 am, after a brief introduction of the program by Dr. Pavan, IFMR Prez Arun Belur was felicitated by the team with a bouquet of flowers and a specially made T shirt was given to all the riders. Soon the rally was flagged off and bikers were on the street of Bangalore, rode over 20 km and then culminated the rally around 12 noon.

All were very happy to be part of the event and slowly all left for their homes.









## Felicitatation

23 November 2022

Goa to Coimbatore

A Rotarian from Coimbatore Club of Downtown started a Ride from Goa to Coimbatore in support of differently abled children and wanted to spread awareness and raise funds for the cause by meeting various Rotary Clubs in their route. On 23rd November they touched base with our Prez Rtn Arun Belur's club and had an interactive session with club members of Rotary Udyog over breakfast. Exchange of flags took place and both the riders were felicitated by the club for undertaking a noble cause. Few members of IFMR, India Chapter joined on the occasion and cheered the riders after the meeting for their onward journey. A fruitful and interactive meeting.

# ROTARY CLUB OF COIMBATORE DOWNTOWN

Charter No : 84657 | Chartered Date : 19.06.2012 | R.I. District 3201



# GOA TO COIMBATORE





## Ghatti Subramanium

4 December 2022

Bangalore to Ghatti Subramanium-  
85 kms.

It was a pleasant early Sunday morning, we were 5 IMFR'ians at the start point at 6.30 am. They were, Mandar, Sirish, Krishnan, Deepan and Vinod, all geared for the shortest ride of the year so far. Without wasting further time, Rtn Sirish offered prayer for today's success and safety of riders, Rtn Mandar was Lead and Krishnan was made the Sweep. The entire distance of 42 kms took one hour to reach the Temple site, traffic was less but never felt leaving Bangalore City except for the last 9 km which was scenic and beautiful. After parking our bikes, all were keen to visit temple and seek blessings from the powerful deity Lord Subramanya, took 15 minutes in the serpentine queue to reach the main gopuram, felt really blessed to get a quick darshan.

Took a few group pictures and left for Bangalore, Rtn Mandar had informed earlier that breakfast will be on return journey, accordingly stopped at a nice Udipi restaurant, since it was Rtn Mandar's wedding anniversary, he offered to sponsor the breakfast instead of all sharing it. All wished him many more years of togetherness and a happy married life. Started after breakfast and reached Esteem Mall at 10.30 am for the final disbursal. All greeted each other and wished good luck for the next ride and bid goodbye. A short and sweet ride.







## Meeting with IP RI President Shekhar Mehta

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18 December 2022

On 18th December, District 3190 had its Inter City Group Forum meet on Vocational Services in Mandya. The chief guest for the program was none other than IP RI President Sekhar Mehta ji. Our team of IFMR wanted to meet and greet him and reached out to our most loved PDG Rajendra Rai, who happens to be an IMFR'ian himself, President Rtn Arun Belur requested him to arrange a meeting with IP RIP on the sidelines of ICGF and ensured good number of members from India Chapter were present in their riding vest to give a distinct and original look of riders. Meeting was arranged and team IFMR had a brief session with IP RIP and Prez Arun Belur gave a brief report on our activities and the highlight of it was the recently concluded successful Road trip of Attari border to raise funds for pediatric hearty surgery for downtrodden.

IP RIP Rtn Sekhar Mehta was extremely happy with our activities and appreciated the efforts of IFMR, it is not just fun ride but done with a purpose and getting huge publicity about Rotary wherever they crossed India. President Rtn Arun Belur, presented IFMR flag and cap to IP RIP Rtn Sekhar Mehta ji and felicitated him. All members present from IFMR took a few group pictures with him and thanked him for sparing his time for IFMR'IANs. Big big thanks to the most popular PDG/IFMR'IAN Rajendra Rai ji for arranging this wonderful meeting.







## Goa Ride IBW

1 to 4 December 2022

Day 1 – Bangalore to Goa to Bangalore

Bangalore to Goa

Diligent planning and coordination for the all chapter meet in Goa was summarized at pre ride meeting on the 28th Nov & was attended by participating sub chapters. In true organized fashion all relevant information was updated by Ajit and our eager self-prepared for the ride ahead with zeal.

It's not often we miss taking a group photo before a ride – still wondering how we missed it. The first pics of our Bangalore team riding to Goa for our all chapters meet and to attend the IBW (India Bike Week) was at our first break @ breakfast.

We continued with the small group format tested efficiently during the unity ride. 3 groups of 5 riders each said our prayers and took off from our regular start point KLE collage in Yeshwantpur at 5.30am. The 1st group was lead by Arun with Babanna as sweep, Group 2 was lead by Prashant and Puneet as sweep and Group 3 was lead by Ajit with Rajesh being the super sweep. Teams from Trissur & Cochin left the previous day on 30th Nov, with Hassan & Sholapur sub chapters starting on 1st Dec. There was a preciseness as we all in small groups experienced agility and speed with the entire team visible to the sweep. It felt safe.

The butt break chat was where the other team have reached and scan the IBW whatsapp group for pics added. Safely we all reached Goa in intervals of 45mins. Our Odometer read a proud 600+ kms in less than 11hrs with adequate breaks. As the sunset on the horizon and bike tucked away the evening began and was filled with loads of greet and meet fellow riders from other chapters and we all retired for good night's rest.

## Day 2 – Dec 2nd

Early birds found themselves on the beach and some took the trodden path to invite a glorious day. Breakfast was a chatty affair loud and happy joined by Arvind, Vijay and Prashanth who flew in to add happiness. We all settled to a snooze mode and got busy being lazy. Lunch was a grand affair at Calamari 'bathe & binge' and we did.... And How... As I write this report am finding it difficult to choose a decent post able pic of the bathe... hiding the enormous riders... finally found one that did not need censoring. The dizzy lunch had us all squander away to explore the beach, greeted by happy bathers & some more. We celebrated Roy's birthday and Puneet's wedding anniversary... with a lot of love for our brothers.

The cakes were polished off made exotic by Dipesh making it a Rum doused cake...and so ended our lunch....

Completely satiated and feeling lighter in the head we headed out to the IBW venue to witness seas of bikes and bikers. The registrations were smooth and we all waddled into the arena to find the IFMR stall. It was dizzy the class of bikes and the show was rocking and busting our ear drums... the bikes on show - spitting fire, shamelessly boasting CC's 1000cc, 1250cc, a 1800cc bike... go figure.

Getting back from the venue was an adventure no less, with more than 25,000 bike I heard someone say (not sure but seemed like it)... we were glad we choose to a taxi back to the hotel. Dinner some had it on the beach and some at the hotel. The day was packed with friendship, fun, camaraderie, oodles of bikes and bikers, the noise of revving engines, music and too much adrenaline. Our vintage self - sought the comforts of a bed.

## Day 3 – Dec 3rd

We all got up early, had breakfast and assembled for the all chapters meet attended by members from the following chapters – Goa, Hassan, India, Kochi, Sholapur and Thrissur,. IFMR India President Rtn. Arun Belur welcomed all the chapters and began the meeting by recognizing the contributions of IFMR India Secretary Rtn. Prashant Mishra & IFMR India IPP Rtn. Ajit Ram for coordinating and organizing the all chapters meet. He thanked all the core members for their individual contributions. Seceretary Rtn. Prasant Mishra invited Charter member Rtn. Srinivas Babu, Rtn. Ajit, Rtn. Rajesh, Rtn. Vijay, Rtn. Prashanth to unveil the new IFMR riding





vest. The first one was presented to IFMR International President Rtn. Sunil Telkar. The chief designer of the vest Rtn. Ajit gave a detailed brief on each aspect of the vest and that the colour chosen for the vest 'yellow' is unique (not available in the market) and specially dyed for IFMR. He mentioned we have secured 6000mteres of the material and the newly designed vests are available to all IFMR riders in India. IFMR International President Rtn. Sunil Telkar talked about IFMR fellowship and how when we ride to other chapters the welcome and camaraderie is so warm, he talked about the 29 chapters in more than 55+ countries we have our IFMR brotherhood.

Chapters in West and East Africa can enable a cross Egyptian desert ride if anyone is interested and also if anyone is going for the world conference in Australia next year. All chapter presidents were given the new vest inviting them to show it riders in the chapters so that orders can be placed. Rtn. Vijay Mane is also the President of ABC along with Rtn. Prashanth Babu who is the secretary welcomed everyone and talked about ABC events and he presented buffs to all chapter presidents. All chapters were invited to share their reports and we got a detailed brief of all the activities and rides the sub chapters have undertaken. All bikers assembled together made a beautiful picture of orange and green in the Goa sunlight. What followed after was delightful display of playful & friendly competition organized by Vijay... Lots of laughter and happy times followed.

After all the fun and masti we retired and some of us went to the IBW and others decided to shop/sleep and rest. Dinner was left to each individual groups. In sum the day was spent admiring the rides other chapters have completed and have plans for, the fellowship that followed was amazing, the brotherhood alive. We IFMRians have homes in Bangalore, Goa, Hassan, Kochi, Sholapur and Thrissur and growing. Long live the tribe

#### Day 4 – Dec 4th

We all reported sharp at 5.15am saddled and groups were mixed – India, Kochi and Thrissur chapters rode together. While Hassan along with 2 riders from India chapter rode together on another route. We all reached safely and again our odometers gleaned with pride 600 kms more in less than 11hrs. It was time to bid adieu – Our President and Secretary thanked everyone for making this a memorable ride and just like that we bid our farewell and headed our ways. We Bangaloreans to our home and bikers from Kochi and Thrissur chapter to an intermediate overnight stay at Hosur to commence their journey to Thrissur and Kochi the following day. Everyone reached safely !!!





## Cause Ride – GARVA Ride for Indian Army

7 January 2023

As the popularity of IFMR is growing, many organisations look forward to IFMR's participation in it. Big Biking Commune, an upcoming bike aggregator had planned a Bike Ride to mark the Army Parade show in Bangalore. In the past 75 yrs, this flag ship event of Indian Army is held in New Delhi, for the first time it was held outside Delhi and Bangalore was the automatic choice due to huge presence of army personnel here, a Bike Parade of top bike club was planned and IFMR was invited to join. Over 30 bikers registered for the event from IFMR.

Assembly point for our riders was Kanteerva Stadium gate and departure to Field Marshal Sam Maneck Shaw ground was at sharp 6.45 am. All had come on time, Prez Arun briefed all about today's ride and its importance. In no time all were in the military ground opposite M G Road metro station. Already many other club riders were present and we were guided to take our positions. After parking the bikes, all got into fellowship mode, took many group/solo pictures with the backdrop stage and various standees of Army. Took pics with many senior Army officers, it was a great feeling, all were smiling and laughing with us. Sharp at 7.30 am the bike ride was flagged off and one by one each clubs were asked to follow them in a column of two riders to avoid traffic jams.

Soon over 200 bikes were on Bangalore roads for the next one hour criss crossing the CBD areas and reached ASC centre on Old

Airport road, another military post of the Indian Army. Here was our breakfast stop. Many were thrilled to be inside ASC centre, a huge place occupying acres and acres of land, no one had an idea what was inside ASC, it was a township in itself with a Golf Course too. All had a great breakfast of Idly/Vada/Upma/Kesari Baath with Tea and Monster energy drinks. Food was prepared by the army mess. Great taste and awesome service by them.

After breakfast we started again for the next leg of Bike Rally to another military post, Madras Sappers in Ulsoor, again we were on the roads and were getting attention from all the passersby, few were taking pictures on their mobile. Bangalore was seeing such a huge bike rally for the first time and that too in an orderly fashion. Close to 10.30 am, we were inside the parade ground of Madras Sappers centre. It was full a house inside with all the family members of army personnel standing and cheering the riders, took two big rounds of ground on our bike, waving and cheering the audience present. Many big bikes were the centre of attention of public, many wanted to take selfie and few wanted to sit on them, it was wonderful to watch all this, one junior officer took a test ride of Rtn Rajesh's BMW GS 10. It was a small gesture by we civilians towards the forces to have spent some quality time with them.

Again to our surprise we were directed to nearby ground for refreshments, what a vip treatment for we riders. There we met our main hero, Hon. Rtn. Umesh Jhadav, man behind today's show called GARVA, in his trophy car. It was his initiative with Army officers that today's ride was planned. He met all IFMR members, narrated his 1.2 lacs km expedition of collecting soils from villages/towns of martyrs of Pulwama attack 3 yrs back. All were speechless and impressed with his deed and soon we took many group pictures and all wanted solo pics too with Umesh Jhadav. President Arun Belur thanked him for inviting IFMR to today's ride. Many were happy that despite living in Bangalore for donkey years they had not stepped inside all these Army installation and assets. It was experience of a different level. All cheered for Umesh Jhadav and Indian Army and we left the venue around 12 noon.







## Shravanbela Gola

8 January 2023

Bangalore to Shravanbela Gola- 130 kms.

There were 17 riders and 2 guest riders ready at the starting point, KLE Dental College gate at 6.30 am. President Arun Belur welcomed everyone and informed us about today's route and stoppages. Requested Manjunath sir to offer prayer for today's ride success and safety, he invoked Lord Ganesh Mantra.

Since the group was big, it was divided into two groups of 10 and 9 riders each. The rider sequence was informed, the first group was led by Prez Arun himself and the second group was led by Secretary Prashant Mishra. Both groups left with an interval of 10 minutes. Soon all were on the highway with chilly wind hitting, soon after 10 km ride we were welcomed by thick fog, all the headlights and blinker lights were ON on all the bikes as hazard safety.

Fog continued for some time and started fading with the onset of sunrays. The highway was like butter, with less traffic in the next one hour after covering a distance of 85 km we had reached our breakfast point, a popular place, Dhruvtare. Immediately on our reaching Dhruvtare, we were joined by the riders from IFMR Hassan Subchapter led by dashing Mohan. All of us had joined for the breakfast meet here, Hassan is just 50 km from Dhruvtare, it was pre decided to have fellowship meet with them here and then join us for the last leg of 50 km to Shravanbela Gola town.



Spent over one here and slowly all saddled up for the next 50 km ride. Again the roads were good, once we entered the state highway had better road traction with quality road conditions. Close to 10 am, we were near the famous Bahubali Temple arch.

All took group pics and it was decided that whoever wanted to trek to the temple above could go ahead and the rest could leave for Bangalore. The group got divided, the group to temple trek was led by Mandar, they spent over one hour exploring the temple and taking pictures and a second group was led by Prez Arun, which had left for Bangalore. All the riders had a great time today, and had the opportunity to meet friends from Hassan.







## Isha Foundation

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8 February 2023

Bangalore to Isha Foundation - 150 kms.

The 10 Riders who assembled opposite Esteem Mall on 5th Feb 2023 for the Mnthly Ride to Leepakshi were in for a surprise as the ride destination was changed to Isha Foundation's Chika Ballapur Centre.

We had been to Leepakshi several times and it was a good decision to change the destination. The ride was actually planned for Hokenakkal but due to some unrest near Hosur it was dropped. The morning was comfortable and the group led by Prashanth Mishra rode on to the Isha centre some 60 kms away from the start Point. As the ride was going to be very short it was decided that the Breakfast break would be taken post the Visit. Isha's upcoming centre in Chikaballapur is some 7-8 kms from the Main town. At the moment its connected by the dirt road which have us a brief experience of Offroading. At the moment there is nothing at the location but a Imposing Adiyogi Statute, but in times to come its going to be place where lot of development is expected.

The group sat there for a while and after the customery Photographs started the return Journey. The return route was thru the Chikkaballapur town where we stopped at a local eatery for our breakfast. Post breakfast we returned to the city via Airport Road. Most of the riders were back home by 12am with around 150kms on the Odo.









## Saanvi Sandalwood Resort

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18 February 2023

Bangalore to Saanvi Sandalwood  
Resort

Ride to Saanvi Sandalwood Resort on 18th and 19th February. It was announced that IFMR is organising an overnight camping ride at the above resort, which is 65 kms in TN. Options were given to join for overnight camp as well as to join on the 19th morning.

The idea of this ride was to learn some finer aspects of riding skills from Rtn. Prashanth Babu. 8 riders opted for overnight camp stay, they were, Ajit, Rajesh, TV Chandrasekhar, Prashanth Babu, Mandar, Vijay, Arun Belur and Vinod. 3 riders, Vinay, Georgy and Shanmugham joined the team on 19th morning. All the riders who had opted for overnight camp reported at the starting point, Girias, near Bommanhalli at 2.30 pm, Prez Arun Belur welcomed all and treated all with fresh tender coconut water, as the heat was little too much with riding gears on. Soon he announced that he will be the Lead and Prashanth Babu be the Sweep.

The riding sequence was informed to others, Prez invoked lord Ganesha's mantra for the safety and success of the ride and we took off to the camping site. In fact, was told by Rtn. Ajit, this is for the first time in 20 yrs history of IFMR, India we are having an overnight ride with a tent stay. In no time we were on NH, traffic was little bothering, never had rides starting in an afternoon, soon all were cruising on the NH comfortably, Prez Arun had decided to take elevated highway to exit Bangalore and all followed him, it was fun on the ramp and soon we

were crossing border and entering Tamilnadu just before TVS factory. After another 35 kms ride we were at the Saanvi Sandalwood Resort.

The place was just awesome, it had all the things a motor biker wants, sandy road, dusty stretch, rocky fields and rocky cliffs to ride. And there was an absolutely carpet green grass area for putting our tents for the night. The caretakers of place Mukund and Laxman were extra helpful in settling us there. All started unwinding by breaking free from riding gears and putting their tents. Special thanks to Ajit and Prashanth Babu for getting the tents Bangalore. Before the sunset, all decided to take a ride inside the 300 acre resort by experiencing all kinds of terrain there. After which soon we gathered near our tents and started taking breath taking pictures against the sunset. The evening was ours and all had carried a lot of food and drinks for the night party, and slowly everyone was in their elements. Bonhomie and music continued till late night and slowly all retired to their double occupancy tents. All got up around 6.30 am the next day, 19th February. All got busy with morning wash and freshen up. We were waiting for three friends to join us for training camp. Prashanth Babu and others got busy in putting up the colored cones across the fields for riding skill practice.

Close to 9 am, welcomed Georgy, Vinay and Shanmugham. All had a good breakfast prepared by the caretakers of the resort and few of us had carried loaf s of bread and jam. Around 10 am, Prasanth Babu took the centre stage and started explaining about various riding skills with a proper demo on his BMW bike. Everyone tried to emulate him and the training continued for the next two hours and close at 12 noon, left for Bangalore. The entire experience was one of the best. It had all the ingredients of thrill, suspense, fun and bonding. Looking forward for more such camp/tent outings.







## Charter Day Celebration

23 February 2023

Bangalore

IFMR India was formed and Chartered on 23rd February, 2003 and every year this date is celebrated in a grand way. Since this year it was falling on a weekday, Thursday, Core Committee had their meeting and cut a cake to mark the occasion and scheduled a gala celebration on 26th February, Sunday with all the members and their family. Venue was fixed as Terrace in Century Club, time was 12 noon onwards.

Slowly and steadily Imfr'ans came for the 20th Charter Celebration meet, meeting was called to order by Prez Rtn Arun Belur, he addressed the gathering and gave a brief history of IFMR, India. He recognised all the Charter/Founder members present in the meeting and also recognised all the past presidents of IFMR and mentioned their contribution during their years like different rides were organised. Recognised the presence of World Prez Rtn Sunil Telkar. Prez Rtn Arun Belur requested past presidents/charter members/world Prez to help him in giving away appreciation certificates to all the riders of Unity Ride given by District 3190 Governor Rtn Jitendra Aneja ji. IFMR Secretary Prashant Mishra requested PP Prashanth Babu to make a presentation on the upcoming International Ride being organised by IFMR India, Rajasthan Escapade. It was explained in detail with a complete itinerary and costing and number of riders coming for it.

Prez Arun Belur requested our IPP Rtn Ajit Ram to release the new riding vest designed and conceptualized by him for all the members.



The features in the new vest were explained in detail by giving a demo of it, it was very well received and appreciated by everyone.

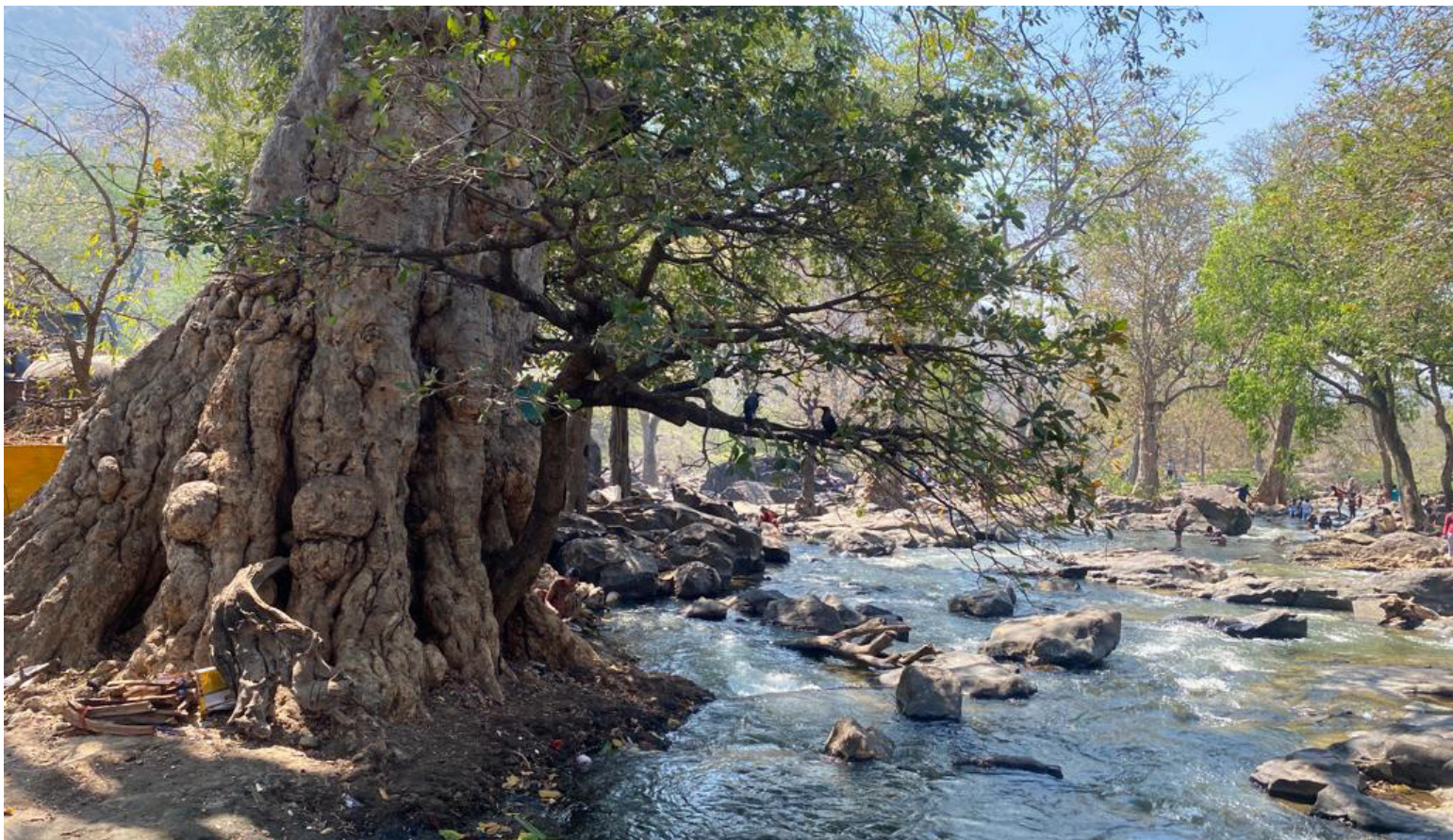
All members were asked to collect each of the vests after the meeting. Prez Rtn Arun Belur requested all the lady members present in the hall to get recognised and were welcomed by all with a standing ovation for their constant support to their better halves in all the riding events of IFMR. A group picture of them was taken.

Soon it was the cake cutting time to mark the 20th Charter Day Celebration, Prez Arun Belur requested the Charter members present to join him in doing the honours, all joined for the same. We had an extra special cake for the Past President Prashanth Babu, he too was celebrating his birthday, he was joined by his wife and son to cut the cake, it was a double treat for all. PP Prashanth Babu announced that he will sponsor the drinks bill for today's lunch party.

Everyone was very happy and delighted. IFMR Secretary Rtn. Prashant Mishra gave vote of thanks and thanked all present for joining for the occasion and special thanks to Rtn. Vijay Mane for helping in arranging the venue and lunch party. He requested all to join for the group pictures and join for lunch and post meeting get-together. Party continued till 4 pm.







## Hogenekal

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8 March 2023

Bangalore to Hogenekal -320 kms.

11 IFMRians turned up before the 6.15am scheduled assembly time at GIRIAS hosur road, The ride started at 6.25 after the customary briefing and prayer with Rtn. Ajith Ram as the lead and Rtn. Raju as the sweep. The breakfast stop was to be "Murgan Idly" Krishnagiri some 80 kms from the start point. It was quite evident that the riders were actually more excited about the breakfast than the ride itself. May be because of this the distance got covered in no time and we reached there by sharp 8 o'clock. Had a sumptuous breakfast of the Signature Podi Idly, Podi dosa, Vada, Sweet pongal, Pongal, Ghee Roast topped by Hot Filter Coffee.

Mouth Watering isn't it? The Breakfast was sponsored by Manujnath Sir and Mandar Dixit. Manju Sir returned back from the breakfast point. We left Murugan at 9 and arrived at Hogenakkal at 10.30. It was teeming with weekend crowd and the heat was already unbearable. None of us was interested in having a dip or boat ride so after the customary pics we left from bangalore @12.30 and as planned we took the Anichetty-attibele Route which was much shorter but proved to be a lot tiresome. Due to some village Jatre we got stuck in a very very long convoy of small trucks. The only bright part was that we could have a nice ride thru some winding ghat roads which was a good experience. It was kind of an endurance ride and everyone had a good time. An important point to mention here is that most of us wore the NEW RIDING VEST for the first time.









## Rajasthan Escapade

March 2023

All the International riders and hospitality team of IFMR India had a great breakfast at hotel in the morning and today's program was to visit the following must see forts in Jaipur.

1. Amer fort
2. Nahargarh fort
3. Jaigarh fort

On reaching Amer fort, the team decided to climb the fort on elephants, spent over 3 hrs in the fort, were very happy and astonished with the architecture of the fort. The team took a break for lunch and returned to the hotel and after lunch they proceeded to visit the remaining two forts, were surprised to see the biggest cannon of the world preserved in Jaigarh fort. Close to 6 pm returned back to the hotel for rest and a good dinner.

Ride from Jaipur to Bikaner.

Finally the D day arrived, all the international riders were excited for the flag off of the Rajasthan Escapade Ride with Ifmr India. The Jaipur Rotary Club of Bapunagar was the host to the flag off event at 8.15 am, after usual plesantries exchange with local members the event was flagged off and slowly all the riders were moving in unison towards highway and leaving Jaipur behind.







After crossing over 150 kms, the team halted for a lunch break and took good rest to complete the rest of the journey. By evening 6 pm all were inside the famous Laxmi Nivas Palace hotel in Bikaner. Slowly all started unwinding and regrouped for a good dinner. Slowly all retired to their rooms for good sleep.

From Bikaner to Jaisalmer,

After the breakfast we were greeted by Rotarians of Bikaner along with PDG and they flagged off, we stopped for an early lunch after covering 150 kms. We reached The Adventure camp our stay for the night by 5pm. We wound up for the day after the Rajasthani entertainment and a sumptuous dinner.

Jaisalmer,

After our breakfast we started our ride to Jaisalmer Fort which is around 40 kms from the camp. Built in 1155 Jaisalmer Fort is situated in the city of Jaisalmer, in the Indian state of Rajasthan. It is believed to be one of the very few "living forts" in the world, as nearly one fourth of the old city's population still resides within the fort. For the better part of its 860-year history, the fort was the city of Jaisalmer. After the visit we finished lunch and rode to the Haunted village of Kuldhara. It is an abandoned village in the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan, India. Established around the 13th century, it was once a prosperous village inhabited by Paliwal Brahmins.

It was abandoned by the early 19th century for unknown reasons, possibly because of dwindling water supply, an earthquake, or as a local legend claims, because of the atrocities by the Jaisalmer State's minister Salim Singh. Later on our way back we had a short off-roading and returned to the camp. In the evening we went for a camel ride in the Dunes of Jaisalmer. Returned to our camp had our dinner. It was an eventful day, all the riders rested for the day.













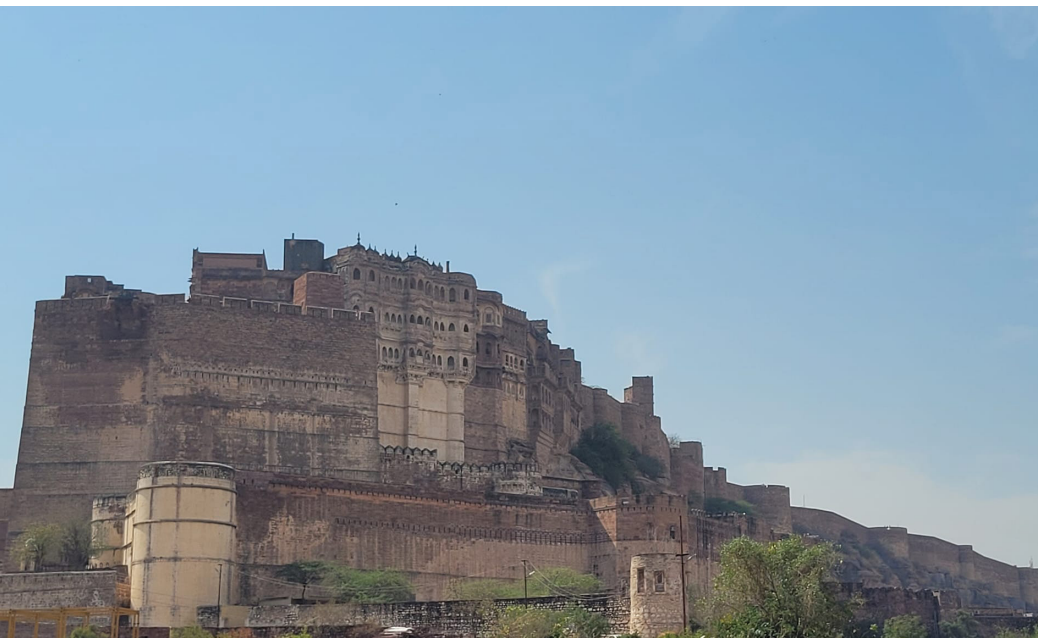
Left Sam Adventure Camp at around 8am after our breakfast and rode till lunch time. After finishing lunch we headed to Jodhpur where we were welcomed by Rotarians of Rotary Midtown Jodhpur along with DGN Pavan Khandelwal. Rotarians had organised for fellowship with some snacks for the riders. After fellowship with Rotarians of Jodhpur, riders arrived and checked-in at the iconic Umaid Bhavan Palace Hotel. It was a relaxed evening and riders settled down in their respective rooms after dinner.

As it was a local sightseeing day for us in Jhodpur We left to Mehrangarh fort at 10 am after our breakfast it was about 30 minutes ride. Mehrangarh Fort covers an area of 1,200 acres (486 hectares) in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India. The complex is located on a hilltop around 122 metres above the surrounding plain, and was constructed c. 1459 by Rajput ruler Rao Jodha, though most of the existing structure is from the 17th century. Inside its boundaries there are several palaces known for their intricate carvings and expansive courtyards, as well as a museum housing various relics. A winding road leads to and from the city below.

The imprints of the impact of cannonballs fired by attacking armies of Jaipur can still be seen on the second gate. At the north-east of the fort is the chhatra of Kirat Singh Soda, a soldier who fell on the spot defending Mehrangarh. After 3 hours of enjoying the







majestic fort we had our lunch and we visited Umaid Bhawan Palace, Which is located in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India, it is one of the world's largest private residences. A part of the palace is managed by Taj Hotels. It is named after Maharaja Umaid Singh, grandfather of the present owner, Gaj Singh. The palace has 347 rooms and is the principal residence of the former Jodhpur royal family. A part of the palace is a museum. After an hour we reached our hotel rested after the Dinner.

Jodhpur to Udaipur about 290 Kms We started our ride at 8 am after our breakfast and rode towards Bullet Baba temple which is around 60 kms from Jodhpur. On 5 May 1988, Om Banna (formerly known as Om Singh Rathore; banna, an honorary word used for Rajput youth) was travelling from the town of Bangdi near Sanderao of Pali, to Chotila, when he lost control of his motorcycle and hit a tree. He died on the spot whereas the motorcycle fell into a nearby ditch. The morning after the accident, local police took the motorcycle to a nearby police station. The next day it was reported to have mysteriously disappeared from the station and was found back at the site of the incident. Police, once again, took the motorcycle, this time emptying its fuel tank and putting it under lock and key. Despite their efforts, the next morning it again disappeared and was found at the accident site. Legend says that the



motorcycle kept returning to the same ditch. It thwarted every attempt by police to keep it at the local police station; the motorcycle always returned to the same spot before dawn. This came to be seen as a miracle by local population, and they began to worship the "Bullet Bike." News of the miracle motorcycle spread to nearby villages, and later they built a temple to worship it. This temple is known as "Bullet Baba's Temple." It is believed that Om Banna's spirit helps distressed travellers. After visiting we had our lunch and took a detour towards Ranakpur riding through the Aravali range and reached Udaipur at 4pm. We had our dinner and called it a day.

Today we started from Udaipur to Bundi a distance of 270 km. The weather was pleasant. Deepak our ride lead briefed us before we hit the road. We rode through the town of Udaipur before we hit the highway. This highway is part of the golden quadrilateral highway of India. It was a 6 lane highway with lots of trucks plying on it.

As we rode on this road I hummed a motorcycle song. I noticed that we were covering good distance with our speed being a 80 kmh for a large part and at times we did a cool 100kmh.

We had a minor electrical issue with one of the bike and, as our mechanic was not around jumped in to rectify the issue. The ignition was







the problem and was solved along with the mechanic who had arrived by then. We reached Bundi by lunch time. I noticed that the average speed was higher today than the previous days. I know I had no role to play in this.

On reaching Bundi we had lunch and headed out for sightseeing. Visited the Rani ki boari a stepwell, we also visited a small museum. And the room where Rudyard Kipling had stayed (author of Jungle Book). We then headed back to our hotel. Later we had a birthday celebration for one of our international rider Jean Paul. We retired to our rooms post dinner



Bundi to the Ranthambore (Tiger land). Today was a short ride of 130Km. And we decided to take the back roads for some distance. The weather was perfect for riding and we reached our destination before lunch time. Ranthambore National Park is located about 13.5 kilometers from the city of Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan.



Located at the junction of the Aravali and Vindhya hill ranges, this is one of the finest places to view wild animal. The park covers an area of approximately 400 sq km. Ranthambore National Park is dotted with structures that remind you of bygone eras. There are numerous water bodies scattered all across the park, which provide perfect relief to the wild



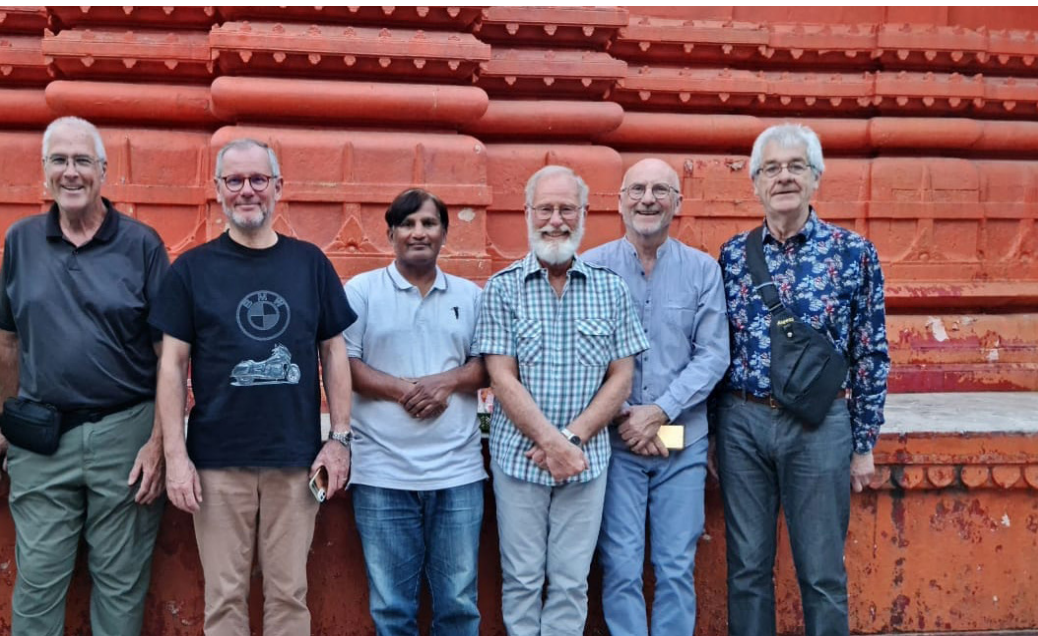
animals during the scorching hot days in summers. A huge fort, after which the park is named, towers over the park atop a hill. There are many ruins of bygone eras scattered all over the jungle, which give it a unique, wonderful and mixed flavour of nature, history and wildlife. Tigers at Ranthambore National park have been known to even hunt in full view of human visitors.

Ranthambore National Park was established initially as Sawai Madhopur Game Sanctuary in 1955 by the Government of India. In 1973, it was declared as one of the Project Tiger reserves in India. It was on 1st November, 1980 that Ranthambore was declared a national park. The ride was comfortable. Today we had all the time to catch up on afternoon naps. In the evening there was a downpour which made it cooler than it already was.

Tiger, Tiger, Tiger, today was a day we all wanted to see a tiger in Ranthambore Tiger Sanctuary. And we did see a tiger after a hard butt hurting drive in a 4 wheel drive vehicle in the forest. We had to be up early in the morning to catch a glimpse of the tiger, we were up and ready by 5:30 am. We drove to the forest and then began our journey to find a tiger. Before that we sighted other animals like Indian sambar (deer), spotted deers, and other animals. But, at last we sighted a tiger which was sleeping in the bushes. We did get a good







look at it. Our Safari was worth the time and getting up early. Back at the resort we had breakfast and then a short nap, after lunch we headed back to the forest to say hello to the tigers but, I guess the tiger/tigers had enough of us. So no tiger sighting in the afternoon safari.

We ended the day by watching a folk dance at the resort followed by dinner. All set for the riding tomorrow.



Ranthambore to Pushkar. Today was the penultimate day of Rajasthan Escapades. The distance we had to cover was 275 km. We started our ride at 8:30am after the customary briefing by Deepak. The route was mostly on the highway but, the traffic was heavy. We reached Pushkar by 4:00pm and checked into a wonderful hotel.

Later we went to the Bramha temple in Pushkar (The temple is one of very few existing temples dedicated to the Hindu creator-god Brahma, in India and remains the most prominent among them. The temple structure dates to the 14th century, with later partial rebuilding. The temple is made of marble and stone slabs. It has a distinct red pinnacle (shikhara) and a hamsa bird motif. The temple sanctum sanctorum holds the image of four-headed Brahma and his consort Gayatri). After the visit to the temple and lake we returned to our hotel .





Pushkar to Jaipur 150 km. The last day of Rajasthan Escapades. We were all happy and sad at the same time, happy we were on the last leg of the ride but, sad it was the last day of a wonderful ride which has been memorable, a wonderful experience and, for new friends.

We departed from Pushkar at 8:30am and headed to Sambhar Lake. The Sambhar Salt Lake, is India's largest inland salt lake, and salt has been extracted from the lake for eons. We arrived at the lake and rode on the lake bed, in season flamingos and other migratory birds visit the lake. Then it was on to Jaipur, the traffic was heavy on the highway and we had to weave our way through it, which was perfectly done by all our guest riders who, seemed like had mastered the art of riding in Indian traffic. We finally arrived where it all started 2 week ago that is, Jaipur. It was time to congratulate each other on the safe and successful completion of the ride.

We retired to our rooms to meet later in the evening for a finale. In the evening we had Arun Belur and Prashant Mishra the President and Secretary of IFMR India respectively along with Jai Shankar a member of IFMR India with us.

All the riders were felicitated in the traditional way. And the achievement recognised. We like to thank all involved in organising this ride, the participants, the backup team, all our well wishers and last but not the least, all those who have followed the write-ups. Thank you and good bye until next time.







## Sakleshpur

3rd April 2023

Bangalore to Sakleshpur

It was decided to visit Sakleshpur, a 250 km ride one way, on 1st April and return on 2nd April, with an overnight stay at a resort. 16 riders opted to join for the ride. On schedule departure time of 6.15 am on Sunday morning, 14 riders reached the starting point of The KLE Dental College gate at Yeshwantpur.

Two riders, Asad and Vinay had some early morning biz commitment and informed that they will reach the resort directly after a gap of one hour. President Arun, addressed everyone, gave a brief about today's ride with breakfast stop and made the riding groups with Lead and Sweep of each group. Requested Rtn. Vinod to recite the prayer for the success and safety of the ride, he invoked Gayatri Mantra and soon all were on their bikes. One by one all the 3 groups left with a gap of 5 minutes.

The traffic was moderate and the weather was pleasant, soon we were on NH 75 leading to Hassan town, close to 7.30 am all the riders of 3 groups had reached the Dhruvtare restaurant on the highway, close to 90 km from the starting point. All took some time to unwind and for nature's call. Headed to the first floor of the restaurant, all had a great breakfast of Idly/Dosa/Pongal/Kesari Baath/Coffee. Rtn. Vinod picked up the bill for payment as breakfast was sponsored by him for getting his new bike Super Meteor 650. All thanked him. Close to 9.30 am we started for the next leg of the ride, after



cruising for another 100km, stopped for tender coconut water on the highway. Soon we were entering Sakleshpur town by covering the final 60 km and our leads guided us to the beautiful home stay resort called Doddamane Mandara Homestay. All settled in the allotted cottages. It was 12 noon and we were inside the homestay.

Soon, Asad and Vinay joined us and It was Fellowship time for all till midnight with in between break for little rest and homestay recreation facilities. The caretakers of the homestay had arranged lunch, snacks and dinner for all, it was great food and arrangement under one roof.

The next morning all got up totally relaxed, few decided to visit the popular Mandara Fort, located next to Homestay itself, after a sumptuous breakfast all saddled up for the return journey, it was 9.45 am when we started. Midway to Bangalore stopped for a water break and reached home by 2 pm for home food for lunch. It was one of the finest overnight rides with great fellowship/ bonding/camaraderie. Big salute to the staff members of homestay for giving excellent service with smiles always.







## AGM IFMR – 22/23

3rd May 2023

Bangalore

Time was 11 am for the AGM, and fellowship time till 11.30 am, around 30 members had arrived by 11.30 am. President Arun Belur and Secretary Prashant Mishra requested all to take their seats and called the meeting to order. As per agenda circulated earlier the proceedings started. President Arun welcomed all and requested Secretary Prashant Mishra to present his report for the year, he presented the same in detail on a screen. Many senior members appreciated the efforts in making a detailed report. President Arun Belur asked Treasurer Ajit Ram to present the financials for the year, which were given by him in details with no question asked and it got passed

The next item on the agenda was to release the IFMR yearly Magazine REAR VIEW, Arun Belur asked Vinod Agarwal to present it. Same was forwarded to all the members on their devices and released the same on the screen with a power point presentation, all applauded the efforts and liked the E-magazine immensely.

President Arun Belur asked all the past presidents to join him at the dias and recognised them by praising their contribution to IFMR and shaping the future of IFMR. President Arun Belur also recognised the team efforts of his core committee members and asked them to join him for a photo op.



Secretary Prashant Mishra had earlier circulated information about a few changes in bye laws and the same were taken for discussion one by one. Few were ratified and few were asked to modify and then implement it.

President Arun Belur announced the new President for the year 2023-24 as Rtn Rajesh AR and requested him to accept the same by giving his speech and announcing his full team for the year 2023/24. Rtn Rajesh thanked the floor for allowing him to become President unopposed and for full faith and support extended in becoming the president elect. He announced his team. Finally Secretary Prashant Mishra thanked all for coming for the AGM in great numbers and requested to join for fellowship and lunch.







## Vijayapura

8 May 2023

Bangalore to Vijayapura - 100 kms.

On the scheduled time of 6.30 am to assemble at the starting point of Esteem Mall, 8 riders had arrived, waited till 6.45 am, President Arun Belur decided to start the ride without further waiting, gave a small brief about today's ride, decided himself to be lead and asked Prashanth Babu to be the sweep and left others to decide their riding sequence. Asked Vinod Agarwal to offer the prayer for the safety and success of today's ride, he recited Gayatri Mantra. Immediately after that, the ride started, the weather was absolutely amazing, cool and breezy. Rode for 30 km, crossed Devanahalli area and soon light drizzle started, all stopped to wear their rain gears. Since there were many new road constructions, we diverted a little and then soon discovered our breakfast point in the town of Vijayapura, today's final destination. We were surprised to see many more bikers from Bangalore at the restaurant, realised the popularity of it once we started our breakfast of Idly/Vada/Dosa/Rice/Kesari Baath and filter Coffee. The food was heavenly. We had to wait in line to get our orders. It was worth visiting the place. Picture abhi baaki hai doston, another surprise waited for us. Past president Ajit decided to sponsor the breakfast bill on the occasion of getting his new BMW GS 310 bike. All thanked him for his goodwill gesture. Since there was not much to do all decided to head back to Bangalore. Soon we were on the highway and immediately on crossing the Devanahalli toll gate, decided to stop for disbursal and to say goodbye for a wonderful Sunday morning ride. All were home by 10.30 am.





## Get Together

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14 May 2023

Thanks Giving get-together for the Core Committee member by President Rtn.Arun Belur held at Naveen Kumar's house on 14th May, 2023





## Kunigal

4th June 2023

Bangalore to Kunigal - 160 Kms

This was the last monthly ride for the year 22-23, As around 15 riders are going for the Spiti Ride on 7th June, the attendance was a little less. At 6.30 6 IFMRians ( Plus 1 Prospect, Rtn Rajesh from IT corridor) turned up at the KLE dental Gate. President Arun had a prior Rotary engagement so although he was not going to ride he turned up to Flag Us off.

With Rajesh as the lead and Ajith as the sweep we started our journey on a (thankfully) overcast morning. The destination was Kunigal some 80 odd kms. Rajesh suggested Boothaaiah Tiffin Centre which served Hot Tatte Idlies and Vadai. True to its reputation each one of us had their fill followed by Coffee. The breakfast was sponsored by Venkey Sir.. Along with the breakfast each one received a packed of homemade Chakali, Thanks Venkey Sir. Soon after the breakfast we started our return journey, break up at Nelmangala Toll Gate.

We had a memorable year 22-23, well thought of day rides, over night rides, cause rides and long rides. Thanks President Arun, Secretary Prashant Mishra and the core. The next Monthly ride will be under the stewardship of Incoming president Rajesh's Team. Looking forward to it









## Spiti Ride

8th to 17th June 2023

Day 1

Chandigarh to Shimla - Distance 120 Km

In two batches of total 12 and 3 riders, left Chandigarh around 8.30 am and 4 pm for Shimla. The road condition was very good, after a customary stop for breakfast and tea, reached Shimla by 1pm to a beautiful hotel. All settled in their rooms and had relaxed lunch and in the evening all decided to leave for Mall Road and Ridge area, the iconic place of Shimla. Second batch of riders had reached hotel by 8pm. After a good dinner all retired to their rooms.

Day 2

Shimla to Chail - Kufri - Shimla - Distance 110 Km

Today was a rest day and little sight seeing option around Shimla for the riders. All woke up lazily and had delayed breakfast, again the group was divided with options of sight seeing. 5 went for a train ride towards Solan, got down after two stops and were back to the hotel for lunch and rest.. The second group of 10 riders decided to visit a popular place called Chail, nearly 50 km from the hotel. All took their bike and slowly headed to Chail, it was a mix of good and off road rides. Took over 90 minutes to reach our first stop, world highest cricket ground at 7500 ft height. It is under the military's occupation and is part of Rashtriya Military School. Took some photographs and







decided to head to the iconic Chail Palace, built in the year 1890 by King Bhupendra Singh of Patiala as his summer retreat. All spent over one hour exploring it and clicking pictures. Close to 1pm, we started our return journey with a stop for lunch before Kufri and were back to the hotel by 4.30 pm. A day well spent with bike riding and sight seeing.

### Day 3

Route - Shimla - Kufri - Narkanda - Rampur - Tapri - Kharcham - Sangla - Rakhcham. Distance - 255 km.

Today was one of the longest ride routes of the Spiti circuit. It was decided to leave by 8 am, to cover the route by 6 pm. All were ready with an early breakfast, saddle up was over before 7.30 am. had sumptuous breakfast and joined for the briefing. Prez Arun explained today's ride route and all the stoppages in between, riders were divided into 3 groups comprising 5 riders. Rtn. Raghavendra was asked to recite the prayer for the safety and success of today's ride, he invoked Lord Ganesh ji by reciting Ganesh Mantra.

Soon one by one each group started the journey with their respective Lead and Sweep riders appointed. The first 100 km ride was very pleasant and very scenic after leaving Shimla town, all around Apple Orchards were visible with huge nets covered all around for protection from hail storms and damages from birds. From a distance they were looking like snow covered mountains. All stopped at various spots to take pictures. Close to 1 pm stopped for lunch at a nice restaurant just before Rampur. Our happiness was short lived after lunch, road conditions started deteriorating, and the road was becoming narrower. Things improved near Tapri, where JSW group have their 440 MW hydro power project but after that again things become very tough. The last 50 km was the toughest crossing Sangla, Kharcham and reaching Rakhcham, it was a real test for all the riders, it was a steep climb and very narrow roads with no asphalt. Finally close to 6 pm reached our Escape Adventure Resort, and it was totally rewarding to see a beautiful resort inside a valley, snow capped mountain on both sides and river Sutlej flowing beside. Stay tonight was in Swiss tents.











All took some time to unwind and joined for a wonderful hot dinner, after which all hit their respective tents for a good sleep. Tiring day but rewarding too with the ride experience and staying at a lovely place, where temperature was 1 degree centigrade.

#### Day 4

Route : Rakhcham - Chitkul - Sangla - Kalpa. Distance 85 km.

All had got up early and were enjoying the surroundings of the Camp site at Rakhcham, few had gone for Trek and few were soaking in the beauty of the place. After breakfast all were ready to leave for the next stop Chitkul, the last village of India. Prez Arun had a briefing, changed the group sequence departure and requested Vinod to offer prayer which he did by invoking Gayatri Mantra for today's successful ride.



Slowly one by one each group left the camp site. Though the distance to Chitkul was not much but due to poor road conditions it took more than 30 minutes to reach, on reaching all we were excited that we were in the last Village of India, everything was claiming themselves to be the last place of India, be it a Dhaba or Post office, which is very obvious. All took pictures of these places and went around the village by spending the next 1 hr.



Soon we were on our bike for today's destination, Kalpa, the first 50 km was the toughest with narrow and broken roads with not much support on the cliff, all were very cautious while riding. Close to 1 pm, had reached Kharcham for lunch break, spent an hour and started again for the final leg of the 35 km journey, it was ok with many hair pin bends. Reached



our hotel close to 4 pm. All were a little tired and wanted to take rest, went to respective rooms for rest, came out for dinner around 9 pm and retired soon for a good sleep. A day well spent seeing this part of the country.

#### Day 5

Route : Kalpa - Reckong Peo  
- Spillow - Pooh - Nako.

Distance: 110 km

Since our ride for today was only 110km, it was pre decided to start late at 10.45 am. All had got up slowly and few went to the Kalpa town for a morning walk. Our hotel was bang opposite to Mount Kinner Kailash, and it was totally snow capped and looking awesome. Everyone got busy taking many pictures, close to 9 am, breakfast was on and after it, all got ready for saddle up and roll. Prez Arun had a huddle meeting, explained today's route and asked all to adhere to their group sequence, slowly all started today's ride.

Immediately after coming out of the hotel, all stopped for refueling of bikes, as the number of petrol pumps in this route is limited due to high altitude terrain. Soon we all started, the first few km was full of unlimited hair pin bends, reached Reckong Peo, the road was good, thanks to BRO. But the terrain was curvy, and needed 100% focus on roads. Crossed Spillow and reached Pooh, we stopped at a nice restaurant in Pooh for lunch, spent over one hour here, took some more pictures of the background. Today's terrain was reminiscent of majestic mountains of stone and gravel like in Ladakh. Stopped at many places for more and more pictures, time was at our disposal today.







Reached our resort in Nako around 4pm. It was a wonderful Swiss Tent set up, well maintained with all facilities. Soon after freshening up, few decided to explore Nako village. Visited 1100 years old monastery and Nako lake, main attraction of Nako. By sunset, all were back and were welcomed by a bon fire by resort management as the temperature was dipping into a single digit. All rejoined for a sumptuous hot dinner and after which bid goodnight to all and were inside their tent for good sleep.



Day - 6  
Route : Nako - Sumdo -  
Gue - Tabo - Kaza  
Distance: 120 km

Again today was not a long ride so it was decided to leave by 9.30 am. All had woken up early and wanted to explore Nako village, all went for a walk and tried to see the must-see spots of Nako. All had assembled for breakfast at 8 am, it was a lavish spread keeping in mind the remote-ness of the place. After which all got themselves ready with their riding gears and saddle up. Prez Arun had a briefing meet with all, explained today's route, requested Rtn Rajan to offer today's prayer, which he obliged by reciting a mantra. The riding sequence of 3 groups was announced and slowly started our ride.



Day - 7  
Route: Sightseeing in Kaza.

Today was a complete off biking day. It was decided last night itself to go for sightseeing in and around Kaza, the district headquarters of Spiti District. All woke up late and had a relaxed breakfast. It was



also decided to hire a Temp Traveller/Sumo for sightseeing instead of taking the bikes. There are 6 main attractions in Kaza as follows.

1. Key Monastery - over a few thousand old monastery.
  2. Chicham Bridge - Asia's highest hanging bridge.
  3. Kibber - Wild life Sanctuary where snow leopard are spotted in winters
  4. Langza - worlds highest Buddha's statue of 35 feet at an altitude of 14440 ft.
  5. Komik - World highest motorable village at 14800 ft with a cafe.
  6. Hikkim - World highest post office by India post.
- After completing all the visit, we were back by 5.30 pm to hotel for rest.

Day 8

Route : Kaza - Losar - Kunzum Pass - Batal - Chandratat  
Distance: 110km

All were excited to go to Chandratat today as were informed that the road is open to go there. After a quick breakfast all were ready to leave Kaza at 9.30 am. Prez Arun had a huddle and gave an idea of today's route and ride. The riding group sequence was announced. Rtn Naveen offered the prayer for today's success.

One by one each group started their ride, initial road conditions were ok. Saw a clean and vacant road with mountains on both sides, all decided to stop here to take some group and individual pictures. Started again and after some time stopped near a road side tea stall for refreshment. The first 50 km of today's ride was a breeze till Losar. After which the horror story started as we were approaching Kunzum Pass,







ice all around, road conditions were zero, no roads to call it. Temperature was freezing, deep descent with many sharp hair pin bends was a recipe for disaster and many water bodies to cross, not for a faint hearted rider. Somehow slowly and steadily all covered the next 60 km without any improvement on road conditions. Reached our Camping site in Chandratul around 2 pm. All were hungry and in such a remote area maggi was a luxury. All had maggi noodles for lunch and close to 3.30 pm, all decided to visit the world famous Chandratul lake on bikes.



First 2 km was total off-road and final one km was on foot. But the effort to visit lake was worth it, surrounded by snow capped mountains, it was giving a surreal feelings. Post lake visit all were back to their Swiss Tent in camp site for the night stay.

Day 9

Route : Chandratul - Gramphu  
- Atal Tunnel - Manali.

Distance: 120 km



Everyone was aware of the toughness of today's ride. Accordingly it was decided to leave at 8 am. After breakfast all assembled for the group meet, Prez Arun explained about today's ride. Despite distance being less but terrain is the worst for the first 80km. Cautioned all to ride safe. Rtn Prashanth Babu offered today's prayer.

Soon the group started leaving one by one, water bodies/ crossings were non stop with no road to speak off anything. It was the same situation all along. Picture abhi baaki hai doston, after crossing 50 km, there was a land slide and the road was blocked since last evening, after



having waited for more than 45 minutes, it was informed only bikes are allowed to cross the land slide area, our group were the first to cross over the stretch. Subsequent to opening of land slide, there was a snow slide too. In all it delayed the arrival to Manali, all reached close to 5.30 pm. All were exhausted and tired, today's ride was the toughest one and needed rest. All retired to rooms for the next day ride Chandigarh.

Day - 10

Route: Manali - Kullu - Mandi - Surendranagar - Chandigarh - Distance: 300 km

As the distance was more, Prez Arun had informed all to leave early by 8 am to cover a longer distance ride today. All were ready and existed to start early and reach Chandigarh. Prez Arun had a small huddle meet, explained the route and asked Rtn Asad to offer the prayer for today's success. He obliged by reciting a prayer. All left one by one, after covering a distance of 45 km, all stopped at a sprawling food restaurant for breakfast. All took sufficient time to enjoy the first meal of the day. After spending 45 minutes we started our journey to Chandigarh. The first 150 km journey was ok with normal weather conditions after that the heat was becoming unbearable, yesterday morning we were at -2 degree centigrade and now experiencing 40 degrees. Slowly and steadily all reached Chandigarh hotel close to 4 pm.

Finally, the Spiti valley ride has come to an end. Thanks to one and all for extending their cooperation in making the ride a grand success. Big thanks to Prez Arun and Secretary Prashant for taking good care of all the riders and making it comfortable to them.







## Varanasi Club Charter

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30th June 2023

Installation and charter Presentation of Varanasi Sub Chapter. Sachin Mishra ji as Charter President.









## Rider Log 1

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24 November 2022

Vinay Venkatram

24th Nov 2022 was a grey and rainy day, the anxious checking of weather apps on the mobile phone a few days ago was futile, mother nature is always 2 step ahead of all the weather sensors or satellites. This time I was determined not to be bogged down by the weather that I had been doing so since a long time this climate changed year, because this was a question of faith for me. Yes, I and Rtn. Ashok had planned to visit the Holy Shrine of Lord Subrahmanya at Kukke and also hike the mighty Kumaraparvatha. (Called Pushpagiri in Coorge). We also ensured we will left at earthly hours and said no to the 3am 5am business, we woke up naturally as per our preset circadian clocks which would ensure proper alertness throughout the day and normal biological markers keeping us in a good humor.

This was the same schedule we used throughout the Bangalore to Guwahati ride that had kept us in good spirits. When we started from our homes there was enough sunlight to start the ride safely. I geared up with my riding gear and wore the decathlon rain pants, a 10000 Schember Quechua rain jacket and Rynox D30 Water proof socks that had kept me insulated during the north east ride in May this year. This rain was more of a spray than a stream that we usually see during the monsoons. Riding is such conditions heightens your senses and one is more alert than usual especially when I ride on my scarily slippery MRF tires.







After meeting up with Rtn. Ashok at Shark breakfast point on NH75 and having masala dosha and all other carb rich foods assuming it would power the attention required to ride till the destination. We started the ride together. The traffic was thankfully low today.

I kind of enjoy looking at my machine during highway breaks, it is immensely satisfying and I feel uneasy when it is not in my line of sight. I would have done the same to my steed if I was in 15th Century. We soon got into the single lane road after sakleshpur and the rain still continued to spray intermittently, but buy now we had gotten used to the cognition required for riding in such condition. We took a break at the ossoor restaurant a peculiarly ryming name, and had the safest option of food during travel the fast running stuff and in this case it was the plate meals.

Pretty soon we entered the Shiradi ghats and sights were spectacular along the twisties. this was the beginning of the golden hour when the sun began to set and I demanded that we break for a photo sessions all along, because these sights are what we miss in Bangalore. We reached Kukke Town before it got dark and after searching for a hotel we settled down in a comfortable one. The temple town was fully litup for a deepa festival that had just concluded. The use of LED lighting was not to my taste but the selfie generation seemed to love it.

The next day morning after the usual breakfast of idily and wadas we took a rickshaw to the trek start point, the rickshaw drivers here seem much more honest than the ones in Bangalore about pricing, they did not quote prices based on our looks and cloths we wore. This was a hike and not a trek, we just wanted to get to the world-famous Bhattar Mane and then return back the same day.

We reached Bhattar mane after close to 3hours of hiking and we reached the Bhattar mane the motel of the trekkers paradise on time for a simple rice and tilisaaru lunch. After returning from the hike by evening, we were exhausted, we miscalculated the water requirement, one needs at least 4 liters to scale the peak, and half of that for Bhattar Mane, hence I made the best of the small hotel that was there at the trek starting point. The evening was very pleasant as I was swimming in the post workout endorphin concoction.

This time we took a different route to avoid HCV traffic but found it to be filled with speed bumps, potholes, patchy surface and a lot of lungi and paragon chappal clad TVSXL and Splendors riders, This was the Bisley Ghat route, although it consumed less fuel, it make the journey long, even unbearably long at that moment.









## Rider Log 2

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18 November 2022

Bangalore to Goa

Rider Mania is a flagship event of Royal Enfield that happens every year but for the last 2 yrs due COVID it could not be held. So this year's RM was expected to be bigger and grander than ever and the venue being Goa, cannot get better than any place in the world. So, six IFMRian registered for the same well in advance.

As discussed earlier, Rtn Rajshekhar Patil was to meet directly in Goa as he was going there with family, the other 5 of us, Vijay, Punit, Amit, Raghvendra and Vinod decided to leave on 17th morning at 6 am, starting point was KLE Dental College gate at Yeshwantpur. All had arrived on time on the due date and without wasting time, had quick prayer and appointed Rtn. Punit as Lead and rest followed him in their sequence with Vijay as Sweep. It was a cold morning, soon we were engulfed with thick fog for virtually 40 km. Had decided that our next stop will be after 120 km near Sira, stopped at Pakshala for the best breakfast in a long time, Vijay Mane is known for ordering food in good quantity, had taken charge and it was a grand breakfast for all. After another 250 km biking, we stopped for lunch just before Hubli, again a stop discovered in last year's trip to Goa. It was again a lavish fair. Soon we were leaving the highway and entering the state highway to Goa after bypassing Hubli. Stopped at Ramnagar and Molem for fuel and tea break and reached our Hotel Green Park by 6pm in Goa.

After some freshen up at the hotel, Punit had arranged a grand dinner



at his friend's poshest restaurant in Panjim, Soul Curry, arranged a cab for the next 3 days stay in Goa and left for the dinner. All had a great time exchanging pleasantries with Punit's friends in the restaurant and enjoyed the food and drinks. We went back to the hotel for a good sleep and rest after biking for 650 km.

Next day, 18th November, was the first day of Rider Mania after breakfast all jumped into the cab and dashed to Vagator Beach area, venue for RM, on the way it looked as if entire roads traffic is leading to RM, it was chock a block venue, parked our cab and headed inside the first entry point of RM, spent close to 3 hrs seeing all the new offerings of RE. It was a great morning session of RM. For lunch, Punit was advised by his Goan friends to visit Vinayaka restaurant in Vagator for the most and best authentic Goanese food, true to its name and fame, it was packed, waited for virtually 45 minutes, no body wanted waste time, all had their quota of drinks in the adjacent liquor shop till then. We were joined by Goa Chapter IMFRians Ashley for lunch, everyone had food to their heart's content. All decided that let us go back to the hotel for some rest and go to RM for the evening concerts. All relaxed in the hotel till 7 pm and got ready for the concerts of RM. On reaching the venue, it was a mind-blowing show of music, light and sound, riders from all over India were enjoying every moment of it, made contact with our Rtn. Rajshekhar Patil and met him, met many known riders across India. The celebrity RE's senior citizen couple from Delhi, Mr.









Yogesh Bhalla and his better half Suhasini Bhalla, pillion rider, who have travelled over 23 countries in RE bikes, both above 70 yrs, was a delight, took some pictures with them. All the who's who of RE were present, there were over 15k riders to the show. The highlight of Rider Mania was the most awaited launch of Super Meteor 650 Cruiser bike by MD of RE Sidharth Lal, it was a power packed laser show wherein he unveiled it to everyone's delight. Close to 11pm, decided to leave and explore the night life of Goa, visited a few places had food and drinks and retired to the hotel after 12 am.

Next morning after breakfast, we decided to visit RM in the evening and go to an upscale beach restaurant to chill and relax after breakfast, zeroed to Tomato's in Morzim beach, on the way, spotted a movie shooting spot on the road, wherein a recent movie Dear Zindagi was shot, all got down and took pictures of the area and picked up few bottles of drinks for the road. Reached Tomato's and all got into unwind mode, Vijay went for a few rounds of Beach Volleyball, Amit had a body masseur, giving him company, the rest were enjoying the music and company around them. Food and drinks were ordered as if there was no tomorrow. Close to 4 pm, we left for RM, spent a few hours going around all the stalls and various programs arranged by RE. Soon the second day's music concerts started, after attending it, we left for our hotel to have a light dinner and good sleep.

It was pre decided that we will skip the 3rd day of RM and leave for Bangalore back as next is a working day for all. It was decided to leave early in the morning by 5.30 am and try to cover the distance of 650 km before sunset. The return journey again was glitch free with various intermittent stops for breakfast/lunch/refuelling and finally we were back home before sunset. It was an awesome trip, missed few of our seasoned riders for their finer tips on riding skills.

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## Rider Log 3

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Devesh Agarwal

People ask me, why do I do what appears to be insane adventures, and that too at the age of 58. As bikers, I think we all know why. Bikers, by our very nature, are wanderers, explorers, and story-tellers. There is no better way of discovering any country, than on two wheels; and of course, along the way, we get to experience all those glorious sunrises and sunsets.

I currently ride a Harley Davidson Road Glide. Its the longest bike that Harley manufactures and is designed for long distance touring. Along with my son, I also ride a BMW R 1250 RT sports tourer, and its dual-sport version the R 1250 GS Adventure. I began super-biking back in 1984, and though over the last 38 years I've ridden many makes and models; Harley, Honda, Kawasaki, Moto Guzzi, BMW, Yezdi, Bajaj, Ind-Suzuki, Yamaha; my heart has always been with Harley.

Harley Davidson owners belong to a world-wide group called the "Harley Owners Group" or HOG. In India, HOGs are given challenges to complete and get recognised and awarded special patches for completing such challenges.

One of their toughest, is an annual challenge called 21/365. It requires HOGs to ride their Harley to at least 21 Harley dealers located across India within one calendar year. Given the diversity of climate, heat, rain, cold, fog, etc., the actual riding window is only about three months.







Also, just for 2022, inspired by India's 75th Independence anniversary, Harley also instituted a special one time challenge called "75", which required HOGs to ride to Harley dealers in seven specific cities, based on the stanza in the Indian national anthem "Punjab, Sindh, Gujarat Maratha, Dravida, Utkala, Banga, Vindhya Himachal, Yamuna, Ganga".

I decided to do both the challenges. For me it would be the third time doing the 21/365, having done it earlier in 2018 and 2020. In 2020, during the Covid crisis, I had also done the K2K or Kashmir to Kanyakumari ride. In 2021 along with my son, Vedant, I rode the gruelling Spiti Valley and then on to Ladakh, a two week "roughing it" adventure.

For this year, in October I did Bangalore Mumbai Bangalore. 2,000km over the weekend. In early November 2022, I began my ride from Bangalore towards Jammu. I rode most of this trip solo. From Bangalore to Hyderabad to Nagpur to Bhopal to Indore to Jhansi to Lucknow to Agra to Gurgaon to Dehradun to Chandigarh to Ludhiana to Jammu to Amritsar to Jodhpur to Ahmedabad to Mumbai to Pune back to Bangalore. Total ride distance about 7,400km covered in 9 days.

Between Chandigarh and Surat, I was joined by a veteran fellow HOG Paresh Halwawala. He has completed 21/365 seven times, and has clocked over 1,40,000km. A great source of inspiration but yet, a very humble and supportive person. That's the power of the HOG network.

Later in November, I did a quick 1,500km weekend solo trip to Kochi and back.

In early December to complete the challenges I rode about 4,500km from Bangalore to Rajahmundry to Bhuvaneshwar to Kolkata back to Bhuvaneshwar to Vijayawada to Chennai to Bangalore. The riding itself was over 6 days, but I also attended a zonal HOG rally over the Friday-Saturday weekend. This ride I rode along with hard chargers from Bangalore, Vikram Vijay and Sharique Umer, again two seasoned Harley owners.

During these rides, I completed the 90,000km mileage level on my Harley in India. This excludes my rides of almost 5,00,000km I have done over the last 38 years outside India or on other brands.

Many of my fellow riders have done long-distance riding; and riding 800km to 1,000km per day requires stamina and determination, but the rewards in terms of discovery are just fabulous. The sheer diversity of geographies, foods, cultures, and people is astounding. What remains unchanged is the curiousness and zest for life of the people we come across.

In 2020, during the midst of the Covid pandemic, when there was no vaccine available, people in villages in India went about their work. Their approach "Covid will not stop the crops from growing, and we have to feed my family and my nation".











I also came across youth who are walking, some are hitch-hiking, a lady riding a scooter solo, a couple bicycling, from Kerala to Kashmir. Regardless of size of their bike from pedal power to 1,900cc people are on two wheels exploring this great country. And even though we just met, regardless of type or brand, long distance bikers acknowledge each other, we help each other, we bond over a couple of tea.

When in a group, we awake by about 4:30am and start riding by 5:30am. Riding hard for at least two hours or a minimum 200km and then take a 30 minute break for breakfast. Then break for 10-15 minutes every two hours or 150km - 175km for hydration.

Riding solo, poses a particular challenge. Not having any fellow riders to look after my bike, means I need to be near my bike at all time. So I was forced to alter my riding and eating style. One needs to be much more alert, in just the blink of an eye, catastrophe can strike. You also have to be more careful navigating the massive potholes and insane speed-breakers that litter the highways of India. I noticed the states with the worst roads, had the most number of speed breakers. Talk about rubbing salt to the wounds of our sore backsides. Solo also forced me to take only tea breaks along with the ever available Parle-G, at that too, only at some small tea stand outside a village or town. Even then, the minute I stopped my bike, even for just five minutes, I was mobbed. From the villagers, to an MLA, a Sarpanch, or a District Collector, who wanted a photograph of her children on the bike. I cannot blame them. A Harley Road Glide is practically a car on two wheels, a 500kg behemoth. And of course, the standard three questions -- "Kitne ki hain? kitna deti hain, petrol yah diesel?"

I averaged about 70km per hour including refuelling and other stops. The end of the day was typically after 12 to 14 hours of riding. My standard end of ride day mantra is Check in to a good hotel. 30 minutes under a hot hot shower, followed by 2 or 3 cold ones. Then a decent dinner. Attend to messages and e-mails, and in bed by 10pm.

As a foodie, I got to experience foods in simple road-side dhabas to luxurious five star hotels, across the country. The pesarattu, pappu and pickle of Andhra, the rich vegetables of Uttar Pradesh, the famous Rajma of Jammu, the thick parathas and curds of Punjab, the spice of Rajasthan, the snacks of Gujarat, the fabulous mutton curry of Maharashtra, the delicate flavour of Oriya Kakuni and mutton curry, the rich taste of Kolkata prawn biryani, the delicate heat on Kandhari squid fry and tawa fry Karimeen in Kochi.

But the food that I miss the most when riding, outside the four southern states, is the plain and simple idli. Steamed, light on the stomach, easy to digest, filling but not over-loading, after all, there are very few toilets, let alone clean ones, on Indian highways.

So here's wishing you many more miles with lots of smiles, and looking forward to meeting you on the road. Ride hard, ride safe.

Yours in Rotary

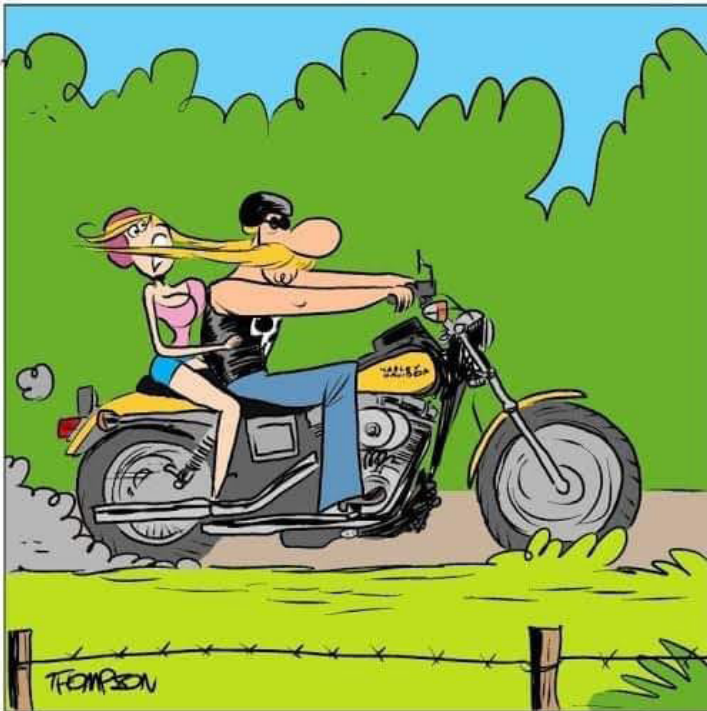








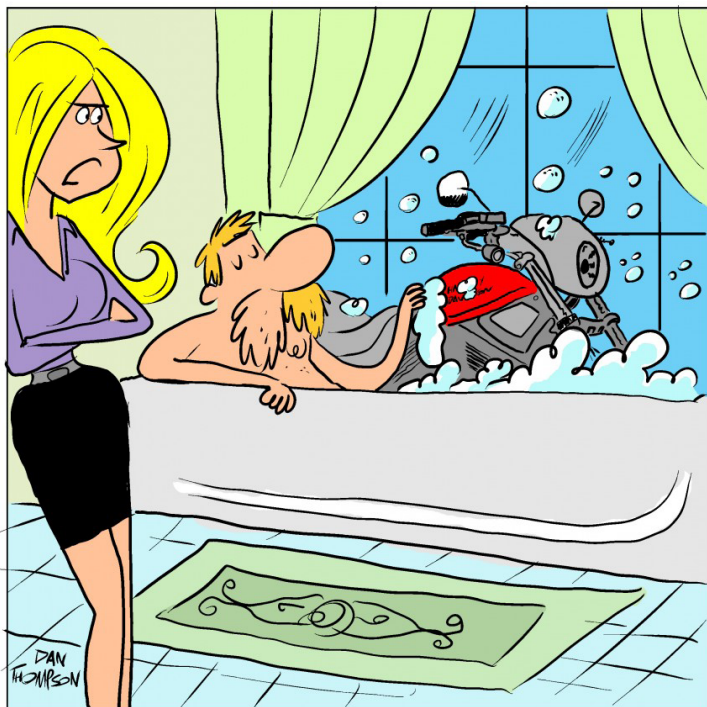




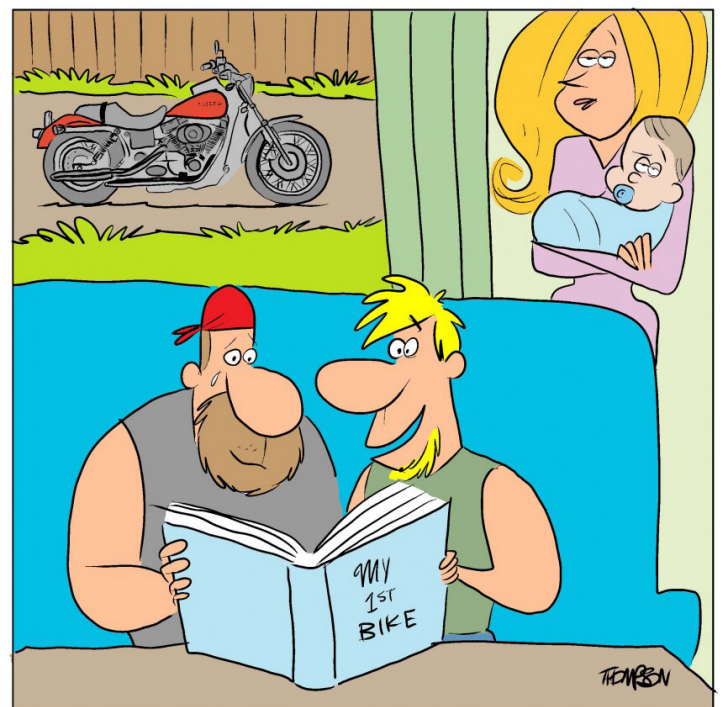
"I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT GETTING YOUR MUSTACHE TRIMMED."



"NO I'M NOT GOING TO WRITE YOU A TICKET, I JUST WANTED A BETTER LOOK AT YOUR BIKE."

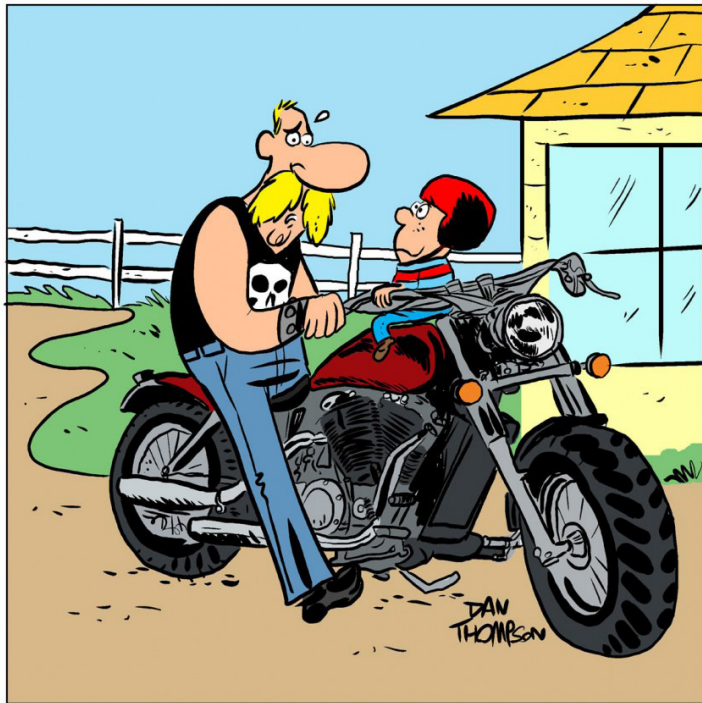


"I UNDERSTAND THAT IT NEEDS TO BE WASHED, BUT WHY DO YOU HAVE TO WASH IT IN THE TUB?"

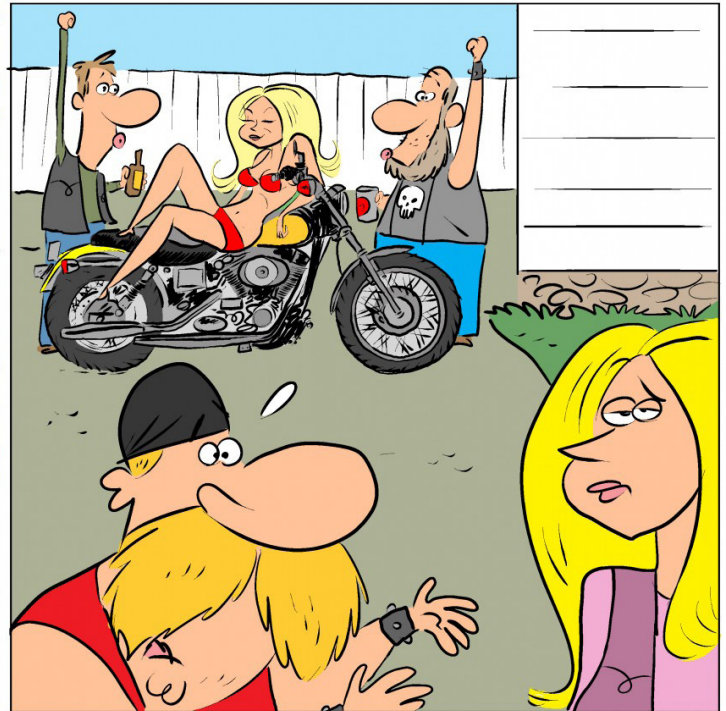


"THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE DAY I BROUGHT HER HOME...SHE WAS CHERRY, THEN I BUMPED INTO THE TREE AND DINGED THE TAIL LIGHT."

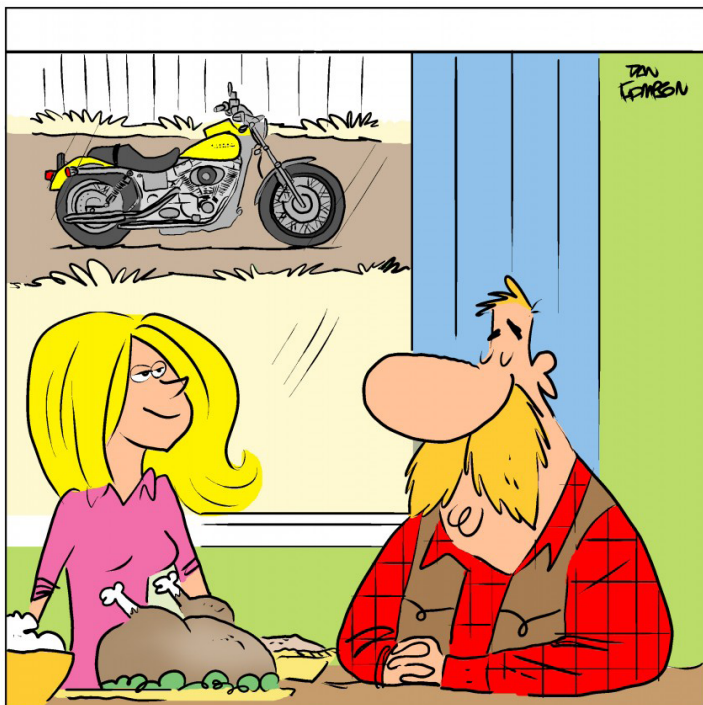




"MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS TO THROW CAUTION TO THE WIND, GET BACK TO MY DANGEROUS RISK TAKING WAYS... THIS IS UNLESS MOM SAYS NO."



"BUT HONEY, THE MODEL ONLY ENHANCES THE LOOK OF MY NEW BIKE WHEN I SHOW IT OFF TO MY BUDS."



"I'M THANKFUL FOR MY BIKE AND MY FAMILY... TWO THINGS I'M CONSTANTLY BUILDING AND MAKING BETTER."











