

President's Message

Dear Friends,

Warm festive greetings to all!

We are privileged to celebrate the festival of lights and bond with our loved ones. Let us pledge to be torch bearers that brighten the lives of the needy and underprivileged.

I am hoping most of you have already purchased tickets for the **Corporate Cricket Challenger** on November 17th and 18th and **The Race for Humanity** on November 25th.

I request your support to make these events successful. As quoted by Ryunosuke Satoro, "Individually we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean." Let us come in solidarity and show our support in large numbers.

Kindly make a note the meeting on November 27th has been rescheduled to November 26th at the Crystal Room, Taj.

Thank You

Rtn. Vijay Jatia
President



Prof. Shaul Sapir brought David Sassoon to life at the Rotary meeting last week

Tales of legend

There is more to David Sassoon than a statue and a library; Prof. Shaul Sapir separates myth and fact going all the way back to the opium trade

LAST TUESDAY, ON NOVEMBER 6TH, Prof. Shaul Sapir shared an experience all humans have shared – curiosity – and its consequences. In Sapir's case, he went into a museum, something he saw that triggered his interest and he tried to get to the bottom of it. Sapir is a professor at the Hebrew University and is an Israeli of Indian Baghdadi origin. This is why the statue of David Sassoon at David Sassoon Library caught his attention. In spite of having contributed to the heritage of Bombay, Sapir realised that there is very little known of the Baghdadi community here. This led him to research David Sassoon.

Shaul's dramatic voice, while narrating the history of David Sassoon, drew everyone's attention and interest. Shaul went on to mention how stories

of the Sassoon dynasty were the stuff of both speculation and legend. Its ancient origins, followed by dealings in opium during the pioneering days, have together contributed to colourful myths. Among Bombay's chief benefactors, the Sassoon family was often referred to as: "The Rothschilds of India". Unlike the Rothschilds, the Sassoons were merchants, opium dealers and textile industrialists in the Far East who claimed Davidic (relating to the Biblical David and his descendants) and other descent and who socialised with British royalty in England.

After a brief introduction to the Sassoon legacy, Shaul revealed more insight on David Sassoon's life. He was the Chief Treasurer of Baghdad. Sassoon married Hannah in 1818. They had two sons and two daughters before she died in 1826. Two years later he married Farha Hyeem (who was born in 1812 and died in 1886). The pair had six sons and three daughters.

Continued on page 2

TODAY: VALLABH BHANSALI, FOUNDER AND CHIEF MENTOR, DESH APNAYEN SAHAYOG FOUNDATION

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Next Week:

DR. MURTUZA RANGWALA
ON FITNESS AND POSTURE





Visiting Rotarian Ralph Jhirad presents President Vijay Jatia with a book, flanked by guest speaker Prof. Shaul Sapir



Rtn. Ptn. Ashish Agarwal, Rtn. Manish Sampat, Rtn. Bimal Mehta, Rtn. Mehul Sampat and Rtn. Charu Agarwal



Rtn. Rhea Bhungara, Rtn. Zeenia Master, Rtn. Vrinda Rajgarhi and Rtn. Meera Alreja



Rtn. Mohit Jain receives birthday wishes from President Vijay Jatia



Guest speaker Prof. Shaul Sapir with Rtn. Sabira Merchant, Visiting Rtn. Ralph Jhirad, Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain and PP. Rtn. Gul Kripalani

Continued from Page 1

Following increasing persecution of Baghdad's Jews by Dawud Pasha, the family moved to Bombay via Persia. Bombay then was a town going through intense development and monumental changes under the British Raj. New opportunities were flourishing and Sassoon adapted to these changes very well. Sassoon was in business in Bombay no later than 1832, originally acting as a middleman between British textile firms and Gulf commodity merchants, subsequently investing in valuable local properties.

By 1840, Sassoon developed his textile operations into a profitable triangular trade: Indian yarn and opium were carried to China, where he bought goods which were sold in Britain, from where he obtained Lancashire cotton products. In addition, he traded in textiles, tea, dried fruit, metals and other goods as well as in real estate enterprises in Bombay, Shanghai and Hong Kong.

To have trustworthy hands helping in business, David involved his sons in his enterprises.

The later part of Shaul's speech included a presentation/ slideshow of pictures he had taken which included the legacy and the contribution of David Sassoon in Bombay and Pune. David Sassoon spent 32 years of his life in Bombay, these years were an essential landmark in the establishment of the Baghdadi Jewish community in the city.

Besides being one of the most successful business magnates, Sassoon was also a keen philanthropist, who channelled much of his surplus fortune towards helping his brethren and the general population of Bombay as well.

Back to the future

His trip to Brazil might be over but Vedant Kadam has come back with fire in his belly

BACK TO THE GROUND AND ready to fly again, pretty much sums up the approach of Vedant Kadam, a Bhavishya Yaan alumni from the N M Joshi Municipal High School who was selected for the Rotary Youth Exchange Programme to go to Brazil. Vedant was inspired and excited by his journey and thankful to Rotary Club of Bombay for sponsoring this exchange.

Vedant came to last Tuesday's meeting and he was all smiles as he narrated his experiences with the Host Family and the Host Club which was the Rotary Club de São Paulo. He spoke about how a mere, few days in Brazil made him remember the Indian belief of *Vasudeiva*



Kutumbakam which means living without any biases in the world. Having toured Brazil and tried the cuisine there, Vedant sees himself as a more confident, independent, friendly and aspiring individual. He plans to go to the University of São Paulo that he had visited while he was in Brazil.

A SUPER FUN DAY AT THE RACES IS HERE!



EAT! SHOP! EXPERIENCE!

STAND UP COMEDIAN **ATUL KHATRI** INTERNATIONAL JAZZ ARTIST **JOHN DI MARTINO** DJ **SHIVA** SCHOOL BAND **ENSEMBLE X**
ILLUSIONIST **MANGESH DESAI** ACTIVITIES **KID ZONE, PET ZONE & MORE!** FASHION SHOW **ROTARACTORS**

GET YOUR PASSES AND PLAN YOUR WEEKEND! ALL PROCEEDS GO TO CHARITY!

[f RACEFORHUMANITY2018](#)



DEAR RCB MEMBERS,

ANOTHER GREAT CHANCE TO MAKE OUR ROTARY FAMILY PROUD IS HERE!

WE ARE SO PROUD TO HOST THE RACE FOR HUMANITY JOINTLY WITH ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI - NARIMAN POINT.

WE ARE GATHERING OUR SOCIAL MEDIA ARMY TO SPREAD THE WORD SO THAT WE GET THOUSANDS OF VISITORS TO ATTEND THE EVENT.

PLEASE DO LOG IN THE RCB FACEBOOK PAGE DAILY AT 10:30 AM AND 5:30 PM TO REPOST, COMMENT AND SPREAD THE INFORMATION WE ARE CURATING FOR RFH. THE MORE YOU SHARE IT, THE MORE OTHERS CAN SEE THE AMAZING MOVEMENT WE ARE ALL A BIG PART OF. WE APPRECIATE THE ENTHUSIASM AND THE SUPPORT.

CHEERS
RCB SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM

BIG WEEKEND COMING UP AHEAD

NOVEMBER 24

4.30 pm: Laying the foundation of the plaque at *Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya* for the facade illumination project helmed by Rotary Club of Bombay.

NOVEMBER 25

1-1.30 pm: Flag-hoisting and National Anthem at *Mahalaxmi Race Course lawns*

2-5 pm: Horse racing and entertainment throughout the day

6.30-7.30 pm: Inter-city forum

NOVEMBER 26

1.30 pm: RI President Mark Maloney addresses Rotary Club of Bombay.

Please note the Tuesday meeting of RCB will be held on Monday, November 26th instead of Tuesday, November 27th, just for that week.

URBAN HERITAGE AT ASIATIC LIBRARY, MUMBAI

The Urban Heritage Committee of the Rotary Club of Bombay was formed three years ago as a result of a deep interest in conserving the historical and cultural heritage of Mumbai

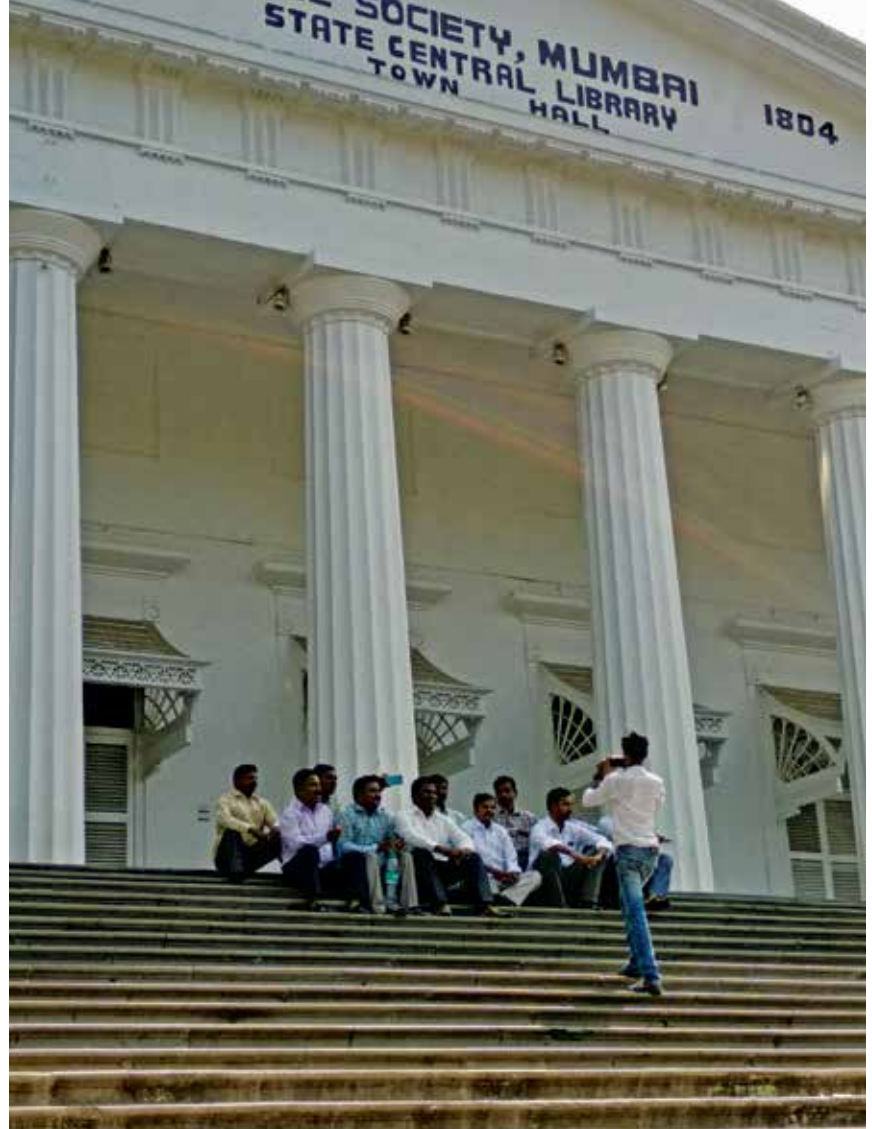
IT WAS FITTING THAT THE COMMITTEE focussed on the Asiatic Library as its first major project. The library, a seat of learning established in 1804, has been housed since its inception within the imposing Town Hall, Mumbai's iconic landmark.

The Asiatic Library is a repository of ancient books, manuscripts, maps, coins and artefacts. Its archives and holdings are a treasure trove, which includes a rare copy of Dante's *Divine Comedy* (one of only two illustrated copies in existence), old coins of Ashoka's reign and rare Buddhist relics.

The library also encourages and disseminates research. It offers a forum for public debate on critical issues, organises lectures and exhibitions.

Sadly, over the last several years, the collections have deteriorated due to lack of funding and infrastructure. Despite being such an important part of the city's heritage, lack of knowledge and general apathy have led to disengagement. And although the Town Hall is such a familiar and well-loved landmark for Mumbaikars, few have entered its portals.

The Society's holdings include over 3,000 manuscripts in Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Prakrit from all over India and Nepal. They are mostly on paper, but some are on palm leaf. They include technical literature on linguistics, medicine, astronomy, *Jaina* and other *Brahmanical* literature in Sanskrit, an appendix on Buddhist manuscripts, *Jaina* literature and manuscripts in Gujarati, Hindi and Marathi. Apart from the variety of topics covered, some of the manuscripts are distinguished for their fine calligraphy and paintings. The latest addition to the manuscript collection is the entire work of Pu La Deshpande donated by him.



What has been accomplished

CONSERVATION LABORATORY

One of the first goals undertaken by Rotary's Urban Heritage Committee was to renovate the Conservation Laboratory so that rare and irreplaceable books could be restored. This new facility enables hundreds of books to be restored and, thereafter, digitised, every year.

ADOPT-A-BOOK

The Committee has initiated a book sponsorship programme whereby individuals and corporates provide the funds to adopt, restore and digitise a specific number of books.

MAP PRESERVATION

A source of particular concern was the manner in which ancient maps, many of them hand drawn, were being stored in damp basements.

Steel cabinets have been provided to store them properly and protect them from further climatic deterioration.

UPGRADING SERVICES & FACILITIES

The committee co-sponsors the housekeeping and maintenance of library facilities to provide a better environment for staff and visitors. Work is in progress to install WiFi and to enhance the Asiatic's website and social media presence.

ORGANISING CULTURAL EVENTS

It is important to attract more visitors to the Asiatic and Town Hall in order to make the institution once more relevant to the city. Toward this end, various well-attended functions have been organised by the Rotary Club of Bombay. These include a dance performance, several plays, lectures and cultural events.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

It is the goal of Rotary's Urban Heritage Committee to make the Asiatic Library self-sufficient. The strategy is two-fold: to increase its membership and activities, and to create sources of revenue for the institution. There are several avenues through which those who realise the importance of preserving our heritage are able to participate.

SUPPORT THE HERITAGE

Use your CSR funds to sponsor events and to restore/refurbish the Asiatic Library's invaluable assets. Leading corporates, including Edelweiss, Hermes, JSW Steel, Phillips Capital, Raymonds and Tata Capital have contributed towards conservation projects.

ADOPT - A - BOOK

Individuals and corporates can sponsor the restoration and digitisation of one or several books. Unless attended to, many valuable and irreplaceable books will otherwise be lost to future generations.



BECOME A MEMBER

Demonstrate your commitment to Mumbai's heritage by becoming a member of the Asiatic Library.

- Life membership
- Family membership
- Annual membership:

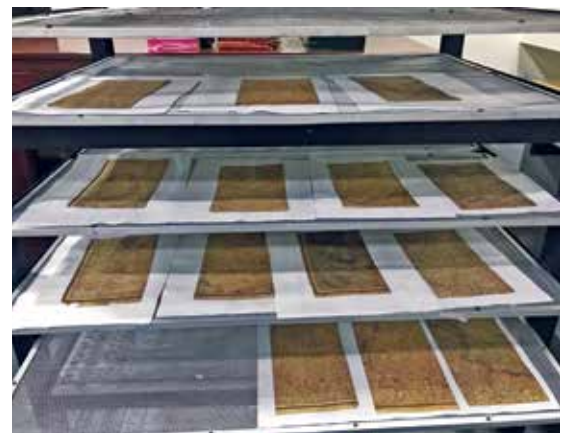
Forms are available at the Library's website: www.asiaticsociety.org.in

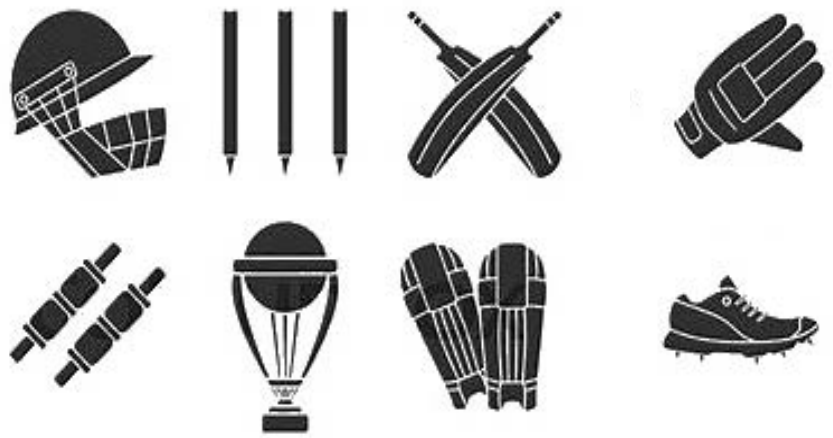
HOST AN EVENT

One of the Asiatic's assets is its location and the majestic Darbar Hall. Recently renovated, this venue is available to host meetings, conferences and cultural events.

SOME VALUABLE AND ANTIQUE BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

- *Dictionary of Malayalam and English* by Rev. B Bailey, 1846
- *Voyages* by François Bernier, 1710
- *Le Bhagavata Purana* (in 4 volumes) by M. Eugène Burnouf, (French) 1840
- *Dictionary of the World* by R Brooke, 1772
- *Voyages to the South Pole and Round the World* 2 vols by Captain James Cook, 1777
- *Linceo Diologo* (Italian) by Galileo Galilei, 1632
- *The Birds of Asia* by John Gould, 1850-1883
- *Rig Veda* (translated into German) by Hermann Grassmann, 1876-77
- *Monuments Anciens et Moderns del Hindostan* (French) by L Langles, 1821
- *Alif Laila* (Arabic) by W.H. Macnaghten (ed), 1839
- *Futewa Alemgiri* (Urdu) by Sheikh Nizam, 1829
- *Benares Illustrated* by James Prinsep, 1831
- *Aesop's Fables* (translated into Gujarati) by Bapu Shastri Pandya Raikwal, 1826
- *History of the World* by Sir Walter Raleigh, 1736
- *An account of Indian serpents collected on the coast of Coromandel* by Patrick Russell, 1796
- *First Folio*, William Shakespeare, 1623
- *Travels in Western India* by James Todd, 1839





CONNECTING BOUNDARIES

Inaugural Rotary Corporate Cricket Challenger 2018 to kick-off on November 17, 2018

CORPORATE INDIA IS GEARING UP for the Inaugural Rotary Corporate Cricket Challenger 2018 which kicks off on November 17th at the Western Railway Sports Ground, Mahalakshmi, Mumbai.

The games will be held on November

17th and 18th, 2018 in a day-night format.

In an exciting seven-a-side format which will encourage boundaries galore, the rules have been modified. The boundary will be shortened and each innings restricted to seven overs; restrictions on the bowler's run-up and positioning of the wicket-keeper will make it an easier level of play, overall. Matches will be played on a league and knock-out

basis with each team getting to play a minimum of three matches.

Based on their performances in the league stage, the teams qualify either for the Super Cup, Plate or Bowl categories.

Do come and cheer participants.

PP. Rtn. Sandip Agarwalla (Head, FRP, Rotary Club of Bombay) and Rtn. Sanjiv Saran Mehra (Championship Director)

Poetry from this week's speaker Vallabh Bhansali



**"The only way to secure our future
The only way to protect our nation"**

**This is the season for Nationalism.
But let us think beyond pop Nationalism.**

Desh Apnayen Pledge

India belongs to all its citizens,
It belongs to me, it belongs to us

I have a right, to live in peace and purposefully,
But it is possible, only if I live responsibly

I work for its progress, peace and protection,
Along with the Government meant for such action

Learn to protest when they need a correction,
And together again till we see the correction

India can remain ahead and great,
Only when we remain great, I remain great

If I respect the law, even if some don't,
Maintain cleanliness, even if others don't

Keep my promises, have quality in all my work,
Respect others' rights and help those without work

I am capable, I am strong,
I belong to East, West, North and South

I pledge to make our country Strong,
I pledge to make India Proud.

Jai Hind! Jai Hind! Jai Hind!



आओ हम सब देश अपनाये
"चलता है" को दूर भगाये
भविष्य बचाये, भाग्य बनाये

"क्षणिक राष्ट्रीय भावना के आगे बढ़ो
अगर हम नित्य देशहित के बारे में सोचें तो कठिन दिन देखने ही न पड़े!
क्या आप यह शपथ लेंगे? औरों को भी दिलाएँ!"

भारत देश हमारा है, मेरा है तुम्हारा है;
इसकी रक्षा उन्नति में, भाग्य-विकास हमारा है ।

अगर चाहे सुख-शान्ति और स्वइच्छा का जीवन
जरूरी है हम सब पर, कर्तव्यों का भी पालन ।

चुनें हम अच्छी सरकार, और दें उसे पूरा सहकार,
हो उचित तो करें विरोध, देशहित की यही पुकार ।

वादों का सच्चा, हर काम हो अच्छा, ऐसा हो हमारा नाम,
पर अधिकार की रक्षा, दीन की सेवा, सर्वोपरि हमारा काम ।

कोई करे या न करे, न्याय पालना मेरा धरम,
गंद नहीं, देर नहीं, ऐसे हो हमारे करम ।

मेरा देश सबसे पुराना, फिर बनेगा राष्ट्र-महान,
हम तुम नित्य बनें बेहतर; बेहतर, बेहतर और महान ।

मेरा प्रान्त पूरब पश्चिम, मेरा ही है उत्तर-दक्षिण,
देश की प्रगति मेरा जिम्मा, लेता हूँ ये प्रण-प्रतिक्षण ।

जय हिंद । जय हिंद । जय हिंद ।



All Directors and Committee Chairpersons are requested to send their project write ups with high resolution pictures to Rtn. Satyan Israni for publishing in the Gateway at the following email id: **rotary.satyanisrani@gmail.com**



THE TAJ MAHAL PALACE

**MENU (CONTINENTAL),
NOVEMBER 20, 2018**

SOUP

Roasted corn soup, Assorted bread rolls & butter

SALAD BAR

Green apple and feta cheese salad, Assorted greens with honey lemon dressing, Waldorf salad

VEGETARIAN MAIN COURSE

Mushroom risotto, Parmigiano crusted macaroni with broccoli & cauliflower floret, Baked vegetable princess, Vegetable pizza

NON-VEGETARIAN MAIN COURSE

Roast chicken in rosemary jus and sautéed vegetable, Herb-crusted fish on bed of ratatouille with red pepper coulis

DESSERTS

Tiramisu in chocolate cups, Cheesecake platter, Exotic fresh-cut fruits

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



November 17 & 18, Corporate Cricket Challenger at Western Railway grounds, Lower Parel

November 20, Guest speaker Murtuza Rangwala on fitness and posture

November 25, The Race for Humanity, at the Royal Western India Turf Club, Mahalaxmi

November 26, RI President Mark Maloney will address members of Rotary Club of Bombay



**Mr. & Mrs. Devoo M. Kothari and
Mr. & Mrs. Sevantilal J. Parekh**

Cordially invite you to a

Fellowship Evening

With Cocktails and Dinner

On Tuesday, 13th November, 2018
At Willingdon Sports Club (Main lawn)
Opposite Race Course at 8 pm

Dress Code – Smart Casual

Please register with the
Rotary office at the earliest

RSVP : Ms. Rashmi Dhuri +91 97691 40141
rotaryclubbombay.rashmi@gmail.com

Next week: Dr Murtuza Rangwala on fitness and posture



Dr Murtuza Rangwala

DR MURTUZA RANGWALA RUNS THE RANGWALA'S Physiotherapy Centre and has been practising for over a decade. He did his Bachelor's in Physiotherapy (B.P.Th) from B.Y.L Nair hospital and Topiwala National Medical College, Mumbai. A specialist in orthopaedic and neurological rehabilitation, he has worked as a sports physiotherapist for sportspersons in cricket, hockey, rugby, tennis and karate. He keeps himself updated with new techniques and concepts. Rangwala also conducts corporate fitness programs as well as school fitness programmes. He conducts and participates in free physiotherapy camps as well.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FROM NOVEMBER 13TH TO 19TH, 2018



RTN. C.K. SRINIVASAN



RTN. AKIL HIRANI



RTN. PESHWAN JEHANGIR



RTN. MIHIR SAGAR



RTN. FREYAZ SHROFF



ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER 13

Rtn. Ptn. Bharti Gandhi

NOVEMBER 16

Rtn. Ptn. Nidhi Aggarwal

NOVEMBER 17

Rtn. Ptn. Khorshed Mobedji

Rtn. Ptn. Rohitashwa Poddar

NOVEMBER 18

Rtn. Ptn. Jita Kapadia

NOVEMBER 19

Rtn. Ptn. Mona Nevatia

ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER 18

Rtn. Ptn. Radhika & Rtn. Sameer Kaji

NOVEMBER 19

Rtn. Roda Billimoria & Rtn. Ptn. Ratnakar Desai

Rtn. Ptn. Dolon & Rtn. Partha Ghosh

Rtn. Ptn. Ketayun & Rtn. Darius Irani

Rtn. Ptn. Falguni & Rtn. Pratap Padode

Rtn. Ptn. Poonam & Rtn. Manish Sampat

Please note the RCB meeting of Tuesday, November 27th, will be held on Monday, November 26th instead, just for that week.



We are active on social media with more than 3000 followers. Find us on facebook, twitter and instagram with the handle @rcb1929. Find us on linkedin and youtube with the handle rotary club of bombay. Please follow us and like/share the posts

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ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

TRUSTEES 2018 - 2019

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Arvind Jolly	Arun Sanghi

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President Nominee	Framroze Mehta
IPP	Ramesh Narayan
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Jt. Honorary Secretary	Bimal Mehta
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Attendance	Anand Dalal

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Phiroz Ratanshah Vakil Eye Centre	Arin Master
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RCB Medical Centre	Manoj Patodia

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Environment	Priyasri Patodia
Urban Heritage	Natasha Treasurywala
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Yoga	Sitaram Shah
Skill Development	S.V. Prasad

DIRECTOR - PRADEEP GUPTA

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Fund Raising	Abhishek Sharman

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