THE GATEWAY

Rotary (Club of Bombay





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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends, Very Warm Greetings and A Very Happy New Year!

Hope you all had a wonderful holiday, Christmas and New Year's Celebrations.

We certainly had a fun-filled Christmas Party, thanks to our wonderful Fellowship Committee. While we enjoyed our Christmas celebrations, a real Santa stepped out and it was none other than our very own Rtn. Suresh Agrawal thanks to whom 850 children across various RCB projects enjoyed Christmas Celebrations at CCI and also received return gifts from this warm hearted and caring Santa. Thank you Suresh... May God always keep you blessed!!!

When we are in holiday mood, we turn to our friends. As Hemingway said "There is no friend as loyal as a book." Books come as life savers in every situation - a long journey, a sleepless night or a lazy day, a book can be your companion in every mood. There are book clubs and reading clubs, where people read and discuss books, while they also socialize and interact with each other. In these tight-knit communities, new and old books are discussed and exchanged, and literature is celebrated. Somehow a person engrossed in a book attracts more attention and curiosity. People tend to wonder what he/she is reading. It takes a lot of time to decide which book to pick, as there are thousands and thousands of options available. India, with 22 officially recognized languages and the Indian subcontinent with a history of over much 3,000 vears in written literature, has one of the most complex literary histories in the world. A country that boasts of epics like Sage Vyasa's Mahabharata, the Ramavana written by various authors like Valmiki, Tulsidas, Kambar

BOOK SHELVES ARE NO LONGER DOMINATED BY WESTERN AUTHORS.

turn for the inwards in recent times.

Many Indian authors who have made for themselves a niche in the world that was dominated by the works of foreign authors

and then its versions in East Asia right upto

books written by western authors till very

recently. However, the scenario has taken a

Japan, has been eclipsed by commercial fiction





President Preeti Mehta with Rtn. Suresh and Rtn. Ptn. Indira Kotak

now appear in the book shelves, especially in India. India's literary space is an everexpanding hotbed for fresh voices, inventive stories and unhindered writing. Many young Indians – armed with just a pen and passionate resolve – are changing the way we interact with literature and how we perceive the world around us. Some force us to question deeply ingrained violent truths, while others shed light on little-known social realities. Through their diversity and creativity, many upcoming authors are collectively challenging, entertaining and captivating global audiences.

There is a desire amidst Indian readers through books to reconnect with India, learn of its past and the vast ancient culture rooted in stories or kathas. The vast storehouse of knowledge that is India is slowly but surely being rekindled, awakened and absorbing many readers across genres. Some brilliant authors have given us a glimpse into the modern Indian society with many



Rotarians Dev Thukral, PP Ramesh Narayan and PP Paul George, with Aliakbar Merchant and Kasimali Merchant in the background

wanting to use fiction as a medium to bring about social change by, very often, dealing in themes which are not only the most topical but also the most controversial.

India has also recently seen a considerable rise in regional literature being translated into English given that readers have now understood the importance of reading stories from every part of India. Each region tells us the story of a different India, with novel customs and traditions for the reader. Following the English translations of their books many regional authors have gained immense popularity across the country and finally receiving the recognition that they deserve with literary awards and accolades.

Happy Reading!

President Preeti Mehta

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Rotarians Hariprasad Nevatia, PP Rajnikant Reshamwala and Jimmy Pochkhanawalla





Rotarians Jamshed Vakharia and Ajit Surana



Rotarians PP Ajay Kanoria, President Preeti Mehta, PP Paul George and Kasimali Merchant



Rotarians Pradeep Chinai, PP Pradeep Saxena and Rtn Ashok Jatia



Rotarians Kasimali Merchant, Jamshed Vakharia, PP Rajnikant Reshamwala and Pankaj Baliga



Rotarians President Preeti Mehta and Ashok Jatia



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Rtn. Dr. Aashish and Rtn. Ptn. Phiroza Contractor with Rtn. Ptn. Dr. Bomi Mehta



Rtn. Dr. Ian and Rtn. Ptn. Blossom Pinto with Rtn Zeenia Master



Rtn. Gautam Trivedi, Rtn. Ashok and Rtn. Ptn. Nayna Chinai, Rtn. Ashok Jatia, Rtn. Pradeep Chinai and Rtn. Ptn. Gautam Mehta



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Rtn. Rekha Tanna with Rotarian Partners Shailaja Mogul, Arwa Tapia, Miloni Sampat, Dhvanika Thakkar, Vandana Daga, Manjula Sanghai, Gopi Vaid, Nandita Patodia and Malti Jain



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Rtn. Pratap Patode, Rtn. Ptn. Blossom and Rtn Dr Ian Pinto



Rtn. Ptn. Erika Born, Rtn Ashok Jatia and Rtn. Peter Born

THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



Rtn. Ptn. Gautam and President Preeti Mehta



Rtn. Ptn. Karishma and Rtn. Abhishek Sharman with Rtn. PP Paul George



Rtn. Ptn. Miloni Sampat, Rtn. Ptn. Rajiv Lunkad and Rtn. Priyasri Patodia, Rtn. Ptn. Arwa Tapia, Rtn. Ptn. Shailaja Mogul and Rtn. Mehul Sampat



Rtn. Ptn. Sandra and Rtn. Aliakbar Merchant, Rtn. Ashrafi Matcheswala and Rtn. Ritu Prakash Desai



Rtn. Ptn. Vatsala Jatia, Rtn. Meera Alreja and Rtn. Ptn. Sandra Merchant



Rtn. Rajeev Narvekar with Rtn. Ptn. Nayna and Rtn. Ashok Chinai and Rtn. Ramesh Mehta



Rtn. Sheila Bulchandani, Rtn. Ptn. Devi Narayan, Rtn. Ritu Prakash Desai, Rtn. PP Dr. Sonya Mehta and Rtn. Ashrafi Matcheswala



Rtn. Tarjani Vakil, Rtn. Roda Billimoria, Rtn. Poornima Advani and Rtn. Ptn. Dr. Shailesh Hathi



Rtn. Ulhas and Rtn. Ptn. Beena Yargop with Rtn. Ptn. Poonam Surana

A CREATIVE CHRISTMAS FOR BY

Students from grades 5to 9 joyfully participated in the Christmas celebrations. The meaning of Christmas and the story was explained to them along with some interesting videos. Later, they gave a tough competition to each other in carol singing and greeting cardmaking competitions. Last, they danced and sang as Santa Claus paid them a visit and gave away chocolates.

Primary students at GK Marg celebrated Christmas Eve by watching a YouTube Video on the significance of Christmas



celebrations. Children had fun singing and dancing to their favourite Christmas carols. They also enacted a Christmas skit. The children were thrilled to receive gifts and goodies in special custommade pouches by our volunteer Ms Maya Shah.







CHRISTMAS AT LIGHTHOUSE

While the tiny tots were taught to show gratitude to their community helpers, the elder kids were shown the Movie of the Month: "How the **Grinch Stole Christmas**" which shows the true meaning of Christmas isn't presents at all, but the people around you that you get to spend the day with.

As part of Christmas celebrations at Lighthouse, Community **Helpers Day was** organised for KG students on December 24th. The tiny toys. dressed in appropriate attire, took the microphone and spoke a few lines about the helper they had chosen. **Everyone was impressed** by the confidence of the little ones aged just four and five.

Around 22 children participated in the event, for which Rtn. Charu Agarwal and some mothers were also invited.

For our grown up kids: A movie screening of the popular Dr. Seuss's hit film How the **Grinch Stole Christmas** was organised in the classroom for classes 1 to 5. The message behind the movie that 'Christmas is not just about gifts, goodies and decorations, but about spreading love and affection to one and all' was brought home to all. They say Christmas is also a time to count your blessings and be grateful for the good things you have. So, after the movie, each child mentioned what s/he was most grateful for in his/ her life.

The session ended on a sweet note with the children feasting upon delicious chocolate pastries, courtesy Charu.

JINGLE BELLS ALL THE WAY



Rtn. Christopher Bluemel at Ananda Yaan

Christmas came to the Ananda Yaan centres at Byculla and Dr. E Moses Road (a joint venture between Dignity Foundation and Rotary Club of Bombay)! This year, the youngsters decided that they would celebrate Christmas with the senior citizens.

At RCB's Dr. E. Moses Road centre, students from the Tata **Institute of Social Sciences** organised the party. The senior citizens and TISS students first decorated the Christmas party. While setting up the decorations, the students explained to the seniors the significance of Christmas.

Christmas carols played in the background. Wearing Santa caps, the senior citizens and students played games and danced in merriment. Our 62-year-old Ananda Yaan member Rajeshri Pawar volunteered to be Santa Claus.

Students of the Rotaract Club Of Hinduja College organised Christmas celebrations at our Byculla Centre. RCB's Rtn.

Christopher Bluemel was the chief guest of the event. He had brought along his parents Karin and Gerd to celebrate Christmas with the seniors of the centre.

The students planned many activities for all the members. They first started off with a dance performance by one of the students. This was followed by games like guessing what was inside the Santa sock and the Rudolph the reindeer game. The students then presented a Hindi poem dedicated to the members. The seniors were overwhelmed. The students also sang songs for the members.

The final performance and the highlight of the evening was the magic show. Seniors were thrilled and appreciative that the students of Hinduja College had made such an effort and put up so many different activities to celebrate Christmas. Members shared that they have not experienced such a fun-filled event in a long time.

FESTIVE TREAT FOR 850 CHILDREN







Rtn. Suresh Agarwal turns Santa for kids across RCB projects

In keeping with the Christmas spirit, Cricket Club of India hosted a fun-filled Christmas Party for around 2100 underprivileged children from various

NGOs across Mumbai. The celebration, which took place on December 20th, 21st and 22nd at the Brabourne Stadium, brought together 850 children from the Lighthouse Project, Bhavishya Yaan project and Night Study Centres of Rotary Club of Bombay.

We thank the CCI Vice Chairman, Rtn. Suresh Agarwal and Hon. Secretary, Puneet Wadhwa of Entertainment Committee, Secretary of the Club, N K Iha for giving our children an unforgettable experience.

As soon as the children

arrived, they were treated to popcorn and candyfloss. They then went on stage for a group photo and danced to Bollywood tunes played by the DJ. The children enjoyed bungee jumping, train rides, play area, slides, bouncy castles, tattoos and more.

They colle boxes and return gift by Suresh

Naturally, not want world. Th giving icethe return











cted their snack took backpacks as s also sponsored

the children did to leave this dream us CCI 's idea of cream cartons for journey came to our rescue. This was distributed to them in the bus on their way back home.

None of this would have gone smoothly if it was not for flawless coordination done by Yogita Kothakar from CCI.





PRESIDENT PREETI MEHTA

AND

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND

OUR LANDMARK PROJECT

AT THE MASINA HOSPITAL

TO INAUGURATE
THE UPGRADED UROLOGY DEPARTMENT

CHIEF GUEST: HARJIT SINGH TALWAR, DISTRICT GOVERNOR 3141









HUMAN RIGHTS EVENT WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON MENTAL HEALTH

On International Human Rights Day, Rotarian and Managing Trustee of the Poddar Foundation, Prakriti Poddar, along with the Maharashtra State Human Rights Commission (MSHRC) led the discussion on Human Rights for Mental Health.

The extremely detailed discussion brought not only the challenges up, but also highlighted the solutions. Aspects of mental health through the lens of the corporate sector, the government sector, the legal system, the education system as well as the rights of women, children and geriatric in the limelight.

The event was organised by the MSHRC on December 10th, 2019 at Sahyadri Guest House, Mumbai. The Poddar Foundation was invited to conduct a panel discussion on the stance of mental health in India and the laws that are in place to protect the vulnerable section suffering



from mental illnesses and to build prevention through awareness.

The panel was joined by Shri VK Gautamji, Principal Secretary of Maharashtra State Human Rights Commission. Dr. Kersi Chavda, Consultant in the Psychiatry department with Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre, Ms. Dube, the Consul General of Canada and the panel was moderated by Dr. Prakriti Poddar.

Rotarians who understand the importance of mental health were present at the conference. Rtn. Nanik Rupani, PP Rtn. Pradeep Saxena, Rtn. Jetu Lalwani, Rtn. Ujjwala Singhania, Rtn. Jamal Farhad were amongst the other mental health advocates and Poddar Foundation Troopers.

The event was a huge success, the participation and the response was really moving. Through social media and digital media coverage with the Poddar Foundation message to break the silence against the mental health issues in India the event brought various burning questions on table to discuss adoption of best practices. This was an enriching and a fulfilling event with more clarity on the areas of mental health and rights and provisions mentioned in the legislation.

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TIME TO TEE OFF

Highly anticipated 13th Annual Golf Tournament coming up soon

Like in the last several years, the Sports Committee plans to continue with the motto of spreading goodwill and fellowship through sports.

What started off as a challenge on the greens of the US Club in south Bombay on January 12th, 2008 has flourished and blossomed into full-blown tree which is now known as the Annual Golf Tournament of the Rotary Club of Bombay. It attracts all the talents in the Club and has also led to quiet inquiries about participation from non-members.

Though the first event had attracted a modest 17 players, by the time the sixth edition was played in January, 2013, their number had doubled to 32, of varying age groups from 10-70. This event has become one of the flagship events in our Rotary calendar and participants and members of the club look forward to this tournament every year. We are pleased to inform you that this will be the thirteenth year, since the tournament started in 2008.

And all thanks to Moy Biswas, the de facto chief of all sporting activities of the Rotary Club of Bombay who has gone to great lengths to make the event such a resounding success. Working quietly behind the scenes, the family and the office staff of Moy have also played a significant role in the growth of this tournament.

In the year 2010, the Biswas family instituted a specially-designed golf trophy from Singapore, which is a rotating trophy awarded to the winner of this annual tournament.

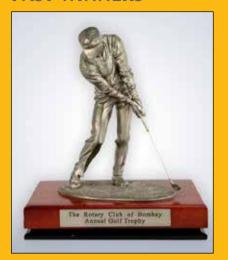
The preparatory work started 12 months in advance on the thirteenth edition of the contest, which is scheduled to be held on the greens of the Willingdon Sports Club on

Saturday, January 18, 2020. The first tee-off will be at 9 am.

President Preeti Mehta will begin this tournament by a ceremonial tee off at 8.55 am. The post-tournament prize distribution ceremony including a fellowship attracts even more members, most of them being non-golfers, and out-numbering the participants and including several past and future Presidents. This year the award ceremony and fellowship will be held at the popular 'Cabbage Patch' of Willingdon Sports Club from 1.30 pm onwards when President Preeti Mehta will present awards to the winners and special mementoes to all participants. Your family members are welcome to join the ceremony especially for the fellowship.

Who wins the tournament in 2020 remains to be seen, but already there is a buzz about the event and avid golfers are looking forward to the morning of Saturday, January 18, 2020. Those interested in taking part in the tournament are requested to get in touch with Moy Biswas (Phone: 9820051887 and Email: moybiswas@gmail.com)

PAST WINNERS



2008 – S.K. Mitra

2009 - Anil Govel

2010 – Rohini Chowgule

2011 – Dev Thukral

2012 – Dev Thukral

2013 – Rohini Chowgule

2014 – Kush Shah

2015 - Dinesh Lal

2016 – Kush Shah

2017 – Bhavya Jain

2018 – Rohini Chowgule

2019 - Dev Thukral



Rotary Club of Bombay

Sports Committee Invites you to the

Thirteenth Annual Golf Tournament

Fellowship over Drinks & Lunch Hosted by Rtn Madhup Vaghani

> 1.30pm to 4.30pm Saturday, 18th Jan, 2020 The Cabbage Patch Willingdon Sports Club

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PLATINUM RATING FOR CSMVS

The drive to contribute something precious to art and culture made the art collector in Rtn. Manoj Israni donate Rs 75 lakh towards an LEED platinum certification for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya and its façade lighting.

Taking into consideration the climate change, the museum hopes to preserve the art collection against perpetual climate change by adopting a green museum of which the Environment Certification is a big step.

It gives us great pleasure to let you know that the Rotary Club of Bombay has succeeded in meeting the target date of December 31st, 2019 to attain the "Platinum" rating for CSMVS, as the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) conveyed its approval and recognition to CSMVS on



December 30th.

It makes us all very proud that we have achieved the recognition in the very first attempt. The recognition inspires us to attain new heights in the field of environment management in the years ahead.

T R Doongaji, Trustee, CSMVS,

has conveyed his sincerest gratitude to RCB for the financial and moral support extended by the Club for the implementation of the Green Building Certification Project.

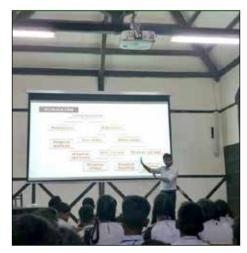
LEED certification is sought by museums undergoing renovation or new construction, for the environmental benefits derived from achieving it as well as the cachet it lends. The illumination of the façade and lawns will highlight the beautiful building in an energy-friendly way for the visitors. RCB is helping enhance the heritage structure and the museum is to be illuminated from sunset to midnight.

STEAM BENEATH THEIR WING



BY kids go to the museum

Fifty children from standards 7, 8 and 9 of Ambedkar School went to Bhau Daji



Lad museum to attend a programme conducted by the STEAM academy of the Bhau Daji Lad museum. This programme is curated by Dr. A.P. Jayaraman, founder of the Academy for the Advancement of



STEAM. The children listened attentively to the talk on the classification of living organisms and answered questions at the end of the session. It was an interesting and informative session.

CALLING UNSUNG HEROES

ANNOUNCING

Application for 'Unsung Heroes' with following Terms and Conditions. One cash Award per category will be given during 'Rotary India Centennial Summit' at Kolkata. All those who have done significant work in ANY ONE of these categories may apply:

- 1. Health
- 2. Literacy
- 3. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- 4. Economic & Community Development
- *The cash award is Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs. One Lakh) only.*

So guys, spread the word through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, whatsapp groups etc. Let us have maximum applications to choose from.

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE FILLED ONLINE. The link for website is http://rotaryindiahumanityheroawards.org/

Terms and conditions are:

1. Only Indian nationals or an Indian organisation (formed or registered in

India) can apply.

- 2. Both self-application and recommendation are allowed.
- 3. Work done should directly relate to Economic and Community Development, Health, Literacy and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene - Creating awareness/ Sensitization/ Direct Contribution
- 4. Currently active and/or involved.
- 5. Should have not received any State / National / International recognitions or awards
- 6. Should not be a member of a Rotary / Inner Wheel Club or blood relative of any Rotarian / Inner Wheel Member.
- 7. In case of organisation, no member of the Governing Body should be a Rotarian / Inner Wheel Member or blood relative of any Rotary / Inner Wheel Club member.
- 8. The application can only be filled online.
- 9. *The last date for filling Application is January 15th, 2020.*
- *Chair, RIHHA: PDG Dr. Bal Inamdar*

EGM PROCEEDINGS

The Rotary Club of Bombay held an Extraordinary General Meeting on January 2nd, 2020. IPP Rtn Vijay Kumar Jatia gave a small presentation which was then followed by a discussion to express the views and counterviews over the Resolution. After a thorough discussion and having queries addressed by PP Rtn. Sandip Agarwalla, it was "RESOLVED THAT the Rotary Club of Bombay, concurs with and supports the challenge put up by PP Rtn. Jhankar Gadkari of Rotary Club of Deonar against the decision of the District Governor Nominating Committee (DGNC) to nominate PP Rtn. Arun Bhargava as District Governor Nominee 2022-23."

The Resolution is proposed by Rtn. Ashok Jatia and seconded by Rtn. Shivkumar Israni. The resolution was passed unanimously.



ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS



JANUARY 8 Rtn. Rhea Bhumgara



JANUARY 9 Rtn. Hoshang Nazir



JANUARY 11
PP Rtn. (Dr.)
Adi Dastur



JANUARY 13 Rtn. Jai Advani



JANUARY 13 Rtn. Sheila Bulchandani



JANUARY 13 Rtn. Pranay Vakil

ROTARIAN PARTNERS

JANUARY 7

RTN. PTN. SNEHAL SHAH

JANUARY 9

RTN. PTN. VAIDEHI DHOOT

RTN. PTN. KARISHMA SHARMAN

JANUARY 10

RTN. PTN. DANEESH KHUSHRUSHAHI

RTN. PTN. VERA MEHTA

JANUARY 13

RTN. PTN. RADHIKA SHETH

ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY 7

RTN. PTN. SHEILA & PP RTN. MAHESH KHUBCHANDANI

RTN. PTN. NAVEENA & RTN. SATYAN ISRANI IANUARY 8

RTN. PTN. HASMINA & RTN. DR. MIRZA ASAS KARIM KHAN

RTN. PTN. GEETU & RTN. RAMON KIRPALANEY

JANUARY 9

RTN. PTN. ZAINAB & RTN.ARIF LOKHANDWALLA

IANUARY 10

RTN. PTN. KAVITA & RTN. KAMAL BULCHANDANI

RTN. PTN. NILOUFER & RTN. HORMAZDIYAAR VAKIL

Forthcoming events

January 12: Banganga walk at 8.30 am at Malabar Hill, Walkeshwar Temple.

January 14: Prasoon Joshi, ad guru, Bollywood lyricist, script writer, author, chairman of Censor Board for Film

of Censor Board for Film Certification at Club meeting.

January 15: Inauguration of the upgraded urology department at Masina

Hospital at 10 am at Masina Hospital, Sant Savta Marg, Byculla East.

January 18: Annual golf tournament and fellowship.

IS ROTARY IN YOUR FAMILY?

Some families go back many generations.



In 2013, Jamshyd Vazifdar joined the Rotary Club of Bombay, whose members are so tradition-minded they never changed their name to the Rotary Club of Mumbai. His greatgrandfather Nowroji Vazifdar joined the Bombay club in 1950 and was followed by his son, Jamshed, and grandson (Jamshyd's father), Nowroze, who has been a member since 1994.

Jamshed and Nowroze have both served as Presidents of the Club.

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Yoga	Rtn. Manoj Patodia
Vocational Training	Rtn. Varsha Daiya
Night Study Centre	Rtn. Jamshyd Vazifdar
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Attendance	Rtn. Bipin Kapadia
In-Camera	Rtn. Zinia Lawyer
DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. (I	DR.) ASHOK KIRPALANI
Talwada Projects	PP Rtn. (Dr.) Rahim Muljiani
Phiroze R. Vakil Eye Centre (PRVEC)	Rtn. Homi Katgara
Ajit Deshpande Medical Centre (ADMC)	Rtn. Tara Deshpande
Cancer Aid	Rtn. (Dr.) Ian Pinto
RCB – Medical Centre	Rtn. Manoj Patodia
DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. VINEET BHATNAGAR	
Fund-Raising	Rtn. Pradeep Chinai
The Rotary Foundation & Global Grant	PP Rtn. Pradeep Saxena
Gender Equality	Rtn. Arin Master
Skill Development	Rtn. S. V. Prasad
DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RT	
Literacy / Bhavishya Yaan	Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia
Child Welfare	Rtn. Rajesh Shah
Anand Yaan / Elder Care	Rtn. Alok Sekhsaria
·	Rtn. Roda Billimoria
Scholarships	KIII. KUUA BIIIIIIIUITA