THE GATEWAY

Rotary (Club of Bombay





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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Fellow Rotarians,

Very Warm Greetings!!!

It's February, and all roads led to the most happening place in Mumbai – 'the Kala Ghoda festival', which has just ended.

In mid-19th century, at the junction of D. N. Road, M.G. Road and Rampart Row, a sculpture of the Prince of Wales

(later King Edward VII) was installed, in military attire and astride a horse. This bronze sculpture has a black sheen due to polish, hence the name 'Kala Ghoda' ('Black Horse'), and was sculpted by Sir Joseph Boehm, a noted London-based sculptor. It was gifted to the city by Sir Albert Sassoon, a scion of the Sassoon family of Baghdadi Jews and one of the founding families of Bombay. This family is known to have made great contribution to the development of Bombay and to creating iconic institutions like the 'Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum', the Gateway of India, 'Sassoon Dock', etc.

Post-Independence, it was felt that having a statue which is symbolic of British imperial power at such a prominent location in the financial capital of a newly Independent India was very inappropriate. In 1965, this sculpture was relocated to the 'Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan', the city's zoo, where it now stands.

Although, physically, the statue of 'Kala Ghoda' had moved, it lingered in mind and spirit and gave its name to this precinct in Fort. Over the years, 'Kala Ghoda' became a pin code, a routine name for a locality that houses some of the Mumbai's iconic landmarks – 'The Esplanade Mansion' (formerly known as Watson's Hotel, India's oldest surviving cast iron building), 'Elphinstone College', the now lost 'Rhythm House', the 'Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya', the 'Jehangir Art Gallery' (with the loss of its iconic restaurant 'Café Samovar' after five decades and its charming conductor Usha Khanna), the 'National Gallery of Modern Art', the David Sassoon Library, the Bombay University, the City Civil Court, etc, several popular restaurants and apparel stores which are increasing in number each day marking the revival of this precinct. Finally, in 2017, a substituted 'Kala Ghoda' returned to the area as a similar-looking horse but without its 'royal' rider. The new statute titled 'Spirit of Kala Ghoda' was designed by architect Alfaz Miller, sculpted by Shreehari Bhosle and commissioned by the Kala Ghoda Association, the motivated organisers of the annual 'Kala Ghoda Festival'.

The Kala Ghoda in its new avatar serves as a symbolic art installation against the backdrop of the 'Kala Ghoda Arts Festival' which, every year for a fortnight in February, turns the precinct into a pedestrian zone and becomes Mumbai's go-to place. Over the last two decades, the Festival has livened up this historic south Mumbai district with some of the best cultural shows, heritage walks, panels on literature, stand-up comedy shows, art installations, plays, cinema screenings, music performances, workshops, rows of stalls with crafts from across India and the street food stalls. Hope many of you took advantage of and enjoyed our city's much acclaimed festival, and if you didn't, there always is the next year.

President Preeti Mehta



PAST PRESENT

Take care of your memories, guest speaker Nasreen Munni Kabir told Rotarians, last Tuesday

Many of us must have photographs of our parents or grandparents. Do you look after these photographs well now because technology allows you to digitise everything? But the one thing you must remember is if you have a grandparent, you must ask them to name everybody in the photograph. Because once they are gone, no one will know who is in that photograph. Value family because the children and the grandchildren will want to know.

Thus, archive is to keep and preserve the past. There is the global past and there is a personal past. Therefore, I implore you all to go home and look at those photographs, try and caption them. Put the names of everybody, scan them and preserve them. The weather here is very harsh so to preserve a photograph you need to keep it properly. If you have a negative, it is a blessing because if, in the near future, you want to have an exhibition of your aunt and if you have a digital photograph it might be too small to blow up, so it is best to have a negative. One day it will be

much more valuable to you than a Rolex watch. I think personal history is more important than material history.

People are much more conscious today; there are many sites on the net where they have histories and film interviews, interviews with writers and politicians and others who affect our lives. There is much more today because of the internet. But it is so much that it is baffling. It is not what they call curated; it is indigestible information. So you have to add your viewpoint to it. When I was interviewing film people, I realised that one should always surprise them so that they think about something in a different way. The other thing is that you should never be doing any research on camera. You can't go and say, 'tell me how many films you have made'. That it is insulting; it is like saying you don't even know the basics about this person. So if you find out they always like the questions how why and when and people love the how. For people who are creative or

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President Preeti Mehta wishes Rtn. Mayank Kummar for his birthday



Rotarians Mehul Sampat, Satyan Israni, Zeenia Master, Jamshyd Vazifdar and Sherebanu Baldiwala



Rotarians PP (Dr.) Rumi Jehangir, Arin Master, Homi Katgara and Arif Lokhandwala



President Preeti Mehta wishes Rtn. Ravi Fotedar for his birthday

artists of any kind, if you ask them how do they do a particular thing, they will be interested and open up and talk to you. That interest is fascinating. I have been doing these documentaries and I have realised that today it is difficult to do documentaries because there is so much on the net.

If you have to compare Dilip Kumar vs Shah Rukh Khan vs Amitabh Bachchan, how would you compare these great personalities?

To get an interview with Dilip Kumar, you had to phone his house 25 times. The cook would answer the phone and say, sahab nahi hai. Next time around. sahab bathroom mein hai, sahab abhi bahar gaye hai. So, one heard a gamut of excuses. But I am a stubborn person and I would keep phoning. One time I said, abhi bathroom se nikle hai ki nahi? But then he would come. One thing about him, it was very difficult to get hold of him because he has his own style but he was a very deep thinking man. So we would talk about things that surprised you, he would talk about philosophical things. He talked like a poet. So seeing and interviewing him, you felt like you were in the presence of a very thoughtful



Rotarians Sabira Merchant and Rajyalakshmi Rao



Rtn. Manish Reshamwala and Mr. Vivek Kothari



President Preeti Mehta with visiting Rotarian Saleem Rangoon from Rotary Club of East Cliff, UK

and profound human being. I remember Dilip saab talking about Bimal Rov's Devdas, 'In Devdas, the question was of not doing rather than doing.' Then you have Mr. Bachchan; he is a man of very few words. We followed him for nine weeks: this was in 1989 and Mr. Bachchan is very moody. Sometimes he does not feel like talking and sometimes we will talk. When he is very relaxed, he is very funny and will make lots of jokes. And '89 was the time when he was with his peer groups: Manmohan Desai, Ramesh Sippy, Prakash Mehra – these were the people who made Mr. Bachchan. So the relation on the set was very casual and with friends. Today, it is a totally different situation; it is the young generation who are dying to work with Mr. Bachchan. I think Mr. Bachchan is more reticent and if you ask him what he brought to the scene,; he will not really tell his true contribution. In his interviews, he is guarded in many ways. Then you have Shah Rukh Khan, he is somebody who talks a lot. So you don't have a problem. You have a problem with editing. And he is very intelligent, he thinks on his feet. Yusuf saab would take a long pause between his words, he would be thinking. But Shah



President Preeti Mehta with visiting Rotarian Donna Lee Gulley from Rotary Club of Northbrook, Chicago



Rtn. Mudit Jain, Rtn. Mahesh Khubchandani and Dr. Indru Khubchandani, guest from Pennsylvania, USA

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Rtn. Farhat Jamal, Mrs. Nasreen Munni Kabir and Rtn. Jairaj Purandare

Rukh is going 120 miles per hour. And one question I asked him, he gave a wonderful answer such as I had never heard in my life. Everybody knows that Shah Rukh Khan comes quite late; if he says one o'clock it will be four o'clock. So one day, I asked, on a film, Shah Rukh, what does time mean to you? He stopped and then answered, 'Time starts when I get there'. Now that is an extraordinary statement. I have never heard anything like it. So it is very difficult to compare people but ultimately we are reacting.

You did a documentary on Shah Rukh Khan; do you see doing the same with Amitabh or Dev Anand?

The trouble is when they are no more, everything becomes hear-say; history is subjective. When a person tells you a story of how you behave on some days, you hear that story and repeat it that that is the story you lived. But it is actually somebody else's story. When you are talking about Smita Patil, who is a common friend of mine and Munna, there are so many stories and memories we remembered as I was talking to him, but if she was here today it would have been a different book. I think I am better with the living.

Do you think enough is being done in archiving the information? There is too much talk and very little archiving. In other words you can see an interview with any of the stars anytime but you cannot sit through that interview twice because it is on one lever or layer. It's contrary to some old movies like Mother India, Devdas or Pyasa which, every time you see them, you find something new because they have many



Rtn. Tara Deshpande introduces guest speaker Mrs. Nasreen Munni Kabir

layers and that is how good films are.

Would you like to share about the time you have spent with Lata Mangeshkar's documentary?

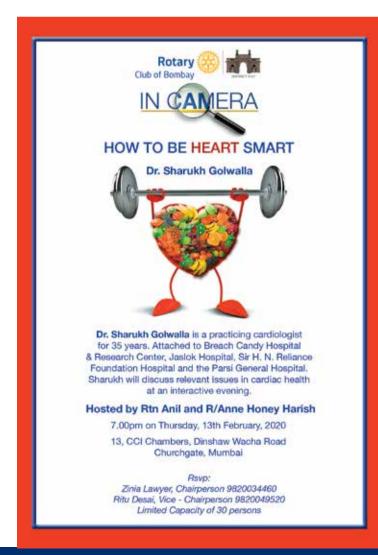
I have done a documentary on Lata Mangeshkar. She was the most intelligent woman I have met in my life. With her extraordinary work and life, in terms of her grasp, the music composers would say the moment she would come and hear the tune, she would hear it

once and she would be ready. It is like a photographic memory of the melody. Then she would recite and she would write the words in Hindi and she would put dots under the words that she had to stress. Her technique was simple and effective, but her voice is beautiful. You have to admit that in Indian cinemas a lot of the films are not at all good but what is very good is the music. That, I think, is original and of excellent quality. Lataji is very intelligent and witty. Interestingly, there are two people who have a child-like. innocent laugh: one is Lata |i and the other Is AR Rahman. And there is a superior sense of focus; she could see what is



Rtn. Priyasri Patodia, Rtn. Ptn. Gautam Mehta, Rtn. Farhat Jamal, President Preeti Mehta, Rtn. S V Prasad, Mrs. Nasreen Munni Kabir, Rtn. Sabira Merchant, Rtn. Shanta Chatterji, Rtn. Aziz Javeri, Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain and visiting Rotarian Saleem Rangoon

essential. If you hear today's songs some of the words may get lost but if you hear songs from Lata ji's generation, any singer, there was a pure diction. In the documentary she says that it was Ghulam Haider saab who had told her that pronunciation should be saaf. Everybody should understand every word. If you understand the words you will be moved emotionally.



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ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY HEA









Twenty years ago, when Ajit **Deshpande Medical Center** (ADMC) opened its doors no one expected that some day one of Rotary Club of Bombay's Kohinoor projects would serve upwards of 24,000 patients annually and completely free in the areas of dermatology, tuberculosis, dental care and more. What began with the Sonu Nigam fundraiser show last year thanks to Rtn. Tara Deshpande, culminated in three new projects at ADMC on Sunday, February 2, 2020, all conceptualised by Rtn. Tara whose determination and dedication resulted in giving a fresh look to ADMC which Rotary Club of Bombay will always be proud of.

After a fun-filled fellowship the previous night at Silent Hills Resort, members arrived at the green and spacious grounds of RCB's charitable clinic to the sight of a newly-designed Warlinspired logo emblazoned on the front of the building. We were greeted by our doctors in their new coats and badges all ably organised by Rotary's Vrushali.

Large groups of children had lined up outside – after all RCB was going to inaugurate the first playground some of them had ever seen. While RCB aims to provide underprivileged communities with health and education we also want to spread joy. And the sight of a delighted child soaring up on a swing and down a slide, the sound of giggles and squeals of laughter that filled the air on this sun drenched afternoon made all the hard work and effort put in by Team ADMC so worth it.

Led by President Preeti Mehta whose unflagging support of rural

projects that care for people who are forgotten by both government and private institutions, marginal farmers, adivasis and casual labour, can be seen not only at Gumbadpada but also here in Talwada.

PP Ramesh Narayan, the man, the magician who makes things happen so effortlessly and whose genuine concern for the marginalised has motivated the entire team even when things looked impossible, busied himself thanking the long serving staff of ADMC. Our peons Ramesh and Vijay who have worked quietly for over 18 years to keep the centre going and the indefatigable Dr. Ashwini Bhusara who played a big hand in launching our new Well Baby Clinic is laudable.

Then we checked on the new television installed in the OPD, courtesy Rtn Ashok Jatia. "Is Discovery playing?" He inquired. The kids were too glued to the cartoons on the screen to reply but I guess this is the answer we wanted anyway. "Give them a distraction from their pain and make the visit to the doctor one they look forward to," PP Ramesh had said when he requested Ms. Megha Tata to donate a free connection.

PE Framroze Mehta inspected the premises whilst interacting with the resident staff, while others watched the Bharat Taparia laboratory in action with more than three dozen patients waiting in line. Rotarians enjoyed a look at the lovely photos donated by PP (Dr.) Mukesh Batra and PP Ramesh Narayan and then made their way to the newly-painted and decorated Well Baby Clinic managed by Dr. Bijoy Apte. The new clinic will provide care and

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NDS TO TALWADA

counselling to women with newborns. Nutritional information, new born hampers containing food, blankets and towels generously donated by Rotarians Naresh Jain and Mohit Jain will be the first of its kind centre in this area. Thanks to Rtn. Arin Master, Cipla will donate important medicines to ADMC and we hope in the future to raise funds for a full scale urology department and a weekly visit from a dermatologist.

PN Shernaz Vakil then took a look at the brand new digital X-ray machine donated by Shri Homi Bhabha and finally our President was taken through the traditional rites of passage at ADMC – an imaginary tooth extraction by (faux Dr.) PE Framroze Mehta!

After inaugurating these two projects our group moved up to the newly-refurbished rooftop, a labour of love by Rtn Ashok latia who made half a dozen trips to the centre and personally supervised the construction that has made a once leaky terrace, a useable space for health workshops and vocational training. Our team enjoyed some light snacks and tea while gazing at the tree-filled view from above. True to tradition Rtn. Tara played host and along with PP Rumi tickled our savoury glands with mouth-watering snacks.

We then proceeded to take a look at Taparia Junior college making a list of what needs to be done there. We ended our tour at PRVEC that is now celebrating over 40 years of community service. Our Club continues to be inspired by the selfless work of legends PP (Dr.) Rahim Muljiani and PP (Dr.) Rumi Jehangir who epitomise what a good Rotarian should be. We were welcomed into the eye centre by Dr. Anil Deshpande and thereafter served a fantastic lunch made by the local ladies.

It was a trip that reminded all of us of what makes RCB so strong – generosity of our donors, determination of our Rotarians and the amazing power that comes from trust and team work.















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Inner Wheel celebrates Haldi Kumkum



Members of the Club at the event with the Chief Guest



Makeup and hairstyle artists and models on the ramp

For the past many years, our Club has been celebrating Haldi Kumkum with our vocational class students at Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar School, Worli. This year too, all the students and teachers gathered to celebrate this event with a lot of enthusiasm, on 25th January 2020.

The event began with the lighting of a dia by the Chief Guest Mrs. Falguni Padode, Guest of Honour District Vice Chairman Mrs. Amala Mehta, President Jayati Dasgupta and the members of IWC of Bombay. The performances by the students for speech/dance and competitions for mehendi/ tailoring/ makeup were of a high standard. Beautiful gifts sponsored by PP Rtn. Shweta Vakil were distributed to participants and winners of the competitions. Certificates were handed over to successful candidates on completion of various courses.

The celebrations ended with the distribution of 110 return gifts sponsored by the Club member Shyama Poddar and food boxes sponsored by CC Ankita Bagri. The significant contribution, guidance and encouragement of the teachers and members of IWC of Bombay were appreciated by the students.



NSC annual get-together

The Bombay YMCA – Outreach and Development Department – organised its Annual Get Together Programme for the Night Study Centre Students on January 25th, 2020. RCB's President Preeti Mehta was the chief guest. PP Rtn. Paul George, General Secretary, Bombay YMCA and few members of Rotary Club of Bombay were also present.

Gifts were distributed to the winners of various competitions such as drawing, art and craft for Christmas and essay writing. Preeti shared words of encouragement to the NSC students and wished them a bright career and future. Cultural performances were also presented by the students. Notebooks were given to all the students.





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HANDWASH FOR 758 SCHOOLS



On January 31st, 2020, at Adivasi Ashram School, Manor, RCB had its WINS project meeting, a Water **Resources Committee** programme conducted by PP Rtn. Sandip Agarwalla (Group Head of WINS & TEACH).

WINS (Wash in schools) is a programme where the Rotary Club of Bombay in collaboration with other Rotary clubs are working for hand wash stations at 758 schools in the Palghar district. The project consists of various programmes such as water and sanitation, disease prevention, education and literature.

Mr. Prasad Kulkarni from Nilkamal Industries showed us the structure of the unit and how it can be used. Mr. Ravi Kelgaonkar from SACRED is the implementation partner for the project. Mr. Kelgaonkar explained how they would be taking care of the soap pit and provide

handwash stations to 758 schools in the district of Palghar.

Mr. Anand Ghodke from UNICEE addressed the members about the sustainability part of the project. WINS Avenue Chairman Rtn. Mahendra Thaker explained the use of the handwash station and how important it is in this area.

WINS Avenue Chairman



Rtn. Viren Gohil and Rtn. Siddharth Bhimrajka explained the break-up of 758 schools and explained the bifurcation of funds through private sponsors, District Grants and Global Grants.

Speaker PP Rtn. Sandip Agarwalla addressed members about the site supervision, the durability of the unit, about the cost-cutting, training and maintenance of the unit.





ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS



RTN. HIREN KARA



FEBRUARY 12 RTN. MANOI MURARKA



RTN. HORMUSII



PP RTN. ARUN



FEBRUARY 15 RTN. ZEENIA MASTER



FEBRUARY 17 RTN. SHIVKUMAR **I**SRANI

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY 12

RTN. PTN. ASHOKKUMAR CHITRA RTN. PTN. FARAH BATRA

FEBRUARY 13

RTN. PTN. GEETA GOGIA RTN. PTN. LALITA KOSHY

RTN. PTN. SANDHYA MERCHANT

RTN. PTN. MARZBAN PATEL

ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY 11

RTN. PTN. NAMRATA & RTN. DR. ASHOK KIRPALANI

RTN. PTN. MRIDULA & RTN. NANDAN MALLISTE

RTN. PTN. RITA & RTN. SUBHASH SAGAR RTN. PTN. GOPI & PP RTN. ASHISH VAID

FEBRUARY 12

RTN. PTN. AMISHA & RTN. VIVEK HIMATSINGKA

FEBRUARY 14

RTN. PTN. VANDANA & RTN. RANJIT SINH **FEBRUARY 15**

RTN. PTN. GEETA & RTN. SUBASH GOGIA RTN. PTN. INDIRA & RTN. SURESH KOTAK

RTN. PTN. SUJATA & RTN. SUNIL VASWANI

FEBRUARY 16

RTN. PTN. KARISHMA & RTN. ABHISHEK SHARMAN

FEBRUARY 17

RTN. PTN. SUDHA & RTN. HARIPRASAD NEVATIA

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER: AMIT CHANDRA, MD, BAIN CAPITAL



Amit Chandra is the Managing Director of Bain Capital (India), and is an engaged, strategic philanthropist. He addressed the Leadeship Program cohort on the importance of institutional building in the sector and the changing donor mindset around funding capacity building. He has been a trustee of the Tata Trusts, a founder/board member of Ashoka University, a board member of Give India and The Akanksha Foundation. Amit is also a member of the advisory boards of Bridgespan India, the Centre for Social Impact & Philanthropy, and Swades Foundation. At Bain Capital, Amit is a part of the firm's leadership team in Asia.

GIVE, TO RECEIVE

There is no better deed than to feed a hungry person, especially a child. So to mark the event of each member's birthday the club will feed a child in your name. If you wish to feed more children or for a longer duration, then the charges for feeding a child nutritious food is Rs. 500 per month per child. Members (and/or their friends and relatives) wishing to continue beyond their birthday month can donate in multiples of Rs. 500 specifying the term or the number of children to the Rotary office. The cheques would be required in the name of: "ROTARY CLUB BOMBAY CHARITIES TRUST NO. 3"

	19-2020	
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PP Rtn. (Dr.) Adi Dastur	PP Rtn. Arun Sanghi	
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Yoga	Rtn. Manoj Patodia	
Vocational Training	Rtn. Varsha Daiya	
Night Study Centre	Rtn. Jamshyd Vazifdar	
DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. PRADEEP GUPTA		
Attendance	Rtn. Bipin Kapadia	
In-Camera	Rtn. Zinia Lawyer	
DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. (I		
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	
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	Rtn. S. V. Prasad	
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•	III. WILLIOT ALKLIA	
•	Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia	
DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE R		
DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE R Literacy / Bhavishya Yaan	Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia	

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2019-2020 TRUSTEES 2019-2020

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