

the gateway

Rotary Club
of Bombay



SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY | FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY |

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TODAY
PADMASHREE
DR. S. NATARAJAN,
ADITYA JYOT
EYE HOSPITAL,
ON RETINAL
DETACHMENT
ON ZOOM AT
1.45 PM
MEETING ID:
883 2518 8279

NOTE FROM PRESIDENT SHERNAZ VAKIL



A LEGACY SOON TO BE LOST

A few days ago, we visited the Asiatic Library. Housed in a magnificent heritage building at Horniman Circle, an extraordinary woman now heads this legacy of the British.

Vispi Balaporia and her team have spent many years working diligently to keep the library functioning and organising the many activities of the Asiatic Society.

We were meeting for the first time in person as the Urban Heritage Committee since there were previous commitments that required discussion. During PP Sonya Mehta's year, our Club took up restoration not only of the offices but also the historic maps and treasured tomes through donations from Hermès, etc.

~ Continued on Page 3



05. LAST 10. TUESDAY'S 21. SPEAKER

**ZAKIA WARDAK, AFGHANISTAN'S FIRST
WOMAN CONSUL GENERAL IN MUMBAI, ON
CONNECTING INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN, IN AN
INTERVIEW WITH RTN. MANJEET KRIPALANI**



How has Afghanistan changed over the years?

A lot of development has taken place in Afghanistan, and we hope it doesn't stop, especially for women. We have a lot of widows due to the war, and many women are suffering. They should be able to be a part of Afghanistan's development and work shoulder-to-shoulder with men. That is all I can say.

We have a lot of women entrepreneurs, social activists, singers, ministers, counsellors, doctors, engineers, and TV anchors, so there is a lot of development. Earlier, women in Afghanistan were not allowed to go to schools and today we have girl students from India who are studying there.

Afghanistan has become a uniquely matriarchal society in many ways because of the many men who lost their lives due to the war. How has that been impacted in the past years?

There were difficulties. We wanted development, but they were struggling.

When women-led families moved to the city, were they able to lead a professional life?

Some could. But I have been living here for a year, and I don't see much development in rural areas even here. Many women don't change, they don't go to school. They don't get educated, they

work as maids, there are a lot of problems.

In Afghanistan, too, four years of war has caused a lot of damage.

Can we talk about the India-Afghan trade and how it has progressed?

Last year, even with the pandemic, we reached US\$ 1.5 billion trade with Afghanistan and India. We aim to raise it to US\$ 3 to 5 billion. There is a lot of love for the fruits, dry fruits, *jaifal* and *hing* of Afghanistan and from India, it is rice, sugar, and cooking oil. These are the three major products that Afghanistan has passion for besides clothing and handicrafts. We also have special stones and Jaipur is the biggest buyer, I guess, and they have invested in Jaipur.

When you look at the trade, is it still continuing?

No matter what kind of government exists, trade will always happen because the Afghanistan people will need to get products from India and also some needful things from Afghanistan will go to India unless the Indian Government announces that they will not trade, which has not happened yet.

**TO WATCH THE REST OF ZAKIA
WARDAK'S INTERVIEW, [CLICK HERE](#)**

**TO READ A COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT
OF ZAKIA WARDAK'S INTERVIEW,
[CLICK HERE](#)**

The Rotary Club of Bombay will soon host a soirée for its members to view the maps and books restored by the Asiatic Library.

Did you know?
A rare copy of Dante's *Divine Comedy* holds pride of place here as does a first folio by Shakespeare himself, dated 1623.

The Asiatic's online sub-portal granthsanjeevani.com has **over 20,000 books, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, journals, government publications and reports.** Of these, 15,000 are classified as rare and so access to them would not have been possible but for the efforts of the library to preserve them digitally.



Being here was like reliving an era gone by where people would come to this space to read and research from an incredible array of books collected over the past 300-odd years. As we sat in the Darbar Hall and discussed how to help the Asiatic Society and library, it dawned on me that we could have our Club Assembly at this heritage venue.

So, RCB will hold its **first Club Assembly of the year** against the old-world charm of a room conceived many years ago and adorned by the portraits of worthy citizens of yore.

We will also hold **an exclusive map-viewing** of the restored maps for our members at a special function sometime in December.

As we moved from room to room and our hosts implored us to find a way to support both their cause and the literary treasures that would soon be lost to the world, it felt like a travesty that the world had moved on and let go of such grace and charm.

Technology had overtaken the warmth and style of a musty reading room... So why would anyone with information at their fingertips refer to some old books?

Yet, I believe, if we could find one individual with the means to restore these treasured books and revitalise these reading rooms, the city would be able to preserve its legacy. ~ **President Shernaz Vakil**

**GIFT SOMEONE
THE FUTURE TODAY**

- » ASSIST FAMILIES WITH A MONTH'S RATION
- » FEED SNACKS TO CHILDREN FOR A MONTH
- » GIFT VOCATIONAL TRAINING TO A CHILD
- » DONATE SEWING MACHINES TO VILLAGERS
- » SUPPORT A FARMER'S LIVELIHOOD BY PLANTING FRUIT SAPPLINGS
- » TREAT ANANDA YAAN ELDERS TO LUNCH
- » SPONSOR ANANDA YAAN ELDERS TO A PICNIC OR OUTING



IF NOT NOW

When?



[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

Adopt a dialysis patient



The Rotary Club of Bombay, in association with the Rotary Club of Ghatkopar, has set up a state-of-the-art dialysis centre named Rotary Samarpan Dialysis Centre.

The centre is equipped with 14 high-tech BBraun Haemodialysis machines.

We appeal to all our members to adopt a dialysis patient to be treated at this centre.

The cost of each dialysis cycle is Rs 900 and on an average a patient has to undergo minimum three cycles a week or 12 cycles a month.

For an economically backward patient, this becomes truly challenging. Each cycle takes nearly four hours and the regular working-class patient's job and thus his/her earning capacity is also impacted. Such patients are unable to access treatment and succumb to this deadly, irreversible disease.

We each have a chance to give a patient a respectable life. We appeal to each and every member to donate generously by adopting a patient.

The treatment cost for each patient would be :

**1 week: Rs 2,700; 1 month: Rs 10,800; 3 months: Rs 32,400;
6 months: Rs 64,800; 12 months: Rs 1,29,600**

Your generosity could save a patient's life and allow him/her to lead a normal life.

You are most welcome to visit the Centre at your convenience, for which please contact Rtn. Swati Jajodia on + 91 9821028587. Please send in your contributions by cheque favouring "Rotary Club Bombay Charities Trust No. 3" to the Club office.

Committee News



This year's theme for the International Day for Elders was **'Digital equity for all ages.'** Ananda Yaan, in collaboration with Dignity Foundation, arranged an online musical show.

Around 250 members from Ananda Yaan, Lighthouse, Bhavishya Yaan and senior citizens and children from other NGOs came together to enjoy old melodies sung live by leading singers of the Shankar Mahadevan Academy.

The Shankar Mahadevan Academy and its Nirvana reach-out programme hit all the high notes. Shankar Mahadevan himself set the tone for the evening with an invocation song.

We are grateful to Sridhar Ranganathan, Deepa and Krish for the joy they brought to our members. AY Committee also thanks Rtn. Ptn. Vandana Daga for delighting listeners with her beautiful voice in an online game of *antakshari*.

The Bhavishya Yaan Committee is distributing a hundred Lenovo tablets to students who attend BY classes online.

Last week, 60 were given to children in four BY schools: G.K. Marg Municipal School, N.M. Joshi Municipal School, Colaba Municipal School and Ambedkar



School, Worli. The remaining tablets will be distributed this week in BY's Prabhadevi and Byculla centres. Parents and students were called to the schools to receive the tablets along with a data plan.



Lighthouse students from grades 1 to 6 commemorated the Father of the Nation with **an immersive Gandhi Jayanti celebration** on October 2nd, 2021.

While the tiny tots of standards 1 and 2 spoke about him and completed craft activities with the iconic spinning wheel (chakra), the older ones had a three-day event. As most children from standards 3 to 6 were already familiar with the basic facts of his life, they were introduced to the ideas he left behind.

There were interactive, multi-media sessions, quizzes, and lesser-known facts about Gandhiji. They studied his stand on issues like caste injustice, gender equality and animal welfare.

Children did word art, sang Bapu's favourite bhajans and wrote essays on what Gandhiji and his thoughts had come to mean to them.

PRESIDENT SHERNAZ AND FIROZE VAKIL

INVITE YOU TO

Diwali Nite

ON FRIDAY, 29TH OCTOBER, 2021
FROM 7 PM - 10 PM

AT THE MINI-CLUB HOUSE LAWNS, RACE COURSE,
RWITC, MAHALAXMI

HOSTS:

Arvind Agarwal
Sanjay Agarwal
Sandip Agarwalla
Abhinav Aggarwal
Charu Agarwal
Siddharth Bhimrajka
Madhusudan Daga
Nandan Damani

Rohit Dhoot
Vivek Himatsingka
Mudit Jain
Vineet Suchanti
Ashish Vaid
Pritam Sanghai
Akhil Sanghi
Ajit Surana
Ujjwala Singhanian

Mohit Jain
Ashok Jatia
Vijay Jatia
Swati Jajodia
Vineet Kedia
Manoj Patodia
Priyasri Patodia
Abhishek Saraf

Due to COVID restrictions:

- Maximum 125 registrations on a first come first served basis.
- We will have to vacate the venue at 10 pm.

RSVP via phone or WhatsApp to Rashmi +91 97691 40141.

Rotaract Chronicles

2nd Installation of Rotaract Club of Sydenham College

WHAT IF...?

Reimagining the world around us.
A quest to conquer the parallel world.

RCSC installs Team of Heroes

In a world full of questions and possibilities, the Rotaract Club of Sydenham College held their second Installation Ceremony themed “WHAT IF - Reimagining the world around us”, on September 26th, 2021.

Bidding adieu to Rtr. Yash Babrekar and his Clan of Champions of 2020-21 and welcoming Rtr. Deepanksha Khetawat and her Team of Heroes for 2021-22, they celebrated last year's achievements and cheered this year's team as they took up their responsibilities with enthusiasm.

Rtr. Unnati Singh and Rtr. Parth Barot kicked off the ceremony, quoting popular dialogues from the Marvel series to connect with the audience. Each member of the in-coming committee was given a Marvel Superhero code name; you could call it Avengers Assemble 2.0.

The motivating words of Professor In-Charge Mr. Rajendra Mali and the Head of the Proposed Alumni Association of Sydenham College Rtn. Ajit Lalvani inspired the Club to forge ahead. The encouragement from special guests, Rotaract Committee Chair Rtn. Murad Currawalla, DRR for the year 2021-22, Rtr. Bharat Patel and ZRRs Rtr. Punit and Rtr. Rutuja enthused members to make a change and leave a mark.

Our congratulations to all those awarded for best performance from the Committee of 2020-21. We wish the Committee of 2021-22 of RCSC all the luck in their future endeavours!

Club Details

- Club Name: Rotaract Club of Sydenham College
- District Number: 3141
- Zone: 1A
- Parent Rotary Club: Rotary Club of Bombay
- Charter Date: 18th September 2020
- President 2020-21: Rtr. Yash Babrekar
- Secretary 2020-21: Rtr. Sakshi Chavan

Let's embark on this journey
with the same zeal and enthusiasm!
RCSC IS HERE TO ROAR.

Rotaract Chronicles



On September 28th, 2021, 15 members of the Rotaract Club of H.R. College organised a **'learn with fun' afternoon for the street children of Salaam Baalak** supported by RCB's Child Welfare Committee.

Rotaractors divided the event into three segments: the first two involved question-answer sessions whereby correct responses earned tokens to be redeemed by the children later. The first module tested



their understanding of spoken English and comprehension. The second posed questions in geography, science, English and mathematics.

Put together the tokens they earned for their correct answers allowed the children to "purchase" a gift of an equivalent value.

The afternoon ended in music and dance, leaving the kids energised and happy.

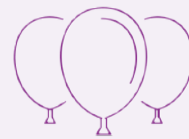


Always stay hydrated with the leak-proof Kool Hexone which has a steel inner, a bottle that you'd enjoy sipping from, every now & then.
Available now in stores near you!



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ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS



OCTOBER 12
Rtn. Dr. M. Asad
Karim Khan



OCTOBER 13
Rtn. Farokh
Guzder



OCTOBER 15
Rtn. Pashupati
Advani



OCTOBER 15
Rtn. Hursh
Meghani



OCTOBER 17
PP Dr. Rumi
Jehangir



OCTOBER 18
Hon. Rtn. Deepak
Parekh



OCTOBER 18
Rtn. Pankaj
Baliga

ANNIVERSARIES



OCTOBER 12
Rtn. Ptn. Dilnavaz
& Rtn. Vijay Meghani

OCTOBER 14
Rtn. Ptn. Jyoti
& Rtn. Rajas Doshi

OCTOBER 18
Rtn. Ptn. Preeti
& Rtn. Ratan Tankha

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER 16
Rtn. Vandana Kanoria
OCTOBER 16
Rtn. Hemlata Saxena



OCTOBER
19TH
2021
1.45 PM
ON ZOOM

MEETING ID:
883 2518 8279

**D. Sivanandhan, Retired
Director-General of
Police, Maharashtra,
and former Police
Commissioner of Mumbai**


NEXT WEEK'S
SPEAKER

Rotary Club
of Bombay  

D. Sivanandhan was the Police Commissioner of Mumbai, promoted in the aftermath of the November 2008 Mumbai attacks. He is one of India's most highly regarded officers and retired as the Director General of Police, Maharashtra state in March 2011.

His career spanned multiple high-profile postings over 35 years and he is known for his use of strategy and intelligence to uphold the rule of law. He served as an active member of the special task force in the National Security Council Secretariat, and helped restructure India's internal and external national security provisions.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2021-2022

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DGE SANDIP AGARWALLA



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PP DR. MUKESH BATRA



PRESIDENT SHERNAZ VAKIL, IPP FRAMROZE MEHTA, PE VINEET BHATNAGAR, PN MANOJ PATODIA, HON. SECY. DR. AKSHAY BATRA, JT. HON. SECY. NATASHA TREASURYWALA, HON. TREASURER KIRIT KAMDAR

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 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE YOUTH SERVICE RTN. VRINDA RAJGARHIA SKILL DEVELOPMENT RTN. S. V. PRASAD LITERACY (BHAVISHYA YAAN) RTN. ULHAS YARGOP SCHOLARSHIPS RTN. ATEEQ AGBOATWALA MENTORSHIP RTN. SUNITA MANDELLA TAPARIA JUNIOR COLLEGE PP PRADEEP SAXENA	 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE CLUB SERVICE (INTERNATIONAL) RTN. FARHAT JAMAL PROGRAMME RTN. SATYAN ISRANI FUND-RAISING RTN. SWATI MAYEKAR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES RTN. CHRISTOPHER BLUEMEL	 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE DISTRICT THRUST AREAS RTN. BIPIN VAZIRANI GLOBAL GRANTS & TRF PP VIJAY KUMAR JATIA DISTRICT EMPHASIS AREAS PP PRADEEP SAXENA DISTRICT THRUST AREAS PP PRADEEP SAXENA