

THE GATEWAY

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Bombay
For private circulation
Volume 64 Issue No. 7
<http://rotaryclubofbombay.org/>

IN THIS ISSUE



What kind of Rotary activities would you like to participate in?
Click here.

COMING UP



August 19th, 2022: Parsi Nite Fellowship at Allbless Baug.



August 27th, 2022: Bridge Over Brunch at Royal Yacht Club.



October 5th, 2022: Fellowship to Slovenia



November 25th, 2022: Fellowship to Tadoba Sanctuary.

Note: All details with Rashmi at the Rotary office (97691 40141).



PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS
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**Rotary Club
of Bombay**



DISTRICT 3141



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

14th August, 2022

Giving < Receiving

**WHAT IS IT THAT MOTIVATES SOME OF US TO "GIVE"?
IS IT SIMPLY THE OUTCOME OF ONE'S KINDNESS? OR IS
IT THE "RIGHT THING TO DO" ONCE YOU HAVE ENOUGH?**

Like so many other things in life, "Giving" is just one side of an equation. On the other side of the same equation is "Receiving". When we talk about just Giving, we assume a role, perhaps unwittingly, that is hierarchically above those who we give to. By restricting our view only on the act of giving we have chosen to ignore what we receive in return.

It is only when we consider the complete equation that includes what we receive when we give that we begin to see the reason of giving. This complete equation motivates people to give which is not simply a function of one's kindness or an expression of the right thing to do.

There are several times when I think that what we receive while giving does not equate to what we actually give. It is therefore an inequation rather than an equation. This then also explains the consistency and frequency of giving. How can one ever equate the joy of the smile on the face of a 58 year old woman, who is able to sign a cheque book in a bank, with one thousand rupees that made her functionally literate ?

So giving is clearly not a sacrifice - it is an act that nourishes us in ways that nothing else does. Ask those who have made giving as a life's mission if they feel superior or blessed while giving. It is ironical that in the adversities of those who we serve that we discover our peace and joys.



NIKKHIL ADVANI, FOUNDER, EMMAY ENTERTAINMENT, IN CONVERSATION WITH ANAHITA UBEROI

Anahita Uberoi: Most people associate Nikkhil Advani with Kal Ho Naa Ho but there is a journey before and after that Nikkhil has taken which is extremely diverse and creative and it reflects his journey as a human being.

What was your dream as a 20-year-old?

I had no connection to Bollywood. When Kal Ho Naa Ho did well, my grandma told my parents that abhi bahot hogaya, abhi achhi naukri dilwado isko. Media was never considered a career; we grew up in a corporate household.

My father was in pharmaceutical, and mother designed ads. She made ads for Dukes and Ram Madhvani was directing one of the films. I happened to meet him and

said that I wanted to assist him. He told me to come back after watching films by Fellini, Satyajit Ray, Shyam Benegal, and Woody Allen. I had grown up watching Hindi films, but I went to Films Division of India and watched everything, and it blew my mind.

I went to him and said I have watched everything. He said come assist me then, I am going to make feature films now. Next, I met Saeed Mirza, and I asked him, can I assist you? There was a connection through my sister, she worked in a consultancy which sent students abroad and she had helped to send Aziz Mirza's kids. So, he said yes, and for Rs. 250/- I started working.

You started working with him and stayed within the art

house world as an AD. Then you went straight to Karan Johar; how did that happen?

There was no money in Art house. I got married in '96, I had no money.

Karan was a junior to me in high school, I used to bully him. He met me backstage and said that he had assisted Aditya Chopra and why didn't I go and hear the script.

I went to meet him, he had only the first half of Kuch Kuch Hota Hai at the time. So, he asked if I'd like to be the Associate? I said yes; this was 1997. Yash Johar asked me what my monthly salary would be? I said, Rs. 8000/- He said it was too much! Nobody paid anybody in the 90s.

Me, Zoya Akhtar, Shahad Ali, Apoorva Lakhia, we were all working together separately.

We came together and said that we are going to organise the fees etc. We structured it.

Today, it is so organised and professional for people and youngsters to step in. So, you moved ahead with Karan Johar; was it his belief in you?

It was actually Shah Rukh's belief in me. I had done Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, Mohabbatein and Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham as an Associate Director. Yash Johar said you are on a loan to Yash Raj. My salary would still come from Dharma Productions because they wanted me to come back.

After three films, I think Shah Rukh turned to Dharma Productions and said that he will only do the next film if I direct it. So, I owe Shah Rukh my entire career.

These relations are special in a creative field because they add to your creativity. Kal Ho Na Ho was when Bollywood stepped out of its domain and people couldn't help but go to the theatres.

I like to call that period as the one where 'the boys took over.' We grew up on Hollywood cinema and we wanted to that structure, we wanted that set up and organisation. Farhan Akhtar opened the gates with Dil Chahta Hai, and we just ran through it. We were the next generation. Then we got overtaken when the North boys came in with the grassroot and heartland cinema.

Your wife is such a remarkable person, how has she been as a partner in your creative thinking?

She is my biggest cheerleader and biggest critic, and she keeps me grounded. My career has seen biggest highs with Kal Ho Naa Ho and lowest with Chandni Chowk to China and Salaam-e-Ishq. Once, we were in Alibaug, and it was a low phase of life, I wasn't talking to anyone. She asked me: "Are you bigger than Jesus Christ?" I said "No." She said, "50% of the world hates Jesus Christ, who are you?"

That kept me going on. Many people say no matter how hard you hit me, I'll keep coming back. That's the thing about Suparna. She said, your career is not the end. Your life is so much more.

You once said you were handling 16 projects. And you did Delhi Safari, an animated film; did your daughter draw interest in that genre?

She wasn't allowed to watch anything that I made until 13, she is now 16, so yes. Suparna was clear on that. Delhi Safari happened because when she was small, I thought I should make a film for her. A company from Pune had approached me and I told them I wanted to do a film in which animals in the Sanjay Gandhi National Park are aghast and want to go and talk to the PM about it. That is when I met Bittu Sehgal. It took me seven years to make.



If you could write anything on a billboard, what could it be?

Whatever is usually written at St. Andrew's church.

One habit from your childhood that you still do?
Wake up in the morning.

Top ideas on your bucket list?

Win another National Award, see my daughter graduate from Parson, travel, another big party on 55th.

Invisibility or super strength?

Super strength.

What's the most boring thing ever?

A bad Tollywood film

Advice you'd give your younger self?

Be nice to all.

What do you impulse-buy the most?

Vinyls, records, or LPs.

What subject do you find fascinating?

History.

What are you most grateful for?

My family - Suparna and Keya.



LAST WEEK @TAJ



Saal Mubarak!

The Fellowship Committee has planned a wonderful and fun evening for Parsi Nite on Friday, August 19th, 2022, from 7.30 pm onwards. It is being held at the beautiful 150 year old Allbless Baug, a traditional Parsi venue and hosted by several of our Parsi Rotarians.



SO COME DRESSED IN YOUR FINEST PARSİ ATTIRE TO CELEBRATE PARSİ NEW YEAR and

enjoy an evening filled with music, drinks and dance. The highlight will be an authentic Parsi bhonu especially curated for our members.

Please RSVP Rashmi at the Rotary office at the earliest.



THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE
CORDIALLY INVITE
YOU TO THE
PARSİ NİTE
WITH MUSIC, COCKTAILS
& DINNER

7.30 PM ONWARDS

FRIDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 2022

ALLBLESS BAUG
CHARNI ROAD, MUMBAI

DRESS: PARSİ ATTIRE

RSVP: RASHMI [+919769140141](tel:+919769140141)

Fellowship kicks off Alpha Year



PP Vijay Jatia and Rtn. Ptn. Gauri hosted a High Tea Fellowship on August 9th, 2022, at The Rooftop, Trident Nariman Point, to celebrate the beginning of the Alpha Year 2022-2023 with Dist. Governor Sandip

Agarwalla and President Vineet Bhatnagar. The event was attended by approximately 150 people including members of the Rotary Club of Bombay, past District Governors, AKS members and the core team.



BY students win silver and bronze in wrestling

The BMC organised Regional Secondary Final Wrestling Tournament for the Year 2022 at NMJ school last week, for all zones of Bombay.

Our GK Marg BY students made us proud by winning bronze and silver medals.

1. Dnyaneshwar Phugnar won 3rd place in under-14, 40 kg weight category. He is in grade 8th.

2. Shruti Kadam won second place in under-17, 43

kg category. She is in the 10th. What is even more special is that these children are trained by our BY alumni, Pranit.

He was a star wrestler

when he was in BY. He came to school daily for two months to train those interested. This is his way of giving back.



AY celebrates Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav!

Our 150 elderly members celebrate every festival with enthusiasm but this one always fills them with pride.

Their day started with decoration of both centres with handmade decorations. They played tricolour balloon games and participated in I-Day quizzes.

They wore clothes in the tricolours and renewed their vows to keep themselves fit and keep their surroundings clean and green.

Jai Hind!



Rotary at the Darbar



Rhythm of India, a fundraiser organised by the Urban Heritage Committee of Rotary Club of Bombay, mesmerised and educated the audience on Friday, August 12th, 2022, with a sitar performance by Pandit Chandrasekhar Phanse and his students from all over the world. This was to commemorate 75 years of India's Independence and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Held at the grand iconic Darbar Hall of Asiatic Society, the full house resonated with the sounds of patriotism and love for India.

A sensorial visual and auditory

experience, the seating was unique, showcasing the colours of our National Flag in three rows and blue in the centre.

Panditji, with a Master's degree in sitar, pioneered the concept of 'Singing Sitar,' one of the most difficult forms of playing this instrument. His belief is "Play the music, not the instrument," so, unfazed and undeterred by the pandemic or rains, he relentlessly pursued his commitment to teaching and mentoring his students at multi-geographic locations.

The outcome was a never-before experience through a sequence of ragas and songs divided into three segments, representing 25 years of swatantra Bharat. An interesting gem was the presence of two sets of three- and two-generation families. The event opened with Vande Mataram, our National Song, in Raga Desh, which evoked great emotion in the audience as it symbolised the nationalistic fervor prevalent amongst our freedom fighters during our freedom struggle. Raga Tilak Shyam, created by Bharat Ratna awardee late



Pandit Ravi Shankar, a blend of two ragas.

The next segment Sare Jahan Se Accha, was a patriotic song for children. Pt. Ravi Shankar was asked to compose the music as the existing tune was too slow and sad. To give it an inspiring impact, it was set to a stronger tune which is the popular tune of this song. Subsequently, it was recorded by the late Lata Mangeshkar to a different tune. Raga Malkauns is a serious and meditative raga similar to the Carnatic raga Hindola. Raga Durga Bhakti represented the romanticism

that existed during this period when Art, Literature, and Music flourished in India

The last segment (1999 onwards), was a medley of patriotic songs by Panditji on his singing sitar. It was very enjoyable with Aye Watan mere Watan aabaad rahe tu, Jayostute Jayostute a popular Marathi inspirational song, Mere Desh ki dharti, Yeh Desh Hai Veer Jawano Ka. Followed by Chodo kal ki batein to herald the final piece of the medley the ever-popular Maa Tujhe Salaam by A. R. Rahman. Raga Kirwani, a Carnatic raga now incorporated into

Hindustani music, is extremely popular because of the melodious nature of the raga, it represents the unity of people from across India.

The show concluded with the National Anthem on the sitar accompanied by the audience. An outstanding evening appreciated by all, thanks to the commitment, dedication, and camaraderie of the performers under the leadership of Panditji. The orchestra was the coming together of teamwork through synchronisation and harmony.

Project Chalaang

OBJECTIVE

To enrich the lives of under-privileged children and adolescents of the Vaidu Communities of Jogeshwari East and Marol by providing a comprehensive intervention for excellence in education, life-skills and career awareness among tribal children and adolescents of the Vaidu Communities of Jogeshwari East and Marol through contextualized ECCE, quality primary education, life-skills and career awareness.

BACKGROUND

The Vaidu people are a nomadic tribe of Maharashtra. They go from village to village selling medicines; hence they are called Vaidu. They are mainly to be found in the districts of Nashik, Pune, Ahmednagar and Khandesh. Some Vaidu tribe people are also found in Karnataka.

The Vaidu community, one of India's denotified tribes, have long been suspicious of conventional education. So, children are either not enrolled in schools or made to discontinue their studies midway to meet the economic needs of the family.

Chalaang was initiated in a hope to change their view and



pave a better path for future generations.

A team came together and began work with the help of the community leader Durga Gudilu. There was intensive interaction to understand the type of community that this is and the need of the hour.

A survey elicited results on the number of children eligible for Balwadi as well as remedial classes.

Teacher Training: Teachers were trained to use their talent and stick to a schedule to continue all their classes.

Balwadi visits: To allow the teachers to see and understand what a community

balwadi looks like and how the teachers manage students and the teaching.

Parent meetings: To build trust and request their corporation.

Enrollment: 80 students for the remedial class and 85 students for the balwadi class were enrolled by the teachers in both the centres (Jogeshwari and Marol). All the necessary material was provided by the organisation and classes have begun with the balwadi teachers taking different activities and Patang teachers (remedial) continuing their DT (Diagnostic Test).

Adolescent Intervention: A survey of youth between 14 to 18 years was conducted.

MENSTRUAL AWARENESS FOR VAIDU WOMEN

THE ROTARACT CLUB OF HINDUJA COLLEGE ALONG WITH ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY ORGANISED "PERIODS OF SHARING 2.0 (PHASE 1)."

This is a year-long initiative to change and impact the lives of 400 tribal and underprivileged women on July 31st, 2022

The event was conducted at both Jogeshwari and Marol. The team discussed menstruation, hygiene to be maintained, myths and facts about periods and situations when one should visit a doctor. Women attending were encouraged to speak more boldly about menstruation.

Sanitary napkins were donated to 400 women to last them three months.

Vaidu Upliftment Committee thanks Rtr. Palin Rathor, Rtr. Medhaa Asnani, Rtr. Rajat Singh, Rtr. Rashika Jain, Rtr. Romil Henia, Rtr. Aman Jain, Rtr. Ayaan Doshi, Rtr. Vaidehi Lad, and Rtr. Abhishek Jain for choosing to spend their Sunday meaningfully.



Lighthouse celebrates I-Day with RCB President



Our children at the Lighthouse Project celebrated India's 75th year of Independence with RCB President Vineet Bhatnagar. As always, many Rotarians joined in the festivities. PP Ramesh Narayan, Rtn. Vandan Shah with Rtn. Ptn. Ekta, Rtn. Ratan Tankha with his family, Rtn. Dilip Dalal, Mr Rajan Gupta with his family, and Rtn. Charu Agrawal kept encouraging the children during their performances with loud applause.

RCB's joy was doubled as our

Satellite Club members came to celebrate with the Rotary family. Representing the club were Kushal Jaipuria, Ujjwal



Jaipuria, and Sanjay Damani. While the children began the performance with a yoga display of difference asanas, they wound it up by showing guests what they had learnt in taekwondo.

The performances focussed on the need to be better citizens with a greater investment in the city around us.

President Vineet Bhatnagar cheered them for their effort and called the Lighthouse children a shining light to brighter India!



Lighthouse learns the value of money and how to save it

In the right light at the right time, everything is extraordinary.

On August 11th, 2022, the Rotaract Club of H.R. College went to our kids at the Lighthouse Project and taught them something different. Lighthouse is an initiative by the Rotary Club of Bombay for children of fishermen from the Machchimaar Nagar at Colaba.

The children were given clay piggy banks to paint with the intention of teaching them the importance of money. Our members helped the kids in making the designs on the piggy banks and in painting. We taught the importance of money to 25 kids within the span of an hour.

Art speaks where words are unable to explain.

Free eye check-up for kids



Child Welfare Committee thanks Rtn. Poonam Lalvani for organising a free eye check-up through her Life Trust Foundation.

A hundred children of Lighthouse got their eyes tested in the presence of Chairman Rtn. Charu Agrawal.

Post-Covid, we noticed that children were struggling to read the blackboard during offline classes.

Just as a lighthouse acts as a beacon, guiding ships through choppy seas on dark nights we, at Lighthouse, believe in guiding the younger generation of the community through all hurdles.

This check-up was beneficial as many students turned out to have required glasses and the parents and community thanked Rotary Club Of Bombay for this initiative and for making them aware. Regular check-ups, if over looked in formative years, can create further problems later.

CELEBRATIONS

Member Birthdays



AUGUST 17
Rtn. Sunita
Mandelia



AUGUST 17
Rtn. Sunny
Pariyaram



AUGUST 18
Rtn. Pavit
Chadha



AUGUST 18
Rtn. Dr. Rustom
Ginwalla



AUGUST 19
Rtn. Laxmi
Maneklal



AUGUST 19
Rtn. Madhusudan
Ruia



AUGUST 20
Rtn. Pradeep
Gujarathi



AUGUST 20
Rtn. Rajnikant
Reshamwala

Rotarian Partner Birthdays

AUGUST 18

Rtn. Ptn. Ranjit
Shahani

AUGUST 19

Rtn. Ptn. Jyoti Doshi

AUGUST 19

Rtn. Ptn. Sujata
Vaswani

AUGUST 20

Rtn. Ptn. Ruby
Patch

AUGUST 20

Rtn. Ptn. Navaz
Pochkhanwalla

AUGUST 21

Rtn. Ptn. Irma Chinai

AUGUST 21

Rtn. Ptn. Samira
Merchant

AUGUST 22

Rtn. Ptn. Manju
Sinha



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Rotary Club
of Bombay



NEXT WEEK @TAJ

Founder and CEO
of the Helen Cooper
School of Luxury

HOW SUSTAINABILITY CAN BE A COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGE FOR MODERN BUSINESSES

As a veteran with over 35 years working with premium and luxury brands, Helen launched her school in India at the end of 2021. With sustainability at the heart of everything they do, Helen provides a personalised and tailored programme of high quality skills-based training to suit the needs and ambitions of individuals

and businesses wanting to find their future in Luxury.

Helen will be talking about why this new type of school is needed, her belief that India uniquely has a future as the global home of Sustainable Luxury brands and products, and why she calls her school a 'Practicademy'.

MILTON

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WE CAN KEEP YOU WARM?

Very Hot
Hot Hot Hot
Oh my god, hot!
Seriously, still hot?

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CLIP FRESH SQUARE
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★★★★★

Review:
MUST HAVE!

Great product for storage - microwave
cooking and dishwasher safe.

The best companion your microwave can ever have – Treo's Hi Borosilicate
Clip Fresh Square Container. Buy now on Amazon or Flipkart!

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2022-2023



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