



A HISTORIC MEETING IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE

Rabindranath Tagore, Dylan Thomas, the Rig Veda, Helen Keller, the Bible, an anonymous Hindustani poet, Pope Paul and William Shakespeare. That would make for a deadly combination any day. And it was, indeed, one.

A terrific combination of thoughts and quotations that could be ascribed to the above (and to a few other men and women of letters) vied with one another and strove to find expression to describe feelings, ideas and ideologies at the first meeting of the Rotary Club of Bombay for 2011-12. The meeting, that was held on Tuesday, July 5, 2011, had history written all over it.

It was for the first time in the 82-year history of the Rotary Club of Bombay that a Rotary International President was the chief guest at what is euphemistically called "the installation meeting" of a Club.

R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee and First Lady Binota were stopped in their tracks as they were about to step into the Crystal Room and were given an unbelievable welcome – a traditional Parsi welcome that few non-Parsis would have seen.

Arin Master, attired in a green sari draped in the typical Parsi style, welcomed the First Couple by softly uttering a prayer and waving (making circles in the air) five times, first a



Take it away. From one 'P' to another – IPP Pradeep Saxena affixes the President's pin on his successor, Paul George. And Paul reciprocates by pinning his predecessor with an IPP lapel pin. This is the annual ritual of change that occurs throughout the Rotary world on July 1 every year

coconut and then an egg, before the First Guests.

She was quickly followed by Rita Dalal who was armed with an *aarti thaali* and who applied a vermilion *tikka* on the First Foreheads.

Rotaryann Devina Shah, who had been biding her time, also stepped forward to place huge, colourful garlands around the First Necks.

As soon as she had done that, young Interactors of Fort Convent School, accompanied by a few Rotaractors from H.R. College, burst into song, singing *We are the world* to the accompaniment of a guitar-strumming musician.

Finally, it was time for Kalyan to ascend the stage and Binota to occupy the first table as the Rotary Club of Bombay got down to making history.

There was a long list of tasks to be accomplished, innumerable Rotarians, Officers, District dignitaries, Committee Chairpersons to be recognised and/or introduced and inspirational speeches to be made. In the normal course, this would have meant a long, meandering meeting, with no control over time. But new President Paul George had things well under control. With the entire programme well etched in his memory (and printed on computer sheets, lest any-

one missed a cue), he conducted the proceedings with aplomb, keeping a strict watch on the time, and allowed it to overshoot the time limit by only a few minutes. A creditable performance, indeed.

First off, he conducted the formal part of the meeting, which included welcoming and recognising R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee, the guests, whether from R.I. (Ashok Mahajan, a Rotary Foundation Trustee, was present) or the District, Presidents of other Clubs and so on, and then invited his predecessor, IPP Pradeep Saxena, to address the Club.

(Please see Page 2)

I'm still in awe of the Rotary Club of Bombay, says R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee

Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee, although he is now at the pinnacle of the Rotary movement, says that he is still in awe of the Rotary Club of Bombay.

Speaking as chief guest at the first meeting of the new Rotary year held on July 5, 2011, he surprised members with his candid confession and admitted to feeling "like a young rookie Rotarian, holding the environment in apprehensive awe, as I do every time I come to the Rotary Club of Bombay".

What was the reason for such trepidation? Perhaps the fact that he was a rank newcomer when he first

came to the Club thirty years ago as a District Governor and felt dwarfed by towering personalities like Dr. Shantilal Mehta, Ambalal Kilachand and Naval Ardeshir.

On a more serious note, the R.I. President said that he had very little to say and hardly any advice to give regarding service projects to Clubs in India. On the contrary, when he came to India he observed things here and went back with ideas for projects to share with other Clubs in the world.

This was because "no one does more Community Service than the Rotary Clubs in India. And in India, yours is one of the most achieving

Districts, District 3140. And in District 3140, you are one of the most service-oriented and outstanding Clubs. So what do I tell you about what you are supposed to do?"

Nonetheless, Kalyan did ask members to ponder over the fact that even though Rotary had been showing tremendous growth in the country, India also had the dubious distinction of being at the third position as far as the number of Rotarians leaving Clubs was concerned. Nobody noticed this because the number of Rotarians was growing at a brisk rate.

Kalyan also displayed a rare humorous streak when he invited mem-



bers to attend the R.I. Convention in Bangkok in May, 2012. Pointing out that Rotary was more of a family affair, he told the tale of a Rotarian in North India who told him that he would attend the Bangkok Convention, but all by himself. Asked why, he replied, "Half the cost and double the fun!" But, he had said to him, this won't do – *Yeh nahin chalega!*

(See Page 6 for Kalyan's speech)

'I don't have Excalibur, I don't have a sacred thread or holy water'



It has been a wonderful year, thanks to all of you. IPP Pradeep Saxena bids a fond farewell at the last meeting. In the picture at right, Paul George makes his debut as President in the august company of Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee and District Governor Vijay Jalan

IPP Pradeep Saxena bid a fond farewell to his fellow members in his characteristic style.

He said: "Paul, I don't have Excalibur, I don't have a sacred thread to bind you with and I don't have holy water to sprinkle upon you. What I do have is a pin which is a symbol of the greatest movement in the world today. I think everyone needs to be a proud Rotarian at this time... to be led by someone of your stature."

With that, he affixed the President's pin to Paul George's lapel and wished him all success.

Referring to R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee, he said that it was a singular honour and a unique privilege to have him attending the first meeting of the Club. "This is indeed a great day."

Recalling a few lines from *Gitanjali*, Pradeep said that the Nobel Laureate, Rabindranath Tagore, wrote about a person's "clear stream of reason (that) runs no risk whatsoever of ever getting lost in the dreary desert sand of dead habit". Those who had read *Geetanjali* would realise that in Paul the Rotary Club of Bombay had an epitome of such a person, he stated.

"I referred to him (Paul George) as a rock at the last meeting; in Paul we have somebody who has tirelessly striven through his professional life,

through his work in Rotary, towards bettering the lives of people in our society who are more challenged than we are.

"And I would like to tell the Rotary International President, who exhorted Rotarians around the world at the R.I. Convention on May 25 in the words of Dylan Thomas not to go gently into the good night... (that) under Paul the members of this Club will definitely not go gently into that good night," Pradeep added.

President Paul George reciprocated Pradeep's gesture by affixing an Immediate Past President's pin on Pradeep's lapel. He also presented him with an album of photographs taken during his year as President and a bound volume of the 52 issues of *The Gateway* brought out during the year.

Paul pointed out that Pradeep had led the Club wonderfully over the past year.

"You would have realised that he comes along with a certain degree of charm and wit, but don't let that fool you. Behind that facade is a very sharp brain. We've seen that in operation during the course of the last year. Thank you, Pradeep, for having led us so wonderfully."

Finally, as members applauded the outgoing President, Paul George pre-

sented him with a glittering silver salver as a memento for Pradeep to remind him of the year he spent as President of the Club.

The following text inscribed on the salver was read out by Paul George:

The Rotary Club of Bombay gratefully recognises Pradeep Saxena, President 2010-2011, for his dedicated services to our Club and to the Rotary movement. An outstanding leader who served the Club with simplicity, ensuring that all our actions and deeds were of ethical standards...

**– Rotarian Paul George
President, 2011-12**

President Paul continued with the next item on the agenda, which was supposed to be his own speech, but digressed for a moment.

He announced that Arun Master had made a generous donation of Rs. 13 lakhs for the service activities of the Club. Although he made a few more announcements about contributions being received (from Sitaram Shah, Nirav Shah and others), detailed reports about the donations received (and still being received) will appear in the next issue of *The Gateway*. He then commenced his own speech:

(Please see Page 3)



President Paul George greets Sweta Vakil, Vice-President of the Inner Wheel Club of Bombay



Members hear Pradeep and Paul in pin-drop silence. The attendance figure of nearly 300 members and guests was a record that had not been achieved for quite some time

'I am doubly blessed,' says President Paul George

President Paul George, who assumed office at the stroke of midnight on June 30, said he was deeply touched by the fact that he had been elected President of the Club by his fellow members. He had no words to describe the signal honour that had come his way by the fact that Rotary International had an illustrious Indian like Kalyan Banerjee as President during the same year, 2011-12.

"We would enjoy this unique honour and bask in your reflected glory, Kalyanda!"

The Rotary Club of Bombay had undertaken several programmes and projects in the fight against poverty, illiteracy, neglect and discrimination. While these were a humble attempt to improve the quality of life of the disadvantaged, it was now time to reach for new horizons, to realise new dreams and to gear up to meet fresh challenges

Touching on the plans and the vision for the year ahead, Paul said that the Club had over 45 Committees, all of them engaged in useful activities. These would continue their meaningful work as before. However, there would be sharper focus on providing wider coverage in some thrust areas.

At Talwada, where the health and environmental concerns of the residents were being addressed through the signature project, the Hasanali Tobaccowala Eye Centre, and by the Ajit Deshpande Medical Centre, it was planned to offer complete or 360-degree coverage. This would be done through the junior college, the first of its kind in the area, for the adivasi and tribal students.

This project had been made possible due to the munificent contribution of Rs. 35 lakhs made by Bharat Taparia. Completion and commissioning of this college would top the Club's social agenda.

The *Bhavishya-Yaan* project, which was "a mission to a brighter future" (offering skills-enhancement to underprivileged children in Bombay's

municipal schools), had shown great results. At present it covered three municipal schools; this year, it was planned to add one more school.

In the area of non-structured educational efforts, stress would be laid on the Vocational Training and Night Study Centres which were a joint venture with the Bombay YMCA. The students from these centres had done exceptionally well at the recent Board examinations (with the topper at the municipal schools scoring a whopping 92%).

President Paul said that the third area of focus would be the senior citizens. Indian society placed great stress on respecting the elders. Acutely aware of this fact, the Club was likely to partner the Kewal Dham Vriddhshram in North Bombay to provide assisted living to senior citizens.

"We are committed to ensure that those who planted the seeds of growth rest in the shade during their sunset years."

Having touched on service projects, President Paul then turned to two issues that had been worrying him. The first of these was his concern about members being unable to find the time for Club projects.

"You, my fellow Rotarians, are busy men and women and I know that your profession takes precedence. But if you look around the world, you will find that somebody who was exceptionally busy invariably found the time to come up with something exceptional. It is even said, 'Give a busy man a project and he will commit himself in such a manner that he uses his precious time judiciously and achieves his goal expeditiously'."

The second issue was what he called the "poverty of ambition". He dreaded this the most because "for a Club of our vintage, a Club of our size, membership profile and legacy that we have inherited, we must not shy away from breaking new ground, expanding and scaling up our present operations, thereby increasing the

scope of the social impact that we can make".

Paul said that in a world where compassion and understanding appeared to be in short supply, service was a unique philosophy worthy of one's time and talent and deserving of dedication. Since he had already spoken about time, he would dwell on talent and treasures.

(In an aside, he said, "I can sense my friends and buddies muttering under their breath—here goes Pope Paul with his homily and getting into preaching mode. But it would be rather presumptuous on my part to preach to the converted. However, do indulge me for a few moments. Besides, this halo needs to be justified!")

Most Rotarians were gifted and extremely talented, whether in the field of arts, culture, music, professional expertise or leadership skills; thanks to this, they could play the role of mentors, personal coaches and guides to the underprivileged. This would also have the additional benefit of helping to multiply these talents within the community they served.

Turning to the third 'T', he said it was about treasure. Some of those who were unable to give of their time or their talent were blessed with a great deal of treasure and wealth. He just wanted to remind them that all religions carried a similar message, viz., "To whom much is given, much is expected". Even the Scriptures encouraged everyone to give freely.

While the Rig Veda stated that "He who gives liberally goes straight to the gods; on the high ridge of heaven he stands exalted", the Bible said, "Give and it will be given unto you... for the measure you give will be the measure you get back". (As far as he was concerned, "I'd like to think you'd get back a lot more".)

President Paul recalled that Kalyan had rated the Rotary Club of Bombay among the top five Clubs of the world a few years ago; but now it was time to move up a few notches and per-

haps to occupy the top spot. But to do that the Club simply had to strengthen and improve its track record in International Service.

Rotary offered innumerable Scholarships; it had even started a Peace and Conflict Resolution Programme recently. But the Club did not appear to have spotted these opportunities (which any other Club of similar size would have grabbed).

"We need to show greater appreciation for the service rendered by The Rotary Foundation. It is the duty of our Club to support The Foundation more rigorously and with renewed vigour than in the past. That is essential if we are to act with the larger picture in mind.

"I am reminded of Helen Keller who once said, 'It is for us to pray not for tasks equal to our powers, but for powers equal to our tasks'. There are a great many tasks that lie ahead of us.

"In closing, I would like to turn to Shakespeare. I hope the Bard will not turn in his resting place as I take liberty with one of his popular quotations and adapt it to our settings. He wrote, 'If music be the food of love, then, play on!' But I would adapt it to, 'If charity and service be the food of love, then, play on!'

"Let charity and service work in harmony and symphony, thereby leading to the creation of an unchained melody. Let's make music together, music that sounds melodious and mellifluous, not just to our ears but to those who we wish to serve unconditionally. We can. We must."

There was loud applause as President Paul completed his talk. He then requested Sabira Merchant and (Dr.) Sonya Mehta to take on the responsibility of introducing the Club's Office-Bearers, Directors and Committee Chairpersons for the year.

Sabira and Sonya did an outstanding job of requesting Office-Bearers, Directors, Chairpersons, Co-Chairs and others to rise and approach the stage as their names were called out so that they could be introduced to members (and photographed, too).

Finally, it was time to introduce the "Club XI" that would serve District 3140 during the year. As the members walked to the stage, District Governor Vijay Jalan said he had decided to add one more member from the Club to his District team.

IPP Pradeep Saxena was requested to join the "Club XI" and DG Vijay for a group photograph. He would look after Public Relations at the District level.

After a brief introduction by President Paul, it was time for District Governor Vijay Jalan, who was the guest of honour, to address the Club.

(Please see Page 5)



Giving them the traditional Parsi welcome. Arin Master waves a coconut and then an egg before the chief guests, R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee and Binota. Next, 'aarti', 'tilak' and a thick, red garland – Rita Dalal and Devina Shah continue where Arin left off, welcoming the Banerjees in a traditional manner



They will lead the Club in the new Rotary year. The Office-Bearers pose for a keepsake after their introduction to members at the last meeting. From left to right: Hon. Joint Secretary Sitaram Shah, Vice-President Nirav Shah, President-Elect Nowroze Vazifdar, President Paul George, IPP Pradeep Saxena, Hon. Secretary Jagdish Malkani and Hon. Treasurer Ishraq Contractor. In the centre are the Directors of the Club. The only absentee was Shailesh Haribhakti who could not make it on account of some pressing professional work. But all the others were present (from left), Dr. Vandana Bulchandani, Arjun Jolly, Suresh Goklaney, Ashok Minawala, Arin Master, President Paul, Vineet Bhatnagar and Framroze Mehta. (Right) Nowroze Vazifdar, who is the Director in charge of Club Service – New Members, with his entire team. From left to right, PP Sandip Agarwalla, Nirav Shah, Nowroze, President Paul, PP Ashish Vaid and PP Dr. Kekoo Kavarana



Framroze Mehta, who is the Director in charge of Club Service – Programmes and Meetings, stands next to President Paul George. Others, from right to left, are Hiren Kara, Roda Billimoria, Moy Biswas, Ritu Desai, Renu Basu, Shernaz Vakil, Pranay Vakil, Dolly Thakore, Arvind Agarwal and Farokh Balsara. (Centre) The next group to pose for a group photograph was the Committee for Community Service – Medical, with Dr. Vandana Bulchandani in charge. Others in the picture are Farokh Balsara, Shyyamniwas Somani, PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir, PP Dr. Rahim Muljiani, President Paul George, Dr. Vandana, Dr. Sorab Javeri, Dr. Mala Jagtiani and Zinia Lawyer. (Right) Although Director Shailesh Haribhakti could not make it to the meeting, his team, Community Service – Non-Medical, did pose for a group photo with President Paul. Among those in this picture are, from left, Naresh Kumar Jain, PP Kalpana Munshi, Ratan Tankha and Dr. Aashish Contractor



And then it was time for the team that will be engaged in Vocational Service under the leadership of Vineet Bhatnagar. The team consists of Nelum Gidwani, Suresh Jagtiani, Sameer Tapia and Priyasri Patodia. Nelum and Priyasri are missing from this photograph, (Centre) They will perform International Service. President Paul and Director Ashok Minawala with Chairpersons PP Arvind Jolly, PP Arun Sanghi, (Dr.) Sonya Mehta and Pradeep Chinai. The latter two are in charge of Fund-Raising. (Right) Arin Master will look after New Generations – Education. The Chairpersons with her and President Paul George are (from left) Freyaz Shroff, Ashok Jatia, Manoj Kumar Patodia and Manish Reshamwala. Bipin Kapadia and Poonam Kumar were unable to attend the meeting



New Generations – Youth will be tended by Director Arjun Jolly. He will coordinate the projects to be undertaken by Chairpersons Bimal Mehta, Mehul Sampat, Meera Alreja, Shahzad Qadir, Deepak Kapadia and Ravindra Fotedar. (Centre) The various District Thrust Areas will be taken care of by Suresh Goklaney. His Chairpersons are Sunny Pariyaram, Jaidev Merchant, Dinnavaz Variava, Madhusudan Daga and PP Rajnikant Reshamwala. (Right) And these are the Trustees of the Rotary Club of Bombay Charities Trust No. 3 (from left), PP Dr. Rahim Muljiani, PP Arun Sanghi and PP Arvind Jolly. The fourth Trustee, PP Dr. Adi Dastur, did not attend the meeting

'We look forward to the time when you will be the No. 1 Club in the world'

District Governor Vijay Jalan said he always enjoyed visiting the Club because he looked at it as an institution that did phenomenal work. Its members were not only the *Who's Who* of the District but also of industry. He especially recalled the names of Sir Phiroze Sethna, Sir Shapoorjee Billimoria, Dr. Shantilal Mehta and Jimmy Guzder who was a doyen of the (logistics) industry.

Besides, the Rotary Club of Bombay had sired his Home Club, the Rotary Club of Bombay North, 50 years ago and he considered it to be "the big daddy of our Club".

Governor Vijay said that the Rotary Club of Bombay exemplified the truism about ability and availability being two sides of the same coin. All the members of the Club were able and always available for any cause for the needy and the underprivileged; and this was the hallmark of the Club.

IPP Pradeep Saxena had led the Club with distinction in the year gone by and had been recognised at the recent District *Shukriya* (thanksgiving) programme when he was presented with a gold medal for the best performing Club.

Similarly, in President Paul the Club had a fine gentleman, a committed and knowledgeable Rotarian, the perfect choice to lead the Club in 2011-12.

But whether it was ranked at No. 2 or No. 3 in the Rotary world, it had to work extremely hard, for, when one was at the top, one simply had to work harder to retain one's top position; in fact, there was a saying to the effect that "There is plenty of room at the top, but there is no room to sit down". Therefore, the Club would have to keep

moving and work harder to stay at the top.

"I was very happy when Paul was challenged by Roda Billimoria from that end (of the Crystal Room) to say that we will be No. 1 in the whole world. That's the biggest challenge; we look forward to the year when you will be the No. 1 Club in the whole world."

Turning to the District Thrust Areas, Governor Vijay said the Club had already taken up some of them. He would only underline two or three of them.

Apart from solar power, he wanted Clubs to get involved with water management. As Governor, he would encourage every Club to build at least one check dam during the year. This would result in the creation of 123 check dams in the District by the end of the year.

Similarly, he was urging all Clubs to adopt one street in the community they served. By transforming it into an ideal street (with a signboard saying that the street had been "adopted" by a particular Rotary Club), the Club would be able to project a good image of itself and earn accolades for the Rotary movement.

Governor Vijay said that another area of service that he was promoting was a skin bank. The District had an outstanding skin bank in Airoli which had been developed by the Rotary Club of Bombay North in collaboration with the Euro Skin Bank. Over the years, doctors had been using potato peel because no skin was available. And 90% of people died because of burns since there was no skin available. "I request you to promote skin



It's always a pleasure visiting the Rotary Club of Bombay. District Governor Vijay Jalan speaks as the guest of honour at the first meeting of the new Rotary year

donation. I am leaving a CD which will tell you everything about skin donation."

He requested members to take greater part in District events so that members of other Clubs would be inspired to do better. Asking them to participate in large numbers in the District Conference which would be held in Hotel Renaissance on February 11 and 12, 2012, Governor Vijay told members that R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee expected a large contingent from the city to attend the R.I. Convention in Bangkok in May, 2012.

"I am sure you will do wonders in The Rotary Foundation which is dear to all of us. I have just been told by District Co-Chairman Nirav Shah that you have decided to contribute \$200 per capita, which is about \$66,000; I am happy to hear that."

The Governor then requested Assistant Governor Arun Todarwal to step forward and present a "Commitment Certificate" to President Paul George. The Club would henceforth be called the "Golden Heart Club" because it was committing to give \$200 per capita to The Foundation.

"It is said that great things can be done with a lot of love; and that miracles happen when you do things with love. I'm sure the Rotarians of this fine Club will serve with lots of love and produce miracles and while serving the community they will **Reach Within to Embrace Humanity**," Governor Vijay Jalan added.

Finally, President Paul introduced R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee, the chief guest at the meeting.

He said it was for the first time in the history of the Rotary Club of Bombay that the Rotary International President was attending an "installation meeting". It was a privilege and a singular honour for him as President of the Club to receive and welcome R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee, affectionately known as Kalyanda, and his graceful and charming wife Binotaji.

Kalyan was only the third Indian to occupy the position in the 106-year history of the Rotary movement. And he could not have asked for a

better source of inspiration to start the new Rotary year.

His inspiration was embedded in the thought-provoking Theme that he had chosen for the year, viz., **Reach Within to Embrace Humanity**. Further, he believed that Rotary had to become the preferred organisation to join and participate in, to make the world a better, safer and happier place.

Kalyan had served Rotary with great distinction over the last four decades, as District Governor, President's Representative, Committee and Task Force Chair, Rotary Foundation Trustee and Director. He had also been a member of the International PolioPlus Committee, heading initiatives that had spurred Rotary's eradication efforts in India.

"Our country is on the verge of eradicating polio. It is our earnest prayer, and it would be only befitting, that this dreaded disease is wiped out during his tenure as President."

A voracious reader who carried at least two books on his travels, at present he was reading the biography of Nelson Mandela. His favourite magazines were *The Economist* and *TIME* which he had not missed reading since 1961.

President Paul said that Kalyan was a yoga enthusiast and practitioner and faithfully performed his *asanas* for about 45 minutes every day.

Leading by example, he was a major donor, a Benefactor and Bequest Society member of The Rotary Foundation. In recognition of his contribution, he had been conferred The Rotary Foundation Citation for meritorious and distinguished service.

When asked what role he would play as President, he had said that it would be that of helping the leadership; his real function would be to inspire, motivate and help people do their work for Rotary. "One couldn't ask for a more simple and profound answer," added President Paul.

(The President's speech is reproduced verbatim on Page 6)

The vote of thanks, laced with some delightful humour, was proposed by President-Elect Nowroze Vazifdar.



Another historic installation. R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee was the chief guest at the first meeting of the Rotary Club of Bombay North held on July 3. It was at this meeting that Vijay Jalan was formally 'installed' as District Governor (he is a member of the Rotary Club of Bombay North). Interestingly, the President of the Club this year is Ajeet Arenja, the spouse of Nitika Arenja and the father of Anuj Arenja, both members of the Rotary Club of Bombay. From left in this picture are Nitika, PP Gul Kripalani, Rotary Foundation Trustee Ashok Mahajan, Binota and R.I. President Kalyan, President Paul George, Sheila Kripalani and PP Sandip Agarwalla

It was for the first time that I received a traditional Parsi welcome here today. Thank you very much for that.

We were here last year during Pradeep's year and we met about a month and a half month back at the R.I. Convention in New Orleans. And here we are back again in the hallowed precincts of one of India's earliest and undoubtedly best Rotary Clubs, meeting in the hallowed precincts of the Taj Mahal Hotel.

As far as I am concerned, both your Club and this meeting place are as iconic as can be. I love being here, though I must say that I hold all of you here, the members of the Club, the meeting place, the entire environment, in a bit of awe.

I have been to Clubs in Tokyo, in London, in New York, in Washington; I was present last week at the installation of the Rotary Club of Chicago (it's called Rotary One). But nowhere do I feel like a young rookie Rotarian, holding the environment in apprehensive awe, as I do every time I come to the Rotary Club of Bombay.

I have thought about this many times and wondered why it is so. Perhaps it's because these are the places where I started my Rotary life as a young incoming Governor 30 years ago, way back in 1980 – I held the place in awe then, and I do so, inevitably and unavoidably, even today!

Along with the awe there is a sense of respect and appreciation for the work that you do, the spirit of Rotary that you emanate, the meetings that you organise every week, meetings like this one; and the bulletin that you publish every week, the one that I look forward to; it is always on time, it is picture-perfect in every way and is probably the one that I see every time in the world (wherever I may be).

Iconic as each of these are, equally iconic are the members in their own way, going back to Past District Governors Dr. Shantilal Mehta, Ambalal Kilachand, Naval Ardeshir... I remember Naval and joining him in meetings here. In those days you used to have lunch before the meeting; and sometimes we had to extend the lunch a little bit while Naval finished it before coming on to the meeting! (Is that why you will lunch after the meeting today? I don't know, but I enjoyed those meetings.)

As to your current roster of special Rotarians, there is Gul Kripalani who was such a help in making sure that I could go as Rotary President to my office (in the USA); I was

July 12 to July 18, 2011

not getting my American visa and had it not been for Gul I would probably not have got it in time.

There is Dolly Thakore with whom I have been in correspondence; Kalpana Munshi, Arvind Jolly and Sandip Agarwalla; I have known Sandip and his family for years, including his father, and I hope to see more of him in Rotary, in the District, as we go along.

Sabira Merchant, another icon of your Club, and Indu Shahani who is not here today...

Each one of them is a very special individual. But, as I have mentioned, there is no Past District Governor of recent vintage. I think that's something you need to look at... and please don't just nod and say yes.

I thank you once again for having us back on the occasion of Paul George taking over to lead your Club. I'm sure from what I have seen of him that he will do a great job.

When I visit Rotary Clubs in India, I don't need to talk much about what to do in the coming year because actually I take ideas from you to the rest of the world. No one does more Community Service than the Rotary Clubs in India. And in India, yours is one of the most achieving Districts, District 3140. And in District 3140, you are one of the most service-oriented and outstanding Clubs. So what do I tell you about what you are supposed to do?

Your work in Talwada which I have followed in your bulletin for years, where you are now going to have a junior college...

Your work with senior citizens... Now, that's an initiative that Rotary has not really taken up. But I appreciate it and perhaps sometime during my term as President I am going to take it up as a programme of Rotary International as well. You have set me thinking about it.

Then, the work that you do with the youth, the Interactors, the Rotaractors... they are always very active, they are always on the go. There is almost nobody as active in working with youth as you have been amongst the many Clubs that I have seen all over the world.

So there you are... I have not come here to tell you what to do, but to see what you are doing and what I can take home from you.

In the coming year 2011-12, I would urge you to also look at meeting the community's needs by joining hands, if you will, with other organisations, with other NGOs and with major corporations; perhaps you have started looking at that.

I feel like a rookie Rotarian, how time I come to your Club: R.I.

Maybe you can even join hands with the State government in carrying out some of the initiatives that the government wants done; they have the resources, the money is available – but they don't have good, reliable people to take those jobs forward. That's why they are looking at organisations such as Rotary to take them on.

We are doing that effectively in Gujarat, in Delhi, in West Bengal... maybe you would like to look at that and take it forward? Find out what the other issues are and try and solve them. Find out what will improve the quality of life in your community and address that as best as you can, as you have always done.

Carry on doing more, because the need for work keeps growing and our work is never going to be done.

Let me add that Rotary Foundation Trustee Ashok Mahajan (seated in the audience) is trying very hard to make The Foundation collection from India one of the highest ever. I was at the formal installation meeting of your Governor Vijay Jalan on Sunday and, lo and behold! in one meeting your District collected \$210,000! Let me tell you that this doesn't happen anywhere in the world. Governor Vijay was telling me that he has already gone up to \$50,000. And in three days' time! I don't know how you do it.

The Governor was also telling me that your (Club's) target is about \$60,000. Perhaps you would like to raise it to \$100,000? This is a very special year, the year when you have a Rotary International President from India – and surely you're not going to disappoint your Governor!

I trust that The Rotary Foundation Trustees will shortly okay the low-cost shelters that we have been trying to get approved for a very long time. It used to be a Foundation programme some years back, but for various reasons they cancelled it. Now, with my coming back (and they know how much I pushed those programmes) and with Ashok supporting it, I guess we will have a programme for low-cost shelters.

I know that you have been doing it (low-cost shelters) with Habitat for Humanity for many years. But this time you may be able to do low-cost shelters on your own. The



An outstanding exposition. R.I. President K. Mahajan hands with other organisations, including...



Sharing ideas with the District Governor. K. Mahajan preparing to help the government complete...



Bouquets for the Banerjees. Sheila Banerjee walks down from the podium to offer a...



That's a lovely album. Governor Vijay Jalan presents. The covers were released by Indian Post. A...



Taking his autograph. Shyamniwas Somani signed. Other members did the same. In the second...

holding everything in awe, every I. President Kalyan Banerjee



Kalyan Banerjee exhorts Rotary Clubs to join including NGOs and State governments



Kalyan and Vijay at the last meeting; were they projects that would benefit the community?



Flowers to the R.I. President and President Paul a bunch of flowers to his spouse Binota



resents a set of first day covers to Kalyan Banerjee. At right, Kalyan interacts with Sitaram Shah



ought and received Kalyan's autograph. Many picture, Kalyan is joined by Dolly Thakore

July 12 to July 18, 2011

shelters totally change the life of a family, they start to look at things differently.

Apart from these, the Board of Directors in this Rotary year is looking at ways to enhance Rotary's public image not only at the Club level, but also at the District, the Zonal and the country level. I urge you to start locally and then expand globally, to embrace humanity globally as far as Rotary's public image is concerned. We are seeking out resources to drive this initiative forward.

We are also looking at New Generations, Rotaract, Interact and EarlyAct. I don't know whether you are familiar with EarlyAct. This is a group of youngsters who are encouraged to become active even before they join Interact. They are not a formal part of Rotary yet, but perhaps will become a part of it.

We are also looking at new ways to communicate in the 21st century; not only through the media, but also through social networking, enhancing our connectivity, and thus our collective strength, many times over.

This is an age when one and one and one don't make four but make 1,111. How can we do that, how can we add value, this is what we are trying to see as far as Rotary is concerned. That's the connectivity that we are trying to aim at.

As we try to develop our own social network and as we read about them on the web... we will be happy to have your inputs, because I believe that the smartest, most imaginative and most innovative Rotarians anywhere in the world come from India, from amongst all of you. I would like your inputs and I really mean it. I often talk about it and, what's more, when I go to other parts of the world, the Rotarians there happily admit it, they don't deny it, they are happy to acknowledge it.

You would have heard of Rotary's new Strategic Plan. I don't know if you feel it is strategic enough or whether The Rotary Foundation Future Vision is the real way forward for our organisation. Personally, I feel that Clubs and Districts in India are well ahead of both the plans and we want to look beyond the Strategic Plan as it stands today.

That plan predicts that in the next ten years Asia, and in Asia maybe India and perhaps China, will become the driving force of Rotary International. It will no longer happen from America.

And who knows what will happen at that time? Perhaps ten or twenty years down the line the headquarters of Rotary International might shift from Evanston to Geneva, or maybe to Singapore – and I am not mentioning Bombay purposely at this point in time.

Let me quickly touch on an area or two that I know we need to engage in.

The first of these is working with youth. Yes, we have Rotaract, Interact and EarlyAct (in some parts of the world). But let us look at those who have grown beyond Rotaract but have not yet been invited to join Rotary. Can you try and see whether you can involve them in some way, can you reach out to them before others reach out to them? As you know, I've been talking about changing the colours of Rotary, going from grey to green. So let's reach out to those (who have grown beyond Rotaract but have not yet been invited to join Rotary) and hold their hands.

Let me now share with you a fact that's not very well known or talked about, at least in India.

We are all very proud of India's growth in Rotary, that we add the largest number of members every year, and that we have some of the youngest members. (I was very happy to see a number of younger people here.)

But what is not known well enough, or even talked about, is that while we go on adding the largest number of new members every year in Rotary, we are also amongst the top losers of Rotary members every year. In fact, India is the third highest in losing members every year. Can you believe that? And did you know that? At least I didn't. But because we add so many new members our losses are not seen, understood or appreciated.

Therefore, I ask you today, both as a Club and as a District, can we find out why are we losing so many members? If we are good, if we are doing good, if we are looking good, why are we losing members? Can you find out what is the number of losses in District 3140, in your own Club? And what would you like to do? Would you like to do something about it? In other words, is retention something that we just talk about in Rotary, or should we be doing something about it?

It may not be a big issue today, but as India grows socially and economically, the loss of membership is certainly going to be a big issue in the days to come. We are happy to see our old big-wigs, the Past District Governors, the movers and shakers carry on in Rotary, but why are we losing in the ranks?

Well, now it's time for me to wind up. But there is one thing that I would like to add as I end my talk.

I am looking forward to the next time we meet, you and I, perhaps in this very Rotary year. No, it may not be in these premises, in your Club; it may not even be in your city or in the country. But Binota and I are looking forward to meeting all of you in Bangkok at the R.I. Convention of the decade.

Come one, come all! Please come for the next Convention in Bangkok from May 6 to 9, 2012. Preparations are on in full swing. And please come with your family.

(I was in North India the other day when I met a gentleman and asked him whether he was coming to Bangkok. He said yes, he was. I asked, will you bring your family? He said no, I won't. When I asked why, he said, it's very simple, half the cost and double the fun!)

But I say, this won't do – *Yeh nahin chalega!* Let us remember that Rotary is a family event and if you come together with everybody, you will enjoy a Rotary Convention like almost nothing else. So come with your family to make it an affair to remember, to make the Convention a truly memorable event.

Will you come? (There are many ayes from the audience.) That's more like it!

Let me end by thanking you for inviting me and Binota because I love being with all of you. And let me share this little couplet before I go:

Zindagi tab behatar hoti hai jab hum khush hote hain

Zindagi tab behatareen hoti hai jab aapki wajah se hum doosron ko khush kar sakte hain.

This is what you are doing in your Club, you are making others happy. And this is the reason why all of us can be happier.

Thank you for being happy yourselves, thank you for making others happy and thank you for making Binota and me the happiest of all.

(The members give a spontaneous standing ovation to Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee.)



Rotary Foundation Trustee Ashok Mahajan is flanked by PDG Bansi Dhurandhar and his own spouse, Nayantara, at the lunch table. In the second picture, Assistant Governor Arun Todarwal presents Paul with a plaque after he announced the Club's commitment to make a per capita contribution of \$200 to The Rotary Foundation



His spirit is as tough (and willing) as before, but perhaps the flesh is turning weak. PDG Manibhai Doshi attended the last meeting immediately after being discharged from hospital following a sudden illness. Commiserating with him are Binota, PP Kalpana Munshi and District First Lady Kiran Jalan. (Right) A keepsake of the Club's First family. Sheila and Paul with their son Reuben Their daughter Rebekah is at present in the United States



Take it easy, everything is going well, with clockwork precision. President Paul George is reassured by (Dr.) Sonya Mehta who joined Sabira Merchant to introduce this year's Committee Chairpersons. In the second picture, it's Juneja and Jalan. President Paul George and District Governor Vijay Jalan (centre) with Vinod Juneja at the last meeting



Flowers for the man of the moment. Staff members of the Taj Mahal Hotel present a bouquet of flowers, along with their good wishes, to President Paul George at the conclusion of the last meeting, his first as President of the Club. And at right Paul and Sheila pose with their friends, Mr. John and Dr. Sarah Mathew



'DOUBLE DELIGHT' FOR IPP PRADEEP SAXENA

Outgoing President Pradeep Saxena was caught by surprise not once but twice within a short span of a week as his term was coming to an end on June 30.

He was a relaxed man as he headed for the *Shukriya* function arranged by the outgoing District Governor, Dr. Jayant Kulkarni, on Wednesday, June 29.

Just a day earlier, on June 28, he had presided over his last meeting as President of the Rotary Club of Bombay and had distributed the Club Awards to his outstanding team members.

But soon after he reached the venue of the *Shukriya* function, he was asked to don the robes of a don (an academic don, no pun intended), complete with a tasselled square black cap.

Jayant and his team had given the podium a different look, with a picture of Bombay University's and the city's iconic Rajabhai Tower and the words "University of Rotary" printed above it. Dr. Jayant Kulkarni was cited as the "Vice-Chancellor".

Before he knew it, Pradeep's name was announced and he had to walk up to the stage to receive his degree. He was invited to receive the "Gold Medal Citation" for the Best Performing Club in District 3140.

Pradeep was quite overwhelmed as he accepted the Award on behalf of the Club.

The second surprise came his way on the following Tuesday, July 5, when the Rotary Club of Bombay was privileged to have as its chief guest the serving President of Rotary International, Kalyan Banerjee.

As the Committee Chairpersons were introduced and invited for group photographs along with President Paul George and their respective Directors, Pradeep's mind appeared to be elsewhere.

The surprise occurred when those members who had been invited to serve the District by Governor Vijay Jalan were invited to pose for a photograph along with him. Eleven members of the Club were named.

But Governor Vijay whispered something into President Paul's ears and he, in turn, requested his predecessor Pradeep to join the team selected to serve the District.

Seeing his surprised look, the Governor stated that he would be honoured if Pradeep joined his team and looked after Public Relations.

Pradeep stepped down from the podium to loud applause and joined the rest of the Club members chosen to serve the District.

Good luck to Pradeep!



Twelve members of the Rotary Club of Bombay will serve District 3140 under the leadership of Governor Vijay Jalan. They are, from left to right, Nirav Shah, PP Ashish Vaid, PP Sandip Agarwalla, PP Arvind Jolly, PP Kalpana Munshi, PP Rajnikant Reshamwala, PP Gul Kripalani, Deepak Kapadia, Alok Sekhsaria and IPP Pradeep Saxena who was a surprise last-minute addition to the District team. Two members, Shailesh Haribhakti and Bipin Kapadia were not present at the last meeting



And here is the gold medallist! Outgoing District Governor Dr. Jayant Kulkarni presents Pradeep Saxena with the 'Gold Medal Citation' for Best Performing Club in District 3140 at the 'Shukriya' function organised on the lines of a convocation ceremony on June 29. The DG acted as 'Vice-Chancellor' of what he called the 'University of Rotary'

Suggestions invited for Rotary and Public Awards

The Rotary and Public Awards Committee of the Club for 2011-12 has invited suggestions from members for the Awards that the Club bestows each year.

While three of the Awards are sponsored by the Club itself, eight are sponsored by Club members.

In a communication to *The Gateway*, Committee Chairman Nelum Gidwani has listed the basic criteria for entitlement of each of the Awards. He has also given the names of a few past recipients (as an indicative yardstick) of the Awards.

CLUB AWARDS

Citizen of Mumbai

The person selected should have contributed to the development, administration and stature of the city of Mumbai and its citizens. Past recipients include Mr. J.R.D. Tata, Mr. Julio Ribeiro, Mr. B.G. Deshmukh, (Dr.) Indu Shahani and the Tata Trusts.

Bravery Award

A display of outstanding bravery in protecting property and lives would entitle a person to receive this Award. Some of the policemen who played a

heroic role in midst of the 26/11 attack on the city in 2008 have been recognised with this Award.

Social Service

In this case, the selected person should have a record of outstanding social service for the citizens of Bombay, especially the less-privileged sections. Ms Shiela Srinivasan of the Dignity Foundation and Ms Shaheen Mistri of the Akanksha Foundation have received this Award in the past.

SPONSORED AWARDS

Somchand Parikh Award for Best Teacher

School teachers as well as college lecturers/professors are eligible. They should have a record of more than just academics. The Club sends out letters to a number of schools and other Rotary Clubs in the District to make suggestions for this Award and an interview process is then undertaken.

Anita Parikh Award for Empowerment of Women

Any person who has encouraged women to become independent and self-sufficient and to pierce the glass ceiling would be eligible for this Award.

Past recipients include Ms Chetana Sinha, Ms Achala Joshi and the Women's India Trust (WIT).

Shyam Munshi Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Performing Arts

An outstanding personality from the world of cinema, drama/theatre and music is eligible for this Award. Past recipients include Mr. Dev Anand, Mr. Amitabh Bachchan, Ms Shabana Azmi, Pandit Jasraj and (Dr.) Mallika Sarabhai.

Sohrab Godrej Memorial Award for Science & Technology

This Award is presented to a person who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of science and technology in the country. Some past recipients are Dr. Madhavan Nair, Dr. Anil Kakodkar and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.

Taru Lalvani Award for Protection of the Environment

Those who have contributed to the protection of the environment, either through teaching, research, spreading the word and/or opposition to environmentally unfriendly acts, are eligible. Past recipients include Dr. R.K. Pachauri and Ms Sumaira Abdul Ali.

Ramakrishna Bajaj Award for Good Governance

This Award is for persons who have demonstrated good governance in corporate affairs or other institutions/organisations and enhanced its cause. Among the past recipients are Mr. F.S. Kohli and Mr. Kiran Karnik.

Shri Pravinchandra Gandhi Award for Excellence in Public Life

A newly-instituted Award, it will be given for the first time. The recipient should have excelled for several years in public life in the field of people's representation, social work, civic activities and so on.

Uma Jain Award for a Young Woman Achiever

Another newly-instituted award, to be presented for the first time. The recipient should be below the age of 40 and should have excelled in her field of activity, whether business, profession or social work.

Chairman Nelum has requested members to send their suggestions for the above Awards as early as possible, preferably before July 31, to him at the Rotary Secretariat.

FastTrac watches made by Titan were presented to eleven children of the *Bhavishya-Yaan* project being implemented at the Colaba Municipal School at a function held on June 25.

All 23 *Bhavishya-Yaan* students from this school who appeared for and passed the SSC examination with flying colours were felicitated on the occasion.

As already reported, the outstanding results achieved by students of the *Bhavishya-Yaan* project at Colaba was a huge vote of confidence in both the Education for All Committee as well as the NGO Vidya which had been involved in the academic and other activities of the students.

The members of the outgoing Committee, which had Alok Sekhsaria as Chairman, arranged the felicitation function on the school premises and invited all the successful students along with one parent each. They were treated to snacks and soft drinks.

Pradeep Saxena, the outgoing President, presented *FastTrac* watches to

The SSC brigade of the Colaba 'Bhavishya-Yaan'



Well done! Pradeep Saxena presents a wrist watch to one of the students of 'Bhavishya-Yaan' at the Colaba Municipal School who passed the SSC exams with flying colours. (Centre) Hiren Kara, Ramesh Narayan and Madhusudan Daga follow the proceedings. Among those seated are Paul George and Manoj Kumar Patodia. (Right) One of the toppers speaks

those 11 students who had scored more than 75% marks in the SSC exams.

After Pradeep had presented the watches and made a brief speech, a motivational talk was delivered by Madhusudan Daga. The four toppers from among the students were also asked to say a few words. They did so with a tremendous amount of confidence.

Those who attended the programme included the then President-

Elect, Paul George, Manoj Kumar Patodia (who Chairs the *Bhavishya-Yaan* Committee this year), Manish Reshamwala (Committee Co-Chair this year), Ramesh Narayan, Hiren and Bijal Kara, and Freyaz Shroff.

Alok Sekhsaria and the members of his Committee profusely thanked the NGO Vidya whose staff worked tirelessly and helped the children put up an excellent performance.

The main donor of Vidya, Ms Anjal Malkan, was present on the occasion. Mr. Radha Nair, the Vice-President of TAS, presented backpacks to all the 23 successful children.

Also present was Ms Pratibha Pai of H.R. College. Students of the SIFE section of this college had played a key role in the success of the school children; they had volunteered to take up the children's studies and guided them on to a better performance.

An outstanding workshop by a brilliant Odissi exponent

It was an unbelievable experience, a rare occurrence and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, all rolled into one.

And it all happened when Mr. Ramli Ibrahim, the well-known exponent of classical Indian dance forms, especially Odissi and Bharat-

natyam, conducted an exclusive workshop for the students of the *Bhavishya-Yaan* project being implemented at the Dr. Ambedkar Municipal School in Worli on June 29.

What a workshop it turned out to be! The Master was in his element as

he described an intricate step here or detailed a particular nuance of a performer there, a slight twitch of an eyebrow or the widening of the eyes, the slight tap of a delicate foot or the graceful movement of an outstretched hand.

The wide-eyed students sat transfixed as the performers accompanying "Ramli", as he is called, helped in the smooth conduct of the workshop. (His group is called Sutra Dance Theatre).

Vidya, the NGO working in partnership with the *Bhavishya-Yaan* Committee, organised the event and was present in full strength to ensure that it served the purpose for which it was designed, viz., to open the students' eyes to the wonders of classical Indian dance forms.

Once Ms Rashmi Mishra, the chairperson of Vidya, had introduced "Ramli", he simply took off on another plane. He explained the meaning of dance and peppered his talk with illustrations – how a dancer could become a butterfly or a flower, how a dancer could show joy or anger and so on. His troupe then gave a scintillating display of Odissi and Bharatnatyam.

To the utter surprise of the children, "Ramli" and his team invited them on to the stage. A few of the children did muster up the courage to join the dancers; and the results were not disastrous by any stretch of the imagination. The boys and girls who joined the trained dancers on the stage acquitted themselves quite well. It was fusion of a different kind.

All in all, it was an outstanding programme; kudos to Vidya for conceiving and arranging it. Some sections of the media covered the programme in some detail.

Manoj Kumar Patodia and Manish Reshamwala were present all through the programme.



See! That's how you can become a butterfly, or even a flower. Mr. Ramli Ibrahim, the well-known exponent of classical Indian dance, especially Odissi and Bharatnatyam, conducts an exclusive workshop for the 'Bhavishya-Yaan' students at the Dr. Ambedkar Municipal School in Worli. Who's more enthused? The 'Master' or the students?



'Ramli' had the children transfixed as he explained various nuances of classical Indian dance forms to them. In the photograph at right, he takes the stage himself and, having invited the students to join him, leads them by suggesting some simple steps to get them going. His troupe members also offered dancing tips to the wide-eyed children



Thanking the audience for its understanding and appreciation. Mr. Ramli Ibrahim and his troupe, Sutra Dance Theatre, gave a brilliant performance at the NCPA in South Bombay. Pradeep Saxena (extreme left), along with Mr. and Mrs. F.C. Kohli, was the chief guest at the programme on June 30

'RAMLI' PERFORMS AT THE NCPA

A day after their outstanding workshop at the Dr. Ambedkar Municipal School in Worli on June 29, Mr. Ramli Ibrahim and his troupe, Sutra Dance Theatre, gave a brilliant performance at the NCPA in South Bombay.

Pradeep Saxena was the chief guest at the programme which was held on June 30, which was his last day in office as President of the Rotary Club of Bombay. Not only did he light the ceremonial lamp to mark the beginning of the performance, he also presented mementoes to "Ramli" and his troupe.

The NGO Vidya, which had arranged the "Ramli" workshop at the Dr. Ambedkar School in Worli, organised the NCPA event, too.

And just as she did at Worli, Ms. Rashmi Mishra, the chairperson of Vidya, ably conducted the proceedings at the second programme, too. Other members of the Club who attended the programme at the NCPA were PP Rajnikant Reshamwala, Ramesh Narayan, Alok Sekhsaria, Manoj Kumar Patodia and Manish Reshamwala. Rotaryans Nandita Patodia and Vandana Daga were also present.

'Citizen of Mumbai' Award for Gerson da Cunha

Immediate Past President Pradeep Saxena will present the prestigious "Citizen of Mumbai" Award to the illustrious Mr. Gerson da Cunha at the meeting of July 26. (The presentation was due to be made in the previous Rotary year but was delayed for lack of dates suitable to Mr. da Cunha.)



A multi-talented and multi-faceted personality, Mr. da Cunha is the founder of AGNI, the well-known NGO, and has worked tirelessly to improve civic services and to re-introduce honesty and accountability in public life. He is known to have stated with a great deal of pride that he is "Mumbai-born and bred... and I refuse to accept the degradation and corruption here. I am provoked into a response to it".

This attitude has seen him play an active role in several NGOs, including CRY, Akanksha and Bombay First. Mr. da Cunha has also been an advocate for "Fifth

Estate", a collective voice of citizens.

As an advertising person, he worked with Lintas for 25 years (and headed it for ten). In fact, he is credited with having laid the foundation for what was to grow into one of India's leading advertising agencies.

He has been honoured by the Advertising Agencies Association of India with its most prestigious award for his contribution to the industry.

Author, journalist, theatre personality and poet, Mr. da Cunha has been all of these, and with distinction. He has used his communication skills to further many good causes.



'F.T.' passes away

Fakhruddin T. Khorakiwala, a former senior member of the Rotary Club of Bombay, passed away on Tuesday, July 5, 2011. He was 93 years old and was active till very recently. He is survived by three sons, Habil, chairman of the Wockhardt Group, Hunaid and Taizoon.

Admitted to the Club way back on December 14, 1965, he resigned on December 27, 2010, citing ill health. He served as a Director for three years, from 1979 to 1982.

"F.T.", as he was called by most of his friends, founded Akbarallys, one of India's oldest department stores, in 1956 and pioneered organised retail in the country.

Apart from acting as the Sheriff of Bombay in the early 1990s, he also served as president of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and the Citizen's Council for a Better Tomorrow.

He completed a term as the Chancellor of Jamia-Millia Islamia in New Delhi and was a founder member and president of the Fair Trade Practices Association, chairman of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) and founder and president of the Indo-Swiss, the Indo-Arab and the India-Indonesia Friendship Societies.

Rest in peace, "F.T." You will be missed.

Forthcoming meetings

July 12, 2011

The eminent lawyer, Ms Zia Mody, to address the Club on "Life in law".

July 19, 2011

Mr. Suhel Seth to address "The hypocrisy of industry".

July 26, 2011

The "Citizen of Bombay" award for 2010-2011 to be presented by IPP Pradeep Saxena to Mr. Gerson da Cunha. (The presentation was delayed for lack of dates suitable to Mr. da Cunha.)

Mr. Da Cunha to address the Club after receiving the award.

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOOD-WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

*One Profits
Most Who
Serves Best*

At the last meeting

(Held on July 5, 2011)

PRESIDENT Paul George called the meeting to order and welcomed R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee and Rotary's First Lady Binota, District Governor Vijay Jalan and District First Lady Kiran, Assistant Governor Arun Tadarwal, Group Coordinator Anita Shantaram, Past District Governors, District dignitaries and Officers from District 3140, Presidents of sister Clubs in the District, Inner Wheel Club of Bombay Vice-President Sweta Vakil, the Visiting Rotarians, the members, Rotaryans, guests and others.

BIRTHDAYS

Members and spouses celebrating their birthday during the week were felicitated.

ATTENDANCE

Members	217
Visiting Rotarians, Guests	36
Spouses/Rotaryans	42
Total	295
Svc. box collection	Rs. 11,500

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

FOUNDED 19 MARCH, 1929
 Charter No. 3128, Dated 08 May, 1929
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OFFICE-BEARERS 2010/11

PRESIDENT	PAUL GEORGE
Imm. Past President	Pradeep Saxena
President-Elect	Nowroze Vazifdar
Vice-President	Nirav Shah
Honorary Secretary	Jagdish Malkani
Joint Hon. Secretary	Sitaram Shah
Hon. Treasurer	Ishraq Contractor
CLUB SERVICE – New Members	
Director in charge	Nowroze Vazifdar
Classifications	PP Dr. Adi Dastur
Membership	PP Ashish Vaid
Member. Dev. & DisCon	Nirav Shah
Information	PP Dr. Kekoo Kavarana
Mentoring & Assimilation	PP Sandip Agarwalla
CLUB SERVICE – Programmes/Meetings	
Director in charge	Framroze Mehta
Fellowship	Shernaz Vakil
Co-Chair	Pranay Vakil
Culinary Delight	Ritu Prakash Desai
Co-Chair	Renu Basu
Sports	Hiranmay Biswas
Programme	Dolly Thakore
Co-Chair	Nandan Maluste
Sergeant-at-Arms	Roda Billimoria
Co-Chair	Hiren Kara
Attendance	Arvind Agarwal
Bulletin & Website	Farokh Balsara
COMMUNITY SERVICE – Medical	
Director in charge	Dr. Vandana Bulchandani
Chairman Emeritus,	
Talwada	PP Dr. Rahim Muljiani
HTEC, Talwada	PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir
ADMC, Talwada	Dr. Sorab Javeri
Oral Health	Dr. Mala Jagtiani
Control of TB	Prof. Rohini Chowgule
Polio & Jaipur Foot	Shyamnivas Soman
Cancer Aid	Zinia Lawyer
Co-Chair	Farokh Balsara
COMMUNITY SERVICE – Non-Medical	
Director in charge	Shailesh Haribhakti
RCC	PP Kalpana Munshi
Old Age Homes/	
Senior Citizens	Ratan Tankha
Health & Heart Care	Dr. Aashish Contractor
Differently Abled	Naresh Kumar Jain
VOCATIONAL SERVICE	
Director in charge	Vineet Bhatnagar
Rotary & Public Awards	Nelum Gidwani
Four-Way Test	Suresh Jagtiani
Legal Case Practice	Sameer Tapia
Arts & Public Relations	Priyarsi Patodia
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Director in charge	Ashok Minawala
R.I. Programmes	PP Arun Sanghi
Rotary Foundation	PP Arvind Jolly
Fund-Raising	(Dr.) Sonya Mehta
Co-Chair	Pradeep Chinai
NEW GENERATIONS – Education	
Director in charge	Arin Master
Bhavishya Yaan	Manoj Kumar Patodia
Co-Chair	Manish Reshamwala
Suraksha Loans	
Scholarships	Ashok Jatia
Merit-cum-Means	
Scholarships	Freyaz Shroff
TEAC Junior College	Bipin Kapadia
Management Studies	Poonam Kumar
NEW GENERATIONS – Youth	
Director in charge	Arjun Jolly
Interact - I	Meera Alreja
Interact - II	Shahzad Qadir
Rotaract	Mehul Sampat
Co-Chair	Ravindra Fotedar
Night Study Centres	Bimal Mehta
Road Safety	Deepak Kapadia
DISTRICT THRUST PROJECTS	
Director in charge	Suresh Goklany
Water Conservation/	
Rural Development	Dilnavaz Variava
Solar Energy/Environ.	Madhusudan Daga
Disha/Vocational Trg.	Sunny Pariyaram
Slumber Kits	PP Rajnikant Reshamwala

**Strategic brand management expert
 Suhel Seth to speak on July 19**

He is one of India's leading television personalities; his opinions are sought by news TV channels almost every day; but despite his popularity, few people seem to know the man behind the face.

Mr. Suhel Seth, who will address the Rotary Club of Bombay on July 19 on a thought-provoking subject, "The hypocrisy of industry", is a much-sought-after expert on branding and marketing.

He is the founder and Managing Partner of Counselage India, which is India's only strategic brand management and marketing consultancy, advising chairpersons and CEOs on branding and marketing. Counselage



India works for Tata Steel, the Taj Group of Hotels, Hero Honda, Tata Teleservices, NDTV, Coca Cola and Max India, amongst others.

A regular speaker at industry meets, Mr. Seth lectures at various Indian Institutes of Management; he writes provocative columns in *The Financial Times*, London, and in *Business India*, *The Hindustan Times* and *The Indian Express* on current affairs and the social landscape of India.

Mr. Seth's first book, "In your face", was published in February, 2002. He has co-authored two books on Calcutta with Mr. Khushwant Singh and Mr. R.K. Laxman. Having just completed "Of Roots and Wings: 50 Years of Indian Airlines", Mr. Seth was recently commissioned by Penguin

India to write a book tentatively titled "The Indian Mindset" (this would be the first Indian marketing book to be published by Penguin India).

An alumnus of the AMP of Harvard Business School and a member of the Harvard Business School Consultants Club, he is active on the Delhi theatre scene and has acted in several plays and films (including some of those made by the legendary Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen).

Mr. Seth has been a Rotary International Scholar and was in the forefront of establishing Rotaract and Interact Clubs in Calcutta.

He used to be on the global advisory board of British Airways until 2009 and at present sits on the global board of Cavendish and RADA (the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, London) and on the regional boards of Citibank and Coca Cola. He is also a member of the board of advisors of Deepalaya, the Neemrana Foundation and the Max India Foundation.

Spouses/Rotaryanns

- Anita Advani July 12
- Annie Abraham July 14
- Namrata Kirpalani July 14
- Niyati Shukla July 14
- Sumitra Kothari July 15
- Nandini Narvekar July 15
- Parmeshwar Godrej July 16
- Dr. Yasmin Chibber July 18
- Malti Jain July 18
- Subur Munjee July 18

Happy Birthday



Atul Bhagwati
July 12



Samir Chinai
July 13



Dara Mehta
July 13



Hariprasad Nevatia
July 13



Farouk Chinoy
July 14



Jehangir Dubash
July 14



Nirav Shah
July 15



Mitya New
July 16



(Dr.)Indu Shahani
July 17



Kamal Bulchandani
July 18



Framroze Mehta
July 18

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