

# THE GATEWAY



## **BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY**



### From the President's Desk



hat is happiness?
Each one of us
would have a
different answer to this
simple question. Many
believe that happiness is
as simple as having fun
with our family or friends,
the excitement of new
experiences, or the thrill

and passion of experiencing love. These are all wonderful experiences no doubt, which we need to cherish and cultivate. But these are experiences to have and let pass. So what is happiness?

A 24-year-old beautiful young woman, who was also my patient, once asked me, "Doctor, after seeing so much of suffering, how do you still manage to be happy and cheerful?" I was taken aback with the question. I had never thought about this before. I questioned myself, am I a detached, unemotional person? How do I manage to feel happy despite so much of pain that I see every day around me?

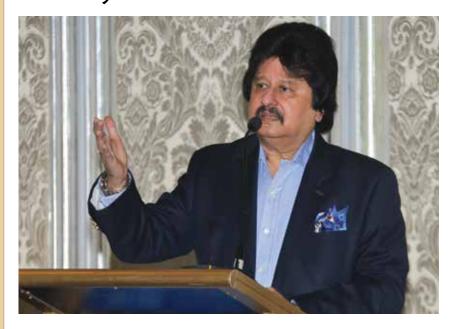
Today, after practicing for more than 40 years as a doctor - I realised that as a doctor I felt happy relieving patients of their pain and distress. As a Rotarian, I now realize that happiness has a co-relation with serving humanity. The more we do for people around us the happier we feel. In fact, research has shown that we also live healthier.

Rotary spreads happiness through its many initiatives in education and healthcare. Whether it is our Talwada, Cotton Green or IWA clinics or our Bhavishya Yaan schools, Scholarships and Night Study centers, we are spreading happiness around us. I remember a little poem;

"Life is an echo; all comes back The good, the bad, the false, and the true So give the world the best you have And the best will come back to you"

Jan 21

# Music, Immortalised -Pankaj Udhas in Conversation



n the digital age, it may seem as if the romance of the written art is slowly disappearing. With the advent of instant messaging and emails, the chitthi letterhas become almost extinct, remembered only for its vintage appeal and the nonchalant way it can flood us with a sense of nostalgia. Though the practice of letter-writing may have become a symbol of days long-gone, its importance lives on not only in our memories, but canonized in Pankaj Udhas' 'Chitthi Aayi Hai' from Mahesh Bhatt's 1986 film 'Naam.'

Today's Speaker:

Sameer Dua - Author
"Creating a future that matters"



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Therefore, it was an honour to travel down memory lane with one of India's most revered artists in the music industry, Pankaj Udhas, as he discussed the conception of this beautiful song and described its intricacies. To the Padma Shri award-winner, a song is never simply a song; each piece has a rich and interesting history, and it was a true privilege to learn about the background of 'Chitthi Aayi Hai' with Udhas-ji. Moreover, although he may be a singer, he was keen on "trying something different" from singing and thus elaborated his path to musical fame with detail and deep sentiment.

Recalling a conversation with Rajendra Kumar, in which the "silver jubilee star" asked for Udhas-ji to feature in one of his movies, he recounted the feelings of nervousness and apprehension he experienced about acting. "After 10 years of struggle... and ages of popularity, why would I compromise my singing career with acting?" He questioned. After "thinking about it" for a long time and being confronted by his older brother, Udhas-ji called Kumar back with a polite thank you,



stating that he did "not think he was interested." Laughter ensued from the phone receiver, as Kumar replied, "I want you to appear as Pankaj Udhas!"

"And that was how the whole thing started," explained Udhas-ji. Nonetheless, it was no easy task: "Making a song... is a very long-drawn process," he pointed out, "as so many people have their input in it." Of course, when surrounded by talented individuals such as Mahesh Bhatt, Salim Javed, and Laxmikant-

Pyarelal, the brainstorming sessions would have without a doubt been a flurry of ideas and creativity. However, with "great difficulty, we all reached a consensus after 5 odd sittings to figure out the song," he stated. Finally, the recording date was fixed to take place at Mehboob Studios right here in Mumbai.

During the final recording, Udhasji entered the singer's booth in the studio and rehearsed the song a few times along with the orchestra. Once a few takes were completed, Pyarelal-ji noted that he was "singing well," but that there was "something missing" in his rendition, and then asked Udhas-ji how he usually sang during a live concert. After explaining that he would "sit on the platform with his harmonium" in tow, Pyarelal-ji literally created a make shift set for him to continue recording. And it worked like a charm! One continuous recording later, the team had the final version of the song.

The song may seem like an evergreen hit to us today, but there was once a time when the creators were not so assured of its impact, as Udhas-ji narrates. He told us of a flight where he met the iconic Raj Kapoor who



complimented him on the song's immortality after hearing it during a "special screening" held for him by Rajendra Kumar. Another momentous milestone was when Udhas-ji performed for a crowd while touring in the USA.

Surrounded by 6,000 people at Madison Square Garden in New York City as spring quietly bloomed around them in March of 1986, he bravely played 'Chitthi Aayi Hai' after meeting during the concert interval with a close cousin who had not visited India in 15 years, despite warning from Kumar-ji to not perform the song before the movie's release. After the song ended and its echoes were heard drifting through the audience, a deadly silence plaqued the area. Could it be that the song was a flop? Udhas-ji answered his own question, stating, "suddenly, 6,000 people were on their feet, clapping away."

It was then "when he realized the potential of the song," he said, fondly recalling the memory. Now, 30 years later, he still witnesses "misty eyes, or eyes rolling with tears" when a fan talks to him about it. Its true influence

lives on, long after the song's first recording. "Chitthi is chitthi," he finished, "it has its own charisma, effect, and great impact."

Furthermore, we also had the opportunity to learn more about the esteemed singer and his thoughts on music and the art of singing through a question and answer session. When asked about the way in which he "simplified the language of the ghazal," he affirmed that he "wanted to create music more accessible to a layman" and "reach out to a larger audience worldwide." But what was especially interesting was his opinion on contemporary Bollywood music, which he described with the articulation and sentiment of any artist: "It is unfortunate that there is no focus on poetry... as content is king, is prime" when it comes to the "longevity of a song." He also noted that perhaps "someday, Bollywood will have to go back to poetry" in order to sustain its music industry.

Therefore, he may have just answered why his music still plays on in many of our homes today, and why our children will quite



probably hear his songs ring through their bedrooms for generations to come. Much like that chitthi that we remember so fondly, Udhas-ji's music is undoubtedly poetry, the kind that captures the essence of the soul and immortalises it in song.





## New Rotarians

#### **MERCHANT KASIMALI**



Classification : Advocate

Company :

Address

**Designation** : Counsel, Independent Practice

 $: \ 59 \ Rajgir \ Chambers, 7 th \ Floor, Opp. Old \ Custom \ House, S.B.S. Road, Fort,$ 

Mumbai - 400 001.

**Phone** : +91 22 226 76075 **Mobile** : +91 98213 20115

Email : kfmerchant@hotmail.com

Residence : 8, Windsor House, Opp.Oval Maidan, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020.

Phone : +91 22 228 32582/ 228 11707

Birth Day : 02 March, 1951 Joined Rotary : 18 August, 2016

Wedding Date : 27 January Blood Group :

Non Excused | Non Vegetarian



Spouse/Partner : Merchant Samira

Company Designation

Address :

Phone :

Mobile: +91 98198 80582

**Blood Group**:

Email : samiramerchant@hotmail.com

Birth Day : 21 August

Non Excused | Non Vegetarian

#### **SHAH RAHIL**



Classification : Medical : Diagnostic Centre

Company : NM Medical

Designation : Director

Address

: NM Medical, JN of 14th & 33rd Road, Off Linking Road, Khar(W),

Mumbai - 400 052.

Email : rahilns@gmail.com

Residence : 13-D, Tahnee Heights, Petit Hall, 66 Nepeansea Road, Mumbai - 400 006.

Phone : +91 22 236 88080

Birth Day : 3 December, 1984 Joined Rotary : 17 November, 2016

Wedding Date :

Non Excused | Vegetarian

Spouse/Partner : Company : Designation :

Address : Phone

Mobile:

Email Birth Day

Blood Group :

**Blood Group**:

#### **SANGHI VINAY**

 Classification
 : Automobile Internet Marketing

 Company
 : MXC Solutions India Pvt.Ltd.

**Designation** : Founder

Address : C/o. Suraj Sanghi Service Center, Opp.Poonam Chambers, Dr.Annie Besant Road,

Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

Phone : Mobile : +91 98209 44998

Email : varundiya@gmail.com

Residence : 20, Mistry Court, Dinshaw Vachha Road, Opp. CCI Club, Chruchgate,

Mumbai - 400 020. : +91 22 243 18321

**Birth Day** : 08 May, 1969 **Joined Rotary** : 16 August 2016

Wedding Date : 28 January Blood Group :

Non Excused

Spouse/Partner : Sanghi Seena

Company :
Designation :
Address :

Phone

**Phone** : **Mobile**: +91 98210 04487

Email : seenasanghi@hotmail.com

Birth Day : 26 April, 1968 Blood Group :



#### **YARGOP ULHAS**

Classification : Mfg./ Mktg of Automobiles
Company : Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.

 Designation
 : Group President (IT Secto) & CTO, Group Executive Board

 Address
 : Mahindra Towers, Dr.G.M.Bhosale Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

**Phone** : +91 2493 5220 **Mobile** : +91 98920 56281

Email : yargop.ulhas@mahindra.com

Residence : S-11, pemino, 1-b, altamount road, Mumbai - 400 026.

Phone : +91 2352 0993

Birth Day : 28 January 1954 Joined Rotary : 6th Septembet 2016

Wedding Date : 19 December 1983 Blood Group :

Non Excused

Spouse/Partner : Yargop Beena

Company
Designation
Address:

**Phone** : **Mobile:** +91 98201 50500

Email : byargop@gmail.com

Birth Day : 28 July 1960 Blood Group :



## **Heart Surgeries Successfully Completed**



Patient Name Anita Karande Age: 10 years Donor Name: Rtn. Vikram Daiya



Patient Name
Oshnash Jaiswal
Age: 1 month
Donor Name:
Rtn Samir Chinai



Patient Name Sangram Umberkar Age: 2 years Donor Name: Rtn. Mudit Jain & Malti Jain



Patient Name
Jeevan M Aldar
Age: 6 months
Donor Name:
Rtn. Vikram Daiya



Patient Name **Riya Jha** Age : 5 years Donor Name : Rtn. Abhin Alimchandani



Patient Name Baby of Sapna Xavier Age : 6 months Donor Name : Rtn. Abhin Alimchandani



Patient Name Subhalaxmi Behera Age: 10 years Donor Name: Rtn. Abhin Alimchandani



Patient Name Sarita Sharma Age : 24 years Donor Name : Rtn. Abhin Alimchandani



Patient Name
Dheeti Sharma
Age: 9 months
Donor Name:
Rtn. Freyaz Shroff



Patient Name Aditi Mane Age : 2 years Donor Name : Rtn. Darshana Doshi



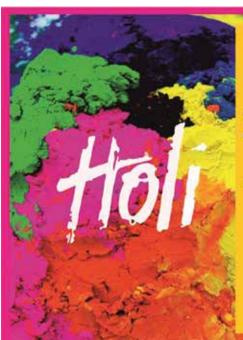
Patient Name Firdaus Shaikh Age: 11 months Donor Name: Rtn. Roda Billimoria



Patient Name
Sanyogita Sangwan
Age: 1 year
Donor Name:
Rtn. Pulin Shroff



Patient Name B/o Ashamati Awasmol Age : 21 Days Donor Name : Rtn. Ajit Lalvani



Holi ke shubh avsar par ullas or umang se ho aapka din rangeen.... Dear Rotarians,

We look forward to your presence at The Annual Jain Holi Ki Masti... On Monday, March 13th 2017, 10am - 1pm

A day full of live music... Flavours of dilli ki chaat, a shower of rangeen flowers, kesar and gulab.

> Rtn Naresh Jain. Rtn Mohit Jain . Radhika Jain

Venue: 44 Ashok Bhavan, 14th rd Khar, Behind satguru on linking rd. R.s.v.p. Ulka - 22840473 / 22826356

## **Forthcoming Events**

- March 4th, 2017
   Football Tournament at NSCI 5pm - 7pm
- March 6th 13th, 2017
   Fellowship to Bhutan
- March 7th, 2017
   Speaker Ashwini Bhide MD,
   MMRCL 'Mumbai Metro The
   project that would change the
   life of Mumbaikars'
- March 13th, 2017
   The Annual Jain Holi Ki Masti at 44 Ashok Bhavan, 14th Road Khar, Behind Satguru on Linking Road.
- March 14th, 2017
   District Governor visit to RCB
- March 19th, 2017
   Fellowship to Talwada
- March 21st, 2017
   Speaker Parveen Pardesi Principal Secretary, Office of The Chief Minister, Maharashtra.

   'Return of Tigers to Maharashtra'
- March 30th, 2017
   In Camera 7 p.m. Talk by
   Reyna Rupani "Health is in your hands". Hosted by Malti & Mudit
   Jain @ Shikhar Kunj,
   Altamount Road
- April 4th, 2017
   Shri Pravinchandra V. Gandhi
   Award for Excellence in public life presented to Nita Ambani at The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel
- April 11th, 2017
   Benaifer Kutar "True Love: The Skills of Parenting and Grand Parenting"

## **Chote Miyan by COLORS**

38 children from the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar School spent a wonderful morning and afternoon at the sets of "Chote Miyan" a program of COLORS TV.

The outing was sponsored entirely by COLORS TV and was through the kind courtesy of President Elect Ramesh Narayan and completely organised by Ms. Sargam Bhatia of COLORS TV.

group of the children performing was 4-8 yrs. Even the music was played by a live childrens' orchestra!

The highlight of the event for the children, was seeing the 3 celebrity judges - Neha Dhupia, Kangana Ranaut and Sohail Khan on the stage! The excitement in the room was palpable especially when Kangana danced with the children.

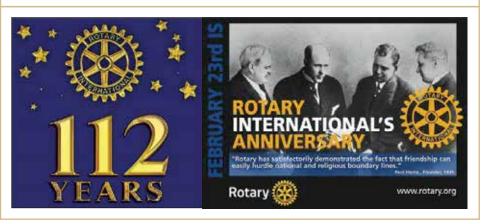
The program "Chote

Miyan" or young masters is a competitive show by children, for children. The acting of the children participating in the Chote Miyan competition was remarkable and impressive to say the least. The age

COLORS TV provided a scrumptious lunch for the children after and a take home gift to complete the exciting day. The program is one that definitely shouldn't be missed.

## AG PP Paul George addressing the Rotary Club of Mumbai Malabar Hill





## Rtn. Chris Blumel at the Rotary Club Nuernberg-Reichswald



#### ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

#### **TRUSTEES 2016-17**

Rtn. Dr. Rahim Mulijani Rtn. Arvind Jolly Rtn. Arun Sanghi Rtn. Dr. Adi Dastur Rtn. Dr. Mukesh Batra Rtn. Dr. Sonya Mehta

Rtn. Ramesh Narayan Rtn. Jagdish Malkani Rtn. Meera Alreja

#### **OFFICE-BEARERS 2016-17**

President Dr. Mukesh Batra Immediate Past President Dr. Sonya Mehta President-Elect Ramesh Narayan Jaadish Malkani President Nominee Honorary Secretary Manish Reshamwala Joint Hon. Secretary Framroze Mehta Hon, Treasurer Meera Alreia

#### **DIRECTOR: RAMESH NARAYAN**

Membership & Info PP Nowroze Vazifdar Membership Development Pradeep Chinai Deepak Kapadia Shivkumar Israni **CSR** 

#### DIRECTOR: MUDIT JAIN

Fellowship Ritu Prakash Desai Mahesh Khubchandani Assimilation Roda Billimoria Sergeant-at-arms In-camera Rekha Tanna Attendance Bipin Kapadia

#### **DIRECTOR: ANUJ ARENJA**

Fund raising PP Sandip Agarwalla Poornima Advani Program Vineet Suchanti Bulletin Hoshang Billimoria Social Media & Website Murad Currawala Jamshyd Vazifdar

#### **DIRECTOR: ASHOK JATIA**

Bhavishya Yaan Satyan Israni Legal Aid Natasha Treasurywala Vocational Training Sunny Pariyaram Scholarships Zinia Lawyer Rotary Public Awards Shernaz Vakil

#### **DIRECTOR: DR. ASHISH CONTRACTOR**

Chairman Emeritus Talwada PP Dr. Rahim Muljiani ADMC Talwada Dr. Sorab Javeri HTEC Talwada PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir Yoga Sitaram Shah Madhusudan Daga Cancer Aid RCB Clinic - Cotton Green Manoj Patodia

#### **DIRECTOR: SAMIR CHINAI**

Animal Welfare Priyasri Patodia Manoi Patodia Environment Asiatic Society Aditya Somani PP Dr. Zerxis Umrigar Nutrition

#### DIRECTOR: RAVINDRA FOTEDAR

Water Resources Rohan Dalal Senior Citizen PP Ashish Vaid Women's Empowerment Dr Raieev Narvekar

#### **DIRECTOR: SHIV DEV GOROWARA**

The Rotary Foundation PDG Gulam Vahanvatv Youth Exchange Programs Vijay Jatia

#### Atlanta convention 16-17 PP Nandan Damani

**DIRECTOR: JAIDEV MERCHANT** Interact Bipin Vazirani Rotaract Mehul Sampat

#### **DIRECTOR: JAGDISH MALKANI**

District Thrust Area Alok Sekhsaria District Coordinator PP Pradeep Saxena E-Administrator Bimal Mehta PP Harry Singh Arora Rotary Service Carnival

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#### Email: rotaryclubbombay1@gmail.com

#### **NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER**

## Ashwini Bhide - MD, MMRCL 'Mumbai Metro

Smt. Ashwini Bhide, an IAS officer from Maharashtra cadre is a post-graduate in English Literature from Pune University. She was selected through Civil Services exam for IAS in 1995 with the honor of standing first among women candidates in the country.

She has a rich experience of 20 years in IAS cadre by holding key positions such as Chief Executive Officer in Zila Parishad, Addl. Divisional Commissioner, Joint Secretary to Governor of Maharashtra, Additional Metropolitan Commissioner in MMRDA and Secretary in School Education and Sports.



She is the one responsible for making available RoW for Mumbai Metro1 in a time bound manner, planning of Surya Regional Water Supply Project, Mithi River Development, Planning & Development of Taloja Integrated Solid Waste Management Project on PPP and Planning & Development of Mumbai Trans Harbor Link (22 km long sea link) on PPP.

With a strong hold on Urban Infrastructure Development, she now aptly heads Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation executing JICA funded Mumbai Metro Line-3 (Colaba - Bandra - SEEPZ) project.

#### **Birthdays & Anniversary Greetings**



Rtn. Roda Billimoria 28th February



Rtn Kasimali Merchant 2<sup>nd</sup> March



Rtn. Harshbeena Zaveri 1st March



PP Rtn. Pradeep Saxena 3rd March



Rtn. Jaidev Merchant 2<sup>nd</sup> March

#### **Partners**

28th February - Ptn. Dolon Ghosh 1st March - Ptn. Smita Parekh Ptn. Anisha Jolly

2<sup>nd</sup> March - Ptn. Zainab Lokhandwala

5<sup>th</sup> March - Ptn. Sushila Joshi 6th March - Ptn. Priyanka Jatia

#### **Anniversaries**

1<sup>st</sup> March -Rtn. Shernaz & Ptn. Firoze Vakil Rtn. Anuj & Ptn. Ritika Arenja 3<sup>rd</sup> March -4<sup>th</sup> March -Rtn. Anil & Ptn. Neelam Goyel 5<sup>th</sup> March -Rtn. Ashok & Ptn. Sudha Gokal 6th March -PP Rtn. Ajay & Ptn. Vandana Kanoria

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#### Statistics for last week's meeting Club Members 110 Partners 10 Visiting Rotarian 01 Guests 02 Rotaractors 02 Total attendance 125 Community Service Box Collection

₹ 2.170/-