

# Vol. 59 No. 7 • August 8, 2017 • Pages 8 DIARY: AKING A IFFERENCE CALLED



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



#### From the President's Desk



Dear friends,

We are a little over a month into the Rotary Year. And what a month it has

Ananda Yaan our new Elder Day Care Centre has been launched. The media embraced it warmly. The kind of mainstream media attention it has

garnered has seldom been seen in Rotary circles. This in itself goes to fulfil the other objective of projecting the good work Rotary does in a powerful manner. At the Byculla Centre of Ananda Yaan, Co Chair Chris Bluemel, and Committee members Poonam Lalvani and Devi coordinated with Rotaractors to have young students tie Rakhis to the elders there, signifying the undying bonds between the young and the young at heart. Collaborating with the NM Medical Centre at the RCB Cotton Green Medical Centre, diabetes tests were done on 50 elders at the Byculla Ananda Yaan Centre.

This is inter-Committee cooperation at work. A classic case where the needs of one Committee are met by the resources of another. And the result is an optimization of the work our Club can do. May I request other Committees to also actively explore how they can collaborate with one another and spread the Rotary spirit far and wide.

Bhavishya Yaan celebrated its Annual Day where the wonderful students who have fared so well were felicitated by a rather impressive turnout of Rotarians, senior media people, donors and of course film actor Gulshan Grover. In its eighth year now, this program has truly done Rotary proud. Academic impact, confidence and poise, value systems, as far as students are concerned. Involvement and participation as far as Rotarians and Rotary partners are concerned. And great profile, as far as the the Club is concerned. Every which way, it has been a win-win situation.

And so we head toward the fund raiser event where Shankar Mahadevan will be live in concert for Bhavishya Yaan on 23rd August at the Tata Theatre. I look forward to your very active participation in this event.

And may I thank Ramesh Mehta and his family for the warm fellowship they provided us.

Ramesh Narayan

# The Voice of the Actual Indian



ur Tuesday meeting was bustling with energy and chatter when the call to take one's seat was announced. Perhaps this only paralleled the noise that our speaker, Faye D'Souza from the newly-inaugurated TV news channel Mirror Now, would discuss during her speech: With all the noise and clamor that surrounds Indian media, and news especially, why does our nation need yet another news channel to add to the cacophony?

"It's true, India has a lot of news channels... And at any given point, they're all doing the same thing," D'Souza stated. Describing Indian news as a "food court where everybody is serving Punjabi food," she highlighted the lack of options that audiences have when looking for news sources; it seems as if one turns on the TV

**Sundar Raman** the ace sports administrator Today's Speaker and management expert speaks on the Role of Sports in Business and nation-building.



### In this Issue

RCB Launches an Elder Day Care Centre - Ananda Yaan	4
Mainstream media focus on Rotary Project	6
Nose, Sip & Savour - In Camera Coverage	7
#throwbacktuesday	8

these days to only hear the shrill screams of "intellectual" debate after debate running behind Target Rating Points and advertising revenue.

Nonetheless, choosing to focus on why it was important for D'Souza herself to begin such a channel, rather than Times Network's business intentions, the journalist began with a memory that may have struck a chord with those in the audience - The 2014 General Elections.

"In 2014, as a country, we were feeling something. We had all [voted] in large numbers and we felt good about the decision that we had made," she said. "Because we had voted for development. We voted for a better quality of life, roads, nicer schools..." The list goes on. But most importantly, "we

# Rtn. Zinia Lawyer on the Scholarship Committee's Progress



At the beginning of our weekly meeting, Zinia Lawyer, the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, announced the progress of the committee thus far. With a budget of 25 lakhs, they are looking at helping the students from the Club's Bhavishya Yaan program, and have already received applications from the top students at multiple schools around Mumbai.

The committee is hoping that this initiative will relieve the deep and disheartening effects of poverty through funding educational opportunities; a great act of leadership by our rotarians!

acknowledged and realised the potential of being the youngest country in the world - and we said doubledigit growth."

Along the way, however, "the conversation

changed." From discussing growth and development, elections were fought over religion, caste, and language instead. "Somehow, all of the politics from 20 years ago were suddenly relevant again," D'Souza claimed. "What happened to double-digit growth?"

D'Souza then asked a question that may have been familiar to those of us who recently travelled abroad. No matter what facet of development we may have encountered in a foreign country an efficient metro system, potholefree roads, or a cashless economy we were likely to have asked, "Why don't we have this [at home]?" This may seem, to some, antinationalist. It is, of course, quite effortless to criticise our nation's lack of development (undoubtedly with a certain sense of remorse). "But how many more years are we going to spend asking [that] question?" She challenged.

She then expanded upon our sentiments toward "nationalism," the double-edged sword that seems to cloud our news stories and controversies. "Nationalism is as shallow as a teacup; we are measured not by our college degrees, experiences, or what we contribute to society, but by our nationalism." She used our advertising industry as an indicator of nationalism's influence on our citizens. From "Make-in-India" conservatives like Patanjali to



companies like Kajaria Ceramics, they all want in on the sellability of patriotism. "Right now, it is such a brilliant and easy low-hanging fruit, to bottle nationalism and sell whatever you want." It could be said that Indian consumers are now so blinded by the love they hold for their country that they are no longer able to see the layered and multidimensional way in which India's policies affect our lives today.

Therefore, D'Souza stated that she believes India needs another news channel because "it's time to ask the right questions." From IT and Engineering students laundering money through fake online websites to drug peddlers in our schools, there are dangerous legislation failures occurring right under our noses - we are just too consumed by our patriotism to notice. "If we are going to become the country of the future and leave something better for our children," she said, we have to formulate the correct questions, ask them at the right time, to the right people. "In that food court that is serving Punjabi - and some of it is 20 years old, so it could give you food poisoning - someone needs to come in and serve what is needed today."

"There's room to challenge the way things are done, which is why we don't do politics," D'Souza remarked, drawing attention to her everfamous slogan. "I will cover policy." "When they decide gay people cannot donate blood, if there's a building that's collapsed in Ghatkopar out of sheer corruption and people have died, if we have drugs coming into our schools - these are all problems," she said. However, most news channels fail to report these stories due to their own individual political biases. In order to tackle this issue, Mirror Now hires journalists that have "zero political background," D'Souza affirmed.

She also dismissed our nation's contemporary label system. In the past, someone may have been referred to by their caste, but today, we are labelled by our political affiliations; congi, rightwing, uptown. "You can't ask a question in this country without being branded one of those things," the journalist stated.

Continuing, she presented us with a rather comical caricature of our present hierarchy of labels. "We all learnt how important the caste system is and why it had to be eradicated. Right now, this is the caste system: Nationalist, cow... And then everybody else." As the room erupted with giggles all around, D'Souza displayed why this ranking, though humorous, is incredibly problematic. "There's [imperative] policy waiting to be passed, but the government has

had the time to pass a cow bill [instead]," she asserted.

"We are in a country that's toying with our emotions," she explained, "they're strumming our sentiment and offending our intelligence on a daily basis." At a certain point,

it's important for the intelligent people in the room to take a stand for themselves and their country, rather than stepping aside and watching from afar. Only then can we live in a country "where we have accountability, where we have purpose," said D'Souza.

"That's why I believe we launched this channel," she continued. "In this food court, we will actually give you something that is good. We will not put it on air unless we are convinced that it is good. This, I believe, is the voice of the actual Indian; it is not political, this is just what the average Indian wants. And all we're going to do is just ask questions - and have the audience decide for themselves," she inspiringly orated.

Apparently, that was what our rotarians had in mind as well. After displaying a few short clips that

summarised exactly what Mirrow Now is all about, D'Souza was asked a few questions by curious audience members.

Firstly, when asked to clarify her problems with nationalism, D'Souza simplified her thoughts on the issue. "There's nothing wrong with nationalism, I believe



we should all love our country. But nationalism should not be as a yardstick for how good or bad I am. Let's be nationalist and ask how many starving children we saved, how many new schools we built, how many new hospital beds we supplied," she replied.

Next, she was asked if she personally ever tries to close the cases she reports on her news channel, to which she responded, "it's something that we've started doing. We get petitions signed and we forward them to the ministries involved. We're trying, we haven't achieved as much as I would have liked to achieve." From issues such as child lock buttons in cars to taxation on cigarettes, D'Souza and Mirror Now have focused on trying to make journalism an initiativedriven force for positive change, as she explained.

Thus, as Mirror Now begins its metamorphosis of the news channel world, Faye D'Souza remains at the helm of this new era of journalism. With enough grit, determination, and accountability, Mirror Now and its anchors are nowhere but glorybound, ready to blast the voice of every Indian on our nation's loudspeaker.



# RCB Launches an Elder Day Care Centre - Ananda Yaan

he Rotary Club of Bombay (RCB), launched its first Elder Day Care Centre for the underprivileged, "Ananda Yaan" (Mission to Happiness), in collaboration with Dignity Foundation at Byculla on 21st July.

As the time to start the first day of the Ananda Yaan day care centre came close by, senior citizens from the area started trickling in and within the first half hour there were close to 50 older adults who came in. The session began with a round of introductions by all the members.

The first structured session was the "wheel of life". The wheel of life helps one to consider each area of their life in turn



and assess what's off balance. It also helps to identify areas that need more attention. All the members were given the wheel of life diagram and were asked to mark those areas that are taking a lot of their time and those areas that need their attention.



Guest of Honour Neena Kulkarni unveils Ananda Yaan's banner

is the first two such centres the

Rotary Club of Bombay intends

a great need for such initiatives. It is terrible to be old and poor in

Mumbai. The sheer pressure on

space results in our elders being

launching in Mumbai. The second one would be at Dadar. There is

This was followed by a yoga session that was thoroughly enjoyed by all the members. Yoga for senior citizens helps them to stretch their muscles and also strengthen them and helps them to increase their blood circulation and concentration / memory.

Since it was the birthday of a

member and also the first day of the centre, a small celebration was held to conclude the day. Members sang songs to wish the member and distributed sweets amongst themselves.

President RCB Ramesh Narayan said, "This "There is a great need for such initiatives. It is terrible to be old and poor in Mumbai."

- President Ramesh Narayan







We are well on the way to our "Mission to Happiness."

- Rtn. Alok Sekhsaria



"We want to encourage people in the local community to take advantage of this free medical facility."

- Rtn. Christopher Bluemel



treated very shabbily. We want to ensure that in the evening of their lives, the poor elders get a few hours of happiness. This is our objective," he added.

Alok Sekhraria said, "We are happy to have Dignity Foundation, a pioneer in elder care managing this Ananda Yaan Centre. We intend to provide the underprivileged elders with a nutritious drink, board games and a place to meet other people like them.

There would be much singing and laughter organised, along with health check-ups, and some entertaining visits. We are well on the way to our "Mission to Happiness."

Christopher Bluemel added, "The Rotary Club of has a full fledged medical centre at Cotton Green, that is close by. We want to encourage people in the local community to take advantage of this free medical facility, which has a dentist, an optometrist, a diagnostic counter and a Homeopathy clinic run by Dr. Batra's.









# Mainstream media focus on Rotary Project



# Byculla daycare centre to provide recreational activities to elderly

**Hindustan Times** 

#### लोक्समत

# आयुष्याचा उत्तरार्ध आनंदात घालवा

नीना कुलकर्णी ; एल्डर डे केअर सेंटरचे उद्घाटन

नोक्सर पुर देशकी

स्त्रपाट्ट में कार्त चार-पाय ताल छ सम्बोदना स्थापन बागुडे शंपूर्ण दिश्या अनंदात जाहेत. बाग्डास्थात असे हे-केजा केंग्र जाहा बाग्यात अल्याने केंग्रील जोल सर्पातका पुर बागानी शर्मी निकासी वर्षे. सामुच्याचा जनार्थ सार्वेदस प्रानामा जाता ता बागुष्य सूच समुद्र होईन, त्यापुढे तार्वित हा जनार्थ वर्षप्रत कार्यक्रम, अने प्रतिकार पेड अभिनेत्री रीत कुलकारी पति

कंटर करना करिए पाँची असीन विवादी क्यांताम्य (नाव्या पोद्रीन (निकारण पोट्रामा करावात्रः) कृष करियाल पात्र करियाला कृष करियाला पात्र करियाला कृष करावात्रः पात्र करिया (क्यांत्राम्य कृष्टा पार्ची करावा इसी करावात्राची करिया इसी करावात्राची करिया इसी पार्चीय अस्तरत करिया असी पार्चीय अस्तरत करियाला विवादी पार्चीवात्रमा आस्त्राच्या विवादी पार्चीवात्रमा अस्त्राच्या विवादी पार्चीवात्रमा अस्त्राच्या

Lokmatt



हाते. रीतरी जनवर्ष पूर्वामाधी है केवर मीटर मुख केतरे आहे. पदा पत्ती आर्थदान प्रदात और दश्मीक एकत प्रजन पारते निर्मा माने प्रत्ये हिन्दिय प्रधा के उपक्रम काना प्रत्येक दिशा वार्गटक पालबू शास्त्रात्त्र, सामाना पुर्वाण पाले मानव रंग्या के नाते. नातावें आही जो करवें, जाते पाली पुरा शर्मफाकुरचें कृता होती, हे काल

सन्तरंग वाणे को लगारे सांका जैनका अंध्वान के लागी. अनुसारत अंध्वानकी है घटका एक बोरामात सामाजक गीवर जार असाव सामाजते हैं के

वरण असारतः स्थानाताः । स्थ मूत केले अस्ते पूर्वेण संविधानाताः जो। जसूर एक ब्रह्म सुरू करण्याः वेदेल, संस्थित राज्याः वाले सर्वेश्वतः केला संदेशका वाले सर्वेशतः स्थानाः जाते, हे केंद्र अस्ति एक रहाये जाति स्थानात्रील सम्बद्धित सारत



# भायखळ्यात रोटरी क्लबचे वृद्धांसाठी केंद्र

प्रतिसिती, मुंबई

#### Lokasatta

# वे च च वि च्या चा









# मुख्यमत्र्याना श्रवणयंत्राची भेट!

बीडीडीचे रहिवासी आंदोलनातून वेधणार लक्ष

फिजिबिलिटी अहवाल सादर करा रवींन वारावार गांचे रामानावा विलेश

#### माड कोसळून महिला जखमी

## आयुष्याचा उत्तरार्ध आनदात घालवा

अभिनेत्री नीना कुलकर्णी यांचा ज्येष्ठ नागरिकांना सल्ला



# Adult daycare centre with a difference

MONIKA MADUGULA MUMBAI, JULY 21

FOR THE elderly at Prabhakar Nagar in Byculla, evenings henceforth promise to be full of activities making mundane get-togethers a thing of the past. On Friday, the Rotary Club of Bombay launched its first adult daycare centre 'Ananda Yaam' for the underprivileged with the senior citizens. The care centre will have activities like exercises and yoga, apart from health

is the first of the two such centres that the Rotary Club of Bombay intends launching in Mumbal, "said Ramesh Narayan, the Rotary Club president. "It is a terrible thing to be old and poor in Mumba. The sheet pres-sure of course of the sheet." sure of space results in them be-ing neglected, sometimes even abused. Our motive is to bring happiness into their lives by pro-viding them with an opportunity to interact with their peers,"

While the first centre was in-augurated in Byculla on Friday. work is in progress for the sec-ond one in Dadar, the Rotary Club informed.

At the centre in Byculla, started in collaboration with Dignity Foundation, senior citzens will be encouraged to par-ticipate in yoga, meditation and exercise. Additionally, regular beaith check-ups would be done free of cost, and cancer check-up

features first on the list. Anand Desai, one of the senior citizens residing in Prabhakar Nagar said: "Ours is a tight knit community of mill workers, who have always lived here. An opportunity like this is welcome, since it will bring about a refreshing change in our lives.

Neena Kulkarni, a leading Marathi actor, and the guest of honour at the event said Ananda Yaan is different While we have a lot of old age homes cropping up in the city only a few, such as this centre ensure that regular activities and sessions are conducted for

#### Indian Express

Sakal

## Nose, Sip & Savour - In Camera Coverage

The In Camera Committee hosts a fabulous meeting on appreciating fine malt whiskies with Keshav Prakash Founder of The Vault at Rtn. Rekha Tanna's residence on July 20th











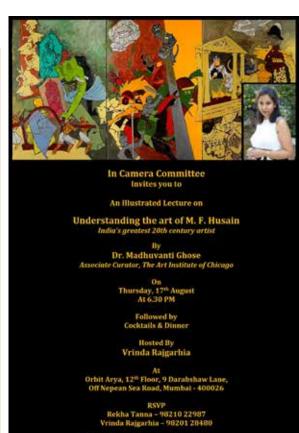


# **Forthcoming Events**

- August 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 No meeting.
- August 17<sup>th</sup> 2017 In Camera "Understanding the art by M.F. Husain" by Dr. Madhuvanti Ghose, hosted by Vrinda Rajgarhia at 6:30pm
- August 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 Parsi Nite

- August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017
   Extra Ordinary General Meeting.

  Please note this is a closed door meeting. No guests and visitors would be allowed.
- August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 Shankar Mahadevan live in concert for Bhavishya Yaan, at the Tata Theatre.



Limited Seats. Please Register in Advance



#### ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

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## #throwbacktuesday

ntroducing the social media posting trend with the hashtag "throwback" usually on a Thursday to reminisce about a past event. We are changing it around a bit for our print version to #throwbacktuesday. Here we have this contribution by Rtn. Nirav Shah from our 18th July meeting with guest speaker Anuj Rakyan.

Send in your entries and get featured!



## **Birthdays & Anniversary Greetings**





Rtn. Priyanka Doctor Rtn. Hormazdiyaar Vakil Rtn. Dr. Sorab Javeri PP Rtn. Nowroze Vazifdar Rtn. Venkat Ramaswany 8th August



10th August



11th August



12th August



Rtn. Javesh Jhaveri 14th August



Rtn. Dr. Shailesh Raina 15th August

14<sup>th</sup> August

15th August



Rtn. Sunny Pariyaram 17th August



Rtn. Pradeep Gujarathi 20th August



PP Rtn. Rajnikant Reshamwala 20th August



Rtn. Girdharilal Vaid 21st August

#### **Partners**

Ptn. Samira Merchant 8<sup>th</sup> August 18<sup>th</sup> August - Mr. Ranjit Shahani Ptn. Dr. Rajani Daftary 19<sup>th</sup> August - Mr. Daniel Tennebaum 9<sup>th</sup> August Ptn. Sunita Saxena Ptn. Jyoti Doshi 10<sup>th</sup> August Ptn. Mayuri Sekhsaria Ptn. Sujata Vaswani 11<sup>th</sup> August Ptn. Amita Haribhakti 20<sup>th</sup> August Ptn. Soni Israni 12<sup>th</sup> August Ptn. Vera Umrigar Ptn. Ruby Patch 13<sup>th</sup> August Ptn. Shalina Advani Ptn. Navaz Pochkhanwalla Ptn. Kulsum Jamal 21st August Ptn. Irma Chinai Ptn. Mrudula Biswas Ptn. Parul Ichhaporia Ptn. Aradhana Mehta Ptn. Minal Vaghani

#### **Anniversaries**

14th August - PP Rtn. Harry Sing & Ptn. Biba Arora

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Ptn. Rinku Suchanti

Ptn. Sangita Advani

Ptn. Ketayun Irani

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# Statistics for last week's meeting

Rotary Club Bombay Members 131 Partners 03 Visiting Rotarians 01 Guests 04 07 Total attendance 146 ₹ 2.150/-Community Service Box Collection