

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



From the President's Desk



Dear friends,

We have an exciting speaker line up for the next few weeks.

Kabir Bedi, Dia Mirza and Amin Sayani. You can't miss these meetings.

6th April will also see an exclusive dinner in honor of the visiting Rotary

International President Elect.

Where our own Arvind Jolly will be felicitated for his meaningful contribution to The Rotary Foundation.

Be there. The donor passes will soon be available. As space is limited, please book early to avoid disappointment.

And, as the great Indian summer plays out in right earnest, we will be having an offsite organized by PE Vijay Jatia for his incoming leadership team in mid April. An indication that change in the leadership of your Club is just three months away.


Of course the next three months will see significant projects being completed by your Environment Committee both at the Community level and at a much larger level as well.

And we will spread the message of education and child welfare with a new initiative that will be announced shortly.

We have also initiated a needs assessment survey for rural transformation and based on its results we will initiate some meaningful programs.

I am pleased to announce that we will be beginning work on a "well Baby" clinic at our Cotton Green clinic along with Bharat Serums and Vaccines who will be supporting us for three years. This will go a long way in serving the needs of the community we are situated in.

And that's what Rotary is all about.



Ramesh Narayan
President

Of Trees and Treats!



Last Tuesday, the pulpit was shared by two speakers from different walks of life, but both seemed to have tread a path that only passion can help us navigate. The speakers were Pooja Dhingra and Zoru Bathena. The latter is the BMC's biggest nightmare, and the former a young entrepreneur who introduced a Parisian culinary experience in India. Their speeches, obviously, had

Today's Speaker **KABIR BEDI**



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nothing in common, although to have them address us on the same day was a celebration of the old adage, "Where there is a will, there is a way." The common link between them was their stubborn will to make a change.

Pooja Dhingra wanted to add to the variety of desserts in India, for before founding Le 15 - if you plan on heading to Le 15, which you definitely should, do not miss out on the dark

chocolate macaroon - and the Studio Fifteen Culinary Centre, she often grappled with the question, "Why, in Bombay, does one see only five different kinds of pastries? One only sees brownies, cheese cake... Why isn't anybody doing anything fresh?" The way forward, thereafter, was to convince her family that she didn't want to be a lawyer, as she had envisioned for herself earlier. Soon she was in Switzerland chasing another dream, a dream that was at most

times buttery and chocolatey, but at other times "like going to battle everyday."

On the other hand, Zoru Bathena, like most Mumbaikars has been observing that the tree cover throughout Mumbai is rapidly depleting, but unlike most Mumbaikars, he's raised his voice. In fact, he's managed to raise his voice to a pitch that is audible even to BMC officials. In his own words, "City planners believe that cutting a tree can





Rtn. Alok Sekhsaria introducing the new members



Rtn. Poonam Lalwani (second from right) presents the Taru Lalvani Award for Environmental Protection to Mr. Zoru Bhatena

be balanced out by planting ten more trees somewhere else, but it doesn't work that way because trees take fifty to a hundred years to grow." He painted a very gloomy picture of Mumbai in the years to come by suggesting that the Metro project, when complete, would have done away with at least

five thousand trees. Both speakers have the results to show for their hard work. By fighting tooth and nail to curb the felling of trees by short-sighted city planners, Zoru Bathena has saved over two hundred trees from being hacked, and also deserves credit for the reason why

fewer trees succumb to the mealybug epidemic. You can imagine what a struggle that might have been. Our second speaker tells us about an equally alarming experience: While working out of her kitchen, she was summoned by

an official from the BMC, who was so rattled to see a woman running a business that he blurted out, "Are you running this business because your husband is no more?"

In the end, those with a sweet tooth can thank their stars that Pooja Dhingra "fell in love with chocolate, butter, and everything it had to offer." And although she was awarded the Rotary Club of Bombay Uma Jain Award for Young Woman Achiever, the real honour was to have the entire club feel dejected when they realised that she wasn't carrying any samplers.

Zoru Bathena, the recipient of the Taru Lalvani Award for Environmental Protection, might not be able to relate to his co-speaker's struggles against longstanding patriarchy, but he sure had us know about the repercussions of losing our longstanding trees.



Chairperson of Fellowship Committee for the ensuing Rotary year 2018-19 Rtn. Vrinda Rajgarhia informing the members of the International Fellowship event to Slovenia & Croatia

Young at Heart Committee Fellowship

The Young at Heart Committee organized a musical evening along with cocktails and Dinner for all the senior members of the club mainly excused member. The event was held on the terrace of Malabar Hill Club on Wednesday 14th March, 2018. Many senior members including Past Presidents and their wives attended the programme.

The programme started off with excellent songs sung by Mr. Sandeep Banarjee from the 80's & 90's era. Thereafter our own R/anne Vandana Daga also sang a few songs. The music programme was well appreciated by all and were seen swaying to the hit numbers of their era. Thereafter there was dinner in the open terrace with the weather giving a big treat to the members with a cool breeze. Approximately 100 rotarians & annes attend to make the programme a big success. The Rotarians

were heard discussing their golden period in the club and remembered their days.

- report by Rt. Rajnikant Reshmwalla
Chairman Young at Heart Committee



Ms. Anushka Reshamwala, R/anne. Rakhee Reshamwala, Rtn. Tarjani Vakil, PP Rtn. Nandan Damani, PP Rtn. Rajnikanth Reshamwala, Rtn. Arvind Agarwal, R/anne. Shreelekha Damani and R/anne. Rachna Agarwal.



President Rtn. Ramesh Narayan, Guest, Mr. Gautam Mehta, Rtn. Preeti Mehta, R/anne. Gauri Daiya and Rtn. Vijay kumar Jatia



PP Rtn. Rajnikanth Reshamwala, Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia, Rtn. Dr. Nayna Dastur, PP Rtn. Dr. Adi Dastur, R/anne. Avaan Vakharia, R/anne. Devi Narayan & R/anne. Malti Jain



Standing - Mr. Ratnakar Desai, Rtn. Vasant Manohar, Rtn. Dolly Thakore, PP Rtn. Kalpana Munshi, R/anne. Lata Palekar and R/anne. Indira Kotak
Sitting - Rtn. Roda Billimoria, Rtn. Tarjani Vakil, Rtn. Devendra Kothari & PP Rtn. Vithal Palekar

Gudi Padwa Festivities at Ananda Yaan

Gudi Padwa was celebrated this year at the two Ananda Yaan Centers with a big bang. The New Year festivities included a trained group of AY ladies singing and dancing and a generous donor Mrs. Charu Aggarwal distributing new saris to ladies at both centers.

A total of 85 saris were given on the occasion to the lady members. Mrs. Charu Aggarwal runs a leading e-commerce business for saris and ethnic wear under the brand name Ishin.



Reliance Foundation Fact Files

“Last year, I sold 50 quintals of paddy for the first time in my life because, I had access to water. I built a pucca house.”

- Byasdev Kuanr, Mukundpur, Odisha



Farmers in Mukundpur could only grow paddy once a year – until Reliance Foundation repaired the village dam. The dam helped raise the water levels in village wells and farm ponds, giving villagers access to irrigation water.

These stories testify to Reliance Foundation's undying zeal to create equal opportunities for growth and prosperity in India.



Touching over 12 million lives with support for Rural Transformation, Health, Education, Sports for Development, Livelihoods, Disaster Response, Arts & Culture, and Urban Renewal.



Rotaract Committee - Echo Award Report

On Monday March 12, 2018 the Rotaract Club of Lala's College felicitated and inducted into their "Hall of Fame" RCB's Rotaract Committee Project 'Echo'

Echo was first started in 2015 and is an initiative to bridge the gap between the private and public sectors of education. It is the dream to see a day when no child is deprived of his/her right



to quality education and in turn a prosperous future.

An initiative which brings together municipal school students who have just completed their SSC examination with our Rotaractors, Echo is a week long program which imbibes in our participating students, the skills they need to be successful in college. They are taught everything from how to fill out their college submission forms, how to make friends with children from vastly different backgrounds, builds their confidence to speak with the college professors, how to read a college time table and a handful of other skills which allow them to stay in college. The idea is that they do not get overwhelmed and drop out. Other topics that are covered include sex education, gender sensitization, finance, banking, team work and lateral thinking. The friendships they form with the Rotaractors across a dozen

or so different colleges across Mumbai city also equips them with an instant social group who is committed to their success.

Our Rotaractors mentor and stay with their participants for two years post Echo to ensure successful completion of their HSC examination. Rotaractors too see huge growth changes through their participation in Echo. It is an intense one week, that diametrically changes both sides of India; the public and private.

Echo 2018 is slated to take place from Wednesday April 4 - Saturday April 7 at ISME

The finale is scheduled for Sunday April 8th at the KC College Auditorium

Our Rotaract Committee invites you to please come meet and interact with the participants and our Rotaractors!

BY GK Marg Update

A visit to the Police Station changed the way children thought of police earlier.

27 students of GK Marg visited the Worli police station. The objective was to let students know that Police are important community helpers and our friends. It was an interesting and interactive session with the police in-charge. The children were given the following information:

1. How to make a complaint
2. Why does one have to come to the police station when you apply for passport
3. How is bio scanning done
4. What are the different types of crime

And, that the police are our friends and we can approach them anytime.



THE FREE PRESS JOURNAL

The club is the oldest and one of the most active in Mumbai. The club has been the club since its inception and has been active in many social service projects. And, now it is celebrating its 90th birthday. The club of Bombay (RCB) which is now known as the Rotary Club of Bombay, was founded in 1924. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects.

Tell us something about the history of the club?
Ram Nath Narayan: The club has a great history. The club has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects.

What are some of the successful projects initiated by the club?
Ram Nath Narayan: The club has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects.

What is unique about the Rotary Club of Bombay?
Ram Nath Narayan: The club has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects.



A group photo of children and adults.



Cheers to the movement!

Ram Nath Narayan, President, Rotary Club of Bombay speaks to VIBHA SINGH about the club's historic journey and completing 90 years of doing good in the world!

To support the club's activities, the club has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects.



A group photo of children and adults.

A movement turns 90

Rotary Club of Bombay, which entered its 90th year earlier this week, has supported several social endeavours over the decades

By Anjali Menon
anjanimenon@gmail.com

The Rotary Club of Mumbai (RCB) has had an illustrious history for the last 90 years. Every Tuesday, its members meet at the club's headquarters, which is located in the heart of the city. The club, which started with just 38 members in 1924, has grown to over 1,000 members today. It is the oldest club in the city and has been active in many social service projects.



A group photo of children and adults.

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Rotary Club of Bombay turns 90

Country's oldest Rotary Club to continue to focus on socially-relevant projects

HARSHARAN BAKSHI
MUMBAI

The country's largest and oldest Rotary Club, the Rotary Club of Bombay, added another year to its existence, turning 90 on Monday. Among its many activities, this year, it is looking to focus on child care, specifically street children, besides creating awareness on mental illness and combating the stigma around them.

The Rotary Club is an association comprising businessmen and professionals from all walks of life who come together for the betterment of society. There are around 95 Rotary Clubs in India and 25,500 all across the world. A Rotarian, says Ramesh Narayan, President of the Rotary Club of Bombay, is a professional who has achieved a certain stature in society and is ready to give back. The Club has 315 members, and selection is not easy, he says. "We make sure the individual is as serious to help society as we are." In Mumbai, the Club has projects in the areas of medical care, sanitation, animal welfare and



A group photo of children and adults.

environment conservation, senior citizen care and education. Last June, the Club started Ananda Yaan, a mission to provide happiness to senior citizens. As part of this, it will collaborate with the Shantkumar Mahadevan Music Academy to provide music-centric activities to senior citizens next week. It also runs two adult day-care centres in Byculla and Prabhadevi. The centres aim to provide senior citizens with a space away from the chaos and cramped conditions in the city, and a platform to interact with like-minded people. Says Rotarian and Chairman of Ananda Yaan, Alok Sekhsaria, "Senior citizens are often subject to neglect and we aim to improve their mental and physical health by arranging yoga and meditation programmes within the centre." This initiative, involving an eight-member committee, also conducts singing and dancing sessions for the 150 members of both the centres. The centres celebrate birthdays and festivals, and conduct free health camps. The Club is also in the

process of installing a solar electrification system for the Marina Bay View Garden at Cuffe Parade. It has contributed a similar system to parts of the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya and is in talks to help with the museum's eco-friendly efforts.

Apart from these, it runs Bhavishya Yaan, a student enrichment programme in five Brithannmumbai Municipal Corporation-run schools, impacting about 1,200 students every year. The programme, in its eighth year, helps students with spoken English, computer skills and life skills. Besides this, they are taken on off-site visits. Says Mr. Narayan, "A separate effort is on to provide them nourishment in the form of peanuts and bananas to tackle the severe problem of malnutrition among underprivileged children." As the Club enters its 90th year, he says, it "looks back with satisfaction and looks ahead with confidence." Its mission is, as always, to "positively impact the life of the underprivileged and consolidate ongoing projects."

Forthcoming Events

- **8th April, 2018**
Echo Finale at 5.30 pm at K.C.College Auditorium.
- **10th April, 2018**
Dia Mirza accepts RCB Social Service Award and addresses the Club.
- **17th April, 2018**
Come, listen to Amin Sayani, "the Voice".
- **1st May, 2018**
Public Holiday. No Meeting.
- **8th May, 2018**
Citizen of Mumbai Award will be conferred on Deepak Parekh who will address the Club.
- **15th May, 2018**
Niranjan Hiranandani Real Estate Wizard will address the Club.

ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

TRUSTEES 2017-18

Rtn. Dr. Rahim Muljani
Rtn. Arvind Jolly
Rtn. Arun Sanghi
Rtn. Dr. Adi Dastur

OFFICE-BEARERS 2017-18

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Immediate Past President	Dr. Mukesh Batra
President-Elect	Vijay Kumar Jatia
President Nominee	Preeti Mehta
Honorary Secretary	Manish Reshamwala
Joint Hon. Secretary	Bimal Mehta
Hon. Treasurer	Shiv Kumar Israni

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Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	Ishraq Contractor
Global Grant Committee	Vineet Suchanti

DIRECTOR: MUDIT JAIN

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Outstation Fellowship	Anar Shah
Assimilation	Jamshed Vakharia
Sergeant-at-arms	Roda Billimoria
In-camera	Rekha Tanna

DIRECTOR: PRADEEP CHINAI

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Programs	Poonima Advani
Social Media & Website	Mehul Sampat
Sports	Jamshyd Vazifdar

DIRECTOR: ASHOK JATIA

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Legal Aid	Natasha Treasurywala
Skill Development	Pradeep Gupta
Scholarships	Zinia Lawyer
Rotary Public Awards	Shernaz Vakil

DIRECTOR: TARA DESHPANDE

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ADMC	Dr. Mehernosh Dotivala
PRVEC	PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir
Yoga	Sitaram Shah
Cancer Aid	Farokh Balsara
RCB Clinic - Cotton Green	Manoj Patodia

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Environment	Rajesh Shah
Urban Conservation	Rohan Dalal
Nutrition	PP Dr. Zexis Umrigar

DIRECTOR: RAVINDRA FOTEDAR

Water Resources	Vineet Suchanti
Elder Care Committee	PP Ashish Vaid
Women's Empowerment	Framoze Mehta

DIRECTOR: HOMI KATGARA

The Rotary Foundation	PDG Gulam Vahanvati
Youth Exchange Programs	Peter Born
Ananda Yaan Committee	Chairperson Alok Sekhsaria
	Co-Chair Christopher Bluemel

DIRECTOR : ANUJ ARENJA

Interact	Prakriti Poddar
Rotaract	Murad Currawala
Young-at-Heart	PP Rajnikant Reshamwala

DIRECTOR : PREETI MEHTA

District Thrust Area	Deepak Kapadia
District Coordinator	PP Pradeep Saxena

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NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Dia Mirza : Environmentalist & Social Service Activist



Actor, producer, director, entrepreneur, humanitarian, UN Environment Ambassador and a champion of nature, Dia Mirza dons many a hat with élan and ease.

A perfect combination of beauty and intelligence, Dia brought home the Miss Asia Pacific Title after a gap of 29 years. As an actor, Dia has played important characters in memorable films such as Rehna Hai Tere Dil Mein, Lage Raho Munna bhai, Parineeta amongst others and has underlined her value as a versatile talent in the Industry. Her love for cinema and desire to tell socially relevant stories made her set up her own film production company Born Free Entertainment. Her film company has successfully made and released two feature films, public service films and ad films.

Her footprints though, go way beyond films & fashion and leave valuable imprints in the fields of social change, environment, and conservation. Recently, she was appointed as the United Nations Environment Goodwill Ambassador for India. Also an Ambassador for Swachh Bharat Mission's "SwachhSaathi" program, Ambassador for Sanctuary Asia's Tiger Conservation - Kids For Tigers program, a board member of the Sanctuary Nature Foundation, Ambassador of the Wildlife Trust of India, and the First Indian Ambassador for Save The Children; Dia has and continues to use every possible platform and to spearhead the movement to reignite and strengthen the connection between man and nature and contribute to positive social change.



Birthdays & Anniversary Greetings



Hon. Rtn. Adi Godrej
3rd April



Rtn. Suresh Goklaney
6th April



Rtn. Kalpana Singhania
6th April



Rtn. Shanta Chatterji
7th April



Rtn. Ghanshyam Sheth
7th April



Rtn. Manjeet Kripalani
8th April

Partners

4th April - Ptn. Urvashi Minawala
5th April - Ptn. Vrishali Pispati
9th April - Ptn. Mehroo Bali
Ptn. Vandana Sinh

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Statistics for last week's meeting

Rotary Club Bombay Members	91
Partners	07
Visiting Rotarians	01
Guests	00
Rotractors	02
Total attendance	101
Community Service Box Collection	₹ 2,140/-