

THE GATEWAY

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



President's Pick

Dear friends,

It isn't often that the Rotary International President Elect comes visiting. And it isn't often that our Club's member is felicitated by the Rotary International president Elect, and that too right here in sunny Mumbai. And so April 6th. was a special day for us. A day when our Trustee and Past President Arvind Jolly was felicitated by Barry Rassin (President Elect R.I.) on his becoming an Arch Klumph Member.

For those who came in late, this is a distinction conferred on a member who has contributed at least USD 2,50,000/- to the movement, and is named after the sixth President of Rotary International. Congratulations to Arvind. He truly is such a fine gentleman and jolly good person (sorry I couldn't resist that pun).

And now let's read what he himself had to say about his special day.



Regards,
Ramesh Narayan



"The experience was most enjoyable and certainly Rashmi and I would have very fond memories of this event for years to come.

Everything was just perfect, there were some initial hiccups but then everything got better and better.

Our District Governor, Prafull Sharma along with our President Ramesh Narayan and Vice President Vijay Jatia worked really hard to make the event very special and memorable.

We were lucky to hold the event in the Ball Room of the Taj Palace. This is India's finest venue. It is not easy to get a confirmation for the Ball room at short notice. It is normally booked months in advance.

The icing on the cake was the presence of RI President Elect Barry Rassin. His presence certainly elevated the event and he spoke beautifully.

Amongst the speakers, were Past RI Director and Trustee, Ashok Mahajan - TRF. Ashok is really wedded to Rotary. He works with missionary zeal.

My induction ceremony was started by RI Director C. Basker. He introduced me so beautifully that my wife felt very proud of me.

Barry was also introduced by RI Director elect Dr. Bharat Pandya. We are so proud that our District Rotarian will be RI Director next year.

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Staying in Tune



The Tuesday meeting began not with a speaker as is typical, but a technical glitch that made the experience of singing the national anthem a little more heroic, for we had to keep in tune without being guided by the backing track.

Today's Speaker **Ameen Sayani**



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Our District Governor Prafull conducted the meeting most ably. He has a natural charm which makes you like him instantly.

Our District Governor Shashi Sharma gave a very lovely Vote of Thanks. He is certainly going to excel next year.

There were others District officials, AKS Members and future AKS Members at this meeting.

And before I forget, I had also my moment in time and was allowed to respond to the honour of being inducted.

Naturally, my wife, Rashmi my son, Arjun and daughter-in-law, Anisha thought I was the best speaker. But then this is family loyalty.

I did feel a little inadequate as compared to our many speakers and audience who have contributed so much of their time and dedication and money to the service of Rotary.

Rashmi and I felt a little guilty that so much money was spent on organising this social event by the District and our Club.

We shall certainly make amends and see that the money spent was a wise investment."



Till the last moment, many were unsure whether or not to assume that the speaker, an Indian actress and United Nations Environment Goodwill Ambassador, had ducked or been delayed. The suspense did make many resort to the assumption that the absentee

had a bad reputation for putting on airs, a trait synonymous with the glitterati. And then, Dia Mirza arrived.

She was ushered to the pulpit within a few seconds of arriving after posing with her much deserved Rotary Club

of Bombay Social Service Award. Dia Mirza thus took the opportunity with the honour it deserved, and we were let on to a very interesting perspective of dealing with the issues that our environment is facing. While she did mention those seemingly age-old statements,



such as, "Health is imperative to all human progress," "Our fundamental right to live is our right to breathe," and "It's imperative that each one of us use our voice to make a change," among others, she could not be blamed because "unfortunately, we have moved far away from nature, and we seem to feel that we can do without it."

However, "an urgent requirement for all human development" according to her begins with concentrating on three key areas. First, "the complete ban of single use plastic." She stressed this key area of change by saying, "The plastic straw that we use for a few minutes, lasts in the environment for five hundred years." This alarming revelation was not offered without a clarification that she wasn't completely against the use of plastic, but, currently, because

we lack the "infrastructure to manage our waste," the harmful raw materials of plastic are polluting our air, water, and soil.

"I haven't seen the sea link clearly since October," alleged Dia Mirza as she attempted to highlight the second key area of improvement. We all have noticed the smog that has settled over the city during the past few months, but "no one is talking about it", instead, Delhiites get a bad reputation for their air pollution levels. The third area of concern is the rapid loss of tree cover, which we have overlooked in a hurried search for what everyone calls urban India. But the environmentalist sweetened this bitter truth by sugar coating it with some nostalgia: "Remember the song from the movie Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi?"

In the song, the director depicted Mumbai in the fifties.



Rtn. Shernaz Vakil introduces the guest speaker - Dia Mirza

Back then "you couldn't see Victoria Terminus because it was covered with trees." The same trees are no more, because somewhere, somehow, we forgot that trees are the natural filters of the air we breathe. So there was a lot of truth in the UN Ambassador's belief that all we really need to do is go back in time, as that was when we were better environmentalists than industrialists.

Then, Dia Mirza requested us to stand up to better enjoy a surprise audiovisual. Although we sang out of tune the first time, the audio helped us sing in tune, and the video gave us a glimpse of all the natural habitats that deserved to be protected. If you couldn't guess, it was simply a version of the national anthem that played without any technical snag.



Rtn. Sabira Merchant asks a question

Felicitation of RI President Elect 2018-19 & AKS Member Induction

By President Elect Rtn. Vijay Jatia

Rotary Club of Bombay was the Host Club to felicitate RI President Elect 2018-19 Barry Rassin. This meeting was primarily to induct our own Rtn. Arvind Jolly as AKS Member, as Arvind did not want to go to the US to get inducted there.

The attendance was about a 100. Our Club was represented by PP Arvind Jolly, PP Pradeep Saxena, PP Sandip Agarwalla, PP Ashish Vaid, PP Nirav Shah and PP Mukesh Batra. Total 31 members and partners were there.

RI President Elect was accompanied by Basker Chockalingam RI Director 17-19. Many of the Past Director Governors and Past AKS and prospective AKS members were present.

The RI President Elect spoke about giving to TRF and how money was being used for Polio eradication and Clean Drinking Water. I was asked to welcome the members. I gave a brief about our Club's projects.

Arvind spoke about his year of Presidency, how at that time his wife, Rashmi would attend

each meeting, although ladies were not welcome at that point of time. He ensured good weekly programs and attendance. It was a fun year. He also mentioned about giving to Rotary Foundation. He would like to dedicate his time, having handed over a lot of responsibility to his son, to run the business, whom he says is doing a better job than himself. He would like to concentrate on playing golf and serving Rotary. He said that he felt truly honoured to be inducted in AKS Club in the midst of family and friends in Mumbai.



Barry Risen, Rashmi and Arvind Jolly, Prafull Sharma, Basker Chockalingam



Arvind and Rashmi Jolly, Vidyottama and Prafull Sharma DG District 3141



Summer Vacation begins for Bhavishya Yaan Students

Summer vacations for bhavishya yaan junior starts with a fun filled day. A small party was organised at G K marg municipal school.

Mr Dolly - a famous magician entertained the children with his magic. Not only that but he ended the show with a very important message for the children - "Always respect your parents, teachers and elders."

The next to follow was dancing to their favourite numbers, during which the children sang and danced and did not want the music to stop!

The children looked cute in their colourful hats and masks and were really thrilled to get their return gifts (ball) donated by a generous donor and volunteer at GK Marg - Mrs. Charu Agrawal.


They were also delighted to get snacks especially lollipops! Thank you Rotary Club of Bombay.



Reliance Foundation Fact Files


“Crop diversification allowed me to provide for a 30-member family.”

- Nanagram Meena, Jamwaramgarh, Rajasthan



With Reliance Foundation support, Nanagram Meena transformed her uncultivable land through levelling, bunding, irrigation and fencing. He recently bought an additional three hectares of land and now earns enough to feed his family.

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

 **Reliance**
Foundation

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



BY Update - GK Marg & Byculla

Eight BY Alumni and students from GK Marg and Byculla BMC schools attended an art workshop at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sanghralay on 7th April. India's leading artist Brinda Miller herself taught these children along with many others who had registered for this workshop from Bombay. She not only generously gave this opportunity to our children but also arranged for their snacks. The children enjoyed playing with colors and light as they made their own beautiful glass paintings.



Flying the flag in Japan

Rotn. Nandan Maluste attended the meeting of the Rotary Club of Tokyo when US Ambassador to Japan was inducted as an Honorary Member of this August Club founded in 1920.

The Indian flag and the RCB flag fluttered proudly. Way to go Nandan.





THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO
SUFI NIGHT
SONGS BY RADHIKA NAYAK SOOD

FRIDAY, 27TH APRIL 2018

AT

DARBAR HALL, ASIATIC LIBRARY

HIGH TEA FROM 6:00PM TO 7:00PM FOLLOWED BY THE PERFORMANCE TILL 8:00PM

HOSTED BY

THE URBAN HERITAGE COMMITTEE

REGISTRATION ₹200 PER PERSON FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR PARTNERS
ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS UPTO 75 PERSONS

GUEST CHARGES ₹2000 PER PERSON

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Forthcoming Events

- **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

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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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Sergeant-at-arms	Roda Billimoria
In-camera	Rekha Tanna

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RCB Clinic - Cotton Green	Manoj Patodia

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Urban Conservation	Rohan Dalal
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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

Dilip Doshi on ethics in both : Cricket & Business



Dilip Rasiklal Doshi is a former Indian cricketer of Gujarati origin who played in 33 Tests and 15 ODIs from 1979 to 1983. Doshi is one of only four Test bowlers that played their first Test after the age of thirty, yet went on to take more than 100 wickets, the other three being Clarrie Grimmett, Saeed Ajmal and Ryan Harris.

Doshi was already in his 30s when he made his test debut (At Chennai, against Australia 11-16 Sep 1979).

Having waited for so long, he didn't waste any time in making his presence felt. With figures of 6/103 & 2/64 he was India's best bowler in the match. He continued to perform well in the series and in the final test match at Bombay, he was one of the heroes of an India victory with figures of 5/43 & 3/60. But perhaps, his greatest joy came, when he took 4/92 at Eden Garden, Calcutta, his (adopted) home town, in front of 70,000 strong crowd.



Birthdays & Anniversary Greetings



Hon. Secretary Rtn. Manish Reshamwala
18th April



Hon. Rtn. Mukesh Ambani
19th April



Rtn. Suresh Agarwal
19th April



Rtn. Vijay Dhawan
20th April



Rtn. Vinod Juneja
20th April



Hon. Rtn. Ravikant Ruia
22nd April



Rtn. Ashwin Ramesh
23rd April

Partners

20th April - Ptn. Pervin Jehangir
Ptn. Rita Sagar
22nd April - Ptn. Bijal Kara
23rd April - Ptn. Preeti Tankha

Anniversaries

17th April - Rtn. Arjun & Ptn. Anisha Jolly
21st April - Rtn. Biswajit & Ptn. Moushumi Chakraborty
Rtn. Trilochan & Ptn. Hanwantbir Sahney
22nd April - Rtn. Tanya & Mr. Sunil Sood
23rd April - Rtn. Ritu Prakash & Mr. Noshir Desai

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Statistics for last week's meeting

Rotary Club Bombay Members	119
Partners	08
Visiting Rotarians	01
Guests	03
Rotractors	02
Total attendance	133
Community Service Box Collection	₹ 2,700/-