

THE GATEWAY



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September 10th, 2023: Sixth Table Tennis Tournament, open to RCB members and family members, at YMCA Colaba at 9 am.

[Details inside.](#)

**Rotary Club
of Bombay**



DISTRICT 3141



Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Bombay
<http://rotaryclubofbombay.org/>

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Rotary Club of Bombay's Anita Parikh Award for Empowerment of Women accepted by Robin Chaurasiya on behalf of Kranti Community Foundation

I wanted to start off with a few questions. Can you raise your hand if you're passionate about social change?

Great.

Raise your hand if you're passionate about human rights.

Raise your hand if you're passionate about women's rights, education, health care, mental health, climate change.

Raise your hand if you wonder if your work is actually going to have an impact in this world. Raise your hand if you wonder about the meaning of success.

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Raise your hand if you wonder sometimes about the purpose of life.

Amazing. Thank you for being so honest. The good news is you're going to have answers to all of these questions by the time I get off the stage.

Imagine you are a 13-year-old girl in a small village in India. Your father is a farmer who has Rs 3 lakh in debt and often talks about suicide. Your mother has TB, and her health is always terrible, so it's your job to take care of your three younger siblings. You've never been to school. When the first marriage proposal comes along at 14, your family agrees, saying it'll be one less mouth to feed. You're married off to a 40-year-old man who is an alcoholic and abusive, and his



Shweta Katti was in Newsweek's 25 under 25 young women to watch list, alongside Malala

first wife recently left him. By the age of 16, you have two children, and you start doing domestic work in order to support those children. At 17, your husband's friend says he has an amazing job lined up for you in the city, so you can go to the big city and earn lots of money, and you will all live happily ever after. So, he takes you to the city, and he sells you to a brothel. For the next several years of your life, you have to sleep with five to 10 men a day while your two children sleep under the bed below you. Please open your eyes.

So, my question for you is, where do you think these children are now, the ones who grew up under the bed? Where are they now? What would we assume? That they're doing sex work, that they might be doing domestic servant jobs, something like that, right?

(On PPT) This is Shweta who, at the age of 18, became the first girl from a red light area ever to study abroad. She won a scholarship to study at Bard College in New York. By 19, she was named a "25 under 25 young women to watch" by Newsweek alongside Malala. At 20, she received a Presidential Scholarship to Semester at SEA, getting to sail on a ship that travelled to 20 different countries. And, at 21, she was given the UN Youth Courage Award. And, in case you haven't noticed, she is here with us today.

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The Sheikh sisters are all studying in universities in the US

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These are the Sheikh sisters, whose mother was trafficked from Bangladesh at the age of 14, and she worked as a bar dancer here in Mumbai for about seven years. These three beautiful, amazing daughters of hers: the one on the right is Farah who is studying to be a nurse in LA; Danish, who is in her final year of her master's programme in Chicago; and Amreen who is 20 and just started university at Gallaudet. She's deaf and mute and is studying in Washington, DC.

These are Mehak and Sumayya, who are 19 and 20. Sumayya just won a scholarship to Atlas SkillTech in BKC where she is on a full scholarship and free room and board. And Mehak is studying theatre outside of Boston.

This is Shraddha who finished 12th a couple of years ago, and since then has done art residencies in Ireland and in The Netherlands. She has also studied in Denmark recently and is going back to Amsterdam to pursue a degree in art.

These are Sandhya and Ashwini who won full scholarships to Ashoka University. They both graduated recently. Sandhya just started a master's at the United Nations University for Peace San José, Costa Rica; and Ashwini, in two weeks, is about to head to Paris to start her master's degree. Ashwini, you want to say hi?



Mehak and Sumayya are pursuing their studies in India and abroad



Shraddha has done art residencies in Ireland and in The Netherlands



Sandhya and Ashwini are studying at the UN University for Peace (Costa Rica) and Paris

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Krantikaaris

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This is Ashi who is studying to become a special needs educator in Philadelphia, and her biggest passion in life is just to take care of special needs children. That's what she wants to dedicate her life to. And this is Kavita, who is about to start a master's in yoga therapy here in Pondicherry.

Now, this isn't all fun and games, and this work isn't always a perfect success story. These photos might look pretty and wonderful, but I've spent a lot of days negotiating with traffickers, a lot of nights being beaten in jail by the police, and I've spent a lot of years burying really young women who deserved a much better life. But, like I said, I'm going to summarise for you what I've learned in 12 years in about five minutes. Ready?

So I think that we think of teachers as, you know, they might be from Harvard Business School, they might be the Prime Minister or the President, but sometimes the people who can teach us the most important lessons in life are just in front of our faces. Or maybe they're in the red light area as well. So let's start with a really easy question first. What does it mean to live a life of purpose?

Helping another person.

Doing something meaningful.

The Dalai Lama says that the purpose of life is to

seek and spread happiness. And if we look closely at what we're doing, this is something that's true of us, it's true of every person in here, it's true of every person and being on this planet. Everyone wants to be happy and nobody wants to suffer. This is something we have in common with cats and dogs and children and adults and Asians and Africans and Americans and everyone around the globe, right? This is something that we have in common with every sex worker. And this is something we have in common with every single Prime Minister on this planet. Everyone wants to be happy.

So, this lesson I've learned from a young woman named Pinky, who was trafficked at the age of nine, came to Kranti at 14, and for many years she struggled with addiction, self-harm, and depression. Despite all those things and her history, the one thing she does at the Kranti home is sit around making people laugh, laughing at herself and making everyone around her laugh. And when I'm having a hard day, I just take a pause and say, like, you know, if Pinky can laugh and smile despite everything, that she's been through, why can't I? Right? Why can't any of us?

Next question. What is a successful life? What

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does success mean? Being in the Guinness Book of World Records, having 10 million dollars, what is success?

Being happy.

What are we pursuing money for? In the hope that it's going to make us happy. What are we pursuing anything for? In the hope that it's going to make us happy. So, the Dalai Lama again says our prime purpose in this life is to help others and this is true success. I'm not saying that we should all endorse or agree with the Dalai Lama's idea of what success is, but I just wanted to share one story about somebody who truly taught me the meaning of success.

Tanya was 12 years old when her mother died, leaving her and her four-year-old sister behind. For the next four years, her stepfather raped her every single day. By the age of 15, she had dropped out of school, had two abortions, and tried to kill herself three times. At age 16, she made the hardest decision of her life, which was to run away from home, leaving her eight-year-old sister behind. Luckily she came to Kranti, where she spent six years pursuing and fulfilling her education, making up for all those years she'd lost, and eventually trained to become a Zumba instructor and a facilitator for different types of workshops. In the past three years, Tanya has worked with over 5,000 children across India,



some with terminal illnesses, some with special needs, and many girls who are orphans. Now she works full-time at an orphanage here in Mumbai in Dharavi and supports 40 girls who are orphans. And you know what Tanya spends all of her salary on? Taking care of and feeding ice-cream and snacks to the kids that she sees begging on the street. Tanya, do you want to stand up?

So, I think that I have truly learned the meaning of success from Tanya. It's not that I'm going to end trafficking in this lifetime. It's not that Tanya is going to be able to feed or take care of every single orphan in Mumbai. And yet it's literally to wake up and give the best that we can give today. We all have something to give. If Tanya has something to give, we all have something to give. And that truly is, to me, the definition of success. You don't have to be a millionaire in order to help people out. You don't have to be the richest person in the world, or you don't have to have a lot of resources in order to be able to help people. And that is what we can measure our success on.

And last question. What is a life of love? This is actually the hardest question. Anyone want to take a stab at that one? What is love?

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Acceptance, lovely. What else?

So, the Dalai Lama says, if you want others to be happy, practice love and compassion. If you want to be happy, practice love and compassion. Right? And this is a lesson that I cannot begin to explain to you how important it is for me and the person from whom I've learned it.

So, I know a woman named Zarina who was trafficked at the age of nine. She was sold when she finally started menstruating. She was auctioned off to somebody for 1000 rupees. Her virginity was sold for 1000 rupees. By the age of 16, she had four children and two of her daughters were actually the first girls at Kranti. Again, going back to who we think of as our teachers, this person taught me the most important lesson I have ever learned in my life. So, Tanya's mother actually had passed away in the red light area and I was travelling at the time. And many of the girls have told me that when a sex worker doesn't have a family, basically her body is just dumped out on the street to be picked up by the BMC, just like a dead dog. And we all realise, right, we're talking about a couple kilometres away from here. This is the reality of how people die.

So, I said to myself, I can't let that happen to Tanya's mother. I'm going to call this woman Zarina. So, I called her and I said, will you please take care of the arrangements, burial, cremation, whatever it may be. Can you just make the arrangements? She called me back and she said some words that I have never, ever, ever forgotten and probably never will in my entire life. She said, Robin, I don't care how many people I have to sleep with, but I promise you that I'm never going to let a woman, a dead sex worker, be tossed on the street like a dog.

I think we can all agree that sex work is not an easy job. And many of us like to think of ourselves as very generous when we hand over five rupees or ten rupees to somebody on the street and we've done our good deed for the day. Now, this is a rhetorical question. Nobody has to answer. Do you have it within you to say that you would sleep with as many strangers as you need to in order to pay for the cremation or burial of somebody you've never met? My answer is no, definitely not. And yet, we're all able to sacrifice ourselves, our bodies, our souls, our beings, our lives for people we love. How many of us could actually sacrifice that for somebody we've never met? And on that note, Zarina, please, hi *bolo*.

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This is Zarina.

So, my biggest question for you is who are your teachers? Who are we looking at to tell us how to lead a beautiful life, how to live a meaningful life or a life of purpose? Are we looking at the people, our neighbours who have better cars than us? Are we looking at people who are on the Forbes' richest list? Who are we looking to, to learn how to be better human beings?

And, as the person before me just spoke so sweetly and kindly and very beautifully about what it means, even in death, that we can still give something to people. There is so much that we always have the ability to give. And yet, what are we spending our time on? Because guess what?

The time is very, very, very limited. For you, for me, for everyone in this room and everyone on this planet, that time is very limited. So, do we want to take businessmen and the richest people of this country or the world as the people that we're striving to be? Or maybe do we have something to learn from a sex worker?

My last couple of questions that I want you to

keep asking yourself all the time is,

Am I living a life of purpose?

How can I be of service right now? It's not a matter of I'm going to do this someday. After I retire, I'm going to do good in the world. There's something you can do today. Right?

And lastly, how can I be more loving or compassionate or kind today than I was yesterday?

If every single day you're able to make a little bit of progress on all of these questions, I guarantee you, you're going to have the best sleep in the world, you're going to be one of the happiest people in the world, and you're going to be one of the most successful people in the world.

(Video plays)

Thank you. I just briefly want to say, on a very, very sad note, we were recently evicted from our home. This is our eighth eviction in the 12 years that we've been working. No matter how pretty everything looks, the moment people find out that these girls are from a red light area, the next day we get an eviction notice. Actually, the first time was when Shweta got that scholarship to New York. It was all over the news. The next

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day, we received an eviction notice. So we have finally decided that we are abandoning our *jaan* (darling) Mumbai and moving to Himachal. For the last 12 years, we've lived in a 1200 square foot home with almost 20 to 25 girls and women living together. And finally, we want to be able to say yes to all the requests that come to us to take in more children, rather than having to say no to everyone all the time. So we have decided we're moving to Himachal. We're buying a house. And I'm looking at doing about Rs 1 crore of fundraising. So I would absolutely, if anyone wants to speak to me about this afterwards, I would really, really appreciate it.

I wish I didn't have to end on such a depressing note. But thank you, guys, everyone, for the incredible work that Rotary does and for being a part of this incredible organisation. Thank you.

ROTARIANS ASK

Can you talk a little more on how you got involved in this uplifting saving of souls.

It wasn't uplifting, it's my own stupidity that I decided, at the age of 25, that I was going to

change the world and then reality hit eventually. I was born and raised in the US and the first few years of my career were in the US Air Force. I was a captain in the Air Force and I woke up every day wondering why I'm doing this work. And this was especially during the time of Iraq and a lot of self-questioning and self-doubting.

For any human, the idea of waking up and being part of a machine that is designed for nothing other than killing people kind of takes a toll on you sooner or later. I had already spent a lot of time volunteering with different organisations, women's rights, girls' education, things like that. And the joy that I got from doing that was so contradictory to the difficulty with which I did my normal job. I knew that somehow, eventually, I wanted to end up in this full time. And so all these things that I'm saying, it's not just a matter of, oh, I'm, *gyan de rahi hoon*, it's not like that. I've literally done that whole... I had a Mustang convertible when I was 22 years old. I've done it all, been there, done that, seen it and experienced it and realised true happiness is not, it wasn't from the Mustang, that's for sure.



TUESDAYS WITH THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



RCB hosts second Bridge Tournament

It has been a long-held view that bridge should get included in the annual calendar of sports events conducted by RCB. The Second Bridge Tournament was held on August 26th, 2023, at the Royal Bombay Yacht Club. Encouraged by Trustee PP Arun Sanghi, a very willing Sports Committee Chairman Rtn. Moy Biswas, and President Manoj Patodia decided that bridge should be the first event to kick off the activities of the committee. This year the event was organised by Rtn. Dr. Mehernosh Dotivala under the leadership of Chairman Moy.

A short survey had been carried out amongst RCB members earlier this Rotary year to note the sports interests of the members. As the number of members who put down bridge was high, it was decided during the planning stage itself to incubate bridge in RCB in the format of a sports plus fellowship event and was called “Bridge over Brunch” as an apt title for this event.

7 pairs played on four tables for approximately two hours. The invitation was extended to RCB partners, parents, and RC Queens Necklace. The game was conducted by professional organisers from Bridge Pathshala led by their Principal Ravi Raman, Director was Mr. Daxindas and scorer was Vishwanath. They laid out the tables and the following pairs participated:

Trustee PP Arun Sanghi / Rtn. Ptn. Vinita Sanghi - RCB
Rtn. Pradeep Chinai / Rtn. Ptn. Irma Chinai - RCB
Rtn. Dr. Mehernosh Dotivala / PE Satyan Israni - RCB
Rtn. Shyam Somani / Rtn. Ptn. Swati Mayekar - RCB
Rtn. Akshya Mehta / Rtn. Ptn. Mona Mehta - RCQN
Rtn. Amit Dalal / Rtn. Ptn. Saurin Shah - RCQN
Rtn. Zarna Shah / Rtn. Ptn. Sonal Jhaveri - RCQN

President Manoj invited Chief Guest First Lady Nandita Patodia and Rtn. Moy to say a few words before the prize distribution ceremony started.



Arun Sanghi / Vinita Sanghi were announced the winning pair and Amit Dalal (Defending Winner) / Saurin Shah was declared the runners up.

After the prize distribution, the fellowship event was enjoyed by everyone over drinks and finger foods. Everyone agreed that this event should find a permanent place on the annual RCB calendar.

Rotary Club
of Bombay



SPORTS COMMITTEE OF ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

PRESENTS

6th Table Tennis

Tournament

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RCB members revel at Parsi Nite



The Rotary Club of Bombay held its annual Parsi Nite on August 25th, 2023. It was a lovely evening organised in Parsi style at a new venue, Beaumonde Towers at Prabhadevi, and was attended by over a hundred Rotarians and their partners dressed in Parsi attire.

A traditional Parsi toran greeted guests at the entrance. The evening commenced with cocktails and delicious appetizers with lovely retro music. Some of our Rotarians enthusiastically sang nostalgic old songs which were enjoyed by all. The attendees enjoyed traditional Parsi dishes including Patra ni macchi, Salli chicken, Mutton pulao, Lagan nu custard and more. The vegetarians were delighted to partake the vegetarian food specially arranged for them.



President Manoj Patodia wished all our Parsi Rotarian friends a happy new year. He thanked the Fellowship Committee for organising Parsi Nite and the attendees for their enthusiastic participation. A special thanks was given to Rtn. Anar Shah and Rtn. Ptn. Avaan Vakharia for spearheading the arrangements and to PP Fali Mehta and Rtn. Khurshed Poonawala for lending their support as well as to Rtn. Pradeep Gupta for facilitating the fellowship at his building clubhouse.





The Transformative Power of Remembrance

One of the most helpful things we can do for someone who is grieving is to stay in touch. It often happens that within a week following the funeral, people have forgotten about the bereaved, or have forgotten that the person left behind is still in a lot of pain. Remember to give a friend who is in mourning a call each day. Ask “How are you doing today? What are you feeling?” and allow her or him to tell you, or else to say nothing. We can be of great comfort to grieving hearts simply by lending an ear and allowing those who are bereft to express just how much they hurt.

We can find solace in reminiscing about those whom we have lost, in recounting the stories that best characterise them, in laughing at the humorous moments we have shared. By sharing such stories, we keep our memories of our loved ones alive and remind ourselves of the ways our lives have been touched by theirs. In West Africa it is believed that the deceased continue to live for as long as there is someone to call

their names. By allowing a small spark of our loved one’s spirit to live on in us, they remain with us still.

Our lives are full of separations that shake us up, force us to attend to our emotional selves and to learn new ways of being in the world... It may sometimes seem as if our baptisms are all of fire, but in the fire we forge new strengths. Though we sometimes despair, the wakes we plan for ourselves are always premature. Time and again we emerge from this chrysalis changed, remade, born again.

This is the pattern for all life, the end of each journey marking the beginning of new and different ones. Have faith. When those who are dear to us make their transitions, when we ourselves approach with trepidation that threshold of infinity, know that their lives and ours are cared for by a power greater than any pain.

By Susan L. Taylor

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Keeping an eye on eye donation

Rtn. Dr. Nishita Agarwala took the stage last Tuesday to address a crucial issue – eye donation. In an afternoon gathering, she highlighted the significance of eye donation and the urgent need for increased awareness and participation in this noble cause.

“Good afternoon, everyone. I’m here today to sensitise all our Rotarians about eye donation,” Dr. Nishita began. She pointed out a nationwide awareness campaign until September 8th, 2023, dedicated solely to promoting eye donation. She added that the cornea, the watch glass-like front part of the eye, can be donated to potentially gift sight to four individuals in need.

Dr. Nishita stressed the simplicity of the process: “You just need to be aware that eye donation is possible and then also inform the eye bank.” She emphasised that anyone can be a donor, and the impact of a single donation can extend far beyond the donor’s lifetime.

Explaining the significance of timely donations, Dr. Nishita mentioned the restoration of transparency through transplant surgery, allowing patients to regain their sight. She provided insight into the time-frame within which donations should take place – within six hours of a person’s passing. Practical advice followed, including the importance of closing the deceased’s eyes, elevating the head, and creating a suitable environment for preservation.

Clearing misconceptions, Dr. Nishita assured that eye donation does not disfigure the face and is performed with aesthetics in mind. The procedure takes about 20 minutes and is carried out after death. The collected eyes are sent to eye banks for thorough processing and evaluation before being used for transplant purposes.

The urgency of awareness stems from the gap between supply and demand. Dr. Nishita highlighted the staggering numbers: “Though



we require more than 1 lakh eye donations every year, we get only 50,000.” She pointed out that the number of donations needed is on the rise, and only a fraction of the donated eyes are viable for transplantation, particularly noting the significance for children in need.

Dr. Nishita concluded by sharing essential messages for individuals to embrace during their lifetime. “When you’re well and healthy, you need to talk about this desire to donate with your family,” she advised. Such discussions can ensure that, in the event of a loved one’s passing, their wishes are respected.

In the spirit of community support, Dr. Nishita urged everyone to remind their relatives about the potential of eye donation during times of grief. “This gift of sight can occur at the time of death,” she emphasised, while underscoring the impact of collective Rotarian efforts to combat corneal blindness.

Dr. Nishita talk shed light on the immense positive change that eye donation can bring to individuals and their families, fostering hope in the quest for greater awareness and participation in this noble cause.

WithAarya joins RCB at Dharamshala

In March 2023, RCB inaugurated the HDFC-TMC Dharamshala in Parel. This new initiative is to provide temporary residential accommodation to the out-station cancer patients who are being treated at Tata Memorial Hospital. The project was CSR-funded by HDFC Asset Management Company. This facility is under an MOU for 10 years with operating role for RCB. The allocation of these 1-BHK Flats in the MHADA building is done by TMH.

Last week, RCB joined hands with an NGO called “WithAarya” founded by Ms. Shital Bhatkar and Mr. Vikrant Bhatkar in the memory of their deceased seven-year-old son Aarya Bhatkar.

WithAarya, the NGO, started providing breakfasts at Dharamshala to the patients and their attendants from last week. No cost is charged to the inmates of the flat or RCB. The breakfast menu is simple and suitable for patients.

Withaarya supports children, patients and families suffering from various illnesses. One of their initiatives started in 2016, Don Ghaas, literally means “two morsels”. They began with a modest distribution of 50 meals a day outside KEM hospital in Mumbai and have grown tremendously ever since, currently touching 1200 meals a day. Currently they are serving in civil hospitals in five different cities. (www.withaarya.ngo)

RCB looks forward to more pro-bono associations with other NGOs that are dedicated to helping and counselling recovering patients and their families.



Ananda Yaan: Bringing joy to elders



Ananda Yaan came into existence in 2018 with a simple goal – to bring happiness to underprivileged elders in central Mumbai during the later stages of their lives. In a city where space is a luxury, these elders often end up spending their time on the streets due to cramped accommodations.

The project commenced with a single centre catering to around 80 elders in Byculla. A rented shed was refurbished, and a nearby toilet was renovated with the support of Rotary Club of Bombay and Rtn. Arin Master. The collaboration with Dignity Foundation led to the creation of a daily programme for the elders, featuring activities like yoga, antakshari, and birthday celebrations.



Zumba was introduced and received enthusiastically by the elders, adding a new dimension to their lives.

Anand Seva encouraged Rotarians, friends, and family to celebrate special occasions by treating the elders to meals, picnics, or trips. The program expanded from one centre to two more at Dr. E. Moses Road in Mazagaon.



The younger generation of Rotaractors organised an annual sports day for the elders, promoting intergenerational connections. A successful musical show at YB Chavan, featuring both elders and professional singers, showcased their talents. Regular health checkups and cataract surgeries are organised to ensure the well-being of the participants.

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Ananda Yaan has received appreciation from various quarters. Celebrities such as Shankar Mahadevan and actors Neena Joshi and Mansi Salve have extended their support. The initiative has also gained media attention through videos, advertisements, and articles in leading newspapers. Two films on AY have been telecast on national television with the logos.

The impact assessment conducted by RCB highlights the success of the programme. Rotarians and community members are encouraged to visit the centres and contribute to Ananda Seva witnessing, firsthand, the positive impact on the elders' lives. Ananda Yaan stands as an embodiment of the Rotary spirit – promoting community welfare, member involvement, and positive public image.



AY celebrates rakhi



Our members strengthen their sisterhood and friendship with the rakhi festival.

On August 29th, 2023, we conducted a rakhi-making activity at all three of our Ananda Yaan centres. This wonderful event was led by Ms. Sheetal Rane, a dedicated member of our project partners, Dignity Foundation.

The event was a remarkable success, with 210 participants across our three AY centres. It was heartening to witness the enthusiasm and creativity that our elderly members brought to the activity. They crafted beautiful rakhis with great care and attention to detail, showcasing their talent and artistic flair.

The Ananda Yaan Committee of RCB would like to extend our gratitude to Ms. Sheetal Rane for her dedication in organising this event. Her commitment to enhancing the lives of our elderly members is truly commendable.

Positivity through bhajan and storytelling



In a heartwarming event, Ms. Mani Mulla, an 80-year-old with a profound love for bhajans (devotional songs) and storytelling, conducted a special session for the elderly residents of three of our centres on August 28th, 2023.

The programme drew an impressive attendance with 55 participants at Dr. E. Moses Road, 74 at Byculla, and 62 at Mazagaon. Ms. Mani Mulla's session was not just a gathering but a transformative experience that radiated positivity and helped our elders relax.

Melodies of enchanting bhajans filled the air as Ms. Mani Mulla led the participants through a spiritual journey. With her soothing voice, she transported everyone to an inner world of tranquillity and peace. The participants joined

in, their voices blending harmoniously, creating an atmosphere of unity and serenity. Through bhajans, Ms. Mani Mulla allowed our elders to connect with their spiritual roots, providing them with a sense of purpose and belonging.

After the devotional songs, Ms. Mani Mulla transitioned into storytelling. Her stories were not just tales; they were windows into the rich tapestry of life experiences she had gathered over eight decades. The stories ranged from charming anecdotes of her own life to timeless fables that imparted valuable life lessons. As she spoke, the elders were captivated by her wisdom and storytelling prowess. Each story resonated with the audience, offering comfort, laughter, and insight.

Thank You

Rotary Club of Bombay
thanks Rtn. Priyasri Patodia &
Rtn. Ptn. Rajiv Lunkad for
donating lights for the Rotary
office.



'PAWSCUE' for stray dog safety and welfare

In a heartwarming endeavour to prioritise the well-being of stray animals, the 'PAWSCUE' project emerged as a beacon of compassion on Mumbai's streets. On August 20th, 2023, at precisely 1 pm, volunteers and animal enthusiasts gathered at Andheri Station to initiate a project that promised transformative impact for the city's four-legged inhabitants.

The project's core objective was to equip stray dogs with reflective collars, minimising accident risks, especially during darker hours. Partnering with the NGO 'Paws Hunger,' the initiative was orchestrated by RCB. Stray dogs, often overlooked, took centre stage as volunteers spread across diverse neighbourhoods, distributing over 320 reflective collars. These collars did more than enhance visibility; they stood as symbols of empathy and duty. As dusk settled, the reflective collars emitted a reassuring glow, underscoring the shared responsibility to care for these innocent lives.

Collaboration was at the project's heart, uniting volunteers, feeders, and dedicated teams of Rotaractors from Atlas SkillTech and RC of Bombay West. Positioned strategically across the city, Khar West, Santa Cruz East, Vile Parle, Dadar, Goregaon, Malad, Andheri, and Kandivali West all bore witness to the transformative prowess of 'PAWSCUE.'

Thorough groundwork led to data collection from enthusiastic feeders and volunteers, ensuring precise distribution. Training sessions equipped volunteers with insights into the collar drive's purpose and significance.

The community's response was overwhelming. Residents overflowed with gratitude for the initiative's compassion and dedication. Ms. Komal, a feeder from Goregaon East, commended the project, underscoring the fulfilment it brought. Ms. Kalpana, a resident, hailed the initiative's brilliance, spotlighting the community's unity for these furry companions' well-being.



In a world where urbanisation often casts a shadow over animals, 'PAWSCUE' emerges as a ray of hope. It stands as a testament that even the smallest act of kindness can set off waves of change. This initiative safeguards lives while nurturing empathy, marking a brighter path forward for both humans and their four-legged companions.

Fazlani L'Academie takes a BY session on social media ethics



The third session of a six-part educational series for students of Fazlani L'Academie Global International School was held at NMJ Bhavishya Yaan on August 26th, 2023. While the first topic had been 'Etiquette,' and the second 'Nutrition and Emotional Eating,' the third was social media ethics.



About 70 students from classes 7 to 10 attended the workshop.

Students were cautioned about the frauds on social media and how can prevent them by being aware of them.

They were told the difference between disinformation (spreads knowingly) and misinformation (spread unknowingly).



They were also told about the different forms of fake news like manipulative, damaging false content, imposter content etc.

They were also made aware about the consequences of spreading such fake news.

The session concluded with an activity where students created their own news from old newspapers and presented them. They enjoyed creating their posters based on the different types of frauds on social media.



It was an excellent session with a lot of learning for our students.

IWA has children's day in

27 students – 15 boys and 12 girls of the Garden School visited IWA Clinic for a medical camp on August 25th, 2023.



RCB's Lighthouse Project began its year with the supermarket role play which has emerged as one of the best ways to incorporate dramatic play.

Our fresh batch of junior KG and senior KG children enjoyed touching all the real fruits and vegetables.

We noticed that they were able to name fruits and vegetables in English as it had been done in class. Other household items were named in Hindi, though.

But they named the other household items in Hindi. Hence, it was a great way to reinforce all the names of pulses, dairy products, and household items in English.

The 1st and 2nd standard students were thrilled to receive money to shop and quickly took their shopping bags to get going! They patiently waited in queue to bill their products and were very disappointed when the products were taken back.

But the fruit salad treat for all our children made them smile. We discovered that pineapple is a common favourite!

Lighthouse kids go shopping



IWA

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Xray: Every day: 10am to 6pm

Paediatric: Monday: 11am to 1pm

Homeopathy: Thursday:
2.30pm to 4.30pm

Skin: Tuesday & Friday:
10.30am to 11.30am

Gynaecology: Tuesday:
12pm to 2pm

Senior Medical Consultant:
Once a month: 2.30pm

Pathology: Tuesday & Friday:
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ON SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2023



Nachiket Barve, a National Award-winning fashion and costume designer:

Nachiket is known for his eponymous label known for its work with Indian craftsmanship and global design influences. Nachiket draws ideas from various cultures across the world and infuses his work with the spirit of his inspiration.

He is an alumnus of the prestigious National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad. He was the only student to be awarded a scholarship by the French Government to study at ENSAD, Paris. Nachiket has worked with the LVMH group during his stint in Paris.

He has been awarded the Young Entrepreneur Award by the British Council, as well the Woolmark Prize for the Asia and Middle East region and a global finalist. His label has also been featured in top fashion publications as well as the Italian book "Contemporary Indian Fashion."

Rotarian Member Birthdays



SEPTEMBER 7

Rtn. Mudit Jatia



SEPTEMBER 8

Rtn. Devinder Thukral



SEPTEMBER 8

Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia



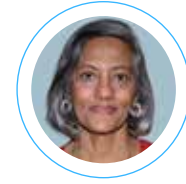
SEPTEMBER 9

PP Paul George



SEPTEMBER 9

Rtn. Ashok Jatia



SEPTEMBER 9

Rtn. Kanta Masand

Rotarian Partner Birthdays

SEPTEMBER 5

Rtn. Ptn. Falguni Padode

SEPTEMBER 7

Rtn. Ptn. Percy Master

SEPTEMBER 8

Rtn. Ptn. Priti Shah

SEPTEMBER 9

Rtn. Ptn. Shobha Jagtiani

SEPTEMBER 10

Rtn. Ptn. Swati Mahansaria

Anniversary

SEPTEMBER 10

Rtn. Ptn. Sheila and PP Gul Kripalani



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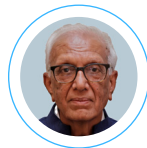
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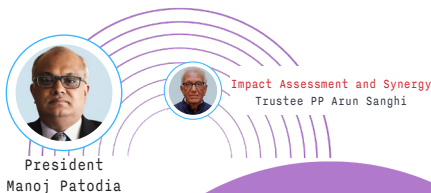
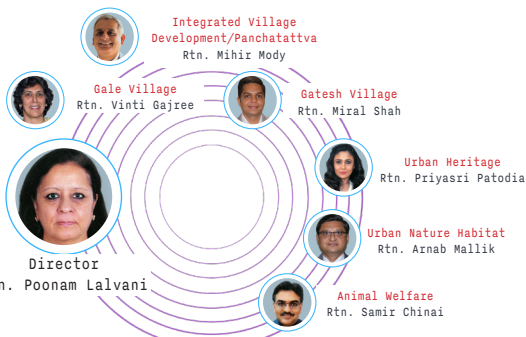
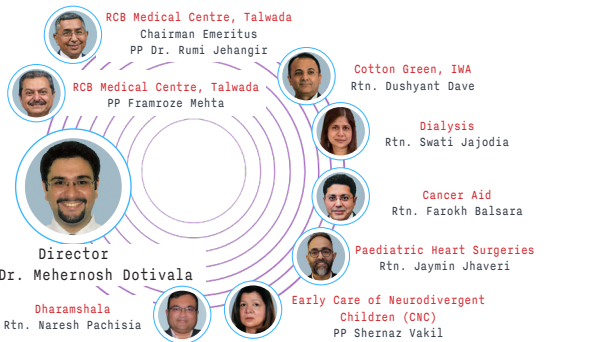
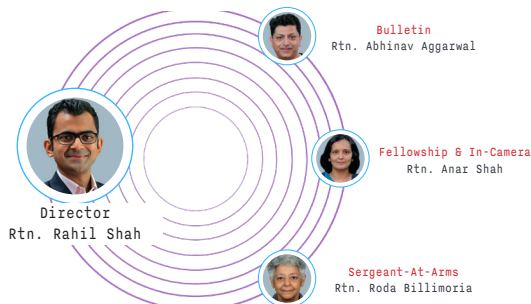
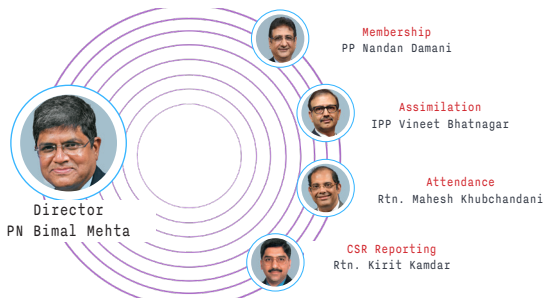
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Bhatnagar



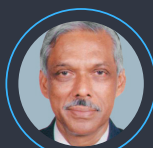
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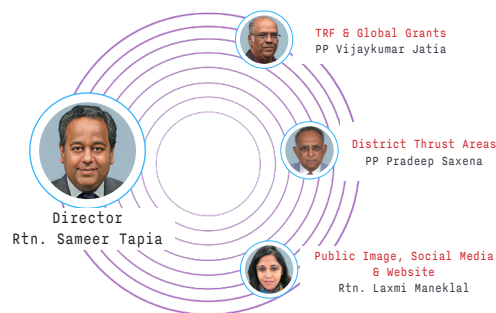
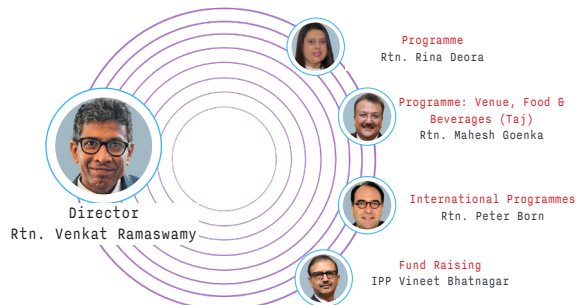
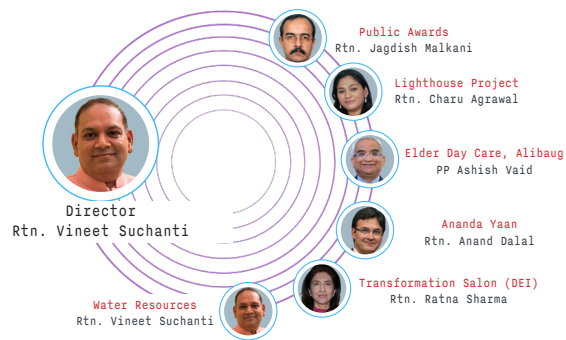
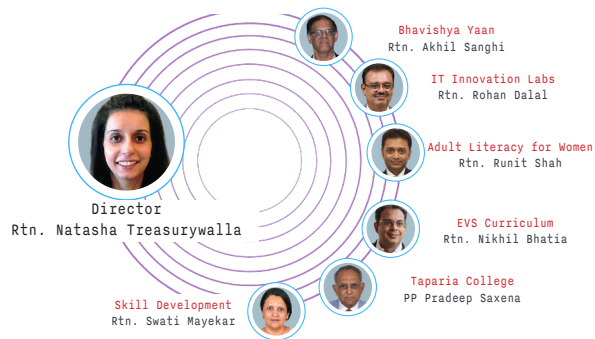
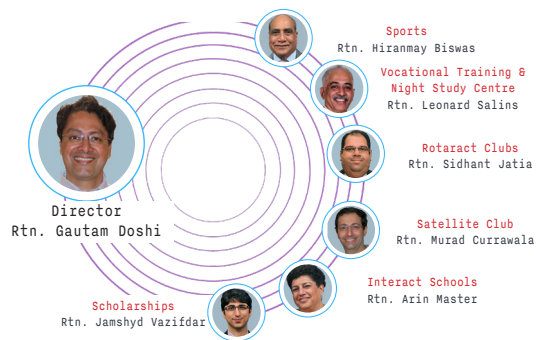
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