

The Gateway



BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

VOLUME 66, ISSUE NO. 12, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024
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THIS TUESDAY

PP Dr. Mukesh Batra
& Dr. Akshay Batra
on homoeopathy in a
modern world

COMING UP

September 28th, 2024
Inauguration of RCB's
Rotary Peace Grove at
11 am by Chief Guest
PRIP Mark Maloney at
the Rotary-HDFC Bio-
Diversity Park, Kalina.
Details Inside

October 1st, 2024
A fireside chat with
brand and design
evangelist Lulu
Raghavan on her book
Go Further, Faster:
Shaping a Life That
Matters.

October 8th, 2024
Evening meeting:
Shiamak Davar
awardee Rotary Club
of Bombay Kalpana
Sham Munshi Lifetime
Achievement Award in
Performing Arts.

October 15th, 2024
Tuesday speaker
Boman Irani,
Rustomjee Builders,
Chairman and
Managing Director.

Ms. Anupama Chopra in conversation with Samira Sood on the evolution of Indian cinema, the nature of film criticism, the changing landscape post-COVID, and her thoughts on inclusivity and diversity in storytelling



Evolution of Hindi Cinema:

Anupama Chopra: “When I started in the early '90s, the old rule was that mainstream cinema was very formulaic – we all knew what it was. It was driven by stars and songs, with a mix of elements like the love angle, the family angle, and the sacrificing mother trope. We all knew these things would be in a film.”

“Things started to change around 1993-1994-1995. Of course, you had Shah Rukh Khan coming in and doing these roles in *Darr* and *Baazigar* where the hero wasn't really heroic at all. Then you had a generational shift with Sooraj Barjatya, Aditya Chopra, and Karan Johar, and suddenly it was all about young people. It was amazing because, prior to that, men – mostly men – dominated film sets. When I started, there were very few women. You would assist a director for 15 years before becoming a director yourself. But these kids came in with their legacy and made their own films, which were all massive blockbusters, and they changed the rules of the game.”

“In the early 2000s, you saw the influx of so-called

“outsiders” – I'm talking about filmmakers here. You had Anurag Kashyap, Dibakar Banerjee, and others who came in with a worldview drastically different from what Karan, Aditya, and Sooraj were doing.”

“Now we live in a fascinating place. What has happened over the last five to seven years, especially post-pandemic and post-*Baahubali*, is that we are genuinely talking about Indian cinema, not just Hindi cinema, which is wonderful to me as a journalist and a film critic because there's so much cross-pollination now. For instance, today at 3 p.m., there's a massive trailer launch for *Devara: Part One* with Junior NTR, Janhvi Kapoor, and Saif Ali Khan. It's this whole idea of the best talent from across the country collaborating to create exciting things, which raises the bar for everyone.

“We live in exciting times. It's not always obvious when you see so much mediocrity, but part of my job is to keep my passion alive – and I do every Friday. I go into the theatre saying, “This one's going to kill it.” I have to – I can't get cynical about it. But these are good times. Great times.

RCB ONLINE:



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Nature of Film Criticism:

"Film criticism should be a conversation. We should hear back from the people we write for. They should tell us, 'You're talking nonsense,' or 'You have no insight into this film.'"

"Everyone assumes we hate movies. People are like, 'What is your problem? You don't like anything.' I'm like, 'Guys, I've done this for 30 years, which means I love it.' I do not go into a theatre wanting to find faults. I go in wanting to have the best time of my life, and I'm like a regular consumer – I've just watched a lot more, maybe, but that's about it."

"So, this idea that critics are curmudgeons who don't want anyone to have fun or will hate anything that's interesting is not accurate. For example, there was this whole public interaction when the first *Avengers* film came out. A. O. Scott, who's a brilliant critic with *The New York Times* (he's no longer a film critic now, I think he writes about books), didn't love the film. Samuel L. Jackson posted on Twitter and, of course, the movie was a blockbuster, but he tweeted something like, 'Let's find A. O. Scott a job that he can actually do.' And then, of course, the fan armies went after him. But the truth is, we love the movies, and we're here because we love the movies."

Instant Reactions and Social Media:

"I'm really not a fan of the interval review. I've watched the first half; it's good, we'll see about the second half. I think that's just not fair to the filmmaker... At least give it the respect and let it marinate in your head for a while before declaring whether it's good or bad."



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Film Education and Imposter Syndrome:

"I think there's always some imposter syndrome where you're just like, 'Do I know enough?'"

"I didn't do film studies... I always wonder — would my range of references have been broader? Would I have seen more international cinema?"

Critiquing with Warmth:

"When you live with a filmmaker, you understand how much work it takes. Nobody sets out to make a bad film, and even a bad film is so laborious... I come from a place of great love and respect."

"Negativity attracts a lot more attention... But that's not the place I operate from."

Post-COVID Film Landscape:

"Stars still have an outsized influence on what happens. Films don't run solely because of stars... If the story or something in the film doesn't resonate with people, it won't work."

"OTT has given writers a fantastic platform... But I still don't think enough people in the Hindi film industry are placing enough importance on a truly good script."

Event Films and Variety:

"I love big films — I will go and scream for Pathaan. But that shouldn't be the only type of film we have... People are too insecure about the middle-of-the-road films."

"We're not making event films around women... I really want there to be more variety in the films we see, not just one kind of movie."

Female Actors and OTT Platforms:

"Female actors are definitely taking the risks... Especially because of OTT, I feel women — and particularly women of a certain age — are thriving."

"Look at incredible actors like Kajol or Madhuri Dixit and many others, who frankly, Hindi cinema didn't know what to do with... They have all found amazing roles and careers on streaming platforms."

Samira Sood: "Social media is becoming such a huge part of film critique now. People post live reviews and they keep sharing box office numbers as though that should be a factor in whether someone should watch a film or not. There are Twitter wars over which film made 400 crores and which made 1,000 crores. But very few people are actually talking about whether it's a good film."





Rtn. Rajyalakshmi Rao was recently honoured with the prestigious Global Gandhi Award during the International Convention on Good Governance held at the House of Lords in London. The award ceremony was followed by a sit-down lunch, and the award was presented by Lord German OBE. This recognition highlights her contributions to governance and social justice.

Rtn. Rajyalakshmi is the Immediate Past National President of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce and has previously served as a member judge at the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission. She is also the author of the widely acclaimed book *Consumer is King* and the Founder Chairperson of AIDFW (Deaf Women), demonstrating her dedication to consumer rights and advocacy for marginalised communities.

Congratulations to Rtn. Rajyalakshmi Rao on this well-deserved honour!

Throwback TUESDAY



Postcard from a memorable visit to Bhutan by members of the Rotary Club of Bombay!

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TUESDAY MEETINGS AT ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



Rtn. Rhea Bhungara, President Satyan Israni, Anupama Chopra, Rtn. Rina Deora and Samira Sood



Rotarians ARRFC and PDG Sandip Agarwalla and Manjeet Kripalani



Rotarians Akhil Sanghi, Rhea Bhungara and President Satyan Israni



Rotarians Miral Shah and PN Manish Reshamwala



Rotarians Mohit Jain, PN Manish Reshamwala and PP Ramesh Narayan



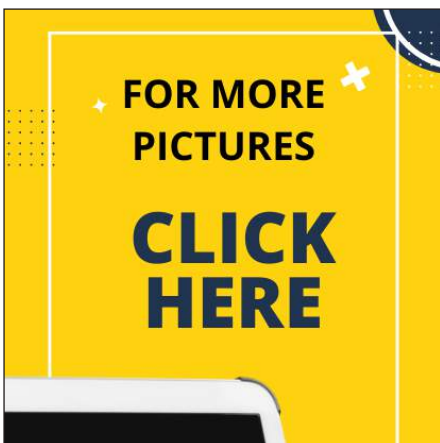
Rotarians Nikhil Sanghai, Naresh Pachisia and Rajan Gupta



Rotarians Sameer Kanodia, Anirudh Chowdhury, Sushil Chandiramani and Dr. Rajiv Agarwal



Rotarians Siddharth Bhimrajka and Uday Sanghani



Rotarians Pashupati Advani, Aziz Javeri, Sameer Tapia, Rajan Gupta, Sushil Chandiramani, KasimAli Merchant, PN Manish Reshamwala, PP Ramesh Narayan and Hursh Meghani



President Satyan, Rtn. Rina Deora, Rtn. Farhat Jamal, Anupama Chopra, Samira Sood and Rtn. Ptn. Aruna Jagtiani



President Satyan wishes Rtn. Aziz Javeri, Rtn. Khurshed Poonawala, Rtn. Meher Vakil, Rtn. Mihir Mody, Rtn. Rina Deora, Rtn. Shyamniwas Somani, and Rtn. Suresh Jagtiani a happy birthday

President Satyan thanks Anupama Chopra for spending time with us

Rotary
Club of Bombay
Celebrating 95 Years of Service



DISTRICT 3141

Rtn. Satyan Israni, President

PDG Rtn. Sandip Agarwalla

R/Ann Avaan Vakharia, Curator

And the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Bombay

Cordially invite you to the inauguration of the

Rotary Peace Grove

on Saturday, 28th September, 2024, at 11 am

By TRF Trustee Chair PRIP Mark Maloney



PRIP Mark Daniel Maloney
Trustee Chair, TRF
Chief Guest



PRID Bharat S. Pandya
Trustee, TRF
Guest of Honour



DG Chetan Desai
Dist 3141 (24-25)
Guest of Honour

At the Rotary-HDFC Bio-Diversity Park
University of Mumbai, Vidya Nagari, Kalina,
Santacruz East, Mumbai, 400098.

Program duration: 1 hour followed by refreshments

RSVP: Ms. Tanvi 9773372002



Rotarians visit an immersive exhibition on Ramkrishna Bajaj

The Rotary Club of Bombay's visit to the "Freedom to Progress" exhibition at the Kamalnayan Bajaj Hall & Art Gallery on September 14th, 2024, was an unforgettable adventure!

They embarked on an immersive journey that recreated the spirit of India from Independence to economic reforms of 1990s, through the legacy of Ramkrishna Bajaj. Interactive exhibits, rare artifacts, and personal stories sparked nostalgia and awe, transporting members back in time.

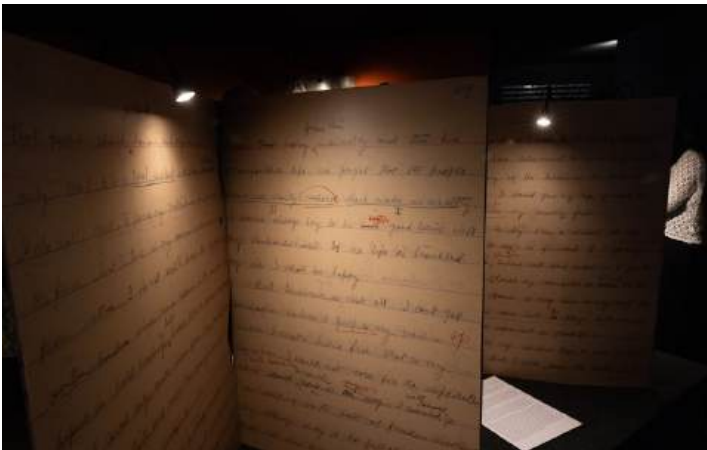
Handwritten letters, vintage school essays, antique cameras, an original charkha, hand-spun khadi saree, and retro-coloured postal stamps were just a few of the treasures on display. The uniquely crafted audio pieces elevated the showcase, making it a truly unforgettable experience.

But that wasn't all! Members got hands-on, trying their hand at spinning khadi yarn on a 'peti-charkha', reliving Gandhi's vision of self-sufficiency. They wrote postcards to loved ones, recreating the nostalgia of old-school communication, and even took home custom stamp of themselves as souvenirs.

Club members were thoroughly impressed with the exhibition, praising its world-class compilation and display. Many plan to revisit with their families, sharing India's inspiring story with loved ones.

The eventful morning concluded on a high note with a hearty lunch and lively conversations among Rotary Club of Bombay members as they relived the highlights of their immersive experience. Laughter, stories, and memories filled the air, making it a truly unforgettable day!







ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY DIALYSIS CENTRES

Sr.No.	Centre / Location	Address	No. of Machines	Charges for Poor Patients
1	Aastha Hospital, Manor	First Floor, Rais Arcade, Palghar-Wada Road, Manor District Palghar 401403	3	Free
2	Platinum Hospital, Mulund	Neptune Colorscape, Dumping Rd, Siddharth Nagar, Mulund West, Mumbai 400080	2	Free
3	Sukh Sagar Hospital, Dahisar (Rotary Dialysis Centre)	Lokmanya Tilak Rd, Mhatre Wadi, Dahisar West, Mumbai 400068	2	800
4	Shatabdi Hospital, Govandi (Rehbar Foundation)	Rehbar Foundation Malik Rakia Khatoon Dialysis Centre, 1st Flr. Shatabdi Hospital, Centenary Building, WTP Marg, Deonar, Govandi East, Mumbai 400088	3	Free
5	Shatabdi Hospital, Kandivali	Swami Vivekananda Rd, Kandivali, Fateh Baug, Kandivali West, Mumbai 400067	2	Free
6	Samarpan Dialysis & Thalassaemia Centre, Ghatkopar	Aaradhya Edu-Health Centre, , H-wing, 3rd Flr., Aaradya One Earth, Naidu Colony, Pant Nagar, Ghatkopar East, Mumbai 400077	14	300
7	Lifeline Medicare Hospital, Charkop	Near Rustomjee Meridian, Charkop Gaon / Village, Kandivali West, Mumbai, 400067	15	300
8	Dr. M.L. Dhawale Memorial Trust Hospital, Palghar	Boisar Rd, Opp. S.T Workshop, Industrial Co-Op Estate, Palghar 401404	2	250
9	K.J. Somaiya Hospital & Research Centre, Sion, Mumbai	Somaiya Ayurvihar, Eastern Express Hwy, Sion East, Mumbai 400022	10	Free
10	Acharya Shri Ramesh Dialysis Centre, Andheri East, Mumbai	316 B-Wing, Dattani Plaza, near Safed Pool, Sakinaka, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri(East), Mumbai 400072	10	Free
11	Mallika Hospital, Jogeshwari	Sharma Estate, S V Road, Jogeshwari west, Mumbai Maharashtra 400102	4	Free
12	Symbiosis University Hospital & Research Centre, Pune	Pune Dnyan Marg, Mulshi Rd, Lavale, Maharashtra 412115	8	Free
13	Swami Shraddhanand Hospital, Vasai	Near Shankaracharya Samadhi Mandir Navale, Nirmal, Vasai (W, Vasai-Virar, Maharashtra 401304	6	Free

To know more reach out to:

Rtn. Swati Jajodia +91 9821028587 swati@spentose.com



MONTHLY PATIENT COUNT

Name of the Committee: Dialysis

Director: Rtn. Renu Basu

Committee chair/co-chair: Rtn. Swati Jajodia/ PP Vijay Jatia

Patients treated		Aug-24
Dialysis	Platinum Hospital, Mulund	8
	Aastha Hospital, Manor	17
	Sukh Sagar Hospital, Dahisar	20
	Shatabdi Hospital, Govandi	98
	Shatabdi Hospital, Kandivali	18
	Samarpan, Ghatkopar	77
	Lifeline Medicare Hospital Charkop	45
	Dr.M.L.Dhawale Memorial Trust Hosp. Palghar	27
	K.J. Somaiya Hospital & Research Centre, Sion	38
	Acharya Shri Ramesh Dialysis Centre, Andheri E	57
	Rotary Yoda Dialysis Centre, Symbiosis Hospital	100
	Swami Shraddhanand Hospital, Vasai West	53
	Total	558



Members, please note that we have tied up with Masina Hospital for a great discount for our members, family, and friends.

To avail discount kindly contact PP Vijay Kumar Jatia on email along with a brief medical history: vkj.rotary@modernindia.co.in

NEXT WEEK:

LULU RAGHAVAN, BRAND & DESIGN
EVANGELIST

Lulu Raghavan is a brand and design evangelist. She is President of Asia Pacific and Managing Director of India at Landor, a global brand and design consultancy. She has spent twenty three years of her career in various roles at Landor in the San Francisco, New York, London and Mumbai offices. She set-up the Mumbai office and spearheaded Landor's growth in India, leading brand transformations for companies like Tata, Mahindra, Godrej and Aditya Birla, shaping the narratives for many of their consumer and B2B brands. An industry luminary, she's been honored with awards like Campaign India Mentor of the Year and Impact Top 50 Women in Media, Marketing and Advertising. She was on the Cannes Lions Design Jury and has also served numerous other juries in branding and design. Lulu is a tireless



advocate for women in leadership and mentoring. She teaches branding at top business schools, is on the Advisory Board of ISDI Parsons School of Design as well as leap.club, India's first and largest women's network. She is also a trustee of Dignity Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to the welfare of senior citizens. A polyglot and philanthropist, Lulu lives in Mumbai with her husband, Harsha and two daughters, Ruhi and Riva.

ROTARIAN MEMBER BIRTHDAYS



SEPTEMBER 24

Rtn. Dilip
Dalal



SEPTEMBER 24

Rtn. Jamshyd
Vazifdar



SEPTEMBER 26

Rtn. Rajesh
Shah



SEPTEMBER 26

PP Dr. Zerkis
Umrigar



SEPTEMBER 27

Rtn. Purvi
Mehta



SEPTEMBER 28

Rtn. Sushil
Chandiramani



SEPTEMBER 29

Hon Rtn. Rajashree
Birla



SEPTEMBER 29

Rtn. Rohit
Dhoot

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 26

Rtn. Ptn. Arpita Gupta

SEPTEMBER 26

Rtn. Ptn. Rekha Jalan

SEPTEMBER 28

Rtn. Ptn. Nusrat Memon

ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER 27: Rtn. Ptn. Siddharth & Rtn. Anjani Rawat

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Ananda Yaan	Kaushal Mehta
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Director Rahil Shah	
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Panchatattva Gale Village	Vinit Gajree
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Bhavishya Yaan	Akhil Sanghi
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Adult Literacy for Women	Runit Shah
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	Mihir Mody
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Cancer Aid	Farokh Balsara
Committee for Neurodivergent Children	PP Shernaz Vakil
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Dialysis	Swati Jajodia
Director Mudit Jatia	
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Satellite Club	Murad Currawalla
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