

## INSPIRATION -RCBN

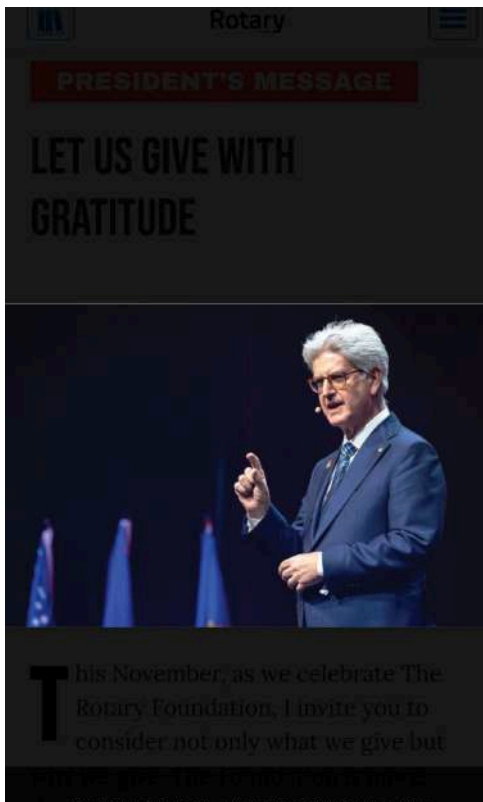


*Let's  
Inspire!*



**RCBN**

## PRESIDENT 2025-26



### President's Message

**Let us give with gratitude.**

This November, as we celebrate The Rotary Foundation, I invite you to consider not only what we give but why we give. The Foundation is more than a fund for projects. It is the beating heart of our promise that service, rooted in trust and friendship, can create lasting change.

Our Action Plan calls us to increase our impact, and the Foundation is how we make this vision real. Since 1988, Rotary and our partners have immunized nearly 3 billion children against polio. We have committed more than \$2.6 billion to this cause, and last year alone we directed \$146 million toward the final push for eradication. These numbers are significant, but the true impact is not in statistics — it is in the lives of children who will never again fear polio. It is in the hope restored to families and the peace built in communities once defined by disease.

But polio is only one story among many. Each year, Rotary Peace Centers train new generations of leaders who will transform conflict into dialogue and division into understanding. In 2023-24, nearly 100 new fellows began their studies, continuing a legacy of more than 1,800 peacebuilders from over 140 countries. When we invest in them, we are planting seeds of peace that will bear fruit for decades to come.

The Foundation also touches lives through district and global grants, supporting projects large and small. A clean water well for a rural community, scholarships for young professionals, medical care in the wake of disaster — these are not temporary gestures, but steps toward dignity, resilience, and opportunity. This is how Rotary service becomes lasting impact. And when natural disasters strike, our Foundation allows Rotary to act quickly with disaster response grants.

Our Foundation is not about what we can do alone but what we can do together. Each contribution, no matter its size, joins with others to create a collective act of faith in humanity and in the future.

The last mile of any great journey is always the hardest. We see this in our final steps toward ending polio, in our work for peace, and in every project that seeks to lift people out of despair. Yet every time we give, we declare that our work will continue regardless of the challenge.

This November, let us give with gratitude, with joy, and with hope. Through our Foundation, we Unite for Good, and in doing so, we leave behind not only projects but a legacy of peace, trust, and Service Above Self.

**FRANCESCO AREZZO**

President, Rotary International



# CORRIGENDUM

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It is with a sense of deep regret that in the Special Edition of our Club publication (INSPIRATION), in memory of Late PP Dr. Rajendra Agarwal, there was an inadvertent omission of the mention of the supportive role of his Late gracious spouse & our (1981) First Lady Sadhana. We remember them both with fond affection.

The RCBN Board has taken note of this lapse and offers its sincere and heartfelt apologies for the oversight as we recognise and uphold the sentiments of our club members & spouses in the highest regard. It is our earnest commitment that such sensitive aspects will be accorded the utmost respect and careful attention in the future.

## THE FACE BEHIND THE ROLE

## Rtn. Upendra Kulkarni

RTN. UPENDRA KULKARNI\*



Rtn. Upendra Kulkarni is a Chartered Accountant by qualification and an alumnus of the London School of Economics. An accomplished investment banker, he has played a pivotal role in the establishment and growth of Fortress Infracon Limited and Fortress Capital Management Services Pvt. Ltd., among other ventures. Fortress Capital is a Category I Merchant Banking Company, while Fortress Infracon is engaged in infrastructure development and EPC (Engineering, Procurement & Construction) contracting.

His family comprises his wife, Devyani, who serves as Vice Principal at the Akanksha Foundation; his daughter, Tanisha, is an engineering graduate and MBA from Cornell University, currently working with J.P. Morgan Chase, New York; and his son, Ishan, who is presently pursuing his Chartered Accountancy qualification.

A Rotarian since 2008–09, Upendra has been an active and valued member of the club, contributing significantly to various service projects and initiatives. Over the years, he has held several key positions, including serving as Hon. Secretary during 2022–23, and has been contributing in advancing the club's vision and community service endeavours.

**How Rotary Has Contributed to My Life — In His Own Words:**

“Being a Rotarian has been a truly rewarding journey. Rotary has taught me the value of Service Above Self and given me countless opportunities to make a real difference in people's lives.

It has helped me grow as a leader, work with compassion, and connect with inspiring individuals who share the same passion for service. Most of all, Rotary has reminded me that small acts of kindness, done together, can create a lasting impact.”

Beyond his professional and Rotary commitments, Upendra has a keen interest in farming, which he actively pursues during his leisure time.





## ANN-TASTIC MOMENTS ...

## An Astute & Sagacious Sangeeta Kulkarni



The astute and sagacious Sangeeta is, in every sense, a woman of substance — a veteran banker with an illustrious career spanning over 35 years. A proud alumna of the prestigious R.A. Podar College of Commerce and Economics, Matunga, she embarked on her professional journey at the remarkably young age of 20, joining the Union Bank of India — a step that would mark the beginning of a lifelong legacy of dedication and excellence.

Today, as a Senior Manager at the Bank's Head Office in Nariman Point, Mumbai, Sangeeta works closely with the Executive Directors, playing a vital role not only in operations but also in the welfare and morale of her peers and colleagues. Known for her precision and methodical approach, she brings the same focus to her leisure hours — often found immersed in a challenging sudoku puzzle, her mind delighting in patterns and possibilities. When not solving numbers, she finds joy in the melodies of Hindi retro music and has a zest for travel that has taken her to over 30 countries across the globe.



At home, Sangeeta stands as the rock-solid pillar of support to her husband Sanjiv, anchoring their family with quiet strength and grace. Their pride and joy, Nandan, carries forward her legacy of perseverance and achievement — having earned multiple degrees, including one from an Ivy League university.

For the past seven years, Sangeeta has been deeply rooted in the Inner Wheel Club of Bombay North, embodying the club's ideals of friendship, service, and compassion. Having served with distinction as Treasurer for two years, she continues to enrich the club with her warmth, inclusiveness, mutual respect, and ever-gracious spirit.

Sangeeta is not just a valued member — she is the heart that beats with quiet confidence, the mind that brings order to complexity, and the soul that radiates harmony wherever she goes.

## From the Editor's Desk

Four issues down — and what a journey it has been! Words truly fall short when I try to describe it. Each edition has been a chapter of learning, discovery, and growth. This experience has taught me far more than editing or curating — it has been a deep dive into patience, strategy, and the many fascinating shades of human psychology.

The process continues to be a learning curve — one that challenges, humbles, and inspires me every step of the way.

A special mention must be made of the Special Edition of Inspiration dedicated to Late PP Dr. Rajendra Agarwal, which was released on a grand platform in the presence of RI President Francesco Arezzo. It was indeed a moment of great pride for our club and for everyone who contributed to making it possible.

However, the absence of the editors at such a memorable occasion did leave a quiet question lingering — was their presence not considered worthy of the moment? Perhaps a gentle reminder that recognition, too, is a form of motivation.

Still, the journey goes on — with gratitude, grace, and an undying passion to create something meaningful, issue after issue.

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## Rotary Service Week ( RSW)

November 2-9, 2025

Dist 3141 -125 clubs with 5 Zones, 6500 Rotarians come under one umbrella for service to the community.

8 days there will be service Dhamaka which will cover from Colaba to Palghar.

It will have impact on 3 Cs

- 1) Co ordination
- 2) Communication
- 3) Commitment

Each day of RSW has been earmarked for specific service to the community. Details given in the following chart.

RCBN has an honour of being Lead Club for 2 Avenues of Service

### A. Senior Citizens

Thursday Nov. 6, 2025 and

### B. Specially abled children

Saturday Nov. 8, 2025.

RCBN has organised 4 programmes as under;

#### A. SENIOR CITIZENS

Date : Thursday Nov. 6,  
2025.

#### MORNING

1) 10 am to 1 pm

Venue: Kamraj Nagar.  
SRA, Sion Bandra Link.  
rd, Near ONGC 11 high,  
Dharavi. Mumbai-17

#### EVENING

2) Time 5 pm to 7 pm Music and games

C Building, BMC QUARTER, Mother Teresa, Ramabai Nagar, Matunga Labour Camp, Matunga East, Mumbai- 19.

#### B. FOR SPECIALLY ABLED CHILDREN

Saturday, November 8, 2025

#### MORNING

9 am to 1 pm.

1. 55 autistic children from Ummeed Foundation, Parel.

One day picnic to Zoo  
Byculla.

#### 2. AFTERNOON

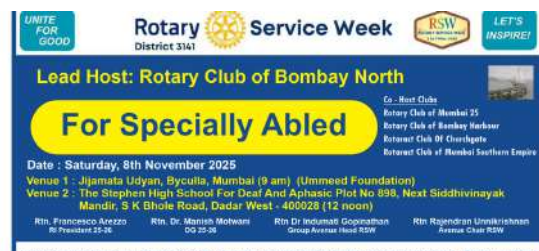
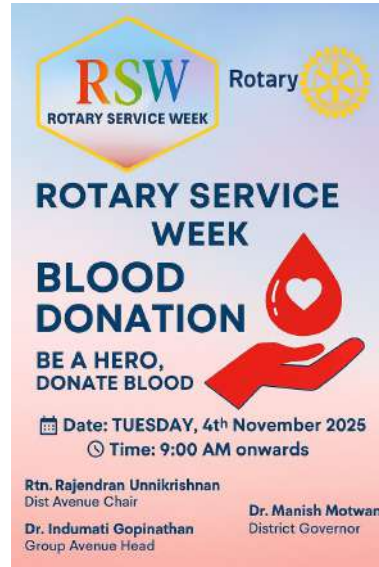
1 pm to 3 pm

The Stephan school  
for Deaf and Aphasic  
Literary and Drawing  
Competition.

Plot No 898, Next to Siddhivinayak Mandir and Bank Of Baroda, Besides Kamna Society, S K Bhole Road, Dadar West-400028.  
Apart from the above programmes, RCBN is co hosting events with other clubs in South Zone Group B. Details will be shared later.

RCBN members and Spouses are requested to be part of the above 4 programmes and make these events, a grand success.

Rukhsana Khan  
Chairperson  
Projects RSW.  
9820690821





# Rotary Service Week





## **Festa di Amicizia\_ - an evening with RI President Francesco Arezzo on 9 November Co Hosted by RCBN and RCB**



### **Lunch hosted for AKS members by DG Manish Motwani**



### **A Memorable Evening with RI President Francesco Arezzo and Maria Co-hosted by Rotary Club of Bombay North & Rotary Club of Bombay**



## Touching Lives- One Project At A Time



**23rd Dec'25- Medical Camp organised by the Rotary Club of Bombay North was a heartfelt extension of our commitment to community healthcare.**

## **Upcoming Projects/ events**

- \* 6th Dec. Speaker meeting . Speaker and chief guest: Reeta Gupta**
- \* 8th Dec Thalassemia presentation and blood collections at smt. Khandelwal college of Education Santacruz**
- \* 13 Dec Igatpuri Sports Complex**
- \* 14th Dec.Honouring Adivasi Schools Teachers at Shahpur**
- \* 16th Dec. Thalassemia presentation and blood collections at Janki Devi Bajaj College. SNDT , Juhu campus**
- \* 20th Dec.AGM**
- \* 27th District Quiz contest**
- \* 27th Dec. X'mas celebration at breach candy Club**
- \* 10- 12th Jan'25- Squint eye and plastic surgery at Deolali.**



## Once a week - Rendezvous



**1st Nov'25 - the Sunlit Path by Anahita Sanjana.**  
The speaker talks on how to evolve from our current mental state to the Supramental state as envisioned by Sri Aurobindo and The Mother.



**8th Nov'25- Dr.Ravindra Gudi explained the opportunities and practical application of AI in day to day life**



**22nd Dec'25- Geetu Hinduja- A contemporary singer and song writer mesmerized the members with her soulful songs of grace.**



## Once a week - Rendezvous



**29th Dec'25- Madhoo Shah- From the hesitant “I don’t know” to becoming a wholehearted “yes” person — her journey is nothing short of extraordinary.**



## Rotary Rendezvous- A Journey Etched in Smiles. Trip to Wayanad



## **Release of Special Edition of Inspiration dedicated to Late PP Dr.Rajendra Agarwal**



**At the club meeting on 8th Nov'25**



**And at the Rotary International FESTA Di Amicizia  
attended by RI President Francesco Arezzo and co-  
hosted by RCBN**

**EDITOR- Dr. Vidya Mukund**

**Members- Rtn. Yash Kale, Rtn. Shirish Tare**

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