

Rotary



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MID-TOWN

# Bulletin



ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE

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Club President | MANOJ JALAN

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY MID-TOWN  
DISTRICT 3141 | CLUB 15496 | MUMBAI, INDIA



## From the President's desk...



Dear Friends,

February was an active month, socially and project wise. The month started with a bang in the form of a lovely Fellowship hosted by PP Gopal and Ann Shobha Motwane at Otters Club on 2nd February. Love, respect and affection for PP Gopal ensured a great number of townie Rotarians make the journey to Bandra on a Friday evening. The attendance was beyond expectations and the evening was replete with fun, laughter and delicious food to go with it. The other highlight of the month was the visit to Jalna for the inauguration of the much acclaimed Plastic Surgery Camp. Over a dozen of us Rotarians went to Jalna this year and were amazed to see the warmth and respect accorded to the German team for their fantastic work over ten days. We enjoyed great hospitality by Rtn. Raju Barwale and Mahyco and saw some great institutions created and run by Barwales in Jalna. The

Rotarians of Rotary Club of Jalna extended a warm welcome and took great care of us all. On 20th February, some of us Rotarians visited Kokila Ambani Hospital to meet the first child who underwent heart surgery under our Club's Global Grant Project for Paediatric Heart Surgeries. The visit to the ICCU for children was heart rending as babies as young as a few hours old were also there. The heart warming part was to witness the great care and treatment being provided by Kokila Ambani Hospital and the privilege we have in being a medium to change the life of a suffering child. On 24th February, we visited Nere-Panvel with DG Prafull Sharma who inaugurated the 296 toilets built there by the efforts of Rtn. Nirbhay Jain and our Global Grant. We truly realise the value of Rotary when we see such projects make a difference in the daily life of a villager.

Travel for personal commitments kept me away from couple of our weekly meetings, but Pres. Elect Deepak ably took charge and ensured the show ran seamlessly. On 7th February, our own Rtn. Ashok Sanghvi spoke on 'Being Future Ready' for the dynamic business world ahead. On 14th February, Meena Menon shared her experiences as a correspondent posted in Pakistan. Nadir Godrej was the speaker on 21st February and he shared with us his interesting poems.

We look forward to a lovely Fellowship at Willingdon and some interesting speakers in March.

**Yours in Rotary,  
Pres. Rtn Manoj Jalan**

## 2nd Feb: Fellowship hosted by PP Gopal & Ann Shobha Motwane



PP Gopal Motwane and Bhaskar Khira



Jyotika & PP Atul Premnarayan, and Kiran Shah



Binaifer & PP Kersi Hilloo, and PP Gopal Motwane



PP Atul Premnarayan, PP Gopal Motwane, Soumyalatha Shetty, Shobha Motwane, PP Sucharita Hegde and Munna Mitha



PP Kersi Hilloo, Dr. Ajay Bhatnagar, PP Gopal Motwane, Susanne Bhatnagar



Pres. Manoj Jalan, Urmila Jain, Sonali Jalan and Nirbhay Jain

Early on during the year, soon after my installation, PP Gopal spoke to me and to my delight promised to host a fellowship this year. PP Gopal and I share mutual respect and affection, and I would like to think it is so because I was inducted as a Rotarian when he was President.

Shortly after the entertaining Rajasthani Night Fellowship in January, Gopal and I had a conversation and we narrowed down on 2nd February for his fellowship. When he suggested Otters Club as the venue, I loved the idea, even though I was unsure how many members, who are mostly from town, would drive down on a Friday evening to Bandra. We anyway went

ahead and confirmations were taken. To my pleasant surprise, way more people actually turned up on the evening than the confirmations we had. I would attribute this to the great respect we all have for PP Gopal and Ann Shobha. It was a lovely evening at the lively Otters Club which has a great view and serves delicious food.

On behalf of the Club and myself, I thank PP Gopal and Ann Shobha for their generous hospitality and wish them good health and happiness in the years ahead.

**Rtn. Manoj Jalan**

## 7th Feb: Rtn. Dr. Ashok Sanghvi on How to be Future Ready



Dr. Ashok Sanghvi



PP Dr. Kirit Mody and Suruchi Chand in conversation



PP Om Degan and Anil Kejriwal



A section of the audience

Dr. Ashok Sanghvi began his speech by listing four major current disruptions. Firstly, the shifting focus point of economic activity and dynamism from west to east; secondly, the technological impact; thirdly, the changing demographics and fourthly, being connected globally through opportunity and continuous movement in capital, people and information.

The entire presentation was dotted with several researched data; for example, by the year 2025, China will have more large companies (large company defined as having annual revenue of US\$ one billion or more) than United States and/or Europe. One of the interesting research findings was that, in Germany, number of working people will fall from 54 million in 2010 to 36 million in 2060. Dr. Sanghvi suggested that to cope with such disruptions one needs to

reset one's own intuitions and focus on cities, not regions, while marketing.

The presentation was concluded by sharing 'Glimpses of Future', which in itself was very interesting. For instance, emerging markets will have many more Fortune Global 500 Companies and in the developed market, youth unemployment is likely to be high.

Dr. Ashok Sanghvi concluded his presentation by sharing live examples related to his consulting practice. This was followed by the Q & A session where several interesting questions were raised.

Dr. Ashok V. Sanghvi was introduced by Rtn. Mr. Jagar Thakur and the vote of thanks was proposed by PDG Ajay Bhatnagar.



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## 14th Feb: Meena Menon - A Walk through Pakistan



Speaker Meena Menon



The speaker is welcomed by Pres. Elect Dr. Deepak Garg



Sujata Anandan, Meena Menon, Dr. Deepak Garg, Abuzar Zakir and Sucharita Hegde



Exchange Students – Manu Bodker, Lucia Allede, and Poncho Ojedo

When Maharashtra's Minister for Education heard that Meena Menon had been posted by The Hindu as their correspondent to Pakistan, he quipped, "Until now they (Pakistanis) have been sending terrorists to India. Now we are sending one to Pakistan!"

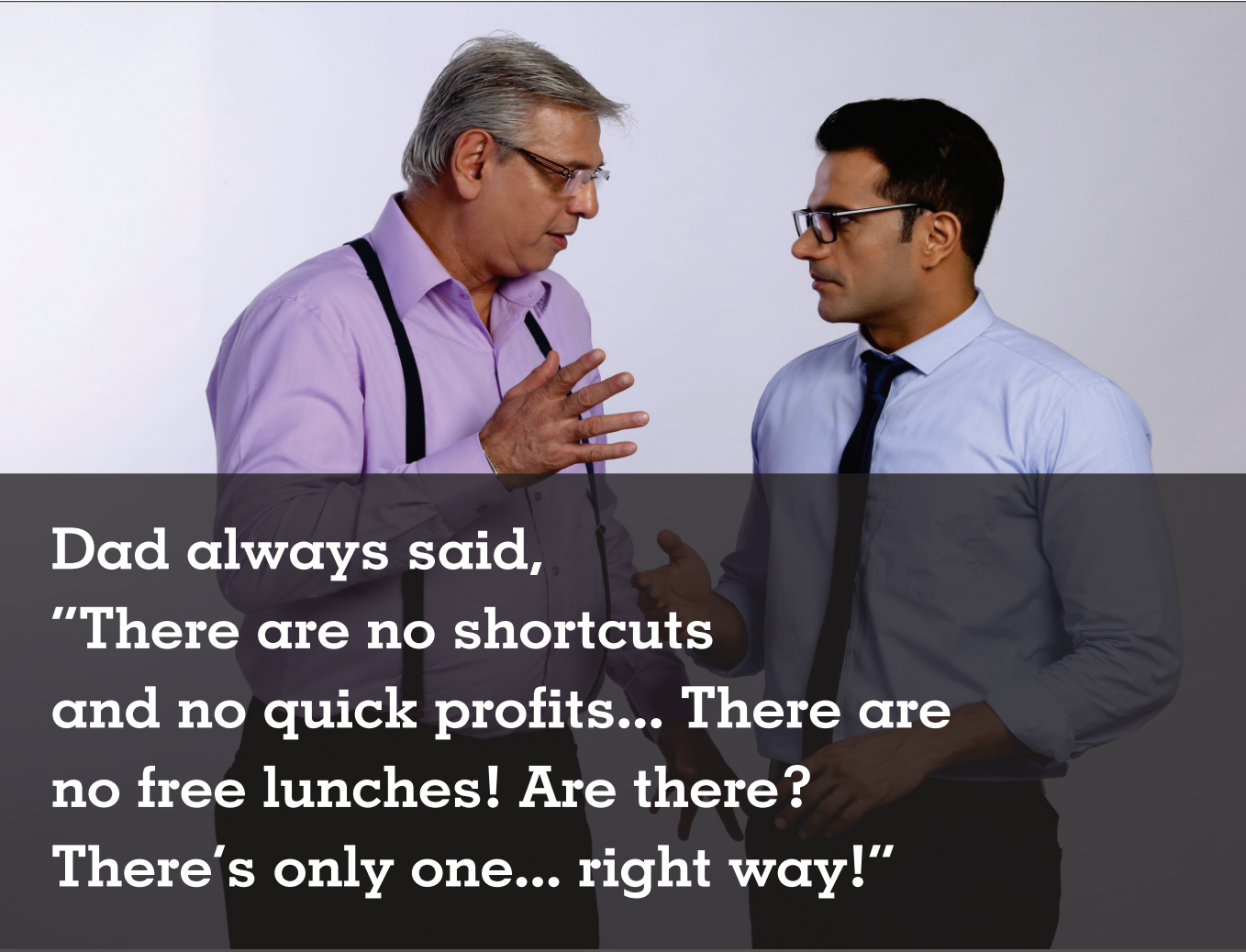
That was a backhanded compliment and rather prescient, in a roundabout way, for Menon blew the Pakistani security agencies out of their minds by being here, there and everywhere, giving them the slip in and around Islamabad, the only city for which she had a two year visa. But she had earlier been to Karachi and Hyderabad in Sind and had gathered many vignettes and stories of the lives of ordinary people in Pakistan. On 14th February, she walked Rotarians through the hills, mountains, monuments and by lanes of these cities in Pakistan through a slide show of photographs she had taken over the two visits. The first was through an exchange programme of journalists. But the second official visit, unfortunately, ended abruptly as Pakistan threw her out of the country, even before her visa expired.

Meena had a lot of memories to share with Rotarians keen to know more about Pakistan. One question raised was — could the partition have

been avoided? To which Meena's answer was, maybe, maybe not. However, according to her, while India was nursing her wounds from the truncation, Pakistanis suffered a more severe blow when India fought a war in 1971 to wrest East Pakistan from them and hand it over to Bangladeshi freedom fighters. Another question was — will the Pakistani army ever cease to be an all powerful force in that country? The answer to that was an emphatic, 'Never!'

Meena, however, made a difference between the Pakistani establishment and the common people, who are much like common every day Indians with the same issues of poverty, literacy and education. Much like in rural India, women returning from markets must get off buses and walk miles to their village. Truck drivers spotting journalists with cameras want to be photographed, just like those in India, with no idea where their photographs might be published. Pakistani truck drivers are a bit different from the Indian ones though — they paint wonderful designs on their trucks which are now recognised formally as 'truck art.' One such truck art became the cover of Meena's book, 'Reporting Pakistan.'

Rtn. Sujata Anandan



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“There are no shortcuts  
and no quick profits... There are  
no free lunches! Are there?  
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## 21st Feb: Nadir Godrej 'Poems & Thoughts of a Thinker'



Speaker Nadir Godrej and Pres. Manoj Jalan



Suruch Chand has a word to say



Pres. Manoj welcomes the guest speaker



A rapt audience

On Wednesday, 21st February, our Club had the pleasure of having Nadir Godrej, the renowned industrialist and MD of Godrej India, in our midst in his avatar as a gifted poet. In beautiful stanzas he conveyed diplomatically his thoughts on various topics. Poetry being his main hobby; he likes to present lectures in the form of verse at various forums, to the enjoyment of his audience and also himself. He surely did regale our Club to a delightful poetic 'brainstorming.'

His thoughts on the present scenario, the state of our economy and society, are well encapsulated in "Future Ready", an address to students of the Manav Rachna University. Here, he stresses on our nations deep need for comprehensive education of new skills and agility of mind and flexibility and broader learning. According to him, team work (i.e. interacting with one another) is important. He warns us of the growing inequality, the dangers of artificial intelligence and the consequences of automation. He is concerned about inclusive growth, a must for wellbeing, and the vital role of freethinkers to preserve freedom. He urges all to hold on to their values and refuse to do what's wrong. He asks of us to make an effort to understand all people with a different view which will result in new thought processes, brilliant ideas and a bright future.

The acute businessman in him was palpable in the "The Rise of Authoritarianism" where he described the historic importance of democracy which suffered in the past during Communist regimes and in the Nazi era but was able to bounce back. He believes that democracy is vulnerable in the hands of fringe groups and populists who "sing a siren song" to rouse unsuspecting mobs. And that we must never give up reasoning and must always beware of ideologies lacking reason.

Mr. Godrej's beautiful poem on his Mother, Jai Godrej, is homage to a great lady who with her sincerity, simplicity, determination and deep caring for family and the entire staff of the company was the cornerstone of a successful enterprise. Her love of education and especially the English language permeated the Godrej School in Vikhroli and benefitted countless members of the big Godrej Vikhroli family, including the speaker. Personal occurrences during the growing up of her children, Adi and Nadir, are highlighted in this poem — a novel way to learn about distinguished personalities of the industry!

The introduction of the speaker, by Rtn. Mehnosh Currawalla, was a precursor of Mr. Nadir Godrej's presentation in the form of a poem.

**Elinor Mirza**





**SAIFEE HOSPITAL**

under the auspices of Saifee Hospital Trust Reg. No. E-5448 (Bom)

## Saifee Hospital inaugurates LASIK suite in India

**It is the first hospital in India to procure this state-of-the-art LASIK equipment.**

Saifee Hospital inaugurated a state of art LASIK suite on 14th August 2016. This suite will house the latest Microscan Visum 500 Excimer machine. This advanced instrument has been imported from Moscow, Russia and will be used in conducting laser eye surgeries exclusively at Saifee's Ophthalmology Department.

Saifee Hospital is the first in India to procure this state-of-the-art LASIK equipment. The Microscan Visum 500 Excimer is a user friendly machine with applications such as Advanced Surface Ablation (PRK), Topo-linked CUSTOM LASIK, Wavefront-guided Ablation, Therapeutic PTK and Wavefront-optimized LASIK.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mehmood Hussein, Head of the Dept. of Ophthalmology at Saifee Hospital says, "At Saifee, it is our constant endeavour to use latest medical equipments to provide the best treatment at affordable to every patient. With the newly introduced LASIK suite, we are sure to conduct maximum cases each day."

The LASIK suite will be fully functional by September 6, 2016 at Saifee Hospital and will be largely used to conduct laser eye surgery to treat near-sightedness, far-sightedness and astigmatism. This is pain-free procedure and usually completed within 15 minutes for both eyes resulting in improved vision.

### FEATURES of MICROSCAN VISUM 500

- The world's first Excimer Laser with "Open Type" laser cavity was developed by Nobel-prize winning physicists, Alexander Prokhorov, Nikolay Basov and Charles Townes.
- The system has a proven record of LASIK corrections for Myopia, Myopic astigmatism, Hyperopia, Hyperopic astigmatism, Mixed astigmatism, Wavefront, and Presbyopia.
- A patient benefits a lot from its advanced technology. Eg, this is the only Excimer with proven success for the treatment of Presbyopia.
- Tissue consumption, specially when treating High diopters and for mixed profiles (High diopter + astigmatism), is very less compared to most of the popular lasers, today.
- The open cavity is unique in the sense that it gives the same results irrespective of the number of patients treated in that fill. Totally stable. Enabling no waiting time for a walk-in patient. Gas fill also lasts much longer.

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## 24th Feb: Visit to Nere-Waje



**DG Prafull Sharma interacting with students**



**DG Prafull Sharma inaugurating the Global Grant Project for 296 toilets at vill. Waghachiwadi**



**Rtn. Nirbhay Jain explaining the work being done in the villages. Seated l to r: Pres. Manoj, DG Prafull Sharma and DS Jhankar Gadkari**



**District dignitaries and Rotarians being welcomed by students of Rakesh Jain School in vill. Shivkar**

Nere Waje Village Committee Chairman Rtn. Nirbhay Jain organized a visit for DG Prafull Sharma on Saturday, 24th February, to Panvel. Pres. Manoj Jalan was instrumental in taking the lead as he coordinated with DG and the team of about 12 members to make the program a success.

The event was organized to inaugurate the International Grant Toilet Project under Global Grant Scheme for building 296 toilet blocks. A Global Grant of over US\$92,000 came about with a Term Gift of ₹33.20 lakhs, an equivalent of US\$50,000, made by Rtn. Nirbhay Jain. Till date, 150 toilet blocks have been constructed and 146 toilets are under construction.

DG and Rotarians reached village Wagachiwadi, located at a distance of about 17 kms from Panvel city, where they were welcomed by the women of Women's Self Help Groups. During interaction with DG and the members, the women spoke about the various activities undertaken by them. This includes conducting income generation activities like chapatti making, papad/pickle making, tailoring business, renting of utensils, etc. The village women also presented a demo of the process of making rice chapattis.

Our NGO partner's Self Help Group In-charge, Ms. Suvarna Bhujbal, updated us about some of the facilities provided by the NGO. This includes

various activities like providing counselling help to the rural women in legal, civic and social issues, helping in domestic and land-related issues, conducting awareness programs in health and sanitation and about the benefits of using toilet instead of open space for defecation.

Going further, the DG inspected the flour mill in one of the village homes. He then inaugurated the toilet project by cutting the ribbon and handing over the toilet blocks to the beneficiaries. After Wagachiwadi, the group visited Rakesh Jain Madhyamik Vidyamandir, a school in the village Shivkar. The children greeted and welcomed the DG and Rotarians by playing Lezim in their honour. The DG inaugurated the e-learning program sponsored by Rtn. Arun Mehta and saw the demo in one of the classrooms. The DG and members inspected the skill development program, which is conducted under Introduction to Basic Technology (IBT), imparting training in 24 vocations of technical skills and benefitting about 150 students every year. The program was introduced in the school by the effort of Bombay Midtown Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-Town. At present, PP Gopal and Ann Shobha Motwane are supporting the IBT program by funding the expenses of trainer's salary and consumable materials.

The visit culminated with beer and lunch hosted by Urmila and Nirbhay Jain at their farmhouse nearby.

**Gulab Suryavanshi**

## A visit to Plastic Surgery Camp, Jalna



**Pres. Manoj with some members of the German medical team**



**Pres. Manoj addressing the audience at the Inauguration**



**Pres. Manoj handing over RCBMT contribution for the camp to President Mishrikotkar of RC Jalna**



**The size of audience only keeps increasing every year**

The Annual Plastic Surgery Camp in Jalna is a highlight of our Rotary year. This year, over a dozen of us Rotarians travelled to Jalna to be a part of the Inauguration of the Camp. Right from arrival at Aurangabad airport to departure, Rtn. Raju Barwale ensured that we were well taken care of. Excellent stay arrangements, lovely food and visits around Jalna and Aurangabad were organized. A lovely dinner for all was also hosted by Rtn. Raju and Ann Sushma at their beautiful house.

On Saturday, 17th February, the town of Jalna woke up to yet another day, but with a difference. The town gathered to meet and wish the team of German doctors who annually come to Jalna in February and attend to their dear ones who have been less fortunate in an accident or who have had a deficiency since birth.

The Inauguration of the Plastic Surgery Camp 2018 took place on 17th February at 11 am at the Mission Hospital, Jalna. People, in order to be part of this memorable event, came from far and near. No sooner did the doctors enter the venue; the gathering gave them a standing ovation which continued until each of the doctors were seated. The proceedings began with speeches by office bearers of the Rotary Club of Jalna and The Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-Town. Floral tributes were paid to the team of doctors and to various donors and dignitaries. Dr. Gerhard, head of the team of doctors, spoke from his heart amidst thunderous applause.

The team of doctors thereafter moved over to the hospital to check on the equipment and their gear in preparation for the week of planned surgeries ahead. It was business as usual for the hospital staff as they started instructing the families of patients scheduled for surgeries during the week.

Volunteers of the Rotary Club of Jalna were present at the hospital to assist in the preparations and for coordination between the hospital, patients, their relatives and the team of doctors.

The next day was spent in going through patient histories, examination of the patients by the team of doctors and hospital staff and then admission to the hospital for surgeries slated for the next day. This process continued throughout the week-long camp.

The Plastic Surgery Camp in Jalna has become one of the most important events in the calendar of Jalna and has been made possible with coordinated and sustained efforts of the members of the Rotary Clubs of Jalna and Bombay Mid-Town and with the selfless services rendered by the visiting doctors who in more ways than one regard it as a labor of love.

You need to see their eyes to know this!

**Rtn. Burjor Nariman**

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01 April  
Hector Mehta



07 April  
Prasanna Bhagat



09 April  
Arun Jatia



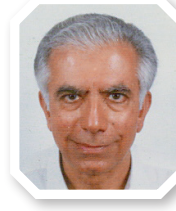
15 April  
Uttara Bhandare



21 April  
Manoj Jalan



23 April  
Asha Singh



24 April  
Lalit Goculdas

## 🎂 Spouse's Birthdays 🎂

- 02 - Neeta Patel
- 06 - Radha Goculdas
- 07 - Dinesh Vadera
- 09 - Sudha Mehta
- 13 - Rupande Parekh
- 13 - Shakuntala Shetty
- 16 - Nainu Thacker
- 18 - Anjana Mody
- 18 - Rajul Shah
- 18 - Saloni Sharma

## 🎂 Anniversaries 🎂

- 08 - Nazneen & Jamsheed Patel
- 13 - Daisy & Hector Mehta
- 26 - Shobha & Gopal Motwane

**APRIL 2018**
**MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH**
**WEDNESDAY, 04**

Fellowship Meeting  
Venue: Wodehouse Gymkhana, Colaba,  
at 7.30 pm

**WEDNESDAY, 11**

Speaker:  
Subject:  
Venue: Taj Mahal Hotel  
Time: 1.15 pm

**WEDNESDAY, 18**

Speaker: Mr. Rajan Jayakar  
Subject:  
Venue: Taj Mahal Hotel  
Time: 1.15 pm

**WEDNESDAY, 25**

Speaker: Urvinder Madan, IAS Metropolitan  
Commissioner, MMRDA  
Subject:  
Venue: Taj Mahal Hotel  
Time: 1.15 pm

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Please send your articles and news for the Bulletin to Allan Chenyen  
(rotary019@gmail.com) preferably by the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month.