

03rd June 2021

Fellowship Month

Issue XXII

**Today's programme**

Mr. Rajendra Vaishampayan will present "Ati Laghu-katha"



Musician, writer, social entrepreneur, software engineer, composer arranger, recording engineer, speaker

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**GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT .....**



My Dear

Metropolitans,

This past week has been a memorable week for us – Club's silver jubilee memoirs

"संस्मरणे" were launched on May

27<sup>th</sup> at the hands of DG Rashmi and our GSR PDG Dr. Sudhir Rashingkar.

The launch was followed by "आणि जुन्या आठवणींना उजाळा" – a program featuring Metro's drama stars and winning एकांकिका – Oh.. No - Not Again! Both the programs were a big hit and we had record breaking attendance for the meeting. Cherry on the top was a very tasty fellowship delivered to everyone's house.

It has been disappointing to not have an in-person celebration for our Silver Jubilee year. With this meeting of May 27<sup>th</sup>, with other on-line events in April & May and with to-home fellowship delivery, I believe, we have been able to create a good substitute for in-person experience.

My compliments to the Program committee and Admin team for making this happen. Compliments & congratulations to convener Snehalata and team संस्मरणे for a wonderful Memoir. They have worked very hard and it shows. संस्मरणे is a treasure trove of our Club's history and milestones.

As soon as printing shops open up we will get hard copies printed for those who wish to have a hard copy.

On May 27<sup>th</sup> we distributed ration kits to fifty backstage artists. The lock-down has been especially tough for these artists who have not had work for last couple of years. Corporator Madhuri Sahasrabudhe was the chief guest. It was a satisfying feeling that we are able to help those in need. The program was also nicely covered in the May 28<sup>th</sup> issue of Maharashtra Times.

This year has also been very notable in terms of participation of our Annetes and other young friends in supporting our various causes. It is really overwhelming to see the spirit of "Service above Self" imbibed in the minds of these young people. **Collectively they have contributed close to Rs 8.4 lakhs for Metro this year.** In this issue of Metropolitan we are recognizing these young men and women for their generous contributions. Our young friends, thank you very much. Metro really appreciates all your help.

This is the last month of this Rotary year. But some very important business meetings and few project handovers are yet to be completed. So we will still have many activities going on during the month. So looking forward to everyone's participation.

Please do stay safe and get the vaccines at the earliest.

**Rotary Fellowships** are international groups that share a common passion. Being part of a **fellowship** is a fun way to make friends around the world, explore a hobby or



profession, and enhance your **Rotary** experience. Each year, Rotary awards up to 130 fully funded fellowships for dedicated leaders from around the world to study at one of its peace centers .....**more on Page 2**

## Rotary Fellowship Programmes continued from pg 1

Since the program began in 2002, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 1,400 fellows who now work in more than 115 countries. Many serve



as leaders in governments, NGOs, the military, education, law enforcement, and international organizations like the United Nations and the World Bank. The Rotary Peace Fellowship is designed for leaders with work experience in peace and development. Our fellows are committed to community and international service and the pursuit of peace. Each year, [The Rotary Foundation](#) awards up to 50 fellowships for master's degrees and 80 for certificate studies at premier universities.

### Choose the program that's right for you:

**Master's degree programs:** Accepted candidates study peace and development issues with research-informed teaching and a diverse student body. The programs last 15 to 24 months and include a two- to three-month field study, which participants design themselves.

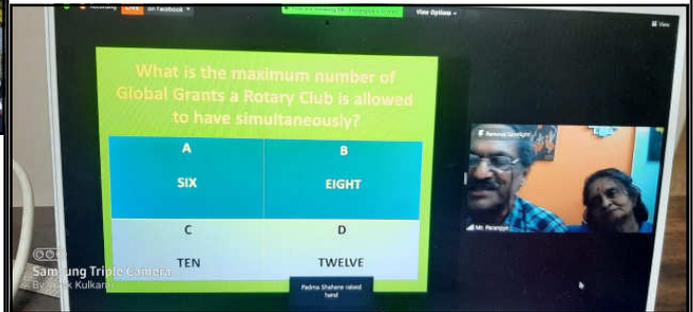
**Professional development certificate program:** During the one-year blended learning program, experienced peace and development professionals with diverse backgrounds gain practical skills to promote peace within their communities and across the globe. Fellows complete field studies, and they also design and carry out a social change initiative. This program is intended for working professionals.

For eligibility, please see [rotary.org](#) but in general, candidate should

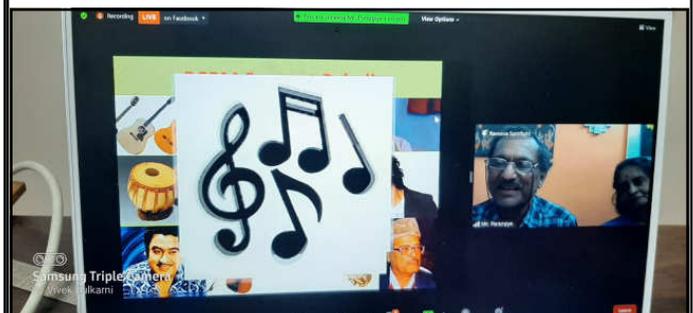
- Be proficient in English
  - Have a bachelor's degree
  - Have a strong commitment to cross-cultural understanding and peace as shown through professional and academic achievements and personal or community service
  - Potential for leadership
- Have at least three years of full-time experience in peace or development work.



## Club meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Most innovative quiz by May Shiledars



Metropolitans were treated to an evening of Rotary knowledge wrapped in loads of fun and friendship! It was a “know your Rotary friends” kind of quiz, largely researched and fully conducted the spicy “Jodi” SPDP. As a bonus, they offered bollywood music based supplementary quiz to spice up the evening that turned into night without anyone feeling the time lapse. SPDP had made it so very interesting!



PP. Rtn. Deepak Bodhani guided SPDP on Rotary matters. The quiz thought out, formatted and conducted with a professional touch by the May Shiledars. Technical help was also provided by Rtn. Rajan Erande, Rtn. Nayana Joshi and IPP Rtn. Mukund. Ann Vaijayanti Satpute did the score keeping. The preparation went through many trials and false starts. But on the appointed date of the meeting, the entire quiz was conducted professionally and smoothly. Kudos to all of them! .....based on inputs from Rtn.Dileep Paranjpye

**STOP PRESS....** RC Pune Metro has facilitated, under District's Covid Centre initiative, a CSR donation for an Oxygen plant at Sane Guruji Hospital. The donation of Rs. 50 lakhs came from CleanMax which was introduced by Rtn. Madhura Vipra of RC Lokmanyagar . **With this, the total value of Covid projects that we have done this year is about Rs.2 crores. Kudos to all Metropolitans!** Under Dist 3131 aegis, Rotary is contributing about Rs.1.25 cr towards facilitating paediatric and other Covid facilities in a few hospitals.

**THE ART OF GIVING - OUR ANNETS ARE LIGHTING UP THE WAY!**

This year, not only our Annetts but their young friends too have created a record of sorts by making donations to Rotary, whether be it towards any project, or the Foundation itself. Undoubtedly, they have been inspired not only by the tremendous work that our club has undertaken during this year despite the pandemic, but equally by the inculcation of the spirit of “service above self” that must have been imbibed in them by their Rotarian parents. Kudos to the Annetts and their young friends, and of course, salutations to the elders at home who have nurtured a spirit of giving at such a young age.

We congratulate all big hearted youngsters whose names appear below, in no particular order. A big “thank you” to them from our club, as also on behalf of the wider Rotary world.

**Our Annettes & other Young Friends’ Donations to Rotary Club of Pune Charitable Trust**

Sr No	Name	Amount (INR)	
1	Shounak&Ketki Joshi	7,500	
2	AniketTilgulkar	10,000	
3	NeerajPai	4,000	
4	JashanSubhedar	5,000	
5	IshaChouhan	4,000	
6	MihirChhatre	14,800	
7	YashMajali	3,700	
8	NeelayPhadke	122,800	
9	AmeyaPhadke	90,650	
10	SulakshanaZambre	36,480	
11	MugdhaPimprikar	14,800	
12	TejasAnturkar	370,000	
13	VikramNamjoshi	11,100	
14	AboliRane	14,800	
15	Avanti JoglekarPuranik	14,800	
16	AnoushkaJoglekar	7,400	
17	AmeyaMarathe & his friends	111,000	
	<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>Rs 8.42 lakhs</b>	



**Brief Updates.....**

Tree patch with 14 Tress Foundation: 19 Rotarians have donated for 101 trees, including Rs.25,000/- each from **President Makarand and PP. Rtn. Seema Deshpande**. We will be doing a symbolic tree plantation on 6th June which is World Environmental Day. Now the RCPM tree patch will have 142 trees. Thank you and kudos to all donors for this very noble cause.

Rotary Covid Centre was opened on 1st June in partnership with J.P. Trivedi Trust. Many Rotary Clubs in the district including our club have donated generously towards this initiative. This centre is on Ghole Road and has all the standard facilities including oxygen supply.



**Our new member Rtn. Anand Devchakke** recently held the Rotaractors spellbound in a seminar arranged by our club. He spoke to them about searching for solutions from within ourselves rather than look for outside help. Rtn. Anand has just published a book “Life 360 deg” about changing our lives through change of mindset.

**Here is what he says:**

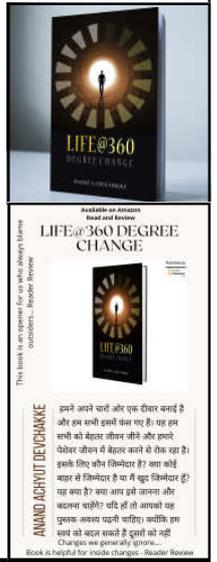
Much of what exists in the world has always existed; only someone was far more curious and took the pains to search for answers. For example, gravity was always present, but Newton “discovered” it by bringing it to the notice of the world; along with his insights on various ways in which gravity and other forces work. Similarly, much of the solutions to our life’s problems need calm and thoughtful examination of one’s own situation. Most of the times, solutions can be found within us rather than outside.

Today, much of the world is perforce in a never ending rat race. People are so busy chasing deadlines and money; that they rarely stop to think what is it that they want out of life and give very little time to calmly think of their own life’s priorities. It is very necessary to give some time every day for one’s own calm reflection about life. The more we know our own self, the more we can be at peace with ourselves and more confident about solving external issues.

हमने अपने चारों ओर एक दीवार बनाई है और हम सभी इसमें फंस गए हैं। यह हम सभी को बेहतर जीवन जीने और हमारे पेशेवर जीवन में बेहतर करने से रोक रहा है। इसके लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है? क्या कोई बाहर से जिम्मेदार है या मैं खुद जिम्मेदार हूँ? यह क्या है? क्या आप इसे जानना और बदलना चाहेंगे? यदि हाँ तो आपको यह पुस्तक अवश्य पढ़नी चाहिए। क्योंकि हम स्वयं को बदल सकते हैं दूसरों को नहीं।

This topic has been discussed at length in my book “Life 360 deg” which was published recently. Some snapshots of the book are here.

..... By Rtn. Anand Devchakke



**Shakuntala Devi, the Human Computer - contributed by Rtn. Dileep Paranjpye**

If asked ‘What was the day on which India became independent?’ most of us will say 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947. But if Shakuntala Devi was asked, she could easily add ‘It was a Friday!’ She could correctly tell the day of the week for any date, past or future, in an instant.

Shakuntala Devi was born in 1930. Her father was from a family of temple priests but became a circus performer who did trapeze, tightrope and cannonball shows. When she was about 3, her father discovered that she was a mathematical prodigy with an amazing ability to memorize numbers. By the time she was 5, she had become an expert at solving math problems.

As her fame spread, Shakuntala Devi was invited to many places to perform. When she was 20 years old, BBC hosted a show with her. During the show, the host gave her a complex math problem. She solved it in seconds but the answer was declared to be wrong. However, after rechecking the answer, the host confessed that Shakuntala was correct and the original answer was wrong. This news spread across the world and Shakuntala earned the title of 'Human Computer'.

In 1977, Shakuntala Devi was invited to a university in Dallas, USA. She was asked to give the 23rd root of a 201-digit number. The professor who asked the question took 4 minutes to write it on the board and had to write a special programme into the system to check her answer on a UNIVAC 1101 computer. Shakuntala Devi answered correctly in 50 seconds!

Not only was she a mathematical genius but also a role model for students and math enthusiasts. She played a great role in making mathematics an interesting subject for millions of students due to her practical, fast & efficient approach towards problem solving. She authored several books for children to help them develop interest in maths and understand the subject better.

Her books on puzzles are popular among college students preparing for activities requiring analytical skills. Her workshops on maths techniques & Vedic mathematics were very popular. She set up ‘Shakuntala Devi Education Foundation Public Trust’ to provide quality education for children of deprived sections of the society.



Shakuntala Devi

Shankuntala Devi passed away in Bangalore in 2013. On 4 November 2013, Shakuntala Devi was honoured with a Google Doodle for what would have been her 84th birthday. A Hindi film on her life was released in 2020 with Vidya Balan playing the titular role.



The Google Doodle on Shakuntala Devi

## A Delicious Dinner on Bawarchi Day: Meeting report of 20th May 2021

What do we expect after the music program is over? A sumptuous dinner, of course! RCPM members were treated to a mouth watering menu in the Club meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021, a meeting held a week after the musical quiz. To treat our palates with delicious dishes came Chef Sumit Kisar, who showed us how to create wonderful dishes out of the simplest of ingredients! No one among us could have imagined that Sorrel (Ambat Chuka in Marathi) and Egg Plant could be turned into exotic dishes. But there they were for us to see, being actually prepared by him. Chef Sumit, has learned his art at the AISSSM and then refined it while working at places like JW Marriot. He owns a restaurant named L'Apecio on Prabhat Road. All of us would have loved to visit the place to watch his magic, but the lockdown denied us such an opportunity. This adversity was neatly overcome by **PP Deepak Bodhani**, who is a Shiledar for the month of May. He personally went to L'Apecio, and spent hours watching and recording action videos. As the restaurant is located on a busy road, traffic noise was causing lot of disturbance during the recording. But PP Deepak used various tricks of the trade to muffle out traffic noise and produced great audio-video recordings.

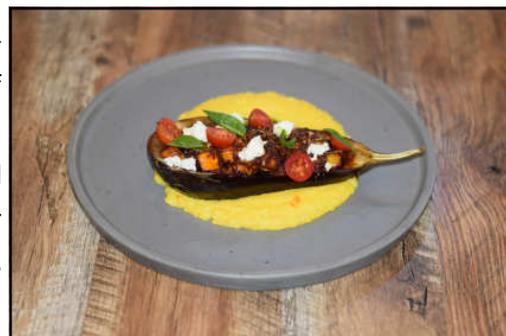


The combination of pre-recorded videos with live commentary by Chef Sumit worked wonders during the meeting. He said he had prepared the menu specifically for our program with readily available ingredients and easy to make recipes. We could almost taste the very unusual Chilled Green Pea, Mint and Sorrel Soup with Crème' Fraiche as it got ready. And we could imagine the flavours of salad made from Buratta with Cantaloupe and Tomatoes.

The main dish, Ratatouille stuffed Egg Plant with Feta and Creamy Saffron Polenta was a delight to watch. We gaped in wonder as the Chef cut the egg plant in a unique way and then went on to fill it with goodies. We were drooling as the dish was being baked in the oven. The finale' was brought about by Basil Pannacotta, a delightful desert!

The program was a perfect substitute for the Bawarchi Day celebrated by RCPM in normal times, which had to be dropped due to the Covid19 pandemic. The novel, innovative and stylish recipes will inspire many members to try them out at home to break the boredom of lockdown restrictions. Metropolitans were joined by members of **RCP Shaniwarwada** in big numbers. **Ann Vaijayanti Satpure** introduced Chef Sumit while a Vote of Thanks was proposed by **Rtn Shobhana**.

Our visiting Chef was the inspired find of his friend **Annet Varad Deshpande**. His choice was vetted by the fact that the question – answer session went on for a long time after the cookery demonstration was over. ....Contributed by **Rtn. Dileep Paranjpye**



## 27th May: Celebration of RCPM Silver Jubilee

May Shiledar's had arranged for an excellent programme to celebrate our Silver Jubilee year that was attended by our GSR, PDG Rtn.Sudhir Rashinkar and DG. Rtn. Rashmi Kulkarni. On this occasion, a coffee table book about the 25 years was released in e- form which was followed by remembering the award winning Ekankika. Special thanks to Rtn. Bipinda to encapsulate the spirit of RCPM so beautifully and Ann. Snehalata and her team for the tremendous efforts of putting together the coffee table book whose front page is shown here.

