



POONA SERVICE WHEEL



R.I. District 3131

ROTARY CLUB OF POONA

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President

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Rtn Brig Prashant Sheode

The Rotary Foundation & Global Grants

Kailash Omprakash Monga was born on 26th November 1949 in Baroda. After doing schooling in Mumbai, he graduated from the College of Engineering Pune in Electronics & Telecommunications in the year 1972. He joined his father in the family business of Monga Electronics Pvt. Ltd., manufacturing Plastic Welding Machines at that time.

In 1995, he successfully negotiated technical collaboration with Strayfield Ltd, UK to manufacture Radio Frequency yarn drying machines in India by forming a 50:50 Joint venture company Monga Strayfield Pvt Ltd.

Over the years he has expanded this business with the help of his brothers & Children, and now the family owns three units in Bhosari & UK engaged in manufacturing Radio Frequency Drying machines for Textile and Food Industry. And have second vertical manufacturing Sheet Metal Cabinets.

Kailash joined Rotary Club of Poona in the year 1993 and became President of Rotary Club of Poona in the year 2000-01. He has actively worked on many assignments at District level in Rotary.

He has held positions of Chairman Matching grants, Assistant Governor, Avenue Chairman Club services, Avenue Chairman International Services, Chairman Awards & Trophies, Chairman IYE, District Rotary Foundation Chairman (DRFC), District Secy. co-ordination, Mentor Foundation, Mentor Water project, Chairman Strategic planning, Director Endowment & Major Gifts, Mentor Economic development, Director on to convention etc.

He is a Fourth level Major Donor having contributed more than 100,000/- US\$ so far to The Rotary Foundation, Kailash was on the board of Managing Committee of Royal Cannought Boat Club Pune for four years.

Kailash Married Lata, his classmate in Engineering college in the year 1972. Unfortunately, she expired in April 2016.

He is blessed with two sons. Rakesh the Elder one is taking care of UK operations and Amol the younger one is working at Bhosari plant. Both are married happily. He is blessed with three grandchildren.

Kailash has been active sportsman as he represented his college in Hockey, Chess and Badminton. At this age he regularly plays Bridge and Golf.

He loves traveling, and Karaoke Singing. For the last few years he has developed passion for Photography and has done several photography tours to hone his photography skills. Wildlife Photography is his passion. In the process he has touched all the seven continents of the world including Antarctica and North Arctic seas and travelled to more than 50 countries so far.

He loves driving and has covered full length and breadth of India driving all the way to Kashmir from Pune way back in 1972. He has participated in three Rotary Car rallies so far driving single handedly.

27th January 2025

ROTARY CLUB OF POONA
Invites you for a Talk on
The Rotary Foundation & Global Grants

By PP Kailash Monga

The things you do for yourself
are gone when you are gone.
The things you do for others
remain your legacy...

Venue: Conf Hall # 2, Poona Club
Fellowship: 6:30 to 7:00 pm
Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 pm
Followed by Mini Fellowship
Guest Charges : ₹ 350
Madira on Payment
Dress Code: Semi Formals



January 20, 2025, was a red-letter day for the Rotary Club of Poona. It was the day we scored another “first” by launching Rotary-Mate, an AI companion to the new website of the club, for answering questions on all things Rotary.

It was a formal meeting as was evidenced by the well-cut suits of the gentlemen and colourful sarees of the ladies. District Governor Rtn. Sheetal Shah, ADG Dr. Prachi Pandya and District Director TRF Promotion Rtn PP Nitin Muley were gracing the occasion with their presence. The launching was done by the DG amidst joyful applause.

‘Rotary Mate’ is the world’s first multilingual AI Chabot, currently available in three languages – English, Marathi and Hindi with more languages in the offing. It will go live on 26-01-2025 and will be available to Rotary Clubs all over the world to answer all Rotary related questions either from a carefully curated list or one’s own. This groundbreaking innovation owes its birth to our “tech king” Rtn. Col Bharat Haladi whose expertise combined with dedicated hard work has revolutionized Rotary communication and made it available to all. Rtn Bharat’s creation reaffirms our status as “first amongst equals”! Three cheers Bharat !

The evening also saw the induction of the newly minted Rtn. Dipika Nanjappa, a second-generation Rotarian and the 20th lady member of our club. Rtn. Dipika, who is a dedicated social worker, and a keen bridge player is sure to prove to be a valuable addition to our membership.

A third notable event was the distribution of certificates and pins to the newly enrolled Paul Harris Fellows. This latest addition leaves us just a little short of being a fully PHF enrolled club. Earlier in the evening the DG had an opportunity to meet some of the young members of our Interact club and their teachers. Led by our very able Interact chair Rtn Daljeet Raizada, there was a free exchange of views which enabled the DG to assess the reactions, aspirations and requirements of the youngsters as well as their teachers.

In his address the DG gave an overview of the worldwide operation of Rotary International and reiterated the credo of Rotary that all members are expected to abide by AG Dr. Prachi Pandya’s very complimentary remarks about the warmth of the reception accorded to her and the camaraderie she experienced were most gratifying. Rtn PP. Nitin Muley congratulated the new PH Fellows and exhorted us to become a 100% PHF Club in the near future while Rtn. Sunil Shah of RC Pune East urged us to register for the forthcoming district conference

President Gen. Amar extended our thanks to the visiting dignitaries and declared the meeting closed. A special dinner expertly curated by the multi-talented Ann Turan was enjoyed by all.

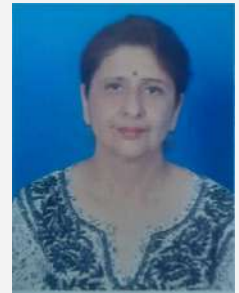
.... By Rtn Mandakini Tata



Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to the development of computer systems capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence. These tasks include recognizing speech, making decisions, identifying patterns, and solving problems. AI encompasses a wide range of technologies, including machine learning, deep learning, and natural language processing (NLP)

'Reminiscing 35 years of Flights, Friendships & Memories'

I am a proud Air Indian and was fortunate to be a part of the Air India family during its glorious years. Our motto by the late JRD Tata was **"You are never fully dressed unless you wear a smile"** and believe me, those were the years we had a lot of to smile about.



I have always wanted to be an air hostess since my school days and was elated on being selected and flew for 35 memorable years. We had to undergo a 3-month rigorous training where I learned many things. The art of being well groomed, the many nuances of food, wine and cheese, how to extinguish a fire and open heavy AC doors, evacuate a full flight in 90 seconds, the art of administering CPR and first aid and above all how to transfer a bomb to the least risk area!



Finally, I owned my wings and the power that came with them. Fancy hotels, buffets, sightseeing and shopping, the joy of visiting family and friends settled abroad and for me the highlight, meeting my heart throb, the charming Shashi Kapoor.



My dreams of visiting the Eiffel Tower, tossing a coin into the Trevi Fountain and singing "New York New York" at Times Square came true so swiftly. Yet nothing prepared me for the sheer bone exhaustion of a 16-hour flight where I happily choose room service and sleep over sightseeing and buffets. I was not told that year after year I could miss Diwali, Christmas, New Years and family birthdays. The worst was being 35,000 feet above sea level when my beloved grandfather left this world forever.

My dream job taught me a lot, paramount among them was dealing with different personalities. You name them and we saw them all. Pleasant, demanding, whining, complaining, rude and then some indifferent. I recall with a smile and sometimes a hearty laugh how on a Gulf flight a passenger felt he needed to test the life vest. It was a loud hissing that drew attention to the comical site of the poor man who sat horrified in an inflated life vest with eyes as biggest saucers.

Being an Air Indian meant going the extra mile, giving away a share of meals and fruits to passengers who suddenly changed a meal preference, serving endless cups of tea, coffee, juice and alcohol and often discreetly handling a couple of pegs to men in the galley whose wives denied them the small joy. We always tried our best to ensure that passengers deplaned happily. The most challenging part of my job was doing the balancing act with home and career. I would have to tear myself away from my sweet baby girl for heartbreaking days on end. I walked the tightrope as I juggled a baby and job for several years. My hubby who I met on the job was a constant source of encouragement and support along with other family members who enabled me to pursue my dream.

I will forever hold close to my heart the special bond that is forged between flight crew and the unique life well lived. I'm eternally grateful to Air India for this dream job and the incredible opportunities it gave me along with the wonderful experience and memories which I will forever cherish.

..... **By R/Ann Dilshad Dadachanji**



Glimpses



Glimpses



Glimpses



Glimpses



Sunday Musings

Beer is warm!

Last weekend, I had a chance to sit quietly, sipping my beer and replay the highlights “*What did I do last year*” on my memory silver screen.

The little wins, the little defeats, the little gains, the little losses, the little appreciations, the little criticisms. What's common across all is the word ‘*Little*’. I have observed that what you are not capable of, you can't even think and if you can think it, you are capable of it. I live such a small life. Such little impact. One day as we all will, I will disappear and what difference is my presence making that my absence would point to?

What really hit me is Elon Musk's question to Parag Agrawal the CEO of Twitter he fired. In a public spat with him he asked him, What have you got done last week?

For some reason, this has got stuck within my head. *What have I got done last year?* The trick here is not what we did, we the mediocre measure our life by what we did, the outstanding ones measure their life by what got done.

What I got done in a week would be too embarrassing, so I thought a year is a long enough time frame. Well, it didn't change the embarrassment. What have I really accomplished last year? Little wins, little improvements, little highs - is all I can boast off.

Most of us live ordinary lives, somehow, we entertain ourselves by believing making money, buying expensive toys and having our pictures splashed in media are accomplishments. How ordinary it is!

In my growing up years, I knew just one thing, I don't want to live an ordinary life. A mediocre life that doesn't count for anything. The measure of a life is the impact it has on others. Is our life reducing human pain or furthering human progress? If not it's an ordinary life. Yet all I have to stake claim to are the *little* accomplishments that under our microscopic lens we blow them up to fool ourselves.

If you have the courage to be brutally honest - at least to yourself, ask yourself - so *What have you got done in your life so far?*

Cheers!!

.....Rtn PP Jaideep Parekh

Birthday / Anniversary	Dates
Rtn Trupti Sameer Gowarikar	29- Jan
Rtn Mandakini Tata	29- Jan
Rtn Ravindra D Gosavi	30- Jan
Rtn Deepak Shikarpur	30- Jan



Programmes Ahead

03 Feb :
'Humour in Rotary' by PDG
Deepak Shikarpur

10 Feb :
No Meeting

17 Feb :
TBD

Attendance Report 20 Jan 2025	Count
Rotarians	55
Anns	25
Spouses	02
DG,AG, Visiting Rotarians	05
Guests / Speaker	-
TOTAL	87