

ROTARY CLUB OF PUNE CENTRAL

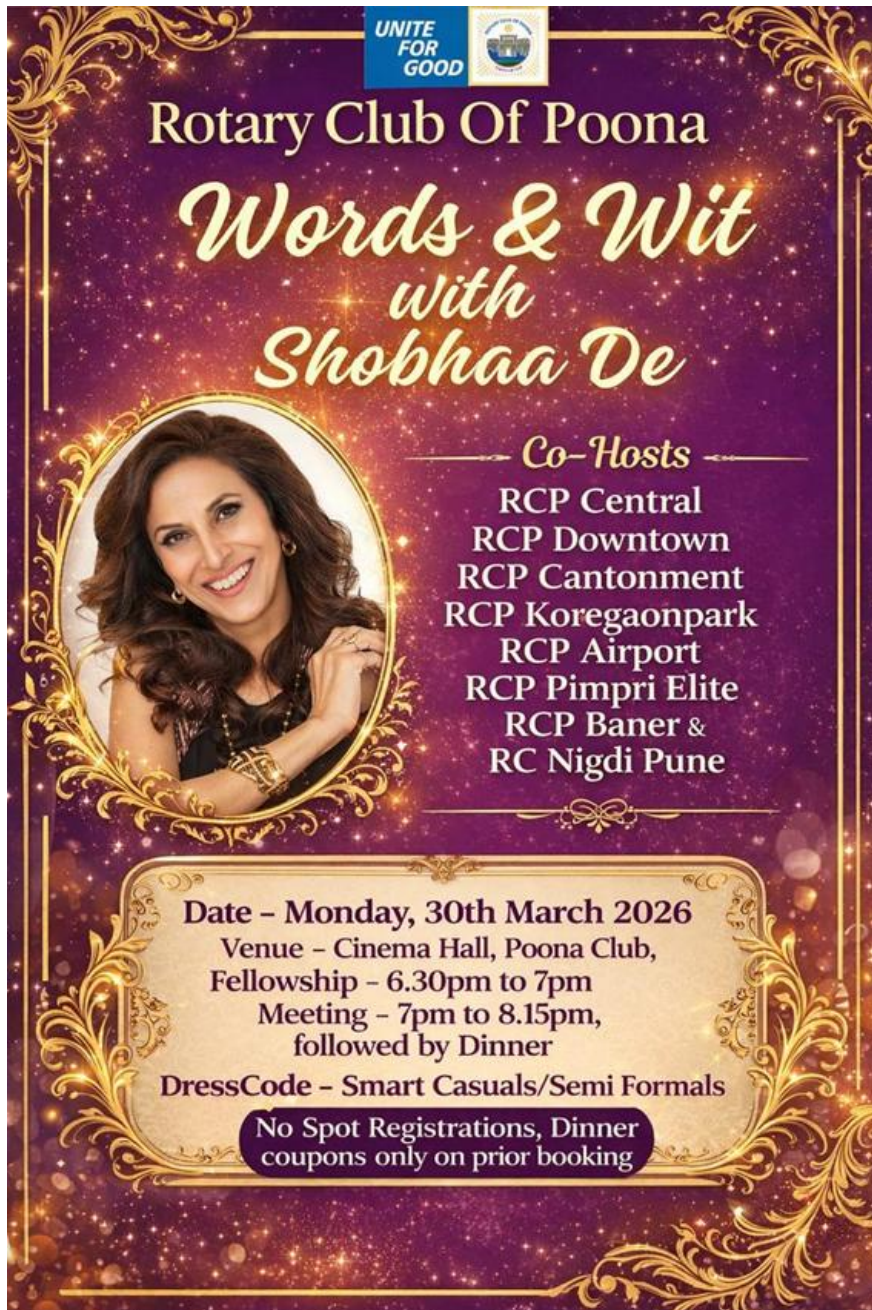
CENTRAL TURF


The Bulletin

PRESIDENT: RTN. LEKHA NAIR | HON. SECRETARY AND BULLETIN EDITOR: RTN. KRISHNA KUMAR

VOLUME NO XLII/17 | DATED 29 March, 2026

Meeting on Monday, 30 March 2026



UNITE FOR GOOD 

Rotary Club Of Poona

Words & Wit
with
Shobhaa De

Co-Hosts

- RCP Central
- RCP Downtown
- RCP Cantonment
- RCP Koregaonpark
- RCP Airport
- RCP Pimpri Elite
- RCP Baner & RC Nigdi Pune

Date - Monday, 30th March 2026
Venue - Cinema Hall, Poona Club,
Fellowship - 6.30pm to 7pm
Meeting - 7pm to 8.15pm,
followed by Dinner

DressCode - Smart Casuals/Semi Formals

No Spot Registrations, Dinner coupons only on prior booking

In this Issue

- RCPC news
- Special feature on Mulshi - Part 1
- Celebrations

Shobhaa De, popularly known as the “social queen”, is a pathbreaking author, columnist and journalist and has written over 25 books and dabbled with all forms of media. She is famous for her bold, engaging commentary on social, political, and celebrity life. She redefined journalism in India by founding magazines like Stardust and became one of the country's highest-selling authors of fiction. She is known for her no-nonsense, sharp, witty and unapologetic style.

Enjoy the show!



Says Krishna.....
krsnarti@gmail.com

I was consistently taught in my career, that showing up is important. No matter whether you agree, disagree, object, one needs to show up.

Showing up is a basic key to success and building strong relationships, often representing 80% of life's achievements. It signifies reliability, consistency, and dedication, establishing trust in both personal and professional spheres. Showing up, even when hesitant, overcomes resistance and opens doors to new opportunities, experiences, and deep connections.

Showing off, to the contrary is not advisable.

Speaking of which, Rtn. Narendra Sanghvi is one person I admire for consistently showing up..... at Mulshi – where there is a need and representing RCPC in the social efforts to empower the community of Mulshi.

I am glad to present Part I – of Mulshi – the work that is going on there and the incredible efforts being made by Rtn. Narendra Sanghvi. I felt it would be perfect to let him speak his thoughts – hence the foreword by him – in his own words.

Mulshi is a taluka in Pune district, Maharashtra, known for the Mulshi Dam, scenic landscapes, and a population of 171,006 (2011 census). It has significant rural character with 10.58% Scheduled Castes (SC) and 4.34% Scheduled Tribes (ST). Historically rural and educationally underdeveloped, the area is experiencing transition through educational, agricultural, and development-led projects.

Backward Classes and Social Structure

- **Population Demographics:** According to the 2011 Census, Mulshi Taluka has a significant population belonging to marginalized communities. SCs constitute roughly 10.58% and STs around 4.34% of the total population. In specific areas like Mulshi Khurd, SC/ST presence is notable.
- **Marginalized Groups:** The area includes Other Backward Classes (OBC), such as the Kunbi community, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and De-notified Tribes (Vimukta Jati).
- **Development Challenges:** Many rural residents, especially in areas affected by the early 20th-century Mulshi Satyagraha against the Tata dam project, faced displacement. Historical challenges included tenants losing land rights to absentee landlords during industrial acquisition.

With this background, I encourage you to read on...and applaud Rtn. Narendra Sanghvi.

Krishna

SPECIAL FEATURE ON MULSHI – PART 1 – Foreword by Rtn. Narendra Sanghvi



I began the Mulshi journey with RCPC about 15 yrs ago at ZP School SUS (near Pashan which falls under Mulshi district). There are about 200 ZP schools in Mulshi and we decided to serve as many schools as possible.

There was need for benches/ science Labs / English Learning / E Learning digital literacy / Alexa dolls for better communications and skill sets. We donated different items to various schools at different point of time depending on the funds available. We are glad to inform that till date we must have assisted about 100 schools (50 schools have been personally visited).

Here we acknowledge the help and cooperation of Mr. Sanjay Despande of Chaitanya software in our social endeavour. Our approach has always been bottoms up - dialogue with the teachers and visit as many schools as possible. Even today, we are in direct touch with many teachers sharing their joys and achievements from time to time.

From this year on we have shifted our focus from ZP Schools to semi-government high schools especially 10th to 12th standard.

The need of the hour for these students is:

- A. English communication
- B. Career guidance n vocational services n training. The priority here is employment.
- C. Social n Emotional Learning
- D. Introduction to basic AI
- E. Entrepreneurship

We have collaborated with Mrs Supriya / NIIT Foundation. They have their own training centre at Pirangut for digital/ financial /Basic AI skills at very subsidised fees. We have identified about 18/20 high schools in Mulshi.

The NIIT team has already started visiting these schools to introduce and make them aware of what is currently needed. NIIT has a large data base of all the rural students n graduates throughout India.

We have also stated online training for various fields. Rotarian Arun Jindal's daughter Aroshi has started teaching English online. Our member Minal Kering has started physical counselling sessions and shorty would also start online. Next year we want to move deeper with NIIT by aggressively and regularly visiting all the schools and also conduct online classes in any field as required by NIIT for the rural students and graduates.

It is very obvious that India can't grow without the support and growth of Bharat overall (rural students/graduates).

It is with this firm belief and conviction that Rotary has to and is moving in this direction. I am personally very glad n happy to be a part of this journey.

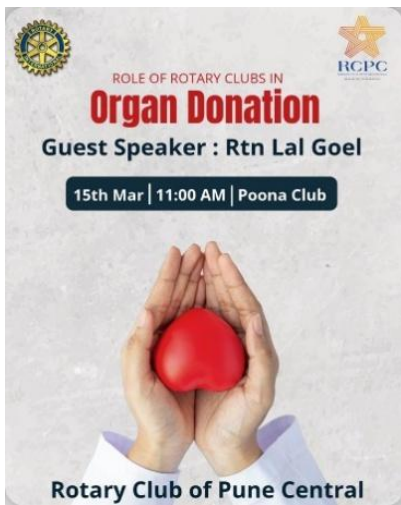
Club Meeting on 7 March 2026 – Gaana aaye ya na aaye



A mesmerizing evening by vocalist and founder of The Kalakari Studio, Urvashi Shah, kept the audience spellbound, during her performance on 7th March 2026 at the RCPC meeting, titled “Gaana aaye ya na aaye, gaana chahiye”.

The highlight was her ability to involve the members in an interactive session to simplify and decodify singing.

Club Meeting on 15 March 2026 – Talk on Organ Donation



Rtn. Lal Goel, Charter President of the Rotary Club of Organ Donation International (Rotary District 3141 Mumbai) gave an interesting talk on organ donation at the RCPC club meeting held on 15th March 2026 at the Poona Club. His talk was based on his expert knowledge gained through decades of experience and involvement in organ donation. The talk was an eye-opener and clarified a lot of myths and notions about organ donation.



Organ donation is a profound act of altruism that saves lives by transferring healthy organs from donors to recipients in need, with one donor able to save up to eight lives. This crucial medical practice addresses the chronic shortage of organs for transplanting, offering a second chance at life and significantly improving the recipient's quality of life



Satara Dam project – Bhoomi Pujan



The Bhoomi Pujan of the dam repair project in Satara was organised by Rtn. Giri Sakhrani on 24th of March 2026. The project involves, repairing leakage in the dam and desilting of the catchment area. The cost of the project is estimated at Rs 22-25 lakhs. The event was attended by Rtn. Giri Sakhrani, Rtn. Jeevan and R'Ann Renu Mahaldar, Rtn. PE Parvin Malhotra, Rtn. Julius Rocque, Rtn. Vaishali Karwa & President Rtn. Lekha Nair.

Project Setu – Bridge to Freedom



The inauguration of Project Setu – Bridge to Freedom – a deaddiction program, was conducted at Triveni ashram, in Khed Taluka attended by dignitaries of AOL and RCPC and other Rotary clubs as well.

The RCPC–Art of Living joint initiative, Project Setu, aimed at supporting people suffering from addictions, was inaugurated on Sunday, 8th March at the Triveni Ashram of AoL in Khed Taluka.

Through this initiative, we hope to support individuals facing addiction challenges and help them rebuild their lives with dignity and renewed

purpose.

Project coordinators Non-Medical Director Rtn. Jeevan Mahaldar and Committee Chairman, Rtn. Aseem Srivastav made herculean efforts to initiate and plan this project and get an MoU done with Art of Living (AOL).

We thank donors who supported this initiative:

Rtn. Yogesh Shah, Rtn. Jeevan Mahaldar, Rtn. Aseem Srivastav, Rtn Deepak Bharadia, Rtn. Cawas Pundole, Rtn. Vaishali Karwa and Rtn. PP Dr Nasir Kazi.

The event was attended by Rtn. PE Parvin Malhotra, Rtn. Sanjay Karwa, Rtn. Julius Rocque, R'Ann Alka Srivastav and R'Ann Renu Mahaldar.



Paper bag initiative in Rahimatpur, Satara



As part of this effort, Rtn Surendra Shroff organised a paper bag making workshop for women, helping them create eco-friendly alternatives to plastic bags while also generating livelihood opportunities. This initiative builds on the need to make the community cleaner and greener.

Rtn. Pankaj Mehrotra's niece, Ankita performs in Pune



Ankita Kumar, Rtn. Pankaj Mehrotra's niece, performed during her Piano Concert at FTIL, Law College Road, Pune on 20 March 2026. She teaches and mentors Piano enthusiasts nationally and Internationally. (check her out on google: Colours of Music, Ankita Kumar). The concert was attended by Rtn. Ajit Kumar Singh of RCPC. Air Marshal Bhushan N Gokhale graced the occasion. Ankita has earlier conducted charity concerts for RCPC.

Contributed by Rtn. Pankaj Mehrotra

- 1) When the axe came to the forest, the trees said the handle was one of us. Until they felt its cuts: BETRAYAL IS within.
- 2) When a kid grows up, a pencil is replaced by a pen just to make the kid realize that now it is not easy to erase the mistake.
- 3) If loyalty was real, water is not supposed to cook the fish.
- 4) How I wish RIP means Return If Possible.
- 5) One sad truth about life is that you may not even be part of the future you're stressed about.
- 6) The day you lose your father is the day you will realize that you have lost the only man who wanted to see you better than him.
- 7) The sheep lived all her life, fearing the wolf, but it was the shepherd that finally killed it.
- 8) When we were kids, we cried loudly to be noticed. But now we cry silently because we don't want anyone to know.
- 9) Just because you're a good person, doesn't mean the world owes you kindness.
- 10) When the blind man sees, he throws away the stick that has been helping him for years.
- 11) Nowadays, you MAY need money to become a member of your own family.
- 12) FAMILY is like a FOREST from a distance. They are all close until you get closer to see how SEPARATED trees are!

What to expect in the coming weeks

- **April 04** — To be announced.
- **April 11** — Mughlai Fellowship at Poona Golf Course Terrace.
- **April 18** — DG Visit
- **April 25**— Committee Meeting Day

Celebrations – April 2026



Rtn / R'Ann

R'Ann Tanuja Agarwal
Rtn. Rajeshwari Sharma
Rtn. Dr. Gururaj Lachyan
R'Ann Madhulika Pittie

Rtn. Nitin Vijaivergia
Rtn. PP Dr. Aruna Umranikar
Rtn. Sharad Kumar
Rtn. PP Arvind Saraf
R'Ann Saroj Gugle
R'Ann Archana Biyani
R'Ann Neena Malhotra
Rtn. Pankaj Mehrotra
Rtn. Gurvinder Singh Patheja
R'Ann Smita Hardas

Birthday

April 6
April 7
April 8
April 9
April 10
April 11
April 13
April 17
April 20
April 21
April 23
April 25
April 25
April 28



Member and Spouse

Rtn. PP Narayandas and Rtn. Aruna Rathi
Rtn. Aseem and R'Ann Alka Srivastav
Rtn. Sanjiv and R'Ann Tanuja Agarwal
Rtn. Vaishali and Rtn. Sanjay Karwa
Rtn. Vimal and R'Ann Krishna Saboo
Rtn. Rajesh and R'Ann Dr. Pushpa Yadav
Rtn. Shireesh and R'Ann Mukta Nadkar
Rtn. Madhvi and Mr. Sonjoy Kshetry
Rtn. PP Sukhminder and R'Ann Sweety Kalra

Wedding Anniversary

April 5
April 15
April 15
April 16
April 18
April 19
April 25
April 29
April 30