



ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN

Club Regn. No. : 043290002/3842 • Charter Recd. : 17.06.1986

METRO VOICE

Website : www.rccmetropolitan.org RY 21-22

Rotary 

PRESIDENT : DR SOMEN GHOSH • HONY. SECRETARY : PP SASHI DHACHOLIA • EDITOR : PP SASHI DHACHOLIA

1610th REGULAR MEETING

VOL 36, NO. 07

25th September 2021



Rotary



ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN

Cordially welcomes you to attend a virtual session on

**"OPENING DOORS OF RESPECT & DIGNITY TO THE WORLD
'OTHER'S' TRANSGENDERS"**



~By Rtn. Runjhun Gupta



Venue :- Zoom

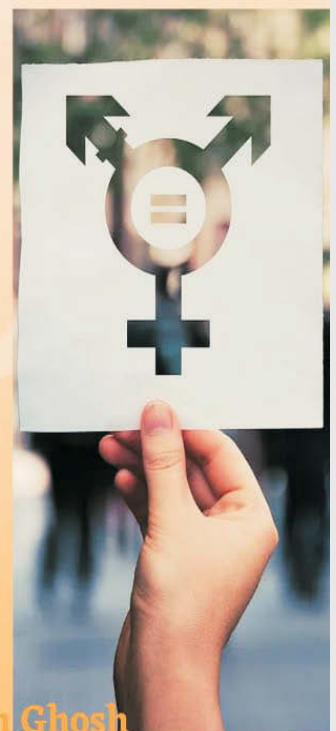
Date :- Saturday, 25th September, 2021

Time :- 2:30 P.M.

Meeting ID - 756 546 6446

Zoom :-

Password - RCCM



Hony Secretary :- Sashi Dhacholia

President :- Dr. Somen Ghosh

**Women of Wonder, Ms Runjhun Gupta...this "WOW girl", was born in Kolkata.
She is also fondly called "RJ" by her friends.**



PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

She is a certified handwriting analyst, tarot card reader & reiki healer. She is single, but her hobby list is multiple which includes, painting, sketching and playing the drums. She is a trained dancer for styles like salsa, merengue, jive and

belly dancing. She is a writer and has a popular series "Reflections of Runjhun" and has performed in theatre as lead. She has been "Model of the year" for Bangalore's Best, and a jury for fashion shows. Watch out as she is also a **karate black belt!**

ARCHITECTURAL JOURNEY:

Two key scholarships in her 10th standard in school and 12th standard brought her to Bangalore where she pursued architecture from BMS college. She was amongst one of the top 5 rank holders in her batch.

After training under few Architects, she realized she can only be her own boss. She started her company, **WOW Creations.**

Beginning was with zero finance and no family support and just 2 clients in hand along with a laptop and camera.

Today they have over 750 plus clients both pan India and internationally. Her projects have won design awards for innovative concepts and also featured in News, with the latest being at Bengaluru airport.

She believes the true success of the business is the point where it can function with the same passion and vision you began it with, without you needing to be there.

Today she plays the role of Vision dreamer developer Head, while the company created by her is run by her partners and a group of entrepreneurs creating "WOW".

Her desire is to give back to society by providing employment to over 500 students especially women across 2 tier cities through her work annually.

Her company WOW Creations also designs one project every year for a NGO free of cost

BNI JOURNEY:

One year in business also got her introduced to BNI as a member and today after 12 years, 95% of her business comes from BNI. Playing various roles as Director, Senior Director, Area Director consultant, and serving in various roles in leading, supporting and training a region of 2000 plus successful business entrepreneurs and won awards nationally and internationally, she is now Regional Director for Kolkata.

She has played key roles in training cities in India like Mumbai, Bangalore, Mysore, Cyprus near Greece and South Korea, Uganda.

The only director in India to have won the "Buffalo award" at International conference, nominated by other directors across the globe.

Only Director in Bangalore to have won the "All-rounder title" for launch, training, support.

She has been part of 19 chapter launches and all her personally launched chapters are all Hall of Fame chapters.

Starting 2017, She currently also owns the BNI Franchise in Kolkata, BNI Kolkata CBDB and is passionate about putting Kolkata on the world map for being a city for new age businesses, as she believes Kolkata is a city of untapped potentials of people who even do business with heart and will change the way the world does business and build a happy region

BUSINESS COACH:

She is an IOD certified Independent Director.

She is a certified Trainer for Asentive south india franchise, playing a key role in transforming businesses, as a Business Coach. She is continuing to mentor and support businesses to grow to the next desired level.

December 2019, she got nominated as International Ambassador for IBD representing India, becoming bridge between Investors, Influencers, Innovators across the Globe.

January 2020, she was invited as Global Ambassador for GSFI CXO Connect for Investor Relations & Alliances, where the mission is to empower future infra and build credible partnerships.

She is also positioned as a Thought leader as space design expert combining design with technology.

She is invited to deliver various keynotes nationally and internationally.

RECOGNITION:

She was felicitated at **GCC awards** as **Only Women Entrepreneur** amongst 20 leading entrepreneurs.

She was awarded "**Woman Super Achiever Award**" at the 7th world women leadership congress awards.

Recently awarded "**Atmanirbhar Bharat award**" for Women in Excellence by PM Modi and Indian Achievers Award.

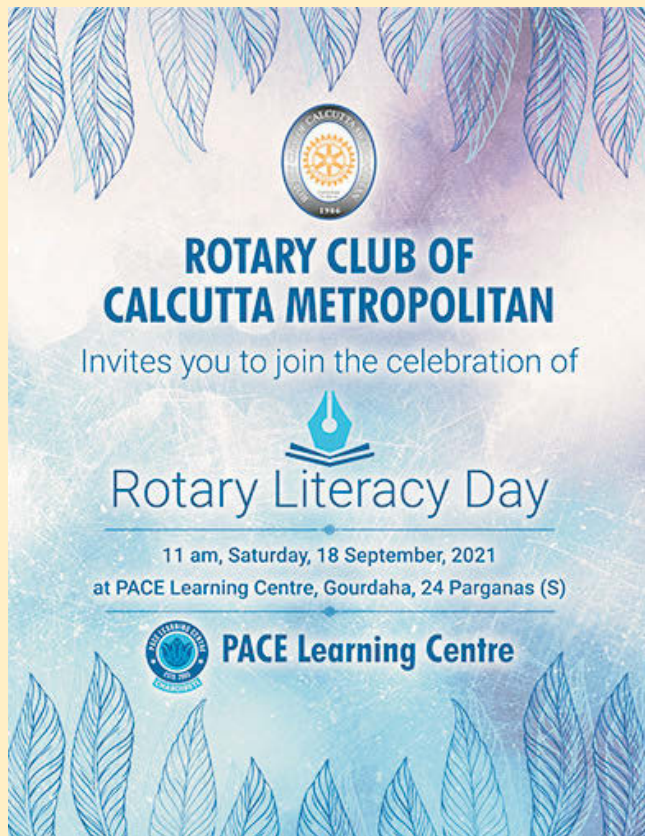
Her vision is to leave a legacy behind by utilizing their unique usp of using **design with technology**, which will house her office on the top floor with a helipad, to fly in clients from across the world.

One word to describe her company and her passion is **WOW!**

Mobile: 9845286382

Email : runjhun@bni-india.in

Rotary Literacy Day Celebration



On 18.09.21 PACE Learning Centre celebrated Rotary Literacy Day at PLC premises. The event was very enjoyable for the participants.

The two hours event consists of book cover making and poster making. The activities were arranged based on age group. The junior group was assigned with the activity of making a book cover based on the genre they were given which they found very interesting as it was introduced to them for the first time. Even the nonparticipants came and extended their help to make those book covers unique and meaningful. The activity of poster making on "Women Empowerment" and "Health" was given to the senior students which reflected their concept on the both the topics. In one and half years after the outbreak of pandemic there was a physical activity for the students where enthusiastic participation was seen.

The teachers found the selection process very tough as all the participants put their best effort to manifest their idea of women empowerment or COVID Safety Measures. The winner groups were called up on the stage and awarded with small gifts.

At the end of the programme the students also expressed how happy they were to participate in a group activity in school after a long time.

By Joyeeta Chatterjee – Principal, PLC



Distribution of Masks and Sanitizers on 15.9.2021

Distribution of Masks and Sanitizers took place on 15.9.2021 at The Institute of Child Health (Park Circus) jointly with RC of Calcutta Charnock City, RC of Calcutta Endeavour, RC of Park Point and RC of Geetanjali Kolkata in presence of AG Service Rtn Partha Sarathi Sarkar, Rotaractors and Rotarians of participating Clubs.



Handing over Ceiling Fans to Arya Vidyalaya on 16.9.2021

Distribution of 10 Ceiling Fan Crompton to Arya Vidyalaya. The Ceiling Fans were given to the Principal of the School by PE Rtn Dr V K Nevatia and PN Rtn Rakesh K Goel on 16.9.2021.



CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to our Hony Secretary Rtn Sashi Dhacholia, have finally done (long overdue) RLI- Part-I and II.

Rotary  |  SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
District 3291

KEEP INDIA

POLIO FREE

TOGETHER, WE WILL

SNID - 26th September, 2021

An appeal – Say No To Plastic



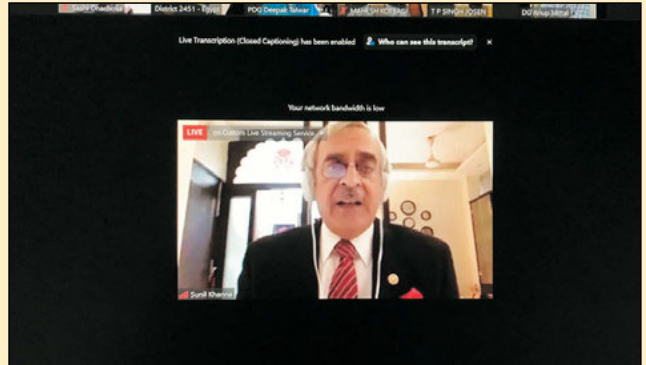
We start our environmental project with the note of replacing plastic bags with paper bags which will be procured from Mahavir Seva Sadan bearing the logo of our club.

The bags will be distributed at cross road (maybe Gariahat) by us along with the Rotaracts. In this context, I would like to request the members to donate old newspapers as a part of recycling ?? process either to PE Dr Rtn V K Nevatia or directly to MSS.

By President Dr Somen Ghosh, RCCM

Hybrid Regular Meeting on 18.9.2021

We held our first physical Regular meeting cum Online on 18.9.2021 as members wanted to meet their fellow Rotarians as no physical meet could held to pandemic situation. The Guest speaker was none other than our very own Hony member PDG Rtn Sylvia Whitlock, who spoke on "Importance of Education of Girl Child and its Impact on the Society". It was wonderful session by her and participants enjoyed every bit of it. After the meeting, dinner was served and members enjoyed the fellowship, which was long over due.



Presidential message – September 2021



Shekhar Mehta
President 2021-22

I am sure you are having an enriching experience as you Serve to Change Lives. One of the ways you can make the greatest change in a person's life is to help them learn to read. Literacy opens up the world to us. It makes us better informed about life in our own communities and opens vistas to other cultures. Reading and writing connects people and gives us another way to express our love for one another.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month in Rotary. Enhancing literacy skills is critical in our pursuit of reducing poverty, improving health, and promoting peace. In fact, if all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, it would result in a significant cut in global poverty rates.

Without education, illiterate children become illiterate adults. Today, 14 percent of the world's adult population - 762 million people - lack basic reading and writing skills. Two-thirds of that group are women. Literacy and numeracy skills are essential to obtaining better housing, health care, and jobs over a lifetime.

Especially for girls and women, literacy can be a life-or-death issue. If all girls completed their primary education, there would be far fewer maternal deaths. And a child is more likely to survive past age 5 if he or she is born to a mother who can read. Improving outcomes for more people worldwide is possible only if countries remove barriers to education for girls. The economic argument for doing so is clear: In some countries where schooling is geared toward boys, the cost of missed economic opportunity is more than \$1 billion per year.

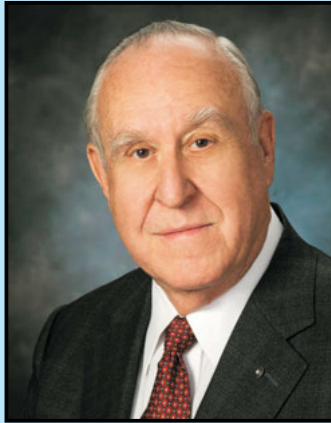
Empowering people through education is among the boldest goals we have as Rotarians. We don't have to travel far from our homes to encounter those whose lives are being curtailed because they struggle with reading, rely on others to read for them, or cannot write anything more than their own name.

Starting this month, consider how your club can Serve to Change Lives through literacy: Support local organizations that offer free programs to support adult literacy or local language learning, or that provide teachers with professional development centered around reading and writing. Become literacy mentors, or work with an organization like the Global Partnership for Education to increase learning opportunities for children around the world. Have conversations with local schools and libraries to see how your club can support their existing programs or help create needed ones in your community.

In India, the TEACH program, a successful collaboration between the country's Rotary clubs and its government, has demonstrated how to scale up literacy efforts to reach millions of children. And at a time when schools across India were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program's e-learning component reached more than 100 million children through national television.

Literacy is the first step out of poverty. As Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai has noted, "One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."

Trustee Chair's Message – September 2021



John F. Germ
Trustee Chair 2021-22

Malala Yousafzai is a young Pakistani activist for the education of girls and women. As a teenager, Malala, whom the world knows by her first name, courageously spoke out for the rights of girls to learn. Extremists in her country disagreed with Malala, and she was shot by a Taliban gunman on her way home from school.

But the attack didn't dissuade her; it made her more determined. As soon as she recuperated, she resumed her mission of education activism. Today the Malala Fund supports education through projects around the world.

Not only is Malala an inspiration for Rotary members, we also have some commonalities: a drive to do what is right, a passion for literacy, and the power to transform dreams into reality.

One of my life mottos is: If you can dream it, you can do it. This applies to everything Rotarians do, particularly with The Rotary Foundation. We literally make our dreams happen.

Like Malala, we know that literacy is, for many, the first step out of poverty. To put our vision into action, we first understand a community and the unique problems of its members, and then form a partnership with them. Next we join forces with others - exchanging ideas with clubs in other districts, and working with people and organizations outside of Rotary.

Our solution, in the form of a district grant or global grant, will be tailored for that community. And if it's a Rotary grant, you can bet it will be well-planned, strategic, and most of all, sustainable. We want that gift of literacy to not be a one-time book donation but a plan to transform a community over time.

Over the years, I have seen countless literacy efforts in Rotary, from national programs to local projects. When the global COVID-19 pandemic hit last year, many clubs took action to help communities adjust to online schooling, including providing laptop computers. Rotary's solutions are endless, our volunteers tireless. And if I know Rotarians, I know that more solutions are being created as I write these words.

Rotary's passion for literacy and education projects is well-known. So is our commitment to make them happen. You, through Rotary, are a big part of helping people take their first step out of illiteracy, out of poverty, and into something much better. Remember, if you can dream it, you can do it - just like Malala.

Minutes of the 1609th Regular Hybrid Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan on 18th September, 2021 at 7.30 PM at PACE Learning Centre, Piyali

1. The meeting was called to order by the President Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh.
2. In absence of Hony Secretary Rtn Sashi Dhacholia, who was attending the RLI-Part-II, the President requested PN Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel to act as Acting Hony Secretary.
3. President welcomed PDG Rtn Sylvia Whitlock, PDG Rtn Deepa Willingham, PP Rtn James Lewis, PDG Rtn Shyamashree Sen and other International Rotarians. President also welcomed President and other members of Rotaract team.
4. Minutes of 1608th Regular Meeting held on 29th August, 2021 were confirmed.
5. President Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh informed the members that the second phase of vaccination for cervical cancer was done in Piyali learning Center on 29th August, in which 102 girls were vaccinated.
6. President Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh informed about the activities done:
 - Joint project with RC of Calcutta Charnock City with other clubs on 15.9.2021 for the distribution of Mask and Sanitizers at Institute of Child Health (Park Circus)
 - Handing over of 10 Ceiling Crompton Fans to Arya Vidyalaya on 16.9.2021 in presence of PE Rtn Dr V K Nevatia and PN Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel.
7. President Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh made announcements for forthcoming events:
 - Cervical Cancer Vaccination Camp will be held in association with Don Bosco Past-pupil Alumni. The date will be announced soon.
 - Sub National Immunization Round (SNID) will be held on 26.9.2021. Banner will be displayed in our ward no.116, 117 and 118.
 - Hariyali, a District-3291 initiative on environment, the club will plant fruit and non-fruit bearing plants at Grand Lodge, Park Street.
- Paper bag initiative with DG Rtn Prabir Chatterjee of RID-3291 where paper bags will be encouraged instead of plastic bags. This awareness program will be held on 26.9.2021. The timings and the venue is yet to be decided according to weather conditions.
8. President Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh requested PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterjee to introduce PDG Rtn Sylvia Whitlock, who will speak on "Importance of Education of Girl Child and its impact on the Society". Dr Sylvia Whitlock spoke about girl empowerment. Dr. Sylvia Whitlock is an educationist who has been supporting PLC since its inception. She emphasized on women education for a society's growth. Dr Whitlock's speech threw light on the gender discrimination prevalent in the society. She shared the story of her struggle to become the first woman Rotarian. Her speech included PLC's contribution in transforming the lives of people in Piyali through education for last 17yrs. Although the pandemic forced school shut down has disrupted the study habits and created a rift between students and school, Dr Whitlock suggested probable solution to this problem. She mentioned the importance of yoga and counselling as remedies for this problem and inclusion of activity based learning in the education system.
9. President Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh displayed the Metro Voice dated 18.9.2021.
10. President Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh requested Acting Hony Secretary PN Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel to make the Club announcements:
 - Next Regular Meeting will be held on 25.9.2021. Necessary details will be announced later on.
 - There was no birthday and marriage anniversary announcements.
 - The Sunshine box collection was over above as usual.
11. Since there was no other business, the meeting was terminated.

Forthcoming Events

CLUB

26.09.2021	Plantation of Trees at The District Grand of Bengal, 19 Park Street, Kolkata-700 016 at 9.30 PM
26.09.2021	No to Plastic- Distribution of Paper bags at the crossing of Gariahat more at 11.30 PM. DG Rtn Prabir Chatterjee will join the occasion.
09.10.2021	Virtual Regular Meeting
23.10.2021	Virtual Regular Meeting



Sponsored by : A WELL WISHER

We meet every Saturday at 2.00 pm at The Conclave, 216, A J C Bose Road, Kolkata-700 017
 Published by : Rtn. Sashi Dhacholia, Mobile : 98310 14640, E-mail : sashidhacholia@gmail.com (For Private Circulation Only)
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