

AHANA

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REGULAR CLUB E-BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA JADAVPUR

RI PRESIDENT : RTN. R. GORDON R. MCINALLY : DISTRICT GOVERNOR : RTN. HIRALAL YADAV

PRESIDENT : RTN. PAROMITA DAS DUTTA : SECRETARY: RTN. (DR.) PARTHA PRATIM ROY EDITOR : RTN. (DR.) SOUVIK ROY
RCCJ MEETS EVERY ALTERNATE WEDNESDAY AT CRC, RABINDRA SAROBAR, 7:00 PM : E MAIL: rccjadavpur@gmail.com



December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month in Rotary. This is one of the prime areas of focus, and one in which many of Rotarians would be aware of the numerous projects around the world, supported by clubs and the Foundation, that contribute not only to healthy communities, but peaceful ones. Disease prevention and treatment include immunizing people, creating public awareness regarding contagious diseases, improving the standard of potable water and the hygienic sanitation infrastructure. So, let us all come together and join our hands in making the world, a disease-free one.

Rtn Dr. Souvik

MINUTES OF THE 2112th MEETING OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA JADAVPUR, HELD AT SHIVMANDIR COMMUNITY HALL, KOLKATA, ON 22ND NOVEMBER, 2023 AT 7 PM

President Rtn Paromita called the 2112th meeting to order. This RCM was held on 22nd November, 2023 from 7pm onwards at Shivmandir Community Hall, 25, Lake Temple Road, Kolkata 29. She requested Rtn Chandan Das to lead the National Anthem. She thanked Rtn Chandan da for leading the National anthem and welcomed all the Rotarians present. President Rtn Paromita briefed about the service projects held during the last fortnight. Children's Day Program at SSKM Hospital was held today 14th November 2023 from 11 am to 1 pm at SSKM Hospital Main Auditorium. About 70 children suffering from thalassemia and cancer survivors along with their parents were present. Many Rotarians, Doctors, Nursing personnel and staff of IPGME&R SSKM & Kolkata Police Hospital were present. Director SSKM Dr Manimoy Bandyopadhyay and other senior HOD's were present. The programme comprised of speeches on Thalassemia and Pediatric Cancer, Speech by Director, SSKM, Speech by PP Rtn Partha Sarathi

Sarkar, Dance performance by hospital staff and Thalassemia affected child, Moumita Das, Gymnastics by a young Thalassemia affected boy, Puppet show and last but not the least Magic show. Food and goodie bags for the kids were arranged by RCC Presidency. RCC Charnock City arranged the Puppet Show. Gifts for the resident pediatric patients (approx 300) of SSKM were arranged by RCCJ and RCC Mahanagar. RCC Aabahoman donated a 56" flat screen TV for the Pediatric Ward. The programme was a grand success. It cheered up the brave children confronting daunting challenges from the early phase of life. District Governor Hiralal Yadav, PDG Rajani da, PDG Prabir da and other office bearers of district 3291 were present. From RCCJ PP Rtn Kunal da, PP Rtn Partha Pratim da, PP Rtn Partha Sarkar da, Rtn Shikha di, Rtn Jharna di, Rtn Manas da, Rtn Koyeli and President Paromita were present. A cheque of ₹30000 was received from RCC Presidency for the Pediatric Cancer fund. The district Bijoya Diwali Meet was held on 18th

November 2023. PP Rtn Kunal da, Rtn Jharna Di and PP Rtn Jaydeb Da represented RCCJ.

Announcement was made by President regarding letter received from District regarding nomination of DGND. President announced that any interested member may put in request before 11th December in prescribed format to DG's office.

President invited proposal for formation of next Board. Panel has to be submitted on next RCM date, i.e. 06.12.23. The name of Rtn Bhaskar Chanda was proposed as Election Officer.

President appealed to all members to donate generously for TRF. She announced a donation of

\$100 towards the same.

Club Secretary PP Rtn Dr Partha Pratim Roy conducted the club business by congratulating the following members on their birthdays:

BIRTHDAYS:

- Rtn Chandan Das – 2nd December
- Rtn Tapati – 2nd December
- Rtn Samirendu Dutt – 3rd December

ANNIVERSARY:

- Rtn Manasij and Ann Amrita – 6th December

The meeting was formally closed by President Rtn Paromita.

Happy Anniversaries Wishes!!

Rtn. Gautam Chakravarty & Mrs. Devi Chakravarty

- 12th December

Ideas, Feedback & Suggestions



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ROTARY ANNS!

Rtn. Sambhu Narayan Banerjee

Hony. Member, RCCJ



Only in 1989, Council on Legislation (COL) voted to admit women into Rotary clubs. So prior to this time, the question of the existence of Lady Rotarian did not arise. Even almost up to 1950, ladies were

denied to join in any Rotary program. Until 1989, the wives of Rotarians were addressed as Rotary Anns or only Annes. From 1990 Rotary had both male & female members and the husbands / wives of Rotarians were initially addressed as spouses of Rotarians. Of late, spouses are renamed as partners which is very common in western countries but not common in India till now. Anyway, the spouse or partner being dictionary words are understandable to all, However, even many Rotarians do not know the source of words Anns or Annes as they were addressed to the wives of Rotarians prior to 1990. The story behind this term is as below:

As stated above - earlier it was not customary for the wives of Rotarians to accompany their husbands to

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT : BLOCK THE DATES

- ANNUAL PICNIC - 21st January, 2024
- Annual Fundraising Programme of "Life Beyond Cancer" - 17th February, 2024
- DG Visit - 21st February, 2024
- Annual Family Trip - 24th - 25th February, 2024

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any Rotary program. In 1914, the California Rotarians chartered a train to the RI convention in Houston. One lady, the wife of a San Francisco Club President, Rtn. Henry Brunner (Bru) insisted and joined the team. As the train left the station, as usual, the Rotarians greet each other by calling their first names. One of the Rotarians wanted to greet the said single lady and said her "I do not want to call you as Mrs. Brunner. What is your first name?" The lady replied, "Ann". The festive group immediately nicknamed her "Rotary Ann". She became so popular during the long train journey that Bru joked he never had to buy her a meal because she was always a guest at some group's table. Thus, the word 'Ann' was adopted in subsequent COL.

A FRIGHTENING INCIDENT

Rtn. Sambhu Narayan Banerjee

Hony. Member, RCCJ



My ancestral place is village Labpur in Birbhum district. Once we had some ascendancy in the district and in the village but now we have some deserted old so called Zamindary style ghostly buildings

surrounded by ponds, trees and some wrecked houses there. Hardly any one of us goes there other than festive times. Mostly, bats, rats, snakes and owls live in the house for the rest of the period.

Sometime in the late 90s, there was a need for me to visit there and no one in my family was willing to accompany me at that odd time. So, I braved going there alone. In our large vacant house one village boy used to stay as caretaker. When I reached my village house by the afternoon train, the said caretaker was excited to see me and told me that he wanted to go at night to his own home as he had not visited his parents for long. I could not say no to him on the ground he requested. He kept my bed ready and arranged dinner also. I decided to have an early dinner and go to bed as my job was the following morning at some government office.

With lots of effort, I could sleep so early with some fear in my mind as I heard many ghostly stories during my childhood in that area from my grandmother. She also told me, ghosts are afraid of Gayatri mantra.

After midnight, I heard some brass vessels had fallen

on the floor. I courageously took it as some big rats must have shaken it. I again tried to sleep and suddenly, I felt someone was shaking me. I was really frightened at that time and was certain that a ghost had come and was doing all these mischievous activities.

Immediately, I remembered the advice of my grandmother and started chanting Gayatri mantra which I learnt at the time of my sacred thread ceremony which may be 50 years back and not chanted thereafter. To my utter surprise the shaking was stopped when I was confident that the magic of the mantra had driven the ghost away.

RI NEWS CORNER !!

**Presidential Message
December 2023**



R. Gordon R. McNally

Rotary International President 2023-24

In December, I will attend the United Nations COP28 climate change summit in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. There, I will speak about the convergence of two global crises: climate and mental health. As the World Health Organization has noted, climate change worsens risk factors — such as disruptions to homes and livelihoods — for mental health problems. The emotional distress of a disaster also makes it difficult for people to recover and rebuild.

Rotary partner ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity that has helped more than 2.5 million displaced people in approximately 100 countries with emergency shelter, essential household items, and technical support. I wish to share this month's column with their CEO, Sanj Srikanthan, who explains that the words we choose to describe disasters matter.

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