

# AHANA

## ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA JADAVPUR BULLETIN VOLUME LVI, November 30<sup>th</sup> 2024

# NOVEMBER IS

[www.rotary.org/donate](http://www.rotary.org/donate)



*"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."*  
Paul Harris



## November is The Rotary Foundation Month

# Rotary



**ROTARY CLUB OF  
CALCUTTA JADAVPUR**

**Stephanie A. Urchick**  
RI President

**Dr. Krishnendu Gupta**  
District Governor  
RID 3291

**Dr. Mainak Sengupta**  
Club President

**Soumya Chattopadhyay**  
Club Secretary

**Manas K. Ghosh**  
Bulletin Editor

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### **FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

Last Thursday, I had been to the National Library Central Archives to gather some information on Kadambini Ganguly, Sister Nivedita, Kaji Nazrul Islam and Pandit Nehru. While returning as I stopped at the old Tram Depot Office at Esplanade for a cup of tea, a TV journalist from "Ei Samay" approached me for a bite on my views about the Bengali idiom "বার খেয়ে ক্ষুদিরাম হওয়া" (to act like Shahid Khudiram Bose sheerly being influenced by others and not assessing the pros and cons of the action). As I shared my opinion, they asked me if I know the birth date of Khudiram, for which, to my luck I had the answer i.e. 3rd December. Unfortunately very few people of the younger generation are aware of the brave youth of yesteryears who turned to become the armed revolutionaries to fight against the British Raj and never feared to sacrifice their life for the cause of our country's independence. Often times they were driven by sheer passion and lacked the basic amenities to even stand a chance against the well-oiled armed machinery of the British force, but they were not deterred. In course of time, we have seen the youth of different parts of the world take resort to armed revolution for various causes, some movements ended in glory while some led to the social ostracization of that section of the youth being tagged as 'terrorists'. The revolution that is happening at the moment in Bangladesh raises a lot of questions about the intent, implementation and implications. Surely, the sacrifices of Khudiram Bose, Preetilata Waddedar, Masterda Surya Sen during the fight for independence from the British Raj or that of the 3 million Bengalis (Muktiyodhya) killed by the then West-Pakistani Establishment in their fight for the very existence of Bangladesh didn't mean to see the death of democracy in a country still at its teen. As a Rotarian, I hope, Rotary International will lead from the front in establishing peace in Bangladesh, as also in Ukraine and in Palestine. I wish our club, together with other clubs in our district 3291, seriously consider meaningful peace projects with respect to this burning issue.



# Service Projects of the Month At a Glance

## Mission Life Beyond Cancer



As a part of an ongoing service, from Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, **RCCJ donated Rs 1,45,000/- towards treatment of 13 pediatric cancer patients aged between 1-12 years, admitted in 5 different hospitals in Kolkata.**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November, **RCCJ donated a wheel-chair to the Institute of Child Health (ICH), Kolkata.** ICH had previously sent a list of immediate requirements to Life Beyond Cancer, based on which RCCJ chose to donate a wheel chair.



## Mission Literacy and beyond

### Tuition classes and cultural event in Pathshala, Bolpur

As an ongoing project, **RCCJ organised daily tuition classes at Pathshala, Bolpur.** Along with regular academic courses, the beneficiaries were also taught activities like yoga and drawing. They also took part in the cultural event Bijoya Shommiloni.



## Mission Literacy and beyond

### Training and demonstration workshop on fire safety at Santoshpur Rishi Aurobindo Balika Vidyapith



On 20<sup>th</sup> November, as a part of EAZY School 3 endeavour, **RCCJ in collaboration with Fire & Security Association of India (FSAI) conducted a training and demonstration workshop on fire safety at Santoshpur Rishi Aurobindo Balika Vidyapith.** Around 100 students and teachers participated in the workshop. After audio-visual presentations on fire –safety, the resource persons from FSAI conducted hands-on demonstration of fire-fighting and also organised a mock fire-evacuation drill.



## Mission Mental Well-Being Dance Therapy in Sanlaap



On 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2024, RCCJ organized the second dance therapy session for the residents of Sanlaap's SNEHA HOME, a shelter for rescued women and young girls, mostly from sex trade. The session was conducted by Ms. Sangeeta Chatterjee, a dance therapist, who works with autistic children.

## Mission Peace and Conflict Management



Rotary Club of New Ballygunge, organized a Conclave and Panel Discussion titled "Child Safety First: A Dialogue on POC SO, Child Rights and Child Protection" on 30th November 2024, at Kala Kunj, in which RCCJ was an associate co-host



## Memories of the Month...

RCCJ participated in the District Foundation seminar on 24<sup>th</sup> November held in International Management Institute, Kolkata and in Samagam, second President/Secretary/AG/ZS meet on 30<sup>th</sup> November held in Haldirams, Ballygunge, Kolkata.



RCCJ hosted a audio-visual presentation on 'Camping and Hiking for the Youth' by Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful Anam Mir in Casa Broadway on 29<sup>th</sup> November.



RCCJ organized a club training session on 29<sup>th</sup> Nov for the relatively new club members. The club trainer/learning facilitator PP Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray conducted an extremely interactive and informative session online.



# Down Memory Lane..... (contd.)

## ROTARY AS I REMEMBER:-



**Past President  
Sambhu Narayan  
Banerjee**

### FATHER OF ROTARY

Schiele was the first Rotary Club President and Harris was elected to the post in 1907. The second Rotary Club was formed in San Francisco in 1908. In 1909 Rotary Club of New York was formed. By now Rotary turned to national movement and Rotary's focus had turned towards good deeds in the community.

In 1910, Harris met his Scottish bride, Jean Thomson in Chicago Prairie Club while hiking. Three months later they got married. They named their home as Comely Bank, after the name of a street in Edinburgh where Jean grew up. They had no children. Paul & Jean helped Rotary grow. He confessed, "having no children of our own, Jean and I adopted Rotary".

In 1910, the National Association (later known as Rotary International) of the Rotary Clubs was formed and Harris became the first President. In 1912, Harris retreated from the public eye for nearly 15 years owing to his serious physical breakdown followed by heart

attack. When he recovered Harris returned to his legal work. He avoided Rotary conventions instead he used to send messages to be read on his behalf. In 1926, Harris reemerged "The Rotarians" which had been launched in 1911 to publish a treatise by Harris on Rotary, printed his autobiography.

In May, 1928, the rotary members first sailed to another country from Montreal to Great Britain and established Rotary Clubs there. Harris channeled his mischief in a more constructive manner than before by uniting Rotarians the world over. Harris had a heart attack in 1929 but surprised everyone when he showed up at the 1930 RI Convention for his first convention appearance since 1912. That year, as Nazi party was gaining power in Germany, Harris planted his first tree of friendship on European soil in Berlin.

After a long illness, Harris died on 27th. January, 1947 and was buried beside his great friend Silvester Schiel, as per his will. An outpouring of donations to The Rotary Foundation inspired the creation of the Paul Harris Memorial Fund to fortify the Foundation. That year, the Foundation launched the forerunner to the Ambassadorial Scholarship program, calling the students "Paul Harris Fellows". In 1957, the Foundation Trustees created the Paul Harris Fellow recognition to honour donors of USD 1,000.



# THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH YOUR DONATION IN CASH OR IN KIND



**PP Rtn. (Dr.) Partha Pratim Roy**

**Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**HAPPY Birthday TO YOU**

**Rtn. Chandan Das**  
2<sup>nd</sup> December

**Honorary member**  
**Samirendu Dutt**  
3<sup>rd</sup> December

**Rtn. Dipankar Chakraborti**  
12<sup>th</sup> December

**Sanchari Chowdhury**  
Spouse of Sourav Ghoshal  
16<sup>th</sup> December

**Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray**  
&  
**Rtn. (Dr.) Jharna Ray**  
7<sup>th</sup> December

**Rtn. Gautam Chakraborty**  
&  
**Debi Chakraborty**  
12<sup>th</sup> December

**Honorary member**  
**Dr. Arup R Dutta**  
&  
**Soma Dutta**  
8<sup>th</sup> December

**Happy Anniversary**



## **Minutes of the Meeting: 2136<sup>th</sup> RCM held on 22nd November 2024**

**in Casa Broadway (Hybrid mode)**

**Time: 6.30pm onwards**

**Attendance: 24**

- Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak Sengupta, President RY 24-25 called the meeting to order and requested PP Rtn. Dr. Chitra Mandal to lead the National Anthem.
- President welcomed everyone and got confirmed the minutes of the 2135<sup>th</sup> RCM.
- The President presented a summary of the services of RCCJ from 29<sup>th</sup> Oct to 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2024. He also announced the proposed upcoming service projects.
- A detailed deliberation followed on the second institution where RCCJ can donate two sewing machines, the first one being Santoshpur Rishi Aurobindo Balika Vidyapith. All the members were requested to update the President on this with their thoughts.
- On the same note, the President requested ever member to think about some organization where books in store can be donated.
- The President declared that RCCJ will be associate co-host in a conclave and panel discussion on “Child Safety First” organised by RC New Ballygunge on 30<sup>th</sup> November at Kalakunj, Kalamandir and District RYLA UNMESH 24-25 organized by RC Calcutta Charnock City between 13<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> December at 'Dhyan Ashram', D H Road, Konchowki, 24 Parganas (S).
- The President also declared the Life Beyond Cancer Annual Fund-Raising Event Date to be 15<sup>th</sup> February, scheduled to be held at Ravindra Sarovar. He also intimated the members about the artists who have confirmed their participation.
- The President intimated the members about the impending election for the upcoming Board for the RY 25-26 and recommended PP Rtn. Jaydeb Banerjee to be the election officer and to send the panel to him preferably by 4<sup>th</sup> December.
- Jt. Secretary Sanjay Ray conducted the club business announcing the anniversary of Rtn. Sudipta Kundu and Debjani Kundu. Sudipta was presented with a small token of appreciation by the members.
- Then, the President requested Rtn. Saiful Anam Mir to take the stage, who through a delightful presentation on nature camps organised by UBAC mountaineering association, in which both Rtn. Saiful and President are members, mesmerised the audience present both online and offline.
- The meeting was then called to an end by the President.

## **Minutes of the Meeting: 2137<sup>th</sup> RCM held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**in online mode**

**Time: 6.30pm onwards**

**Attendance: 16**

- Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak Sengupta, President RY 24-25 called the meeting to order and played a recorded version of the National Anthem sung by Swagatalakshmi Dasgupta to officially start the proceedings.
- President welcomed everyone and got confirmed the minutes of the 2136<sup>th</sup> RCM.
- The President presented a summary of the services of RCCJ from 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov to 29<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024. He also announced the proposed upcoming service projects.
- The members shared their views on potential projects. Rtn. Manas K Ghosh shared his views how a book-reading project in the educational institutes that RCCJ works with can not only enrich the younger generation but also bring them back from mobile phone addiction. On the same note, the President requested every member to think about some meaningful projects that can be conducted in their own neighbourhood.
- The President reminded that RCCJ is being an associate co-host in a conclave and panel discussion on “Child Safety First” organised by RC New Ballygunge on 30<sup>th</sup> November and District RYLA UNMESH 24-25 organized by RC Calcutta Charnock City between 13<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> December.
- The President also reminded the members about the impending election for the upcoming Board for the RY 25-26 and requested the members to send nominations to PP Rtn. Jaydeb Banerjee, the election officer by 4<sup>th</sup> December.
- In the absence of the Secretary Soumya Chattopadhyay and Jt. Secretary Sanjay Ray the President himself conducted the club business announcing the birthdays of Rtn. Chandan Das and Honorary member Samirendu Dutt.
- Then, the President requested the Club Trainer PP Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray to conduct the first training session of RY24-25. Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray conducted an interactive session where he shared his views on Rotary and the expectations from a Rotarian. He also discussed about how attending district programs benefit the Rotarians in terms of designing projects and understanding the ever changing rules and regulations of Rotary. He discussed about The Rotary Foundation and how donations to Polio fund may help fight the increasing number of Polio affected cases beyond the boundaries of the country.
- The meeting was then called to an end by the President.





*Peak Annapurna South, captured by Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak Sengupta in October 2024*