

The Rotary Club will do the work, because business people are busy. But the impact and the value of this will be to the business.

Dan Abrams



RID 3291
Rotary
Garden Reach



Light

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

July 23rd, 2024 - Vol. 47 No. 04

2275th Regular Weekly Meeting
Attendance: 85

Birthday Greetings

July 26th Spouse Arundhati, Wife of PP Tanu Roy
July 29th Spouse Rajshree, Wife of PP DK Rao

There is an interesting **10 'I' rule** which will be very helpful in getting & grooming new members:

- * **Investigate** - To find new members
- * **Identify** - Spot the right persons
- * **Inform** - Tell them about Rotary
- * **Inspire** - Explain success stories
- * **Invite** - To the club meetings
- * **Introduce** - To the members
- * **Induct** - In a grand function
- * **Involve** - The new member in club meetings and proceedings
- * **Include** - Them in service committees
- * **Instil** - Rotary into them and make them love the organisation





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Aims and Vision - District Governor AKS Dr. Krishnendu Gupta

Rotary Garden Reach installed its 47th President in Rtn. Biswajit Saha on July 18th, 2024 at the BNR Officers' Club, Garden Reach.

Chief Guest for the evening was our revered District Governor, AKS Dr. Krishnendu Gupta, whose deliberations really uplifted the spirit of the members and the guests present at the do. Few points that was highlighted in the DG's speech is given below for your knowledge.

The Governor is going to sustain the earlier District Projects like Viraangana, Eazy School, Project Positive Health & Life Beyond Cancer. DG spoke on the seriousness of Cervical Cancer and requested the Club to start the vaccination drive for young girls from age 8-18 years old. Mental Health Initiative being IPRIP Gordon's main drive last year is also being given much importance this year too. The DG mentioned about the Thalassemia Drive and requested everyone to participate whole-heartedly to "Check the T".



DG Dr. Krishnendu finally mentioned about the rising global threat in Polio, which in recent times has risen to an alarming figure of 17. He too mentioned about the deadly Polio virus recently found in the sewerage of the Gaza Strip; which poses a serious threat and having vaccination drives in these war-zones of the world. He appealed to all present to donate generously towards the Rotary Foundation to help the organisation to fight against these social evils.

It was a crisp deliberation by DG Dr. Krishnendu, loaded with aims & visions for the Rotary Year 2024-25 and beyond. We, at Rotary Garden Reach pay our humble gratitude to First Lady, Dr. Simran and DG AKS Dr. Krishnendu Gupta for attending our 47th Installation Ceremony.

First Lady of the Club, Spouse Priyanka & Rtn. Shubhayan felicitated Dr. Simran & Dr. Krishnendu Gupta respectively.

President and the members of Rotary Garden Reach wishes Abhyansh Singh, grandson of PP Dr. JK Singh, a heartiest congratulation for winning the "Intra-Coaching Tennis Tournament, 2024" on July 14th, 2024 at Ordnance Club. Abhyansh, our blessings and best wishes are always with you.





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Message from Grace Van Zyl - Chair, Rotary Action Group for Peace

I am humbled and honoured to serve as the Chair of the Rotary Action Group for Peace for the 2024/25 year as the first person from Africa to hold this position. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my fellow board members and the immediate past chair, Michael Hayes, for his exemplary leadership and the significant progress the RAGFP has made in peace keeping efforts. Michael coined the phrase *“Let’s be intentional about Peace”* and the results speak for themselves.

Through his leadership, our membership has grown to over 1,000 members, we now have 11 Peace Chapters, and more than 400 Peace Builder Clubs. During the past year, we have successfully twinned 300 Peace Builder Clubs, connected 200 clubs with Peace Activators, and engaged 80 Peace Fellows in our peace building efforts.

Since the beginning of my term on 1 July 2024, we have launched two more chapters: one in Nigeria, where we inducted 66 new members, and one in Ukraine, where every Peace Chapter was represented to witness this historic moment and show their unwavering support for the people of Ukraine. The establishment of a chapter in a country at war demonstrates the resilience and valour of the Ukrainian people, showing their determination and commitment to peace-building efforts.

During my term I would like to focus on the following :

- Further development of Peace Chapters with regular updates on new insight and best practices;
- Global development of District Governors and District Governor Elect’s;
- Practical approaches for Peace Builder clubs to incorporate sustainable peace in all their projects;
- Partner with educational institutions and youth organisations to promote Positive Peace RYLA;
- Promote mentorship programs where Peace Fellows can take a more active role with Peace Builder Clubs and Chapters;
- Enhance our member experience and create opportunities for our members to serve on committees.

These efforts will position the RAGFP and its members to significantly impact global sustainable and positive peace. In closing I would like to thank my fellow directors for the faith they have placed in me and their commitment to serve to make Peace Possible!

Until next time let’s take ACTION towards a more peaceful world.



Alumni Global Service Award winner teaches ethics to young minds

Gaetano Scamarcio, 1994-95 Ambassadorial Scholar sponsored by the Rotary Bari, Italy

About 30 years ago, I discovered Rotary’s programs for aiding young people in achieving their dreams, which struck me profoundly. At the time, I aspired to access the world-renowned Bell Laboratories of AT&T in Murray Hill, New Jersey – a hub of ground-breaking research where numerous Nobel laureates had left their mark. My mentor at Bell Labs suggested applying for a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, and to my amazement, I was successful.

The working atmosphere at Bell Labs was fantastic, but also highly competitive. There was a lot of willingness among colleagues and superiors to engage in constructive discussions. Yet, the end of my internship was inexorably approaching, and I needed a winning idea to stand out. One evening, while I was alone in the lab, after many repeated attempts, I saw the signal from the measurement instruments skyrocket off the scale. Initially, due to





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fatigue, I thought it was another interference. But then I realized that (BINGO!) my superlattice quantum cascade micro laser, which I had designed and longed for many times, was finally working! It was an indescribable joy and a milestone in my professional career.

Receiving a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship was akin to a soccer player being called up to the national team, opening a world of possibilities for me and my family. Upon returning to Italy, my academic journey soared, and I delved deeply into research and work. Ten years later, I was invited to join the Rotary Bari (District 2120) in Puglia and Basilicata – the same club and district that sponsored my fellowship. The warm reception from fellow Rotarians and swift integration into the club’s initiatives affirmed my decision to become involved.

Serving as Club President in 2013-14 was a unique experience that allowed me to harness all my energies and collaborate with fellow members and friends to initiate impactful service and friendship projects. Throughout this journey, I connected with several exceptional individuals within Rotary and other volunteer associations, public institutions, and independent initiatives. In these collaborative efforts inspired by Rotary, there was always a palpable sense of unity and shared purpose.

One of our significant initiatives was **“Rotary Meets the Road,”** aiming to reduce food waste and help hundreds of homeless people in the metropolitan area of Bari. The inception of this project required extensive deliberations and consultations and involved multiple stakeholders. Initially conceived as an equipped container, the project evolved. We ended up donating a fully equipped camper to the volunteers of local associations. This mobile unit ensured that services could be offered more efficiently and hygienically including the daily distribution of food, essential medical services, and legal advice.



A notable aspect of this endeavour was the collaborative effort involving all five Rotary clubs in the Bari area, District 2120, the Municipality of Bari, and the local public transportation company. The success of this service underscores the power of synergy and collective action in addressing pressing social issues and making a meaningful difference in the community. Engagement with Rotary fosters positive transformations not only for our neighbours, but also for ourselves.

The five core values of Rotary – **integrity, diversity, friendship, service, and leadership** – form an interconnected framework. Within the context of Rotary, the call for collaboration is inherently tied to setting a personal example. If I were to pinpoint what resonates most deeply with me, it would undoubtedly be the pursuit of leadership. Leadership positions entail guiding individuals with qualities equal to or surpassing our own.

Here, leadership isn’t about issuing orders but about rallying collaboration to achieve common goals, particularly those geared toward philanthropic service. Cultivating leadership qualities through unwavering commitment to Rotary presents an ongoing challenge, yet the dividends extend across all aspects of our personal and professional lives. Throughout this journey, leading by personal example emerges as the most potent catalyst for inspiring others and advancing the collective welfare.

Over three decades, I’ve devoted myself wholeheartedly to the rewarding profession of research and university-level physics instruction. Along this journey, I’ve been privileged to guide and inspire over a thousand young individuals in their educational pursuits. Through this remarkable experience, I’ve noticed a profound hunger for





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ethics among young people – a desire for professional and ethical role models who can ignite their talents and guide them toward self-fulfilment.

Despite uncertainties about the future, I've observed a significant interest among young people in ethical issues, such as community development and environmental sustainability amid technological advancements. This highlights their inclination towards values and objectives encompassing a broader and more conscientious vision of their societal and environmental roles.

Sharing and teaching these ethical perspectives to young minds has been an immensely gratifying aspect of my career. I aspire to continue this endeavor, leveraging the platform of Rotary to enrich and empower future generations.

To them, I say, *“Go, discover what Rotary can give you, and let yourself be inspired.”* And when the spark ignites, they will discover that what they can do together with other Rotarians is irresistible.

The Power of Collective Action

Bharat Pandya, TRF Trustee

As we enter a new Rotary year, it is time to reflect and build on our past and step forward into the future. A future where Rotary is respected and more relevant than ever before thanks to The Rotary Foundation.



The Foundation operates as the charitable arm of RI. Its mission is to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through improvement of health, support of education and alleviation of poverty. Over the years, the Foundation has made significant strides in addressing some of the world's most pressing issues.

Through its grants programme, TRF gives the vision to Rotary to make our dreams of a better world, better community and a better tomorrow, come true. Grants support initiatives that align with Rotary's areas of focus.

Whether it is giving commercial grinding machine...

chakkis to single women in rural parts of RID 3132 –enabling them to earn a livelihood, or conducting paediatric cardiac surgeries in the Philippines, building Homes for the Homeless in RID 3232, or taking medical missions to Africa, through the grants, the Foundation is touching lives and transforming communities.

Programs of Scale is a TRF grant of \$2 million given to an impactful, sustainable and replicable project. Only one grant is given worldwide every year on a competitive basis. I am happy to share that the 4th Programs of Scale award has been granted to Rotary Delhi Premier for their project, *Partners for Water Access and Better Harvests in India*. This is a proud moment for India. Well done RCDP.

As you are aware there are three funds whereby, we contribute to TRF: Annual Fund – Our contributions to the Annual Fund today help us to do global grants –tomorrow. And global grants have been the gamechangers for TRF; Polio Fund – It is our promise to the children of the world that we will make the world polio-free; Endowment Fund – Our support to the Endowment Fund ensures the future of TRF.





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My request to all of you is to support all the three funds of TRF. The Foundation stands as a testament to the power of collective action and philanthropy. Through its wide-ranging programmes and initiatives, it continues to foster sustainable development and promote peace and goodwill across the world. That is the magic of The Rotary Foundation.

The Dying Man

”There is a man, he is dying in his bed in his home and he smells, coming from the kitchen, the most sublime smell. It’s the smell of his favourite chocolate chip cookies. And with his last strength, he gets out of bed, and he goes to the kitchen, where his wife of 50 years, is cooking these beautiful chocolate chip cookies. And they are on a plate of four of them, just out of the oven. And with his last human strength, he reaches over to take one of the biscuits. And his wife sees him, she rushes over, she slaps his hand, and she says, “No, they are for the funeral.”

Minutes of the 2274th RWM held on July 18th, 2024 at BNR Officers’ Club, Garden Reach

1. 47th Installation Ceremony was conducted with pomp and festive mood. The programme was a grand success.
2. Two new members namely, Mr. Santosh Kumar Singh and Mr. Amar Saha was inducted and the Pin and Kit was presented by the District Governor AKS Dr. Krishnendu Gupta.
3. USD 1150 was contributed towards the TRF by Chair, PP Tapan Roy to the DRFC PDG Sudip Mukherjee.
4. District Governor in his address, suggested valuable points to achieve the projected goals and make the year a success.
5. Fellowship and dinner was enjoyed by all members, families and guests with great fervor.
6. The Club Secretary conducted the Club business.
7. On confirmation of the minutes, President Biswajit terminated the meeting.



WE MEET EVERY TUESDAY AT 7.30 P.M. AT B. N. R. OFFICERS’ CLUB. GARDEN REACH, KOLKATA - 700 043
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