



# flame

The bulletin of Rotary Club of Ballygunge

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Rotary International District 3291

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Francesco Arezzo  
Rotary International  
President



Dr Ramendu Homchoudhuri  
Rotary District 3291  
Governor



Dr. (CA) Joydeep Mookerjee  
Rotary Ballygunge  
President



Subhankar Chakraborty  
Rotary Ballygunge  
Secretary



Arko Bhattacharjee  
Rotary Ballygunge  
Editor

Editor : Arko Bhattacharjee

## President's Message



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

April, designated as Environmental Month by Rotary International, is not merely a thematic observance. It is a strategic call to action. It reinforces Rotary's unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship as an integral pillar of sustainable community development. At a time when climate volatility, resource depletion, and ecological imbalance are no longer distant risks but present realities, Rotary's focus urges every Rotarian to transition from awareness to measurable impact. Whether through water conservation, afforestation, waste management, or renewable energy advocacy, this month challenges us to align our service projects with long-term ecological resilience. It is about embedding sustainability into the DNA of Rotary service.

As we move through April, coinciding with the global observance of Earth Day, the opportunity before us is both profound and urgent. Rotary's strength lies in its ability to translate intent into execution at the grassroots level. Each club, each member, becomes a catalyst for change, influencing communities, shaping behaviour, and driving responsible practices. The question is no longer whether we can contribute, but how decisively we will act. Environmental sustainability is not a parallel agenda. It is central to Rotary's vision of creating lasting change. The legacy we build today will be measured not just in projects completed, but in ecosystems preserved and futures secured.

Warm Rotary wishes,

**Dr (CA) Joydeep Mookerjee**

**President**

**The Rotary Club of Ballygunge**

## Editor's Message



**Environmental Month (April 2026)**

**"Save Trees, Save Life"**

April is **Environmental Month**—a call for action, not just awareness.

Rotary **leads, acts, and transforms**. Every tree we plant, every street we clean, every citizen we inspire creates a **lasting impact**.

**Our Focus**

- **Plant & Protect:** Greening communities for future generations.
- **Educate & Inspire:** Promote sustainability and responsible living.
- **Engage Youth:** Rotaract and Interact members lead the charge.

**Act boldly. Inspire others. Protect the planet.**

Rotary leads. Rotary serves. Rotary transforms.

**Rotary Do's and Don'ts:**

**THE Do's —**

**1. Act, Don't Announce**

Service is measured in lives touched, not words spoken.

**2. Live the Truth relentlessly**

Let every decision pass the Four-Way Test—even when no one is watching.

**3. Show Up. Step Up. Follow Through.**

Consistency is the rarest form of leadership.

# Rotary Club of Ballygunge

## 4. Lead with Integrity

Your character is Rotary's reputation.

## 5. Build, Don't Just Belong

Strengthen your club, your community, and every initiative you touch.

## 6. Give Without Calculating Return

Real service expects nothing—and changes everything.

### THE DON'Ts —

#### 1. Don't Commercialize Service

If profit is the motive, it is not rotary.

#### 2. Don't Divide the Room

Ego, politics, and prejudice have no seat at this table.

#### 3. Don't Be a Spectator

Rotary is not observed—it is executed.

#### 4. Don't Compromise Standards

One weak decision erodes a thousand good ones.

#### 5. Don't Break Trust

Trust is Rotary's currency. Lose it once, and you bankrupt your credibility.

#### 6. Don't Wear the Pin Without the Practice

The emblem is earned daily—not displayed casually.

### The Rotary Truth

Rotary does not ask for perfection. It demands **commitment**. It does not reward position.

It respects **action**. And it does not measure success by meetings held—but by **lives changed**.

**Rotary is not a badge. It is a benchmark. Not everyone who joins Rotary becomes a Rotarian— only those who live it do.**

### Rotary Club of Ballygunge: The Quiet Powerhouse-

Most see a club. Few see the system.

#### 1. Legacy runs in blood, not just membership

Generations have shaped this club—leadership is inherited, refined, and passed on.

Rotary Ballygunge isn't just a club—it has family legacies.

For example, the father of past district Governor Sudip Mukherjee was a charter member and second president of the Ballygunge club.

This shows Rotary Ballygunge has multi-generational influence, not just casual membership.

#### 2. Older than the noise

Long before newer clubs emerged, Ballygunge was already building—documenting decades of service in its own bulletins.

Ballygunge is one of the earlier-established clubs in the district (Club ID: 16145).

It has long-standing publications like internal bulletins (e.g., "Flame") dating back decades.

Many newer clubs in District 3291 (post-2000) don't have such archival continuity.

#### 3. Small projects. Massive impact.

No headlines—just real change: school water systems, classrooms, health awareness. Quiet work. Lasting results.

Unlike high-profile Rotary projects, Ballygunge focus on small but impactful initiatives, such as: Installing UV drinking water systems in schools, donating classroom infrastructure like fans, running awareness sessions on diseases like thalassemia. These are often underreported but form the core Rotary service model.

#### 4. A leadership factory in disguise

# Rotary Club of Ballygunge

District leaders do not appear—they are *built here*, often starting in its Rotaract pipeline.

Many district-level leaders started from Ballygunge or its Rotaract wing.

Early exposure (e.g., Rotaract Ballygunge conferences in the 1980s) helped groom future governors. It acts as a leadership nursery, not just a service club.

## 5. Rooted in history

Through Rotary International District 3291, it connects back to the iconic Rotary Club of Calcutta—one of Asia's earliest Rotary footprints.

District 3291 (which Ballygunge belongs to) traces roots back to the Rotary Club of Calcutta (1919).

This makes Ballygunge part of one of the oldest Rotary ecosystems in Asia.

## 6. Influence without noise

Professionals, decision-makers, community builders—meeting quietly, shaping outcomes beyond public view. The “club culture” is semi-formal but influential. Meetings are often held in elite venues. Membership typically includes professionals, business owners, and doctors. So beyond service, Ballygunge also functions as a networking and influence circle.

## 7. Not one club—an ecosystem

Ballygunge isn't singular. It's a network: Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact—continuously feeding leadership.

Many people don't realize:

There isn't just one—there are variants like:

- Rotary Club of Ballygunge
- Rotary Club of New Ballygunge
- Rotaract Ballygunge

These are independent but interconnected, forming a mini-ecosystem within South Kolkata.

## 8. Visibility is not the goal

Most of its work is unseen—and that's exactly the point.

- Rotary culture emphasizes service over publicity.

So many Ballygunge projects (health camps, school support, and rural outreach) are not widely advertised. Documented only in internal bulletins or district report, this is why even locals often do not know their impact.

District 3291 itself went through major geopolitical changes

- Earlier, the district included:

Bangladesh, Nepal. Later, it split into separate districts (e.g., 3292).

Ballygunge clubs were once part of a cross-country Rotary network.

- Strong youth pipeline via Rotaract & Interact

Ballygunge has long supported:

Rotaract (college-level)

Interact (school-level)

This creates a continuous pipeline from student → professional → Rotarian, which is not obvious to outsiders.

## The Truth

The Rotary Club of Ballygunge doesn't wait for applause. It **builds legacies, shapes leaders and transforms communities**—silently, relentlessly, and powerfully.

Here, service is a calling, not a headline:

- **A legacy institution**—where generations lead and inspire
- **A leadership forge**—where potential becomes influence
- **A quiet force for change**—small acts, lasting impact
- **A vibrant ecosystem**—connecting hearts, minds, and purpose

**Be part of something bigger than recognition—be part of history in the making.**

# Rotary Club of Ballygunge

## **Rotary Club of Ballygunge Legacy & Spotlight:**

The Rotary Club of Ballygunge is more than a service club—it is legacy in action, quietly shaping lives and communities for decades. From its earliest days, charter members built a culture of service, mentorship, and integrity—a standard that endures today. Youth programs like Rotaract feed future leaders. Families contribute across generations; ensuring values and vision live on. From water systems and classrooms to health awareness campaigns, Ballygunge’s projects may go unnoticed—but their ripple effect transforms thousands of lives. Many district governors and leaders began their journey here, proving that true leadership is nurtured through service. Every action embodies the club’s ethos: impact over recognition, humanity over applause. Ballygunge doesn’t just mark dates—it marks lives, builds legacies, and inspires generations.

## **Global Highlights of the Week**

- Rotary clubs worldwide are making an immediate impact—from flood relief in Mexico to community outreach in Latvia and veteran tributes in Canada. Every action reflects our motto: Service above Self.
- April emphasizes maternal and child health. Rotary empowers communities through health camps, hygiene education, and youth-driven initiatives, preparing the next generation of change makers.
- Six young leaders were named Rotary’s Champions of Tomorrow, recognized for advancing education, health, and peace worldwide.
- Clubs like Dubois County are funding local projects that transform lives—supporting health, education, and sustainability.
- Rotary’s incoming leadership is accelerating the mission to end polio, expand membership, and champion youth innovation. The 2026 Rotary Convention in Taipei will unite leaders to share ideas and scale impact globally.

## **Rotary India and District 3291- Highlights of the Week**

Rotary India District 3291 celebrates crossing **USD1Million** in contributions to *The Rotary Foundation*—a powerful testament to Rotarians’ generosity and service impact across health, education, and community projects.

### **• Impact through Local Service Projects (Clubs in Action)**

- **Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe** continues community empowerment with youth job fairs, blood donation drives, farmer support, and spectacle distribution for vulnerable groups—turning Rotary values into real results.
- **Health Awareness & Preventive Care**  
Clubs in the district remain active in thalassemia awareness and testing, essential preventive health work that aligns with District 3291’s broader public health vision.
- **Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City in Service**  
Members extended **donations and surgical assistance** for cataract and thalassemia treatment, demonstrating Rotary’s commitment to inclusive healthcare access.
- **Continuing Legacy of Service**  
Rotary District 3291 continues its **decade long humanitarian vision**, including campaigns to reduce thalassemia through screening and prevention, championed by district leadership

Thoughtfully shared to inspire action!

Arko Bhattacharjee

**Editor, Rotary Club of Ballygunge**

# Rotary Club of Ballygunge



## Minutes of the 2548 Regular Meeting held on 02nd April 2026 At Cozy Room, International Club, Kolkata

### 1. Call to Order

The 2548th RWM was called to order by the President, setting the tone for a purposeful and action-driven meeting.

### 2. Opening Ceremony

The meeting commenced with the National Anthem, sung in unison—reflecting unity, pride, and shared commitment.

### 3. President's Vision for April

The President highlighted April as a month dedicated to environmental responsibility—urging members to translate awareness into meaningful action.

### 4. A Call to Protect Our Planet

Past President Rtn. Sanjoy Dey proposed a dynamic initiative: a **“Save Trees, Save Life”** tableau, coupled with sapling distribution across Kolkata—taking Rotary's message directly to the community.

### 5. Collective Endorsement

The proposal received unanimous appreciation. It was agreed to organize the initiative on a Sunday, amplifying the public impact and reinforcing the service image of the club and Rotary District 3291.

### 6. Responsible Execution

Recognizing the importance of compliance, the need for necessary permissions (NOC) in light of upcoming elections was discussed. The President assured proactive action, with support from experienced members.

### 7. Expanding Service through Health Initiatives

New members Rtn. Dr. Anirudha and Rtn. Dr. Debdita stepped forward with commitment and purpose, proposing two **Dental & Oral Health Camps** in April and May—an inspiring example of Rotary in action.

### 8. Integrating Youth & Service

The May health camp, planned at Gandhi Vidyalaya, will also incorporate a Youth/Rotaract initiative—strengthening Rotary's investment in the next generation.

### 9. Ensuring Impactful Delivery

# Rotary Club of Ballygunge

Past President Rtn. Bhomra Chatterji emphasized the importance of proper infrastructure to ensure the effectiveness and reach of both health and youth projects.

## 10. Adding Value to Service

PP Rtn. Sanjoy Dey further proposed distributing essential hygiene kits (toothbrushes and toothpaste), ensuring that awareness is backed by tangible support.

## 11. Adaptive Planning

In response to seasonal challenges, Rtn. Tanul Chakraborti suggested an alternate venue—Ramakrishna Mission College, Narendrapur—demonstrating proactive and practical thinking.

## 12. Leadership Assurance

The President assured that all proposals would be carefully evaluated to ensure maximum impact and seamless execution.

## 13. Governance Note

The previous meeting minutes could not be confirmed due to lack of quorum.

## 14. Celebrating Fellowship

Acting Secretary Rtn. Tanul Chakraborti shared warm greetings:

### • Birthdays:

Past President Rtn. Subrato Chakraborty (22nd April)

Rtn. Rupam Mukherjee (26th April)

### • Marriage Anniversaries:

Rtn. Muhammed Tayyeb Khan (1st April)

Rtn. Moonmoon Gupta (6th April)

Past President Rtn. Sudeep Roy (16th April)

Rtn. Dibyendu Barua (27th April)

The club extended heartfelt wishes, reinforcing the spirit of fellowship that binds Rotary.

## 15. Business Proceedings

The Secretary formally handed over the floor to the President for further deliberations.

## 16. Adjournment

The President adjourned the meeting, inviting all members to continue the spirit of camaraderie through fellowship.

This meeting was not just an exchange of ideas—it was a **demonstration of intent**.

From environmental action to healthcare outreach, every discussion reflected a shared resolve :

**To serve with purpose. To lead with integrity. To create impact that lasts.**

**Members Present 12**

## Happy Announcements

### *Birthday*

**Shubrato Chakraborty** 22nd April

**Rupom Mukherjee** 26th April

### *Anniversaries*

**Muhammed Tayyab Khan** 01st April

**Moonmoon Gupta** 06th April

**Sudeep Roy** 16th April

**Dibyendu Barua** 27th April