

Maitree

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24th July 2025

RCM # 2699

Venue: Malik Guest House

JULY IS



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

Photo by Alyce Henson. © Rotary International. Design layout by Gilbert Thien.

"We cannot talk about the future without talking about children. They are our future."

Past RI President James L. Lacy, 1998-99

Theme of The Month

Maternal and Child Health in July 2025

Every day, countless mothers bravely navigate the challenges of childbirth, and sadly, millions of children lose their lives unnecessarily to preventable causes. Around 7 million children under the age of five die each year due to malnutrition, lack of proper healthcare, and insufficient sanitation. We're committed to changing this heartbreaking reality! By providing vital immunisations and antibiotics to infants, enhancing access to essential medical services, and supporting well-trained healthcare providers, we are making a meaningful impact in the lives of mothers and their children.

Our Rotary projects focus on sustainability, empowering local communities to take ownership of healthcare training programs. With generous grants from The Rotary Foundation, we are successfully enhancing access to crucial medical resources. Our goal is to drastically lower the number of children under five who face preventable illnesses and deaths.

It's inspiring to note that more than 80 per cent of maternal deaths could be avoided with the proper access to reproductive health services and skilled healthcare workers. We offer education on vital topics, provide immunizations, distribute birthing kits, and operate mobile health clinics. Additionally, we empower women with knowledge on preventing mother-to-infant HIV transmission, effective breastfeeding, and essential disease prevention strategies. Together, we are fostering healthier futures for mothers and their children, and there is so much more we can accomplish!

HAPPY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY



Kaustav Bhattacharya
S/o PP Rtn. Krishnendu Bhattacharya
DOB : 22nd July



PP Rtn. Prasunjit Mukherjee
DOB: 23rd July



Manpreet
D/o PP Rtn. Amarjit Singh
Thethi
DOB: 24th July



Rtn. Anusri Banerjee
DOB: 24th July



Ann. Nandini Das
W/o Rtn. Ashish Kumar Das
DOB: 27th July



Debarjya
S/o PP Rtn. Debarshi
Dutttagupta
DOB: 27th July



Disha
D/o PP Rtn. Deepnath Roy
Chowdhury
DOB: 31st July



Rtn. Amit Roy
DOB : 5th Aug



PP Rtn. Prabir Roy
DOB : 7th Aug

Ann. Srimati & PP Rtn. Debidas Ganguly
Anniversary Date: 24th July



Happy
Anniversary

Editor's Choice



Artist : Shri Rudrabaran Ganguly
Mobile : 6289808057

The Inspiring Journey of Budding Artist Sri Rudrabaran Ganguly

In a vibrant world where creative expression often finds itself dwarfed by the pursuit of commercial success, a talented young painter from a humble background is courageously carving out his own path. Facing various challenges head-on, this passionate artist has already made waves by showcasing his remarkable works in multiple exhibitions, captivating the hearts of art lovers along the way.

A Blossoming Passion from Humble Roots

Growing up in a modest household, Sri Rudrabaran Ganguly's love for painting ignited at a young age. Limited resources didn't deter his spirit; rather, they fueled his creativity as he ingeniously crafted makeshift materials and embraced self-taught techniques to refine his skills. His parents, though not artists themselves, wholeheartedly supported his passion, sacrificing their own comforts to equip him with the tools necessary to pursue his dreams.

Breaking Into the Art Scene with Tenacity

As time went on, Sri Rudrabaran's determination to share his vision with the world grew stronger. He eagerly participated in local exhibitions, navigating the sting of rejection and criticism along the way. Instead of being discouraged, he embraced each challenge as a stepping stone, using them to learn, adapt, and grow as an artist.

A Milestone Exhibition of Accolades

His perseverance paid off with a major breakthrough at the renowned Academy of Fine Arts and Gagonendra Shilpa Pradarshanshala. This exhibition was met with resounding success, garnering admiration from both critics and collectors who praised his distinctive style and profound perspective. From that pivotal moment, he has continued to shine, participating in numerous exhibitions that showcase his talent both locally and nationally.

Overcoming Ongoing Challenges

Despite his impressive achievements, Sri Rudrabaran remains steadfast in facing the challenges that lie ahead. Financial constraints still loom large, often making it a struggle to invest in the resources he needs for his artistic journey. The competitive nature of the art world pushes him to continually innovate and create new masterpieces to keep his momentum.

A Beacon of Inspiration and Hope

Through this remarkable journey, Sri Rudrabaran has evolved into a beacon of hope for emerging artists from all walks of life. His story embodies the potent combination of resilience, hard work, and unwavering dedication.

As he navigates the exhilarating ups and downs of the art world, he remains deeply committed to his passion, using his experiences to inspire and uplift fellow creatives.

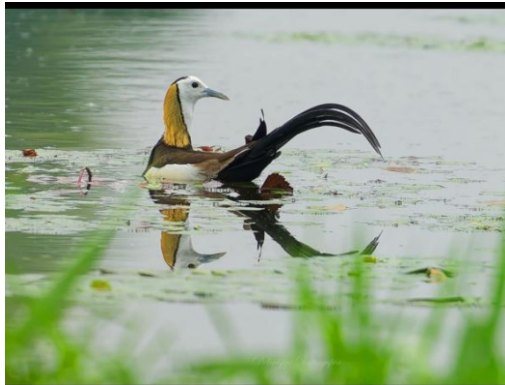
A Promise of Impactful Art Ahead

The journey of this emerging painting artist speaks volumes of hope, resilience, and determination. While the road may be challenging, Sri Rudrabaran continues to push boundaries, inspiring others to chase their dreams with fervor. As he forges ahead, there's no doubt that his art will leave a lasting imprint on the world. Congratulations to Shri Rudrabaran Ganguly from the Rotary Club of Behala — we are thrilled to share some of his incredible works, allowing everyone to experience the essence of his artistic vision!



Meet the Young Nature Lover

Sunit Roy



Pheasant – tailed Jacana, Baruipur Kolkata
 Photo : Debarjyo Duttagupta

The Young Nature Lover: Meet the 10-Year-Old Master Debarjyo Duttagupta, Class –V of Laksmipath Singhanian Academy. Photographer capturing the beauty of the world with a passion for nature and a keen eye for detail, this young shutterbug is capturing the beauty of the nature around him, one snapshot at a time.

Debarjyo has always been fascinated by the natural world. Spending hours exploring the woods behind his house, he developed a deep appreciation for the intricate details of the nature around him. From the delicate petals of a flower to the majestic sweep of a bird's wings, Debarjyo sees beauty in every aspect of nature.

It was on his birthday that Debarjyo received his first camera, a gift from his parents. From that moment on, he was hooked. Spending hours poring over photography books and watching works of eminent photographers, Debarjyo quickly developed his skills, learning about composition, lighting, and technique.

With his camera in hand, Debarjyo sets out with his father, PP Rtn. Debarshi Duttagupta, to capture the beauty of the birds in nature. From the golden light of sunrise to the soft glow of sunset, he seeks out the perfect shot. His photographs are a testament to his patience and dedication, showcasing the intricate details of the world around him.

Despite his young age, Debarjyo has already developed a distinct style and vision. His photographs are not just snapshots of the natural world; they are a reflection of his deep love and respect for the land and its creatures.

As Debarjyo develops his skills and pursues his passion for photography, there is no doubt that he will make a name for himself in the world of nature photography. With his love for the natural world, his keen eye for detail, and his dedication to his craft, this young photographer is sure to capture the hearts and imaginations of people worldwide.

Debarjyo is a shining example of the power of passion and creativity. His love for nature and photography has inspired him to capture the beauty of the world around him, and his dedication to his craft is an inspiration to us all. As he continues to grow and develop as a photographer, there is no doubt that Debarjyo will make a lasting impact on the world of nature photography.



CLUB NEWS



Doctor's Day Celebration

Doctor's Day, celebrated every year on July 1st, is a wonderful occasion dedicated to honoring the incredible contributions of doctors and medical professionals who tirelessly serve

humanity. In India, we have celebrated Doctor's Day since 1991, marking the birthday of the esteemed Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, a distinguished physician and the second Chief Minister of West Bengal. It's a special time to recognize the vital role that our healthcare heroes play in our lives. On this joyous day, various events and ceremonies take place across India to show our gratitude. The Rotary Club of Behala celebrated Doctor's Day at the Eye Care & Research Centre, where they proudly donated two viewboxes and a trial set. The event was graced by the presence of distinguished guests including PP Rtn. (Dr.) Siddhartha Chakraborty, PP Rtn. Debarshi Duttagupta, Rtn. (Dr.) Sudipta Chakraborty, President Rtn. Sanghamitra Duttagupta, and Secretary Rtn. Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra. This meeting highlighted the tremendous impact that doctors have on our well-being. Let us seize this opportunity to express heartfelt appreciation for their unwavering dedication, compassion, and commitment to saving lives. The Rotary Club of Behala wholeheartedly celebrates the remarkable doctors and medical professionals who enrich our communities!



Blood Donation Camp

What a wonderful initiative! Blood donation is a truly generous act that plays a crucial role in saving lives every day. Here are some amazing benefits of donating blood: Not only does it help patients in surgery and individuals facing trauma or blood disorders, but regular donations can also reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke. Plus, did you know you can burn up to 650 calories with each donation? Before you donate, you'll enjoy a

complimentary health check-up, including assessments of your blood pressure, hemoglobin levels, and blood type. On July 1, 2025, we celebrated Doctors' Day with a Blood Donation Camp at Rotary Sadan, brilliantly organized by District 3291 and BOGS in partnership with the Rotary Club of Behala. This event greatly emphasized the importance of each person's contribution to humanity. Our President, Rtn. Sanghamitra Duttgupta, represented the Rotary Club of Behala and was honored with a certificate of appreciation. Join us in making a difference!



Gohona Bari

Gohona Bori is a delightful dried dal dumpling that holds a cherished place in Bengali cuisine, especially in the Purba Medinipur region. Also known as Naksha Bori, this delicious treat is crafted from black lentils, poppy seeds, and a variety of spices, creating a unique blend of flavors. This age-old dish has a fascinating history that reflects the cultural tapestry of Bengal. Interestingly, the use of poppy seeds in Gohona Bori emerged only after the British arrived in India. Following the Battle of Plassey, the British discovered a lucrative market for opium in China. To meet demand, they encouraged farmers in the Rarh region of Bengal to grow poppy. After extracting opium, the remaining poppy seeds found their way into the kitchens of Bankura, Birbhum, Bardhaman, and Midnapore, enriching the culinary landscape—thus, poppy seeds became an integral ingredient in Gohona Bori in Midnapore. A lovely episode in the history of Gohona Bori happened in 1930 when Seba Maiti, a student from Shantiniketan, presented it to the renowned poet Rabindranath Tagore. Made by her mother, Hirnmayi Debi, and grandmother, Sheratakumari Debi, this beautiful dish captivated Tagore so much that he expressed the desire to preserve its photographs at the Art Building of Shantiniketan. He elevated Gohona Bori to an art form, stating that consuming it should not be seen as an act of destruction. Nandalal Bose described it as a precious jewel from a Bengali mother's jewelry box and even dreamed of publishing a book about it—a true testament to its artistic and cultural significance.

Moreover, the Rotary Club of Behala recently initiated a women empowerment project featuring Gohona Bori, which is produced by the Indira Mahila Shaw Sahayak Daal group in East Medinipur. This initiative beautifully showcased this edible art, emphasizing its importance in Bengali cuisine, and was gifted to dignitaries and guests during the Installation Day, celebrating the rich heritage and potential of local artisans.

The 62nd Hybrid Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Behala was held on 11th July 2025 at the AC Pavilion, Calcutta Club at 7.00 pm

The 62nd Hybrid Installation Ceremony of the Rotary Club of Behala was a delightful event that took place on July 11, 2025, at the stunning AC Pavilion, Calcutta Club, starting at 7 PM. It was a special evening filled with camaraderie and celebration.

We were honored to have remarkable guests join us, including District Governor Rtn. Ramendu Homchaudhuri and our esteemed Guest of Honor, Prof. Malabika Sarkar, former Vice Chancellor of Presidency University and Ashoka University. We also welcomed past District Governors Rtn. Jhulan Basu, Rtn. Ravindra Prakash Sehgal, Rtn. Utpal Majumdar, Rtn. Angshuman Bandyopadhyay, Rtn. Uttam Ganguli, Rtn. Rajani Mukherjee, Rtn. Shyamashree Sen, and Rtn. Prabir Chatterjee. Their presence added immense value to our gathering.

Chair and Master of Ceremonies, Krishnendu Bhattacharjee, called the 62nd Installation Meeting, marking our 6200th regular club meeting. The evening began with a heartwarming Green Inauguration, where our distinguished guests helped plant a symbolic potted tree, demonstrating our commitment to the environment.

Our outgoing President, Rtn. Angshuman Bhattacharya, shared the inspiring achievements and milestones of the Rotary Year 2024-25. In the absence of the outgoing Secretary, Shuvrata Mitra, our Executive Secretary, Dr. Siddhartha Chakraborty, presented a comprehensive activity report.

A pivotal moment followed when outgoing President Rtn. Angshuman Bhattacharya officially installed our new leader for 2025-26, Rtn. Sanghamitra Dattagupta, presenting her with the collar, charter, and gavel. The Executive Secretary also handed over the collar to our incoming Secretary, Rtn. Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra, marking a seamless transition in leadership.

President Sanghamitra Dattagupta passionately shared her goals and objectives for the upcoming year and introduced her dedicated board to the gathering, encouraging everyone to work together towards a brighter future. Attendees were thrilled to receive the Goynaborian installation project focused on women empowerment as a thoughtful gift from the club.

We also proudly launched our special bulletin, "Maitree," adding to the excitement of the event. In a wonderful show of generosity, five members contributed generously to the Polio fund, showcasing our collective commitment to service.

Furthermore, PDG Sudip Mukherjee presented the PHF pin to ex-member Suman Ganguly, who had not previously received this honor, making it a heartfelt moment for all.

We welcomed two new members into our Rotary family! Membership Chair, PP Rtn. Debabrata Joardar, introduced Dr. Anusri Banerjee, who joined us virtually all the way from Perth, WA. We look forward to handing her badge, membership kit, and special gift during her next visit. Smt. Sharmila Sur was inducted subsequently, receiving her badge, membership kit, sapling, and goynabori as delightful tokens of welcome.

Our Guest of Honor, Malabika Sarkar, delivered an inspiring message about the global challenges we face, emphasizing that while we can't solve everything, Rotary can indeed light small lamps of hope and change. She reflected on her experiences as the Charter Vice President of the Rotaract Club of Calcutta, which played a pivotal role in shaping her public speaking skills.

District Governor Ramendu Homchoudhury highlighted the importance of awareness around Thalassaemia through an engaging presentation, discussing prevention strategies and upcoming Rotary events.

As the evening wrapped up, PP Rtn. Deepnath Roychowdhury proposed a warm vote of thanks, and the minutes from our last meeting were confirmed. President Rtn. Sanghamitra Dattagupta brought the meeting to a close, and we enjoyed a delightful fellowship over dinner. The event was well-attended, with a total of 71 participants, including five joining us online, reflecting our strong commitment to community and connection. Here's to a promising year ahead!

