



Metro Mail adjudged as the Best Bulletin of RI District 3291 in its category
Metro Mail- a chronicle of Rotary & beyond



Editorial

We start the new Rotary year with a very heavy heart having lost one of our senior leaders PP Dr Nandita Dasgupta due to COVID19. She was not only active but a contributing member, extremely affectionate and ever smiling.

But as Life moves on we welcome our leaders Holger Knaack, Sudip Mukherjee and Sunando Sen. Plans are in place in the new normal situation where citizens are more technology dependent though hands on service still occupies an important aspect of an active Rotary life. The compromised Rotary population shall have to be careful and follow the guidelines as laid down by the administration, neither taking risk or overlooking rules shall be considered heroic rather it shall be foolish of deemed leaders, Rotarians, so the younger, fitter members, Rotaract and RCC members shall have to take the lead in implementing Rotary activities.

The immediate goal of inducting 5 new members shall be very important towards membership growth. Emphasis on awareness programs using technology shall be another very vital area of work of our club. Club

Trainer PDG Shyamashree Sen is working hard training the members to equip themselves to run the organization smoothly.

Finally our gratitude to the outgoing team led by Sunetra Dasgupta and also DG Ajay Agarwal for acknowledging Metro Mail as the Best Bulletin in its category and also We Shall Overcome, an inspirational video featuring 3 maestros Tarun Bhattacharya, Ronu Majumdar and Bickram Ghosh being awarded as an Outstanding Project is greatly appreciated.

So let us see how Rotary Opens Opportunities and experience the magic of the movement.

Subhojit Roy



Rotary Calcutta Metro City mourns the demise of PP Rtn Dr Nandita Dasgupta

The club lost its Past President Rtn Dr Nandita Dasgupta on 30th June in a city hospital. She was diagnosed with COVID19. Rtn Dr Nandita was the President of the club in 2014-15 under the Governorship of PDG Pinaki P Ghosh.

She was not only a regular contributing member but also participated in medical projects over the past many years. She had joined the club in 2011 having served as a President of RC Calcutta Arunodoy.

She was extremely affectionate and popular club member for her mild and ever smiling manners. The Club will dearly miss her.



Meet RI President (2020-21) **Holger Knaack**

Member of Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln, Germany

Knaack is the CEO of Knaack KG, a real estate company. He was previously a partner and general manager of Knaack Enterprises, a 125-year-old family business.

He is a founding member of the Civic Foundation of the City of Ratzeburg and served as president of the Golf-Club Gut Grambek. Knaack is also the founder and chair of the Karl Adam Foundation.

A Rotary member since 1992, Knaack has served Rotary as treasurer, director, moderator, member and chair of several committees, representative for the Council on Legislation, zone coordinator, training leader, and district governor.

He is an endowment/major gifts adviser and was co-chair of the Host Organization Committee for the 2019 Rotary International Convention in Hamburg.

Knaack and his wife, Susanne, are Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation and members of the Bequest Society.

President's Message - July 2020



Holger Knaack

President,
Rotary International

Rotary is not just a club that you join; it is an invitation to endless opportunities. We believe in creating opportunities for others and for ourselves. We believe that our acts of service, large and small, generate opportunities for people who need our help, and that Rotary opens opportunities for us to live a richer, more meaningful life, with friends around the world, based on

Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends,

This does not seem like a time for great optimism, but it has to be. Long before Rotary was founded, the world dealt with great crises that tested humankind's ability to progress and endure. In the age of Rotary, the world has faced many more catastrophes; however, we have survived, and every step of the way, Rotary has helped the world heal.

Every great challenge is an opportunity for renewal and growth. I revealed the theme of Rotary Opens Opportunities at the International Assembly in San Diego just as the COVID-19 crisis was beginning, but these are words that I have believed for many years.

Rotary Calcutta Metro City mourns the demise of PP Sunita Goenka

The club lost another Past President and former Rotarian Sunita Goenka recently. She was an outstanding President during 1999-2000 under the Governorship of RIPE Shekhar Mehta and was instrumental in driving the club to a premier position in the then District 3290. She had left Rotary in 2004 and since then was not keeping in good health.

our core values.

Governments and institutions are gaining a greater appreciation for the types of public health partnerships that are critical to our work. People stuck at home, eager for greater connections and hungry to help their communities, are now embracing the values we have promoted since our beginning..

All of this is positive news, but just because there are greater opportunities than ever for Rotary to thrive does not guarantee that we will succeed. The world is changing rapidly – and was doing so even before this crisis. People were starting to move away from regular lunch meetings and toward online gatherings. Friendships were being cultivated and revived in social media relationships even before most of our meetings moved to Zoom and Skype. Younger generations have a strong desire to serve – but have questioned whether they could play a meaningful role in organizations like Rotary or whether they might make a bigger impact forming different types of connections. Now is the time to put everything on the table, test new approaches, and prepare Rotary for the future.

The COVID-19 crisis has forced all of us to adapt. This is good, and our new Action Plan specifically calls on us to improve our ability to adapt. But adaptation is not enough. We need to change, and change dramatically, if we are to face the challenges of this new age and provide the Rotary that the world so desperately needs.

This is our great challenge, not just in the next year but into the future. It is up to us to remake Rotary for these new times – to wholeheartedly embrace the ideas, energy, and commitment of young people eager to find an outlet for idealism. We must become an organization fully enmeshed in the digital age, not one that simply looks for online ways to keep doing what we have always done.

The world needs Rotary now more than ever. It is up to us to make sure that Rotary Opens Opportunities for generations to come.

Trustee Chair's Message -July 2020



**K.R.
Ravindran**
Rotary Foundation
Trustee Chair

I believe that RI President Holger Knaack's theme, Rotary Opens Opportunities, fits the times so well. You might ask how that can be, given all of the turmoil happening around us today. The following story, paraphrased from British author Alan Watts' telling of a Taoist parable, helps explain why.

Once there was a farmer whose horse ran away. That evening, all of his neighbors came around to commiserate. They said, "We are so sorry to hear your horse has run away. This is most unfortunate." The farmer said, "Maybe."

The next day, the horse came back, bringing seven wild horses. In the evening, everybody said, "Isn't that lucky. What a great turn of events. You now have eight horses!" The farmer again said, "Maybe."

The following day, his son tried to break one of the horses, and while riding it, he was thrown and broke his leg. The neighbors said, "Oh dear, that's too bad." The farmer responded, "Maybe."

The next day, officers came around to conscript people into the army, and they rejected his son because he had a broken leg. Again all the neighbors said, "Isn't that great!" Again, the farmer said, "Maybe."

What we learn from this is that nature is immensely complex. It's impossible to tell whether anything that happens is good or bad, because you never know

what the consequences will be. All we can know is that with every action and reaction, there is an opportunity – a chance to live our values, express our desires, and take action to make the world a bit closer to the way we want it to be.

The Rotary Foundation is our conduit to make those meaningful changes. Through the Foundation, we do our part to help rid the world of polio. In addition, we can help support important COVID-19 projects and prepare the world for the massive vaccination effort that will be needed soon. And we can help keep some continuity in service to people in need when so many regular services are being disrupted.

Will this be Rotary's great moment to become an even stronger organization in the 21st century? Maybe. Is this your great opportunity to live your values? Maybe! It's up to you and me.

Meet District Governor (2020-21)

Sudip Mukherjee



A second generation Rotarian and is a member of RC Calcutta Lansdowne and is an alumni of St Xaviers' School & College and was a President of his club in 2005-06. He is engaged in specialised food processing and chemical equipments.

He has served as a District Secretary twice and Assistant Governor (Administration) thrice and Assistant Governor (Service) twice. He has awarded 'Avenues of Service Citation' and Multiple Paul Harris Fellow.

Spouse Sumita is a Montessori teacher and son Senajit has completed his MBBS. Sudip is a sports and cine buff.

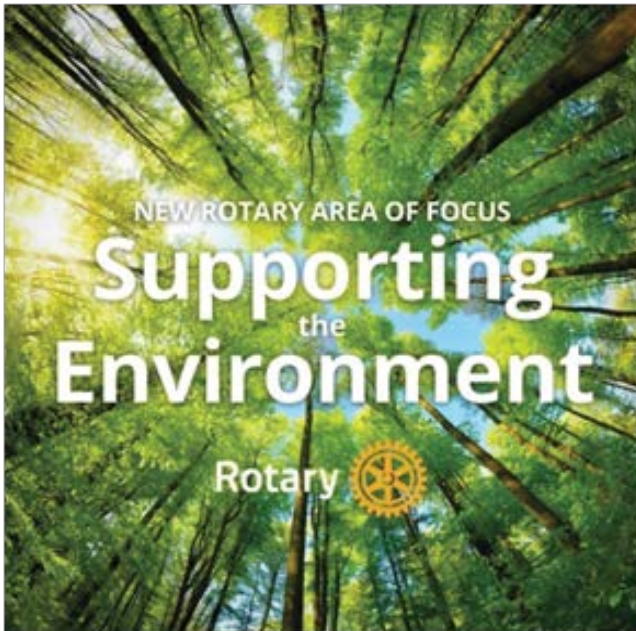
Meet Club President (2020-21)

Sunando Sen



Born 28th August and an alumni of Don Bosco, Park Circus and TS Rajendra(previously TS Dufferin), 1972 batch, Capt Sen has been a Master Mariner since 1981 and is currently with V Ships.

He joined Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City in 2003 and has served as Sgt at Arms, Director and Chairman on several occasions. He is a Major Donor level II. Spouse PDG Shyamashree Sen and children Sunrita, Sumit and son in law Jinit make his happy family.



The Rotary Foundation Trustees and Rotary International Board of Directors have both unanimously approved adding a new area of focus: supporting the environment.

More than \$18 million in Foundation global grant funding has been allocated to environment-related projects over the past five years. Creating a distinct area of focus to support the environment will give Rotary members even more ways to bring about positive change in the world and increase our impact.

Supporting the environment becomes Rotary's seventh area of focus, which are categories of service activities supported by global grants. It joins peace building and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; water, sanitation, and hygiene; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and community economic development.

Grant applications for projects will be accepted beginning on 1 July 2021. Gifts and commitments from Rotarians and others will be sought to provide global grant support for the new area of focus.



Metro City News

President:	Sunando Sen
IPP:	Sunetra Dasgupta
President Elect /	
Club Director:	Shanker Das
Vice President:	Tilak Dasgupta
Club Secretary:	Amrita Basu
Treasurer:	Subhojit Roy
Sgt at arms	Parijat Sarkar Sudipta Das

Standing	
Committee	Chairs

Club	
Administration	Bandana Das
Membership	Subarna Bhaduri
Public Relations	Chaity Ghosh
Service projects	Jharna Mitra
TRF	Sandip Kar

Other	
Committees	Chairs

Polio Plus	Md. Firoze
Literacy	Bandana Das
RCC	Shubankar Mandal
Rotaract	Shamik Banerjee
Interact	Arundhati Kundu
Editor	Subhojit Roy
Club Trainer &	
Executive Secretary	Shyamashree Sen
CICO	Preetam Ghosh



Blood Donation on 1st July

The New Rotary year began on 1st July and Rotaract Club of Calcutta Metro City participated in the District Blood Donation Initiative at Prakash Bhawan, Rtn Shamik Banerjee was present at the camp and the entire program was coordinated by him and PDG Shyamashree Sen

Get Well Soon PP Rtn Kamalesh Roychowdhury! He is recovering post his surgery in New Delhi.

Welcome Samridhi Chakraborty, our new member, sponsoring member is PDG Shyamashree Sen

Rotaractors Now Officially a membership type



Photo credit: District7070

From 1 July, Rotaractors officially became a membership type with their statues elevated to the same level as Rotarians.

This will expand Rotary's brand, its impact in the world, and allow for Rotaractors to apply for global grants.