

RI President: Rtn. Francesco Arrezo  
Dist. Governor: Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhury  
Club President: Rtn. Sunando Sen  
Club Secretary: Rtn. Arindam Ghosh  
Club Editor: Rtn. Subhojit Roy

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# METRO MAIL



BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METRO CITY



## *A New Rotary Year Begins – Let Us Unite for Good*

As the sun rises on a fresh Rotary year, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City extends a warm and heartfelt welcome to all Rotarians, friends, and partners in service. With renewed spirit and shared purpose, we embrace the Rotary Year 2025–26 under the inspiring message of “**Unite for Good**” by our International President **Francesco Arrezo**.

At the helm of our district, we are privileged to have **District Governor Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhury**, a Rotarian whose dedication to the cause of thalassaemia is deeply respected across District 3291. **Rtn. Sunando Sen**, continues his second term as a Club President.

This year, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City reaffirms its unwavering commitment to our **flagship project – Thalassaemia Free India**. For over two decades, our club has championed awareness, prevention, and advocacy efforts to combat this silent but devastating disorder. Through screening, blood testing, sensitization, and partnerships, we have saved countless lives and helped build a healthier future for generations to come.

Beyond Thalassaemia, we shall continue to strengthen our work in key areas of Rotary’s service avenues — maternal and child health, literacy, water and sanitation, environmental protection, economic empowerment, and youth development. Whether through our literacy projects, medical camps, vocational trainings, or community upliftment programs, we aim to make every act of service meaningful and impactful.

As we step into this New Year, let us remember : **service becomes powerful when it is united**. Let us reach across clubs, professions, and communities to form bonds that go beyond borders. Let us use our time, skills, and hearts to touch lives. Let us innovate, collaborate, and amplify our efforts — not for recognition, but for transformation.

Here’s to a Rotary year where we truly **Unite for Good**.

Subhojit Roy

### Presidential Message - July 2025



Francesco Arezzo is an orthodontist in private practice and owns an agricultural enterprise that produces extra virgin olive oil in Sicily.

Arezzo is a graduate of the University of Padua and a member of the Italian, European, and American orthodontics associations, as well as the Italian and European lingual orthodontics associations. He is a dentistry graduate of the University of Cagliari, where he also received a master's in lingual orthodontics.

He has served as vice president of the National Association of Italian Dentists for the province of Ragusa and was the founder and head for seven years of the Ragusa delegation to the National Trust for Italy.

Arezzo is also the owner of an agricultural enterprise and producer of extra virgin olive oil in the Monti Iblei region of Sicily. He has been vice president of the administrative council of the consortium controlling and regulating quality production of oil in that region. He owns two boutique hotel settlements there. He enjoys modern art and opera.

A Rotary member for 36 years, Arezzo has served as vice chair of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee and as RI director, chair of the 2023 Melbourne Convention Committee, learning facilitator, and district conference presidential representative, among other roles.

He is married to Anna Maria Arezzo-Criscione, an entrepreneur in the tourism field. They have two daughters and two grandchildren. His daughter Raffaella spent a year in Florida as part of a Rotary Youth Exchange. Francesco and Anna Maria are Benefactors and Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation.

**Francesco Arezzo**  
**President 2025-26**

### Lesson Plan given a Global Reach

*Rotary clubs in Ontario's District 7070 help establish Durham College's virtual classroom*

By **Joe Engleman**

When you tune into one of Lon Appleby's Durham College classes, which are all livestreamed on YouTube, one of the first things you see is the professor's podium. It's labelled with a message acknowledging that Appleby's Global Classroom is made possible by local Rotary clubs. "Together," it proclaims, "we're leading the way."

At the Oshawa, Ontario-based institution, Appleby was teaching courses rooted in real time and addressing an international audience even before the Zoom era. But since 2020, those classes have been held in the Global Classroom sponsored by clubs in Rotary's District 7070.

In 2017, Don Lovisa, who was then the president of Durham College, approached regional Rotary clubs about raising funds for the college's new Centre for Collaborative Education. As an added enticement, Lovisa suggested that Appleby's state-of-the-art classroom, which would be a focal point of the new centre, would proudly showcase the clubs' crucial contribution.



*The Global Classroom at Durham College is one of the many lasting local legacies bestowed by the Rotary Clubs of Durham Region.*

*Courtesy of Lon Appleby*

The 10 clubs of the Rotary Clubs of Durham Region, along with the Rotary Club of Port Hope, agreed to support the effort to the tune of more than \$100,000 over the course of three years. Ron Dick, the district's 2021-22 governor, insists that fundraising for the college was not a hard sell. "Every Rotary club in our district, either with this campaign or past campaigns, has raised funds for Durham College," Dick says. He credits Dave Andrews, who is the executive secretary and director of the Rotary Club of Oshawa-

Parkwood, with doing the "heavy lifting in the background" that made the fundraising campaign a success.

Like the newly opened, club-sponsored swimming pool for **Grandview Kids** — a 72-year-old organization in Ajax, Ontario, that serves children with developmental, communication, or physical needs — the Global Classroom stands as further evidence of the many local contributions made by the Rotary Clubs of Durham Region. It also recognizes the ongoing and growing partnerships that link Durham College and the Ontario clubs with people around the world. In addition, it helps fulfill the promise of a more educated and interconnected world. "The Global Classroom can bring low-cost or free education to anyone," Appleby says. "If you don't have the technology, we will bring it to you through Rotary volunteers on the ground."

The Global Classroom also offers a unique opportunity to keep the district's members involved in the projects that they support around the world. The classroom's video conference system "allows anyone using the facility to have a class with the world," Appleby says. "You can connect with Rotarians across Canada and speak with fellow Rotarians on every continent." Being on the ground doing international service work and meeting the people it impacts can "light a fire in you," Dick says. But he also acknowledges that not every club member can visit those projects. "All the members of my club can come to the Global Classroom," he says.

Since 2018, the region's Rotary clubs have assembled in the Global Classroom, both physically and virtually, to observe World Polio Day and engage with vaccination projects around the world. (Again, Dick credits Andrews as "the driver behind" the annual gathering.) Earlier this year, members of the Durham regional clubs sponsored their second annual International Women's Day event at the Global Classroom, an occasion they intend to observe in the years ahead.

In a more fundamental sense, Appleby believes that the Global Classroom strengthens the ties, built on shared values, that exist between Durham College and Rotary. "The Global Classroom stands for a vision I have," he says. "Education is the new vaccine," and in that context, the classroom is a "successful demonstration of how Rotary is making education as important as its fight against polio."

This story originally appeared in the July 2025 issue of *Rotary Canada* magazine.

## Club News

### Club President's Message



**Dear Club Members,**

It has been a great journey since the 1st day of July 2024 when I took over as the President of this club. I thank all of you for a wonderful year we had in 2024-25.

As I continue on this journey for another year as the Club President, I am looking forward to another meaningful and wonderful year of Service and Fellowship.

I am looking forward to adding more members to our club this year and request you to please help us make our club bigger and more active. Let us think of new projects that we may start and nurture all the old ones too. Also, please do remember to donate generously to The Rotary Foundation.

Let us make it a practice to regularly attend club meetings, projects and programmes so that we can increase our fellowship and bonding.

Let us "Unite for Good" and have a wonderful and eventful Rotary Year 2025-26.

I wish you all peace, happiness and good health.

**Yours in Rotary Service**

**Sunando Sen**

**President 2025-26**

### Club Secretary's Message



**Dear Friends,**

It is my honour and privilege to be part of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City, a club of high repute in District 3291.

I am deeply grateful for the confidence you have placed in me by electing me as Club Secretary for Rotary Year 2025 - 26.

This role gives me the opportunity to work alongside a team of individuals who selflessly dedicate their time and effort to serving our community—something that fills me with immense pride and satisfaction.

Let us move forward together, united as one team, so that we grow stronger and build a better tomorrow.



## Bengal Pro T-20 League ties up with Calcutta Metro City for a Thalassaemia free India



On Friday 27th June between 3:30pm - 7pm, Eden Gardens - Arivaa Sports and Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City had taken a special initiative towards creating a Thalassaemia Free India by inviting students from different schools to spread awareness on the need to Test blood to detect thalassaemia trait and prevent and eradicate thalassaemia. The campaign was shown live on StarSports 3 attracting a global audience and Aussie star cricketer Michael Clarke spoke on a blood test for thalassaemia eradication.

The initiative on the sidelines of **Campus Bengal Pro t20 League** created awareness by students of different schools and it is a message that the future generation is aware of their responsibilities to make a Zero Thalassaemia Nation.

## Thalassaemia Awareness Session with IPER



Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City in association with Institute of Psychological & Educational Research (IPER) at their premises with 50 dedicated social volunteers and young minds.

The club also presented a water filter to IPER.

PP Rtn Subhojit Roy spoke on thalassaemia. PP Rtn Jharna Mitra facilitated the program and President Rtn Sunando Sen, PP Rtns Rajnish Kapoor and Aridam Ghosh were present.

## Blood Donation Camp



Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City supported by Concentrix Daksh at the Primarc DLF 1 premises at New Town, organized a blood donation camp with 50 donors for the patients of Thalassaemia Society of India. The blood was collected by Peoples Blood Bank. This is the 5th blood donation camp in the last 12 months and Mr Utpal Panda, Hony. Secy. of Thalassaemia Society of India has helped us facilitating the camps. These camps are part of the CSR initiatives of Concentrix Daksh and Mr Amiyanath Bhattacharya has helped the initiatives.

Club President Sunand Sen, Hony. Secretary PP Rtn Arindam Ghosh and PP Rtn Subhojit Roy were present on the occasion.

**Greetings**  
*Wedding Anniversary*  
to  
*Bandana & PP Rtn Dipu Mullick!!*



**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

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