

THE MIDTOWNER

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown

President: Rtn. Hitesh Dani | Secretary: Rtn. Mayuri Doshi | Editor: Rtn. Simran Gupta

CLUB NO. 16155 | DIST: 3291 | CHARTER DATE: JUNE 16, 1975

From Editor's Desk

“A New Era in Women's Health : Rotary's Mission to End Cervical Cancer”

Dear Midtown Family,

Across the world, Rotary is working to make cervical cancer — a preventable disease — a thing of the past. And I'm proud to share that Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown is already part of this life-saving mission.

Cervical cancer continues to claim over 346,000 lives each year, most in low-resource settings. But today, thanks to new innovations and committed Rotarians, the tide is turning. Rotary-supported tools like Ampfire are enabling self-sampling for HPV — the virus that causes cervical cancer — and expanding access to early detection in rural and underserved areas. These screening solutions, backed by a \$2 million Rotary Programs of Scale grant, are already transforming lives in countries like Kenya.

Know it.

Prevent it.

End it.

What is HPV?

HPV (Human Papillomavirus) is a common virus that can cause cervical cancer. Most people don't even know they have it.

How is it spread?

HPV is transmitted through skin-to-skin contact, most often during sexual activity.

Can cervical cancer be prevented?

YES — with early HPV vaccination, routine screening, and timely treatment.

Vol. 51 | No. 2 | Thursday, July 24th, 2025

Regular meeting at The Saturday Club - Room no.1 at 6:30 p.m.

But this story of hope and health is not just being written abroad — Midtown is writing its own chapter. Through our ongoing partnerships and initiatives, our club is actively facilitating HPV vaccination drives for young girls in Kolkata, helping protect them before the risk begins. We are not only spreading awareness — we are delivering protection.

This is what Rotary is about: global vision, local action. With every vaccine administered, every conversation started, and every mother empowered with knowledge, we are building a future where cervical cancer is no longer a silent killer.

Did You Know?

Cervical cancer is caused by persistent HPV infection — but it's preventable through vaccination and early screening.

WHO aims to eliminate it by 2030 through the 90-70-90 strategy

- 90% of girls fully vaccinated by 15
- 70% of women screened by 45
- 90% of those with cervical disease treated

Most women in low-resource areas are diagnosed too late — early action is everything.

Prevention is protection. Awareness is empowerment. Together, we can end cervical cancer.

Who should get the vaccine?

The World Health Organization recommends vaccinating girls between ages 9 and 14, before they become sexually active

Is screening still needed after vaccination?

Yes. Vaccination greatly reduces risk but does not eliminate it — regular screening is essential.

How can Rotary help?

- Raise awareness
- Promote vaccination
- Support screening camps
- Erase stigma around women's health

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In the words of Dr. Richard Godfrey, Rotarian and global health leader

“Without testing, a woman usually doesn’t realize she has cervical cancer until it’s too late. With Ampfire, we can catch it early — and give her a future.”

Midtown in Action: What We’re Doing & What’s Next

- Continuing our HPV vaccination camps to protect adolescent girls
- Exploring future partnerships for screening and awareness initiative
- Amplifying global Rotary stories to educate and inspire action locally
- Championing women’s health as a key focus of our club’s service mission this year

As we move forward into the new Rotary year, let’s take pride in the fact that our club is already leading the way — quietly, consistently, and impactfully.

Because at Midtown, we don’t just believe in change. We deliver it.

With commitment and compassion,
Rtn. Simran Gupta
Editor, Midtown Bulletin

Minutes of the 1st Regular Meeting for the Year 2025 - 2026 and the 2170th Continuous Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown

Date : 10th July, 2025 | Time : 6.30 PM | Venue : Punjab Club – Peacock Room (In-person)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Rtn. Hitesh Dani.

2. National Anthem

All members stood for the National Anthem.

3. Welcome Address

President Rtn. Hitesh Dani welcomed all members to the first meeting of the Rotary year 2025 – 2026 and expressed optimism for a meaningful and productive year ahead.

4. Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

President Rtn. Hitesh Dani requested confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting. Rtn. Sudhirji proposed the confirmation, and Rtn. Bimanda seconded the same. The minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Cleft Lip & Palate Health Camp

As informed by Rtn. Preeti, the Cleft Lip Awareness Camp and Palate Health Camp is scheduled for 13th July 2025 at 11:00 AM. Venue: Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Amplapara Road, Bangaon. President Rtn. Hitesh Dani requested that any Rotarians wishing to visit the camp kindly inform in advance so that transportation (cars) can be arranged accordingly.

6. Golf Fundraiser

The President addressed the club at length about the upcoming Golf Fundraiser, a major initiative for the year. He provided insights into the different participation packages and donation options available, urging all Rotarians present to actively reach out within their networks to secure both participation and contributions. He proudly announced that ₹10 lakhs have already been raised, with an additional ₹30 lakhs committed. The funds raised from this event will be used to support Cervical Cancer Vaccination, with each vaccine costing approximately ₹5,000 per child.

7. Ramkrishna Narendrapur Visit – 27th July 2025

Rtn. Yugal Sikri spoke about the upcoming project at Ramkrishna Narendrapur scheduled for 27th July 2025. He emphasized the need for more Rotarians to come forward and contribute, stating that only ₹60,000 had been collected so far, which is insufficient for the planned activities. In response, Rtn. Rakesh suggested that instead of seeking individual contributions from Rotarians, funds already available with the Midtown Trust — both from budgeted allocations and interest accrued from fixed deposits — should be utilized for this project. This proposal was unanimously agreed upon by the members present.

8. Kolkata Kettle Version 7 (KK7)

The President invited Rtn. Samir Prasad to speak about Kolkata Kettle Version 7 (KK7). Rtn. Samir informed the floor that this year's edition of KK7 will see a major format change. Instead of the usual stalls, the event will feature a Fashion Week, with fashion shows, art displays, cheese and wine areas, and other curated experiences. KK7 will be held at the RCGC Tea Lawn on the 18th and 19th of December 2025.

9. Subscription Reminder

The President requested all Rotarians to pay their annual subscription at the earliest convenience.

10. Secretary Time

Attendance: **45% with 23 Rotarians present.**

Upcoming Birthdays

- 16th July – Rtn. Samirr Doshi
- 18th July – Rtn. Hardeep Singh
- 23rd July – Rtn. Nirmal Nahta

Anniversaries in July

- 11th July – Rtn. Bimanda & Chandandi
- 15th July – Rtn. Rudraksh & Rtn. Simran

11. Any Other Matter

Members were invited to raise any other matters for discussion. [You may insert details if anything specific was discussed.]

12. Sergeant's Time

In the absence of Rtn. Bhupeshji, the President appointed Rtn. Rakesh Sahani as the Sergeant-at-Arms for the meeting. The Sergeant's Collection amounted to ₹7000/-.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

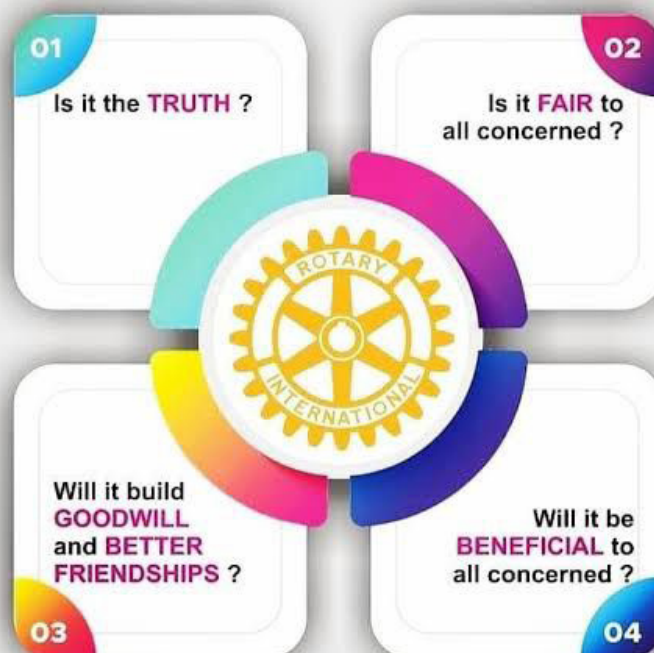
Recorded by

Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi

Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown

Date of Documentation: 11th July 2025

The **FOUR WAY TEST** of things,
we think, say & do



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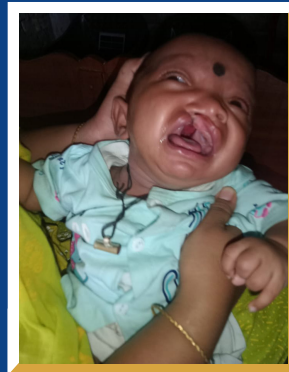
Regular Rotary Midtown meeting held on 10th July



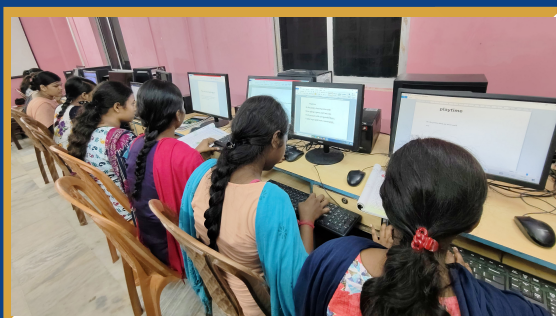
Cleft Lip & Palate Screening Camp

Held on 13th July 2025 at Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Bongaon in association with Narayana Hospital.

An initiative to identify children in need of corrective surgeries and offer them a new beginning.



Computer classes going on in full swing at The Refuge. 2 batches a day, 5 days a week. 100 children learning Digital Literacy.

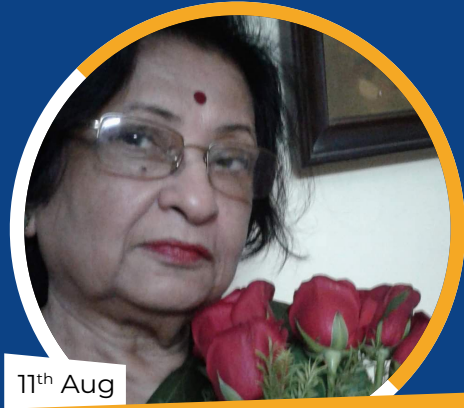


Birthdays



9th Aug

Dr. Prabhjeet Singh Sethi



11th Aug

Chandan Chakraborty



14th Aug

Bilan Singh



15th Aug

Sanjay Choudhary

Anniversaries



12th Aug

Nina & Rakesh Khanna