

Rotary



BLISS



AN OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA NORTH EAST

Rotary International District 3291

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Thursday, 13th March, 2025

1618th Regular Meeting

No. 16

Charter on : 12.06.1986

We meet every alternate Thursday at THE ANTELOPE, 3, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata - 700071 at 8.00 pm.

Rtn Subasish Halder
President

Rtn Swapnamita Roy
Secretary

Rtn Sukanta Khan
Treasurer

PP Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul
Editor



*Rotary Club of Calcutta North East welcomes
District Governor **AKS** Rtn Dr Krishnendu Gupta
and First Lady Dr Simran Gupta
on the occasion of District Governor's Official Club Visit*

March is Rotary's Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month. It focuses on improving access to clean water, proper sanitation facilities, and promoting hygiene education to prevent diseases and enhance quality of life. Clubs worldwide work on building wells, installing toilets, and raising awareness about hygiene practices.

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March is
Water, Sanitation,
and Hygiene Month



BEYOND THE PIN: THE TRUE SPIRIT OF PAUL HARRIS RECOGNITION

By Nerrissa J. Persaud, Rotary Club of Montego Bay, Jamaica

I recently received my first **Paul Harris Fellow** recognition pin and certificate in the mail. I held it in my hands, expecting to feel a sense of pride, maybe even excitement. After all, this recognition stands as a symbol of giving – of contributing to a foundation that has changed lives across the globe.

Yet, as I looked at it, a deeper realization settled in.

This recognition, while significant, is not about the individual – it is about the impact. It is a reflection of what we choose to support, the lives we help change, and the future we help build. Too often, we shift our focus to the recognition itself – but it's important to remember that it is just that – recognition of supporting something bigger.

The Rotary Foundation: Why it matters

Paul Harris founded Rotary in 1905 on a simple but profound principle: bringing people together in service to create lasting change. That vision evolved into one of the most impactful humanitarian organizations in the world, leading efforts in polio eradication, clean water initiatives, education, disaster relief, and healthcare access.

The Rotary Foundation exists not to create prestige but to fund solutions to real-world problems. The Paul Harris Fellow recognition is not a prize; rather, it is a symbol of commitment – a way to honor those who contribute to ensuring the Foundation's work continues for generations.

Recognition matters. It inspires and demonstrates appreciation. It acknowledges recipients and shows that they are valued and that their contributions and service matters. But let's remember not to let it overshadow the mission itself.

When recognition becomes the goal

In my Rotary journey, I have seen conversations that revolve around who is more deserving of recognition, rather than how we can strengthen the Foundation to expand our impact. Let's work together to foster a culture where we give because we believe in the mission. And let's not let recognition become a status marker, and keep in mind that it's a reflection of service.

We must ask ourselves:

Are we giving because we believe in the work of The Rotary Foundation, or because we seek acknowledgment?

Are we investing in sustainable impact, or are we focusing too much on the recognition process?

Are we strengthening The Foundation's ability to serve, or are we measuring our success in terms of pins and certificates?

Recognition celebrates giving but does not define it.

A call to strengthen both the mission and the recognition

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition is a prestigious honor, but it's true power lies in what it represents – the ability to transform lives through service and generosity. Let us preserve its meaning, and keep the following in mind:

Celebrate recognition, but prioritize impact. Recognizing those who give is important, but it should never take precedence over the act of giving itself.

Encourage a culture of philanthropy over prestige. Let us inspire Rotarians to give because they believe in the cause, not because they seek an award.

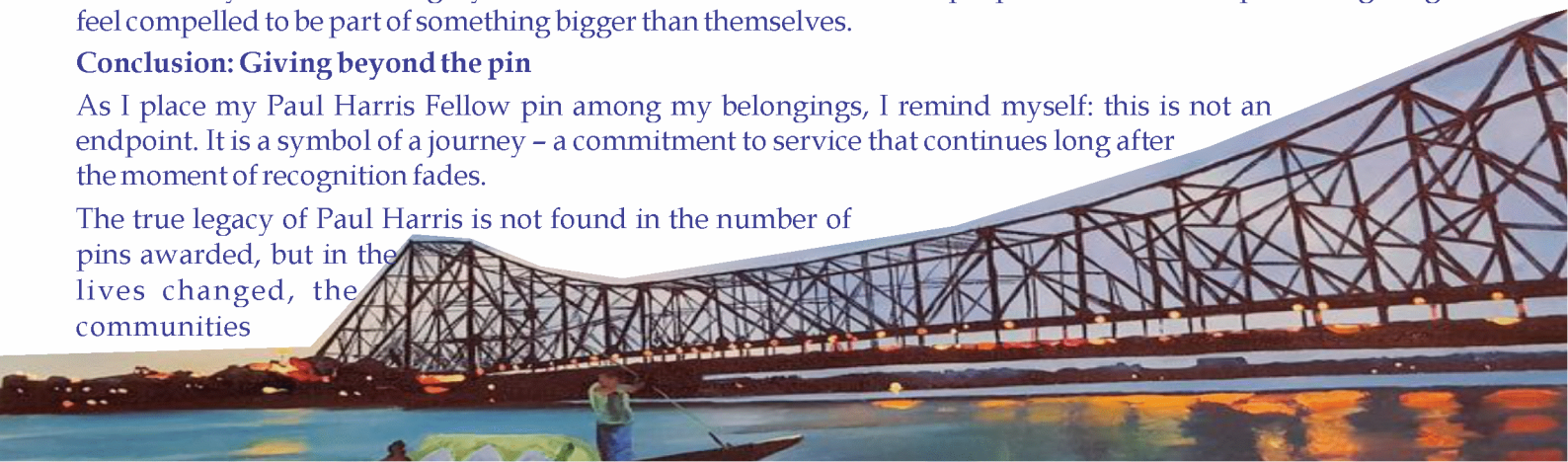
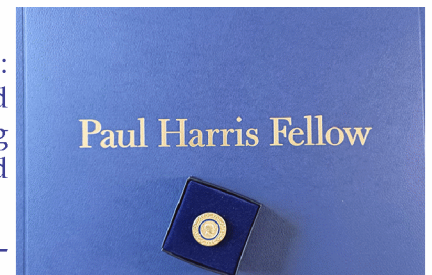
Refocus on The Rotary Foundation's mission. Every conversation about recognition should also be a conversation about growing the Foundation and ensuring its future strength.

The best way to honor the legacy of Paul Harris is to ensure that more people understand the power of giving and feel compelled to be part of something bigger than themselves.

Conclusion: Giving beyond the pin

As I place my Paul Harris Fellow pin among my belongings, I remind myself: this is not an endpoint. It is a symbol of a journey – a commitment to service that continues long after the moment of recognition fades.

The true legacy of Paul Harris is not found in the number of pins awarded, but in the lives changed, the communities



transformed, and the future built through the Rotary Foundation’s work.
 Give – not because recognition is the goal, but because impact is the purpose. Give – not just to be honored, but to ensure that the work of The Foundation grows stronger for generations to come.
 That is the true spirit of Paul Harris. That is the true power of The Rotary Foundation. And that is what we must strive to uphold.

SNAPSHOT OF MAJOR PROJECTS



RC Calcutta North East celebrated Children’s Day with students of Kashipur Boys School



Adult Literacy Project on 2nd February at Mashisbathan Krishnapur Unnayan Samity



President Rtn Subasish along with Treasurer Rtn Sukanta at RCC Kakinara during the Virangana Project



Distribution of Releif materials at Udaynarayanpur



Project MAA

Birthday Greetings

- 13 Mar : Aditya, S/o Rtn Somdeb Poddar
- 16 Mar : Anushruti, D/o Rtn Tapas Kumar Adalder
- 22 Mar : Madhumita Pal, W/o Rtn Kamal Pal



GREEN HEART - A TREE PLANTATION INITIATIVE OF RC CALCUTTA NORTH EAST



**Peacebuilding
and Conflict
Prevention**



**Disease
Prevention
& Treatment**



**Water,
Sanitation
& Hygiene**



**Maternal &
Child Health**



**Basic Education
& Literacy**



**Community
Economic
Development**



Environment

Minutes of the 1617th Regular Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta North East held at The Antelope, 3, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata - 700071 on 27.02.25 at 8.00 PM.

- ❖ President Rtn Subasish Halder called the meeting to order followed by National Anthem lead by PP Rtn Prabir Kumar Paul.
- ❖ President informed about the participation of our Club in a program “Protecting yourself from Cyber Threat” hosted by Rotary Club of Greater Calcutta at Rotary Sadan on 15th February 2025. President, PP Rtn Srikanta Basu Mallick, PP Rtn Haraprasad Garg, PP Rtn Sudip Dutta attended the program. Retd. Ex- Police Commissioner Shri Prasun Mukherjee was the Guest speaker. President expressed his plan of inviting Shree Mukherjee as a Guest speaker in one of our club meetings.
- ❖ President then informed about the project on 22nd February 2025 by “MONOSCOPE” organising an awareness program on Child protection and POSCO act. RCCNE had sponsored the venue. President, PP Rtn Ramprasad Chattopadhyay, Club secretary Rtn Swapnamita Roy, Rtn Sabyasachi Roy, Rtn Salil Kumar Chandra and Rtn Rathindra Nath Dey attended this program. PP Rtn Ramprasad Chattopadhyay honoured the Guest Chair representing RCCNE.
- ❖ President requested PP Rtn Biswajit Choudhuri to propose the program for “Woman’s Day”. He informed about a Car Rally going to be held on 9th of March 2025 from Park Street, Kolkata where around 100 nos of women drivers will take part. RCCNE can be a Co-sponsored as Rotary brand image program. President will try to negotiate the cost involvement and finalised if the budget permits as per club present financial condition.
- ❖ President then announced about RCCNE’s one of the major sustainable project “Dhoni” on 13th April 2025. The venue will be ICCR, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata. Around 40nos of beneficiaries will be given Hearing Aids at free of cost. “The Karna” will be the principal sponsorer. Beneficiaries will be selected by “The Karna” after going through the screening process at their Tobin Road, B T Road Center. President requested all the member and RCCs to nominate candidate. Club Secretary Rtn Swapnamita will be responsible for coordinating with “The Karna” for sending beneficiaries for screening. Aadhar card of Beneficiaries need to be send in RCCNE group and to Rtn Swapnamita. Last year beneficiaries cannot be nominated this year. President requested all to send names as soon as possible. The program will be followed by contributory Lunch and fellowship.
- ❖ President then called upon PP Rtn Sudip Kumar Dutta to describe the proposal. A program by “Pointers Conclave” a Business forum and a unit run by group of Ex- South Point Students, on 8th and 9th March 2025 at Rotary Sadan. This is going to be an Exhibition cum Conclave with Interactive discussion session. RCCNE will support them by booking the venue under the Club Name. “Pointers Conclave” will reimburse the cost to RCCNE.
- ❖ President then informed about the application received by Club Secretary Rtn Swapnamita Roy about sponsoring Shri Prabir Sarkar, a physically handicapped international sports person, and a National and Asian awards winner, now participating in Para Shooting. He has represented India in Long Jump Category and stood 4th in International Open Athletic Championship, Kuwait 2012. He has won Silver medal at South Korea BUSAN-2025, and numerous awards in FESPIB in Malayasia 2006, Queens Batton Rally, Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010. Now he is preparing himself for Para shooting and looking for sponsorship to purchase his rifle. This matter will be discussed further in presence of all the members.
- ❖ President then announced District Governors official Club visit day on March 13th, 2025. He informed that AG visit is not yet done, since it has been cancelled due to bereavement of AG’s mother. President will talk further and to fix up a date further before DG visit.
- ❖ President then called upon the Secretarial Business to be done. The next Regular meeting will held on 13th March 2025.
- ❖ President then terminated the Regular meeting with no other agenda left and invited all the members to join for fellowship. Fellowship was sponsored by PP Rtn Biswajit Choudhuri and Snacks were sponsored by PP Rtn Prabir Kumar Paul.

This issue of BLISS is sponsored by : PP Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul