



BLISS



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We meet every alternate Thursday at THE ANTELOPE, 3, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata - 700071 at 8.00 pm.		
Rtn Angana Paul President	Rtn Sabyasachi Roy Secretary	PP Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul Treasurer
		PP Rtn Subhashis Ghosh Editor

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REFRESHMENTS
IPP RTN SUBASISH HALDER

E-club develops young leaders through online workshops

By Hannah Wallace

Khumbo Chilimira Ndovi, a 25-year-old university lecturer in Malawi, has impressive leadership credentials as an accomplished young professional in the southeastern African country. She also knows how to have fun for a cause.

As president of the Rotaract Club of Blantyre, Chilimira Ndovi organizes lively fundraisers like karaoke parties and trivia nights to raise money for blankets for babies born to mothers in need. Now, she's thinking about how to make an even bigger impact. "I want to move on to a bigger project where we're maybe building a hospital wing or where we're building a library for a school," she says.

To help her get there, Chilimira Ndovi found a mentor in a seemingly unlikely place: 5,000 miles away in Scotland. Specifically, the Rotary E-Club of Southern Scotland, which recently started a virtual leadership development program that pairs Rotarians who are industry leaders with younger professionals for online workshops and one-on-one mentorship.

The four-month program included lectures on everything from ethical leadership to managing conflicts. The club, whose members are from Europe, Africa, the U.S., and Australia, introduced the leadership program last year in a pilot phase with hopes it will spread districtwide. Besides giving the club a meaningful focus, members hope the program will also familiarize young professionals with the kinds of career and leadership development opportunities that are available to Rotary members.

Early signs are positive. Chilimira Ndovi found a new respect for Rotary and is planning to transition to Rotary membership after her Rotaract presidency. She was paired with mentor Denis Robson, a Rotarian based in Innerleithen, Scotland, for conversations that often focused on navigating change in the workplace. "I want to know how I can manage change, manage differences, where I don't just spiral because something is not going according to plan," Chilimira Ndovi remembers telling him.

Robson, a former director of African affairs for Johnson & Johnson and an honorary fellow of the College of Surgeons of East, Central, and Southern Africa, has navigated plenty of change. He quickly established a good rapport with Chilimira Ndovi. "She is a very confident young woman who enjoys challenges," he says. "She is also a great team player."

In his role with Johnson & Johnson, Robson traveled to Malawi frequently. His familiarity with Chilimira Ndovi's country, known as the Warm Heart of Africa for its reputation for kindness, put her at ease. "Her openness to sharing her thoughts in a trusting and open environment was a delight," he says. He hopes to stay in contact with Chilimira Ndovi and work on projects together in Malawi.

Chilimira Ndovi, for her part, built a network through the experience with participants from Europe, where she's hoping to travel to one day. "We need to find ways to meet!" she says.

The leadership program is part of a rebirth for the club, which was originally chartered in 2010 as the Rotary Club of Edinburgh Park. Member Lynne Nelson remembers that in those early days the club was based in a business park in Edinburgh and had about 25 members. But many of the club's members moved abroad for work. When the club got down to 14 members, they realized that they had to do something. They switched to an e-club in 2014 in hopes of growing their membership internationally.

The leadership program was the brainchild of two Rotary members in Switzerland, Tetiana Moroziuk and Juliet Beckwith. The two women were working together at the cancer prevention and screening company Exact Sciences when Beckwith suggested Moroziuk join the e-club.

The two came up with the idea for the leadership program as the group was casting about for projects to do as a club. Originally from Ukraine, Moroziuk is a senior human resources director and has a passion for helping people grow in their careers. "I love doing this. It's something I know how to do," she says.

She also wanted to do something to help her country amid the war with Russia. "The war will be over one day, and to rebuild Ukraine we will need good leaders," she says. "Investment in the right leadership, leaders with values, leaders who will have this mission to serve, who will have Rotary values and a Rotary mindset — it's a huge opportunity."

The club recruited eight young leaders from all over the world. Moroziuk used her connections to promote the program to the Rotary Club of Kharkiv-International in Ukraine. Four young Ukrainians participated, including Pylyp Moskalenko.

Like Chilimira Ndovi, Moskalenko was already in a Rotaract club. “I thought that it would be a really great opportunity for me to gain skills and knowledge about leadership,” he says.

A translator, Moskalenko is his district’s Rotaract representative. He was paired with mentor Chad Campbell, a certified financial planner and longtime Rotary member from Salem, Oregon, who is now president of the e-club. The two met regularly on video calls over the summer. Many of their conversations revolved around how to succeed in Rotary leadership roles. “Pylyp would come with challenges about what’s going on in the Rotaract world,” Campbell recalls. “He and I would talk about his challenges, and I would share with him how I’ve resolved and managed conflict or disputes or realized opportunities in my 19 years of being a Rotarian.”

Campbell benefited too, taking inspiration from his mentee’s resilience in the face of war. During some of their meetings, Campbell could hear drone attacks in the background. Yet Moskalenko just carried on. Campbell was astonished.

He’s not the only club member drawing inspiration and motivation from the program. It has infused “tremendous energy and optimism” into the club, he says. “Along the way,” he adds, “we’ve built new friendships, new connections, and a level of fellowship that surprised even us.”



Image credit: Violeta Encarnación

How to start a leadership development program

Tips from the Rotary E-Club of Southern Scotland

Go virtual. An online program via videoconferencing will allow you to cast a wider net for participants and facilitators while enabling flexibility in scheduling.

Start small. A relatively small cohort of six to 10 participants should be manageable yet large enough for good discussions, teamwork, and innovative outcomes.

Invite expert facilitators. Root the curriculum in Rotary themes and values and invite expert “faculty” from around the world.

Focus on mentorship. Anchor the program around facilitator-led sessions but put mentorship at the heart of the program. Mentoring creates trust, connection, and friendship.

Challenge participants. Group them in teams and ask them to propose an actionable Rotary project.

Stay organized. Use digital tools like Google Drive and WhatsApp for communication and collaboration spaces.

Celebrate graduates. Offer recognition with real enthusiasm and provide digital certificates they can attach to their LinkedIn pages.

Know your Rotary



ROTARY'S VISION STATEMENT

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

As we stand on the cusp of eliminating polio, we find ourselves poised for our next challenge. The time is right to move toward realizing a new vision that brings more people together, increases our impact, and creates lasting change around the world.

To achieve the vision of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, we have set four priorities that will direct our work over the next five years.

ROTARY'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Eradicate polio and leverage the legacy
- Focus our programs and offerings
- Improve our ability to achieve and measure impact

EXPAND OUR REACH

- Grow and diversify our membership and participation
- Create new channels into Rotary
- Increase Rotary's openness and appeal
- Build awareness of our impact and brand

ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

- Support clubs to better engage their members
- Develop a participant-centered approach to deliver value
- Offer new opportunities for personal and professional connection
- Provide leadership development and skills training

INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

- Build a culture of research, innovation, and willingness to take risks
- Streamline governance, structure, and processes
- Review governance to foster more diverse perspectives in decision-making

Joint Meeting : Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence and Rotary Club of Calcutta North East held a joint meeting at the British Club on 28th Of February, 2026 in august presence of PDG Rtn Prabir Chatterjee and Rtn Rubena Chatterjee. PDG Rtn Prabir Chatterjee was the guest speaker at the meeting.



Project Report – Celebration of Holi

RC Calcutta North East brought the colours of Holi to Vivek Boys Home! The children enjoyed a festive day filled with pichkaris, goggles, and gulal. We treated them to snacks like cake, toffees, and juice, followed by a hearty lunch. To top it all off, the celebration ended on a perfectly sweet note with ice cream for everyone! This special celebration was held in loving memory of our late Rotarian, Tapan Kumar Bakshi. The project was attended by President Rtn Angana Paul, Mrs Mira Bakshi and Mrs Dhira Roy.



PROJECT DHWANI

Restoring the Joy of Sound

You are cordially invited to our
free hearing aid distribution camp.
Join us as we empower lives through
the gift of hearing.

Date : Sunday, 15th March | Time : 11:00 AM
Venue : Rotary Sadan, Room No. 102 & 103

Project Chairman :
Rtn Vivekananda Bhowmick
President :
Rtn Angana Paul



RCCNE will be hosting the DTLS (District Team Learning Seminar) for District 3291 Leaders for the Rotary Year 2026–2027 on 5th April 2026.

**ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA NORTHEAST
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 1641 & Joint Meeting
with Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence**

Date : 28th February, 2026, Time : 6.30 pm.

**Venue : British Club, 1A, Ho Chi Minh Sarani,
Kolkata - 700071.**

Call to Order

The Master of Ceremonies (MC) of the Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence welcomed PDG Rtn Prabir Chatterjee and Rtn Mrs. Rubena Chatterjee, along with all members of both clubs present at the meeting. The MC then invited all attendees to stand for the National Anthem, which was sung with due respect.

The MC then, invited the President of the partner club, Rtn. Tarakjit Saha, to deliver the opening address. Rtn Tarakjit Saha extended a warm welcome to the PDG and all members of both clubs. He briefly highlighted the various activities undertaken by his club during the year and spoke about some of their upcoming projects and events. After his address, he handed over the proceedings of the meeting to the President of the Rotary Club of Calcutta North East (RCCNE), Rtn Angana Paul.

Project Report Announcement of RCCNE

President Rtn Angana Paul extended her greetings to PDG Rtn Prabir Chatterjee and Rtn Mrs. Rubena Chatterjee, along with all the members present. She also expressed her sincere thanks to Rtn Tarakjit Saha,

President of the Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence, for accepting her proposal and taking the initiative to organize the joint meeting.

She presented a brief overview of the various projects undertaken by RCCNE in different areas of Rotary service during the year. She especially highlighted the recent event conducted at Jadavpur University focusing on Thalassaemia awareness and screening, which has been one of the club's key initiatives this year. A total of 124 students were screened through blood tests, and a few of them were identified as carriers. She also informed the members that RCCNE plans to organize another similar screening camp at Jadavpur University in the near future.

Upcoming Projects of RCCNE

The President informed the members about several upcoming projects of RCCNE. On the occasion of Holi, the club will organize a get-together with the boys of Bikas Boys Home, an institution that supports children from underprivileged backgrounds. The boys will be presented with Holi gifts and lunch will also be arranged for them.

She also spoke about RCCNE's upcoming major project "Dhwani." On 15th March 2026, at Rotary Sadan, Kolkata, approximately 60 hearing aids will be distributed to patients with hearing impairments under this project, in association with SIGNIA and The Karna.

The President further informed that RCCNE will be hosting the DTLS (District Team Learning Seminar) for District 3291 Leaders for the Rotary Year 2026–2027 on 5th April 2026. Around 200 participants are expected to attend the program, and the venue has been finalized at Spring Club, Kolkata.

Secretarial Business

The President then invited Rtn. Sabyasachi Roy, Club Secretary, to present the secretarial business and deliver the vote of thanks for the evening's joint meeting organized by both clubs.

The Secretary confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting, extended birthday and anniversary wishes to members and their families. He also extended his vote of thanks as per the procedure and informed the members that the next Regular Meeting of the club will be held on 12th March 2026. Further details regarding the meeting will be shared in the club group.

Adjournment of meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. All members and guests were then invited to join the joint fellowship and refreshments.

Minutes Prepared by

Rtn Sabyasachi Roy, Club Secretary

Birthday Greetings

12 Mar : Yudhajit Chaudhuri

16 Mar : Anushruti, D/o Rtn Tapas Kumar Adalder

22 Mar : Madhumita Paul, W/o Rtn Kamal Paul