



Serving Together



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in the WORLD



CHOWRENGHEE TIMES

JULY & AUGUST | 2023-2024

ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA CHOWRENGHEE

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
District 3291





Meena Khemka
President 2023-24



Dear friends,

As we mark the completion of two months in the Rotary year 2023- 24, it is with great satisfaction that I take a moment to share our collective progress. Over this period, we have successfully concluded several projects and embarked on new endeavours. While we celebrate our achievements, it is essential to acknowledge that our journey has just begun, and there remains much to be accomplished.

What truly heartens me is the remarkable engagement and involvement of numerous members in our project initiatives. It is inspiring to witness the dedication of both seasoned Rotarians and our newer members who have displayed a remarkable zeal to contribute meaningfully. Their enthusiasm reinforces the spirit of Rotary and its profound impact.

As we all are well aware, our esteemed District Governor Hiralalji Yadav aptly reminds us that we have only 365 days to make a difference. This reminder serves as a motivating force, compelling us to go beyond the ordinary and invest those extra hours to uplift society. At Chowrenghee, we are resolute in our commitment to walk the extra mile, to serve selflessly whenever there is a need.

Let us unite as a cohesive team, pooling our talents, resources, and energy, as we continue this remarkable Rotary journey together. Our shared dedication and passion will undoubtedly be the driving force behind our achievements.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support and well-wishes. Your dedication fuels our enthusiasm and propels us towards greater milestones. Together, let us shape a future brimming with meaningful impact and positive change.

Thank you

Meena Khemka
President 2023-2024





OUR SPEAKERS

Pragati Sureka is the founder of www.emotionalabilityresources.com. She is a TedX speaker who is a seasoned Harvard accredited Clinical Psychologist and Coach.

Apart from her training and therapeutic practice, she advocates preventive mental health care. She has done workshops and interactive sessions for educational institutions, MSMEs, PSUs and MNCS. She has held niche sessions for Indian Oil Corporation, FICCI, ACI, VisionSpring, Dragonfly Technologies, BlackRock Investments, YPO, EO,BNI, Rotary, Accor, Raffles and others in recent times.

Her works include Musings: An Insight into Me, Hope by Scholastic and Emotional Ability Resources by Hayhouse.

She has also published articles in reputed media pertaining to mental health and well-being.



Pragati Sureka

Vishnu Dhandhanian is a Rotarian for over 30 years. He motivated his club members at RC Cal Metropolitan to become a 200% PHF Club. Currently he is associated with RC Belur. Vishnuji served as an Assistant Governor in District 3291, demonstrating exceptional leadership as the District Grants Chair (DGSC) for 6 years. One of his significant contributions was organizing successful medical missions to African countries, including Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Madagascar.



Vishnu Dhandhanian
Senior Rtn.

He is associated with The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and reached the prestigious Major Donor level 2 in 2012. His primary focus revolves around Foundation grant projects, and has played a key role in many, including 20 Matching Grant projects, 4 Global Grant projects, and a 3H project.

In recognition of his outstanding service, Vishnuji has received numerous awards, including Citation for Meritorious Service, Citation for Four Avenues of Service, Distinguished Service Award of the Rotary Foundation, and Rotary's highest individual honour, Service Above Self. He was acknowledged by TRF vice chair Rtn Mark Maloney during the International Assembly in 2008.

He has been the leading guide and mentor to our first successfully completed Global Grant Project, Uthe Sabke Kadam- Feet for All.

He is a Chemical Engineer and is actively involved in manufacturing and distributing fashion garments. He has held prominent positions in leading industrial bodies and chambers.

Prateek Ruia is a Director of Ruia Chemicals P. Ltd. - A chemicals manufacturing organisation established in 1976 in Kolkata.

Prateek completed his graduation with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical & Electronics in 2003 and thereafter joined Ruia Chemicals as a Director. He made significant contributions to the FRP Division in the company before starting and leading the Construction Chemicals Division.

Prateek has been a follower of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravishankar and Art of Living since 2010.

He realised that by practising the techniques it led to a profound transformation in his life. Sudarshan Kriya, yoga, pranayam and meditation have brought him endless joy and fulfilment.



Prateek Ruia

Eventually Prateek decided to become an Art of Living teacher. He conducts complimentary introductory meditation sessions and the 3 day / 6 day Happiness Program which includes the very powerful breathing technique - Sudarshan Kriya.



INSTALLATION



The 24th Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Calcutta Chowrenghee was held on 8th July, 2023 at Park Hotel. DG Hiralalji Yadav was the chief guest of the ceremony. President Meena Khemka spoke about her plans for the year 2023-24 and introduced her Board Members. Rotary Chowrenghee members felicitated all PDGs and district officials present. DG Hiralalji Yadav addressed the audience. President Meena Khemka handed over a cheque of 2000 USD to DG Hiralalji towards annual fund for Rotary Foundation. DGE Prof. Krishnendu Gupta released the Roster. Meeting was attended by 7 PDGs, 6 District officials, 47 members, 3 other club presidents, 27 club guests.



PROJECTS JULY TO AUGUST, 2023

Disease Prevention & Control



A medical check up camp was organised on 15th July, 2023 at Amragori in Indian Institute of Mother and child- a primary school. It was attended by 100 children and 30 mothers and was conducted by Doctors from Shishu Mangal (Ramakrishna Seva Prathishthan) and Dr. Praduman Pal of Medicare clinic, Howrah. An awareness on nutrition , vaccination, and hygiene was given.



Uthe Sabke Kadam- Feet for All. There have been 145 beneficiaries in July and August.

Our first project of the year 2023-24, UDAAN ZINDAGI MEIN-'Give Wings to Life 'took place on 2nd July, 2023. This project aims to provide educational support to the beneficiaries of prosthesis at Mahavir Seva Sadan, empowering them to pursue education for a better future.



Jeevan Jyoti, an Allopathy dispensary runs once a week on Thursday at Kumirmari, Sundarban.

Total 150 have benefitted in July and August.



'Uthe Sabke Kadam' book was launched on 16th July at MSS. RIPE Anirudha Roychowdhury was the chief guest. PDG Prabir Chatterjee, Shri Mehtaji, chairman MSS; Chorariaji President MSS; Vishnuji Dhandhanian, project consultant Alokeparna , members of RC Chowrenghee, RC Mayfair, Young Indians attended the function.

PROJECTS 2022-23

Rotary Joynagar Eye Hospital (RJEH)



The core committee of RJEH met up with Mr. Shahul Hameed & Mr. Tapan Rao (RC Singapore) to discuss regarding the Global Grant Project of RJEH. We thank Rtn. Vishnuji for introducing us to RC Singapore and for his guidance always.



We visited RJEH along with our project partner **IPP Pradeepji from RC Yuvis** on 23rd July 2023. The construction work of the Eye Hospital is in full progress. All the civil and interior work will be ready by October/ November. Our club will soon begin the application work for the Global Grant Project to purchase the medical equipments.



A talk on diabetes was held on 12th August by **Vidhi Beri** at Indus Valley World School which focussed on prime aspects of healthy living, mindful eating and movement.



Homeopathy dispensary is held once a week at RCV where 20 children on an average are checked by the doctors.



On 20th August a **Blood Donation Camp** with 250 donors at Agraagram RCC in collaboration with Kothari Hospital was conducted. Our club sponsored food packets and the hospital gave a big cooking utensil to each donor.

Basic Education & Literacy



On 3rd July, 2023 RCV celebrated Guru Purnima with children washing feet of their parents in the new extension hall.



Mid Day meals continue at the RCV, Uluberia where every day 244 children are provided meals by Rotary Chowringhee members



Sit and draw activity took place on 27th July, 2023. Thirty students from classes 2 & 3 attended the card making activity which was under Eazy School 2 of District 3291. It was conducted by Rtn. Sangita Patodia and she distributed copies and pencils to all the students.



Teachers' training took place at RCV 5th August, 2023 in collaboration with IVWS.



Sit and draw competition was held on Independence Day in RCV.

PROJECTS 2022-23



Flag Hoisting took place on Independence Day in RCV by AG Tanu Roy along with celebrations on that day.



On **24th August** our club in collaboration with RILM inaugurated three centres at Jujarsha, Jalalsi Adak para and at Balarampur- all in Panchla Block, Howrah under Adult Literacy Mission. Inauguration was done by PDG Prabir Chatterjee.

We have also adopted 9 'Vidya' centres. In next three months 265 Adults would get literate.

Water & Sanitation

The four locations of tube wells and 2 community baths for women were finalised on 3rd August 2023 at Amragori village.

Community & Economic Development



Plantation of Mango trees at Amragori Vriddhashram was held on 15th July. Distribution of 500 mango trees to the families of Amragori was done contributing significantly to environment protection as well as also creating economic opportunities for those 500 families.



On July 15th July, 2023 Rtn. Pravin Agarwal sponsored Annapurna Yojana at Amragori Vriddhashram . He met all residents giving them hope and light.



"Stree", women empowerment and green menstruation program of manufacturing sanitary pads commenced on 18 th July, 2023 at Uluberia. Stree Sanitary pad unit was visited by some of our members on 27th July, 2023.



On 20 th August 250 mosquito nets were distribution in Agragram RCC.

Parampara



Parampara Boulevard our club's successful fund raising event took place on July 17th and 18th July, 2023 at Oberoi Grand. Our Chowrenghee team worked effortlessly and diligently to make this a success. The super successful show witnessed a huge footfall. Its an esteemed upscale exhibition in Kolkata and has garnered the city's utmost confidence since its inception in 2001. This event is committed to using all its profits for charitable endeavours.





INTERACT

Installation ceremony at **Indus Valley World School** took place on 20th July. Saplings were planted in the school campus and beyond on the occasion of Van Mahotsav. The Interact Club donated rice, dal, sattu and cooking oil to Premasree and Shishu Tirtha. They also organized a cookery demonstration for the women at Disha Foundation. Further Interactors participated in a Book Reading and poster making activity at the Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy. Talks on Gender Equality, Mental Health, Cyber Bullying, Diabetes and Financial Literacy also took place. Fundraising activities such as art and FIFA competitions and weekly canteen sales were held.



Interactors of **Sri Sri Academy** celebrated Tiger Conservation Day with the students of Sri Kripa Learning Centre on 13th July to raise awareness. Their Installation ceremony was held on 22nd July.



'Ankur', a tree plantation drive was organised during the Van Mahotsav week on 16th July. They conducted a session on 4th August with the students of Sri Kripa Learning Centre on 'How to Read a Clock' and on 11th August to explain the functioning of the Solar System.

They also organised 'Muskaan', a visit to Soma Memorial Girls' Home on 12th August. 'Ek Shutre Bandha' — The Interact Club of Sri Sri Academy celebrated Independence Day and Rakshabandhan together with 70 children of Sri Kripa Learning Centre on 14th August.



Installation program at **BDMI** was held on 9th August.



We are very proud that all our three Interact clubs got **Rotary Citation award** for the year 2022-2023.



FELLOWSHIP

Our First Fellowship was held at 145 Cafe & Bar, all were dressed in theme of Denim and Diamonds .



Congratulations

Three members donated 500 dollars to the Foundation in 2023-24
Rtn. Vidhi Beri, Rtn. Payal Bubna & Rtn. Vrinda Kanoria



Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Wishing all our members on their birthdays & anniversaries !



Birthdays of the Month

July

- 4th Parshad Ruchira
- 6th Bubna payal
- 10th Basu Urmi
- 12th Gulati Sangita
- 14th Jairath Leela
- 18th Khanna R K

August

- 7th Didwania Alka
- 9th Kishorepuria Anil
- 12th Himatsingka Kavita
- 20th Agarwal Piyush M
- 20th Baid Rohini

Anniversaries of the Month

July

- 9th - Anita & Nirmal Kr Agarwal

August

- 15th - R K & Maria Khanna