

Rotary



THE MAGIC OF

ROTARY

Rotary Year 2024-'25

e-WHISTLE

e-Club Bulletin

ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA SOUTH WEST

Rotary International District: 3291

Club No: 16197

Charter: 1956

Rtn Stephanie Urchick
R.I. President

Rtn Krishnendu Gupta
District Governor

Rtn Kamalesh Bose
Club President

Rtn Ruma Mitra
Hony. Club Secretary

ISSUE No. 05 / 2024-2025

REGULAR MEETING No: 2937

13 September 2024.

TODAY:

CLUB PROGRAMMES

- Rtn Mohua Das to share her upcoming Madartala Project Plans
- Rtn Sombuddha Banerjee also to share the Awareness Project on Safe use of electricity.
- Rtn Dr.Susmita Mitra Banerjee will share her plans of the Cervical Cancer Awareness Project Plan
- Hony Club Secretary will brief the members on the recently held Thalassaemia Seminar Phase 4
- President to request members to arrange for funds in the form of advertisements in the Brochure.

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

Madartala Health Camp and Safe Use of Electricity on 29th September 2024
RCC Suchetana Project and Cervical Cancer Awareness Project in 2 Blind Schools will be after the Pujas

CELEBRATIONS:

Alas!

No Sou'wester or his / her spouse was born during the next two weeks!

Neither was a wedding held!

PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

I read an article in the Rotary News, September 2024 written by Rtn Aniruddha RoyChowdhury RI Director 2023-2025, which I would like to share. In his article he mentions that September 2024 is the Basic Education and Literacy month of Rotary International and that there is a need to address educational disparities, particularly those based on gender.

As one would agree that even today the literacy rates are substantially lower for women than for men. This lopsided means of education ignores the fact that women are generally responsible for the education of their children. It is the literate women who will be able transfer the skills to their children ensuring that the next generation will achieve higher rate of literacy. Education will also enable and empower the women to identify their own skills, knowledge and abilities to make their own decisions. It will give them self-esteem, confidence to face society and participate in community development.

Women's equality and empowerment (SDG 5) is also one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Today, I would like to speak about my Alumnus, La Martiniere Kolkata. It is considered to be among the best day schools in India. La Martiniere Schools have a rich history that began in 1836 with the generous bequest of a French soldier and philanthropist, Major General Claude Martin. He was born and brought up in Lyon, France. In 1752 the 17 year old Frenchman came to India as a humble private in the armies of the East India Company. Claude Martin was no ordinary soldier, he rose rapidly to the rank of Major General and also spent many years in the service of Shuja-ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Oudh. He died in September 1800 leaving behind a property worth over half a million pounds sterling to start schools in Lucknow, Calcutta and Lyon, his native land of France.

Claude Martin's will. Finally as a result of a Supreme Court decision, La Martiniere Schools opened in Calcutta on 1st March 1836. Initially only Europeans and Armenian Christians were permitted into the schools. In 1935, Indian students of any religious denomination were allowed in. The schools are controlled by the Anglican Church of North India and are independent from the Government. English is the primary language of instruction. La Martiniere Kolkata has a very wide spectrum of co curricular activities which receive as much importance as the academic disciplines. Among the best Girls' schools in India, the Subdivision has ranked La Martiniere for Girls Kolkata 2nd followed by JB Petit Mumbai (3rd), Carmel Convent Chandigarh (4th) and Loreto House Middleton Row Kolkata (5th).

TRIVIA

STEPS TO INCREASE MEMBER RETENTION :

1. Foster a sense of community :

People are more likely to stay involved if they feel a part of a community. Clubs should consider strategies to foster camaraderie and friendship, such as social events and team-building activities.

2. Engage members :

Make sure all members feel valued and included. This can be done by encouraging member participation in meetings and decision-making processes, and by acknowledging their contributions.

3. Provide meaningful service opportunities :

Members join Rotary to make a difference. Providing a variety of service opportunities that align with members' interests and passions can keep them engaged.

4. Offer flexible participation options :

Recognizing that not everyone has the same availability, clubs can offer different levels of

commitment, such as different meeting times, virtual participation options, or less frequent meetings.

5. Attract younger members :

To ensure the continuity of the club, it's crucial to attract younger members. This can be done by modernizing the club's image, using social media, and establishing partnerships with local schools or youth organizations.

6. Provide professional development opportunities :

Many people join Rotary to network and develop professionally. Offering training, mentoring, and networking opportunities can add value to the membership.

7. Keep costs reasonable :

While dues and donations are necessary for the club's operation, it's important to keep them as low as possible to avoid financial strain on members.

8. Regularly communicate the impact :

Regularly share the positive impact the club's work is having on the community and the world. This can motivate members and remind them of why they joined.

9. Provide leadership opportunities :

Encourage members to take on leadership roles within the club to increase their sense of ownership and commitment.

10. Listen to members' feedback :

Regularly seek feedback from members about their experiences and any changes they would like to see. This can help the club address any issues promptly and demonstrate that it values its members' opinions.

HEART BREAKING

Our dear PP. Rtn. Nirmal Kumar Roychowdhury left for the afterworld in the early hours of 11 September 2024.

REST IN PEACE