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**Minutes of the RWM 2762 held at the Mahendra Smriti Sabhagar RC Dumdum on 22.11.24 at 6.30 pm**

**ADDRESS:**

President Rtn. Sanjib Roy called the meeting to order, warmly welcoming Professor Krishnendu Acharya the invited speaker of the evening, and all members in attendance.

**BEGINNING:**

The meeting commenced with the National Anthem, led by PP Rtn. Kumar Brata Ghosh at the request of the President.



**CLUB BUSINESS:**

In the absence of the Secretary, at the request of the President, honourable Treasurer, PP Rtn. Swarnendu Sekhar Saha conducted the club business:

a) Early birthday wishes were extended to Rtn. Dr. Soma Sharma, whose birthday falls on the 22nd.

All attendees joined in the celebration  
 b) Advance wedding anniversary greetings were extended to Rtn. Piyush Shaha & Partner Mrinalini, and Rtn. Tarun Kumar Ghosh & Partner Rita for their anniversaries on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, and hon'ble Secretary PP Rtn. Chinmay Roy & Partner Rita for their anniversaries on November 27th. Members joined in the greetings.

c) The receipt of the newsletter "LIGHT" from RC Garden Reach was shared.

**Samagam 2**  
**2nd President Secretary Assistant Governor Zonal Secretary & Team Meet**  
**Save the Date**  
**Sunday 01 December 2024 (followed by Dinner)**  
 Haldiram Banquets Kolkata

d) Announced the District's 2nd President, Secretary, AG, ZS and Team meeting 'SAMAGAM-2' on Sunday, Dec. 1st. at Haldiram Banquet, Ballygunge, Kolkata.

e) The President reminded the

members of the DG's official club visit on Friday, December 13th, followed by a family dinner.

f) He requested all the members to attend the Annual Meeting on Friday, December 20th.

**Rotary Foundation Seminar 2024**  
**SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2024**  
 Host Clubs: Rotary Clubs of Belur, Calcutta, Calcutta Mahanagar, Calcutta Victoria  
 The International Management Institute

g) The President informed the members about the Rotary Foundation Seminar organized by the District on Sunday, November 24th, from 14:00 to 18:00 hours at the International Management Institute, Judges Court, Alipur, Kolkata. The registration charge for this program is ₹500 per person.

**A Seminar On The Rotary Foundation**  
**Guest Speakers** Rtn. Tapas Bhattacharya DGN RID 3291  
 Organized by Rotary Club Of East Calcutta  
 Associated By Clubs of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3291  
 Date - 27th November Time - 6.30 pm  
 Venue - Rotary Bhawan 5 @ 6, Hem Chandra Naskar Rd. Beside: Beliaghata Post Office Kolkata 700010

h) The President announced a Foundation Seminar at RC Calcutta, organized by 25 clubs of our district, on Wednesday, November 27th, of which our Club would be a co-host. **PDG Rtn. Debashis Mitra** and **DGN Rtn. Tapas Bhattacharya** kindly consented to be the speakers at the seminar.

**DISCUSSION:**



a) The President discussed a Training Camp on Organic Farming to be organized by the RCC *Dipsankar Memorial Welfare Trust* in association with Club at *Krishnapur, Nadia* on Sunday, November 24th, under the guidance of eminent scientist **Professor Krishnendu Acharya**, the guest speaker of the evening.

b) As requested by the President, **PP Rtn. Dr. Prabir Kumar Saha** introduced **Professor Krishnendu Acharya**, FICN, Molecular & Applied Mycology and Plant Pathology, providing a brief background of his academics, research, and passion.



c) **Professor Acharya** greeted the audience and thanked the Club for inviting him.

At the onset, he delineated the current scenario of global economic slowdown, pinpointing its effects on the farmers of our country and region in particular. He emphasized the need for sustainable development of marginal farmers through soil preparation, soil supplementation with necessary nutrients, proper management, and disease control, along with direct marketing of their produce to eliminate the middlemen.

Members were highly impressed to learn about the successful implementation of his endeavours towards the sustainable growth of rural farmers through the transmission of the latest innovations from lab to land and direct market networking with more than 30 NGOs under his direct guidance and supervision. They greeted him with a big round of applause.



d) On behalf of the Club, the President and **PP Rtn. Dr. Saha** felicitated **Prof. Acharya** with a sapling and traditional *Uttariya* and thanked him for his insightful deliberation and efforts towards the upliftment of the rural economy. All attendees joined in appreciation.

**ENDING:**

The minutes of RWM 2761, circulated via email and WhatsApp, were confirmed by the 12 members present at the meeting. Sunshine was collected through billing. The President concluded the meeting with special thanks to **Prof. Acharya** and requested all members to join the next RWM on Friday, November 29th.



**Students of our Sewing Training Centre at Majhergram, Nadia**

**Rotary Balananda Dialysis Centre by RC Calcutta is now open**



# The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Rotary Clubs -Everything You Should Know

*Rotary Clubs aren't just for your grandparents anymore.*



**By Lauren Wellbank**

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Source: Getty Images

If hearing someone say the words "Rotary Club" automatically brings to mind **black-and-white images from days gone by** when Rotarians (the name for a member of the club) would gather to commit **to acts of service**, you're not alone. And while that image endures for many of us thanks to **television and movies**, the reality is that the Rotary Club has changed in a lot of ways over the years.

Whether all of those ways are for the better will likely depend on who you ask and what they know about the **non-political** and non-denominational organization and its mission. Continue reading to learn more, including whether or not the Rotary Club is considered bad by today's standards.



Source: Getty Images

## What is the Rotary Club?

The Rotary Club was established **in 1905** by a group of friends who

met in downtown Chicago to talk about the news of the day while trying to develop strong friendships. While the initial group of men established the club as a way for people from different backgrounds to come together and learn from one another, the club's mission changed over the years to become one of service, where members focused their efforts on **humanitarian projects**, according to the club's website.

As for its unusual name, the club was named after the rotating meeting schedule that saw members going to a new meeting spot each week. Despite not having a set location to gather, the club picked up steam, and by 1912, it went international after establishing a location in Winnipeg. Thus, the Rotary Club adopted a new moniker: the International Association of Rotary Clubs. Things moved quickly after that, and more clubs were established worldwide.

While each group focused on different acts of service — including trying to help roll out the Polio vaccine in 1985 with the launching of PolioPlus, something the organization says **helped get shots** into the arms of **2.5 billion children** over the years — their motto continued to follow its original roots of "service above self" across all locations.

## Why do some people think the Rotary Club is bad?

Like any organization established in a time when not all people were treated equally, the Rotary Club has been involved in some exclusionary practices over the years. For example, the club was a men-only organization until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that they

had to **open the membership to women** in 1987.

In addition to their own membership failings, the Rotary Club also gets a bad rap because of the reputation of similar clubs like the Free Masons, who **conspiracy theorists** accuse of worshipping the occult and controlling the world by inserting members into powerful positions.

## The Rotary Club has continued to put humanitarian efforts front and center.

The modern version of the club does resemble the original group in many ways, including in the decision to **help communities around the globe** by putting a focus on protecting the planet. In the 1990s, they rolled out the Preserve Planet Earth program, which set its sights on preserving flora and fauna, among other things.

Since then, the program has evolved with the changing times, and in 2020, Rotarians updated their initiative to include **protecting the environment from the climate crisis**.

When faced with all of this information, it's hard to make a snap judgement about whether the club is inherently good or bad, especially when there are factions that could be either. That being said, it's likely that its founder would be proud of the way it looks today.

