

Friendship Bulletin

Vol. 54 no. 7

Saturday, 12th September, 2020

President : Alope Kumar Kanodia

Secretary : Amar Kumar Malhotra

Editor : Ajay Khanna

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Ask and listen 2

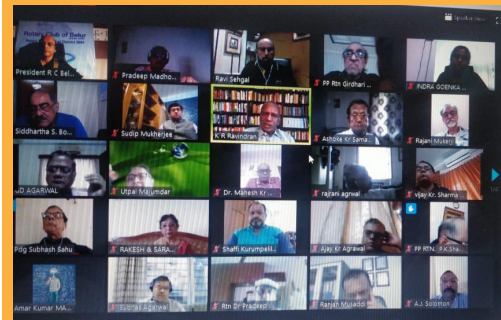
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Today's
SPEAKER



Neha Pathak
 Head - Trust & Estate Planning Motilal Oswal Wealth Management

Theme:
Why Estate Planning is the need of the hour
 September 12, 2020
 at 5:00 PM India



ROTARY IN CHALLENGING TIMES - A SUMMATION

An engrossing webinar was organised on 23rd August, 2020 wherein PRIP K R Ravindran, Trustee Chair was the lead speaker and the keynote was presented by DG Sudip Mukherjee. PDG Ravi Sehgal enacted the role of moderator. It was a highly successful event with Rotarians across the world participating in large numbers. PRIP Ravindran was in his element and spoke at length on the current challenges faced in Rotary world in the backdrop of Corona pandemic and the way forward. DG Sudip in this address commended Rotary Belur for organising such a wonderful and meaningful event.

Letter of Appreciation from ILS Hospitals Howrah

To
Project Chairman
Rotary Club of Belur,
193/2 G T Road, Howrah,
West Bengal



Dear Sir,

Greetings of the Day!!

We are pleased and thankful to the Rotary Club of Belur, a philanthropic organization, for extending support in form of donation of 3,300 units of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE Kits) and 3,300 N 95 (Venus Brand) Face Masks for the use of our doctors, nurses and staffs who are directly engaged in serving Covid affected patients by exposing themselves and taking a great amount of risk.

We once again thank and appreciate Rotary Club for the sincere concern that they have shown in the crisis due to Covid pandemic. We hope and request to work together in times to come for a common cause.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

For ILS Hospitals of Howrah

COO

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Congratulations on being promoted to the position of Grandfather President Aloke and Grandmother Anita Bhabhi and Greetings to their son Ankit and daughter in law Nikita for the new arrival of a divine gift, a wonderful girl in their life on 11th September, 2020. Seeing her small eyes and hands, and feeling her soft heartbeats shall bring untold happiness. May she always be in good health. Best Wishes!

This is how the professionals get trapped into SISI - Single Income, Single Identity (Same product .. Few Customers)

A "mouse" was put at the top of a jar filled with grains.

He was too happy to find so much of food around him.

Now he doesn't need to run around searching for food and can happily lead his life.

As he enjoyed the grains, in few days time, he reached to the bottom of the jar.

Now he is trapped and he cannot come out of it.

He has to solely depend upon someone to put grains in the same jar for him to survive.

He may even not get the grain of his choice and he cannot choose either.

If he has to live, he has to feed on whatever has been put into the jar.

Here are my top 4 lessons from this:

- 1) Short term pleasures can lead to long-term traps.
- 2) If things are coming easy and you are getting comfortable, you are getting trapped into survival mode.
- 3) When you are not using your potential, you are losing it.
- 4) If you don't take right Action at right time, you will finish what you have and will be in no position to come out.

- Do something now and start taking Action to attack your SISI zone.

You are a ambitious professional ...

You should RISING BEYOND AVERAGE

Contributed by Rtn Sunil Sobti

CLUB EVENTS

September 19, 2020 RCM

In-house Meeting - **Subject: Miracles in Life**

September 26, 2020 RCM

Speaker : Mr. Vijay Jain Topic: Vaastu Shastra and beyond

Many of us have faced mystic happenings in life, and experience which remains unsolved. Members will get a 5 minutes to share the subject.

DISTRICT EVENTS

District will organise the following online programmes :
18th September at 6 p.m.
25th September at 6 p.m.
27th September at 4 p.m.

Details to be provided soon.



ROTARY NEWS

Former Youth Exchange student and inventor of eco-friendly bricks comes full circle

Binish Desai began working on an eco-friendly brick made out of recycling and waste, when he was 11. The former Rotary Youth Exchange student, inventor, and entrepreneur credits Rotary with giving him the support to pursue his dreams. Now he's giving back through a new Rotary club.



Desai who turns 27 this month — he has come up with more inventions; built and lost a company; founded, with his wife, several women's empowerment centres; and generally concocted ways to improve the lives of everyone in his very broadly defined community. Central to his success has been his involvement with Rotary, a relationship that was sparked by a family connection and nurtured by a year in the United States as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. Now, as a charter member of the Rotary Club of Vibrant Valsad, his life in Rotary has taken flight.

African region declared free of wild poliovirus

Rotary and its GPEI partners celebrate a monumental achievement; say global eradication of wild polio is possible with the continued dedication and persistence of Rotarians

The World Health Organization (WHO) on 25 August announced that transmission of the wild poliovirus has officially been stopped in all 47 countries of its African region. This is a historic and vital step toward global eradication of polio, which is Rotary's top priority. They offer it as proof that strong commitment, coordination, and perseverance can rid the world of polio.



The certification that the African region is free of wild poliovirus comes after the independent Africa Regional Certification Commission (ARCC) conducted thorough field verifications that confirmed no new cases and analyzed

DISTRICT NEWS :

District 3291 organised 'NavShiksha' a programme on the occasion of Teachers Day on 5th September 2020 wherein RIPE Shekhar Mehta and RID Kamal Sanghvi were present as speakers. Held on the Zoom cloud platform it was a great success with over 20 members from our club attending the same.



- Rotn Anand Agarwal on 6th September, 2020
- Rotn Sashi Seth on 9th September, 2020
- Rotn Ajay Khanna on 17th September, 2020

Birthdays

Minutes of 2515th E- RCM of Rotary club of Belur held on 23rd of August at 11 a.m.

The meeting was convened by PDG Ravi Sehgal and he formally welcomed all to the webinar with theme "Rotary in Challenging times". It was attended by more than 80 Rotarians in including our club members. More than a dozen PDGs including PDG Kamal Seth, PDG Utpal Mazumdar PDG Shyamashree PDG Debashish Mitra were present. We had Rotarians from International clubs attending as well. President Alope called the meeting to order and welcomed DG Sudip and our Guest PRIP K R Ravindran. After national anthem of India and Sri Lanka, President Alope briefed about the several ongoing club projects. Club business, birthdays was done by Secretary Amar.

DG Sudip Mukherjee presented the key note at the webinar. He mentioned that he likes to hear the stalwart of Rotary world PRIP K R RAVINDRAN who is the current TRF Trustee Chair speak and makes it a point to attend his meetings. DG Sudip shared His views on the challenges faced by Rotary in these pandemic times. PDG Ravi Sehgal then requested PDG Aniruddha

Roy Chowdhury to introduce the esteemed guest. PRIP Ravindran who has been conferred with many RI recognitions and also been given the title of "Jewel of Srilanka"

PRIP Ravindran took the virtual stage and mesmerised the audience with his poise and focused speech. He motivated us to face the challenges in these times and was all praise for our Global Grant project of 6600 PPE KITS, Masks for the hospital staff and doctors in this COVID crisis. He was concerned about the economic crisis but had faith that Rotary will come out stronger as it has done before.

After that a wonderful one on one discussion followed between him and our PDG Ravi ji which gave us insight with facts of the Rotary world. It was informed that Rotary will not go into research of Covid but would surely be a part in vaccination by tying up with government. DG Sudip made his closing observations and committed to contribute 4 lac dollars to the foundation this year. PDG Ravi also pledged to motivate Rotary Belur and give at least 25,000 dollars to the foundation this year. President Alope thanked all Rotarians, PDGs Rotaractors for attending and formally terminated the meeting.

Rtn Alope Kr. Kanodia, President

Rtn Amar Malhotra, Secretary

 **Club Clinic** Total 390 patients were treated in August'2020.

REMEMBERING USHAJI

Ann Usha Dhandhanian, spouse of Vishnuji, left for her heavenly abode on 26th August 2020. Ushaji had always been a cheerful and lively person and led an exemplary life of 71 years. She carried out her responsibilities in all segments of life with utmost involvement and care. A dedicated member and past president of Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta Metropolitan, she was also active in various other social platforms. She was always ready to help a person in need and capable of laughing out a difficult situation with a shrug with a belief that 'This Too Shall Pass'.

Her void and absence will be deeply felt in fellowship activities of RC Belur. We convey our deepest condolences to Vishnuji and her four children – Ritu, Pragma, Shubha and Arpit, who are all well placed in life.

Ritu adds: *Mummy was always very vibrant and bubbling with life. She would never give up on anything and would never let us give up too. She was always there to support us and we still draw energy and inspiration from her memories and eternal presence.*

Shubha adds: *As a child we read "a mother is a daughter's best friend".... But we do not understand the depth of this statement till we grow up and move with the tides of time. I bid farewell to my best friend, mentor and guide and trust that her teachings will inspire us eternally.*



Dear Vishnu,

It is with great grief that Rashi and I have come to know of the untimely demise of dear Ushaji. It is shocking and unbelievable.

The pandemic has indeed created a havoc for so many, but your personal loss is insurmountable. May God almighty give you and your family members all the strength to bear this enormous loss.

May the departed soul rest in peace.

Om Shanti.

Regards,

Shekhar Mehta

Rotary International President 2021-22

We are deeply saddened and shocked in every way. We are also at a loss for words. She was a great lady - a wonderful host and a lovable humble human being. She will always remain in our memories and prayers May God give you and the family ample strength to sail through the trying times of pain and grief. Take care Vishnuji
-- **PDG Debasish and Papia**

Vishnu I am at a loss for words to express my grief. Ushaji was a wonderful person who gave tremendous support and hospitality to all of us. Please accept heartfelt condolences from Mamta and myself. May her soul rest in eternal peace.
-- **IPDG Ajay Agarwal**

Sumati & myself have no words to express our grief. Usha bhabhi was like family to us and we always looked forward to our movies & dinners together. Usha bhabhi took so much care to feed me the low chilli/ spice dishes at home and we will miss her friendly smile and elder sisterly. We pray for your strength Vishnuji as you give strength to all the family members. Usha bhabhi shall attain Peace in Her Heavenly Abode and we Pray for Atma kee shanti.
Om Shanti -- **PDG Ravi Sehgal**

Word's can't describe for the loss of Usha Bhabhi she was very near to our hearts, her memories of adda in rotation group helping nature in every event, tour to Shantiniketan and my commitment to her for holidaying on Indian hills will remain as a part of memories in my life. May her soul rest in peace. -- **President Alope Kanodia**

Trustee chair's message - September 2020

In late 1914, Europe was divided by hundreds of miles of trenches. British and French forces on one side were within shouting distance of German troops on the other. The pope made a plea for a Christmas truce, but the shooting continued.

Then, on Christmas Eve, soldiers from behind British lines heard an unexpected sound — not gunfire, but singing. Next, they heard a single voice shout out, “English soldier, merry Christmas!” followed by “English soldier, come out to join us!”



Both sides cautiously emerged over the parapet into the no man's land between the trenches. Before long, the soldiers realized that it was a real truce. They fraternized, singing Christmas carols, exchanging souvenirs and whiskey, and even taking up a friendly soccer match.

The cease-fire continued only two days before the troops returned to their trenches, resuming bloodshed for nearly four long years. But the story of the Christmas truce reminds us that peace is possible, if we choose to accept it. If peace can last a few days, could it not also last months or years? And how do we prevent conflict in the first place?

In his Nobel Peace Prize lecture in 1964, American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. said, “We must concentrate not merely on the negative expulsion of war, but on the positive affirmation of peace.”

With Positive Peace, our society's structures, policies, and everyday attitudes and actions promote justice at all levels, sustaining a peaceful coexistence. It's an answer to the calls for justice and peace we have heard on the streets in protests from Minneapolis to Paris this year.

Positive Peace, studied at our Rotary Peace Centers around the world, is not just an academic idea for the Rotary Peace Fellows. Through Rotary's partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace, the Rotary Positive Peace Academy offers free training to every Rotary member on how to wage Positive Peace in every project we do at the grassroots level, including Foundation grants.

Positive Peace resonates at all levels of The Rotary Foundation. Our literacy projects help children gain equal access to literacy, so opposing sides on an issue can understand each other better. Through our Foundation grants that provide clean water, communities gain stability, as more children stay in school rather than fetching water for hours on end.

Our role as civil society leaders who wage Positive Peace will continue to expand, not only through partnerships and more grants, but also through our hearts, minds, and hands as we offer our gifts to make the world a better place.

K.R. Ravindran, Trustee Chair 2020-21

Source: Rotary International

Contributed by PDG Ravi Sehgal

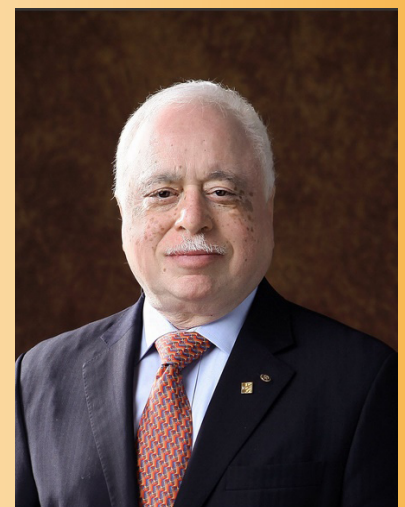
Past RI Director Sushil Kumar Gupta receives Rotary Award of Honor

Rotarian Sushil Kumar Gupta received the Rotary Award of Honor by the RI Board of Directors for his decades of work with Rotary.

In a letter to Gupta, Mark Daniel Maloney, 2019-20 Rotary International president, said *“Through your dedication and tireless efforts, Rotary is a force for doing good in the world. You have dedicated your life to Rotary since 1977... I find particularly noteworthy your work to meet the target challenge Water and Sanitation.”*

Gupta, a member of the Rotary Club of Delhi Midwest, Delhi, India, served RI as director, training leader, chair of several committees, and district governor. Gupta was selected to be the RI President for the 2020-21 year but resigned due to health concerns while he was a nominee.

Gupta has also received the Distinguished Service Award from The Rotary Foundation for his support of its humanitarian and educational programs. He and his wife, Vinita, are Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation and members of the Arch Klumph Society.





**Human
Wisdom**



Durga Puja 2020: Maa Durga will be worshipped 35 days after Mahalaya.

For the first time, Maa Durga will be worshipped 35 days after Mahalaya, which marks the beginning of Devi-Pakshma and end of Pitri-Pakshma, this year. Normally, Mahalaya is observed seven days before the Durga Puja. However this time, Mahalaya is scheduled on 17 September, the day when Biswakarma Puja is observed every year and Mahasashthi falls on 22 October. The usual gap between Mahalaya and Mahasashthi, which marks the start of Durga Puja, is six days.

This unusual schedule is unheard before. In 2001, Durga Puja was observed 30 days after the Mahalaya. Both schools of almanacs, Bisuddhasiddhanta and Suryasiddhanta, agree on the unusual schedule. According to the two schools, the reason for this rare aberration is the occurrence of a phenomenon called mala mash.

“A lunar month which has two new moons (Amavasya) is called mala mash, when no auspicious rites and rituals can be performed. This year, Ashwin is one such month. Consequently, Durga Puja will be deferred till that lunar month is over and take place in the following month, that is Kartik,” said Manoj Lahiri of Bisuddhasiddhanta Panjika.

Pitritarpan (offerings to ancestors) and other rites slated for Mahalaya will take place as usual on the morning

of September 17, the first day of Ashwin, which falls on Amavasya. Ashwin's second new moon will occur on the 29th day of the month that is October 16.

“The two new moons make Ashwin inauspicious,” said Pulak Kumar Bhattacharya, who is the person in charge of the astronomical calculations at Gupta Press, the popular almanac subscribing to the Suryasiddhanta school.

Thus Devipaksha (the divine fortnight of the Goddess' awakening) starts on October 17, with the beginning of the lunar month of Kartik.

This is the second time that this is occurring in the 21st century, the last occurrence being in 2001 when the dates had coincided similarly to what they shall be this year — Mahalaya on September 17 and Mahasashthi on October 22.

Before that, the phenomenon had happened in 1982.

Community pujas usually commence their rites on Mahasashthi, so the mala mash is of no serious consequence to them.

But this has special significance for some traditional pujas, like those at Kalighat temple and the Sheoraphuli Rajbari, where the rites start on Krishnanavami, the ninth day of the new moon cycle which ends on Mahalaya, and continues till Vijaya Dashami in Devipaksha.

Today I saw two blind people fighting,

Then I shouted
“I am supporting the one with the knife”,
they both ran away.



A guy in a plane stood up and shouted: “HIJACK!”

All passengers got very scared

From the other end of the plane, a guy shouted back “HI JOHN”.