



Presidency Times



Bulletin of Rotary Club of **Calcutta Presidency**
Rotary International District 3291



Times

RI President- Rtn. Stephanie A. Urchik | DG: Rtn. Dr. Krishnendu Gupta
President: Rtn. Abha Lunia | Secretary: Rtn. Seema Kayal | Editor: Rtn. Anju Bothra



Message by Stephanie A. Urchick

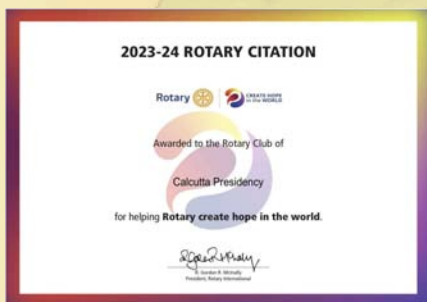
President 2024-25

If we are to truly change the world with The Magic of Rotary, it's up to all of us to foster a sense of belonging in our clubs. But every club should take its own path to get there, and the Action Plan can help you find your way.

If you ask members what they expect from the club experience, you might find that your club doesn't meet expectations. Think of this as an opportunity to reshape your club in exciting ways, as alternative club models are making a positive impact.

I can't stress enough the importance of belonging. Clubs become simply irresistible when all members feel that they are exactly where they need to be. To me, belonging is the spark that ignites The Magic of Rotary.

As you receive feedback from club members and the community you serve, I urge you to pursue that spark. The Action Plan can help you find the path to success, and if you light your way with the spirit of belonging, that path will lead to a bright future for your club, your community, and the world.

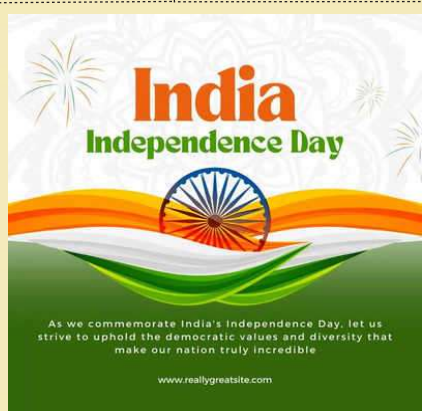
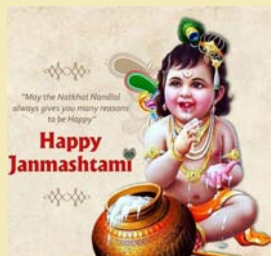


2023-24 club presidents

Dear 2023-24 Club President,
Congratulations! Your club has earned the Rotary Citation, the most significant award a Rotary club can achieve, for 2023-24. This past year, your club demonstrated a commitment to achieve its goals, which ultimately helps strengthen Rotary and shape our future. Please find your Rotary Citation certificate in this folder. They are named by district number, then club name. I encourage you to display it proudly to celebrate your club's achievement. Once again, congratulations on a successful year as club president!

Sincerely,

Gordon R. McNally
2023-24 RI President



Honors and Recognitions

Recognition in Rotary News: Empowering Arunima Hospice



Our initiative to enhance financial independence for the residents of Arunima Hospice has been featured in Rotary News. This project not only imparts valuable skills but also ensures a sustainable source of income for the hospice. We take great pride in the positive impact of this project and its contribution to the long-term sustainability of Arunima Hospice.



Celebrating a Prestigious Achievement

We are incredibly proud to announce that our esteemed member, Rtn Dr. Ramesh Agarwala, has been appointed as the International Surgical Ambassador of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. This prestigious appointment is a remarkable honour not only for Dr. Agarwala but also for our entire club.



Please join us in extending our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Agarwala on this well-deserved recognition.



Minutes of the 198th RWM and Charter Day Celebration –27nd July 2024 at Cosmopolitan club at 9.30 am

President Abha Lunia called the 198th Meeting to order and extended a warm welcome to all members. The National Anthem was sung to commence the meeting. The minutes of the 197th Meeting were read and approved as presented.

Project Updates and Discussions

- **Matri Raksha Project & PPH Camp** : Rtn. Sangita Bajoria provided updates on the Matri Raksha Project and the PPH Camp.
- **Saksham Camp** : Ranjanji discussed the Saksham Camp conducted at Bhubaneswar and the upcoming one at Tinsukia, suggesting that this could be expanded into a District Project. He also proposed collaboration with other clubs for prosthetic legs.
- **Scholarships**: Dr. Rina donated a cheque of ₹20,000 to Aditya Jain, an AI engineering student at Kejriwal Institute, and provided another scholarship to a student in Ujjain.
- **PHF Pin Presentation**: Rtn. Rashmi was presented with a PHF pin by Rtn. Anu Kothari. Invitee Shilpa Singhi shared information about the NGO she is involved with.

Upcoming Projects

- **Saksham Camp**: Scheduled for 3rd August at Tinsukia. Four members will travel to

Tinsukia on 2nd August. Twenty-five beneficiaries are registered.

- **Netra Raksha Camp** : Set for 11th August. Approximately 55 cataract operations are planned at Prem Milan Eye Netra Chikitsa Kendra, utilizing the Phaco Technique. Members have contributed generously to this cause.
- **Independence Day Celebration** to be held at RRA, Piyali.
- **Interact Club Installations** at St. Teresa School and Young Horizon School is scheduled for later in August.
- **Vocational Training Certificate** will be awarded to women who completed their sewing exams under the vocational training program at Piyali.
- **Joint Meeting with RC Chowringhee Club** planned for 31st August.
- **Go Green Initiative** proposed by Rtn. Pramita Ghosh

The Secretary read out the birthdays and anniversaries of the members. The meeting was concluded

Charter Day Celebration

- **Cake Cutting**: Charter Day was celebrated with cakes baked by Rtn. Seema. One cake was cut by Charter members, and another by birthday celebrants Pradeep Ji Jain and Vinod Ji Jain.
- **Rotary Housie Game**: Rtn. Rashmi organized an engaging Rotary Housie game.
- **Music and Singing** The celebration concluded with music and singing.



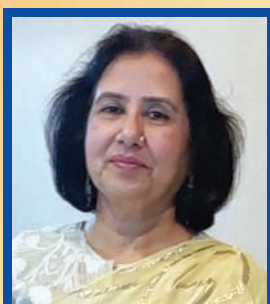
Celebrating Community Impact: Camp Saksham, 3rd August 2024

The Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency (District 3291) is proud to share the success of the 17th Camp Saksham, held on August 3rd. This impactful inter-district project, which focuses on fitting LN4 prosthetic hands, took place in Tinsukia in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Tinsukia (District 3240). A dedicated four-member team represented us in Tinsukia for this noble cause.

Simultaneously, the 18th Camp Saksham was conducted in Dhanbad on August 3rd, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Dhanbad (District 3250).

The camps reached out to seven deserving recipients, including three children under 10 years old and four women under 30. The LN4 prosthetic hands provided at these camps are set to significantly enhance the quality of life for these individuals, enabling them to carry out daily activities with greater independence and ease.

Congratulations to everyone involved in making these camps a success!



Editor's Note

As we celebrate our 78th Independence Day, we're filled with a deep sense of pride and gratitude for the freedoms and opportunities we enjoy. This issue of Presidency Times comes to you with heartfelt wishes for a joyful and reflective holiday.

In this edition, we explore our recognitions and achievements. Hope these pieces inspire a renewed appreciation for our shared values and the spirit of service that defines our club.

As you celebrate with family and friends, we encourage you to take a moment to reflect on the journey that has brought us to where we are today and to look forward to the future with hope and determination.

As the editor of our club, I invite each of you to contribute your writings and share your experiences. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your creativity, highlight our recent activities, and provide updates on our upcoming events. May your festivities be filled with joy, pride, and meaningful moments

Rtn. Anju Bothra
Club Editor

Independence Day Celebration at Rotary Ramkrishna Academy School, Piyali



Our Club proudly celebrated Independence Day with the children and staff of Rotary Ramkrishna Academy School, Piyali. The occasion was marked by a series of meaningful events that highlighted both patriotism and community spirit.

The celebration commenced with President Abha Lunia and the headmistress hoisting the national flag. The entire assembly joined in singing the National Anthem, embodying the spirit of unity and pride. Students from Classes IV and V marched proudly, showcasing the school banner and their commitment to the day's significance. A short cultural programme was performed by students and teachers, celebrating the spirit of patriotism and pride in our nation. Their performances were a heartfelt tribute to the country's independence. Students from Classes III, IV, and V participated in a recitation competition, presenting poems in English, Hindi, and Bengali. Their recitations included works by renowned poets such as Sarojini Naidu and Rabindranath Tagore. Winners were awarded medals in recognition of their exceptional performances.

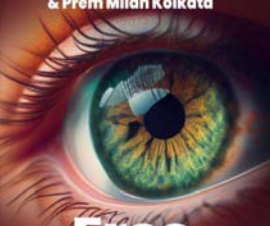
To encourage reading and learning, students from Nursery, KG, and Class 1 received books of tales, while students from Classes II to V were given WORD POWER books. Healthy refreshment packets were also distributed. Faculty members were presented with gifts as a token of appreciation for their dedication.

- Project EK NAVY PEHECHAN** : Ladies who successfully completed their sewing exams under the Project Sui Dhaga were honoured with certificates and gifts, acknowledging their achievements and skills.
- Plantation Drive**: Saplings of fruit trees - Mango, Litchi, Guava, and Chiku - were planted in the school compound by students. Classes III, IV, and V have been entrusted with the responsibility of caring for and watering these plants regularly, fostering a sense of environmental responsibility.



Rotary  

An Initiative of
**Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency
& Prem Milan Kolkata**



**Free
Cataract
Operations**
by Phaco process

at Prem Milan Kolkata
Netra Chikitsa Kendra
160 Rabindra Sarani, Kolkata - 700 007
on 11th Aug at 11am



Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency Sponsors Free Cataract Surgeries for Needy Patients

In a heart-warming effort to restore vision and improve the lives of many, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency recently partnered with the charitable organization "Prem Milan" to sponsor a free cataract surgery camp. The camp, held at the "Prem Milan" facility run by Sri Chandrakant Ji Saraf, provided cutting-edge Phaco cataract surgery to underprivileged patients completely free of charge.

The surgeries were performed using the latest Phaco technology, ensuring a quick and safe procedure with minimal recovery time. Along with the surgery, patients received comprehensive pre- and post-operative care, all without any cost to them. Members of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency, led by their President Mrs. Abha Lunia, were present at the site to oversee the day's activities. The entire cost of the 63 surgeries performed today was generously covered by the Rotary Club, showcasing their commitment to community service and healthcare.

This initiative marks another successful chapter in the ongoing partnership between Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency and "Prem Milan," both of whom share a deep commitment to improving the lives of those in need through dedicated healthcare initiatives.



Installation Ceremony of Interact Club at St. Teresa's Secondary School and Young Horizons School

The Installation Ceremony of Interact Club at St. Teresa's Secondary School and Young Horizons School was conducted on 21st August 2024.

The event marked the official induction of new members into the Interact Club, an initiative of Rotary International aimed at fostering leadership and community service among young people. This ceremony not only welcomed new members but also celebrated the accomplishments of the outgoing officers and set the stage for the upcoming year's activities.

The outgoing President delivered a summary of the achievements and milestones reached by the previous board, highlighting significant projects and initiatives that had been successfully completed.

An inspirational speech was delivered by DICC Rtn. Arpita Mukherjee, who spoke about the impact of Interact on personal growth and community development. Our club President, Abha Lunia emphasized the values of leadership, service, and dedication in her address to the gathering.

The core of the ceremony was the installation of the new officers. The new officers received their badges and were formally introduced to the members. We extend our best wishes and congratulations to all members.



Minutes of the 199th RWM on 10th August 2024 at Cosmopolitan Club

President Abha Lunia called the 199th Meeting to order and extended a warm welcome to all members. The National Anthem was sung to commence the meeting. The minutes of the 198th Meeting were read and approved as presented.

President's Announcement: Recognition in Rotary News: Empowering Arunima Hospice:

- 1) The President proudly announced that our initiative to enhance financial independence for the residents of Arunima Hospice had featured in Rotary News.. We take great pride in the positive impact of this project and its contribution to the long-term sustainability of Arunima Hospice. She thanked all members for their support.
- 2) Rtn. Asha Gupta was awarded Certificate of Appreciation.
- 3) **PHF Pins:** PHF Pins were awarded to Rtn. Seema Keyal, Rtn. Abha Lunia, Rtn. Sangeeta, Bajoria and Rtn. Priyanka Gupta.

Project Updates and Discussions

Saksham Camps: Pramita Ghosh provided a briefing on the project and shared her experiences. She highlighted how the LN4 prosthetic hands are making a significant difference by enabling beneficiaries to perform everyday activities independently. The 18th Saksham Camp took place at Dhanbad in collaboration with the Rotary Club of

Dhanbad (District 3250). Four beneficiaries traveled from Bhubaneswar for customized fitment. This was a joint initiative of RID 3262, 3250 & 3291.

RRA Teacher Sponsorship: RTN Sangeeta Bajoria and her daughter-in-law were thanked for sponsoring six months' salary of a teacher at RRA.

Thalassemia Beta Test Reports have been received and will be handed to the Principal of Charuchandra College soon.

Upcoming Projects:

Adult Literacy Project: President Abha announced that the members had generously contributed to the Adult Literacy Project, a district initiative under PRIP Shekhar Mehta and with support from Coal India. The project will support 10 schools and educate 800 adults. It includes active management and progress review via an online app.

Netra Raksha Project : Scheduled for 11th August. Members were encouraged to participate. Details had been shared in the previous meeting.

Independence Day Celebration: Rtn Anju Bothra provided details about the upcoming Independence Day celebration at RRA, Piyali, and encouraged member participation.

Tree Planting: RTN Kamalji will visit the location suggested by Pramita for tree planting.

e. Joint Meeting with RC Chowringhee: A joint meeting with RC Chowringhee is scheduled for 31st August at Auris Hotel. This will be the 200th RWM of our club featuring milestone speakers PRIP Shekhar Mehta and AKS Dr. Saurabh Khemani.

The Secretary read out the birthdays and anniversaries of the members. The meeting was concluded



Heartfelt Condolences and a Call for Unity in the Face of Tragedy


We, members of Rotary Presidency are deeply shocked and saddened by the tragic incident that occurred. Our heart goes out to the family during this tragic time. Such acts are unacceptable, and we wish for speedy justice. Let us all stand together against such atrocities and support one another with compassion and strength.



Website link:

<https://rccalcuttapresidency.rotaryindia.org/NA>

Join us on:

 /Rotary-Calcutta-Presidency-Dist - 3291



- 1) Olympics had art competition for several editions starting from 1912 till 1948. Medals were awarded for works of art inspired by sport, divided into five categories: architecture, literature, music, painting, and sculpture.
- 2) The first Indian flag that was hoisted in Kolkata in 1906 had the word Vande Mataram written in the middle instead of Ashok Chakra.



1. Whom did the British refer to as 'Sir Surrender Not' during the Freedom struggle?
2. Which lady, who was the second wife of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, led the fight against the British in Lucknow during the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny?
3. Which US athlete won a rare double of 100m and 200m race in 1988 Seoul Olympics and whose 200m World & Olympic Record still stands?
4. Which 1960 Olympic gold medallist threw his gold medal in the Ohio river disgusted with the racism he faced in his own country?

We have regular meetings twice a month at Cosmopolitan Club over Breakfast.