



Presidency Times

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



RI President- **Rtn Gordon R. Mcinally** | DG: **Rtn Hiralal Yadav**
 President: **Rtn Sangita Jain** | Secretary: **Rtn Abha Lunia** | Editor: **Rtn Mita Ganerwal**



Gordon R Mcinally RI President 2023-24

There are many pathways to peace, and in Rotary, we are fortunate to have Rotary Peace Fellows who demonstrate this

truth time and again.

Each year, Rotary awards up to 130 fellowships for leaders around the world to study peace and development, and what these peace fellows learn prepares them to work in conflict prevention and resolution and promote Positive Peace. Here are a few examples of the creative ways peace fellows advance peace: **Promoting sustainability**

Alejandra Rueda-Zarate combined her Rotary Peace Fellowship in peace and conflict resolution with her master's degree in energy and resources to support her dream of protecting the Colombian countryside.

She founded the organization NES Naturaleza in 2011 to help farmers in Colombia and across rural Latin America gain access to knowledge and training to uphold sustainable farming standards.

That support has improved the lives of nearly 4,500 farmers, inspiring many of them to become entrepreneurs. And it's helped promote both natural and social sustainability throughout Latin America.

Ending racism

Peace fellows Geoffrey Diesel and Kathy Doherty have applied their fellowships in peace and development studies toward co-founding the Racial Equity Project, a subcommittee of Rotary Positive Peace Activators in North America committed to studying ways to create a more peaceful society through anti-racism efforts. The Racial Equity Project takes a deep look into how the eight Pillars of Positive Peace could support efforts to address racism, and it works to spread this message to communities across North America. The organization initially grew from Rotary's strategic partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace, a global think tank dedicated to promoting Positive Peace. Managing disasters using data through a Rotary Peace Fellowship, Jamie LeSueur earned a master's degree in social science within peace and conflict

research. He now leads emergency operations for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, setting a management and operational framework for agency collaboration in emergency response situations.

Jamie has found that research data is a powerful tool to bring calm to the complex world of disaster response. No matter what an organization's protocols might entail, letting research be the foundation for decision making helps clarify even the most complicated emergencies.

These stories and hundreds like them show how Rotary is creating a generation of leaders ready and able to build peace worldwide. Nearly 1,800 peace fellows have graduated from Rotary Peace Centers, and they are applying their craft in more than 140 countries.

May the continuing work of peace fellows and the Rotary members who support them inspire you to continue to Create Hope in the World through service, fundraising, and creative thinking.



WOMEN IN ROTARY 8th March, International Women's Day

Women are active participants in Rotary, serving their communities in increasing numbers and serving in leadership positions in Rotary. The 1989 Council on Legislation vote to admit women into Rotary clubs worldwide remains a watershed moment in the history of Rotary. The vote followed the decades-long efforts of men and women from all over the Rotary world to allow the admission of women into Rotary clubs, and several close votes at previous Council meetings.

The response to the decision was overwhelming: By June 1990, the number of female Rotarians had skyrocketed to over 20,000. The number of women members worldwide reached 195,000 in July 2010 (about 16% of Rotarians) and surpassed 277,000 in July 2020 (about 23%). Today at Presidency the power of women is clearly palpable.

We have made a hat trick – 3rd woman President at RC Presidency in a row.

CONSUMER AWARENESS CAMP AT ST. TERESA SCHOOL



On 6th Feb 2024 we organized a Consumer Awareness program at St Teresa Secondary High school. Social media craze - Revant Himatsingka, who calls himself " Food Phamer" was there to educate children about the hidden facts behind packaged foods. He has challenged Bourvita and many other such brands openly about their product integrity and has been supported by the government, Bollywood stars, lawyers etc etc. It was an enthralling session for the children as well as all of us.

MENTAL HEALTH CAMP - On 6th feb 2024



Today at St Teresa School, we organized a Mental Health camp. Brahmakumari Monish and Brahmakumari Asha conducted meditation, and activities to garner positivity in children. Rtn Rashmi conducted a session on breath and increasing concentration. To accommodate 300+ children, chairs were avoided and children sat on the floor as they went through the motivational sessions.



Providing Vocation Opportunity to the Disabled

On morning of 10th February, in perfect weather, we arranged for 2 talented inmates of Voice of World to come to Horticultural Gardens in Alipore and sing for the walking crowd. We arranged the musicians, from 7.30 - 9 am, they sang nonstop mesmerised the crowd – the crowd cheered wanting for more. Rotary members and general morning walkers 54 of them sat around enjoying the beautiful garden ambiance, and the lovely bollywood hit numbers. Donations poured in FOR VOW, which houses 250 inmates. Many took their contact numbers, for future references, and horticulture council promised a better, bigger program next year.

Aushadi Daan Providing Free Medicines- 11 Feb 2024



Month after month we have been supplying free medicines at a free Medical camp held by our RCC Partner Barun Mondal at Piyali. A Doctor Visits every Sunday and there is a huge line of patients, young and old to get checkups done and take home medicines free of charge

A Perfect Easy School Rotary Ramkrishna Academy



On 14th Feb the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchmi we launched our Perfect Easy English Medium School – Rotary Ramkrishna Academy , with a vision to impart good English medium education to the children of the rural areas around Piyali.

We sincerely thank Mr Barun Mondal from our RCC partner who donated his house to be converted to a school.

Several meetings later, entities came to an amicable conclusion and finally a legal agreement was signed and bank accounts opened. Members pooled in donations of cash and kind.

The house was remodelled,, walls were shifted, boundary walls extended, existing sheds broken , toilets remade and after innumerable changes, we are ready with a school.

We appointed the principal and teachers for the school.

We have a good number of admissions to the school due to the publicity and various programs conducted to raise awareness conducted by the RCC with cooperation from RC Presidency team.

It was well attended by our members,donors and dignitaries. The program was started by performances by students and teachers.

Fabulous performance by all.It was followed by appreciation by Mukul Sinha, past PDG ShyamshreeSen,Sunondo from Metro City ,principal of Swarnim,SumanSood,panchayatpradhans,MLA,

SP of Piyali ,Dist Literacy Chair Prasanto, Arun Kumar of Galaxy, Priya Prasant from St Teresa, family members and some donors

A lovely momento was presented to all our donors and contributors of RRKA All our dignitaries were felicitated

Jeevan Jyoti a programme through which poor and under privileged with heart issues will benefit was also announced and briefed.

22 sewing machines were distributed at a very nominal cost to the piyali ladies All children were given biscuits and chocolates

School bags were handed over to HM to be distributed to the children. The day ended with lovely sandesh,ladoo,samosa ,nimki and coffee served and enjoyed by all

Kudos to Rotary for achieving a great landmark !!!!

PEACE SUMMIT



मार्बल पैलेस में शांति शिखर सम्मेलन का आयोजन

कोरोनाकारा : वैश्विक सन्तुष्टि के जन्म में, डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3291 के रोटीरी क्लबों ने शांति पर और देश हृदय कर्त महत्त्वपूर्ण बिन्दुओं पर प्रकाश डाला। अति-आयुष्म कार्यक्रमों के एक शोभाकर ने शांति के प्राथमिक और सामाजिक चेतनाओं पर एक साथ अंतर्मुखित बोलते हुए, विद्वान्मय अनेक राशियों में शोभाओं को मनसुम्न कर दिया। शांति शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान एक इतना सर्वत्र ने बताया कि इस वर्ष अंतरिक्ष को तुलना में भारत में अंतरिक्ष रोडवर्क में हृदय जर्मनी की राशे हैं, जो विकिसा विश्वोपस्था में देश की प्रगति की प्रदर्शित करता है। इस अवसर पर रोटीरी इंटरनेशनल के पूर्व अध्यक्ष ने शुरुआत पर में पोलियो उन्मुक्त में रोटीरी को महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर प्रकाश डाला।

On 24 Feb 2024 5 clubs together hosted a Peace Summit at the Marble Palace. We hand picked speakers from various fields. Politician Shishir Bajoria , Activist Siara Shah Halim, Army Intelligence Office Col Rajiv Srivastava (Kasab and the Kandahar episodes), Neha Jain Pranac healer, Dr Kunal Sarkar Cardiologist, Dr Bodhibrata Nag Professorat IIM. and Shekhar Mehta Past RIP.

The beauty of the place and its grandeur kept everyone spellbound. DG , 9 PDGs, 15 Dist Officials ,30 Rotary members from non Host Clubs, 30 Guests, 28 Presidency Members, other Presidency Guests, etc about 130 people attended the event.

All speakers gave their versions of how peace can be persued. PDG Ravi Sehgal moderated the event with grace and charm. Fellowship began with tea and snacks, a lot of photos were clicked and sharp at 5 pm the program started. Each speaker kept the audience spell bound. The event created a stir in Dist 3291.



Minutes of 186th RWM Meeting held on 17th Feb 2024 at Cosmopolitan Club at 9.00am.

Attended by – 16 members and prospective Kirti

President Sangita welcomed all to the 186th meeting. National Anthem was sung by all. Previous minutes were read and passed.

President welcomed the prospective member Kirti Tanwani.

- 6TH Feb-Project at ST. Teresa with talk by Revant Himatsinghka(untold story of packaged food). Talk by Sister Monish and Sister Asha ,Bhramakumaris, on how to relieve stress. Rtn Rashmi made everyone do exercises on increasing breath and concentration.
- 10 th Feb- programme by 3 singers of voice of the world at Horticulture Garden in the morning .The inmates of this organisation are visibility impaired but some of them have God gifted voice - three such members amused not only us but all the regular morning walkers of the place !some volunteered to extended their hands to support these people, and much for for a Nobel cause ! Audience poured in donations to this organisation which would help their entire fraternity to sustain their daily needs. Rs 11000/- came as donation for them.
- 14 th Feb- it being Basant panchami an auspicious day for the launch of our Rotary Ramkrishna Academy attended by our members,donors and dignitaries.The program started by performances by students and teachers. followed by appreciation by Mukul Sinha,past PDG Shyamshree Sen, Sunondo from Metro City ,principal of Swarnim,Suman Sood,panchayat pradhans,MLA, SP of Piyali ,Dist Literacy Chair Prasanto, Arun Kumar of Galaxy, Priya Prasant from St Teresa, family members and some donors.A lovely momento was presented to all our donors and contributors of RRKA .Barunda and President Sangita gave very informative and energetic speech. dignitaries were felicitated. All children were given biscuits and chocolates thanks to Pawanji and Shekhar Mehta, School bags were handed over to HM to be given later thanks to Sunila Poddar, Rtn Ranjan ji updated progress of the school and stated that sports and music has to be introduced.
- EIRWT Grant- 28 sewing machines have come in . out if which 22 have been given at PIYALI and balance 6 will be given at Baruipur sewing center.
- Aushadi dan donated by Rtn Rajesh Bothra of at Piyali was done.
- 17 th Saksham- After the Meeting A waiter at Cosmopolitan Club was given a hand . The smile on his face was enough to show his happiness.
- UPCOMING
- 23rd Feb LBC fund raising programme
- 24 th Feb Peace Summit with interesting Speakers would be planed,
- Jeevan Jyoti a programme through which poor and under privileged with heart issues will benefiSay no to plastic updates
- DG visit in March to be discussed.Secretary announced the birthdays and anniversaries.

**Anniversary Wishes
In February & March**

Praveen & Preksha Kothari - 3 Feb
Alok & Sangita Agarwal - 4 Feb
Dr. Ramesh & Mitall Agarwalla - 15 Feb
Asha & Dinesh Gupta- 15 Feb
Anju & Pradip Bothra - 19 Feb
Rashmi & Abhay Surana - 23 Feb
Om Prakash & Nisha Agarwal - 9 March

**Birthday Wishes
In February & March**

Archana Saraf - 14 Feb.
Vinod Bhandari - 24 Feb.
Sunila Poddar - 29 Feb.

Jaishree Somani - 5 March
Neena Jhunhunwala - 15 March
Asha Gupta - 20 March
Sunil Lohia - 26 March
Rashi Sureka - 28 March
Dr. U. K. Das - 30 March



On 3rd March our members enthusiastically participated in the District End Polio Rally.

Website link:

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

Join us on:

**f /Rotary-Calcutta-Presidency-
Dist - 3291**



Distribution of Sewing Machines under EIRWT Grant

On 2nd March 2024 we did a project at Baruipur Samaj Unnayan Kendra. We gave away 6 Singer sewing machines taken under EIRWT grant. The beneficiaries were very happy and thankful to receive it.

We Meet Every Month on 1st and 3rd Saturday of the Month at Cosmopolitan Club over Breakfast.