

R.I Club No: 85847, Date of Charter: 26.05.2014, MeetingDay: Saturday, Time: 7 pm
Meeting Venue: "Danica", 4th Floor, 37, Ballygunge 1st Lane, Kolkata – 700 019,
President: Rtn. Jaysree Chatterjee, Secretary: Rtn. Sutapa Dutta, Editor: Rtn. Srabonee Mitra

February issue

"SANHATI" RYLA (ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS), a signature project of RC Calcutta Samaritans was organized at Nayagram Thana Balika Vidyapeeth, P.S Nayagram, Kharikhamathani Dist. Jhargram on 2, 3 and 4 February, 2024 with 50 (fifty) young tribal girls of age between 12 to 16 years. The event commenced with March Past and Guard of Honour to the dignitaries by the participants followed by inaugural dance by the school children and lighting of lamp in presence of the District Governor Rtn. Hira Lal Yadav as Chief Guest, District RYLA Chair, District Officials, President of Rotary Club of Budge Budge, Managing Committee member of the school, Teacher-in-Charge and members of RC Calcutta Samaritans. Within three days' of the camp the participants attended various sessions encircling the topics on Leaderships, Problem Solving, Self Confidence, Communications etc. through speakers like Rtn. Vijayanti Bose, a Master Trainer on Skill Development, PDG Rtn. Shyamasree Sen, DGND Rtn. Tapas Bhattacharya, Rtn. Sutapa Dutta, Rtn. Nandini Shome Rtn. Piyali Roy Paladhi etc. The participants also took part in various competitions in individual and group performance. 4-Way Test Promotion was also initiated amongst the participants through distribution of 4-Way Test Cards in bilingual (Bengali and English) and explaining the meaning. Two more important sessions were included in the RYLA event i.e Menstrual Hygiene and Thalassemia Awareness. Around 2000 Sanitary Napkins were distributed to the students and RYLA participants. Participants were also given RYLA T-Shirt, Cap, School Bags with Pouch containing pencil, sharpener, eraser, colour box and Exercise Copy. Rotarians from other clubs of RID 3291 made this RYLA event a great success with their valued presence.







Happy Golden Jubilee Wedding Anniversary of Rtn. Jayasree and Rtn. Jayanta Chatterjee

Menstrual Hygiene Awareness Session conducted by Rtn. Ruby Ray with distribution of Sanitary Napkins to the students of Nayagram Thana Balika Vidyapeeth on 2nd February, 2024.



Joint Meeting with four Rotary Clubs and felicitation of DGND Rtn. Tapas Kumar Bhattacharya On 22nd February, 2024 at Nehru Children’s Museum from 6.30 PM



The team of “Life Beyond Cancer” of Rotary District 3291 organized an annual fund raiser concert on 23rd February, 2024 at Rabindra Sadan from 6.00 PM onwards. The event commenced with felicitations of the dignitaries viz. Eminent Indian Surgical Oncologist Dr. Ravi Kannan who came to attend the program from Assam along with his spouse. Dr. Prachi Jain, the pediatric oncologist came from Delhi, Dr. Prantar Chakraborty, Hematologist came from Kerala, Dr. Apurba Ghosh, renowned Pediatrician, Mr. Patrick Paul, CEO, DKMS BMST Foundation India and MD , Life Science Lab India, PRIP Shekhar Mehta, DG Rtn. Hira Lal Yadav, DGE Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchowdhuri, DGN Rtn. Dr. Krishnendu Gupta and Mr. Debasish Kumar, MICC-KMC.

After DG Hira Lal Yadav formally opened the program, Rtn. Partha Sarkar delivered his opening speech. The Website of “Life Beyond Cancer” was launched by PRIP Shekhar Mehta. After the addresses of Dr. Prantar Chakraborty, Dr. Prachi Jain and Dr. Ravi Kannan, the scintillating rendition of Padmashree Usha Uthup touched the hearts of entire audience. The real heroes, the little victors who have successfully defeated one of the most dreaded diseases were recognized and felicitated on the stage. The sponsors were also invited on stage for their felicitation. The mind-blowing dance performances of little children of Rituparna Sengupta’s troupe including special dance of Anjali, a cancer survivor who lost her one limb but with her passion and zeal she has conquered all obstacles and dance with her one leg, was undoubtedly mesmerizing. Last but not least the tribute to actress Sreela Majumder with dance performance of Rituparna on recital of Chaiti Ghoshal was also noteworthy. Overall program was a grand success. Our utmost effort is to create Hope in the lives of more and more children and gift a beautiful world to them where no child should die of cancer. RC Calcutta Samaritans supported this cause as Associate Co-host.



Rotary International President Gordon McInally's Monthly Message



I am enthused and encouraged by your embrace of mental health initiatives throughout the Rotary world. More than 1,000 of you have responded so far to an ongoing survey by the Rotary Action Group on Mental Health Initiatives, offering your feedback on what Rotary can do to improve the personal well-being of members.

The top suggestions are illuminating. Rotary members are asking for more fellowship, camaraderie, conversation, cohesiveness, and connection. They also want more recognition, validation, and integration.

They are seeking more service opportunities, and they want more wellness activities, including mental health speakers, awareness efforts, and education.

Our members not only appreciate the greater focus on mental health, but they also believe that making more of the Rotary experience will materially improve their lives. I find it interesting that members are not asking anything dramatically new of their club — rather they want more of what we do best. For example, connection can be improved during meetings simply by assigning seating once each month to encourage people to speak with someone new.

Here are some great ways that we can help achieve these results and make Rotary more appealing to those considering membership. First, we need to acknowledge the importance of increasing belonging in our clubs and to encourage Rotary members to make the most of every opportunity for new and stronger connections. Public health experts worldwide are concerned about increasing levels of loneliness — the U.S. surgeon general has even declared it an epidemic. Mental health experts agree that finding groups and clubs around common hobbies and interests is a strong way to create greater connectedness.

This is what Rotary is all about. We need to make sure all of our members are fully engaged and that our communities are better aware of this inherent strength.

Second, if your club has found new ways to build connection, please share your stories with us at mindhealth@rotary.org so we can make them more broadly known within the Rotary world. Your good ideas might inspire others. Post your service project stories on Rotary Showcase.

And finally, I encourage you to share feedback from surveys like this with your club and bring forward your own ideas to improve your club experience and meet your peers’ expectations. The journey we have begun is about more than mental health. It is about taking advantage of the full strength of our wonderful organization and helping all members feel that they are part of a community that cares deeply about their personal well-being.

Everything you do to strengthen connections in Rotary, with each other and the people we serve, also helps

improve mental health. And everything we do to improve mental health helps strengthen those connections. Let's continue this virtuous cycle.

HISTORY OF WORLD PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING DAY

Every year, people across the globe celebrate World Peace and Understanding Day on 23 February with great splendour. The World Peace and Understanding Day also termed as Special Day, has its own importance as it encourages harmony, compassion, and collaboration among individuals hailing from different religions, cultures and geography. The day commemorates the first meeting of Rotary International —an NGO dedicated to humanitarian service, peace, and goodwill across the world —that took place in Chicago, US. Every year, this Special Day is observed to remind people of the ways that they can bring peace, harmony and goodwill to the world and contribute positively. World Peace and Understanding Day commemorates the first meeting which led to the formation of Rotary International. Attorney Paul P. Harris called a meeting of his business friends in Chicago. He aimed to put together a fellowship of businessmen without limitations of politics and religion getting in the way. Initially, the members of the Rotary met in each other's offices, till the group grew so large that it needed a space of its own. The Rotary Clubs were then established in four other American cities, and eventually, the group spread internationally, leading to a change in name from Rotary

Club to the International Association of Rotary Clubs. As time passed, the name was changed again to Rotary International. Rotary International is a service organization that brings together businessmen and professionals so that they can offer humanitarian service and work towards the goals of goodwill and peace in the world. It has six areas of philanthropic focus — disease prevention and treatment, water and sanitation, maternal and child health, basic education and literacy, economic and community development, and peace and conflict prevention/resolution. As part of its commitment to peace, Rotary International has set up Rotary Centres for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution in eight universities around the world. Rotary Fellowships offer grants to study at these Centres as well. The organization also has a Rotary Peace and Conflict Resolution Program which is a graduate studies program for which 75 scholars are announced every year.

ROTARY FOUR WAY TEST

**Of the things we think, say or do ... Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**