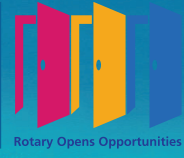
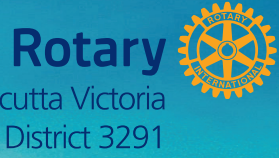




Voice of Victoria



BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA VICTORIA | RI DISTRICT 3291

Vol 28 | No 9

Saturday, November 21, 2020

President: **GAYATREE** Dhar • Secretary: **SEEMA** Danda • Editor: **CHHANDA** Banerji • Jt. Editor: **SACHIV** Nijhawan

Happy Diwali & Children's Day Celebrations!!!



■ **11th Nov:** Project to celebrate Diwali and Children's Day along with RC Calcutta Avyanana at New Age Society for All (orphanage) at Sitakundu. Basic essentials of biscuits, muri, chire, cakes, detergents, mats and rugs, disinfectants etc were donated.

■ P B Academy along with RC Calcutta Victoria celebrated Diwali. 15 underprivileged children were given food, stationery and sweets on the occasion. Gayatree Dhar, Seema Danda and Subhadri Chatterjee attended the programme.



Today's Programme
Rotary Meeting on ZOOM
Guest Speaker
Mrs Joeeta Basu
will speak on **"How COVID-19 has affected the economy and different sectors"**.



Report Card (RY-2020-21) till 31st October 2020

■ CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Chair: Kashmiri Marwah

- ◆ No. of members: 47
- ◆ No. of meetings held: 13
- ◆ No. of Board meetings: 3 (held on 27th Aug, 2020, 26th Sep, 2020 & 29th Oct, 2020)
- ◆ No. of Bulletin published: 7.
- ◆ PETS, SETS, TETS attended by President Elect, Secretary Elect and Treasurer Elect on 6th June 2020.
- ◆ District Training Assembly attended by Directors and others on 14th June 2020
- ◆ Rotary Grant Management Seminar attended by 3 past presidents.
- ◆ COTS and CLUB ASSEMBLY held on 27th June 2020. Club trainer Chhanda Banerji and Assistant Governor Elect Arpita Chatterjee conducted the training.
- ◆ Installation meeting (27th) held on 4th July 2020. Chief guest was District Governor, Sudip Mukherjee.
- ◆ There were erudite speakers for all meetings, who spoke on varied subjects, like Diabetes, Atmanirbhar, career options for the youth, pros and cons of on line teaching, laughing yoga, mapping of India and so forth.
- ◆ **Support to the District:** Joint District programme of blood donation at Rotary Sadan on 1st July 2020.
- ◆ One of the host clubs for district programme 'The Green Expedition' - planting of trees on 2nd and 20th August 2020.
- ◆ Webinar on Polio with District 3291 on 20th September 2020.
- ◆ Attended District Membership seminar on 22nd August 2020.
- ◆ Hosted one district programme along with RC Mahanagar to celebrate Teachers' Day on 5th September 2020. Key-note speaker was RIPE Shekhar Mehta.
- ◆ **Inter Club Relations: Joint project with RC Calcutta Aavyanna** – 20 pujas were judged which were women-centric on 25th and 26th October 2020. President Gayatree Dhar was one of the judges.

Joint project with RC Endeavour: One of the-host clubs for antibody test for COVID-19 held on 4th October 2020

◆ **Membership Development and Extension:** TWO members inducted on 4th July 2020. (1) **Subhadri Chatterjee**, Teacher and Social Worker (2) **Dr Sreyoshi Som**, Critical Care doctor.

◆ **Finance:** RI Dues, District Dues and payment for Rotary News all paid on time. Both the club fund and trust fund are healthy. Accounts have been audited on time like every year

■ SERVICE PROJECTS

Community Service (Non-Medical)

Chair: Sunita Agarwala

◆ **Support to Senior Citizen:** (i) Lunch hosted at Navneer, senior citizen's home at Chetla for 100 people on 8th July 2020, (ii) Lunch hosted at All Bengal Women's Union at Elliot Road for 310 people (senior citizens, resident children and staff) on 15th August 2020, (iii) Lunch hosted at Navneer, Tollygunge for 85 people on 13th September 2020, (iv) Special lunch on Durga Ashtami for 85 people at Navneer, senior citizen's home, Tollygunge

◆ **Tarpaulin Distribution:** 50 rain cover tarpaulins given to cycle rickshawallahs at Lake Garden area on 22nd July 2020.

◆ **Disadvantaged children:** (i) Special lunch was served to inmates of New Age Home orphanage (75 of them), near Barui-pur, who are hearing impaired and have other disabilities, on 15th August 2020. (ii) Lunch served to children of All Bengal Women Union on 15th August 2020.

◆ **Protecting Our Environment:** (i) Sabujer Abhijan on 21st July 2020 , 100, two feet high saplings of Neem, Deodar, Babul, Chandri trees were planted in Uttar Dara Joynagar. Wire meshings were put around them. fertilisers were also given. Partners in service: South Kolkata Nobel Welfare Society. (ii) The Green

Expedition in partnership with RI District 3291 saplings were planted in two places (a) St. Xaviers' School Raghavpur Campus, on 2nd August 2020 and (b) opposite ITC Royal Bengal on Eastern bypass, on 20th August 2020. KMDA officials were present. RCCV contributed Rs 10,000 for this project.

◆ **Literacy: (1) Navsiksha** – Celebration of teachers' day on 5th September 2020. A district programme hosted by RCCV and RC Mahanagar. Speakers were (i) RID Kamal Sanghvi, Chairman RILM, who spoke about Rotary India's TEACH programme and the success story of Asha Kiran, where school drop outs are going back to school. (ii) Mrs. Indrani Sanyal, Principal Delhi Public School, Mega City, who spoke about the future of digital class room and (iii) RI President Elect Shekhar Mehta, who keeping in mind the large number of Interactors and Rotaractors present, spoke on 'Nation Building'. A student of Calcutta International School recited a poem. There were 600 participants. **(2) An interactive session on Virtual Classes** on-line was held where 3 teachers and a student from Calcutta International School participated along with 2 guardians, who

continued on page 3

ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA VICTORIA BOARD 2021-22

Nominations are invited for the election of Office Bearers constituting president, president elect, vice president, secretary, treasurer, sergeant-at-arms and a maximum of six directors for the board for 2021-22.

Nominations should be submitted to the Chair, Nominating Committee, past president Dr Jai Nath Gurtu , in a sealed envelope or by e-mail at jngurtu@hotmail.com, not later than 30th November 2020.

shared their views. Various tools were demonstrated. This programme was held on 22nd August 2020.

♦ **Women's Empowerment:** At RCC Kanthalberia, sheds for mushroom cultivation, which were damaged by cyclone have been reconstructed by RCCV. Micro credit sanctioned to 5 women, thus they will be able to earn by cultivating mushroom.

Community Service (Medical)

Chair: Dr. Joyashree Dhar

♦ **1st July 2020:** Doctors' Day celebrated by supporting the District (RID-3291) in project "Sankalpa", a blood donation camp, held at Rotary Sadan

♦ **18th to 22nd July 2020:** Awareness camps on COVID-19 held over 5 days in RCC Kanthalberia for 100 illiterate women. 20 women per camp were taught cleanliness, importance of wearing masks, physical distancing and regular washing of hands. They were all given masks, soap and food packets.

♦ **3rd August 2020:** Sanitizers, masks and gloves donated at several police stations, namely New Alipore, Bidhan Nagar and Belegkata. Sanitizers were also given to Ballygunge Police Station.

♦ **19th August 2020:** 25 reusable PPE kits and 50 face shields donated at Med-view Nursing home on Broad Street.

♦ **4th October 2020:** "PROCHESTA" Antibody test for COVID-19 carried out at Hatibagan. 110 people benefited. A project of RC Endeavour, where RCCV was one of the host club. Several other Rotary clubs were co-host clubs.

♦ **Mother And Child Health Care:** This project was launched on 24th August 2020 with 12 disadvantaged women from Joynagar in early state of pregnancy, with the idea of pre natal and post natal care for them. Medicines, Mothers Horlicks are being provided every month. Dr. Joyashree Dhar gives consultation every Monday. Three ladies who have a child at home (it is their 2nd pregnancy) are being given junior horlicks also for the kids. One lady has already delivered safely. All the babies will be given gifts.

♦ **DISASTER RELIEF: 30th August**

2020: (i) Veterans of Indian armed forces, RCCV, Rotaractors and Interactors of Chowringhee High School took part in providing relief to Amphan affected people of Bally Island 2, of Sunderbans. 5 tons of essential supplies, costing 4.5 lakh were distributed. 200 families benefited. (ii) Sheds at Kanthalberia which were being used for mushroom cultivation and completely damaged by amphan, were reconstructed in September-October 2020.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Chair: Alka Kejriwal

♦ **8th August 2020: Career Counseling** – Mr Nirmal Agarwal, a well known councillor conducted an interactive session on various career options on zoom. A large number of Interactors and Rotaractors actively participated.

♦ **September-October 2020:** Damaged sheds at Kanthalberia repaired. Now the women can start their mushroom cultivation once again. To assist them MICRO CREDIT has been offered to 5 ladies.

YOUTH SERVICE

Chair: B K Agarwal

♦ RCCV has 5 Interact clubs of Calcutta International School, Pratt Memorial School, St James School, St John's Diocesan School and P B Academy. Also have one Rotaract Club (Rotaract Club of Calcutta Victoria). Interact Club of Chowringhee High School was with us till September 2020 and has since left.

♦ President and Club Secretary have attended the Installation ceremony of all the schools.

♦ Interact Club of Calcutta International School had their installation ceremony along with RCCV's regular meeting on 10th October 2020 (Joint meeting).

♦ Joint projects with (i) IC Chowringhee High School and Rotaract club of Calcutta Victoria, to provide relief to amphan affected victims of Bally Island 2, Sunderbans on 30th August 2020. (ii) Literacy project with IC CHS, IC CIS and Rotaractors on 5th

September 2020 (celebration of Teachers' Day). (iii) Nari Shakti – With Rotaractors. A month long initiative, culminating on 26th October 2020, where inspirational stories about 12 women were posted on social media. Also awareness campaign about various social issues concerning women were carried out.

♦ Celebration of International Youth Day – Seminar on career counseling along with Interactors and Rotaractors on zoom on 8th August 2020.

POLIO

Chair: Sarah Macwan

♦ Webinar on Polio-- A district event hosted by RCCV on 20th September 2020. SNID on the same day thus awareness created by putting up posters (85) with the message "End Polio Now" in large part of South Kolkata and Ward 69. 25 posters fixed at the back of rickshaws. Rtn Data Magfur from Dhaka RID 3281, attended the webinar. Chief speakers were PDG Debashish Mitra and PDG Uttam Ganguly.

♦ On 24th October, World Polio Day, banners put up in New Alipore, Golf Green, Belegkata and Lake Gardens to create awareness. Message was "Keep India Polio Free"

PUBLIC IMAGE

Chair: Lata Bhatia

♦ 4 banners put up on World Polio day (24.10.20) and during Durga Puja (22nd to 26th Oct.) and 110 posters on Polio on SNID (20.09.20) in different parts of Kolkata which enhanced Rotary's Public Image.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Chair: Rakesh Macwan

♦ Celebrated International Youth Day on 8th August 2020 with a career counseling programme for Interactors and Rotaractors.

♦ Observed World Polio Day on 24th October 2020 by creating awareness.

♦ At the webinar on polio on 20th September 2020, Rtn Data Magfur from Dhaka, Bangladesh (RID 3281) was present and spoke briefly.

Plantation of Mangrove



Amphan, the killer cyclone created havoc in the Sunderban area badly damaging huge area of mangrove forest, which protects the delta, besides rendering untold misery on the people of the area. It is a huge Environmental issue. Several NGOs are now working there on a war footing. One such organisation, 'Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage' is into massive replantation of mangrove saplings. Their aim is to plant 4 lakh of them, all nurtured there. RCCV has joined hands with them in a small way. In early November they planted species of Sundari, Bain, Goran in Gosaba block of Sunderbans. Some Victorians have sponsored this project, which will help in the ecological balance there and protect the vast delta. It is also providing much needed employment to the impoverished rural women of the area.

Know your Guest Speaker



Mrs Joeta Basu

M.Sc. (Eco), MA (Eng), B.Ed, is a senior economics teacher of St. Xavier's

Collegiate School where she has been teaching for the last 13 years. Before that she was teaching in St. Thomas's Church School. She is former guest lecturer of Economics at Rabindra Bharati University and Bethune College. She is also convener – Concern for Calcutta, RAMAYANI, All India Quami Ekta Manch, Centre for peace and progress. She is executive committee member of West Bengal Federations of United Nations, FACES and Sutanati Parishad. She is recipient of The Voices Dr Radhakrishnan Award 2020.

She is dedicated towards grooming and nurturing young minds for the last 19 years. Her hobbies are singing, dancing, recitation, anchoring and traveling.

Rotaract in Action



ROSHINI – yeh diwali apno wali – project to give stationary kits, gift hampers and food packets to less fortunate children. Cheque handed over to Rotaractor for this. Some Victorians contributed generously.





Foundation of Hope: Some Historical Facts



It all began in the mind of one man; Arch Klumph, RI President in 1916-17. He told delegates at the Atlanta convention, "Carrying on as we are, a miscellaneous community service, it seems eminently proper that we should accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world'. It was not really a stirring call to motivate Rotarians, but it was the first pebble which later would become a landslide of support that would touch millions of lives around the globe.

Arch Klumph was a remarkable man. Born into a poor family in Pennsylvania, USA, he moved as a child with his family to Cleveland, Ohio. To supplement the family's income he left school and went to work at age 12. At 16, he became an office boy at Cuyahoga Lumber Company. He enrolled in a night school and used to walk 4 miles each way to save tram fare. When the business of the lumber company was going downhill, he was made the manager. He turned the company around and made it one of the most profitable firms in the Midwest. He subsequently bought the company. A self taught flutist, he was part of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra for many years.

In 1911, Klumph became a charter member of Rotary Club of Cleveland and Club President in 1912. He became President of the International Association of Rotary Clubs for 1916-17. He was the chairman of the committee that wrote the new constitution for Rotary International, and it was his idea to divide Rotary into districts, create the office of the District Governor and establish the annual district conference. But never forgot his concept of a fund to expand the good works of Rotary.

The Rotary Endowment Fund as it was called then, came to Klumph as a Vision, a 'little inspiration'. The RI Board approved the idea but did not provide a mechanism to fund it. Nothing much happened for several years. The first contribution of USD 26.50 came from Rotary Club of Kansas city, Missouri, which was a surplus amount from the contributions made by members towards purchase of a gift for their retiring President. Thus the first seed was sown for the fund known today as THE ROTARY FOUNDATION of RI. After six years the fund balance was a paltry USD 700. After constituting a board of trustees for TRF in 1928 and bringing about other changes, contributions started to come in and by 1932, there was USD 50,000 in the bank. After the stock market crash in 1929, donations dwindled. On Paul Harris's request, The Rotary Foundation made its FIRST donation of USD 500 to the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN. In 1937 RI Board announced plans for a USD 2 million fund raising goal for TRF and it looked as if Arch Klumph's vision would at last be realised. The out break of World War II however dashed such hopes. But the tragedy of the war made Rotarians realize

the Foundation's potential for peace making. It was only in 1947 after the death of Paul Harris, founder of Rotary that contributions poured in from all over the world, in his memory The foundation thus could grant 18 Rotary Foundation Fellowships later called Ambassadorial Scholarship for one year's study in an university abroad. In 1948, funds swelled to USD 1,775,000 and 37 students from 12 countries received scholarships, besides providing assistance to 150 families for war relief.

The Rotary Foundation had quickly become the successful programme that Arch Klumph had envisioned. In 1956, RI Board urged clubs to celebrate ' Rotary Foundation Week' in mid November by publicising the Foundation. It was so successful that in 1982 the Trustees changed it to THE ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH; still observed every November. The idea of recognising people as Paul Harris Fellow by giving \$1000 was launched in 1957 and later Paul Harris Sustaining Member in 1968. The FIRST Paul Harris Fellow was Allison G. Brush, past RID from Mississippi, USA The SECOND was Rufus F. Chapin, one of the 1905 Chicago members, who became treasurer of RI. In 1995 there were 500,000 PHFs and today there are nearly 2 million of them and still counting.

The Rotary Foundation is the pillar of Rotary. In the words of Arch Klumph "The Rotary foundation is not to build monuments of brick and stone. If we work upon marble; it will perish; if we work on brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with the full meaning of the spirit of Rotary – we are engraving on those tablets something that will brighten all eternity."

Minutes of the 1257th Regular Meeting of ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA VICTORIA

held on Saturday, 7th November, 2020 at 12:00 noon on ZOOM

- President Gayatree Dhar called the 1257th regular meeting to order.
- President welcomed everyone, after a break of 2 weeks and conveyed warm wishes for the festival season.
- National Anthem was played and all joined in.
- Minutes of the 1256th regular meeting was confirmed, proposed by PP Dr. Krishnendu Gupta and seconded by PP Sunita Agarwala.
- **President's Announcements:**
 - ♦ A lunch was hosted by PP Lila Bhoopal at Navneer, Senior Citizen's Home on 24th October 2020 which was Durga Ashtami. 85 inmates and support staff were treated to a sumptuous lunch.
 - ♦ 24th October 2020 was World Polio Day. To create awareness 4 large banners were put up in New Alipore, Golf Green, Lake gardens and Belehata. All of them had the sign "Keep India Polio Free" and "End Polio Now". This also enhanced Rotary's Public Image.
 - ♦ Along with RC Calcutta Avyanna, yours truly judged 20 Pujas online, which were womwn-centric, on 25th and 26th October from 11am to 4pm. Parameter for judging were quite strict hence a lot of hard work.
 - ♦ Mother and Child Care project is progressing well. One woman has already delivered safely. Gifts will be given to all the babies in due course. Sudipta Sen readily offered to gift a baby blanket.
 - ♦ On 11th November 2020, dry rations

and food stuff will be given to New Age Home orphanage. RC Calcutta Avyanna will also join in the project, to celebrate Deepavali and Childrens' Day.

- ♦ To bring cheer to underprivileged children, project 'ROSHINI' will happen on 13th November 2020. this is being done jointly with Rotaract Club of calcutta Victoria. Three other NGOs are also contributing. This is a programme to celebrate Childrens' Day and Deepavali.
- ♦ RCCV is partnering with Interact Club of PB Academy to celebrate Childrens' Day on 12th November 2020 by distributing food packets to children of the slum area, near the school.
- ♦ Rs 30,000 has been handed over to 'Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage' with whom RCCV has joined hands for planting of mangrove saplings in Gosaba Block of Sunderbans. The planting will commence within a week.
- ♦ Meeting of RCCV Trust will be held on monday 9th November 2020 at 6.30 pm.
- ♦ Samanta has collected his bonus money.
- ♦ K K Jha is now the acting treasurer as Siddharth Jhajharia, treasurer is recuperating from COVID-19. This has resulted in the delay of sending the receipts of half yearly dues. They will be sent shortly.
- ♦ New members Subhadri Chatterjee and Dr Sreyoshi Som have registered with 'My Rotary'. Subhadri Chatterjee has offered to help with

the registration process of any member who has not yet registered.

- Rtn K K Jha mentioned that due to a technical snag his registration was not showing in My Rotary site. He will register afresh. On being asked about who all are yet to pay their half yearly dues, he mentioned that some of the money that is being deposited are actually 2nd half yearly dues of 2019-20. There was an outstanding of Rs 1,65,000 from that year. PP Vinita Dutt, last year's treasurer will be able to throw some light on the matter. In the meantime, payments made for this half year is being separated from that of last year. All will be clear by the end of this month, said K K Jha.
- At the open house, some members wondered whether a physical get together with due precautions was feasible. Dr Krishnendu Gupta discouraged the proposition as the average age of the club members is way over 60. Wait a while for the situation to improve, he said.
- Members suggested a musical evening, on line, may be around end of November. Dr. Krishnendu Gupta promised to play the piano at the concert.
- **Secretary's Announcements:**
 - ♦ Birthday greetings extended to Gayatree Dhar for 12th November
 - ♦ Wedding Anniversary greetings extended to Roopa S. Mitra and Siddharth for 20th November
 - ♦ Next meeting on Saturday, 21st November 2020 at 12 noon.
- There being no other business the meeting was terminated at 1 pm.

Members Present: 27



Chandra Surana & Poonam
24th Nov
Varsha Ghatak & Sabuj
24th Nov

Sutapa Das & Pradosh
25th Nov
Dr Krishnendu Gupta
& *Dr Simran* • 26th Nov