

Voice of Victoria

Rotary
Calcutta Victoria
District 3291



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



BULLETIN OF ROTARY CALCUTTA VICTORIA | RI DISTRICT 3291

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MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Saturday, July 26, 2025

Beginning of a New Rotary Year



Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria's 32nd Installation ceremony was held on Saturday, 28th June 2025 at Bengal Club. A day of passing the baton - beginning of a new Rotary year. Vice President Dr. Vibha Mehta, M.C. for the meeting invited everyone to be seated. The meeting was called to order by President Rajnish Mehta at the scheduled time. After the National Anthem and the confirmation of the minutes, one minute silence was observed for veteran Rotarian PP Mukul Mittra who passed away a few weeks ago. Outgoing President Rajnish Mehta in his address

spoke eloquently about the year gone by, how his heart was full of pride, with appreciation for all Victorians. There was generally good attendance at meetings and projects and spectacular fellowships surpassing expectations. He enumerated some of the special projects and said that out of the 3 Global Grants one was complete and the other 2 are on the point of completion. This year a lot of support was extended to the District. It was special as for the first time a member of our club was the District Governor. The members all worked together to make this possible. "

Let us carry forward the momentum" said Rajnish. This was followed by the handing over of Collar, Charter, Gavel & Hammer to the incoming President Capt. Arnab Sen. PP Seema Danda introduced Capt. Arnab

Today's Programme

FIRST CLUB ASSEMBLY

WELCOME

We Welcome AG Amartya Ghosh & ZS Sharmistha Chakraborty



Francesco Arezzo
RI President
2025-2026



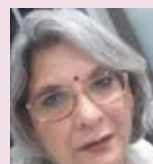
Dr. Ramendu Homchoudhury
District Governor
2025-2026



Capt Arnab Sen
President
2025-2026



Kashmiri Marwah
Secretary
2025-2026



Sudipta Sen
Treasurer
2025-2026



Shampa Chakraborty
Editor
2025-2026

Sen, a seasoned Rotarian with immense patience who was going to steer the ship of Victoria for a second time. Incoming President Arnab Sen in his address said he felt humility and gratitude to be taking over the mantle of Presidentship of this august club. He complimented Rajnish Mehta for his outstanding leadership and felt privileged to carry the legacy forward. He acknowledged his family and friends. He said the incoming Board members have passion, dedication and creativity and the core group have set goals for strategic planning. He thanked DG Dr. Ramendu Homchoudhury for leadership training programme which would translate plans into purposeful actions. Hewas looking forward to walking the path shoulder to shoulder. The message of RI President "Unite for Good" is very potent for the strength we harness when we unite, enabling us to reach our goal. The world today is torn by war and suffering. Rotary can foster peace and help in conflict resolution. Captain went on to enumerate



all he wanted to do in the coming year. Membership and fellowship would be strengthened, impactful sustainable projects would be taken up. Would try and form a satellite club. The year would begin with a health camp for disadvantaged children on 1st of July. Let us together create a Rotary year to remember. The Board of 2025-26 was announced followed by presentation of gifts to the outgoing

President and Club Secretary. MC Vibha Mehta then requested PP Seema Danda to introduce the Chief Guest DR. Ramendu Homchaudhury, District Governor 2025-26, which she did in her own special way. DG Dr. R. Homchaudhury complimented the Victorians for having touched all sections of the society. Our District 3291 is now a million dollar district thanks to team 2024-25 led by Dr. Krishnendu Gupta who



is the first AKS. Membership needed to be increased for Rotary's growth. He was looking at 1000 plus new members for RID 3291. Some organisations were coming up with big grants for helping children with autism and their parents. Preventable diseases should be eradicated. Cases of Polio have been drastically reduced and one hopes it will soon be eradicated. Cervical cancer is totally preventable with vaccination - all young girls MUST be vaccinated. Thalassaemia can be eradicated as it is totally preventable said the doctor. Why should 2 million bottles of blood be spent to keep the patients alive for only 17/18 years? Why should they suffer or their parents? "Prevent it NOT treat. Microscope

more important than Horoscope", said the crusader. Rotary was a rehabilitation centre for all of us so one should relax and enjoy. For good health the doctor gave some excellent tips. Do not skip sleep or breakfast. Avoid bottled cold drinks. Take God given food and NOT man made food. 50% of low back ache & knee pain due to lack of Vitamin D. Exposure to sunshine is a must. Proteins were essential for elderly. Eggs were a good source of protein. Our environment to be respected. DG was thanked and felicitated by President (2025-26) Arnab Sen. After the club business by Club Secretary Kashmiri Marwah, PP Sachiv Nijhawan gave the vote of thanks This was followed by a lucky draw where

10 attractive hampers were given to lucky winners. An enjoyable fellowship along with a sumptuous lunch followed there after.

Forthcoming Programme

- ◆ 2nd August: Saplings plantation Project at New Town
- ◆ 2nd August: Eye Camp for Cataract detection at RCC Kanthalberia
- ◆ 9th August: RM Venue will be announced later
- ◆ 15th August: Flag Hoisting on India independence Day at RCC Brindakhali and Football Tournament
- ◆ 29th August: RM Venue will be announced later.

MEDICAL CAMP



A Medical Health Checkup Camp for the underprivileged children of the Night School at St Lawrence High School was organized by Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria RI District 3291 on Tuesday, July 1st, 2025, on the occasion of Doctors Day. The Medical Health Checkup camp was for General Health checkup, Eye checkup and Dental checkup of the children and was held in the auditorium of St Lawrence

attending to the children and examining them were Dr Prasenjit Majumder, Dr Samiksha Shwetam and Dr Ashok Kumar Singh. The three doctors were called for the camp by Rtn Dr J N Gurtu and Rtn Dr O P Agarwal. The medicines were organized by PP Rtn BK Agarwal. All in all, 97 pupils in total from age 5 years to 13 years of the St Lawrence Night School were checked up by all three doctors,

and doctor's prescriptions along with the prescribed medicines were given to them. 100 food packets, filled with things children like to eat, sponsored by Rtn Sudipta Sen were distributed to them. Boxes of refreshments sponsored by Rtn Kashmiri Marwah were given to the 3 doctors and also to the 15 teachers headed by Ms Sujata Singh and 1 Service staff of the school who were there to help supervise the pupils and ensure the entire process proceeded smoothly RCCV would like to gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and support of the Director of the Night School at St Lawrence, Father Benny Thomas, for the medical camp to take place. The Medical Check up Camp was very successful, with 97/100 pupils turning up, neatly dressed in their uniforms and accompanied by their parents. The Medical Checkup camp ended at around 5:30 pm.



High school. The Camp started at 3 pm. Present from the RCCV were President Rtn Captain Arnab Sen, Club Secretary Rtn Kashmiri Marwah, Treasurer Rtn Sudipta Sen, Rtn Dr O P Agarwal, PP Rtn Vinita Dutt, PP Colonel Man Mohan Burman, PP Rtn B K Agarwal, PP Rtn Gayatree Dhar, PP Rtn Seema Danda. The Medical Health Check up camp was spearheaded by Treasurer Rtn Sudipta Sen who was intensely involved in overseeing everything from planning to execution, with help from her team, and also especially from PP Rtn Seema Danda and Gayatree Dhar. Rtn Dr O P Agarwal personally checked the eyes of many young pupils with his skill and expertise. The three doctors



PUBLIC IMAGE PROGRAMME



Office of the District Public Image Chair (DPIC) of our District 3291 had organized a brain storming session called Outreach Mission 25-26 – Let's Unite for Good at the Free Masons Lodge on Park Street, with the stalwarts of Media on Sunday the 20th of July 2025. After a light breakfast the attendees were given a guided tour by Past President Subir Dutta a Rotarian plus a deputy Grand Master, of the District Grand Lodge under the Grand lodge of England on the working of free Masons as the oldest Service organisation in the world. Their meeting place is known as King Solomon's Temple. This was a rare experience by all the attendees. This was followed by an inter active session with leading media houses represented by the panellists namely Joyjit Ghosh of Telegraph, Malini Banerjee a journalist now married to a Ship's Captain, Sourjya Bhowmick, Gargi Batabayal of Radio Mirchi, Neel R Stephen and our own PP Subhojit Roy The moderator of the session was again a Free Mason and a Rotarian Samrat Sengupta. The session was extremely beneficial for the Rotarians and eventually what came out was that anything to into print Media has to have a good story which would appeal to the readers with worthwhile contents. And of course we need to allot funds for media coverage. District Governor Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri stressed upon the media



as they have been covering stories on Polio in the past, they now need to cover actual stories on Thalassaemia and the effect of that on the child and the parents. To prevent thalassaemia, we need not just horoscope but also microscope with a blood test prior to marriage. Subhojit Roy DPIC concluded that every Rotary Club must earmark a budget for Public image and stressed on the importance of partnership with media.

Reported by - Capt. Arnab Sen

SUCHIKALA



Certificates of Suchikala (Vocational tailoring project 2024-2025) , given out to the women who completed and passed the course at Kanthal Beria.

Happy Birthday! 

Sunita Agarwala
30th July

Nitish Jain
31st July

Lila Bhoopal
31st July

Dilip Khandelwal
31st July

FOR A RAINY DAY

A **Tarpaulin Distribution Project** was held on 20th July 2025 at Lake Gardens just below PP Rtn Gayatree Dhars residence. 30 Tarpaulins were distributed with the Rotary logo and RCCVs name to the Cycle Rickshaw pullers of the Lake Gardens Bazaar Area to protect them from the rains or strong sunlight. All the tarpaulins were contributed by PP Rtn Arvind Agrawal. Present for the Project were President Captain Arnab Sen, Club



Secretary Rtn Kashmiri Marwah, PP Rtn Gayatree Dhar, Rtn Dr Bhashwati Ray.

The members, including President Captain Arnab Sen, and PP Rtn Gayatree Dhar, took short journeys in the tarpaulin covered cycle rickshaws. The Project was organized by PP Rtn Gayatree Dhar. After the project was completed, the Victorians were welcomed to Rtn Gayatree Dhars home where they enjoyed hot tea and mouthwatering snacks served by Rtn Gayatree Dhar.



CHANGE OVER CEREMONY ON 1ST JULY. ONE DOCTOR (DR. KRISHNENDU GUPTA) PASSED THE BATON TO ANOTHER (DR. RAMENDU HOMCHOUDHURY), TO LEAD RID 3291.



At Joyjeet Das Memorial School



On the 7th of July, 2025, the following items were contributed to Joyjeet Das Memorial school and handed over to the teachers there, as requested by them-

1. A table fan
2. A BP Machine
3. A Digital thermometer
4. A Weighing machine
5. A Height Measuring Scale

Joyjeet Das Memorial School is a Unit of the Schools of the World Kolkata whose

main aim is to provide a holistic and child friendly education, and to enhance access to primary education for disadvantaged children.

RCCV has been associated with JJDMS for some time and helps with their requirements from time to time.

These necessary items were contributed to the school by Mr. Vijay Goel, a very close family friend of PP Rotarian Arvind Agrawal.

PREVENTION OF CERVICAL CANCER



Late Sumitra Kejriwal, beloved sister of PP Sunita Agarwala was a member of RC Calcutta Victoria for about 8 years. Her Art Gallery 'Chitrakoot' used to be a venue for many a fund raise and informal fellowships. In early 2022 she was diagnosed with cancer and within a few months succumbed to it.

In her loving memory sister Sunita and her family sponsored a project on 'Prevention of Cervical Cancer through awareness and vaccination'. Two awareness

camps were held - one at RCC Kanthalberia and another at St. John's Diocesan H.S. School. 30 girls were vaccinated at RCC Kanthalberia -- two doses for girls between 9-14 years of age and three doses for some who were over 14 years old. The vaccines were procured by PP B.K. Agarwal and administered on 22nd December 2024, 19th January 2025 and on 19th June 2025. Member Dr. Joyashree Dhar single handedly vaccinated all candidates in the inaugural camp and appraised them about the need for it. 30 girls are now protected.

WORDS OF WISDOM



Commanding Large Vessels in High Risk Maritime Zones

On 12th July 2025, at the regular meeting
Guest speaker

CAPT. PANKAJ KUMAR, a seafarer, gave an interesting talk on Modern Piracy and War Zone Navigation. Capt. Pankaj Kumar said that maritime piracy was a significant threat in various conflict prone region such as Gulf of Aden, Arabian sea, Red Sea and West Africa. Pirates somehow get information about cargo vessels especially if they were without arms and being soft targets, attack them. High speed boats which can not be detected by radar were used to hijack vessels at high seas. Often the crews were held for ransom and sometimes even killed. He recounted a personal experience while sailing on Red sea. Such encounters were detrimental to the mental condition of the crews whose morale dips. Indian Naval ships were also sometimes under threat. The crew then take shelter inside a "citadel" where they hide for some days with blackout as protection. Generally nothing much can be done if they were taken captive. Now there was an added threat - that of missiles due to Syria Israel conflict. Unlike in the past, technological advances have now created serious problems. Pirates use high speed boats, satellite phones, drones for surveillance, sophisticated communication tools etc. The Naval forces especially Indian Navy however play a pivotal role in protecting merchant ships and seafarers. Their consistent patrolling, armed escort mission, anti piracy intervention have significantly deterred piracy attempts. Captain Kumar through his power point presentation, excerpts from the well known film 'Captain Phillips' (2013) & a video by Hammam brought to the audience a vivid picture of life in high seas in all its aspects. He also shared his own experiences. One must salute the courage and resilience of seafarers who operate under constant threat to keep global trade running. There was a brief question answer session following his talk. Capt. Pankaj Kumar was introduced by Capt. Arnab Sen, thanked by IPP Rajnish Mehta and presented with a memento by PP Dr J N Gurtu.