

VOL. 132

October, 2025

# KHORLO

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Darjeeling



@rotaryclubofdarjeeling



@rotaryclubofdarjeeling





**Rtn. Vivek Chettri**

## **THE PRESIDENT AND HIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026**

VP: Rtn. Shoyeta Chatterjee

PE: Rtn. Dhires Thapa

IPP: Rtn. Samir Singhal

Secretary: Rtn. Shiromani Syangden

Joint Secretary: Rtn. Amit Jain

Exe. Secretary: Rtn. Navin Thapa

Treasurer: Rtn. Sandeep Thirani

Joint Treasurer: Rtn. Rahul Jha

Dir. Club Ser: Rtn. Cheten Norbu Bhutia

Dir. Community Ser: Rtn. Tashi Pencho

Dir. Vocational Ser: Rtn. Rupesh Pradhan

Dir. New Generation: Rtn. Jit Pradhan

Dir. International Ser : Rtn. Pintoo Agarwal

Club's learning Facilitator: Rtn. Sunirmal Chakravarthi

Foundation Chair: Rtn. Deepak Kr. Sharma

Membership: Rtn. Jorden Norbu

Administration: Rtn. Cheten Norbu Bhutia

Public Image: Rtn. Sankalp Lama

Sgt at Arms: Rtn. Dawa T Bhutia and Rtn. Bikash Singh



**Thursday**



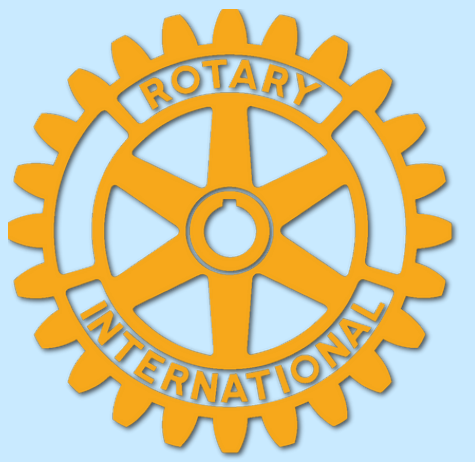
**We meet on:  
Hotel Seven Seventeen.**



**5:30p.m.**



# Khorlo



## Boots, guns and roses.



My tryst with the ‘cowboy culture” started when my age was still in a single digit. I would often accompany my father on his rendezvous with his colleagues and juniors. One of the houses, he frequented, belonged to his colleague by the name of ‘Phuchung uncle’. A large poster of a man with a cowboy hat, crinkled eyes and a plaid shirt hung on his wall. For a longtime ,I thought the man in the picture was Phuchung uncle and not Charles Brosnan ( as I was told) for he had an uncanny resemblance to the picture. He also had a huge , felt cowboy hat hanging by the window and sometimes his ‘dingo boots’ would adorn his porch. I also happened to see a silver cannister for the first time, in his house. He would sometimes be seen taking a swig from it. When I enquired why he looked and behaved different, I was told that he thought of himself as a cowboy , living life on the brink. In the heat of the plains, the hat and boots looked atrociously out of place, but come winters, he would be dressed to the hilt in his cowboy fatigue. So impressed were we- me and my brother that we got our cricket hats stitched at the sides to make them look like the cowboy ones.

I started devouring cowboy comics even before I could fully understand them . My brother went a step further and ran around bursting those red crackers in the “kit ko pistol” , all the while shouting ‘yoo hoo” and “howdy” to anyone who cared to listen. I followed close, with my side stitched hat , joining in the chorus of ‘yoo hoo”.

The obsession made us ruin our perfectly new Dasain shirts, wherein we got the local tailor to stitch fringes all over them. But like all good things, our ‘cowboy days” were short lived too. Mother saw red, and landed not one but several resounding slaps on my poor brother for ruining his shirt. I escaped only because I was several years younger than him and therefore percieved to be a follower rather than a perpetrator. This sent the “cow” back to the wild west and the ‘boy’ to a boarding school, where he could no longer live his cowboy days. With my inspiration gone, I resigned myself to reading comics and occasional whoops, if I found something interesting.


Several decades later, on October 11, 2025 - Anne’s evening, some of us relived our childhood and some- our youth. Sherriff, deputies, boots, hats and roses. While the music played and dancers swayed, the boots clicked and singers crooned with abandon..

Anne Reena had created a fantasy world and for those few hours , we were in the wild west. Thankfully, there were no gun draws and we all went back home in one piece, clicking our boots, swaying our hats and holding our roses to our heart.


‘Twas a night to be remembered!

In Rotary,


Prativa  
Editor



Thursday



We meet on:  
Hotel Seven Seventeen.



5:30p.m.





## Rtn. Rahul Jha

Our ex -editor Rtn. Rahul recently received the Bhojpuri Gaurav Award, 2025 from Darjeeling Parbatiya Bhojpuri Yuva Manch. In a world that has become a relentless cacaphony of self -proclaimed achievers and influencers, Rahul is a quiet and a calming presence, who goes about doing his work diligently.

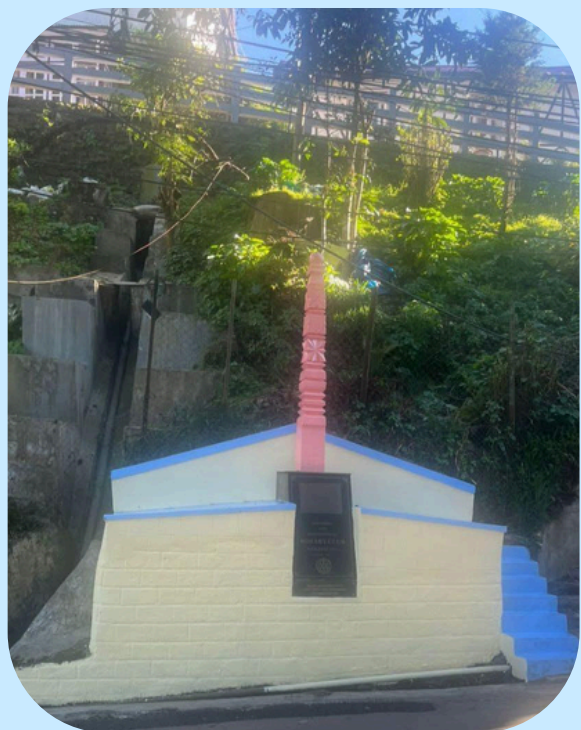
An alumnus of Goethels Memorial School, Kurseong , he is a quint essential goethelite. Quiet, most of the times, yet a voice that cannot be ignored. The school motto was- “Do all things well” and perhaps that was how they grew up. Balancing and mixing attributes in the right proptrtion to come out as well rounded personalities. Rahul is a store house of knowledge, a quizzer who wins almost all ‘mindspins” in all the RWMs ,yet makes no show of his talent.

He is donning many hats in RCD. First, as an editor who gave us some splendid editions of ‘Khorlo’ and now as the joint-treasurer (not a very enviable job) but he does it with quiet dignity just like how he carries his family legacy forward.

Congratulations on your award, Rahul. Shine on!



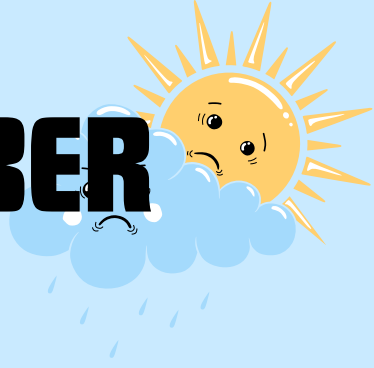
# OCTOBER SNAPSHOTS







# THE MONTH THAT WAS - OCTOBER



October is a mellow month, where the weather is just right or so we thought. Just when we assumed that the monsoons had receded and we were settling into the festivities of Dasain, nature went on a rampage. Torrential rain led to landslides, slips and a major loss of human lives, property and livestock in our region.

- **Relief work-** Rotary Club of Darjeeling has always been consistent in its efforts to reach out to the ones affected by any calamity. This time too, the club decided to set aside forty thousand rupees as emergency relief fund . The club has decided to:
  - i) Help six students of SSK school below Sonada.
  - ii) Give 16 Tin roof sheets and black board for SSK school.
  - iii) A sausage wall at Tukrey has been proposed - funds permitting.
- **Global Grant-** Twenty-six members of the club have contributed to the club's share of the global grant project to date. The shortfall amount would be divided amongst the members and completed. The work is proposed to begin from the first week of December and be completed by feb, 2026.
- **Annes Evening-** The Annes and Anna Evening was held at Gymkhana Club on 11th of October. The President and his family left no stone unturned in giving us a night to remember. First Lady, Reena gave us a 'cowboy themed' venue with "wanted" photo booth, animal skull carcasses and a slice of the wild west, to revel in. The decor, food and overall atmosphere was one of fun, warmth and camaraderie. The sheriff of the night- Rtn. Bikash and Rotarylet Kaiser celebrated their birthdays with the club members and their family.
- **Advertisement-** The club has let out the facade of the tower for advertisement @Rs.6000/- per month for three months.
- **Projects - WIP**
- **Mountain Tracker-** Rtn. Tashi and several club members have identified the spot. It will be installed soon.
- **Health Camp-**Heart and Breast Screening-The club in association with Durgapur Mission Hospital and Manipal Cancer Hospital, Rangapani will be organising this camp on 1st Nov, 2025. This would be a significant leap in bringing specialised screening to the residents of the town by RCD. The camp will be held at GDNS.
- **Interact meet-** A one day event . The execution of which has been assigned to Rtn. Jit, Rt. Dhiresh and Rtn. Mamta.
- **Nation Builders Award-** Teachers from various schools have been identified for this award. Their contribution and unfaltering dedication to their profession and shaping young minds, the club percieves needs to be recognised and appreciated. They will be felicitated on 2nd of November.
- **Senior Citizen's Day-** would be observed on the 2nd of November too. The club would be felicitating parents of Rotarians this year.
- **Annual Picnic-** The date for club picnic has been finalised for 20th of December at Relli, Kalimpong followed by a health camp on 21st December.
- **RWM**
- The club held all its regular meetings barring the one in the Dasain week. The regular functioning of the club was discussed, matters that required attention were attended to and the minutes of the meetings were recorded , read out in the proceeding meetings and house acknowledgement taken.
- The club handed over digital portraits in the form of birthday cards to Rtn. Bikash, Rtn. Prativa, Rtn. Uttam and Rtn. Ajaz.



# NOVEMBER

## BIRTHDAYS

Rtn. Shoyeta Chatterjee - 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov  
Rtn. Rahul Jha. - 24<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Rtn. Sandeep Thirani - 24<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Rtn. Amit Jain - 26<sup>th</sup> Nov

## ANNIVERSARIES

Rtn. Vikram Rai - 12<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Rtn. Dhiresh Thapa - 21<sup>st</sup> Nov  
Rtn. Kabya Lama - 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov

## October birthday cards

