



TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2026

March is Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month

106

The Chaka

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Today's Guest Speaker Laily Thompson



Topic -

“Reclaiming Kolkata’s Riverfront : Art and Culture as Catalyst for Urban Renewal”

How arts, festivals, and community participation can transform neglected ghats into inclusive and attractive public spaces in Kolkata

Speaker Introduction

Laily Thompson is the founder of **KultX Heritage Foundation**, an initiative dedicated to celebrating and revitalising heritage through art, culture, and community engagement. Based in the UK but deeply connected to Kolkata, she has been actively involved in fostering creative collaborations that bring renewed attention to the city’s historic riverfront.

Through her interactions and projects with artists, cultural practitioners, and local communities, she

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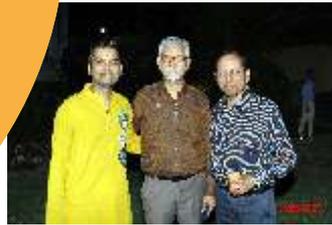
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has helped spotlight the heritage of Kolkata’s ghats, exploring how art and culture can play a role in reviving these historic public spaces and reconnecting people with the river.

Her work beautifully reflects the idea that tradition and innovation can go hand in hand-honouring the past while inspiring new possibilities for the future.

She will present an insightful talk on heritage, creativity, and the power of culture to reimagine the historic spaces of our city.

Holi Milan



We Meet Every Tuesday At 1 p.m. At ROTARY SADAN
rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org
E-mail: rccal106@gmail.com

Bishnupur Eye Check-up Camp



Childrens Eye Check up Camp at Bishnupur RCC Uchal Probaho – 2 Feb. 2026

A children's eye check-up camp was conducted at Bishnupur RCC Uchal Probaho with the objective of identifying vision problems at an early stage and ensuring that young students receive timely care. The camp saw an encouraging response from the community, with a total of 99 children examined during the programme. Each child underwent a basic but thorough eye screening to detect refractive errors and other potential eye conditions that may affect their learning and overall well-being.

The screening revealed that several children required corrective lenses. Arrangements are currently being made to provide spectacles to all those who need them, ensuring that financial constraints do not prevent these young students from seeing clearly and continuing their education comfortably.

One particularly notable case was that of a child with suspected glaucoma. Glaucoma in children is relatively rare and requires careful and specialised investigation. Recognising the seriousness of the situation, our President immediately arranged for further diagnostic evaluation so that the child can receive the appropriate medical attention at the earliest possible stage.

The camp was a meaningful exercise in community service and demonstrated how a relatively simple intervention such as an eye screening programme can make a significant difference in the lives of children. Good vision plays a critical role in a child's academic performance, confidence, and quality of life, and early detection of problems can prevent long-term complications.

Vice Chair Atin "Achtung" Sen led the initiative energetically and set the tone for the day's activities. President Debnath Chattopadhyay and Secretary AB4 were also present and actively supported the programme.

Overall, the camp turned out to be a very satisfying day of service, demonstrating Rotary's commitment to community welfare and child health. At the same time, it also served as a reminder that such initiatives offer valuable opportunities for service, and greater participation from members would make future programmes even more impactful.

Reported by Hony. Secretary Ashok Basu

Visit to NGO Mother & Child



On 21st February 2026, five of our club members visited Mother & Child, a NGO situated about two and half hours from Kolkata. This was our second visit there in the last few months. We have donated 4 computers and 4 Sewing Machines - all are installed and running and there are about 60 registrations in all, in a short span of time.

We had gone there earlier to assess the place and area, we decided to make them one of our club's new RCC's. We thank our President, Hony. Secretary and RCC and Community Service, Co-chair Rtn Atindra Sen who visited and did all the formalities with regard to them applying for becoming our RCC.

Mother & Child is a very vibrant NGO doing commendable work in various areas specially for Women and Children of the area.

Rtn Pranab Sarkar who also went there with us, talked with the people there and briefed them about our activities and how they can benefit by associating with our club. They have a vibrant Computer education Center and a place where ladies are making beautiful clothes with Sewing machines. The teachers and students of both the computer and sewing sections showed us samples of what the students are doing and achieving.

They were extremely happy to have us there and requested our guidance for future activities related to various scopes of work. I thank President Rtn. Debnath Chattopadhyay, Hony. Secretary Rtn Ashok Kr. Basu, Rtn. Atindra Sen and Rtn. Pronab Sarkar for visiting this place with me and encouraging the students and teachers there.

Report by: Rtn Udit Mitra
Chair: RCC & CS Committee

Eye Camp with Ranihati Netaji Samaj Sathi



The RCC and Community Committee had organized an Eye Camp in association with Susrut Eye Hospital. More than 100 persons were given free reading glasses courtesy Susrut Eye Hospital. We would like to thank President Rtn Debnath Chattopadhyay for arranging this Camp.

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Lubbecke Westfalen, Germany, R.I. Dist. 1900

NEXT MEETING

Next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club on Tuesday, 17th March, 2026. Meeting 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)

Birthday

Rtn. Nishant Shah 12th March
Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar 12th March
Rtn. Subha Pal 15th March
Wish you many happy returns of the day

Wedding Anniversaries

Rtn. Sanjib Basu & R-Ann Rupali 10th March
Rtn. Dr. Jeetendra Sharma & R-Ann Ruchi 13th March

Celebrate your Joy and Happiness of Birthdays and Anniversaries - donate generously to the Rotary Foundation India and for Club Projects.

REPORTS

Fellowship Committee organised "Holi Milan" followed by fellowship with excellent street food / chaat on Friday, 27th February, 2026 hosted by PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal and R-Ann Asha Agrawal at 16, Ballygunge Park Road, Kolkata - 700 019.

ROSTER 2025-26

Members Roster for the Rotary year 2025-26 is now available. You are requested to collect your copy from the Club Office.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday 17th March, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting Assistant Governor visit to our Club.	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesday 24th March, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting District Governor's Official Visit to our Club	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesday 31st March, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker : Ms. Snigdha Seal	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. in the Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)



MINUTES OF THE 5015TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 24TH FEBRUARY, 2026 AT 6.30 P.M. IN ROTARY SADAN

1. President Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 5015th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. The National Anthem was led by Rtn. Dr. Shankar Ghosh.
3. Minutes of the 5014th Regular Weekly meeting of the Club held on 17th February, 2026 were confirmed.
4. The President informed members that to observe "World Understanding and Peace Day", the Club has organised "Rotary Oration - 2026" on the day. The President then welcomed Dr. Partha Biswas, President, All India Ophthalmological Society as the Chief Guest on that day. President also welcomed Mr. Ashish Bhandia, Director and Unit Head and Mr. Jaikishan Badlani, Vice – President from Anand Rathi Wealth Ltd. as Special Guests on that day.
5. The President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting and specially welcomed Rtn. Juergen Setz from Rotary Club of Lubbecke Westfalen, Germany, R.I. Dist. 1900. At the request of the President, Rtn. Setz addressed the audience and exchanged his Club flag with us.
6. **President Reported the following :**
 - a) On Sunday, 22nd February, 2026 - RCC Ranihati Netaji Samaj Sathi distributed Spectacles to 105 beneficiaries. A Free Eye Check-up Camp was held on 17th January, 2026. The Spectacles were donated by Susrut Eye Hospital.
 - b) On 22nd February, 2026, team members from our Club visited a NGO at Mission Mother and Child, North 24-Parganas for opening a new RCC with this NGO. The papers for the same were under process.
7. **President Announced the following :**
 - a) Fellowship Committee have organised "Holi Milan" followed by fellowship with Chats on Friday, 27th February, 2026 at 7 p.m. in the residence of PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal, 16, Ballygunge Park Road, Kolkata to be hosted by him and requested members to attend the Holi Milan with their spouses on that day.
 - b) To observe world Glaucoma day, the Club would organize Glaucoma check-up camps starting from 8th March, 2026.
8. At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu conducted the Club business :
 - a) He welcomed all Members and Guests.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 9th March, 2026. He wished them and also requested them to donate generously for the Rotary Foundation and the Club Projects.
 - c) There would be no Regular Weekly Meeting on next Tuesday, 3rd March, 2026 on account of Public Holiday (Holi) and requested members to kindly make a note of the change.
 - d) Next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club is on Tuesday, 10th March, 2026 / Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor), Speaker is Ms Laily Thompson, Founder Partner of Kult X and River Festival.
 - e) The Eighth Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Club would be held on Friday, 27th February, 2026 at 6.00 p.m. in the residence of PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal, 16, Ballygunge Park Road, Kolkata – 700 019 (Before the Holi Meet). He requested all Board members to kindly make note of it and attend on that day.
 - f) Fellowship Committee would organise "Holi Milan" followed by fellowship with Chats on next Friday, 27th February, 2026 from 7 p.m. onwards in the residence of PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal, 16, Ballygunge Park Road, Kolkata - 700019 to be hosted by him and requested all members to attend the Holi Milan with spouses on that day.
 - g) Members' Roster 2025-26 is now available and requested members to collect their copies from Club Office.
9. At the request of the President, Rtn. Dr. Ashish Kumar introduced Dr. Partha Biswas, Chief Guest on that day.
10. At the request of the President, Dr. Partha Biswas addressed the audience.
11. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
12. At the request of the President, Ashish Bhandia from Anand Rathi Wealth Ltd. addressed the audience on "An introduction to Wealth Management at Anand Rathi".
13. At the request of the President Mr. Jaikishan Badlani, Anand Rathi Wealth Ltd. also addressed the audience on "Tax Optimising Ideas".
14. PP Rtn Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the Club.
15. On behalf of the Club, President presented Mementoes to Dr. Partha Biswas, Mr Ashish Bandai, and Mr. Jaikishan Badlani.
16. Sunshine Box Collection Rs.1,000/- with special contribution from Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu and Rajeev Paralikar on that day.
17. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Millbrae, California, U S A, R.I. Dist. 5150.
18. Before adjourning the meeting, President requested all to join Fellowship and Dinner. On behalf of the Club, President thanked Anand Rathi Group for hosting Fellowship and Dinner on that day.
19. Meeting was adjourned at 8.31 p.m.

Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay
President

Ashok Kumar Basu
Hony. Secretary

Published by Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu, Hony. Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta

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