TUESDAY 21 November 2023

November is Rotary Foundation Month

104

The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta
R I Dist. 3291
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Editor: Rtn. Ashok Basu (AB4)

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rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com

Ashok Basu (AB4)

Traveller Editor Mentor Human

It is kind of crazy to be the Editor and writing one's own short profile but let me step out of myself and introduce AB4! He loves different situations but gets bored easily and is then overwhelmed by the desire to move on. It is hence no surprise that in his professional career In Banking and Finance he has travelled the far corners of India and Asia and worked across verticals like Corporate, Retail, Institutional and Strategy. Post an active career over 39 years, he has been a Consultant to an International Bank and is now creating what he terms "BEEs" - Banking Excellence Executives - in India's best bank.

Rotary Club of Calcutta | CREATE HOPE In the WORLD

Amongst his hobbies he counts reading obscure books and amateur photography. He is married to Meena, his significant other for close to 40 years now! Meena is a Special Educator and part of the Inner Wheel ecosystem. They have 2 sons and 2 daughters ~~in law~~ engaged variously in occupations like Digital Event Management, Aviation, Economic Research and Education. Most importantly however, in their parents' perception, they display qualities of being fine human beings.

Double Header on Chacha Nehru's Birth Anniversary

Children's Day 14 Nov 2023 : Rotary Sadan : AOS Club

On occasion of Children's Day on 14th November, the NCLCL Committee had a small programme for the children of The Cultural Section in the Library. We gave them Biryani, Chocolate pastries, gift bags with soft toys and other goodies and chocolates. The children put up performances and there was a story telling session by a Golpo Dadu. Thank you Hony Secy Sarvani for the namkeen packets. Thank you Rtns Ayusmati and Ruchika for being there and helping. A big thanks to my Co Chair Debjani for organising the whole programme. Sponsored by Chair Rtn Roshni & Co Chair Rtn Debjani. We were happy to bring smiles on the little faces.

Reported by Chair NCLCL, Roshni

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CONTACT US
E-mail: rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com
https://rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org

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Health Check Camp at Samparc Orphanage: AOS Community; AOF Fighting Disease

On Children's day, a Health check-up camp was organised by the Health Committee at Samparc Orphanage, Tollygunge in association with Haridevpur Nirvriti Foundation. The orphanage has a total of 30 children. The children performed for the Rotarians and gift bags were handed over to the children after the general health check-up. Secretary Rtn Sarvani Gooptu, Rtn Yogesh Dassani and Rtn Debjani Ghosh were present for the project.

Reported by Chair Health, Dr Ayusmati

Expeditionary visit of British Partner Clubs to RC Calcutta : AOS - Club

Yes – it happened during the period from 30 October to 9 November when PP David Johnson of London and R-Ann Mary, Gill de Warren Foundation Chair of Battersea Park, IPP Swapan Mukherjee of Kirkcaldy Scotland, Brian Johnson of Glenrothes Scotland and DRFC of Dist. 1010 visited us and participated in inauguration of District 3291 Ganga Abhiyan project from a Boat, Priyamvada Birla Diabetic Retinopathy project at the hospital, Ayodhya Pahar School dormitory in Ayodhya and other potential project sites in Kolkata, Purulia, Hooghly and Sundarbans. As a result, a number of potential Club to Club and Global Grant projects have emerged.

On 31 October 2023, Mayor Firhad Hakim, while flagging off the District 3291 Ganga Abhiyan project boat voyage, led by our club, commented that the implementation process followed by Rotary is the way to proceed with this mega long term project of cutting down the sources of pollution in the river Ganges. He promised to support all our projects. Our District 3291 leaders and many Rotary Clubs were present among the 50+ participants of the voyage appreciated the support. RID Aniruddha Roychowdhury asked the District Project Chair Saumen Ray to submit a project proposal to Kolkata Municipal Corporation at the earliest. The event was attended by many of our club members, in this limited seat voyage. The project received a high level of press coverage on many English, Bangla and Hindi dailies over a period of three days or so. The Mayor, MP Santanu Sen and RID Aniruddha Roychowdhury were full of commendation for the project plans.

On the same day, the British Team was felicitated by our President Kanak Dutt at Rotary Sadan, as part of an

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international Rotary Goodwill Visit. This is the first time in the recorded history that a Past President of Rotary Club of London and District Rotary Foundation Chair of Scotland District 1010 have attended our Regular Weekly Meeting.

Rotary Club of London was impressed with our club and the Circle of Centennial Rotary Clubs with Purnendu Roychoudhury as the Chairman and Saumen Ray as the Convenor. They joined CCRC as the twelfth club.

Our inauguration of Priyamvada Diabetic Retinopathy Global Grant project was well attended and appreciated. Another similar project is being considered. PP Dr. Swapan Mukherjee of Rotary Club of Kirkcaldy is the main driver of the project from Scotland.

Our visit to Sundarbans over a three day period resulted in identification of solar lights at schools and hospitals in the area.

Next, the British Team travelled 300 km each way to Ayodhya Pahar School, where we have been working for nearly 10 years to make it into a residential school for 250 tribal students with funding from our donors mainly PP Vikram Somany (CERA SANITARYWARE LTD.) and financial support for furnishing and tree plantation from Rotary Club of Battersea Park London. An international interest has emerged for constructing another floor to extend the capacity of the school to 500. We have been asked to prepare a project plan .

We would like to thank all the participants for spending their own time and money to travel to project sites supporting our Club in projects for service above self.

Reported by Saumen Ray, Chair, Wash and Ganga Abhiyan Committee

Interact Asian International School – Corrigendum

In our last issue dated 7 Nov 2023, Chair Youth Services Saswati Mukherjee had reported the activities of 2 Schools viz Mahadevi Birla and Asian International School. The photographs of the activity of Asian International School were not printed. They are printed herein. The error of omission is genuinely regretted. Interact Clubs and our succession of Chairpersons are truly doing magnificent work and The Chaka wishes them a great future.

Our Ambassador Overseas – Rtn Debjani Ghosh

On 24th October, 2023 I attended the regular weekly online meeting of Rotary Club of Central Melbourne in Melbourne (President Michelle Crawford). I presented a small introduction of the work done by our Club. I was allowed 10 minutes time to speak about our Club and the good work it is doing which was appreciated!

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On 25th October, 2023, I paid goodwill visit to Rotary Club of Melbourne (President Chris Sotiropoulos). I presented the Banner of our Club and a copy of the "Chaka" to the President of the Club. At the RWM, I spoke about the work done by our Club and requested them to join the CCRC. Both the Clubs were warm and listened and welcomed me in a grand manner.

Reported by Rtn Debjani Ghosh

Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday happens once a year, but your gift of Rotary will make a difference for a lifetime. This Giving Tuesday, consider making a special gift to The Rotary Foundation, and together, we can continue Doing Good in the world.We need your help as a Rotary leader to raise funds and awareness for The Rotary Foundation this Giving Tuesday, 28 November. This global day of generosity is an opportunity for all members to make a big impact, with a gift of any size that supports projects you are passionate about.

https://my.rotary.org/en/giving-tuesday

From Foundation Chair Sourabh Khemani

Rotary Club of Calcutta
District 3291
(Wish Longest Running Club - 1919-2023)

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Rotary Sadan | 94/2 Chowringhee Road, Kolkata-700 020
rtnkanakdutt@gmail.com | +91 9830024015 | www.rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org

Kanak Dutt
President 2023-24

Date -08-11-2023

APPEAL FOR DONATION TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION (ANNUAL FUND SHARE)

ROTARY YEAR 2023-24

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) transforms your 'Donations' into service projects that change lives close to home and around the world. By giving to the **Annual Fund**, you make these life-changing projects possible so that Rotary can keep 'Doing Good in the World'.

Donations to **"ANNUAL FUND-SHARE"** are invested for 3 Years; accrued growth supports TRF operations. After the lock-in period, the Donations received are shared equally between 'The World Fund' and 'District Designated Fund (DDF)'. The 'World Fund' is spent, as per discretion of Trustees of TRF by way of 'Global Grants and Programs' for operations in areas of focus of Rotary International.

The DDF is distributed by the District Governor as 'District Grants' and 'Global Grants' to support activities of Rotary Clubs in areas of operations like 'Water Sanitation and Hygiene', 'Basic Education and Literacy', 'Disease Prevention and Treatment', 'Maternal Health and Treatment', 'Peace Building and Conflict Resolution', 'Community Economic Development'.

'Rotary International' recognises Donors as; **Sustaining Members** for donations up to $ 100 or more; **Paul Harris Fellow** for donation up to $1,000 or more; **Paul Harris Society Member** for a commitment to donate $1,000 or more annually.

Members of Rotary Club Calcutta are requested to donate generously to the ***'The Rotary Foundation (Annual Fund SHARE)'*** by Cheque drawn in favour of ***'Rotary Foundation India'***.

It will indeed be a splendid and benevolent gesture if each and every Member of our 'Old Number One' come forward to donate generously to The Rotary Foundation.

With kind Regards,

Yours- in- Rotary,
Kanak Dutt
President RY (2023-24)

RI Convention 2024, Singapore, 26 -29 May 2024 – A notification from Rtn Rajeev Paralikar

The RI Convention 2024 is scheduled to be held during the period 26-29 May 2024, in Singapore. The Registration Fees payable is US$ 500 (upto15 Dec 23), US$ 595 (16 Dec 23 – 31Mar 24) , US$ 695 (01Apr 24 – 29May 24). Members are requested to consider Registering for attending the RI Convention by logging on to <www.rotary.org>

Take advantage of the lower Registration Charges for Early Birds! Here are some curated travel packages – do please check for latest prices.

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (07.11.2023)

Total Members	:	240
Members Present	:	44
Exempted Members	:	69
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	2

Birthdays

Gaurav Swarup	21st Nov
H.V. Patodia	25th Nov

Wish you many happy returns of the day

ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club of Melbourne, Australia,
R. I. Dist 9800

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 28th November, 2023 at 6.30 p.m onwards

Regular Weekly Meeting and **Antakshari** by Pronam Roy at Rotary Sadan Hall (Ground Floor)

Followed by Fellowship and Dinner.

Wedding Anniversaries

Sri Prakash Jalan & R-Ann Vandana
22nd Nov

Sudarshan Jalan & R-Ann Minakshi
23rd Nov

Dr. Jayanta Roy & R-Ann Sudeshna
25th Nov

Vikram Aditya Mody R-Ann Sanchita
25th Nov

Shaurya Veer Himatsingka & R-Ann Riddhima
25th Nov

Debashis Mitra R-Ann Sambi
27th Nov

Abhijit Neogi & R-Ann Moumita
27th Nov

Dr. Biswajit Paul R-Ann Dr. Silpee Paul Sorcar
27th Nov

Wish you many more years of marital bliss

MEMBERS' ROSTER – 2023-24

Members' Roster for the Rotary year 2023-24 is available.

You are requested to collect your copies from Club Office.

NOMINATION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE ROTARY YEAR 2024-2025

Members are hereby informed that Nominations would be invited for the Posts of Vice-President, Hony Secretary, Hony Treasurer and five Directors on the Club's Board for the Rotary year 2024 - 2025 at the Regular Weekly Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 21st November, 2023. The corresponding final confirmation of the Board of Directors for the Rotary Year 2024 - 2025 will be held at the Club's Regular Weekly Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 19th December, 2023.

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TREAT - 2023

The 98th Annual Children's Treat of the Club will be held on Sunday, 10th December, 2023 at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata. We will invite about 1,500 underprivileged Children to this Flagship programme of the Club this year.

Members are requested to generously donate or sponsor Breakfast, Lunch, Ice Cream, Caps, Carry Bags, Sports Items, or any kind of Gift Items to make this a "Day Sunshine" for these Children.

Donations in Cash or Cheque payable in favour of "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" will be eligible for Income Tax Exemption u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act .

THANK YOU DONORS (Donation received for Annual Children's Treat up to 11.11.2023)

Late Rtn. Nandita Sen Endowment for
Annual Children's Treat Rs. 25,000/-

Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu	Rs. 2,000/-
Ashish Kumar Bagla	Rs. 25,000/-
Sonia Dutt	Rs 10,000/-
Subrata De	Rs. 10, 000/-
Niraj Kumar Saraf	Rs. 15,000/-
Vikram Somany	Rs. 10,000/-
Sarvani Gooptu	Rs 2,500/-
Dr. Indrajit Roy	Rs. 10, 000/-
B.K.Dalmia	Rs. 5,000/-
Joyanta Chatterjee	Rs. 5,000/-
Rtn Dr. Hirak Kumar Sen	Rs. 5000/-
Rtn. Srirupa Dasgupta	Rs. 2000/-
Raman Trust (Rtn. L N Bangur)	Rs. 100000/-

BOARD MEETING

The Fifth meeting of the Board of Directors (2023-24) of the Club will be held on 27th November 2023 at 12 p.m . at Leela Resorts.

All members of the Board are requested to make a note of it and attend.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday 28th November, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting and **"Antakshari"** by Pronam Roy followed by Fellowship and Dinner	6.30 p.m onwards Rotary Sadan (Ground Floor) (Fellowship and Dinner after the meeting)
Tuesday 5th December, 2023	RWM – Speaker Dr Tanmoy Das "Are U as healthy as can be?"	1.30pm, Lunch at 1pm
Sunday 10th December, 2023	Annual Children's Treat	10am onwards at Nicco Park
Tuesday 12th December, 2023	RWM followed by Vaccination Camp	1.30 pm. Lunch at 1pm.
Tuesday 19th December, 2023	Closed Door meeting	1.30 pm. Lunch at 1pm.

MINUTES OF THE 4920th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 7th NOVEMBER, 2023 AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

1. In absence of President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt, Imm Past President, Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4920th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by PP Rtn Nilima Joshi .
3. Minutes of the 4919th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 31st October, 2023 were confirmed.
4. Imm Past President welcomed Past President Rtn. Sujata Pyne as the Speaker on that day on "Unveiling the Divine Tapestry : Gods & Goddesses in Mythology."
5. **Imm Past President reported the following :**
   i) Imm Past President informed all members that during Durga Puja, Rtn Shailendra Kumar Gupta donated Six Motorised Sewing Machines to our RCC Ranihati Netaji Samaj Sathi andon behalf of the Club he thanked Rtn. Gupta for his generosity.
   ii) On Wednesday, 1st November, 2023, the Club under President Kanak Dutt inaugurated the Diabetic Retinopathy unit at Priyamvada Birla Aurobindo Eye Hospital. It was the Global Grant Project of the Club initiated in the previous Rotary year.
   iii) Visiting Rotarians team from UK and Scotland visited Club Projects at Sundarbans and Ayodhya Pahar between 2nd to 8th November, 2023 accompanied by our Rotarians Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay, Saumen Ray, Amit Ghosh, Biswajit Dutta, and Yogesh Dassani.
6. **Imm Past President Announced the following :**
   a) This year Annual Children's Treat -2023 of the Club would be held on Sunday, 10th December, 2023, 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata. We would invite more than 1,500 underprivileged Children to the Flagship programme of the Club in this year and requested members to generously donate or Sponsor Breakfast, Lunch, Ice Cream, T-Shirts, Caps, Carry Bags, Sports Items, or any kind of Gift Items to make this a "Day of Sunshine" for those Children. Donation of Cash or Cheque to be made in the name of "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" and eligible for Income Tax Exemption U/S 80G of the Income Tax Act .
7. **At the request of the Imm Past President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu thereafter conducted the Club Business :**
   a) She welcomed all members and guests .
   b) She then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 20th November, 2023 .
   c) Next Meeting of the Club would be held on Tuesday, 21st November, 2023 at 1.30 p.m. Speaker : Rtn Ashok Kumar Basu (AB4)
   d) There was no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 14th November, 2023 on account of Diwali Holiday .
8. At the request of IPP, Rtn. Roshni Gangly introduced Past President, Rtn. Sujata Pyne as the Chief Guest of that day.
9. At the request of the Past President, PP Rtn Sujata Pyne addressed the audience on "Unveiling the Divine Tapestry : Gods & Goddesses in Mythology."
10. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
11. On behalf of the Club, Past President handed over a memento to PP Rtn Sujata Pyne.
12. Sunshine Box collection Rs. 500/- with special Contribution from Rtn. Abhineet Gupta on that day .
13. On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Shampa Ghose offered the vote of thanks.
14. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Haarlemmermeer Schiphol, Netherlands RI Dist 1852
15. Meeting was adjourned at 2. 43 p.m.

Raj Kumar Agrawal
Imm. Past President

Sarvani Gooptu
Hony. Secretary

Published by Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu, Hony. Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta
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