



TUESDAY 30 January 2024

January is Vocational Services Month

104

# The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta  
R I Dist. 3291

First Published in 1925

Editor: Rtn. Ashok Basu (AB4)

Volume 91 No. 26

[rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com](mailto:rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com)

## Know Your Speaker



### Saurabh Thirani

*Your hands can heal you – An Introduction to Pranic Healing*

Saurabh Thirani is a Pranic Healer based in Kolkata. He is a Licensed Instructor and Certified Pranic Healer who has transformed the lives of thousands of people with his healing and coaching skills. For over 20 years, he has been practicing and teaching this spiritual technique that can help one overcome physical and mental health challenges. He has also authored and published research on Pranic Healing in peer-reviewed journals. Before he embarked on his journey as a full-time healer and coach, Saurabh had a successful career in the corporate world for 17 years. He also has an MBA from the prestigious XLRI Jamshedpur and is also a best-selling author.

Rotary  
Club of Calcutta



## Kodály-inspired Workshop January 18 2024 : AOS - New Generation; AOF – Supporting Education

On January 18th, 2024, the Youth Service Committee, organized an activity-oriented Kodály-Inspired Musical Workshop at Rotary Sadan. The workshop aimed to demonstrate the benefits of activity-based music education, including providing a scientific and sequential approach to learning music, comprehending information faster through engaging and enjoyable music lessons, improving concentration and fostering a positive attitude, reducing stress and anxiety, and improving coordination. A total of 129 students from classes VIII to XII and 42 teachers from 21 Bengali medium schools in Kolkata and its suburbs participated in this workshop. The event was a remarkable success, with enthusiastic participation. All participants received participation certificates. The program began with the national anthem followed by a welcome speech from Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee, Chair, Youth Services Committee. The Club President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt, addressed the audience, followed by a brief speech by PP Rtn Heena Gorsia, PDG Rajani Mukherjee, and Rtn. Hirak Ray. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Rtn Debjani Ghosh. This event wouldn't have been possible without the support of the President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt, Hony. Secretary, Rtn. Dr Sarvani Gooptu, PP Rtn. Heena Gorsia, Rtn. Hirak Ray, Rtn. Debjani Ghosh, Rtn. Anusua Das, Rtn. Sonia Dutt and R-Ann Sucharita Roychowdhury. Special mention must be given to Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar and the AMEC team for conducting the workshop with great diligence. It is imperative to emphasize the exceptional efforts of Surendranath Majumdar who provided unwavering support throughout the event, as well as the office staff of the Rotary Club of Calcutta.

**Reported by Saswati Mukherjee, Chair Youth**



CONTACT US

E-mail: [rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com](mailto:rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com)  
<https://rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org>

## 2nd Club Assembly 21 Jan. 2024 : AOS - Club

President Kanak Dutt, assisted by Hony. Secretary Sarvani Gooptu, convened the 2nd Club Assembly for the Rotary Year 2023-24, held at Rotary Sadan on 21st January, 2024 at 10 am. Around 20 Rotarians including Committee Chairpersons, Co-Chairpersons, Past Presidents, and Green Badgers attended the event.

NCLCL, Cultural Section and Computer Centre - Chairperson - Roshni Ganguly discussed the continuous upkeep of Library material, organisation of the cultural centre classes and conducting of the Computer and Spoken English Exams under NIELIT with official Certificate distribution. Cultural Section in charge Parama's tenure has been made permanent and salaries have been revised for other staff. The Children of the Cultural Section presented impressive programs on Independence Day and for Agomoni.

Community Service, RCC and Vocational Service - Chairperson Yogesh Dassani discussed Project Pranadhara-2, Clothes Distribution during Durga Puja in which importantly all the clothes were made by our own RCCs at Ranihat and Joygram. Rtn Yogesh thanked Rtns Arindam, Purnendu and Sujata for helping in organising material for the clothes. BYJUS Learning APP were distributed to 10 schools for 250 beneficiaries and Chair thanked donor Sonia Dutt.

Youth services update : Dr. Saswati Mukherjee reported on the program "Meeting the Challenges of Peace in the VUCA World" in which 48 children participated, and Conclave and Essay Contest on "Empowering Girls and Amplifying their Voices," involving nine Interact Clubs from RC Calcutta and Innerscity. Three new Interact Clubs were inducted : Sailendra Sircar Vidyalaya, Serampore Girls' High School, and Calcutta Boys' School. The initiative aimed to foster community responsibility and create lasting memories. Additionally, a Kodály-Inspired Musical Workshop showcased the benefits of activity-based music education at Rotary Sadan. The Youth Services Committee also collaborated with Wash and Ganga Abhiyan, Special Projects, and Children's Treat, with significant Interactor participation.

Membership update : Chairperson Rtn. Anusua Das reported 7 new member inductions and 11 resignations. Emphasis was placed on proposing quality members, with discussions on retention and engagement. A 2-minute talk by Green Badgers has been started to increase engagement. The Chairperson urged proposers and seconders to be involved in candidates' participation, suggesting mandatory attendance for the first 3 months to boost involvement. Highlighting Green Badgers' project attendance in The Chaka and weekly meetings was proposed to encourage their continued engagement.

Programme Committee Chair Rtn Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee reported that a galaxy of speakers has been invited for RWMs in the afternoon as well as at least 1 RWM in the evening with fellowship. In the second quarter, in the month of October 2023 we had a cultural program celebrating the festivals of Autumn and an Antakshari program with participation by our members and Rotary Anns. On 1st January 2024 we celebrated the 105th Charter Day where Prof. Sugata Bose came as the guest speaker. We also had live music performance on the lawns followed by fellowship n dinner.

Women's Empowerment - Chairperson - Shampa Ghose – reported a seminar on International Girl Child Day, on 'Empowering Girls' with special emphasis on Child Rights and Child Protection, followed by a panel discussion on Child Rights and Child Protection. The ongoing project with girls of Ektara NGO in collaboration with brand Prahnaaya, which is an international fashion brand, has garnered a lot of attention and praise from people and is reporting incomes Rs 8-10,000 per month. A similar initiative is underway with an NGO formed by girls of Calcutta Girls School. An initiative with Knexup aims at empowerment by leveraging domain expertise.

Special projects update : Chairperson Arindam Roychowdhury highlighted the success of Samarth Mela 1, including the distribution of 385 wheelchairs to individuals with disabilities and 835 school shoes to underprivileged children. A total of Rs 74,28,000/- was spent, with plans to repeat the event annually. Donors for the project include President Kanak Dutt, Rtn Shampa Ghose, CYP Purnendu Roychowdhury, PP Sujata Pyne, Rtn Abhijit Kolay, and Rtn Saurabh Khemani. Progress on the Rotary Blood Bank (HMC Rotary Centre) was showcased, with completed electrical, CCTV, partition room, false ceiling, and plumbing work. Rotarians were updated through visual presentations.

Health Care Committee report : In the absence of Chair Ayusmati, the Honorary Secretary presented the report. Children's Day on November 14th was marked by gifts and health check-ups for orphaned children at Samparc Home, with regular six-month check-ups conducted by Dr. Thakur. A Police Health Screening at Rotary Sadan served around 30 police officers. On World Disability Day, a vocational project was inaugurated at Deep Ranjani Foundation for lupus and acid attack survivors, and sewing machines and computers donated by Rtn Souryaveer Himatsingka and organized by CSR Chairperson, PP Rtn Sujata Pyne was distributed. An Adult Immunization Camp's second phase at Rotary Sadan administered vaccines to approximately 20 individuals for disease prevention.

Following the Health Committee presentation, Rtn Amit Ghosh commended the recent projects and camps and reflected on some of the past endeavours including cross-border cancer awareness programs, equitable treatment for paediatric patients from Bangladesh, paediatric surgery camps for underprivileged children, comprehensive thalassemia mapping, and eye camps under the Prevention of Blindness Campaign. He stressed the need for sustained efforts and follow-up spanning over a year or more for such initiatives. He supplied copies of Chaka write-ups outlining these cases to the President for review.

Wash and Ganga Abhiyan update : Chairperson Saumen Ray reported the completion of WASH 3 at RCC Duttapukur, with

plans to expand the project scope using saved funds. WASH 4 in Birbhum completed, while WASH 5 in Dara RCC chapter is complete, Krishnanagar RCC Chapter is underway, and the Birbhum chapter has begun. The Ganga Abhiyan saw a successful foreign team visit, identifying international partner clubs, with public support from Mayor Firhad Hakim. A joint interact program for ghat cleanliness was organized by the Youth Service committee. The Priyamvada Birla Diabetic Retinopathy Global Grant project is awaiting MOU finalization. The club has been invited to the London Peace Conference in February, showing interest in their Kashmir/Ladakh projects. Additionally, two Rotary Clubs from Brisbane and Adelaide, Australia, have been inducted into CCRC. Four committee meetings were held throughout the year, with minutes submitted to the Honorary Secretary.

Annual Children's Treat update : Chairperson Abhijit Kolay's report, presented by Rtn Yogesh Dassani, detailed the event held on December 10th, 2023, at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata, with 1200 children from 22 institutions and RCCs attending. Lt. General R.P. Kalita GOC-in-C Eastern Command was the Chief Guest, with a Military Band adding to the attraction. Approximately 50 Rotarians, their spouses, 40 Interactors & Teacher Coordinators, and 200 escorts and support staff were also present. Transportation was facilitated by 25 buses, including 18 from sponsored Interact schools, providing breakfast, lunch, ice cream, soft drinks, and health drinks to the children, along with gift bags and caps. Total expenses amounted to Rs. 10.36 lakhs, with Rs. 4.92 lakhs in cash donations and Rs. 5.44 lakhs contributed by the Rotary Children's Welfare Trust. He highlighted challenges faced, suggesting the need for increased member contributions to meet rising costs and considering reducing the number of participating children due to difficulties in securing free school buses.

Strategy : Chair Udit Mitra reported on the survey findings in which 48 members have given their responses. More responses are expected.

Green Badger Tapan Basu shared his thoughts on attending the Club Assembly and was impressed by all the work that was going on in Rotary Club of Calcutta.

President thanked all members for making it convenient to attend this important meeting and whole heartedly congratulated all committees for taking up important projects. The meeting was adjourned by President wishing all to be the inspiration and the absolute best for a great Rotary year 2023-24.

**Report by Hony. Secretary Sarvani Gooptu with inputs from all Committee Chairs**



## Awards rain again!! Rotary Year 2022 - 23

What a proud day for our Club. Our club has won 7 more awards for the year 22-23 at Abhinandan Part II held at Spring Club. This includes Outstanding President, Outstanding Secretary, First prize in TRF contribution, DG Citation, and others. This is in addition to the awards received in June last year.

*From PP Raj Kumar Agrawal*



## Republic Day 26 Jan. 2024

Rotary Club of Calcutta celebrated the Republic Day by unfurling the National Flag and singing the National Anthem by the President, Hony. Secretary and other Rotarians. It was followed by a fantastic and colourful cultural program performed by the children of NCLCL. The script reflected the importance of Republic Day, and the children elaborated the language, culture, music, dance of the different states of India through their performance concluding by "Mile Sur Mera Tumhara". The children performed yoga, song, dance, recitation and played guitar perfectly. All credit goes to our new Cultural Supervisor Parama accompanied and supported by all other teachers of NCLCL and of course the guardians who regularly allowed their children to come for rehearsal to present a picture-perfect program. The art exhibition reflected the super talents of these children. Special mention needs to be made of Anindita Das who is both a talented painter and dancer. NCLCL missed the Chairperson Rtn. Roshni Ganguly under whose guidance and support the entire program was executed. Food packets were distributed to all the participants. Special thanks for the light and sound which made the program perfect. It was a perfect teamwork of the participants, teachers, support staff and of course the President, Hony. Secretary and ever efficient and supportive Chairperson. Asrudi was remembered and missed but Parama maintained the standard of our Club. She is an ever smiling and very accommodative personality. Overall it was a very colourful afternoon. PP Haladhar Dey, PP Heena Gorsia, CYP, Purnendu Roychowdhury, Rajeswari Roychowdhury (guest), Rtn. Atin Sen, Rtn. Hirak Ray, Rtn. Ashok Basu 4, Rtn. Ann Meena Basu. Rtn. Anusuya Das, Rtn. Sashi Bhargava. Rtn. Kirit Patel, Rtn. Sanjib Basu, Green Badger Rtn. Sonia Dutt, Rtn. Shankar Ghosh and Rtn. Debjani Ghosh attended the program.

*Reported by Rtn. Debjani Ghosh, Co-Chair, NCLCL*



## WELCOME GREEN BADGER

### Deepa Bagla

*Financial Services - General*

**Date on induction :** 16th January, 2024

**Date of Birth :** 8th September, 1969

**Director :** Deepa Bagla Financial Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Century Tower, Room No. 304  
45, Shakespeare Sarani, Kolkata - 700 017

**Office :** 033 - 2283-3219 | **Mob :** 9830033372

**E-mail :** deepabagla08@gmail.com

**Residence :** Flat No. - 4 NW, 5, Queens Park, Kolkata-19

**Tel :** 2461 4242

**Wedding :** 04.02.1990 ; **Spouse :** Rtn. Ashish Kumar Bagla

**Hobbies :** Golf, Singing, Music and Dancing

**Spouse Hobbies :** Cricket, Golf and Travelling



## REPORTING &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ATTENDANCE REPORT (16.01.2024)

Total Members	:	240
Members Present	:	34
Exempted Members	:	67
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	2

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 6th February, 2024 at 1.30 pm Lunch at 1.00 pm  
Speaker : Ramyanshu Dutta on Generative AI innovating faster to reinvent customer experiences and applications.  
Mrs. Shakuntala Raha from RISAO office New Delhi will be present at the occasion.

## ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH - 2024

Annual Cricket Match followed by Fellowship & Lunch will be held on Sunday, 4th February, 2024 at 9.30 a.m. onwards at The Calcutta Club Ltd., A. J. C. Bose Road, Kolkata. Members interested in attending the Cricket Match and lunch are requested to register their name at the Club Office or Rtn. Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Chairperson, Programme (Mob. No. : 9830042610).



## ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes  
Rotary Club of Utrecht, Netherlands  
R. I. Dist. 1570



**Congratulations**  
Rtn. Bodhi Brata Das!!  
Another feather  
in your cap!!

## Birthdays

Ashok Kumar Basu ( AB4 )	1st Feb.
Dr. Rama Shanker Bhartia	1st Feb.
Satya Narayan Agarwala	4th Feb.
Prosanta Kumar Roy	5th Feb.
Ram Kumar Sharma	5th Feb.

*Wish you many happy returns of the day*

## Anniversaries

Raghunath Dey & R-Ann Debjani	30th Jan.
Ram Kumar Sharma & R-Ann Rashmi	31st Jan.
Ashish Kumar Bagla & Rtn. Deepa Bagla	4th Feb.
Priti Patel Mehrotra & Mr. Arvind Kumar	4th Feb.
Dr. Dilip Kumar Saha & R-Ann Manisha	4th Feb.
Amit Ghosh & R-Ann Soma	5th Feb.
Gitanjali Jolly & Mr. Harish Kumar	5th Feb.
Ruchika Majumdar & Mr. Surendranath	5th Feb.

## Reports and Photographs

- This year the Club has opened New RCC at Bally District of Hooghly Named "Bally Sujan Bandhu", handed over certificate to the representatives from the RCC at the Regular Weekly Meeting on 16th January, 2024.
- Under the leadership of Rtn. Saswati Mukherjee, Chairperson, Youth Service Committee, Club organised a Workshop on "Synergizing Music, Mind and Movement" on Thursday, 18th January 2024 between 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Rotary Sadan by Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar.
- Second Club Assembly of the Club was held on Sunday, 21st January, 2024 at Rotary Sadan.
- Republic Day was celebrated along with Painting Exhibition and Cultural programme by the Students of the Cultural Section on Friday, 26th January, 2024 at the Rotary Sadan.

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> February, 2024	Annual Cricket Match followed by fellowship and Lunch	10 a.m. at Calcutta Club Ltd. Registration: 9.30 a.m.
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Ramyanshu Dutta	At 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan ( 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Kaushik Ghosh on <i>Knexup Empowerment</i>	At 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan ( 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Rotary Oration along with Regular weekly Meeting Speaker: Dr Kunal Sarkar	At 6.30 p.m. followed by Fellowship and Dinner at 8 p.m. ( After the meeting ) Rotary Sadan ( Ground Floor)
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Dr Semanti Ghosh, Associate Editor, Ananda Bazar Patrika	At 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan ( 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor )

## MINUTES OF THE 4928th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 16th JANUARY, 2024 AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4928th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club.

1. National Anthem was led by Rtn. Anusua Das.
2. Minutes of the 4927th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 9th January, 2024 were confirmed.
3. President welcomed Mrs. Navpreet Arora, Founder and Chief Explorer – Fun on Streets as the Chief Guest on that day.
4. President also welcomed all Visiting Rotarians who attended the meeting on that day.
5. **President reported the following :**  
The Wash and Ganga Abhijan Committee and Youth Service Committee jointly organized a reduction of sources of pollution of Ganga Ghats (Kumartuli and Champatala Ghats) on Friday, 12th January, 2024. It was very successful programme, well attended and more than 75 school children and Teachers, District officials and many of our own Rotarians participated in the cleanliness drive by young minds.
6. **President announced the following :**
  - i) Under the leadership of Rtn. Saswati Mukherjee, Chairperson, Youth Service Committee a Workshop would be organised on Thursday, 18th January 2024 between 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Rotary Sadan on “Synergizing Music, Mind and Movement”. The workshop would be conducted by Rtn Ruchika Majumdar.
  - ii) Republic Day would be celebrated along with Painting Exhibition and Cultural programme by the Students of the Cultural Section of Rotary NCLCL on Friday, 26th January, 2024 at Rotary Sadan. The Flag hoisting would be held at 10 a.m. and members were requested to kindly attend with their families.
  - iii) President informed members that International Short Film Festival (IKSFF -2024) would be organized from 23-28th January and the Award ceremony in association with Rotary Club of Calcutta, (26th to 28th January, 2024) would be held at the Rotary Sadan. He requested interested members to join. For further details please contact Rtn. Partha Mukherjee.
  - iv) Annual Cricket Match (RC Calcutta XI vs Calcutta Club XI) would be held at Calcutta Club premises on Sunday, 4th February, 2024 10 a.m. onwards to be followed by fellowship and Lunch. Those who would like to attend and cheer our Rotary Team are requested to register their names at the Club Office or with Rtn. Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Chairperson, Programme Committee.
7. This year the Club has opened New RCC at Bally District of Hooghly Named “Bally Sujan Bandhu”. At the request of the President, Rtn. Yogesh Dassani, Chairman, RCC & Vocational Service Committee handed over the Certificate to the representatives from New RCC Bally Sujan Bandhu on that day.
8. At the request of the 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 29th January, 2024.
  - c) Next Regular Weekly Meeting would be held on Tuesday, 30th January, 2024 at 1.30 p.m. Speaker : Saurabh Thirani.
  - d) There would be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 23rd January, 2024 on account of Public Holiday (Netaji's Birthday).
  - e) The Second Club Assembly of the Club would be held on Sunday, 21st January, 2024 at 10.00 a.m. at Rotary Sadan followed by Breakfast. Registration 9.30 a.m. and she requested all members, especially PDGs, Past Presidents, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, Club Officials and New Members to kindly block the date and to join the important meeting. Committee Chairs are also requested to send their Committee activities reports during the second quarter of the Rotary year 2023-24 to herself or Club Office for the Second Club Assembly.
  - f) Seventh meeting of the Board of Directors (2023-24) of the Club will be held on Monday, 29th January, 2024 at 6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan and requested all members of the Board to make a note of it and attend.
9. At the request of the President, Rtn. Anand Sharma introduced his candidate Mrs Deepa Bagla. President then welcomed Mrs Deepa Bagla.  
At the request of the President, PP Rtn Prabhat K Rohatgi inducted Mrs Deepa Bagla as a member of the Club.
10. At the request of the President, Rtn Yogesh Dassani introduced Chief Guest, Mrs. Navpreet Arora.
11. At the request of the President, Mrs. Navpreet Arora addressed the audience on “Hidden Gems of Calcutta”.
12. On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Shampa Ghose offered the vote of thanks.
13. On behalf of the Club, President handed over memento to Mrs. Navpreet Arora.
14. Sunshine Box collection Rs. 1,500 /- with special contribution from Rtns. P. K. Rohatgi and Ashish Kumar Bagla on that day.
15. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta Park Point, India, R. I. Dist . 3291.
16. Meeting was adjourned at 2.40 p.m.

**Kanak Dutt**  
President

**Sarvani Gooptu**  
Hony. Secretary