



TUESDAY 29 AUGUST 2023

August is Membership and New Club Development Month

104

The Chaka

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SAIRA SHAH HALIM

Saira Shah Halim is an educator, writer, theatre personality, image and brand consultant, TedX speaker, a social and peace activist, and a free spirit.

Raised all over the country and in the Gulf, as an army officer's daughter, Saira started her corporate career which entailed graveyard shifts with some of the top MNCs and corporate houses in training, learning and development roles. Saira has metamorphosed as one of the more prominent social and gender activists of the country and spends her time taking up cudgels for society. Saira is known to voice her opinions vociferously and with perfect conviction on national television.

Saira is a part of Kolkata Swasthya Sankalp, a low-cost dialysis unit for the under-privileged. Her short film "Ek Khaas Admi", can be viewed on YouTube on NDTV Talkies. She has been felicitated with numerous awards for her humanitarian and social work.

She is also a popular culturist and litterateur known to ideate psychedelic programmes reviving lost art

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forms and is a regular speaker at literary festivals across the country. She was awarded the SAARC Women's award at Dhaka in 2019 for her contribution in the cultural, literary, and bilateral contribution to SAARC countries.

Saira is a columnist with India Today and writes on policy and governance besides being a full time Mom to two young girls.

Pranadhara – Rotary Sadan 19 Aug. 2023 : AOS Community; AOF Providing Clean Water



The inauguration of the Pranadhara Project (1st phase) for the Rotary Year 2023-24, under Water & Hygiene was done on 19th August 2023 at Rotary Sadan, Kolkata by our President Rtn. Kanak Dutt in the presence of our club members. Almost 20 Rotarians and Family members were present at the ceremony. This Project is Sponsored by our Rtn S. R



Goenka (Bengal Beverages).



We donated 44 Water Filter Units to 22 schools in Kolkata / Howrah and Hooghly districts. These Filters will provide clean drinking water to more than 20,300 Students for the next few years. Each Water Filter Machine also has a storage capacity. The water purifier gives the power of Copper; Zinc & Alkaline. Its Water has various health benefits for the human body.

Each Machine is Priced at 14,990/- . Total cost is Rs 6,59,560/-

(Reported by Community Chair Yogesh Dassani)

Women's Empowerment Workshop : Rotary Sadan 19 Aug. 2023 – AOS Community; AOF Saving Mothers and Children

The Women empowerment Committee had held an event with 15 girls schools on 19.08.2023 when rights of women specially POCSO and POSH were discussed by Rtn. Debjani Ghosh,

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Co-Chair of the Committee. It was followed by an interactive session when students came up with some vital problems and issues which they face but are unable to communicate to anyone. This successful event was attended by the President, Hony. Secretary, PP Haladhar Dey, PP Heena Gorsia, Vice President Debnath Chattopadhyay and Rtn Sonia Dutt. The teachers were equally excited to attend such a unique program which is generally not discussed in Schools. The teachers requested to have a repeat program in their individual schools.

(Reported by Chair Debjani Ghosh)

Fibroscan Session – AOS Club; AOF Fighting Disease – Rotary Sadan – 20Aug. 2023



This session was conducted by the Healthcare Committee for Rotarians only. Starting at sharp at 8 am, a total of 10 members were scanned. Each session was for a duration of 2-5 minutes. Reports were handed over to the respective members. Rtn Debjani Ghosh sponsored the refreshments for all the participants. Our thanks to her.

(Reported by Healthcare Chair Ayusmati Thakur)



Rotary Club of Billericay Mayflower, U.K. Welcomes Rotary Club Of Calcutta

Date : 9 August 2023



DG 1240 David Wills, President Billericay Mayflower Barry Fagg, Secretary Yvonne Kyndt, PE Alistair Moulds, IPP Mark Chambers, PP Rita Dasgupta, and many leaders welcomed PP Saumen Ray and exchanged Flags. They introduced Saumen Ray as : "Rtn Saumen Ray from Calcutta Rotary Club-104 yrs. old, is visiting our Club today for during the DG visit meeting, as a guest speaker on the Ganga Abhiyan project, and he will inform us about Environment projects that they are doing at present. Saumen is involved with Kids Out UK as a Key Government Worker and other Rotary projects, and he has written books for Rotary". PP Sunando Sen of Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City introduced Rotary Club of Calcutta to Billericay Mayflower. The Ganga Abhiyan project was presented, and President Barry commented - "Taking on a major river clear up for the benefit of the communities along its banks is a real challenge which your Club is demonstrating can be achieved. Keep going! For a Rotary Club or a District to undertake such a vast project is

unheard of and please convey our best wishes to the team". DG 1240 David Wills was very supportive and wishes to observe the project with interest. Many copies of the books "Managing Expectation Success Stories" and "Spirituality Today", proceeds from which go to women's and childrens' projects, were sold. The incoming Treasurer Ganesh suggested there may be a scope to support the project. It is likely that the club may visit us next year Kolkata.

(Saumen Ray Club Chair - WASH and Ganga Abhiyan)

WASH 5 Global Grant – AOS: Community; AOF: Providing Clean Water Sanitation and Hygiene



Krishnanagar RCC - All four bore wells and ten toilets are complete. Ten more toilets to be constructed.

(Reported by Saumen Ray Chair, WASH and Ganga Abhiyan)



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Appeals for Support

General Appeal from President Kanak Dutt

My earnest appeal to all fellow members – Please donate at least Rs 20000 for noble causes of our different club projects. It will be a great gesture for the underprivileged. I hope all my Rotarian friends will accept my earnest appeal. Please donate to Rotary Club Of Calcutta Welfare Trust. Benefit of deduction is available under Sec 80G of The Income Tax Act. Donors will be acknowledged in the Chaka. I sincerely solicit Members' assistance.

Donors : Rajeev Paralikar, Kamala Devi Dalmia Charitable Trust, Arora Matthey Limited, Kothari Hosiery Factory Pvt. Ltd., Seth Balkrishan Poddar Charitable Trust

Siksha Labh

Siksha Labh is a project where direct impact goes on to beneficiaries. It is not only creating an impact in the society, but directly to the students, creating a future. Requesting all our members to help our Community Service Chairman to reach a goal of 12000 beneficiaries.

Donors : President Kanak Dutt, Kirit Patel, AB4, Dr Sukumar Mukherjee, Dr Saswati Mukherjee, Ashis Bagla, Deepa Bagla.

Blood Bank

Please donate generously. While we would expect each member to donate at least US \$100 for this Presidential Global Grant Project, members are free to exhibit generosity and commit higher amounts.

Donors : Arindam Roy Chowdhury, Dr. Sourabh Khemani, Sonal Worah-100 PP Nilima Joshi, HIRAK SEN, B.K.Dalmia, Kirit Patel, PP Abhijit Kolay, AB4, PP Saumen Ray, Shipra Roy Chowdhury (Spouse of RID Anirudha Roychowdhury), Roshni Ganguly, Hony. Secretary Sarvani Gooptu, PP Heena Gorsia, HIRAK RAY, Udit Mitra, Shaswati Roy Chowdhury, PP Debasish Mitra, Atindra Nath Sen, Shailendra Gupta, Anand V Bhuwalka, Anita Jain, Dr Sanjay Kumar, Dr Jayanta Roy, Krishna Kolay, Pranab Sarkar, Ranjita Mazumder, Sonia Dutt, CYP Purnendu RC, Dr Abhrajit Ray, Dr Nandini Ray, PE Subrata De, Pritpal Chauhan, Dr. Sukalyan Purkasthya, Dina Dutta Sarkar.

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (22.08.2023)

Total Members	:	240
Members Present	:	27
Exempted Members	:	68
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	11



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club Wuse Central, Nigeria
R. I. Dist. 9130

Birthdays

Pradyot Banerjee	31st Aug.
Dr. Indrani Lodh	1st Sept.
Dr. Harsh Vardhan Agrawal	1st Sept.
Dr. Saswati Mukherjee	1st Sept.
Kunal Dalmia	2nd Sept.
Dr. Ajay Agarwal	4th Sept.
Biswajit Datta	4th Sept.

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Forthcoming Meetings / Events

Day & Date	Programmes	Project & Timing
Tuesday, 5th September, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting	Teacher's Day celebration at 6 p.m. followed by Dinner
Tuesday, 12th September, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting	At 1.30 p.m. with Lunch at 1 pm
Tuesday, 19th September, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting	At 6.30 p.m., Speaker : Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das, followed by Dinner
Tuesday, 26th September, 2023	Foundation Day celebration along with Regular Weekly Meeting	At 6.30 p.m. followed by Fellowship and Dinner

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 5th September, 2023 at 6 p.m, followed by dinner, **Programme** : Teacher's Day celebration

BOARD MEETING

i) **On 20th August, 2023 Health Care Committee organised Non-Invasive Liver test** - Fibro scan at Rotary Sadan for Rotarians of the club, under the leadership of Rtn. Dr. Ayusmati Thakur.

ii) **Saturday 26th August, 2023** - Career Counselling by Dr Aparna Khastagir was organised at Lake School for Girls at 11.30 a.m. The programme initiative was by the Women's Empowerment Committee under the leadership of Rtn. Shampa Ghose.

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Family of Rotary

Review of Secretary Sarvani Gooptu's Book "Knowing Asia, Being Asian" in ABP of 26 Aug. 2023. Many Compliments! Our pride!!



MINUTES OF THE 4910th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 22nd AUGUST, 2023 AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

- President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4910th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
- National Anthem was led by Rtn Ruchika Majumdar.
- Minutes of the 4909th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 12th August, 2023 were confirmed.
- President welcomed Ms. Sreemoyee Piu Kundu, Author and Lifestyle Journalist as the Chief Guest on that day.
- President then welcomed Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
- President reported the following :**
 - President informed members of the sad demise of Rtn Deepak Agarwala's mother on 17th August, 2023 and expressed deepest condolences to the bereaved family on behalf of the Club. May her soul rest in peace.
 - Independence Day was celebrated on last Tuesday, 15th August, 2023 at Rotary Sadan. At 10.00 a.m. Art Exhibition was inaugurated followed by Cultural Programme by the students of the Cultural Section was held at the Rotary Sadan auditorium. The programme was organised by the NCLCL Committee under the leadership of Rtn. Roshni Ganguly. Flag hoisting was at 11 am in the presence of Respected Dist. Governor Rtn Hira Lal Yadav and Rotarians and district officials.
 - "ATMANIRBHAR" Programme under the Special Projects Committee led by Rtn. Arindam Roychoudhury was inaugurated on 15th August, 2023 by PRIP Rtn Sekhar Mehta and RID Rtn Aniruddha Roychoudhury. Project included inauguration of 10 numbers of Vocational Centers to be launched in and around Kolkata starting with 3 Vocations: Sewing / Computer Education and Adult Literacy. Rtn Krishna Kumar Kothari has sponsored 20 Sewing Machines and 10 Computers for the Vocational Centers. On behalf of the Club, President thanked Rtn. Kothari for his donation.
 - Holistic Education in Schools Phase 1 was organized by Literacy Committee under the leadership of the Chairperson, Rtn Sriranjani Joshi on 16th August, 2023 at Balia Nafar Chandra Balika Vidyalaya at Garia. At the request of the President, Rtn Sriranjani Joshi gave a report on the project.
 - "Pranadhara" Project for donation of 45 pcs Clean Drinking Water Machines to 22 Schools was inaugurated on Saturday, 19th August, 2023 at Rotary Sadan at 11 a.m. The Project was a joint initiative by the Special Projects Committee and Community Service, RCC and Vocational Service Committee under the Chairpersons Rtn Arindam Roychoudhury and Rtn Yogesh Dassani. Total Cost of the project sponsored by Rtn. Shiv Ratan Goenka. On behalf of the Club, President thanked Rtn. Goenka for his donation.
 - Rtn Debjani Ghosh, Co-Chair Women's Empowerment Committee organized a workshop of Legal Awareness with Girl School Children on 19th August at 12 p.m. onwards at Rotary Sadan as a part of the Women's Empowerment Committee.
- On 20th August, 2023 Health Care Committee under the leadership of Rtn. Dr. Ayushmati Thakur organized Non-Invasive Liver test- fibro scan at Rotary Sadan from 8-10am.
- President announced the following :**
 - Rtn. B. K. Nahata has donated Rs. 3,25,000/- to institute a new Endowment "Subhakaran Ginni Debi Nahata Memorial Endowment Awards" for providing Clean drinking water to the Community through Pranadhara Project and other similar projects of Community Service. On behalf of the Club President thanked Rtn. Nahata for his donation.
 - On Saturday 26th August, 2023 - Career Counselling by Dr Aparna Khastagir for girls would be organised at Lake School for Girls at 11.30 a.m. The programme would be initiated by the Women's Empowerment Committee under the leadership of Rtn. Shampa Ghose. Members were requested to be present.
- At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu thereafter conducted the Club Business :**
 - She welcomed all members and guests.
 - She then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 28th August, 2023
 - Next Weekly Meeting is on Tuesday, 29th August, 2023 at 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan. Speaker : Saira Shah Halim
 - Second meeting of the Board of Directors (2023-24) of the Club would be held on Monday 28th August, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan and all Board members were requested to make a note it and attend.
- At the request of the President, Rtn. Dr. Ayushmati Thakur introduced Ms. Sreemoyee Piu Kundu, the Chief Guest of that day. The President then requested Ms Sreemoyee Piu Kundu to address the audience on "Singlehood Creating Identity."
- Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
- On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Suksham Singh offered the vote of thanks.
- On behalf of the Club, President handed over a memento to Ms. Sreemoyee Piu Kundu.
- Sunshine Box collection Rs. 500/- with special contribution from PP Rtn V. K. Somany.
- The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Guwahati, India, R.I. Dist. 3240.
- Meeting was adjourned at 2.43 p.m.

Kanak Dutt
President

Sarvani Gooptu
Hony. Secretary

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

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