

Rotary

R I District 3291



ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA UNIVERSE

বার্তা

-The Message

Club No - 89711 • Charter Date - 12th November, 2018

RI President : Rtn. Francesco Arezzo
President : Rtn. Susmita Sarkar

Dist. Governor : Rtn. Ramendu Homchaudhuri
Secretary : Rtn. Ashmita Dey

VOLUME : 8

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ISSUE - 1

July is New Leadership Month

Know the R I President



Francesco Arezzo, a member of the Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy, has been selected by the Board of Directors to become Rotary International's president for 2025-26. Arezzo will become president on 1 July.

The Board conducted a special session following the unexpected resignation of RI President-elect Mário César Martins de Camargo on 8 June. Guided by the RI code and policies, the Board selected the new president-elect from a pool of candidates who were considered by the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in August 2023.

The 2025-26 presidential message, announced at the 2025 Rotary International Assembly in February, will remain Unite for Good, which calls on Rotary members to be a force for unity in a world increasingly divided by politics, geography, and ideology. Through service projects, Rotary brings together people of every background — across races, religions, and professions — in a shared mission to do good in their communities.

Arezzo is an orthodontist in private practice. He is active internationally as a member of the Italian, European, and American orthodontics associations. He is vice president of the National Association of Italian Dentists for the province of Ragusa and was the founder and head for seven years of the delegation for Ragusa of the National Trust for Italy. He is a Knight of Honor and Devotion in Obedience within the Sovereign Order of Malta. A Rotary member for more than 30 years, Arezzo has served as vice chair of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee and as RI director, learning facilitator, and as district conference presidential representative. Arezzo is a Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation. He is married to Anna Maria Criscione, an entrepreneur in the tourism field. They have two children.

Message from District Governor



Dear Rotarians,

It is with great pride and heartfelt warmth that I extend my congratulations to the incoming President, Secretary, and the newly installed team of Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe.

A club installation is not merely a ceremonial transition; it is a reaffirmation of our commitment to Service Above Self. As each new team takes charge, it carries forward the legacy of leadership, fellowship, and impactful service. I urge you to dream boldly, act compassionately, and lead inclusively — ensuring that your club becomes a lighthouse of hope and change in your community.

Let us embrace innovation while cherishing Rotary's timeless values. Work hand-in-hand with your members, reach out to the youth, collaborate with partners, and most importantly — listen to your community. The world

needs Rotary now more than ever.

Wishing you a successful and meaningful Rotary year ahead

Yours in Rotary,

Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri

District Governor, RID 3291

Message from President



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

It is with great humility and enthusiasm that I step into the role of President of our esteemed club. I begin this journey with a deep sense of responsibility and a strong desire to build on the legacy of service we've all nurtured together.

In the coming year, I seek your wholehearted support and participation as we embark on impactful initiatives that align with Rotary's core values. My primary focus will be on Youth Service—empowering young minds through education, leadership development, and meaningful engagement, ensuring they become confident, compassionate leaders of tomorrow.

To strengthen Rotary's visibility and promote the idea of "One Rotary, One Image", we will actively pursue projects under the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) umbrella. Clean water initiatives and hygiene awareness programs will serve as enduring symbols of Rotary's presence in our communities.

Thalassemia awareness and prevention will continue to be one of our top priorities. Through school outreach and community sensitization, we will strive to educate more families and students about this serious health concern.

We will also direct our efforts toward the health and well-being of the girl child, particularly those between the ages of 9 and 14, by spreading awareness about cervical cancer and the importance of early vaccination for long-term protection.

These are just a few of the many aspirations we hold for the year ahead. With unity, dedication, and the true Rotary spirit, I am confident that we will achieve great milestones and bring lasting change to the lives we touch.

Let us serve together, lead with purpose, and uphold the values that make Rotary a beacon of hope and compassion.

Yours in Rotary,

Rtn. Susmita Sarkar, PHF

President

Message from IPP



Heartfelt gratitude to all my club members for their extensive support, commitment & dedication during my tenure 2024-25.

This year's slogan *Magic of Rotary* really proved magic for me, all projects & accomplishments happened magically.

We did almost 40 projects under 7-Focus areas of RI like impactful health, blood donation camps, youth empowerment projects initiatives focused on women's health, eye care, Thalassemia awareness alongwith continued focus on education. Our Interact Clubs and our RCC really played a vibrant role in spreading awareness on girl safety and environmental sustainability. Each initiative reflected our collective spirit of "Service Above Self."

I pass on the baton but remain committed to our shared vision and quite confident that the spirit of service will continue to grow stronger in the hands of the new able leadership.

Let us continue to dream big, act with purpose, and serve with heart. We have to workout good sustainable & fund raising projects. Better participation from all members & supportive approach will not only strengthen the hands of our new team but also make our club prominent.

It is well said - coming together is beginning, keeping together is progress and working together is success.

Let us make better world for our next generations.

Best wishes to incumbent Rtn. Susmita Sarkar.

Rtn. Vikas Varshneya

Imm. Past President

Club Projects 2024 - 25

Fun Day at Zoo



On 28th February 2025, students, parents, and teachers of Anirban Pathabhaban had a memorable day at the Alipore Zoological Gardens, organized by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe. The entire group, along with the Rotary Club members, gathered at Sehai near the school, where a fully pre-booked bus awaited to take them to the zoo. Upon reaching the zoo, special arrangements were made to ensure that the children could explore and enjoy the various exhibits at their own pace. The excitement was palpable as everyone discovered the wonders of the animal kingdom. After the exploration, a delicious lunch was served to the children, parents, teachers, and Rotary Club members. It was a rare and heart-warming occasion where parents accompanied their children, making the experience even more special. The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe went above and beyond, providing lunch for everyone, making it a day to remember for all involved.

Club Annual Picnic



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized its annual club picnic on 29th December 2024 at Paulmech Infrastructure Pvt.Ltd., Kadambagachi Ghosh Para, North 24 Parganas bringing together members and their families for a day filled with fun, laughter, and camaraderie. Set against the backdrop of lush greenery and pleasant weather, the event featured a variety of activities including games, music, and delicious food. Members and their families gathered at a picturesque location to enjoy a day filled with engaging activities, hearty laughter, and shared moments. It was a wonderful occasion for Rotarians to connect beyond their regular meetings, fostering deeper relationships and shared memories. The picnic encapsulated the essence of fellowship, leaving everyone with cherished experiences and a renewed sense of camaraderie. The picnic provided a perfect opportunity for everyone to unwind and strengthen their bonds while reinforcing the Rotary spirit of friendship and service.

Blood Donation Camp



On 23rd March 2025, Shibpur Pragati Sangha, in collaboration with **RC Calcutta Universe**, organized a **Blood Donation Camp** to address the critical blood shortage during the summer months. The event was held at **Sangha Maidan, 7, Nabagopal Mukherjee Lane, Shibpur, Howrah**.

The camp was supported by our **Blood Collection Partner, Ashok Laboratories**, ensuring a seamless process and high standards of safety. This initiative reflects our commitment to saving lives and fostering community health. We achieved an incredible feat of 52 donors, including a **RARE O+ve donor**!

Creative Expressions – A Inter District Project



The Rotary Inter-District Project "Creative Expressions," held on the 11th and 12th of November 2024 in Darjeeling, was a collaborative initiative between Districts 3240 and 3291. Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe and Rotary Club of Darjeeling Himalayas collaborated with Narayana School Kalimpong to organize the event at The Hayden Hall, Darjeeling. On the first day, the project focused on a blanket distribution camp, providing warmth and support to underprivileged individuals ahead of the winter season. Following this, a "Sit and Draw" competition was held, showcasing the artistic talents of students from Narayana School, Kalimpong and West Point School, Darjeeling. The day concluded with a vibrant cultural program by the School students, celebrating local heritage and creativity. On the second day, students from West Point School, Darjeeling took center stage in a fashion show, proudly displaying traditional attire and celebrating the beauty of local culture. This event strengthened community bonds and underscored Rotary's commitment to social service and cultural appreciation in the region.

Empowering Youth : Exploring Opportunities with the Agnipath Scheme



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized an engaging lecture for the students of Dream Institute of Technology and Dream Private Industrial Training Institute as part of its Youth Service initiative on 25th April 2025 from 10.30 a.m. The session featured a presentation by Major Suhas, Subedar Harjit Singh and Agniveer Yaswanth Verma of 821 Light Regiment of the Indian Army, who provided an in-depth overview of the Agnipath Scheme, a groundbreaking recruitment program for aspiring young individuals. The attendees, aged 17 to 21 years, gained valuable insights into the scheme's objectives, benefits, and the unique opportunity it offers to serve the nation as Agniveers. This interactive session not only informed the students about career opportunities in the armed forces but also inspired them with stories of discipline, patriotism, and dedication, aligning with Rotary's mission of empowering youth through meaningful initiatives.

Foundation of Leadership-Charter Handover Ceremony



The Charter Handover Ceremony for five Interact Clubs of Narayana Schools — Kalyani Expressway, Sonarpur, Maheshtala, Park Circus, and New Town — was held on **31st January 2025** at the Narayana School Maheshtala campus. The event was graced by several dignitaries, including the **Past District Governor of Rotary District 3291**, the **District Interact Chair**, and other district officials. Members of the sponsoring club, the **Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe**, were present alongside students, Interact Club Coordinators, and other esteemed guests.

This momentous occasion marked the beginning of an exciting journey for the young leaders of the Interact Clubs, as they embarked on a path of service and community building under the guidance of Rotary International to empower young individuals to develop leadership skills, foster a sense of responsibility, and engage in meaningful community service.

General Health Check Up Camp



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe, in partnership with the Shiva Jyoti Foundation, organized a General Health Check-Up Camp, to be conducted by Apollo Clinic (Barrackpur unit) on 16th January 2025 at Kankinara, North 24 Parganas. The camp aimed to provide accessible healthcare services to the local community, ensuring early detection and prevention of health issues. A team of experienced doctors and healthcare professionals conducted comprehensive health screenings, including blood pressure monitoring, blood sugar tests, and general consultations. Medicines and advice on maintaining a healthy lifestyle was also provided free of cost. The initiative received an overwhelming response from about 180 residents, reflecting the pressing need for community-focused healthcare interventions. This collaborative effort underscores the commitment to promoting wellness and improving the quality of life in underserved areas.

Installation of 3 Smart Television sets in Anirban Pathabhawan Classrooms to Enhance Teaching and Learning



The installation of smart television sets in the classrooms of Anirban Pathabhawan on 4th November 2024 is a valuable step toward enhancing the learning experience for students. These TVs serve as interactive teaching aids, allowing teachers to incorporate engaging visual content that can make complex concepts easier to understand. Educational videos, interactive lessons, and animated stories displayed on the screens capture students' attention, boosting their interest and retention. For young learners, visual learning significantly aids in comprehension, making subjects like science, language, and math more accessible and enjoyable. The TVs also facilitate exposure to digital literacy from an early age, which is essential in today's technology-driven world. Overall, this initiative supports a more dynamic, inclusive, and effective learning environment that can benefit the students' academic development.

Pathways to Success : Job Fair 2025



On 26th March 2025, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe, in association with Dream Private Industrial Training Institute, organized a highly successful Job Fair at the institute's campus in Samali, Thakurpukur, Kolkata-700104, aligning with Rotary's focus area of Youth Service. The event saw participation from 8 renowned companies namely Vision Infotech, Indo-MIM, Krishna Maruti Ltd., Ventury

Moulding Pvt. Ltd., Garuda Power Pvt. Ltd., Tufwud Doors and Accessories Pvt. Ltd., Motherson Sumi Wiring India Limited and MRF Ltd. offering a wide range of career opportunities to aspiring job seekers. Around 110 students from all over West Bengal actively participated in the on-spot interview sessions, engaging with recruiters and confidently showcasing their skills. This initiative proved to be an excellent platform for bridging the gap between talent and industry requirements, fostering professional growth, and empowering youth through impactful employment opportunities.

Nutritious Food Distribution for Girls at Save the Children Home Thakurpukur : Supporting Health and Growth



On 2nd November 2024 distribution of nutritious food items among the girl children at Save the Children Home, Thakurpukur, took place. It was a significant step toward supporting their health and well-being. Club members ensured that each child received balanced food items rich in essential nutrients, including. This initiative focused on improving the girls' overall nutritional intake, aiming to promote better growth, energy, and immunity. By prioritizing healthy foods, the program not only addressed immediate hunger but also contributed to long-term health, supporting the girls' physical and cognitive development in a holistic way. On this occasion the joyful dance and song performances by the Girls at Save the Children Home was very impressive.

Pranic Healing Session For Thalassaemia Children At Kolkata Police Hospital



A Pranic Healing Session was organized by Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe at Kolkata Police Hospital on 14th August 2024 for children affected by thalassemia. The session offered a complementary approach to support their health and well-being. Pranic Healing, a form of energy healing, aims to balance and harmonize the body's energy, promoting physical and emotional wellness. During the session, Our Club's Chairperson Wellness and

Therapy Rtn. Payal Varma used specific techniques to cleanse and energize the children's energy fields, potentially alleviating symptoms and enhancing their overall vitality. This holistic approach provided a sense of calm and relaxation, to the children to cope with the challenges of thalassemia. On this occasion food items and National Flag badges was distributed amongst the Children and the care givers of the Hospital.

Celebrating Togetherness : Hilsa Festival Lunch Fellowship



Our Club organized a fellowship Lunch at Samponna Café, Alipore on 1st September 2024 Celebrating Ilish, the most popular fish of Bengal it was an unforgettable experience. The members tried various mouth-watering dishes prepared with Hilsa fish, from the classic "Ilish Bhaja" (fried hilsa) to the fragrant "Ilish Maacher Jhol" (hilsa curry), "Ilish Bhapa" (steamed hilsa) etc. each dish highlighting

its distinct taste. The atmosphere was vibrant and filled with the warmth of togetherness as members accompanied by their families gathered to celebrate the much-anticipated event. The air was filled with laughter and lively conversations, as everyone savoured the food, shared stories.



Rickshaws for Livelihoods



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe, under the support and guidance of Rotary International District 3291, District Grant No.2576991, proudly organized a rickshaw van distribution event on 26th May 2025 at Thakurpukur, Kolkata. As part of its commitment to promoting sustainable livelihood, the club distributed five rickshaw vans to selected beneficiaries, empowering them with a means of independent income generation. This impactful initiative stands as a testament to Rotary's mission of service through community support and vocational upliftment. The event concluded on a high note of hope and encouragement, reflecting Rotary's vision of "Service above Self" and its ongoing efforts to empower lives through actionable compassion.

Rotary India Literacy Mission



Our Club participated in Rotary India Literacy Mission by contributing Rupees One Lac Forty Thousand. The amount was paid by Rtn. Dr. Sailen Bhowmick and Rtn. Susmita Sarkar. Our Club sponsored 20 Vidya Centres for 800 non-literate adults. The Project cost is Rupees Two Lacs Eighty Thousand as RILM will match the amount as paid by our Club. The amount was handed over to the Chairman Literacy Mission Past District Governor Prabir Chatterjee on 20.7.2024 on the occasion of our 7th Installation Ceremony "Nabadiganta".

Signing of Mou With Narayana Group of Schools



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the

Narayana Group of Schools for a period of four years to establish Social Service Clubs across 23 Narayana schools throughout West Bengal. This partnership aims to instill a sense of community service and social responsibility among students by engaging them in various charitable and volunteer activities.

The signing ceremony was followed by a press meet, where representatives from both organizations highlighted the significance of this collaboration. They emphasized the potential of these Social Service Clubs to create a positive impact in local communities and foster a culture of empathy and leadership among young students.

The initiative is expected to provide students with hands-on opportunities to participate in community service projects, furthering the mission of both the Rotary Club and the Narayana Group to contribute meaningfully to society.

Vision For All Eye Checkup Camp



The 31st Vision for All Free Eye Camp was held at Rania Kultukari High School in Rania, Bakhrahat, South 24 Parganas on 7th April, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Calcutta as part of a Global Grant project. The camp aims to benefit around 200 villagers from Rania and its surrounding areas. A Eye check-up camp, was staffed by experienced doctors and trained technicians. In addition to providing free eyeglasses to that in need, the camp offered freecataract surgeries for individuals requiring more immediate care. This initiative seeks to improve

the eye health and overall well-being of the community by making essential eye care services easily accessible. Number of patients registered 186, Number of patients provided with free spectacles 147 and Number of patients registered for Cataract Surgery is 13.

Interact Club Formation



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe marked a remarkable milestone with the incorporation of five Interact Clubs in a single event, showcasing its dedication to nurturing youth involvement in social service. This exceptional achievement took place on 31st January 2025 at the Narayana School Maheshtala campus, where Interact Clubs from five Narayana School branches — Kalyani Expressway, Sonarpur, Maheshtala, Park Circus, and New Town — were officially inducted. This historic initiative highlights the club's unwavering commitment to empowering young minds and fostering a spirit of community service, leadership, and civic responsibility among students. The establishment of Interact Clubs by a Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe plays a vital role in empowering youth and fostering a culture of service and leadership among students aged 12 to 18. These clubs serve as a platform for young individuals to develop essential life skills, such as communication, teamwork, and project management, through hands-on involvement.

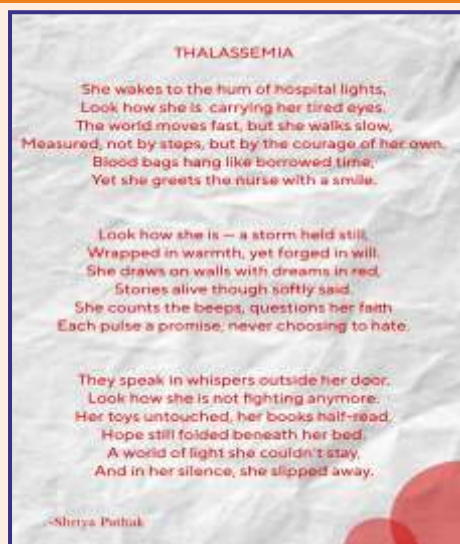
Board Members RY 2025-26

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| President | Susmita Sarkar |
| Vice President | Soumitra Chakraborty |
| Secretary | Ashmita Dey |
| Treasurer | Suchitra Ghose |
| IPP | Vikas Varshneya |
| Executive Secretary | Dr. Sailen Bhowmick |
| Joint Secretary | Pratay Das |
| Sgt at Arms | Nirmal Sarkar |

Chair Persons

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Chair Club Administration | Susmita Sarkar |
| Chair Club Community Service | Vikas Varshneya |
| Chair Interact Club | Suchitra Ghose |
| Chair Club Service Projects | Soumitra Chakraborty |
| Chair Foundation | Dr. Sailen Bhowmick |
| Chair Club TRF and CSR | Shanti Ranjan Paul |
| Chair Club Public Image | Dahlia Chakraborty |
| Co Chair Club Public Image | Pai Addy Kundu |
| Chair Club Medical | Dr. Tapan Pal |
| Chair Club Literacy | Priyanka Mukherjee |
| Club Internet Communication Officer | Pratay Das |
| Chair Club Learning Facilitator | Uttiya Sarkar |

Strike off Thalassemia – Words from our Interactors



Thalassemia

Slogans:

1. Thalassemia steals iron – but not hope. Donate blood and keep it alive.
2. Blood isn't made in labs. It's made in you. Share it and save a life.
3. Awareness begins with a test– prevent Thalassemia, protect generations.

Samridhi pandey
Class 11

(Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch)

SLOGAN FOR THALASSEMIA

"Be a hero, donate blood. Help those battling Thalassaemia"

"In the world full of human beings be a human who follows the path of humanity donate blood and save the thalassaemia people who are fighting with the disease for their life"

Poem for thalassaemia :-

In the bodies strong, a battle's fought
With red blood cells, a life is caught.
Thalassaemia whisper a genetic plea.
For awareness, support, and victory.
Let the knowledge flow, like crimson Tide,
And hearts unite, with nowhere to hide .
For every life, a precious thung,
Let hope and care, forever sing.
Thank you

Simran Kumari

Class 9C

Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch

A Drop of Hope

A tiny drop, a test so small,
Can save a life, can help them all.
Thalassaemia's not the end,
With love and care, we can defend.

Donate, support, spread the word,
Let every voice of hope be heard.
Together we can change the way,
And give someone a brighter day.

Swarali Sushil Bhamare

Class: 9C

Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch

HOW THALASSEMIA AFFECTED MADHURITA'S LIFE

Madhurita was born to parents of Middle Class family, a population with a higher prevalence of thalassaemia. Symptoms emerged early, with severe fatigue and pallor noticed by her pediatrician during a routine checkup. Blood tests confirmed beta-thalassaemia major, revealing two mutated beta-globin genes, which severely impaired her body's ability to produce functional hemoglobin. This diagnosis meant Sarah would require lifelong medical management, including regular blood transfusions and iron chelation therapy to prevent organ damage from iron overload.

Madhurita's diagnosis came through a complete blood count (CBC) and hemoglobin electrophoresis, which showed low hemoglobin levels and abnormal red blood cells. By age two, she began experiencing symptoms like weakness, jaundice, and delayed growth, typical of beta-thalassaemia major. Her parents were informed that without treatment, complications such as heart failure, liver damage, and bone deformities could significantly shorten her life expectancy. The family was referred to a hematologist, who outlined a treatment plan involving blood transfusions every two to four weeks.

The early years were overwhelming for Madhurita's family. Her parents struggled with the emotional toll of managing a chronic illness, and frequent hospital visits disrupted their daily lives. She recalls feeling different from other children, as her condition limited her ability to participate in vigorous physical activities.

Madhurita's treatment primarily consists of regular blood transfusions to maintain healthy red blood cell levels. These transfusions, administered every three weeks, take several hours and require careful monitoring to avoid infections or transfusion-related complications. To manage iron overload—a common issue due to frequent transfusions—she takes deferasirox, an oral iron chelation medication, to remove excess iron and protect her heart and liver. She also takes folic acid supplements to support red blood cell production.

In her teens, Madhurita explored the possibility of a hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT), a potentially curative option. However, finding a fully compatible donor was challenging, as only about 20% of patients have a suitable family member or unrelated donor. After discussions with her medical team, she decided against the procedure due to risks like graft-versus-host disease and the need for intensive chemotherapy. Instead, she continues with conventional treatments and stays updated on emerging therapies, such as gene therapy, which could one day reduce her reliance on transfusions.

Rinisha Saha

Class - XII HUMANITIES (Narayana School, Kalyani Express Branch)

Ragini's silent struggle

Ragini, is an exceptionally bright and intelligent adolescent, encounters significant challenges in articulating the reasons for her frequent absences from school to her peers and teachers. The underlying cause of her absences is that she undergoes blood transfusions on those days, as she is diagnosed with thalassaemia major. Thalassaemia is a hereditary blood disorder characterized by the body's inability to produce adequate or normal levels of hemoglobin. If she does not undergo blood transfusion she will encounter severe anemia (lack of blood). She fears that if she reveals her illness to her peers she will encounter prejudice.

Every month's twenty eighth she has to go to the hospital for her scheduled transfusions. It has become a part of her life. She hates the sterile smell of the hospital and her ears have gotten used to the beeping of the medical machines.

Her parents encourage her to reveal her illness to the crowd but being a teenager, she is quite anxious about it. She thinks that what people may think about her, they may satire her or feel pity. Her parents try to convince her that true friends will never think ill of her. She says that she will reveal the truth when the right time comes, but if she fears what will the world say she will never reveal it. All it takes is little more courage out of her.

Her story shall come out to the world. She is exceptionally bright student but her illness prohibits her from focusing on studies. She gets adequate exposure but her illness creates a barrier.

Santosh Kumar Panda

Class - IX-B (Narayana School, Newtown Branch)

ROTARY'S MISSION AGAINST THALASSEMIA

As we welcome a new Rotary year, our hearts align with a cause both vital and urgent—Thalassemia. This inherited blood disorder affects thousands, limiting lives that deserve limitless dreams. Through awareness, action, and advocacy, our club pledges to champion this cause. From organizing screening camps to supporting patients and families, we aim to bring change, drop by drop.

This installation isn't just a handover of duties—it is a hand-in-hand promise to those who battle this condition daily. Together, as Rotarians, we become the hope they need, the voice they await, and the force that will turn the tide.

Let this Rotary year be a testament to what service truly means: healing lives where it matters most.

Yashraj Choudhary

Class – XI

Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch

"Together, We Fight"

Some kids are born with weaker blood,
But they still smile, they dream, they love.
They get their strength from every day,
From every hug, from words we say.
They need our help, a little care—
A drop of blood, a heart that's there.
We all can stand and make it right,
With hope and love, we win this fight.
So let's be kind, and spread the light—
Together, we fight Thalassemia's fight.

Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch

**Thalassemia isn't rare — awareness is.
Let's change that, one voice at a time.**

Shriyanshi Kumari, Class 11

Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch

The Red in Me

In silent veins, a gentle fight,
Where whispers of life dance in the night,
Thalassemia, a tender foe,
Yet strength and courage, it does bestow.
In every beat, a tale untold,
Of warriors brave, with hearts of gold,
Their spirit shines, a beacon bright,
Guiding through shadows, into light.
Through every ache and weary day,
They paint resilience in shades of gray,
A testament to love's embrace,
In every heartbeat, hope finds its place.
So, let us weave a tapestry,
Of bravery and unity,
For those who face the silent sea,
Thalassemia, you are not alone, we stand with thee.

Anwesha Naik

Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch

"A Drop of Hope"

The child is born with such wide ambitions,
But blood betrays what's deep inside.
Thalassemia—silent, powerful,
But together, we right the wrong.

Rotarians stand hand and heart
To heal, to help, to take a stand.
A drop of blood, a voice so pure
Can chase away a family's fear.

Awareness grows, prevention starts,
With screenings, love, and open hearts.
No child must fight this alone—
We take the cause in our own hands.

So let this year with purpose gleam, In every heart, let
service be aligned. Together, we stand united, guiding the
way For brighter lives, a better day.

Md. Wasi Qamar, CLASS XII (PCMC)

Narayana School, Maheshtala Branch



Thoughts of our Rotarians

Coming Days
Tomorrow will be
Another dream
Of struggling human beings
Even if their life-candle
Is melting towards
Tonight's pole star.

Soumitra Chakraborty (Rtn., RCCU, RID 3291)

Mirror of existence
Wavering or static
Beneath the hall
Following the kid
Can't ever be free
Shadows indicate
The change of existence
Expression frozen
A poem of untold words
Meaningful in the eyes
That withstand the litmus test
Of survival
Become the mirror of existence.

Soumitra Chakraborty (Rtn., RCCU, RID 3291)

Slogan

There really isn't a suitable backup place where humans can move to once our planet is damaged beyond repair.
Being mindful, and being aware of the little factors like keeping the trees around us alive helps in the long run.

A Tribute to Our Elders

In the next 10-15 years, a generation will almost entirely depart from this world—a generation that embodies simplicity, contentment, and timeless values. These are the people who go to bed early at night, wake up at dawn, take morning walks, water their yards and plants, pick flowers for prayers, and worship or visit their respective places of faith.

They represent the last group of individuals who greet others with a smile, inquire about joys and sorrows, and fold their hands in respect. They marvel at old phones, maintain phone directories, read newspapers, observe Ekadashi, Amavasya, and Purnima, believe in God, and respect societal norms. They prefer old, soft slippers and vests, prepare pickles and papads during summer, use homemade spices, and always seek local produce like tomatoes, eggplants, and fenugreek leaves.

Amavasya and our elders share a deep symbolic and cultural connection, rooted in reverence, guidance, and ancestry. Amavasya is a time for introspection and honouring ancestors through rituals that foster harmony and gratitude. Similarly, our elders are living embodiments of wisdom and tradition, offering guidance during life's challenges, much like the new moon's promise of renewal in darkness. Both Amavasya and elders remind us of our roots and the importance of maintaining a connection to our heritage. They teach us to reflect on the past, embrace traditions, and prepare for new beginnings with respect and gratitude.

But time, as inevitable as it is, will gradually and silently take them away, leaving behind a changed world. A world that often chases fleeting, unrealistic dreams of youth, forgetting the wisdom and values of the past. Along with them, we will lose the secret of a simple and contented life—a life where desires and fulfilment are clearly distinguished.

They will leave behind a chaotic, adulterated existence marked by endless striving, and the loss of people who walked the path of faith, care, and love for everyone. As they depart, let us cherish their remaining days with love, respect, and gratitude. They know the true art of living, and their footsteps are worth following.

This is the last generation in human history that grew up listening to their elders and now spends their old age listening to the younger ones. They carry the weight of life's lessons, a treasure of experiences, and countless untold and unheard stories.

Caring for our elders, whether they live with us or in old age homes, is a reflection of our compassion and respect for those who have nurtured us. It involves providing emotional support, ensuring their physical well-being, and creating an environment where they feel valued and loved. For elders at home, it means spending quality time with them, listening to their stories, and addressing their needs with patience. For those in old age homes, it means visiting them regularly, engaging them in meaningful activities, and ensuring they receive care and dignity.

We must always remember that elders are not mere pieces of furniture but invaluable assets of wisdom and experience. They deserve our respect and attention as they carry the sacrifices and lessons of a lifetime. One day, we too will stand in their shoes, and the way we treat them now sets the standard for how our children may treat us. Let us act with kindness, ensuring no elder feels abandoned or forgotten.

Their wrinkled eyes reflect not just pain but also countless untold stories—stories that enrich our lives if only we take the time to listen. Caring for them is not just a duty; it is a privilege. It is a way to honour the paths they have paved for us and to ensure their twilight years are filled with warmth, comfort, and happiness.

Youngsters should treat their elders with respect and understanding, especially in situations where they may struggle with modern-day gadgets or other contemporary challenges. Elders have grown up in a different era, and their life experiences, though rich and valuable, may not have included exposure to today's rapidly evolving technology. Instead of mocking or ridiculing them, young people should patiently assist and guide them, recognizing the immense wisdom and contributions elders have made over the years. Respecting elders means appreciating their efforts to adapt and showing kindness when they face difficulties. By fostering empathy and offering support, youngsters not only honour their elders but also strengthen the bonds of love and respect between generations.

In a world that is constantly evolving, the wisdom and guidance of our elders remain timeless. Respecting them is not just a duty but a reflection of our character and values. Let us honour their journey, cherish their experiences, and uphold the dignity they deserve, for the respect we give today shapes the respect we receive tomorrow.

Rtn. Susmita Sarkar, President 2025-26

Farewell Grishma, Welcome Sraban

Farewell Grishma (Summer), Welcome Sraban
Farewell, O Grishma, welcome, Sraban,
Let the old, worn memories stay behind.
In distant corners, along riverbanks,
On forest edges, by village paths and urban crowds,
A basket of colors, scents, and beauty arranged,
This year, as every year, Jyaistha draws to an end.
Glimpse of clouds in the northeast this time,
Rain to wash away the summer's dust.
Only the summer king departs,
Taking with it love's breeze, a shiver in the body,
The birds' songs and the forest's blooming leaves.
Come, O Barsha, O Sraban Dhara,
The damp, wet, cloudy sky of water bed

The thirsty traveler gazes ahead,
Only barren trees and concrete in sight.
The fruits of progress come hand in hand,
While the water of rain drops, leaps, and bounds.
O outcast ascetic, no more games now,
Your Barisha dhara, your soothing blaze,
The villages in life, the cities smile,
The paths are empty, a lazy noon.
Now begins the wrath of Megh-Brishti,
A play in raining, tearing everything apart.
Once again, the cost of global warming
shall be paid by the poor, oppressed, and tortured.
If we not allow nature to walk freely in the future.

Rtn. Susmita Sarkar, President 2025-26



A Rotary flag exchange is a tradition within Rotary International where clubs exchange decorative club banners as a symbol of friendship and international fellowship. These banners often feature local symbols, cultural elements, or artistic designs, reflecting the community and pride of the club. The exchange is a way for clubs to connect and build relationships across geographical boundaries.

Key aspects of Rotary flag exchange :

Symbolism -

The exchange of banners signifies a commitment to international fellowship and shared humanitarian service.

Artistic Expression -

Banners are often unique and colorful, displaying local cultural traditions, artistry, and community pride.

Cultural Exchange -

Banners can feature symbols or images representing a club's town, region, or country, fostering a sense of understanding between clubs.

Rotarians as Ambassadors -

Rotarians traveling to different locations often bring banners to exchange as a tangible symbol of friendship.

Collection and Display :

Many clubs collect and display the banners they receive, creating a visual representation of their global connections.

Rtn. Dr. Sailen Bhowmick, MPH, Ph.D, D.Sc, AMB, Ed.D.

Rotary club of Calcutta Universe, RID 3291

Rotary's 7 Areas of Focus



Peace Building &
Conflict Prevention



Disease Prevention
& Treatment



Water Sanitation
& Hygiene



Maternal
& Child Health



Basic Education
& Literacy



Community Economy
Development



Support the
Environment

Rotary
R I District 3291

