



Ka PATENG NONGKYNTI

“The Heritage” - a monthly bulletin of Rotary Club Shillong Heritage, connecting people...

RI President
Francesco Arezzo

Dist. Governor
Dr. K. S. Elangbam

Club President
Gayatri Marnie Batkhar

Secretary
Pooja Banerjee

Editor
Farida Warjri

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Rotarians ,

The month of January was marked by meaningful visibility, fellowship, and active participation in district-level engagements by the Rotary Club. One of the key highlights of the month was the installation of a welcome and road safety signage near the airport junction at Umroi. Installed at a strategic location, the signage carries a warm message welcoming visitors to Shillong on one side, while the other side conveys an important road safety message. This initiative not only enhances Rotary's public image but also reinforces our commitment to community awareness and public safety. The project received appreciation for its relevance, placement, and thoughtful execution.

Another major engagement during the month was our participation in Pratidhwani, a three-day district-level programme, which brought together Rotarians from across the district for learning, inspiration, and fellowship. The sessions were enriching and forward-looking, providing valuable insights into leadership, service projects, and Rotary's vision ahead. The programme also strengthened bonds among Rotarians and reaffirmed our shared commitment to service above self.

Overall, January was a productive and an engaging month, reflecting Rotary's spirit of service, collaboration, and visibility in the community. I thank all members for their support, participation, and continued dedication to the ideals of Rotary. Together, we continue to serve with purpose and pride.

Warm Rotary regards

Rtn. Gayatri Marnie Batkhar,
President 2025-26.



From the Editor's Desk

Dear Fellow Rotarians,
Greetings from the Editorial Team!

EDITORIAL TEAM



Rtn Farida Warjri



Rtn Monideepa Sen



Rtn Dr Binayak Dutta



Rtn Poirei K. Sanasam

As the cold season slowly fades and the warmer climes arrive, RCSH is embracing the year with a lot of activities in place. We are excited and look forward to the implementation of many projects in the pipeline, one being the renovation work carried out in a School at Diengpasoh, a few kilometers away from Shillong city.

January saw several activities in itself with the International District Conference-Pratidhwani, which was a culmination of Rotarians from different parts of East India. This was a gathering of minds and hearts with the common goal of furthering the motto of Rotary. The fact that such a Conference was held in Shillong after 22 years was a celebration in itself. The Conference served as a platform for Rotary members to coordinate service projects and strengthen community initiatives across the region. Indeed, meaningful collaboration is the way forward so as to be able to reach out to the unreached and the needy.

In this issue a mention has been made on the International Day of Braille held on the 4th January every year. The concept of Braille is an excellent medium of communication, which requires a unique skill set and yet at the same time is a powerful tool for the visually impaired community.

We hope you enjoy this edition.

With best wishes,
Farida Warjri

INSTALLATION OF THE “WELCOME TO SHILLONG” SIGN BOARD

The RCSH has installed a “Rotary Club Shillong Heritage Welcomes You to Shillong “ signboard at Umroi close to the Shillong Airport as a sign of welcome to travellers and guests visiting Shillong and particularly to our Rotarian friends attending the District Level Conference. The signage also features one with a safety measure, which reads as “Travel Safely and Enjoy the Beauty”. This is a wonderful reminder to our esteemed guests to pause and enjoy the beauty of nature that the state has to offer. Our President Rtn G Marnie Batkhar, Secretary Rtn Pooja Banerjee, Rtn Sandeep Das, and Rtn Anupam Choudhury supervised and were present when the signages were installed along with Rotarylet Aarav Choudhury.



On January 6, the Rotary Club of Shillong Heritage installed dual-sided signage at Umroi Junction. This project promotes road safety and welcomes visitors, reflecting Rotary's dedication to community service and welfare.

DISTRICT PUBLIC IMAGE COMMITTEE (RY 25-26)
RID 3240, ZONE 6

 **SERVICE ABOVE SELF**

UNITE FOR GOOD

RI President 25-26
Francesco Arezzo

RI President
Rtn G Marnie Batkhar

DIST. Governor 25-26
Kameshwar Singh Elangbam

PRATIDHWANI - 36TH DISTRICT LEVEL PROGRAMME

The 36th District Level Conference of the Rotary International District 3240- *Pratidhwani*, was held at the Lariti Centre for Performing Arts, New Shillong, from the 9th to 11th January 2026. This was a gathering of more than 1000 participants and a culmination of art, culture, knowledge, and music. The Chief Guest at the Inaugural Function was the Hon'ble King of Tripura, Pradyot Bikram Manikya Debbarma. There were prominent speakers in the various sessions, notably PDG Rtn & Padma Shree Manas Choudhury, Padma Shree Patricia Mukhim, Dr. S. Nagendra, Padma Shree Baichung Bhutia, Dr. Mazda K. Turel, Prof. Sanjoy Mukherjee, Shri Paul Lyngdoh, Dr. Anand Ranganathan, and others. It was indeed an excellent time of learning, meeting old and new friends, and reigniting the spirit of Rotary. RCSH was well represented by our President Rtn G Marnie Batkhar, Secretary Rtn Pooja Banerjee, Rtn Dr Barnali Bhuyan, Rtn Gideon Kharmawphlang, Rtn Dr Kaveri Sharma, Rtn Pradip Chokhani, Rtn Vikash Chokhani, Rtn Sandeep Das, Rtn Anupam Chudhury and Rtn Vishal Amarnani. Everyone lauded the efforts of the DG Rtn Dr E. Singh and members of the organising Committee,

Shillong to host Rotary District conference after over 2 decades

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Jan 8: Rotary District 3240 will host its annual conference, 'Pratidhwani,' at the Lariti Auditorium, Mawkasiang, from January 9 to 11 in what marks the first time in 22 years that Shillong has hosted the event, which represents all eight Northeastern states and parts of West Bengal.

Led by District Governor Dr KS Elangbam, the three-day conference is expected to draw over 1,200 delegates. The gathering will serve as a platform for Rotary members to coordinate service projects and strengthen community initiatives across the region.

The event will feature Tripura scion Pradyut Debbarma and Rotary international president's representative Dr S Nagendra as guests of honour. A diverse panel of speakers will address the delegates, including former Indian football captain Baichung Bhutia, senior journalist Patricia Mukhim, former Meghalaya Minister Paul Lyngdoh, TV commentator Anand Ranganathan, IIM professor Sanjoy Mukherjee and Dr Mazda Turel.

In addition to the plenary sessions, the programme includes cultural performances by the Gitanjali Dance Academy, Bollywood playback singer Akanksha Sharma, and the band Sunny Boys.

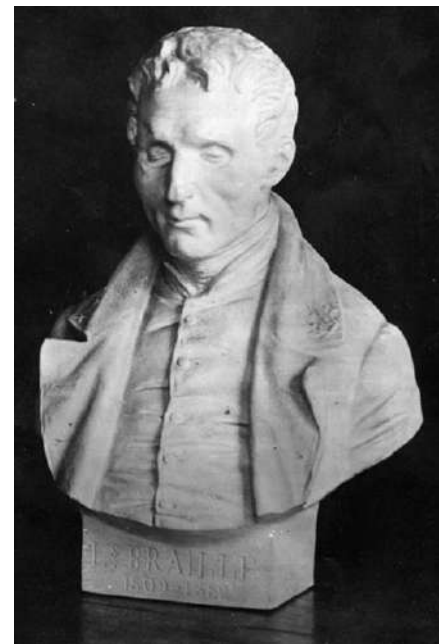


WORLD BRAILLE DAY

World Braille Day is an international day observed on the 4th January and celebrates awareness of the importance of braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights of blind and visually impaired people. The date for the event was chosen by the United Nations General Assembly via a proclamation in November 2018 and marks the birthday of Louis Braille, creator of this writing system. The first World Braille Day was celebrated on January 4, 2019.

BRILLIANT BRAILLE FACTS

- Braille made tiny raised dots that represented letters, numbers and musical notes and these could be learned by using finger tips.
- This discovery was in 1824
- Louis was only 15 years old when he shared the code with the world
- Braille is not a language but a tactile system that blind people use to read and write.
- A Perkins Braille is a typewriter for Braille code
- Today, Braille education uses smart technology.
- Braille has shortcuts
- It has a code for mathematics and other subjects
- Today popular games, toys and other products have Braille versions
- Braille created a streamlined format of six raised dots (two columns of three dots each), known as cells. These dots can be put into 63 combinations of letters, numbers, contractions, and forms of punctuation. On the top left going down are dots one, two, and three; on the right are dots four, five, and six.

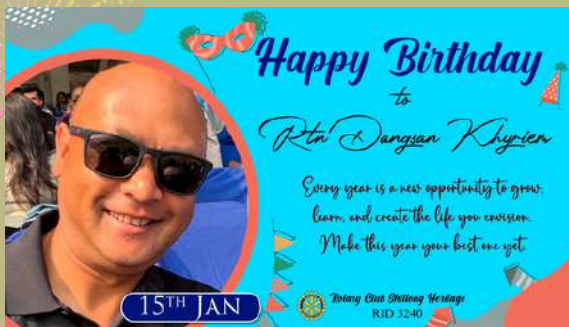
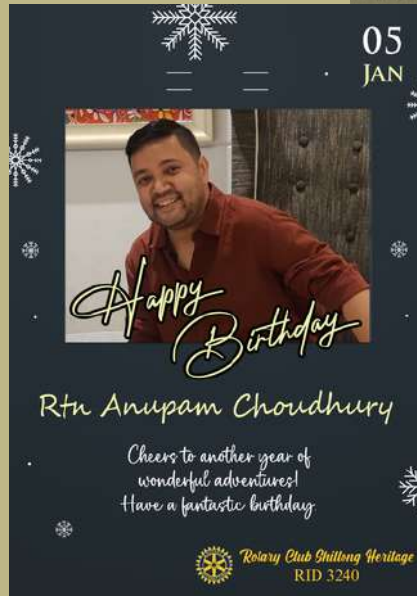
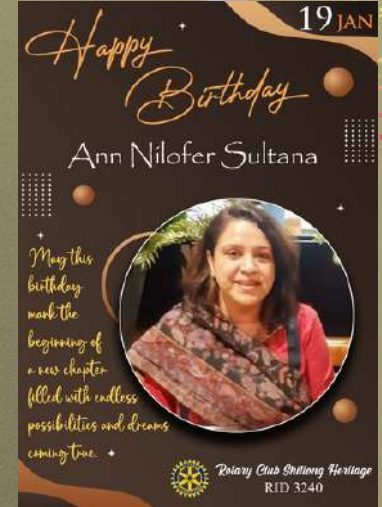
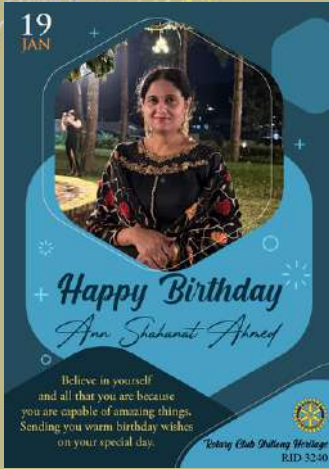


LOUIS BRAILLE'S ORIGINAL FRENCH ALPHABET

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	X	Y	Z	ç	é	à	è	ù
an	in	on	un	eu	ou	oi	ch	ga	w ill

An excerpt of the original French Braille Code invented by Louis Braille in 1894

Celebrations of January



CELEBRATIONS OF FEBRUARY

Birthdays

- 4th Rtn Dr Manoj Sharma
- 8th Rtn Gyasuddin Ahmed
- 15th Rtn Kunal Mordani
- 21st Rotaryley Gaurav
- 26th Rtn Pooja Banerjee
- 27th Rotarylet Baani Kaur

Anniversary

- 12th Rtn Gyasuddin Ahmed & Ann Shahanat Ahmed