



Ka PATENG NONGKYNTI

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow club members,

April, celebrated across Rotary as Maternal and Child Health Month, was a deeply meaningful and action-oriented period for the Rotary Club of Shillong Heritage. It was a month that reflected our commitment not only to service within our community, but also to strengthening bonds across Rotary networks.

One of the highlights of the month was the flag exchange with the Rotary Club of Delhi Lutyens, facilitated by our Immediate Past President Rtn. Vikash Chokhani and Secretary Rtn. Pooja Banerjee. This exchange symbolizes more than just goodwill—it reinforces the spirit of fellowship and collaboration that lies at the heart of Rotary. Such interactions broaden our horizons and create opportunities for shared learning and impactful partnerships.

In alignment with the theme of the month, we undertook a heartfelt project at Nazareth Hospital, focusing on the well-being of mothers and newborns. The club distributed newborn kits for babies along with packets of nutritious fruits for 40 mothers in the maternity ward. This initiative was designed to support both mother and child at a critical stage, ensuring that care extends beyond medical treatment to include dignity, nutrition, and comfort. The smiles and gratitude we witnessed reaffirmed the purpose of our service.

April has been a reminder that Rotary's strength lies in compassion backed by action. Whether through meaningful collaborations or grassroots service, each effort contributes to building healthier and more connected communities. As we move forward, let us continue to carry this spirit of service with dedication and empathy.

In fellowship,

Rtn. G. Marnie Batkhar
President Rotary Club of Shillong Heritage



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

RCSH in its commitment to the well-being and health of mothers and newborn children. were able to donate some items to Nazareth Hospital Shillong, and interact with some mothers and the Maternity Ward. This small act of kindness is in acknowledgement of the pioneering work of Nazareth Hospital in this particular field. Nazareth Hospital is one of the oldest and long-standing health care facilities in Shillong. The Government of Meghalaya recently launched the Meghalaya Nutrition Kit Scheme as a 1000-day nutrition programme for expectant and lactating mothers, following the identification of persistent challenges related to child stunting, malnutrition, and anaemia, particularly in rural and tribal areas. This shows the growing demand and need for extensive maternal and child health concerns, particularly in Meghalaya having a high incidence of malnutrition and anaemia.

There are multiple areas of intervention that RCSH is extending its support to. The attempt is always made keeping the community in mind, as they are the biggest stakeholders of any project. In our endeavour to live up to the spirit of Rotary, RCSH is doing the best it can to foster change wherever our projects take us. We are hopeful that our community engagements are able to remain relevant and sustainable and that challenges are faced with optimism and strength. However our journey continues and our commitment is unwavering.

With best wishes,
Rtn Farida Warjri

OBSERVING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH 2026

"If mothers are empowered and healthy, so are their families, leading to an alleviation of poverty and hunger." Robert Zinser, co-founder of the Rotarian Action Group for Population and Development and retired President for Asia at chemical giant BASF.

The **Rotary Foundation** reaches mothers and children in need by giving communities the help and training they need to take control of their own maternal and infant health care.

Rotary makes amazing things happen, like:

Community health worker capacity building

Through the Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge, Rotary members are strengthening community health systems and increasing the capacity of community health workers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Zambia.

Cervical cancer prevention

In Sri Lanka, Rotary members collaborated with the ministry of health to support policy change and improve cervical cancer screening protocols. They advocated for HPV vaccination which is now part of the national immunization program.

Preventing diseases with vaccines

Rotary members are working to **immunize 100,000 children** across nine remote Pacific Islands by working with the local health system to create sustainable delivery of vaccines.

We at RCSH are so happy to have been able to be a part of this initiative whereby Club members comprising of President, Rtn Marnie G Batkhar, Rtn Dr Barnali Bhuyan, Rtn Purna Amarmani and Rtn Kannaki Das distributed baby items to mothers of new-borns at Nazareth Hospital, Shillong. This may be a small act of kindness but spreading kindness through such an act leads to a more cohesive and safe society. It is only when we learn to appreciate and acknowledge the well being of mothers that we can ensure healthy and happy offsprings.



FLAG EXCHANGE- THE ROTARY TRADITION

The tradition of exchanging flags in Rotary is something that has been passed down from generation to generation. In the spirit of inclusivity and forging new friendships, it is a way by which Rotary Clubs across the world can help each other share new best practices, to learn the ways challenges are managed, resource management and collaborations where possible. It is also a symbol of commitment to the same cause of making the world a better place, one project, one initiative at a time.

On the 15th April 2026, our Secretary Rtn Pooja Banerjee, IPP Rtn Vikash Chokhani and Rtn Anupam Choudhury exchanged flags with the Rotary Club of Lutyens Delhi at Vivanta, Shillong.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2026

The Rotary International Convention 2026 will be held at Taipei, Taiwan from 13-17 June 2026. at Farglory Dome and Taipei Nangang Exhibition Centre. The Convention will have fellow changemakers from around the world to share innovative projects, exchange best practices, and form enduring friendships. The convention is packed with exciting breakout sessions, speakers, and more.

RETENTION & GROWTH IN Rotary 



THREE GOLDEN PILLARS

- 1. APPRECIATION OF MEMBERS**
Recognize contributions, celebrate achievements, say thank you.
- 2. RESPECT FOR COLLEAGUES**
Value each member's ideas, time, and service.
- 3. ACTIONS THAT MAKE US PROUD**
Projects that create hope, change lives, and make Rotary shine.

THE CORE TAKEAWAY
+ WHEN ROTARIANS FEEL PROUD OF THEIR CLUB, THEY STAY FOR LIFE. +

TWO CIRCLES OF FELLOWSHIP

- OFFICIAL GROUP – Projects, service, impact, strategy
- NON-OFFICIAL GROUP – Birthdays, anniversaries, joys and care

SPIRIT OF ROTARY
Rotary is a family.
We celebrate together, serve together, and grow together.

PRIDE + RESPECT + APPRECIATION = RETENTION + GROWTH

EARTH DAY 2026

Excerpts from an article by Gajendra Singh Godera, IIT Mumbai

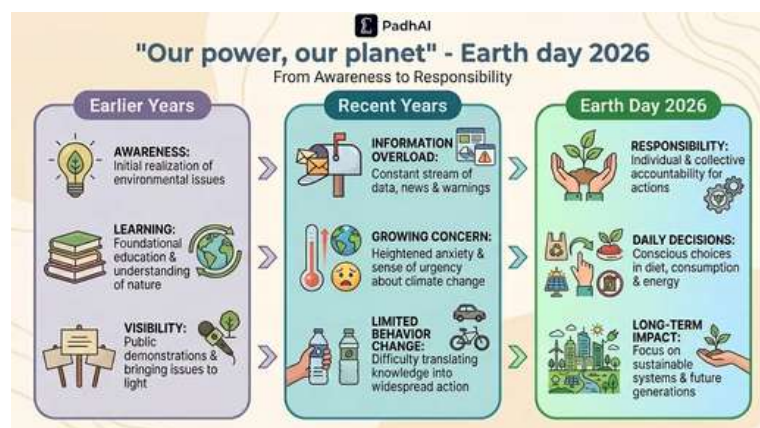
World Earth Day is a global environmental event that mobilizes over one billion people in more than 190 countries to advocate for planet protection. World Earth day is celebrated on April 22 every year to commemorate the 1970 grassroots demonstration where 20 million Americans protested for environmental protections. The first Earth Day on April 22, 1970 directly influenced the 1972 Stockholm Conference. This conference led to the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and established the basic idea that environmental protection is a shared global responsibility of all humans.

The world earth day theme for 2026 is "Our Power, Our Planet". It symbolises that the power to protect our planet lies in our hands. This theme aligns with the "25% Revolution" concept, which suggests that when a quarter of a population adopts a new social practice, it enables the beginning of systemic change. India is in charge of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the "One Sun, One World, One Grid" initiative. These are two examples of the "Our Power" part of the 2026 theme.

Earth Day 2026 highlights the ongoing "Sixth Mass Extinction," characterized by rapid species loss due to human activity. Project Tiger and Project Cheetah are examples of biodiversity restoration efforts in India. The "Canopy Project" from EarthDay.org promotes global reforestation, which fits with India's Green India Mission and the use of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds. Additionally, the push to "End Plastic Pollution" by 2026 coincides with the finalization of the Global Plastic Treaty. Only 9% of global plastic is recycled; the 2026 campaign advocates for a 60% reduction in plastic production by 2040.

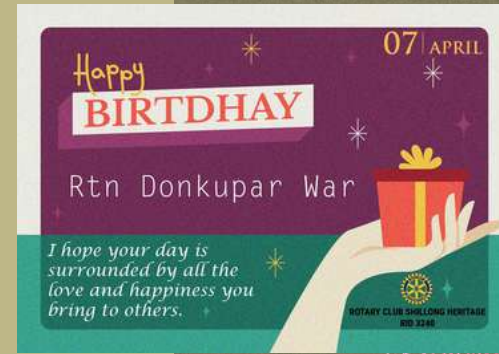
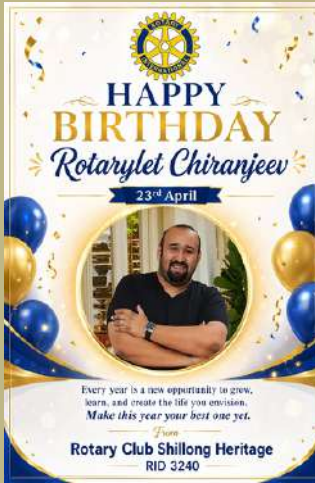
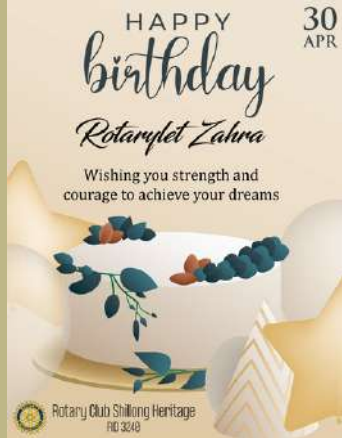
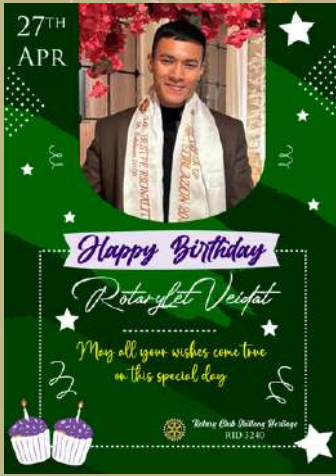
Towards a sustainable future

To get to a sustainable future, we need to shift from small, local changes to structural changes in global policy and the industrial sector. World Earth Day 2026 is a reminder that the time is running out to keep global warming in check. India needs to find a way to balance its fast economic growth with its "Net Zero 2070" promise.



Source: www.padhai.ai

Celebrations of April



CELEBRATIONS OF MAY

- 10th Rtn Dr Barnali Bhuyan
- 12th Zeus Z Batkhar
- 18th Rotarylet Tanya Shrama
- 21st Rotarylet Neel Kalita
- 26th Rotarylet Kannan Amarrmani

ANNIVERSARIES

- 6th Rtn Pradip Chokhani and Ann Kartika Chokhani
- 28th Rtn Prahsnat Goenka and Ann Ruchi Genka