

RI DISTRICT 3291

CLUB NO. 90740

Rotary



May the Dream of Peace take flight around the World

Issue:XXX.01.2025|30<sup>th</sup> March,25 |SHATAK

RI President:Rtn. Stephanie A. Urchick

RI.. Dist. Governor: Rtn. Krishnendu Gupta

Club President: Rtn. Anirudhha Chatterjee

Club Secretary: Rtn. Mausumi Paul

Club Bulletin Editor:Rtn. Sweta K Ganguly



I

Vocational Service is one of Rotary's five avenues of service, encourages Rotarians to lead by example in their professions. It's about recognizing that the principles of service above self are not limited to volunteerism but extend to our daily professional lives.

A

Education plays a vital role in this process. Rotary believes that by promoting formal and informal education, individuals are empowered to become responsible and productive members of society, whether through formal degrees, vocational training, or skills development at all levels. Rotary supports the transformative power of education as a foundation for professional advancement and the ability to change the trajectory of people's lives. During January, Rotarians are encouraged to focus on this important avenue of Rotary service. Discussions on vocational service can lead to projects that not only develop the ethical consciousness and vocational skills of Rotarians but also the talents within their communities. Vocational Service Month is an opportunity to begin year-long vocational service activities, ranging from Rotary discussions to awards to community projects.

I

R

In the month of February, We, Rotarians across the world celebrate their commitment to promoting peace and resolving conflicts. Conflict and violence are unfortunately too common in our world, leading to displacement and suffering for millions of people, particularly women and children. The Rotary family is dedicated to addressing the root causes of conflict, such as poverty, lack of education, and unequal distribution of resources, and works tirelessly to build peace and prevent conflicts from escalating.

O

We Rotarians provide training to adults and young leaders to help prevent and mediate conflicts and offer aid to refugees who have fled dangerous areas. Rotarians take the time to reflect on their efforts and re-commit to promoting peace and reducing conflict in their communities and beyond. Through their efforts, Rotarians are helping to create a brighter, more peaceful future for us all.

T

***The path towards peace begins with understanding and respect for the differences that make us unique***

I

The month, March in Rotary, designated for clean water and sanitation is a human right. When people, especially children, have access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, they lead healthier and more successful lives. We, Rotarians don't just build wells and walk away. We members integrate water, sanitation and hygiene into education projects. When children learn about disease transmission and practice good hygiene, they miss less school. And they can take those lessons home to their families, expanding our impact.

D

Clean water is a basic need for human beings. When people, especially children, have access to clean water, they live healthier and more productive lives. However, at least 3,000 children die each day from diseases caused by unsafe water, which is what motivates our members to build wells, install rainwater harvesting systems, and teach community members how to maintain new infrastructure.

E

While very few people die of thirst, millions die from preventable waterborne diseases, providing the impetus for our members to also improve sanitation facilities in our countries. Members start by providing toilets and latrines that flush into a sewer or safe enclosure and then add education programs to promote hand-washing and other good hygiene habits.

The  
Rotary  
Foundation



Doing Good In The World





# MAJOR EVENTS OF CLUB CENTENARY IN JAN | FEB | MAR 2025

## BRINGING THE MAGICAL IMPACT IN LIVES

As we all know that in we Rotarians always encourage to involve within the community they serve and learn about the priorities to ensure the work to provide benefits which are sustainable and effective.

We at Calcutta Centenary club, often undertakes **Blanket distribution** in every winter months, to provide warmth and comfort to those in need. This is to demonstrate our commitment to community service and humanitarian efforts...

On January 4, 2025, we decided to reach out to those needy and handover the 100+ blankets so that they all can have comfortable good sleep at night without trembling in the chilled and windy nights.



Another event, **Flea Market**, organized by the us by joining hands with 'South Kolkata Hamari Muskan'. Market was having clothes and winter-wears donated to women, children, teenagers and adolescents. The purpose was to motivate their spirit by upholding their life with buying capability and make them energetic and smiling with new addition of clothes in their wardrobe...





# GLIMPSES FROM VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF CLUB CENTENARY IN JAN | FEB | MAR 2024



Another feather we attached to the children by a super overwhelming event at Behala Siksha Mandir (Bhangadalan) in association with Rotary Club Of Calcutta Centenary club in the new beginning of the year, in the month of Jan, 2025 with participation of 200+ students from the age 2+ to teenagers to adolescents. It was an amazing experience we gathered and it was more delighted with the presence of PDG Rtn. Mukul Sinha. The judgment was done by Anthelion School of Art by the 3 esteemed judges - Mr. Anjan Bhattacharyya, Mr. Arindam Majumder and Mr. Argha Bhattacharya. and also, we had organized the Mental Health Workshop for the Parents by Rtn. Sourish from Rotary Club of Calcutta Newbies.





# GLIMPSES FROM VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF CLUB CENTENARY IN JAN | FEB | MAR 2025



**UTTORAN**, means “**Rising Upwards**”. We, Rotarians took the oath and made the purpose of our life to uplift lives of those who need our help to see the light, bring the sunshine into their lives in making their lives better to contribute in the society to make a better future for GenZ.

The launch of **UTTORAN** - The Empowerment Program (Employability Skill Workshop) for the beneficiaries of South Kolkata Hamari Muskan by the Rotary Club Of Calcutta Centenary with about 10 students getting ready for the professional world. We are trying to educate them to be ready with enhanced capability to take up any kind of work at any organization or they can start their own to initiate the entrepreneurial journey or somewhere we can also help them sometimes to place them in MSME internships make their efficacy level at higher level.



Rotary Club Of Calcutta Centenary is contented to be able to provide 11 of 30 beneficiaries for the first **JIBIKA program** launched by RMB and UEM institute together at the UEM Campus in Saltlake. 8 students of our **UTTORAN** program, and 2 School Students (all beneficiaries of South Kolkata Hamari Muskan) and 1 student from Bijoygarh Balika Vidyapith - **Total 11 students**, will get a free Communicative English and Computer Application training for 3 months. The launch happened on 22nd March 2025. Event was embellished by PDG Rtn. Prabir Chatterjee and DGN Rtn. Tapas Bhattacharyya. Our Secretary Rtn. Mausumi Paul and member Rtn. Dipayan Banerjee were present in the event to witness this historic moment .





# GLIMPSES FROM VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF CLUB CENTENARY IN JAN | FEB | MAR 2025



A memory to cherish forever for us, the Rotary Club Of Calcutta Centenary members as we were honored by the Bijaygarh Balika Vidyapith authority and young most talented students of the mentioned school to spend and celebrate, to touch the small part of their lives as they organized Saraswati Puja in February 2025 and also presented us a beautiful cultural program at their school premises.



The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



Doing Good In The World



Basic  
Education  
& Literacy



Maternal  
& Child  
Health



Peace &  
Conflict  
Prevention/  
Resolution



Disease  
Prevention  
&  
Treatment



Water,  
Sanitation  
& Hygiene



Community  
& Economic  
Development



Support the  
Environment



# CHERISHING MOMENTS OF CLUB CENTENARY IN JAN | FEB | MAR 2025



There are countless quotes can be cited from various honorable Rotarians on fellowship , which is the strong pillar of Rotary International. Those are few as following –

*"The foundation upon which Rotary is built is friendship; on no less firm foundation could it have stood."* - Paul Harris

*"Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built and tolerance is the element which holds it together."* - Donald Carter

*"Rotary is a cross-section of the business and professional life of the community."* - Paul Harris

*"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."* - Paul Harris

*"Rotary is fellowship. Real fellowship is frank, spontaneous, full of warmth."* - Frank L. Mulholland, Rotary Club of Toledo, Ohio

*"To be kind to your fellow citizens of the world. To me, being a Rotarian means having a lifelong connection to the most wonderful people in the world."* - Jim

*"Service Above Self and One Profits Most Who Serves Best"* - Official Rotary mottoes

We at Rotary Club of Calcutta Centenary, under the leadership of President Rtn. Aniruddha Chatterjee and Secretary Rtn. Mausumi Paul of Rotary Year 2024-25, celebrated amazing New Year Fellowship Party at One Sip in New Town on Jan 3, 2025. In an expression, the amazing vibes of the event moved us so high with renewed spirits to work on the purpose...





# CHERISHING MOMENTS OF CLUB CENTENARY IN JAN | FEB | MAR 2025



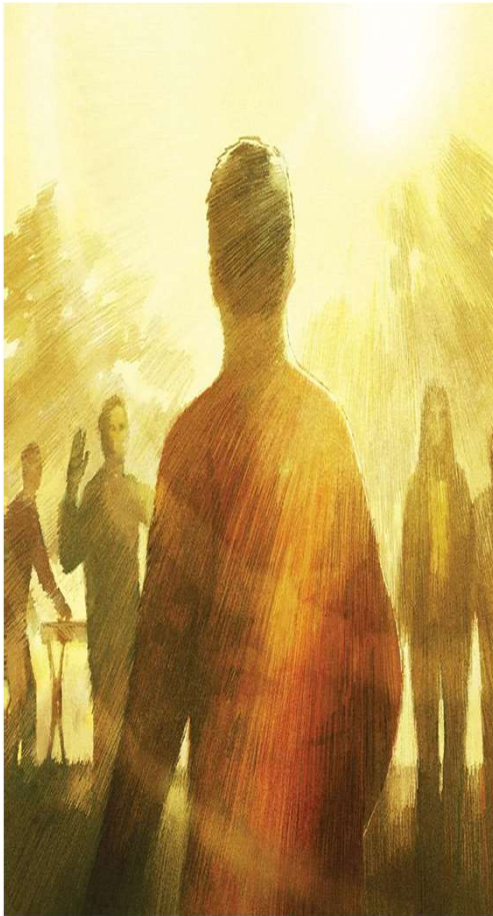
The Rotary District Conference is an annual event for Rotary members, to provide a platform for Rotarians to connect, learn, and be inspired to continue their service within a specific district to learn about Rotary activities, meet other Rotarians and celebrating accomplishments. These two days conference include presentations from Rotary International representatives, reports on the district's activities, and opportunities for networking and fellowship as its key objective. The main purpose is to inspire Rotarians to be more involved in service and community leadership.

This Rotary Year of 2024-25, our 3291's District Conference organized on January 4th & 5th, 2025 where we can see below our Club President, Rtn. Anirudhha Chatterjee honored and recognized for his sincere contribution and service above self mindset by our District Governor of 2024-25, Rtn. Krishnendu Gupta.





## AN IMMIGRANT FINDS BELONGING IN ROTARY | *Far from home and seriously injured, a young man finds comfort and renewed purpose among his Rotary family* By Andrés Briceño



**¿Dónde estoy?** I thought, returning to the world, all white light, blurs of color, and muffled sound. “Where am I?” My lips were so dry. “¡Agua! ¡Agua!” I cried, asking for water. I struggled to get up, but my mother told me to lie still. I was in the hospital. Those blurs of color turned out to be balloons. There had been an accident, my Jeep versus a tree. The tree won. I’d been in a coma for two weeks.

I tried to think back. I remember driving my car after a long shift at the restaurant where I worked. Then nothing: no crash, no tree, no ambulance. No three major surgeries to drill a hole in my skull to reduce pressure on my brain and to repair my broken left hip and right clavicle. The doctors said that I was lucky to be in a coma for only two weeks. It could have been months. I might never have woken up.

My life started coming back in patches. My name is Andrés Briceño. I was born in Venezuela, though today I live in Texas. I came to this country in November 2021 when I was 23 years old. I moved to The Woodlands, north of Houston, because an aunt and some of my cousins live here. But I also belonged to a larger, international family — Rotary — which I first joined when I was living in Venezuela as a member of both the Rotary Club of Las Delicias and the Rotaract Club of Las Delicias Leone Rossi. When something is wrong, I want to change it. My dream was to see my country free. But freeing a country is not easy. When you defend freedom in a dictatorship, you become a target. Ultimately I had to leave.

### A new club

After I arrived in Texas, I reached out to the Rotary Club of The Woodlands. It changed my experience as an immigrant. One month after

my arrival in the United States, I attended the club’s Christmas party. I was far from Venezuela, yet the club’s members made me feel like I was home, that I belonged in their community. That was so valuable: being accepted, feeling like I belonged.

My accident was on 25 June 2023. The day before was a Saturday. It had been only three days since the Rotaract Club of The Woodlands, which I was instrumental in establishing, was officially chartered. I woke up very early. It was a hot summer day. Our club was helping the Woodlands Rotary club with an event for youth. It was like a scavenger hunt, with clues hidden here and there. The kids had fun, running around looking for them. That took most of the morning, and I went straight from there to work. Saturday is the busiest day of the week at the restaurant, and it was several hours after midnight when I was driving home. Five minutes from my aunt’s house, the accident occurred.

I spent 33 days in the hospital. For the first week, they didn’t know if I was going to survive. My mother never gave up hope — and the members of Rotary were there all the time for my mom, keeping her company and supporting her. Kay Boehm-Fannin, the 2023-24 president of the Rotary Club of The Woodlands, visited me in the hospital every day. Every single day, even though I wasn’t awake and didn’t know she was there. Other Rotary members would line up in the lobby, waiting for their turn to see me.

When I woke up, one of the nurses asked me, “Are you famous?” I said no, not yet. Why? She said, “You have so many visitors, all the people coming every day. That’s not normal.” I felt so loved.

As did my mother. My dear friend Dr. Lucian Rivela, a member of the Woodlands Rotary club, frequently checked in with my doctors and shared any updates about my status with my anxious mother, who doesn’t speak English. The day I awoke from my coma was my mother’s birthday, and my Rotary family held a party for her in the ICU waiting room.

Four days after being discharged from the hospital, I attended a Rotary After Hours event and, two days after that, a meeting of the Woodlands Rotary club. I couldn’t wait any longer to be back among my Rotary family. I felt an urgent need to thank them. Which I did, tearfully.



## The road to recovery

Right away I had to face the changes in the little things we take for granted. Things like using the bathroom or climbing the stairs — sitting on the steps and using my arms rather than my legs — to get to my room in my aunt's two-story house.

I rushed too quickly into trying to get my life back. I didn't realize the magnitude of what had happened to me. I learned that sometimes you can't rush things. You have to take it one step at a time.

And every step I took, Rotary was there for me — even before I could actually take steps. I was in a wheelchair for months. My Rotary family provided the wheelchair, and the walker and the cane that followed. They even hosted a fundraiser to help me cover my physical therapy costs as I learned to walk again.

During my recovery, I had two wonderful therapists, Stephanie and David, who worked with me at a Houston-area clinic. Stephanie was an Interactor in high school and later spent a year studying in England as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. What she experienced over that year inspired her to come back to the United States and earn a doctorate in physical therapy.

Stephanie and I became friends thanks to that Rotary connection, and I invited her to accompany me to the elegant gala thrown in February 2024 by the Rotary Club of The Woodlands. The day of the gala, I decided I no longer needed my cane and left it at home. For the first time in months, I was walking freely. And that night at the gala, surrounded by my Rotary family, Stephanie and I danced.

Feeling as if I'd received a second chance at life, I returned to college this year. I'm studying political science and eventually hope to get a master's in economics. I'm preparing myself to return to Venezuela and help rebuild my home country. Until then, I'm looking for work with a nonprofit here in the United States. My dream job would be helping others — just as I've tried to do ever since I have belonged to Rotary.

*P.S. Andrés Briceño is a founding member and president of the Rotaract Club of The Woodlands in Texas.*



WE  
BELONG  
to EACH  
OTHER

*“... When You get to a place where you understand that love and belonging, Your worthiness, is a birthright and not something you have to earn, anything is possible...”*



HAPPY MOMENTS TO CELEBRATE IN OUR CENTENARY FAMILY

## BIRTHDAYS | ANNIVARSORY



BIRTHDAYS WE CELEBRATED IN OCT | NOV | DEC

- 1) Rtn. Leena Das Ghosh on Jan 1, 2025
- 2) Rtn. Surajit Mitra on Jan 1, 2025
- 3) Rtn. Manmohan Singh Gujral on Jan 18, 2025
- 4) Rtn. Mausumi Paul on January 25, 2025
- 5) Rtn. Dipayan Banerjee on January 25, 2025
- 6) Rtn. Abhiraj Das Ghosh on January 29, 2025
- 7) Rtn. Arun Ghosh on January 31, 2025
- 8) Rtn. Sanjib Ganguly on March 29, 2025

*Rotary Centenary Club wishes You all a very Happy,  
Prosperous, Healthy & Joyful year ahead*

ANNIVARSORIES WE CELEBRATED IN OCT | NOV | DEC

- 1) Rtn. Arun Ghosh & Rtn. Leena Das Ghosh on February 14, 2025

*Rotary Centenary Club wishes both of You & Your spouse a  
very Happy,  
Prosperous, Healthy & Joyful year ahead...*

