



# Newsletter

ROTARY CLUB OF  
CALCUTTA POINTERS  
**THE CHATTER**  
January 2026



## Of fellowship and fun



In the 3rd week of January, a fellowship trip to Mandarmani, a seaside resort village in East Midnapore district at the northern end of the Bay of Bengal, was organized by RCCP at the behest of its President, Rtn Nabanita Khan.

A group of 12 left for the beach destination, stopping at a popular dhaba on the way for a piping hot breakfast comprising aloo paratha, coffee and a delicious gajar halwa.

The time spent at Mandarmani was about long walks on the beach, endless chatting and laughter, playing indoor games, and taking photographs. The enthusiastic party even managed to pack in a quick visit to nearby Digha. Shopping for local crafts was one of its attractions. The two and half days at Mandarmani were very refreshing. Sea breeze coupled with bonhomie and bonding of school friends brought together by Rotary, made the trip a memorable one.

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# Rotary Values

## Rotary International

Rotary projects around the globe

By Brad Webber

### United States

For more than two decades, young anglers across Nevada have gotten hooked on fishing during a statewide free fishing day. In the city of Sparks, the event tips the scales: On a Saturday last June, more than 2,000 people lined the banks of a marina for the event sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sparks. Rotarians, joined by community volunteers, provided free use of 1,200 poles and offered fishing tips, hot dogs, ice cream, and beverages. The club has sponsored its city's Kids Free Fishing Day since 2002. One of the event's founders, club member Don Welsh, organized an extra day for anglers with disabilities, including his daughter, Rebecca, who had trouble navigating the burgeoning crowds at the main event. Club member Ed Lawson, now the mayor in Sparks, prodded the state Legislature to grant an extra day of license-free fishing for those outings, dubbed Fishing with Rebecca.

### Mexico

A Mexico City Metro train station pays homage to St. Martha with signs depicting the patron saint of cooks with a water pitcher. Yet for many families in Santa Martha Acatitla, a namesake settlement on the capital's outskirts, potable water is in short supply, a problem exacerbated by an aging water system and prolonged drought. In October, members of the Rotary Club of Ciudad de México distributed water filters to 110 families in the community. Funded at a cost of \$50 each by the Rotary Club of Lenexa in Kansas and a private benefactor, the filter distribution was coordinated by Woodland Public Charity, based near the U.S. club. Mexican Rotarians laud the partnership, which blossomed during relief work from the 2017 earthquake that devastated their country's center. "By providing clean water to families in need, we are not only improving health but also building lasting relationships between our clubs and the communities we serve," says Oscar Rivera Rodríguez, a past president of the Mexico City club and governor-elect of District 4170. "This project reflects the heart of Rotary: partnership, sustainability, and service with tangible impact."

## China

The Rotary Club of Beijing is focusing attention on a condition at birth called hypospadias, in which the opening for urination is lower in boys. In rural China, the need for specialized medical training, financial hardship, and social stigma pose challenges to identifying and treating the condition, which can cause serious health problems if left unaddressed. The club has funded more than 160 corrective surgeries since 2016 at a cost of about \$1,400 each using proceeds from its annual ball, a Rotary Foundation global grant, and other sources. In April the club sent a vocational training team of two Rotarians and two urology surgeons from the Children's Hospital of Hebei Province to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in the U.S. for three weeks of specialized instruction. Another 50 surgeries are expected in the near term, says club member Gilbert Van Kerckhove.

## Philippines

An auto repair program that trains electric vehicle technicians at a Philippine university is getting a boost from the Rotary Club of Iloilo. With the support of a \$32,000 Rotary Foundation global grant, the club provided equipment that is benefiting more than 300 students and faculty members, says Herman Lagon, a club member and college spokesperson. The university also plans to offer community-based training for youths and adults, with a goal of reaching 120 trainees annually through 2028, he says. The club partnered with the Rotary Club of Namweon Central in Korea. "The grant is of great help for the studies of the poor but deserving students, as well as a genuine service to the community," Lagon says.

This story originally appeared in the January 2026 issue of Rotary magazine.

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# Monthly Projects

## **DONATION OF BOOKS AT JALABERIYA ADIBASI SCHOOL, SUNDARBANS**

Date of project: 16th January 2026

Jalaberiya Adibasi FP School is run by Afflatus Foundation, the NGO with which RCCP is working in various fields for quite some time now. The school which is well managed, offers classes from Nursery to Class IV and is attended by 100 children from nearby villages. Afflatus approached RCCP to help the school with books for its pupils of LKG and Class I. RCCP President Rtn Nabanita Khan has sponsored the entire project which cost Rs 21, 100. Project lead Rtn Khan was assisted by Rtn Sachindra Rao, Rtn Utpal Pal, Rtn Gargee Dutta. Mahua Sengupta was present as well.



## **THALASSEMIA AWARENESS CAMP AT KALIKAPUR SCHOOL, NATAGACCHI (CANNING II)**

Date of project: 20th January 2026

Upon request from Kalikatala Vidyapith (Main) in Natagachhi (Canning II), a thalassemia awareness camp was organized by RCCP in the institution's premises on 20th January 2026. The session which was an interactive one and included lectures and a slideshow, was conducted by Rtn Dr Sachindra Rao.

It was attended by students of Classes X, XI and XII.

Earlier, RCCP had conducted an Awareness on Wheels programme at this school and established a cordial relationship with the Headmaster.

The Thalassemia Awareness project was led by Rtn Nabanita Khan. She was assisted by Rtn Sachindra Rao and Rtn Utpal Pal. Mahua Sengupta was present as well.



# HAPPY Birthday

## Birthdays

**Rtn Utpal Pal**

1st January

**Rtn Aniruddha Bhattacharya**

15th January

**Rtn Rahul Chatterjee**

19th January

**Rtn Snehajyoti Saha**

29th January



## Heartfelt Thanks to our Donors

Rtn Nabanita Khan

Rtn Madhumita Chatterjee

Rtn Sachindra Rao

Rtn Soumya Priya Mukherjee

Rtn Aniruddha Bhattacharya

Rtn Utpal Pal

Rtn Arunava Dasgupta

Rtn Subrata Chatterjee

Rtn Angshuman Basu

Rtn Indrajit Bose

Raunak Shah (external)

Sanjeev Banerjee (external)

Supriya Mondal (external)

**President:**

Rtn Nabanita Khan

**Secretary:**

Rtn Madhumita Chatterjee

**Interim Newsletter Team:**

Rtns Sutapa Roy, Snehajyoti Saha

**Upcoming Projects**

1. Thalassemia Awareness Camp at AE Block, Salt Lake
2. CPR training at AE Block, Salt Lake
3. Commemoration of World Cancer Day at Ekta Floral, Tangra

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