

# Friendship Bulletin

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Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2021

President : Alope Kumar Kanodia

Secretary : Amar Kumar Malhotra

Editor : Ajay Khanna

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## 54<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - A SUMMATION

Probably in the History of our club an Annual General Meeting was held in e-mode. However with a packed platform of members PE Indra Goenka announced her team for the Rotary year 2021-22. A new look dynamic young team is all set to take lead in the ensuing Rotary year.

*For the list of Board Members please turn to page no. 2*



## Today's EVENT

### LIES, DAMNED LIES AND STATISTICS



**Dr Bivas Chaudhuri, i.s.s.**

A graduate in Statistics from erstwhile Presidency College and PhD in Economics, Dr Bivas Chaudhuri is a senior officer at Indian Statistical Service of 1987 batch. He has more than three decades of experience in the administrative, technical and academics of various important offices of Government of India.

He has served as an Adjunct Professor of Statistics, Department of Architecture and Planning, IIT, Kharagpur; Guest Faculty, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata; Editorial Secretary, The Journal of Industrial Statistics, Govt of India; Member, Project Monitoring Committee of BAES, Govt. of West Bengal and published several technical papers on official statistics. He has also served recently as the Director-Professor and Head, Department of Statistics, All India Institute for Hygiene & Public Health, Kolkata.

Presently, Dr Chaudhuri is the Dy. Director General & Eastern Zonal Head, National Statistical Office, Government of India.

He is also involved in various social, cultural and charitable activities as a key office bearer of the Presidency College/ University Alumni Association.



# Rotary Board 2021-22

PRESIDENT

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT ELECT

CLUB SECRETARY

VICE PRESIDENT & PRESIDENT NOMINEE

TREASURER

EDITOR

JOINT SECRETARY

JOINT TREASURER

HOSPITAL PROJECT CHAIR

DIRECTOR CLUB SERVICE

DIRECTOR MEMBERSHIP

DIRECTOR PUBLIC RELATION & IMAGE

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICE-MEDICAL

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICE-NON MEDICAL

DIRECTOR VOCATIONAL SERVICE

DIRECTOR YOUTH SERVICE

DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

CLUB TRAINER

CO EDITOR

CLUB MENTOR

NEW MEMBER MENTOR

CLUB FOUNDATION CHAIR

ADVISORS:

DISTRICT COORDINATOR

CICO

CLUB AMBASSADOR

AID TO PRESIDENT

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Rtn INDRA GOENKA

Rtn ALOKE KANODIA

Rtn AMITABH MOHAN

Rtn RASHMI PATWARI

Rtn AMAR MALHOTRA

Rtn SANTOSH MOHTA

Rtn AJAY KHANNA

Rtn SHARAD DUGGAR

Rtn RAKESH ALMAL

Rtn RAMESH TIWARI

Rtn AMMIT BHUTORIA

Rtn G.D AGARWAL

Rtn PIYUSH DOSHI

Rtn ANAND AGARWAL

Rtn B.D AGARWAL

Rtn VIJAY KM SHARMA

Rtn RAJESH BERLIA

Rtn ANIRUDH KHEMKA

Rtn MANOJ AGARWAL

Rtn SURESH C.KHUNTETA

PDG RAVI SEHGAL

Rtn R.K BUBNA

Rtn AJAY AGARWAL

Rtn AMARNATH CHOWDHURY

Rtn SHANKAR RAMALINGAM

Rtn PRAMOD SHARMA

Rtn NAVEEN KHANDELWAL

Rtn RAMESH TIWARI

Rtn RAKESH BHATIA

Rtn NIRMAL SAHA

Rtn MANJU BANTHIA

Rtn JAYA BUTTA

Rtn ADITYA NEOTIA

## ROTARY CLUB OF BELUR CHARITABLE TRUST:

CHAIR

SECRETARY

TREASURER

TRUSTEE

Rtn SREEGOPAL DAGA

Rtn GOURI SHANKAR DAGA

Rtn K.K KEJRIWAL

Rtn SHIV SHANKAR LOHIA

Rtn SUBHASH AGARWAL

PDG RAVI SEHGAL

Rtn DIWAKAR SHARMA

Rtn SHASHI SETH

Rtn NAVIN KHANDELWAL

## Rotary is harnessing the immersive power of virtual reality to create a more connected, stronger world.

Virtual reality connects with people on a visceral, personal level in a way that words simply can't. Rather than tell you how Rotary is changing lives, let us show you.

### Get the Rotary VR app

By combining the power of Rotary's virtual reality app with a VR viewer and smartphone, you can immerse yourself in some of Rotary's most meaningful work.

To experience virtual reality, download the Rotary VR App to your smartphone. For optimal viewing, use a VR viewer and noise canceling headphones to immerse yourself in any of Rotary's VR films.

You can also view a 360° version of our VR films simply by watching them on your computer or smartphone.



**Q:** Why do you need a jeweler on New Year's Eve?

**A:** To ring in the new year.



इतिहास गवाह है कि जब भी, कोई नया साल आया है..



साल भर से ज्यादा नहीं टिक पाया है।



Minutes of 54<sup>th</sup> Annual  
General Meeting and 2427<sup>th</sup>  
RCM of the Members of  
Rotary Club of Belur held at  
the Virtual Platform on 30<sup>th</sup>  
December, 2020 at 6pm

President Alope Kumar Kanodia chaired the meeting.

Board Members Present:

Rtn. Govind Das Agrawal, Rtn. Ajay Kumar Agrawal, Rtn. Anand Agarwal, Rtn. Manoj Agarwal, Rtn Rakesh Almal, Rtn. Manju Banthia, Rtn. Rakesh Bhatia, Rtn. Amarnath Choudhary, Rtn. Piyush Doshi, Rtn Indra Goenka, Rtn. Ajay Khanna, Rtn. Amar Malhotra, Rtn. Shashi Seth, Rtn. Pramod Sharma, Rtn. Vijay Kumar Sharma, Rtn. Ramesh Tiwari.

Mentor Rtn. Ravindra Prakash Seghal.

And all other members of the club were present in person.

President Alope took the chair and extended a warm and hearty welcome to all members present at the Annual General Meeting of the club.

President Alope after confirming that the requisite quorum was present called the meeting to the order.

Notice of Meeting with the explanatory statement annexed thereto, which has already been circulated to members, may be taken as read .

The meeting then took up for consideration the items on the agenda:

President Alope has presented the minutes of last RCM which has been confirmed by all members and adopted.

“RESOLVE THAT the Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expenditure Rotary Year 2019-20, and the same has confirmed and adopted.

Reappointment of auditor M/s M. P. Shah & Co. has been confirmed and adopted. Secretary Rtn. Amar Malhotra conducted the club business .

On the request of the President:

PE Indra Goenka has presented her team for Rotary Year 2021-22.

CRFC Ajay Agrawal has briefed the new project which has been adopted by members and to support the project some members came forward and announced their donation to foundation. The name of members as follows:

- 1) Rtn. Pramod Kumar Sharma \$200
- 2) Rtn. Khunteta Suresh Chandra \$200
- 3) Rtn. Amar Kumar Malhotra \$500
- 4) Rtn. Rashmi Patwari \$400
- 5) Rtn. Ajay Kumar Agrawal \$400

On the request of the President , PP Rakesh Bhatia has proposed a hearty vote of thanks.

Thereafter, the President declared the meeting as concluded.

**Rtn Alope Kanodia**, *President*  
**Rtn Amar Malhotra**, *Secretary*

## WHY DOES THE NEW YEAR START ON JANUARY 1?



In many countries the **New Year** begins on January 1. However, this wasn't always the case. In fact, for centuries, other dates marked the start of the calendar, including March 25 and December 25. So how did January 1 become New Year's Day?

We can partly thank the Roman king **Numa Pompilius**. According to tradition, during his reign (c. 715–673 BCE) Numa revised the **Roman republican calendar** so that **January** replaced **March** as the first month. It was a fitting choice, since January was named after **Janus**, the Roman god of all beginnings; March celebrated **Mars**, the god of war. (Some sources claim that Numa also created the month of January.) However, there is evidence that January 1 was not made the official start of the Roman year until 153 BCE.

In 46 BCE **Julius Caesar** introduced more changes, though the **Julian calendar**, as it became known, retained January 1 as the year's opening date. With the expansion of the **Roman Empire**, the use of the Julian calendar also spread. However, following the fall of Rome in the 5th century CE, many **Christian** countries altered the calendar so that it was more reflective of their religion, and March 25 (the **Feast of the Annunciation**) and December 25 (**Christmas**) became common New Year's Days.

It later became clear that the Julian calendar required additional changes due to a miscalculation concerning **leap years**. The cumulative effect of this error over the course of several centuries caused various events to take place in the wrong season. It also created problems when determining the date of **Easter**. Thus, Pope **Gregory XIII** introduced a revised calendar in 1582. In addition to solving the issue with leap years, the **Gregorian calendar** restored January 1 as the start of the New Year. While Italy, France, and Spain were among the countries that immediately accepted the new calendar, Protestant and Orthodox nations were slow to adopt it. Great Britain and its American colonies did not begin following the Gregorian calendar until 1752. Before then they celebrated New Year's Day on March 25.

Over time non-Christian countries also began to use the Gregorian calendar. China (1912) is a notable example, though it continued to celebrate the **Chinese New Year** according to a **lunar calendar**. In fact, many countries that follow the Gregorian calendar also have other traditional or religious calendars. Some nations never adopted the Gregorian calendar and thus start the year on dates other than January 1. Ethiopia, for example, celebrates its New Year (known as Enkutatash) in September.

## CLUB EVENTS

**9<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**

**Merged with Blood Donation Camp  
at RCC Khalna on 10<sup>th</sup> January**

**16<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**

**1<sup>st</sup> physical Meeting in the New Year at HHI  
at 4.30 p.m. Speaker : Rtn Sunil Sobti**



January is finally here. As we look forward to 2021, our thinking doesn't have to stop at the end of these 365 days. Are you thinking ahead about what you will be doing in 2022, 2023, and beyond?

We cannot foresee the future, but we can steer ourselves where we want to go. I think it is important that every Rotary club hold a strategic meeting at least once a year. Past RI Director Greg Yank, who has a lot of experience working with clubs on their plans, shares his viewpoint.



A famous aphorism states, "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." Planning is essential to achieving success in all areas of life, including Rotary, and we're getting better at it every year.

Strategic planning for Rotary clubs works. I have helped many clubs find that pathway by working with them to build what I call a blueprint, a multiyear plan that answers the fundamental question: "What is our vision for our club?" The best plans I have seen are those that are focused, when a club concentrates its resources on the best opportunities it has. Your Rotary club cannot be all things to its members and to the community it serves; it has limited human, financial, and time resources. A successful plan factors in assets and limitations to chart the desired pathway for your members.

Begin building a multiyear strategic plan by brainstorming with your club, asking, "What are our initiatives and priorities for the next two to three years?" Document your answers using action-oriented language that is specific, concrete, and measurable about the goals you want to achieve.

Next, narrow down your initiatives to a core set of three to five priorities. Your club will then develop specific objectives for each initiative, outlining who will be involved, key milestones of achievement, how progress will be tracked, and a timeline for completion. Keep your plan short and simple.

Then go out and do it. Review the progress you make toward accomplishing the initiatives, and revise as needed at least once a year. Rotary has a solid template to assist clubs in their planning, which you can find at [my.rotary.org/en/document/strategic-planning-guide](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/strategic-planning-guide).

We want to enrich and enliven our clubs with new discussions and ideas. But how do we attract the diverse professionals, from different backgrounds, ages, and experiences, who are all driven by as strong a sense of integrity as we are?

Through strategic planning, we explore this question to define the very nature of our club and the value it offers to its members and to the community. Each club is different, and each club's value will be unique. During the planning process, clubs may also find that some of the activities they used to do are no longer relevant or attractive.

Once your club makes a strategic plan, it's time to take action and carry out the necessary changes. When we do that — as we engage members in vibrant and active clubs that not only have fun but also serve their communities with projects that have real and lasting impact — our clubs grow stronger. And when we discover what makes our own clubs unique and build upon those core values in all our efforts, Rotary Opens Opportunities to enrich the lives of everyone.

**Holger Knaack**  
President 2020-21

Source: Rotary International

Having grown up amid lush green forests in the mountainous landscape of Sri Lanka, I always recall the words of the great poet Rabindranath Tagore: "Trees are the earth's endless effort to speak to the listening heaven."

How sad that so often we humans insist on interrupting this conversation.

Just like every other living thing, we are a part of nature. But we are also the only species that bears the responsibility of protecting the environment for future generations. The coronavirus pandemic has shed light as nothing has before on the relationship between environmental degradation and threats to public health.

A few years ago, the government-owned electricity company in my country planned to build a second coal power plant, in eastern Sri Lanka. It would suck 93 million liters of water per hour from a bay where fragile ecosystems meet the deep sea, the site of one of the largest spawning grounds for sperm whales in the world. After processing, those 93 million liters per hour would be dumped into the ocean, now loaded with toxic chemicals that put that marine life at great risk.

Learning from the lessons of the damage caused by the first plant, a coalition formed, made up of many public advocates, including Rotarians. They ran a campaign that alerted the media, the public, and the local community to the potential dangers, in addition to taking legal action. The government eventually abandoned its coal plant idea after the resulting public outcry.

We can truly move mountains when we come together.

When some of us moved to add the environment as Rotary's newest cause, we did so because of the urgency of the problem. In 1990-91, RI President Paulo V.C. Costa set forth a vision, and today we will take this work to the next level. We live in a time of great stress on our environment, of rapidly rising sea levels, massive storms, disappearing rain forests and wildlife, and destructive forest fires. Climate change touches us all, rich and poor.

We will face the challenge strategically, as with the other areas of focus. In fact, the six other areas of focus depend on this one. For what good is it to fight disease if our polluted environment causes us to become sick again?

The Rotary Foundation will be central to this work. More than \$18 million has gone toward environment-related global grants in the past five years. Building upon this work to protect the environment, we will give yet another Rotary gift to future generations. And you can be a part of it today.

**K. R. Ravindran**  
Trustee Chair 2020-21

Source: Rotary International

