

# REACHOUT



**Rotary Club of Central Calcutta**  
Rotary International District 3291



Jhulan Basu  
District Governor



Sudip Sen  
President



Manoj Mehta  
Secretary



Meeta Lakhotia  
Editor

We meet on Friday at The Oberoi Grand at 6.30pm for 7.00pm

## AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH

Share this publication with people you would like to invite to Rotary

# CHARTER NITE

*Celebration*

**3**rd Charter celebration of RC Central Calcutta was concluded with much fanfare and bonhomie on 14th August at VegOut. President Sudip Sen called the meeting to order and honoured Charter members by felicitating them by applying a Tilak on their forehead and garlanding them in traditional Indian style and presenting them with memento. Charter Members present were PDG Raj



Kr Rajgaria, Pankaj Shroff and Sushil Agarwal, who was re-inducted to club. He then felicitated Past Presidents and presented mementos to them. Thereafter Secretary Manoj Mehta conducted club business. The meeting was crisp and short.

After the termination of the meeting celebrations started, for which VegOut, a prominent restaurant on VIP Road famous for its sumptuous vegetarian spread was converted into a big banquet with nice celebratory décor matching the dress theme

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## Today's Club Programme

**Guest Speaker**  
**Rtn PP Ashok Kumar**



of RC Calcutta Southeast will speak on **Ek cup Chai** – the national drink of India, Varieties of Tea, quality basics and health aspects.

Rtn Ashok Kumar is a member of many years standing at RC Calcutta South East and has served as President. He holds a Masters degree in Engineering and MBA both from leading universities in USA. Currently he is Managing Partner of a leading tea estate in Darjeeling besides promoting a new product prototyping business. Professionally he is a member of the governing body for Tea Research.



### ROTARY'S AREAS OF FOCUS



## Charter Nite

of black-red-white color. A disco with laser lights was especially made for the occasion and many members and guests were seen grooving to the beltlers.

As the dress code was black-red-white, members and spouses were sporting the dress with theme color and were looking cool. Awards were presented for Best Dressed female to Ann Bhavna Agarwal, Best dressed male to yours faithfully (PP Manoj Jain) and Best Dressed couple to PP Brij Mohan & PP Meeta Lakhotia.

In spite of a longish distance for the members staying in southern side of the city, it is heartening to note that we had a good attendance, in fact more than ex-

pected although it was a working day.

**Gastronomy** – Yummy starters and delicious pure vegetarian spread was enjoyed and appreciated by one and all.

**Entertainment Quotient** – Superb mimicry performance by artist Amit Fuhaar. He did acting and mimicry of various Bollywood stars like Amitabh Bachchan, Prem Chopra, Amol Palekar, Pran, Gulshan Grover and others. He involved the audience with his quiz and gave away prizes to those giving correct answers. All present enjoyed and appreciated Amit Fuhaar. Fellowship Cheers were sponsored by Secretary Manoj Mehta, PP Manoj Jain, Sanjay Ganeriwala and others. Selfie Kiosk was sponsored

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## Feedback for Charter Nite

*To PP Manoj Jain,  
Chair for Charter Nite*

*This email may sound belated, but I wanted the spate of WhatsApp messages to die down before I could collect my thoughts. The Charter Nite celebrations this year can be termed as unprecedented in terms of the sheer organizational efforts that you had put in for its success. Despite the long distance, you ventured to offer Vegout for this purpose. Then the beautiful e-invitation that must have surely compelled many Rotarians to make the journey to Vegout. The lovely arrangements at Vegout, your repeated pleas on WhatsApp and emails - everything was spot-on. No wonder the end result was a roaring success. Great job!!! I just wish many more members would have come to partake in the celebrations. As the year progresses, we should expect to see more members with interest in Rotary re-ignited!*

*- PP Vijay Bagaria*

## FORTHCOMING Club Programmes

**23rd Aug:** Blood donation camp by Ashok Laboratories at Chetla Sarbasadharaner Durgotsav, Prasannamoyee Ghat from 10 am onwards. Health checkup for senior citizens will be done by renowned Dr PK Pooviah. The project is co-sponsored by Gayatri Projects Ltd.

**28th Aug:** RWM. Guest Speaker Mr Sudipto Saha. Topic "Introduction of Bandhan Creations and its Products".

**11th Sep:** RWM followed by Club Assembly.

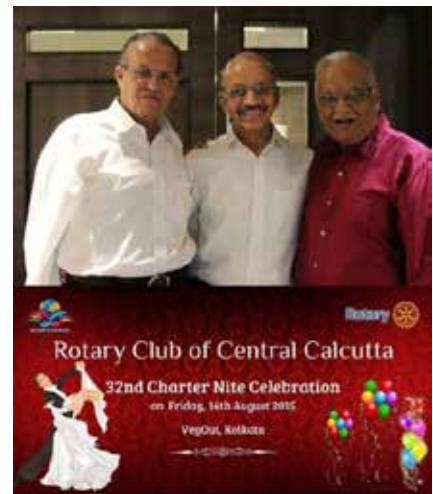
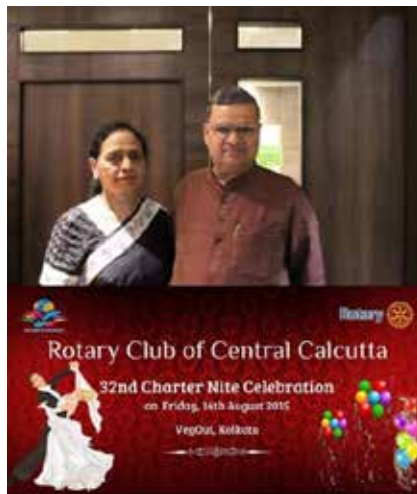
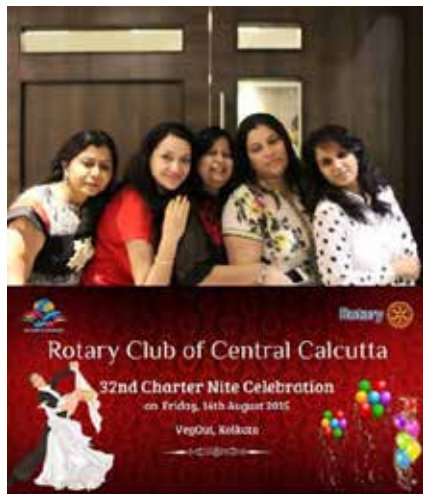
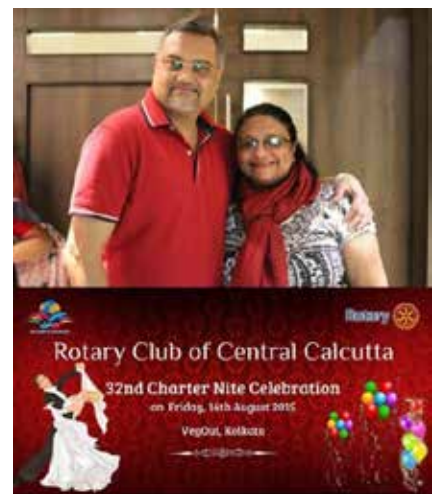
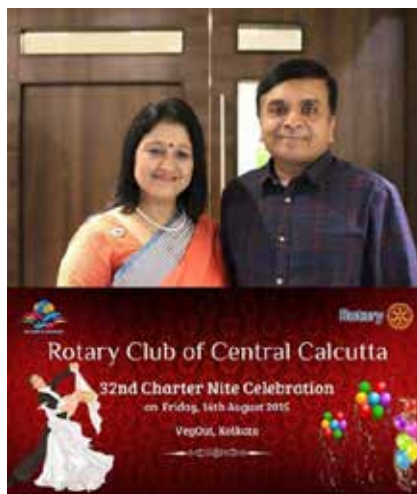
**Date to be notified:** Visit to RCC Belpara where a training programme on sanitation will be organized at Bright Academy campus at Rampara. Toilets to 50 beneficiaries under GG No 1411353 will be handed over.

by PP Meeta Lakhota through her company Pinnacle Logistics (India) Pvt. Ltd.

**Cutting the Cake** – Cake cutting Program was delayed as all were enjoying till late and around 11.30 pm cake was cut by Charter member Pankaj Shroff.

I put on record my sincere thanks to President Sudip, who gave me a free hand to organize the event. My heartfelt thanks to all the sponsors for the Charter Nite.

A report by **PP Manoj Jain**  
Chair – Charter Nite Celebration



**SELFIE SPONSORED BY PINNACLE LOGISTICS (INDIA) PVT LTD**

# Creating Synergy through Global Grants



In a landmark project, two prominent clubs of our District, namely RCs Central Calcutta and Calcutta Mahanagar, joined hands to channelize their respective resources and energies into synergy, so as to offer better service

to the community. When even in today's corporate world the fierce competition is often supplemented with cooperation to create a win win situation, can Rotary stay behind or act any different. Rotary Club of Central Calcutta has un-

dertaken to organise 9999 IOL Implant operations under GG # 1410603 and this time round we decided to perform 555 of these at Hari Charan Garg Rotary Nalaya. A function was held on Sunday 16th instant to mark the beginning. The Chief Guest on the occasion was none other than our dynamic President Sudip Sen and Guests of Honor were our PPs Binod Khaitan and Subhash Chand Kankaria. Although PP Binod Khaitan could not attend due to some other important engagement, PP Brij Lakhota and VP Shrivardhan Modi from our club, and many Rotarians of RC Calcutta Mahanagar, and many others, including granddaughter of PP Subhash, were also present.

President of RC Calcutta Mahanagar Rakesh Jain welcomed our team and PRID Shekhar Mehta spoke highly of our club, welcoming individually each member of our team. He emphasized

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# Sare Jahan se achcha – Independence Day celebrated at RSK



**N**ice rainy Independence Day morning. Good morning Rotary members and Anns. It was the 68th Independence Day which I celebrated at RSK with the teachers and children. The rains also could not stop our Past Presidents Meeta and Brij Lakhotia from staying away from RSK independence day. They had yummy romantic breakfast at Gupta Brothers and picked me up from Mani Towers.

The drive was nice as the road has become good. Here we reached at about 9.15am. This time the school was running late on preparations as it was not under my guidance and ill health of Awdhesh. President Sudip Sen and Secretary Manoj Mehta reached at 9.30am sharp. The flag was still missing. It took about 1 hour for all the set up and the programme to start. Everyone waited patiently. President did the flag hoisting at 10.30

and it was followed by a short encouragement speech for the children by him and the principal. Then there was a small cultural programme by children, (prepared by Shatabdi Madam and Papia Madam). Children as young as 4 years also participated and performance was excellent with confidence which can be seen in photos. This program was clubbed with annual programme hence there was prize distribution ceremony in the presence of our patient President Sudip Sen followed by National anthem and tiffin distribution to Children.



In spite of the rains the attendance of parents and children was good, only our attendance was lacking. The people who didn't come missed it, specially my husband Rtn Vivek Phumra who arrived late as he went to cross the river Hooghly, a ritual that he has been following for a long time.

– A report by **Ann Sarita Phumra**



# Times NIE Student of The Year



Times NIE has hosted the student of the year award for the second time. This year around 123 schools were involved. This award is a befitting salutation to those students who are all rounders in all the spheres of academics, leadership, service, attitude and sports.

Every school gets to nominate just one student who would be most deserving for this prestigious title having complied with the above mentioned requirements. The Times NIE felicitate these students and Rotary. Ritika Lakhotia daughter of IPP Rajesh and Ann Renu Lakhotia was nominated from The BSS School. Ritika is presently serving the Interact club of BSS in the capacity of its President.

Ritika says "This award is a motivation for me to score well in my Board Examinations next year and make my family and school proud. Only then will I consider myself as the student of the year in the true sense of the term. I would like to thank BSS, my teachers and all who have encouraged me and supported me throughout helping me to manage my academics along with all the extra-curricular activities I have done."

**We wish Ritika all the best! Well done ... You have done us proud...**



# INTERFACE 2015 by the Interact Club of BSS

The Interact club of Ballygunge Shiksha Sadan is organizing its annual fest INTERFACE 2015 from 3rd - 5th September at their school. I understand from the President of the club, Ritika Lakhotia daughter of IPP Rajesh, that the theme of the fest this year is Child Rights. They also requested us for getting them some sponsorships for the successful completion of their fest and from PP Meeta Lakhotia and PE Sanjay Ganeriwala have extended sponsorship. I request more members to come forward and request all of them to attend the fest as we are the sponsoring club of Interact club at BSS.

**PP Shri Ratan Jhawar, AG – Youth Service**

## Creating Synergy

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that the relations between our clubs is so good and old that we should cooperate with each other for more projects and wherever possible. He also offered us to use their hospital for more of our IOL operations. He further said that they have toilet projects going on but they do not have any RCC, so they can build toilets at our RCCs. As a magnanimous gesture of goodwill and reciprocation, he also offered to do from his club 5 heart surgeries referred by Central Calcutta.

Earlier, our team was taken for a tour of their three storied Hospital, which is very nicely built with different screening and waiting areas for the patients. They have their operation theatre on a full, clinically isolated floor, where they also perform Phaco cataract surgery in which the eye's internal lens is emulsified with an ultrasonic hand piece and aspirated from the eye, thus requiring minimal invasion/cut. Speaking to the patients was satisfying as they all were happy, and they bless-



ed all those involved in the process. Our club added blessings of these patients.

Speaking on the occasion, President Sudip opined that we can look forward to continued cooperation between our two clubs. PP Subhash informed the gathering how he had initially got involved with the eye care service and also reminisced how he met Dr Rajni Saraf through Ann Manju, wife of Rtn Gyan Poddar. PP Brij expressed his feeling that hospitals such as these are the modern day temples where service to mankind is performed keeping Rotary's motto Service Above Self. What better way to be a GIFT TO THE WORLD.

A report by **VP Shrivardhan Modi**



## ROVING Ambassador

The following members attended meetings of other club/s or attended Rotary related events/programmes

**13 Aug:** PP Brij Mohan Lakhota visited RC Jodhpur Gardens as their Assistant Governor on the official visit of Governor, Jhulan Basu

**15 Aug:** Pres Sudip Sen, Hon. Sec Manoj Mehta, PP Brij Mohan Lakhota, PP Meeta Lakhota and Vivek Phumra visited Rotary Siksha Kendra

**15 Aug:** PP Brij Mohan Lakhota & PP Meeta Lakhota Rotary Club of Calcuttla Mahanagar

**15 Aug:** IPP Rajesh Lakhota attended District program of Bicycle Distribution to girl students

**16 Aug:** Pres Sudip Sen, PP Subhas Kankaria, PP Brij Mohan Lakhota and VP Shrivardhan Modi visited Hari Charan Garg Calcutta Rotary Netralaya for IOL operation under GG # 1410603

## Bulletins Received



### Snapshot of Joy

– RC Chennai Kilpauk Dist 3230

Friendship – RC Belur

GML – District 3272 Pakistan

## A N A P P E A L



Since the previous appeals, contributions have started coming in but to meet the requirement for ongoing Global Grant Projects and other commitments already made to our International partners, we need contributions to pour in from members. We have received \$2,462 as contributions from our members for our GG Project 1526607. We now need to urgently accumulate \$6629 for our Global Grant Project 1529075. I would request members not to wait and please send in their generous contributions to meet our commitments to our global partners in the projects and achieve our ultimate motive of serving. This year we aim to contribute more than \$25,000 to TRF. Please help the club to meet its goals.

Regards,

Ajay Kejriwal, Director Foundation RCCC (2015-16)

## FORTHCOMING District Programme

**22nd Aug:** Grand Finale of District Elocution Contest & Poster Competition to be held at the auditorium of South City International School, 375, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Kolkata 700068 (Behind South City Mall), from 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm. Preliminary Rounds have been going on at different Interact Schools of our district for last couple of weeks. The subject is our present Rotary Theme “Be a gift to the world”. We request you to please be present along with your club members & family in this event. Your valued presence & encouragement will be precious for the participants & organisers.

**2nd & 3rd Oct:** To enhance the public image of Rotary and providing platform for interaction with our society, a Rotary Fair is being organised at Sree Thyagaraja Hall, P-530 Raja Basanta Roy Road, Kolkata 700029 from 11.00 am-9.00 pm. This fair will showcase the following events:

- **Project Fair:** Will showcase the ongoing sustaining projects by the clubs in our district & will give a common platform to interact & exchange of ideas with common public & fellow Rotarians.
- **Artisan & Handicraft Haat:** Exhibition & sale of products of different RCC's and artisans from Nepal, Odisha & Bengal.
- **Handloom Fair:** Stalls of handloom products & Jewellery & cosmetic products.
- **Food Court:** Serving traditional cuisine of Bengal.
- Cultural activities showcasing culture of Bengal.

Clubs are requested to participate & join this event to make it successful & trend setting program in the Rotary Fraternity. Please contact **Rtn Bilolaksha Das**, DS-Logistics with your queries, suggestions & sponsorships.

## Global Grants Corner

**Global Grant # 1415765:** The primary objective of the Books For School (BFS) project is to provide up to 20 or more primary schools each with 600 locally chosen books, some of which will be group readers matched to ability/age and others linked to the Ugandan primary curriculum and all published in Uganda. The project will seek to develop model libraries in schools where none currently exist. This will necessitate training librarians and teachers in the management and use of books and

in the teaching of reading. An objective is to raise literacy levels and contribute to a steady rise in educational standards in these schools. The project will cover schools and libraries across the Kasese District of western Uganda in towns, villages and hamlets in the Municipal and Rural Districts of Uganda. The project involves the districts 9211 & 1110 and Rotary clubs of Kasese, Uganda and Winchester, UK. Rotary Central Calcutta is a part of the project and has made a contribution of \$2,000.

**G/G # 1526607:** Our contribution – \$2453. PE Sanjay Ganeriwala and PP Pushpraj Maheswari have contributed \$100 each.

**ReachOut  
Wishes**  
Happy Birthday to  
आप जिये हजारे सल,  
सल के दिन हों पचास हजारे

Ashish Bagla – 22 August