



VISION



THE DOWNTOWN TIMES

NOVEMBER IS

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

"You must work - we must all work to make the world worthy of its children."

Pablo Casals

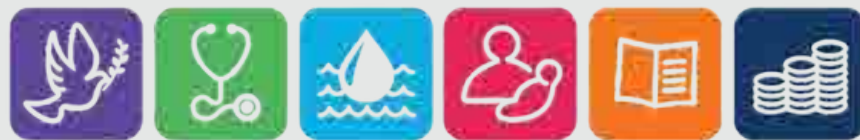
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NOVEMBER EDITION

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Club ID: 69937 | RID 3292 Nepal-Bhutan



The Rotary Foundation (TRF) was established in 1917 by Rotary International's sixth president, Arch C. Klumph, with an initial contribution of US \$26.50. Today, it has grown into a global force, amassing over US \$1 billion in contributions, and serving as the backbone of Rotary's humanitarian, educational, and cultural exchange programs. TRF is guided by the motto "Doing Good in the World," supporting international efforts to foster peace, improve global health, and promote sustainable development. Rotary International itself is driven by the motto "Service Above Self," and together, these principles fuel the organization's worldwide mission to address pressing challenges in the areas of peace, education, water and sanitation, maternal health, local economies, disease prevention, and environmental sustainability.

One of TRF's most significant global initiatives has been its role in eradicating polio. Beginning with the immunization of six million children in the Philippines in 1979, Rotary committed itself to the elimination of polio worldwide in 1980. To date, the Foundation has contributed more than \$2 billion to this cause, immunizing over 3 billion children in 122 countries. Beyond polio, TRF has spent over \$4 billion on life-changing projects that promote global understanding, provide essential services, and improve the lives of millions of people. TRF's sustained impact is a testament to its strong governance, transparency, and financial health, which has earned it a perfect four-star rating from Charity Navigator for 15 consecutive years.

The Rotary Foundation's success is made possible by the voluntary contributions of Rotarians, their families, and friends around the world. These donations enable Rotary to take action on local service projects and global initiatives, addressing critical issues such as clean water, maternal and child health, education, and environmental protection. As we celebrate the lasting legacy of TRF, it is essential to remember the words of Arch C. Klumph: "We should not live for ourselves alone, but for the joy in doing good for others." The need never ends, and neither should our giving.

THANK YOU

RTN. ARCHANA SHARMA

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION CHAIR



CLUB ACTIVITIES



DIWALI FELLOWSHIP

On November 11, 2024, the Rotary Club of Biratnagar Downtown hosted a vibrant Diwali Fellowship at Hotel Ratna, bringing together 41 enthusiastic members. The event was a delightful celebration featuring engaging games, mouthwatering cuisine, and beautiful décor, creating a joyful and lively atmosphere. Every attendee thoroughly enjoyed the program, which highlighted the essence of fellowship. Such gatherings play a vital role in strengthening friendships among members and nurturing a positive and welcoming environment within the club.



ANNUAL HEALTH CHECKUP CAMP FOR CP BABIES

The Cerebral Palsy Day Care Centre, our signature project, hosted its annual health check-up camp on November 15, 2024. This initiative was organized in collaboration with the Self Help Group for Cerebral Palsy (SGCP), Kathmandu. A dedicated medical team from SGCP conducted thorough health examinations for the children and engaged with their parents to address concerns and provide guidance.



Support: SGCP, Kathmandu | Beneficiaries: 13 children from the center

Health check-ups like these play a crucial role in enhancing the well-being of children with Cerebral Palsy. They promote inclusion, enable early detection of potential health issues, foster emotional well-being, and encourage meaningful social interaction.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

INTERCITY MEETING ON CEREBRAL PALSY DOWN SYNDROME



On November 13, 2024, our club actively participated in the Inter-Club Meeting (ICM) on Cerebral Palsy and Down Syndrome, organized by the District Committee on Cerebral Palsy and Down Syndrome 2024-25. The program was supported by the Self Help Group for Cerebral Palsy, Nepal, with several host clubs: RC Biratnagar, RC Midtown, RC Biratnagar Downtown, RC Biratnagar Central, RC Biratnagar Fusion, and RC Patan Durbar Square.

The event was skillfully coordinated by our Charter President, Rtn. Dr. Mamta Verma, along with Past President Rtn. Rachna Rathi, who also serves as co-chair of the District Committee on Cerebral Palsy.

Renowned speakers included:

- Dr. Bernhardt Schmidt from Switzerland
- Dr. Pragya Rajbhandari, Director of SGCP, Kathmandu, and co-chair of the District Committee
- Dr. Mamta Verma, Charter President of our club
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The seminar provided valuable insights into the current situation and accurate data related to cerebral palsy and Down syndrome. The expert presentations deepened our understanding of these conditions, benefiting all Rotarians in attendance and inspiring meaningful discussions on how to address these challenges effectively.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

CLEANLINESS DRIVE



From November 10 to November 14, 2024, our club organized a cleanliness drive in collaboration with Biratnagar Mahanagarपालिका. The drive targeted wards 5 and 6 of Kesaliya, focusing on the Koshi Project Canal. Following the celebration of Chhath Puja, attended by over 25,000 devotees, the canal's ghats were left littered with banana trees, plastic bags, and other waste.



Over five days, a team of eight workers diligently cleaned approximately two kilometers of the canal. Biratnagar Mahanagarपालिका provided logistical support, including garbage trucks and a designated dumping ground.

- Total Project Cost: NPR 30,000/-
- Beneficiaries: Residents of Kesaliya, particularly those in wards 5 and 6.



This initiative not only improved the water quality and visual appeal of the canal but also contributed to the preservation of local biodiversity by creating a healthier ecosystem. By cleaning up the waterway, it reduced the risk of flooding, which in turn helped protect nearby properties and infrastructure. Furthermore, the project played a significant role in promoting public health by reducing pollution and creating a cleaner, safer environment for the community. Beyond these immediate benefits, such efforts also have a lasting impact on the area's overall development.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



On November 22, 2024, our club hosted an insightful talk program on the significance of supporting The Rotary Foundation (TRF) at Sweet Tooth Gourmet Café, Biratnagar. The event was spearheaded by TRF Chair and Past President, Rtn. Archana Sharma.

We had the privilege of welcoming PDG Basu Dev Golyan, RI Plan Lead for the Rotary Foundation and Regional Coordinator, along with Rtn. Kamal Agarwal, TRF Chair for Region 7, as our esteemed speakers.

Through engaging presentations and real-life examples, they provided in-depth insights into effectively engaging with

The Rotary Foundation. They inspired members to contribute to TRF while highlighting its vital role in achieving Rotary's mission. Additionally, they addressed all queries from club members, ensuring clarity and understanding. The session was highly informative, leaving the members enriched with valuable knowledge and motivated to actively support the foundation.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

FREE HEALTH CHECKUP CAMP FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN



On November 25, 2024, under the Area of Focus: Disease Prevention and Treatment, our club organized a free pediatric and gynecological health screening camp at Shree Bakhri Adharbhut Vidyalaya-12, Bakhri, as part of the Rotary Arogya Mission. We partnered with Birat Nursing Home Pvt. Ltd. to make this initiative possible.

A dedicated team of four doctors and five support staff conducted the health examinations, providing free medications to the women patients. The RCC Coordinator from Bakhri Village also participated, offering valuable support throughout the program.

- Total Cost: 10,500 NPR
- Beneficiaries: 250 children and 70 women from Bakhri Village

Such health camps in underserved areas play a crucial role in enhancing access to healthcare, raising awareness, empowering communities, reducing financial burdens, improving productivity, and promoting long-term health and development.



CLUB ACTIVITIES

ZONAL ROTA QUIZ



On November 30, 2024, the Rotary Club of Biratnagar Downtown organized the Zonal Rota Quiz for all five Rotary clubs of Biratnagar at Rotary Bhawan, Biratnagar.

- The event was conducted by Rtn. Sunita Agrawal, Chair of the Region 7 District Rota Quiz Sub-Committee, and judged by A.G. Rtn. Prof. Dr. Biju Kumar Thapalia.
- All participating clubs actively engaged in the competition, showcasing enthusiasm and camaraderie.
- The Rotary Club of Biratnagar Central emerged as the winner, followed by the Rotary Club of Biratnagar Downtown as the 1st Runner-Up and the Rotary Club of Biratnagar Fusion as the 2nd Runner-Up.
- Certificates of appreciation were awarded to all winners and participants.

Such initiatives reinforce Rotary's core values of fellowship, service, and education, fostering member engagement, highlighting Rotary's dedication to intellectual and social growth, and leaving a meaningful impact within and beyond the clubs.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

12th November: Rtn. Santosh Lunawat

19th November : Rtn. Poonam Jhawar Rathi

20th November : Rtn. Pragati Aryal

30th November : Rtn. Kusum lunia

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

22nd November : Rtn. Kusum Agarwal | Prem Agarwal

25th November : Rtn. Poonam Rathi Jhanwar | Naresh Rathi

25th November : Rtn. Vandana Rathi | Dinesh Rathi

25th November : Rtn. Brijlata Todi | Narayan Todi

28th november : Rtn. Rajkumari Todi | Ramesh Todi



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



EDITOR'S NOTE



As November ends, we celebrate a month dedicated to Rotary and its mission of service and fellowship. Rotary Club Month showcased the power of collective action, from impactful projects to inspiring events that embodied “Service Above Self.”

Rtn. Poonam Rathi

As we enter December, a season of giving and gratitude, let’s build on November’s momentum. Together, we can continue creating lasting change in our communities and beyond. Thank you for your dedication and enthusiasm—let’s approach the coming month with renewed purpose and unity.

Yours in Rotary Service,
Rtn. Poonam Rathi
Editor