







RI District 3292 Club No. 23126 Chartered: 29 August 1985

President: Mahendra Thapa Past President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty Past President & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha

Issue No. 1425

Date: 4 Ashwin 2078 / 20 September 2021

#### **Today's Programme**:

- Classification talk of Rtn. Kuldeep R. Tuladhar
- Brief awareness about rabies and the forthcoming 'World Rabies Day–28 September' by Rtn. Mukti N. Shrestha and Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht

**Forthcoming Programme**: 27 Sept. – celebration of 'World Health Day–29 Sept.' with a guest speaker. (Additional physical celebration with a lunch programme – date to be confirmed)

### **Congratulatory Events**

Birthdays: Nil

#### Wedding Anniversaries:

Rtn. Mukti N. & Praveena Shrestha–19 Sept.

### Minutes of Meeting No. 1772

### Date: 28 Bhadra 2078 / 13 September 2021

- 1. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa called the virtual RCP meeting No. 1772 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
- The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
- 3. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Mr. Bharat B. Khanal, Rotaract Club of Patan President Rtr. Ankit Basnet and Rtr. Aman Shrestha.
- 4. Pledges of 'Happy News/Sunshine' contribution and to the Operational Fund marked as 'OF':
  - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal for the talk programme by Mr. Bharat B. Khanal today (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht for being the 'Acting Secretary' of the RCP as proposed by its Board (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa for the above, and for the talk programme by the guest speaker today (NRs. 500).
- Rotary News/Information:
  - Rotaract Aman Shrestha informed about the Rotaract Club of Patan's blood donation campaign being held on Saturday, 18 September 2021 at Mangal Bazar from 0800 to 1100 hours, and requested all the RCP family and friends to join.
  - President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa reminded:
  - The District's request to all club members to complete the online 'Rotary Membership Satisfaction Survey 2021-2022'.
  - Requested Rtns. Mukti N. Shrestha and Khadak S Bisht to have a brief talk on 20 September to raise awareness about rabies and the forthcoming 'World Rabies Day 28 September'.
  - To announce the contribution pledges to The Rotary Foundation (Annual Fund and PolioPlus) and the RCP's KPAD Fund.
  - Rtn. Mukti N. Shrestha informed about free rabies vaccination planned by Veterinary Practitioner's Association Nepal (VPAN) in all veterinary clinics for one week from the World Rabies Day.
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty informed about the start of the WASH project implementation by Splash/Prabhav Nepal in 3 schools in Solukhumbu area (2 with Rotary Germany and the RCP support and 1 with Friends of Chepel support).
- 6. Salutation: by PP Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha Rotary Club of Cuarto, Cordoba, Argentina; Chartered: 1939; and Members: 31. District: 4815, Clubs: 65, and Members: 1077. He also gave a short briefing on the economy and COVID-19 vaccination status in Argentina).
- 7. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Acting Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: contribution pledges of NRs. 2,000 to the RCP's sunshine fund, and the meeting attendance by 1 guest speaker, 2 Rotaracts, and 24 members.

## Rotary Questions/Answers presented by PP Rtn. Yagya B. Shrestha

- **Q**. Who was the first woman President of a Rotary Club?
- A. Sylvia Whitlock of RC Duarte, California, USA on 23 June 1987
- Q. What is the annual RI membership per capita due in US\$ for the Rotary Year 2021-22?
- A. US\$ 70 (billed in two half year instalments of US\$ 35)
- Q. Name the largest Rotary Club of Nepal and how many members they had as of 30 June 2021?
- A. Rotary Club of Butwal and 106 members.

# <u>Summary of talk programme by Mr. Bharat B. Khanal, Headmaster, Mahendragram Sec. School, Tikathali, on 'Impact of COVID-19 on public schools and its counter measures'.</u>

President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa welcomed guest speaker Mr. Bharat Babu Khanal and Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal introduced him.

Mr. Bharat B. Khanal is from Gorkha District and currently the headmaster of Mahendragram Secondary School, Tikathali, which is supported by the RCP's PEEF programme and it has also been adopted as one of the RNLM/TEACH schools of the RCP. Mr. Khanal has a M.Ed. in English language teaching from the Kathmandu University and has been in the teaching profession for the last 28 years. He is the Secretary of the Nepal English Language Teachers' Association's Central Committee and also a member of various committees besides teaching and administration.

Mr. Khanal made a power point presentation on the impact of COVID-19 on community schools of Nepal and its counter measures starting with his appreciation for Rotary's four-way test, which should be applicable to everyone.

He provided some background information on the present literacy status in Nepal with literacy rates of 67.9% of under 15 years, 92.4% of 15-24 years, and 82% of 15-60 years. Nepal has 35,674 schools of which 27,812 are community schools.

Explaining the impact of COVID-19 in Nepalese schools, he presented a before and after set of pictures to demonstrate the devastating impact, particularly to community schools without adequate facilities for virtual classes. However, despite the constraints of restrictions and periodic school closures, with various measures taken, the students did not lose their academic year last year and hope not to lose this year too. The Nepalese society also learnt a lot about the benefits of social distancing and public hygiene/safety measures to control spread of viruses like COVID-19.

On behalf of the RCP family, Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht thanked Mr. Bharat B. Khanal for a very good presentation with a summary of the educational situation in the community schools of Nepal particularly during this period of the pandemic.



# May the Laugh Bug Bite You @ @ @ @ @

A husband is upset and tells his wife, "Honey, I look in the mirror, and all I see is a fat, ugly old man, and I need you to give me a compliment".

The wife says, "Alright then, your eyesight is damn near perfect".