

Issue No. 1470

Date: 30 Shrawan 2079 / 15 August 2022

<p>Today's Programme: 3rd Club Assembly</p> <p>Forthcoming Programme:</p> <p>22 Aug. – Talk programme by District Membership Committee Chair Rtn. Dhruva P. Acharya on 'Membership in Rotary'</p> <p>29 Aug. – District Governor's official club visit, 4th Club Assembly, and the RCP's Charter Day celebration</p>	<p>Congratulatory Events</p> <p>Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries: Nil</p>
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1817

Date: 23 Shrawan 2079 / 8 August 2022

1. President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan called the regular weekly meeting number 1817 to order with 'Silent Invocation' of 15 seconds for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Dr. Hemu Kafle, President, Organization of Women Scientist in Nepal; and Rotaracts Peshal Bhattarai and Kritika Sharma from the Rotaract Club of Patan.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. 'Happy news' Contributions:
 - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal (NRs. 500), Rtn. Shiv K. Pradhan (NRs. 500), Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty (NRs. 500) and Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty (NRs. 500) – for today's talk programme by Dr. Hemu Kafle.
 - Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa – for the above and for attending the meeting after some time (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang – for starting the implementation work of the GG project for Mirge Hospital (NRs. 500).
5. Rotary News/Information
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty informed that Dr. Subarna Malla Singh received the RCP's honour with the 'PHF Certificate and Pin from Rotary International' for her contributions to the PEEF programme. She conveyed, from the USA, her heartfelt thanks for this honour to all the RCP members.
 - Rtn. Jamuna K. Tamrakar briefed on the 'Membership Seminar' organised by the District, which he had participated. Retention of members and education of new members were among the key emphasis of the Seminar.
6. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary – Rotary Club of Hosur, Tamil Nadu, India; Chartered: 1983; and members: 62. District: 2980, Clubs: 151 & members 5857. He also briefly talked about Tamil Nādu and the Rotary club there.
7. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: contributions of NRs. 4,700 (NRs. 3,000 to the sunshine fund and NRs. 1,700 to the operational fund of the RCP), and the meeting attendance of 1 guest speaker, 17 members, 2 Rotaracts, and 10 make-ups.



Rotary Information: R. Gordon R. McInally President-elect 2022-23
Rotary Club of South Queensferry West Lothian, Scotland

R. Gordon R. McInally is president-elect of Rotary International. He was educated at the Royal High School in Edinburgh and at the University of Dundee, where he earned his graduate degree in dental surgery. He operated his own dental practice in Edinburgh until 2016. Gordon was chair of the East of Scotland branch of the British Paedodontic Society and has held various academic positions. He has also served as a presbytery elder, chair of the Queensferry parish congregational board, and commissioner to the general assembly of the Church of Scotland.

(Source: rotary.org)

Talk programme by Dr. Hemu Kafle, President, Organization of Women Scientists in Nepal on 'Opportunities and Challenges in the field of Science and Technology in Nepal'

President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan welcomed Dr. Hemu Kafle as the guest speaker of today and Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty introduced her. Dr. Hemu Kafle is the Founder and Director of Research at Kathmandu Institute of Applied Sciences and works as a scientist for Water and Atmospheric Research. She holds a masters in extreme climatic conditions like drought and desertification from the Ben Gurion University in Israel and a PhD from Nagoya University in Japan. She did her post-doctoral research at Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel on drought in afforested forests focusing on semi-arid climatic conditions.

Dr. Hemu Kafle made a captivating presentation of her professional journey describing the opportunities and challenges in the field of science and technology in Nepal as a woman scientist while also talking about her family life with her husband and two children.

She started with explaining science as curiosity in thoughtful action about the world, how it behaves, and what role it plays in our society. Science helps us find solutions to problems arising from our own needs and experiences in daily life. After her studies, she returned to Nepal, joined NAST, and did a lot of work on 'drought in Nepal' as well as in several countries of South Asia.

She clarified the misconception that there is no drought in Nepal because of its climate and topography. Indeed, there is drought in various parts of Nepal during non-rainy season and there are the growing dangers of drought in urban areas due to non-harvesting of rainwater and deforestation.

To fulfil the acute need of hardcore research in Nepal, she opened the Kathmandu Institute of Applied Science with a group of international graduates and have been equipping it and doing a lot of research. She is currently working on a regional scale drought and has developed drought assessing and monitoring tools using satellite data, and produced drought atlases of Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sikkim as well as drought awareness booklet for farmers. She is also working on air pollution and developing a low-cost meteorological station in Nepal.

Felicitated by the World Academy of Science as Young Scientist in 2014, she was one of the first women to receive the Early Career Women Scientist Fellowship in 2018. Dr. Hemu Kafle started Nepal Chapter of the Organisation of Women Scientists in 2020 as its Founding President. This is part of the organisation for women in science for the developing world (OWSD). She works to inspire a stronger female future for Nepalese science while empowering the existing generation of women scientists.

During the Q/A session, members also suggested for further collaboration between her institution and the RCP, particularly with the students in the PEEF supported schools. On behalf of the RCP, Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal gave a 'Vote of Thanks' for her dedication and inspiring work in her area of expertise and being a role-model for Nepalese women. President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan presented her the RCP's Lalitdhara Souvenir as a 'Token of Appreciation.



Rotary Information: Stephanie A. Urchick is selected to be the 2024-25 President of Rotary International

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Stephanie A. Urchick, of the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International for 2024-25, a decision that would make her only the second woman to hold that position. She will be declared the president-nominee on 1 October if no challenging candidates have been suggested.

With the world facing incredible challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, disasters driven by climate change, and conflict in many regions, Urchick says Rotary's leaders can offer a vision and a plan for overcoming these challenges.

(Source: rotary.org)