



ललित धारा



RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

Immediate Past President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty

President & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha

Secretary: Mahendra Thapa

Issue No. 1230

Date: 13 Kartik 2074 / 30 October 2017

Today's Main Programme: 5th Monday Entertainment Programme

Forthcoming Programme:

6 Nov. - Business Meeting

13 Nov.- Talk programme on 'Salt, Sugar & Pomegranate' by Rtn. M. L. Kayastha

Congratulatory Events

Birthdays & Wedding

Anniversaries: Nil

Minutes of Meetings No.1581

Date: 6 Kartik 2074 / 23 October 2017

1. President Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha called the meeting no. 1581 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for Peace and Happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest Speaker Engineer Mr. Rishi Shah, NAST; Mr. Suresh Bhattarai, Chairman, Nepal Astronomical Society (NASO); Mr. Upendra Dhungana, NASO; Ms. Pritisha Shah Shrestha; Rtn. Grahame Lewis, President of RC Lymington, U.K.; Rotaract President Rtn. Rubina Shakya and Rtn. Sajal Khadka.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. 'Happy News' Contributions:
 - Rtn. Dr. Prakash R. Regmi (NRs. 500), Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha, Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty, Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha, Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha, – For the talk programme by Mr. Rishi Shah and for a happy 'Tihar'.
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang – for the participation of Rtn. Grahame Lewis
 - Rtn. Lochan Gyawali – for the talk programme of Mr. Rishi Shah and the presence of Ms. Pritisha Shah Shrestha (NRs. 400).
5. Other Contributions:
 - On the occasion of 'World Polio Day – 24 October', Rtn. Dr. Prakash R. Regmi pledged to contribute **US \$100 every year** to TRF's Polio+ programme until the eradication of Polio from the world.
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang pledged to contribution US \$50 to TRF's Polio+ programme. In addition, he announced a contribution of NRs. 5,000 to the RCP Club Fund. Rtns. Chandralekha and Matsyendra L. Kayastha will match the contribution to the Club Fund as earlier pledged.
6. Rotary News/Information:
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang urged for contributions to the TRF to meet the RCP goal of US \$6,000 and reminded that PHS/Major Donor contributions will be personally honoured by RI President on 14 December during his forthcoming visit to Nepal. Name of contributors (for PHF/MPHF Pins) of \$300 to TRF through the District will also be announced during that time.
 - President Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha reminded on several information already shared via e-mails: World Polio Day Rally on 24 October, U. Ananda's programme in Pokhara and Kathmandu, and Mr. and Miss Rotaracts contest programme.
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty shared the sad news of alleged 'sexual harassment' of a Rotaract followed by the recent sacking of the District Rotaract Representative by the District Governor.
 - Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha reminded on the planned first 'Birthday Fellowship' on Saturday, 28 October being held at Buffet Restaurant, Thado Dhunga, Lalitpur. He requested members to give their contributions for all the three 'Birthday Fellowships' of the year to Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan as soon as possible.

- Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty confirmed the dates of the planned field-monitoring visit and a health camp in the area of our global grant project in Chandibhanjyang during 9 to 11 November 2017. She requested interested RCP family members to confirm their participation as soon as possible to organize the trip.
7. Visiting Rtn. Grahame Lewis, President of RC Lymington, U.K, appreciated the opportunity to participate in the RCP's meeting and briefly introduced his club with an average age of members being even higher than of our club.
 8. **World Polio Day – 24 October** - To celebrate this important day, Rtn. Dr. Prakash R. Regmi gave a brief talk on Polio, and how Rotary has been contributing to eradicate this disease from the world. He not only described the disease, but also Rotary's involvement in its eradication starting from the work of RI President Clem Renouf in 1978-1979 in the Philippines. With the joint effort of Rotary, WHO, UNICEF, CDC, and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Polio is now prevalent in only two countries – Afghanistan and Pakistan and Rotary is spearheading the efforts to eradicate it from the world within the next two years. In Nepal, last case of Polio was registered on 30 August 2010, after which Nepal has been Polio free.
 9. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – Rotary Club of Tbilisi, Georgia; Chartered: 2009; and Members: 18. District: 2450, Clubs: 142, and Members: 4499.
 10. Please see box below for a summary of the talk programme by Mr. Rishi Shah.
 11. Before the closure of the meeting by the President, the Secretary announced contribution of NRs. 4,200 (NRs. 2,300 for attendance, and NRs. 1,900 for sunshine funds), attendance: 1 visiting Rotarian, 4 guests, 2 Rotaracts, 23 members, and 5 make-ups.

Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Padam L. Maharjan

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| Q. Name of RIPE and his club | A. Rtn. Barry Rassin, RC of East Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas |
| Q. World Polio Day | A. 24 October |
| Q. October 2 is 'World Non-Violence Day. Whose birthday is it? | A. Mahatma Gandhi's |

Summary of the Talk Programme by Mr. Rishi Shah on wonderful world of planet & galaxies

Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang introduced Engineer Mr. Rishi Shah who happens to be an old friend of the RCP. He was a RCP member during Rotary Years 1990/1991 to 1995/1996. Mr. Shah is an academician with Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) and is the Founder President & Patron of Nepal Astronomical Society (NASO). After doing a Masters in electrical engineering in Germany, he worked there for six years and joined GTZ now called GIZ (German Foreign Aid Organization) in Kathmandu as its Deputy Director for another six years. He then joined the then RONAST and now NAST as its Chairman during 2002 to 2012. His interests shifted to the world of planet and galaxies among other environmental and renewal energy subjects.

Mr. Shah gave an excellent brief on this vast topic, which makes one feel so small. His presentation explained the situation of planet earth within our solar system with the primacy of the sun and everything that orbits the sun. The solar system is just one star in the Milky Way Galaxy in the larger Universe.

He elaborated more on our solar system with its eight planets. The inner planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth & Mars; and outer planets: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Earth is the only planet known to support living organisms with a moon and an oxygen rich atmosphere (Note: Pluto is no longer considered a planet these days).

The subject being so vast and technical, he encouraged all to learn more and advised to look at the abundant resources available these days through various internet sites. He also suggested visiting the NASO website: www.nepalastronomicalsociety.org to get more involved.

He concluded on a moralistic note that life on earth is a mystery and we are all vulnerable to nature – therefore humanity should always consider what we are doing and need to do to help others.

After a lively Q/A session, Rtn. Pushkar Shakya gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Mr. Rishi Shah for this excellent presentation on behalf of the RCP family. President Chandralekha Kayastha concluded the session with the presentation of 'Token of Appreciation' to Mr. Shah.