

**Issue No. 1538**

**Date: 9 Poush 2080 / 25 December 2023**

**Today's Programme:**

Regular weekly meeting with the RCP's Board election for 2024-2025, and a talk programme by Dr. Dhruva Man Shrestha, RC Rajdhani, Chair-Mental Health Sub-Committee, on 'Mentall Health and Substance Abuse"

**Congratulatory Events**

**Birthdays:** Nil  
**Wedding Anniversaries:** Nil

**Minutes of Meeting No. 1883**

**Date: 2 Poush 2080 / 18 December 2023**

1. President Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal called the RCP's Meeting No.1883 to order with 15 seconds' of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Rtn. Deepak Rajbhandary, District Polio Sub-committee chair.
3. The last meeting minutes of the RCP were reviewed and adopted.
4. Happy News Contributions:
  - Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000). She also brought X-Mas cookies and mulled wine to celebrate with the RCP family.
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty – for the above (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht – for 'Happy Landing' from Bhutan and for receiving information to start the Animal Welfare for Public Health project of the RCP for this year (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Ramesh L. Maskay – for 'Happy Landing' from Goa, India (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam – for the successful training seminar held by him together with the principal of Ullens school on school governance and leadership with the participation of the RCP's PEEF supported school headmasters in the aviation museum on 11 December 2023 (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Bishwa B. Sharma – for 'Happy Landing' from Hikkaduwa, Sri Lanka (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Lochan Gyawali – for the ripening of 'Bhojpuri Dingla Suntala' (NRs. 200).
  - Rtn. Bishnu P. Sigdel – for the grand marriage ceremony of granddaughter (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary – for having today's guest speaker Rtn. Deepak Rajbhandary (NRs. 500).
  - PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakya – for the above and for his participation in the weekly meeting after some time (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal – for the successful KEEA and headmasters training of PEEF supported schools (NRs. 500).
5. Other Contributions:
  - Rtns. Shiva K. Pradhan and Mahendra B. Thapa announced contributions of NRs. 2,500 each from their attendance to the Nepal Orthopaedic Board meeting to the PEEF programme fund of the RCP.
  - As confirmed below by Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht, the following pledges were made for the RCP's Animal Welfare for Public Health project to be implemented in a phased manner:
    - Rtns. Bijaya & Gabriele Mallapaty – NRs. 50,000
    - Rtns. Shiv P. and Preeti Khemka – NRs. 25,000
    - Rtns. Khadak S. Bisht and Maheswari Bisht Rawal - NRs. 50,000
6. Rotary Information:
  - President Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal informed:
    - Arrival of screening equipment for the RHD project. Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty added that these will be handed over to Nepal Heart Foundation upon completion of the project.
    - Successful screening of students on RHD at Siddhimangal school together with yoga training of them led by Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal.
    - District Conference is being held in Butwal during 15-17 March 2024. E-mail from the district on this has been shared with all with a request for maximum participation from the RCP.
7. Animal Welfare for Public Health: Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht, Coordinator, briefed on the plans agreed by the committee for Animal Welfare for Public Health project of the RCP. In addition to the pledges/contributions already made of NRs. 260,000 for this year, some members pledged (see above under other contributions) additional contributions. It was agreed to use a budget of NRs. 300,000 for the first phase of this year's vaccination programme for stray dogs in Harisiddhi area. This year, it is planned to

combine vaccination with neutering, spaying, and marking, for a longer-term impact. The service provider will be 'National Zoonoses & Food Hygiene Research Centre (NZFHRC)', who has offered a package of NRs. 2,450 per dog. On behalf of the committee, Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht appealed for additional contributions from the RCP family so that this campaign could continue to the next phases.

8. Club Service Fund (CSF): Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty briefed on the Club Service Fund. The RCP has three trust funds, i.e. PEEF, KPAD and CSF each with its own programmable funds. While the Trust Fund may not be used, interest earned in these Trust Funds are used for the purposes as mandated. The CSF was established during the presidency of Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi in 2010-2011. Interest earned in its programmable fund was used to replenish the losses of over 10 Lakh in the PEEF trust fund, which has already been completed. Currently, the CSF trust fund has 42.59 lakh with a programmable fund balance of 7.78 lakh as of 30 June 2023. Apart from members contributions, this trust fund also has the contributions from late Kamalmani ji and family for the KEEA, and Rtns. Matsyendra L.& Chandralekha Kayastha, Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi and, from this year, Rtns. Ganesh R. and Bijaya Shrestha for the Graduate Studies Scholarship Award (GSSA). Programmable funds from the CSF are allocated for expenditure by the RCP Board at the time of annual budget preparation. The Board uses it prudently as this is the only source of fund for the RCP for any unforeseen expenditures or over-expenditure above its annual budget. The details of the CSF is printed in the RCP's Lalitdhara Souvenir together with its annual budget – see pages 27 and 28 of the current edition.
9. Salutation: By Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty – RC of Moca, Dominican Republic; Chartered: 1948; & Members: 39. District: 4060, Clubs: 63, & Members: 1387.
10. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Vice President Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: happy news contributions of NRs. 6,200 (50% of NRs. 3,100 each to the operational and sunshine funds of the RCP), NRs. 3,600 for attendance to the operational fund, and the meeting attendance of 1 Rotarian guest speaker, 18 members, and 9 make-ups.

### **Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Bishwa B. Sharma**

- Q.** What was Paul Harris' original suggested name for Rotary? **A.** Conspirators.
- Q.** What was the first Rotary Club in a non-English speaking country? **A.** RC of Havana, Cuba.
- Q.** Which pathogen is responsible for the Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD)? **A.** Streptococcus pyogenes (Group A Streptococcus).

### **Summary of the talk programme by District Polio Sub-Committee Chair Rtn. Deepak Rajbhandary on 'Rotary and Polio'**

President Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal welcomed Rtn. Deepak Rajbhandary for today's talk programme and Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht introduced him. Rtn. Rajbhandary is a member of RC of Himalayan Golfers since 2022 and has been a Rotarian since 2006 with the Rotary Club of Kantipur including as its President in 2015-2016. He is a major donor of Rotary, has been in several positions of the Rotary, and is currently the Chair of Polio Sub-Committee.

Rtn. Deepak Rajbhandary made his presentation with the support of power-point to explain why Polio is given the importance by Rotary and its journey to end Polio from the world.

Polio is a virus that grows in the guts/intestine, enters the blood stream affecting mainly children below the age of five disabling them permanently. Once infected, it may not be cured while it can be 100% prevented with vaccination, hence the focus on vaccinating all the children of the world.

After explaining the evolution of Polio, he talked about vaccination, both oral as well as via injection. Out of the three Polio viruses, 1 & 3 have been eliminated with 2 also close to elimination. For comparison, there were 300,000 cases in 1988, but now only 11, and only remaining in pockets of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

As a member of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Rotary has been very active together with WHO, UNICEF, Bill/Melinda Foundation and CDC to eradicate this disabling disease from the world by 2026. Nepal has been Polio free since 2014. However, vaccination must continue for this as even one case may spread the disease.

Talking about what Rotarians may do, he highlighted the need for fund-raising and contributing to Polio+ of The Rotary Foundation, raising awareness through campaigns and observing 'Polio Day – 24 October', which in Kathmandu is planned on 24 February.

Following a Questions/Answers session, President Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Rtn. Deepak Rajbhandary on behalf of the RCP family for his excellent presentation.