

# The Midtowner

2020-21

Rotary  
Chandigarh Midtown



Club No. 15228  
R.I. District 3080

Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown  
View online: [www.rotarychdmidtown.org](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org)

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Volume 45 No. 05 Dated: August 04, 2020

## PROGRAMME

### Membership Development

#### Keynote Speakers

PP Rtn. B.L. Ramsaria and PP Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi

#### New Member Speakers

Rtn. Pardeep Sisodia and Rtn. Dr. Vinny Sachdeva

Date: **Friday, 07 August 2020**

Time: **6.30 p.m.**

Venue: **Virtual Zoom Platform**



Zoom Meeting ID:  
**6291653178**  
Password: **15228**

## Condolence meeting for paying homage to Mrs. Binota Banerjee wife of PRIP Kalyan Banerjee

[Please click here to watch video on facebook](#)

On 03 August 2020 President Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia convened a condolence meeting for paying homage to R'ann Binota Banerjee wife of Past Rotary International President Rtn. Kalyan Banerjee. After expressing deep condolences on behalf of the club, he requested four senior Rotarians to further express our grief on her sad demise.

**PDG Shaju Peter:** There is something extremely distressing and sad about a departure in the pandemic times, and when it is of someone like Binota Banerjee it is all the more painful. Hers was a valiant battle against kidney disease for nearly two decades with hospitalization quite a few times in the recent past. It's a matter of consolation that her husband PRIP Kalyan and her daughter who flew in from abroad were by her side in their Vapi home when the end came a few days ago.

Kalyan Banerjee, the third Indian to be the President of Rotary International often referred to Chandigarh as the Mecca of Rotary in India and has been with us in 3080 several times. In one of those visits we took the couple to Aasra where he remarked that the project was worth replication in Gujarat.

Midtowners who were in Kolkata for the Centennial Summit a few months ago were so delighted to see her attending the sessions with her husband. She did appear fragile but her smile was as infectious as ever. Kalyan and Binota offered a fascinating study of contrasts as a couple. Kalyan was intellectually a giant and he earned the respect of Rotarians across the world partially by the force of his intellect whereas Binota endeared herself to everyone she came across with her disarming simplicity and nobility of heart.

Theirs was a fascinating love story. Kalyan fell seriously ill when he was a corporate executive and had to be hospitalized. The nurse who was attending on him was Binota. Kalyan reminisces that he never wanted to leave the hospital! Despite parental opposition they got married and moved to Vapi and the rest is history. She shared the concern for the community in full measure with her husband and was in the forefront of service together with him in every Rotary project and every Rotary endeavour. She was a constant companion wherever Rotary took Kalyan despite her health issues.

The void around Kalyan is unhorizoned for he was heavily dependent on her. Let's pray for courage and fortitude to the family in its hour of bereavement and let her soul rest in eternal peace.

**PP R.K. Luther:** As the saying goes, behind every great man there is a great lady. This is very true of Late Mrs. Binota Banerjee wife of our Past International President Kalyan Banerjee. I have very nice memories of meeting her on four different occasions. Two times during couple's visit to our district 3080 programme and our club in 2011-12 when PRIP Banerjee felicitated me with Paul Harris Fellow award and two times at Rotary International conventions in Bangkok in May 2012 and in Kolkata in February 2020.

She was very simple lady and popular because of her simplicity, quiet nature, woman of few words, elegant personality. When PRIP Kalyan Banerjee visited our Rotary Asra project in sector 32, GMCH, he was very impressed to see facilities created by our club. She remarked looking at Kalyan Banerjee, "We should have this type of facility in hospitals at Vapi" (the home club of Kalyan Banerjee in Gujrat).

She had great eyes for details, open mind, great asset to her husband. May god bless her soul and give strength to PRIP Kalyan Banerjee to bear this big loss.



**Mrs. Binota Banerjee**



**2011-12 RI President Kalyan Banerjee and World First Lady Binota**



Donations to our Welfare Trust are exempted u/s 80 G of IT Act

**PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra:** The demise of Mrs. Binota Banerjee has saddened us all. As the World First Lady in Rotary year 2011-12 with her husband then Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee, she was the dedicated source of support behind her husband. Many of us were at Bangkok in May 2012 for the RI Convention, in which from all over the world 36500 Rotarians, including 6000 from India, attended the four-day event, which concluded on 09 May 2012. It was the largest convention ever held in Thailand and one the best under their dynamic leadership. Click here to read our bulletins about this RI Convention. [http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten\\_2011/bulletin46.pdf](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten_2011/bulletin46.pdf) and [http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten\\_2011/bulletin47.pdf](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten_2011/bulletin47.pdf).

PRIP Kalyan Banerjee and Binota ji visited Chandigarh several times. Rtn. R.K. Luther was the President of our Club in 2011-12 and on 19 December 2011 then DG Manpreet Singh Gandhoke had organized an Intercity to welcome 101<sup>st</sup> RI President Kalyan Banerjee and Binota ji. They also visited our Aasra Sarai project in GMCH-32 and commented in Hindi, "Yeh bahut acha project hai. Aisa kuch Gujarat mein bhi karein." Click here to read our bulletin about this intercity [http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten\\_2011/bulletin25.pdf](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten_2011/bulletin25.pdf).

It was for the first time ever since I joined Rotary in 1996 that I was interacting with an Indian RI President of the year, and writing about RI President Kalyan and Binota ji in our Club bulletins.

Rtn. Ritu Singal was our Club President when we hosted the Intercity on 14 September 2012 at hotel JW Marriott to honour then IPRIP Kalyan Banerjee and Binota ji in which 500 delegates attended from our District and from all over India. Click here to read our bulletin about this intercity [http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten\\_2012/bulletin12.pdf](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten_2012/bulletin12.pdf)

PRIP Kalyan Banerjee and Binota ji ended their amazing year of tremendous accomplishments with a message which was reported in our bulletin [http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten\\_2011/bulletin52.pdf](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org/pages/bulliten_2011/bulletin52.pdf).

Our heartfelt condolences to PRIP Kalyan Banerjee and his family. May God give them strength to bear this irreparable loss.

**PP Ritu Singal:** It was a memorable encounter with Rotary Ann Binota Banerjee. In September 2012, our club hosted intercity to felicitate Immediate Past Rotary international president Kalyan Banerjee and his gracious wife, late Mrs. Binota Banerjee at Hotel JW Marriott. I was fortunate to be the president of our club and plan this memorable event. Also I was extremely fortunate to have one-to-one personal interaction with a truly noble soul late Mrs. Binota Banerjee during the event. I was so inspired to see her passion and love for Rotary and more so, for betterment of society especially in the field of health care.

She shared with me that she belonged to humble yet highly well educated family. She expressed that she was very proud to be member of Rotary and partner of immediate Past Rotary International President and said the year 2011-12 was an educational year for her. Looking at her humility and down to earth approach, I asked her that which project is close to her heart. She mentioned that she was a trained nurse and met her husband when he was hospitalized. She shared that one of their 39 year old colleague died of massive heart attack in Vapi, Mumbai which was kind of deserted area so no medical facility was available. Then they started a dispensary which was converted into a small hospital which has become now super speciality hospital with 300 beds, supported by Rotary.

She told that she left her job as a nurse because she thought that she would not be able to do justice to this noble and serious profession as a nurse. She decided to do voluntary work. She laughingly told that when she left job, her husband assured her that he will earn more than how much she can spend.

This beautiful couple was highly appreciated as world leader for their astounding efforts towards creating solidarity and ONE WORLD. I remember they have been travelling quite a lot when they came to Chandigarh, still they were highly energetic, cheerful and enthusiastic about everything. I fondly remember this departed soul and pray for her soul to rest in peace.



*President Sanjay Bhatia, PDG Shaju Peter, PP R.K. Luther, PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra and PP Ritu Singal*



*As RI President Kalyan Banerjee with World First Lady Binota felicitating our Club President R.K. Luther with PHF in December 2011*

### AG Dr. Rita Kalra Guest of Honor at Installation function



Assistant Governor PP Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra was the Guest of honor at Installation of President Rtn. Satish Arora of Rotary Mohali.

She also attended the virtual meeting of Rotary Chandigarh Shivalik on 28.07.20.

**Celebration of World Conservation Day on 28 July 2020 by Tree Plantation drive at two locations**



**At Dev Samaj College Sector 45 Chandigarh**



**At Dev Samaj College of Education Sector 36, Chandigarh**

**Dev Samaj College Sector 45, Chandigarh:** In co-ordination with Rotaract Club and College Management, 15 trees were planted. Our club is also planning to setup a rain water harvesting unit in the college premises. Principal Dr. Meena Chopra and Rotaract In-charge Mrs. Amanpreet Virk appreciated efforts made by Rotarians.

**Dev Samaj College of Education, Sector 36, Chandigarh:** In co-ordination with College Management and NSS, 10 Tree were planted in the college premises. Principal Dr. Agnese Dhillon thanked Rotarians through Asstt. Prof. Mrs. Charanjit for this noble cause.

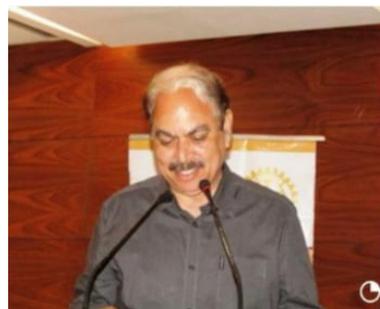
Rotarians present on the occasion were President Sanjay Bhatia, PDG Yoginder Diwan, PP Kanan Diwan, PP Amarjit Singh and Rtn. Dr. Shashi Jain.

**Skill development of school students on Internet usage**

Online Awareness Program for school students of class 8 to10 was organized by Rotary Chandigarh Midtown in association with Hartron Skill Centre, Chandigarh on 25 July 20 for 25 students from various schools like Bhawan Vidyalaya, Govt School etc. for Internet Usage, smart phones, AarogyaSetu app, social media apps, digital payment, precautions and safety tips to safeguard against cyber frauds.

This program was conducted by Director Vocational Service and Skill Development expert Rtn. Anupam Jain.

**Webinar on Water and Sanitation held on 30.07.2020**



**Guest Speaker Rtn. Salil Chopra**

A webinar was hosted by Rotaract Club Chandigarh Midtown which was a 75 minute presentation by PE Rtn. Salil Chopra. There was an impressive inter-active participation of 35 Rotaractors, on gadgets of water conservation and installing new modern water saving and sanitary products. The Rotaractors were highly impressed with the detailed information shared with them on this topic.

**Old age home**



**Setup of Compost processing unit and tree plantation at Old age home Sector 15, Panchkula**

**Kalam Express**



**Visit to review performance of Kalam Express Project at Sector 15 Panchkula**

**Rotary Family Support**



**Sundari Mehtab Kaur, a former Rotaractor and a keen debater is assisting her father Rtn. Arjan Singh in the Scholarship project**

**Rotary**  
Chandigarh Midtown

Rotary Opens Opportunities

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WOMEN'S INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

**ANUPAM JAIN**  
STATE PRESIDENT, HARYANA  
SKILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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*congrats!*

RTN ANUPAM JAIN  
Nominated as State President, Haryana  
Skill Development Council

**PP Amarjit at National Webinar**

PP Amarjit Singh, CEO of Softgen India providing Hosts-Win a Complete Software Solution for Hospitality industry – Hotels, Restaurants, Clubs, Bars and Food Courts, was the Speaker at a national level Webinar on 'Hotel Distribution – A Paradigm Shift'.

This was hosted by Bookingjini.com, Bhuvneshwar on 29 July 2020.

**Rakhi celebrations in hospital**

President Sanjay Bhatia presented Rakhis and chocolates to all patients in isolation wards of Civil Hospital Panchkula with help of Dr. Rajju and AG Dr. Rita Kalra. The brave heart nursing sisters on duty tied the sacred thread to boost them and promised them proper treatment for their speedy recovery.

The patients thanked Rotary for this thoughtful gesture.

**Birthday of Spouses**

R'ann Guninder Dua August 09  
Mr, Naresh K. Jain August 09

**Birthday of Rotarians**

Rtn. Kulbir Singh Bhatia August 07  
Rtn. Ashok Kumar Sharma August 09  
Rtn. Amanpreet Singh August 11  
PP Rtn. B.L. Ramsisaria August 12

**Wedding Anniversary**

R'ann Beena & Rtn. Viney B. Aggarwal August 12

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