

Rotary Club of Baguio



OFFICIAL CLUB BULLETIN
Volume LXXVIII - Issue 28
Saturday, 14 March 2026

PP SALVADOR M. ROYECA
Guest of Honor & Speaker



Baguio City, Philippines
R.I. District 3790, Club No. 16863
Chartered on 21 February 1938

The Rotary Club of Baguio
meets every Saturday
at 12:30 to 2:30 pm
at the Baguio Country Club



INTERACTIVE LINKS
<https://rcbaguio.org>
<https://canao.rcbaguio.org>
Email: canao@rcbaguio.org



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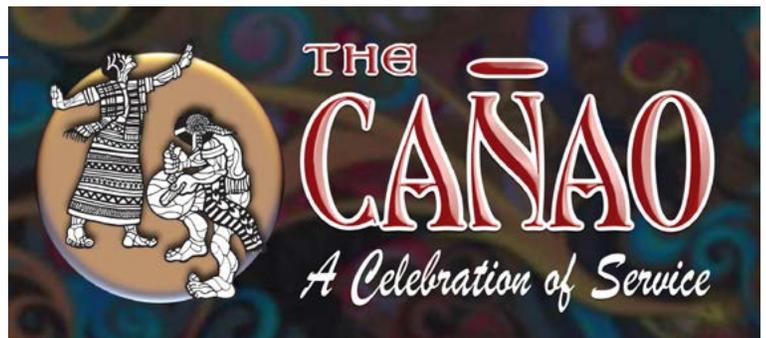
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THE CAÑAO & NEW EMBLEM

Symbolizing unity, joy, and gratitude, “Cañao” (pronounced kan-yau) is a traditional dance from the Cordilleras in Northern Luzon of the Philippines, celebrated during feasts and gatherings.

Our new emblem shows a male and female in ritual dance within a native gong—honoring abundance, much like how we celebrate service and fellowship in Rotary. Truly, “A Celebration of Service.”



P PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S MONTH

March has arrived, and with it comes the celebration of **Women's Month**—a special time for us to recognize and honor the women who inspire, nurture, and lead in our lives and in our communities.

Allow me, therefore, to pay tribute to the remarkable **Lady Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Baguio**. Your presence brings strength, compassion, wisdom, and a unique perspective that enriches Rotary fellowship and service. While the original Rotary Club in Chicago did not yet include women among its members, time has shown how essential women have become in shaping Rotary's mission around the world. Today, women stand as leaders, innovators, and partners in service—helping Rotary grow stronger and more inclusive with every passing year.

Beyond Rotary, we also take this moment to honor the women who shaped our lives—our mothers, grandmothers, sisters, mentors, and friends. They are the quiet heroes who nurture values, offer guidance, and remind us that compassion and kindness are powerful forces for good. Their influence continues to inspire the spirit of service that defines our Rotary journey.

In celebration of Women's Month, may I warmly encourage everyone to support the **Purple Family Run**, organized by our very own **IPP Susan** in support of the Cluster 1C project, "*Chase Her If You Can.*" This meaningful activity will take place on **22 March 2026**, starting at the **Baguio City Hall Grounds**.

We look forward to seeing many of you there—whether as runners, supporters, or cheerful encouragers along the route. It will be a wonderful opportunity to combine fellowship, health, and service for a worthy cause.

I would also like to invite everyone to support the upcoming **District Conference (DISCON)** of District 3790, which will be held right here in **Baguio City on 10–11 April 2026 at the Newtown Plaza Hotel**. This gathering promises a time of fellowship, learning, and celebration of

Rotary service with fellow Rotarians from across the district. Let us come together proudly as representatives of our beloved RCB.

My sincere appreciation also goes to our responsible members who continue to fulfill their obligations as Rotarians by faithfully completing their club dues. Your support ensures that our club remains strong and capable of sustaining meaningful service projects.

Allow me as well to thank those who quietly contribute their time and talents behind the scenes. Our **Editor-in-Chief par excellence, PP Raffy**, continues to burn the midnight oil to produce our inspiring weekly bulletin. Your dedication keeps us informed, connected, and proud of the many good works of our club.

Special thanks also to **Rtn. Peter** for his beautiful photographic documentation of our Rotary events, especially during our recent **88th Charter Anniversary**. Your passion for capturing these moments preserves the memories of our shared service and fellowship.

Our gratitude likewise goes to **Public Image Director Ed** for generously preparing tarpaulins and materials for our service projects, and to **Dir. Ben Grajo** for committing to return to Fort del Pilar CDC during the rainy season to lead an **Anti-Dengue Campaign** in the community where we installed our Rainwater Harvesting Facility.

Let me close with a gentle reminder from the poem *Desiderata*: "*Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence.*"

Indeed, silence has power—but it should never silence the good works of our Rotarians. Let us continue to share, celebrate, and support the many ways our members serve faithfully each day.

To our dedicated Secretary, **PP Cora**, thank you for your prompt reporting and steadfast commitment. And to all our silent workers and advisers—Agyamanak apo. Your quiet service reminds us that together we truly **Unite to Do Good**.

See you all around.



PRES. JOE URSUA
RCB President
RY 2025-2026



APPRECIATING THE CAÑAO

In the cool mountain air of the Cordilleras — in Benguet and the surrounding highlands — lives a tradition that binds community, culture, and ancestry. This is the Cañao: the communal feast, ritual, and dance of the Cordilleran people, a timeless expression of identity, gratitude, and unity.

WHAT IS CAÑAO?

Cañao — sometimes spelled *kanyaw* — is more than a festivity. It is a socio-religious ceremony practiced by indigenous groups such as the Ibaloi, Kankanaey, and other Igorot communities. Rooted in ancient belief systems, the Cañao honors spiritual forces and ancestral spirits while offering thanksgiving for blessings, healing, protection, harvest, and communal well-being. Depending on purpose and scale, it may be solemn or celebratory, simple or elaborate.

RITUAL, FEAST, AND DANCE

At its heart, Cañao is shaped by three interconnected elements: ritual offering, communal feasting, and dance.

Offerings and Ceremony. Animals such as pigs or chickens may be sacrificed by elders or ritual priests. The bile sac is sometimes examined for omens, believed to signal spiritual favor. These rites bridge the human and spiritual worlds, seeking harmony and blessings for the community.

Communal Feast. Food and drink are shared among all attendees. Beyond nourishment, the meal expresses *bayanihan* — collective responsibility and generosity. The feast reinforces social cohesion, reminding everyone that prosperity is best celebrated by sharing.

Dance, Music, and Joy. The most visible element of Cañao is the dance performed to pulsating gongs, drums, and wooden instruments. A man and woman often lead, moving in circular, rhythmic patterns. Group dances involve lines weaving in and out, forming spirals guided by shouted calls. To be invited to join the dance — even as a guest — is an honor and a sign of belonging.

PURPOSE AND MEANING

Cañao is a social adhesive, a spiritual expression, and an affirmation of identity.

Spiritual and Ancestral Connection. Through ritual offerings, participants renew ties with their ancestors and seek protection and well-being — vital in earlier times when life in the highlands was closely intertwined with nature's unpredictability.

Social Solidarity. Preparing for a Cañao requires collective work: butchering, cooking, gathering firewood, fetching water, and readying utensils. Everyone contributes. This cooperation, known as *bin-nadang*, strengthens bonds and reinforces communal responsibility.

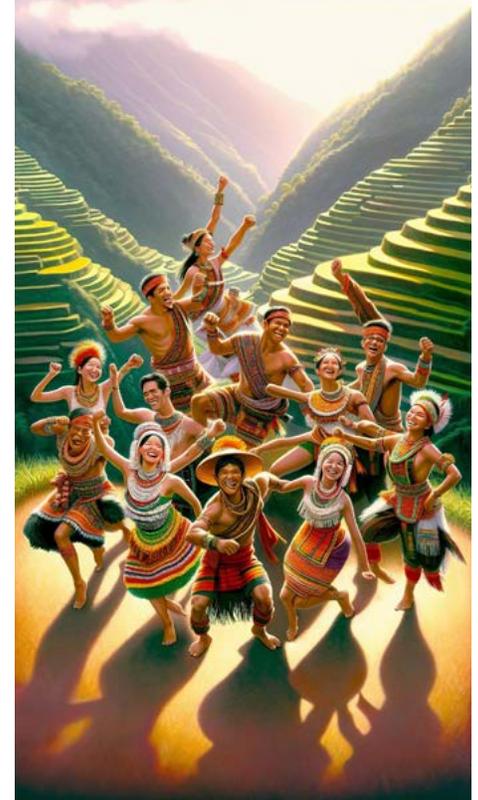
Cultural Continuity. Amid modernization, Cañao remains a living heritage — a reminder of values rooted in gratitude, respect for ancestors, and unity. It keeps Cordilleran identity vibrant and visible across generations.

CAÑAO TODAY

Though still practiced in Benguet and other Cordillera areas, modern challenges persist. The cost of animals and food can make hosting a Cañao difficult, and migration or changing lifestyles threaten the passing down of rituals and songs. Yet many families, elders, cultural groups, and even diaspora communities strive to preserve and adapt the tradition, ensuring that it remains a proud symbol of Cordilleran heritage.

A LIVING BEACON

For those of us in Baguio and the highlands, the Cañao is not merely a ritual; it is a continuing lesson in fellowship, service, and shared identity. Every gongbeat and every shared meal affirms values that resonate deeply with community life: unity, generosity, gratitude, and care for one another. As times change, may the spirit of the Cañao endure — guiding who we are, where we come from, and what we aspire to be, together.



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

19 – Pres. Joe Ursua
27 – PP Anet Calabias

MOST RECENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Weekly – Mental Health Help Desk in Baguio City Jail (male and female dorms)
Participants: Rtn Bong (lead)

19 February – 88TH Charter Anniversary of RCB, 5:30PM Diamond Ballroom, Hotel Supreme.

Participated in by active Rotarians:

21 February – POLIO PLUS Banquet, 2nd Floor Levo Hotel, San Vicente Urdaneta City at 4 PM

Participants: Pres Joe and Dir. Benedict

28 February – Grant Management Seminar in Subic Riviera Hotel and Residences, Subic Bay

Participants: PE Reymund, Pres Joe, PP Arnel, Dir Benedict

02 March – Rainwater Harvesting System Turn over Ceremony in Barangay Fort Del Pilar CDC

Participants: Pres Joe, Dir. Eduard, Dir. Benedict, Sec Cora and PP Chris F

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

22 March – Purple FAM RUN, a cluster project, 5:30 AM @City Hall

10-11 April – District Conference (DISCON 2026), Hotel Supreme Convention Plaza, Magsaysay Avenue, Baguio City

ATTENDANCE

19 FEBRUARY 26

WE MISSED YOU LAST MEETING: PP :

PP Jun, Rtn. Vangie, PP Anet, Rtn. Eric, PP Lani, Rtn Kacey, Rtn. Jojo, Dir. Glaiza, Rtn. Annie, Rtn. Harly, PP Ali, Rtn. Glenn, Rtn. Jeff

EXCUSED: Rtn. Ike, PP Chris P, PP Cy, PP Ben, Rtn. Lily, PDG Linda, PP Raffy

MAKE-UP: Rtn. Bong

GUESTS: : RC of La Trinidad (8), RC Vigan (2), RC SFLU (3), RCB Downtown Session (1), RCB Summer Capital (1), RC Baguio North (4), RC Dagupan (2), RC Manila and RC Pasay and RC Makati, RC Bulacan, RC Cavite, CDC Teachers (10), CDC kids and parents, PDG Seichi Morita, Ms. Leizl Kimura, Mr. Joseph Kim, Ms Yun Jihee, Ms. Song Su Kyung, Ms Trisha Kim, Ms. Me-an de Guzman, Lorie Ducutan, Vilma Navarro, Mr. Sonny Balajo

ANNS: RAPP Louie Claridad, Vanessa Ramos, RAPP Lily Sunga, RAPP Oyee Faelnar, Cecille Barrios, Tante Galang Tan

ON-LEAVE: Rtn. Ruth



PP CORA OCAMPO

RCB Secretary
RY 2025-2026



GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE IN WATER

For more than three decades, **Engr. Salvador M. Royeca** has devoted his professional life to public service through the stewardship of one of Baguio City’s most vital resources—its water. Currently serving as **General Manager of the Baguio Water District (BWD)**, a position he has held since March 2013, Engr. Royeca exemplifies dedication, perseverance, and responsible leadership. His career with BWD spans **over 35 years**, a remarkable journey that reflects both loyalty to the institution and a genuine commitment to the community.

What makes Engr. Royeca’s story particularly inspiring is that he **rose from the ranks** within the organization. Through years of steady work and professional growth, he gained firsthand knowledge of the many facets of water service operations. Today, that experience guides his leadership as he continues to steer BWD toward sustainable and responsive service for the people of Baguio.

A firm believer in lifelong learning, Engr. Royeca earned his **Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering** from **Baguio Colleges Foundation**, now the **University of the Cordilleras**, and became a **licensed Civil Engineer in 2000**. He later completed his **Master in Business Administration** at the same institution, strengthening his managerial capabilities. Continuing his professional development, he pursued studies in **Sanitary Engineering** and successfully passed the board examination in **2011**, further expanding his expertise in water and environmental management.

Beyond his professional duties, Engr. Royeca is actively involved in civic and professional organizations. As a

dedicated **Rotarian**, he was honored as **Rotarian of the Year in 2010** after leading the Rotary Club of Baguio North to rank among the **Top 10 clubs in District 3790**. In that same year, he was also recognized as an **Outstanding Rotary Club President**, reflecting the respect he commands among fellow Rotarians.

Within the engineering profession, he served as **President of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE)** from **2013 to 2015** and remains a **lifetime member** of both PICE and the **Philippine Society of Environmental and Sanitary Engineers (PSENSE)**. He also contributes to the local business community as a member of the **Board of Directors of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry – Baguio-Benguet Chapter**.

Engr. Royeca has likewise played an important role in strengthening collaboration among water districts. He previously served as **President of the Pan-Ilocos Water Districts Association (PIWADA)** and recently completed his term as **President of the Philippine Association of Water Districts (PAWD)** in February 2026.

His many contributions have earned well-deserved recognition, including being named **Outstanding Citizen of Baguio City in 2019**, **Outstanding Alumnus of the University of the Cordilleras in 2023**, and recipient of the **Rockstar GM Award in 2024** from the Philippine Association of Water Districts. Most recently, he was honored as **Regional Winner of the Gawad Pagasa Award** under the Civil Service Commission’s **Gawad Lingkod Bayani Program**—a fitting tribute to a career marked by integrity, leadership, and service.



PP BUDZ M. ROYECA
Baguio Water District
General Manager



07 MARCH 2026 RCBAGUIO MEETING

The Rotary Club of Baguio gathered once again for its regular weekly meeting on 07 March 2026, beginning promptly at 12:30 pm. The afternoon reflected the true strength of the Club—its members’ shared passion for service, fellowship, and meaningful engagement.

The program was thoughtfully coordinated by EIC and Past President Raffy Chan, whose dedication and careful preparation ensured that the meeting flowed smoothly from start to finish. His steady leadership behind the scenes allowed members to focus on what matters most: strengthening friendships while advancing Rotary’s mission of service to the community.

The meeting opened with an invocation led by Rtn. Lily, who guided everyone in a quiet moment of prayer and reflection. Her words encouraged members to begin the afternoon with gratitude and renewed commitment to the ideals of Rotary—service, integrity, and fellowship.

Adding warmth and good humor to the gathering was fill-in Entertainment Coordinator PP Chris Faelnar. With a few well-timed jokes and cheerful remarks, he kept the atmosphere lively and relaxed. A subordinate entertainment followed, courtesy of Dir. Mariver Agayas.

Excitement soon followed with the raffle segment, ably facilitated by fill-in coordinator, PP Baby Kaur. Members watched eagerly as the lucky numbers were called, each draw greeted with applause and good-natured reactions.

Serving as Fine Master, Rtn. Tonton led one of the meeting’s most engaging segments. Through lighthearted fines and thoughtful recognition, he highlighted notable acts of service among members.

During Members’ Time, PP Cora shared insightful reflections about the importance of statistics and data in guiding the Club’s projects and activities.

President’s Time followed with a special moment of recognition for members of the **Polio Plus Society**. Pins and certificates were awarded to PP Ben Ladilad, PP Gigi Maranan, PP Cora, IPP Susan, PP Baby, and PP Alfred in appreciation of their continuing support of Rotary’s global **End Polio Now** campaign. Their dedication reflects the Club’s steadfast commitment to helping eradicate polio worldwide.

The highlight of the afternoon came with the introduction of the Guest of Honor and Speaker by Rtn. Levy.

Our Guest of Honor and Speaker, **Daisy Marie S. Villanueva, Chief Probation and Parole Officer**, delivered an enlightening talk on **Presidential Decree No. 968**. She explained how the probation system represents a compassionate yet responsible approach within the justice system—balancing accountability with the opportunity for rehabilitation. Her presentation emphasized society’s belief that individuals can change when given the chance to correct their path.

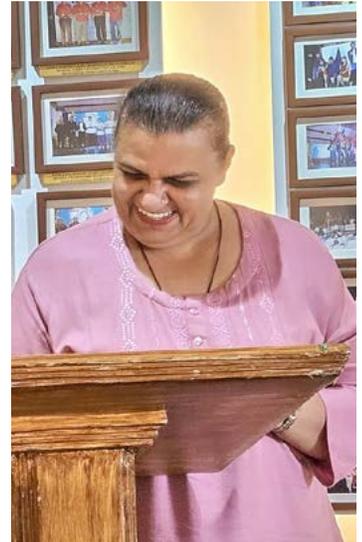
A meaningful Club Response, given by PP Ben Ladilad, ended the engaging afternoon of fellowship and learning, President Joe Ursua formally adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m. Members left the gathering with renewed appreciation for Rotary friendship and a strengthened commitment to continue serving their community with dedication and compassion.



IPP SUSAN VILLANUEVA
RCB Member since 2008

R RETROSPECT SCENES

SCENES WE LIKE TO SEE :



07 MARCH 2026 MEETING

Retrospect Photos By:
PP Cora Ocampo, PE Reymund Barrios,
and others



DISTRICT FUNCTIONS

DISTRICT OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS

In all Official District Gatherings and events, the **District Governor** serves as the presiding officer. This is in recognition of the Governor's role as the chief representative of Rotary International within the district. As such, he or she leads the proceedings, ensures that Rotary traditions are upheld, and provides overall direction during the function.

1. District Governor
2. Other R.I. Officers Present
3. Other District Officers present in accordance with General Order of Precedence for District Level

An important consideration arises when the function is hosted by a local Rotary club. In such a case, after the District Governor, the **President of the host club** assumes the next position of honor. This is because the hosting club provides both the venue and the spirit of welcome, making the role of its President central to the success of the event. Following him or her is the **Function Chairman**, who is responsible for planning and executing the details of the program. Their inclusion in the order of precedence ensures due recognition for the significant effort that goes into organizing the gathering.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The District Conference is among the most significant events in Rotary life at the district level. It provides a platform for fellowship, the sharing of accomplishments, and the exchange of ideas that strengthen the collective impact of Rotary clubs. Given the importance of the occasion, strict observance of protocol and order of precedence ensures that respect, dignity, and harmony are maintained throughout the proceedings.

1. District Governor
2. R.I. President or Representative
3. Ladies of the R.I. President (or representatives) and District Governor
4. Conference Chairman
5. Host Club President
6. Church and gov't officials (bishop, provincial governor, mayor, etc.)
7. Other Incumbent R.I. Officials
8. Past R.I. Directors and above
9. District Governor-Elect
10. PDGs (in order of seniority)
11. District Governor Nominee
12. Invited District Governors from other districts
13. Invited PDGs from other districts (in order of district seniority)
14. District Secretary

//nothing follows



LEADERSHIP FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENTS

Leadership in Rotary is not measured merely by the smooth conduct of meetings or the completion of projects. It is measured in quiet sacrifices, steady guidance, and the courage to make decisions that serve something greater than oneself. Within the storied history of the Rotary Club of Baguio, our past presidents have embodied this truth in ways both visible and unseen.

Each presidency carries its own season. Some years demand expansion and bold initiatives. Others require consolidation, healing, or financial prudence. Still others call for resilience amid uncertainty. Yet across these varied seasons, common threads of leadership emerge — threads worth reflecting upon as we continue our journey as Rotarians.

First, leadership begins with listening. Our past presidents understood that a Rotary club is not a one-person endeavor. Before launching programs or introducing new directions, they listened — to board members, to committee chairs, to senior Rotarians, and to newer members whose voices deserved equal space. Listening cultivated unity. And unity strengthened action.

Second, leadership requires steadiness. There were years when projects encountered delays, partnerships faced challenges, or external circumstances tested our plans. In those moments, our presidents modeled calm resolve. They reminded us that Rotary's work is a marathon, not a sprint. Their composure prevented temporary obstacles from becoming permanent discouragements.

Third, leadership thrives on inclusion. The most fruitful Rotary years were those when members felt seen and valued. Our past presidents made deliberate efforts to assign meaningful roles, encourage participation, and recognize contributions — whether large or small. They understood that a club grows stronger when every member feels ownership of its mission.

Fourth, leadership honors tradition while embracing change.

As part of Rotary International, our club stands within a global movement shaped by more than a century of service. Our presidents respected Rotary's heritage — its Four-Way Test, its commitment to ethics, its enduring motto of Service Above Self. Yet they also recognized the need to adapt: to welcome new ideas, to engage younger members, and to respond creatively to emerging community needs in Baguio.

This balance between continuity and innovation is no small task. It requires humility — the humility to acknowledge that leadership is stewardship, not ownership.

Fifth, leadership is personal example.

More than any speech delivered at the lectern, it was the consistent presence of our presidents in service activities, fellowship events, and community engagements that inspired confidence. When members see their president arriving early, staying late, and working alongside them, motivation spreads naturally. Authority rooted in service carries a quiet authenticity.

Perhaps the greatest lesson of all is this: Rotary leadership is temporary, but its impact is lasting. A president serves for one Rotary year. The culture he or she cultivates may endure for decades.

As we reflect on the legacy of our past presidents, may we not merely admire their service from a distance. Let us internalize their example. Whether we are officers, committee chairs, or members serving faithfully behind the scenes, we are all called to lead in our own sphere.

For leadership in Rotary is not confined to a title. It is expressed in every thoughtful decision, every collaborative effort, and every act done for the good of others.

And in learning from those who have led before us, we ensure that the Rotary Club of Baguio continues to lead with wisdom, warmth, and unwavering purpose.



PP RAFFY CHAN
Cañao Editor-in-Chief
RY 2025-2026

PROGRAM FOR TODAY

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room

Saturday, 14 March 2026

TIME	PORTION	IN CHARGE
12:00 nn	Fellowship	
12:30 pm	Call to Order-----	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Invocation-----	PP Atom Mendalla
	Pambansang Awit-----	(Everyone)
	Rotary Hymn -----	(Everyone)
	Four-Way-Test-----	(Everyone)
1:20 pm	Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guests (VRG)-----	Rtn. Harly Wasing
	Entertainment -----	Dir. Lorena Cachola
	Raffle -----	Rtn. Nancy Alabanza
	Finest Moments -----	PP Veeh Balajo
1:40 pm	Members' Time-----	(Anyone)
1:50 pm	President's Time-----	Pres. Joe Ursua
1:55 pm	Introduction of GHS -----	PP Diony Claridad
	Guest of Honor & Speaker (GHS) -----	PP Budz Royeca, BWD General Manager
	Topic: Baguio Water Updates	
	Open Forum	
	Club Response -----	PP Lani Fabi
2:30 pm	RCB Hymn-----	(Everyone)
	Pilipinas Kong Mahal-----	(Everyone)
	Adjournment-----	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Program Coordinator -----	PP Chris Peralta
	Retrospect -----	Rtn. Arlene Sumalag
	Imager -----	Rtn. Peter Wasing

PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT MEETING

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room
Saturday, 21 March 2026

Full information to follow...

MARCH IS WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE MONTH

