

REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland



LEADERSHIP, TRAINING
& DEVELOPMENT



I look forward to welcoming you to the 2016 Regional Assemblies across GB & I, all ready for an exciting year ahead. They are a wonderful opportunity to share with and learn from other Rotarians. This newsletter gives a flavour of what is to come so join me & the team in March.

Eve

Eve Conway—RIBI President Elect

The Rotary year 2016/17 is another opportunity for us Rotarians to make a difference to the lives of others, both locally and internationally. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our charity the Rotary Foundation, ending polio now & forever and boosting the numbers of Rotarians through the 'Rotary GO (Growth Opportunities)' programme.

In the second year of Regional Assemblies the Leadership Development and Training Committee, Service Committees & facilitators have implemented many of your recommended improvements, delivering an engaging programme for more participants at local venues.

The one-day assemblies have a clear purpose to meet the 3 objectives:-

- i. To interact with the RIBI President Elects message for 2016/17
- ii. To share the thoughts of Rotary International President Elect John Germ for 2016/17
- iii. To engage in Service area facilitated breakout sessions to:
 - Enable District Officers and Rotarians from around the Zone to meet others
 - Provide opportunity for District and Club Rotarians to share successful projects and events to motivate more Rotary service.
 - To engage with RIBI Service Committee representatives to exchange information, ideas and projects for 2016/17, and to build greater commitment, continuity and communication
 - To identify and promote the benefit and added-value of District and Club Assemblies to support your own future planning.

The inaugural Regional Assemblies in 2015 increased the number of attendees considerably and this year aims to do the same. Consequently this invitational newsletter from all the committee chairs and members is aimed at 3 specific groups. 1) District Chairs and one of their committee members, 2) 9/10 Rotarians who have successful project and ideas to share and will be nominated by District Governors elect, and 3) Interested Rotarians from clubs or past District Officers

Finally, on behalf of the planning and delivery teams there is a warm welcome and an expectation that together we really can make a difference. We trust that you will accept and act upon the following invitations to experience so many areas of interest.

Keith Best
Chair Leadership Development & Training Committee

Each RIBI committee has prepared a pre-Assembly video which will be made available on the RIBI website to watch at your convenience.

Full details and links to the videos will be sent out in early February

The Regional Assemblies will take place during the month of March 2016 with 3 events in Zone 17 and 2 in Zone 18A.

The dates and locations are:

Stirling (Zone 17)	Saturday 5th March
Leeds (Zone 17)	Sunday 6th March
Bristol (Zone 18A)	Saturday 12th March
Birmingham (Zone 17)	Sunday 13th March
London (Zone 17)	Saturday 19th March

More details about venues will be on the RIBI website in coming weeks.

COMMUNITY SERVICE & EVENTS

Let's Get Engaged

At the Regional Assemblies we will look at what 'you' do and encourage your participation and involvement to inspire others to get engaged in their communities. For you to gain inspiration from the discussions. To go away inspired and engaged with some new ideas, knowledge of new projects and maybe new friends. Together the aim is to be engaged with those within our communities and we believe you have the key to that success – come along and share your story of success and help engage with Rotarians who will also be at the Assembly.

Let us as Rotarians get engaged in getting our communities to work together with Rotary, supported by us. Let's bring all age groups, creeds, cultures and religions together to work on projects that benefit them individually and collectively by identifying their communities' needs.

Let's use both Rotary and non-Rotary Local, National and International Events and as an opportunity to engage with the members within our community to identify how Rotary can work with them to make a difference for individuals and groups, let's engage with them and join up with our Rotary colleagues to make a difference. Let's Get

Engaged and spread the message of the great work that Rotary does, but let's use all the materials and resources available to us to make sure the great work engages with everyone.

Our communities are different but Rotary's Community Service & Events Committees goal is to engage with you.



MEMBERSHIP

Zone Regional Assemblies are open to any Rotarian, not just those taking up district roles. We are looking forward to working with anyone who has experience of successful membership initiatives, or is just looking for ideas on how they might make a difference in their area.

Our declining numbers mean that membership is the most important organisational issue facing Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland. However, in recent years, by adopting new approaches to recruitment, membership and club structure, some clubs have seen their membership grow significantly, new clubs have been established and satellite clubs have flourished.

Each Regional Assembly will be an opportunity to share these successes and inspire you and your district or clubs.

In particular, the Assemblies will be an opportunity to:

- Understand and appreciate the successes of the Rotary "GO" programme.
- Discuss the progress in establishing Satellite clubs.
- Develop a strategy for improving retention.
- Consider how we can re-engage with Rotary Alumni.

- Exchanging thoughts, ideas, and discuss any issues you may be facing.
- Discuss what additional support the RIBI membership committee and Rotary Coordinator teams can provide.
- Understand fully the resources that are available from RIBI and RI.

All the breakout sessions will be participative and interactive. We want to share your thoughts, ideas and experiences. Your input will help us to define future support. Together we can really make a difference. Please register and join us.



FOUNDATION

A Personal Invitation to attend the Regional Assembly Foundation Sessions

Why should you give up a: round of golf; country walk; meal with friends... to attend yet another Rotary event?

Because it's your opportunity to:-

- * Realise the horrible myths, folklores and legends about 'OUR Rotary Foundation' are untrue
- * Share thoughts & exchange successes about our No 1 Priority to End Polio Now & Forever
- * Share and exchange ideas & be inspired – to do more good in the world – and celebrate the Centenary year of 'OUR Rotary Foundation' through active involvement.
- * Engage in discussion about how Rotarians' humanitarian service has been enhanced through OUR Rotary Foundation grants in the areas of focus
- * Meet like minded Rotarians who like you do good in the world because we have 'OUR Rotary Foundation'
- * Get your District and 'OUR Rotary Foundation'

team members to support you in project planning and implementation

- * Find out personally how you can best support 'OUR Rotary Foundation'
- * Discover how the different service committees can work together utilising the resources of 'OUR Rotary Foundation'.
- * A member of the Foundation Team will be there with a Facilitator to ensure your questions are answered in the formal sessions and "in between" times.

We invite you to engage for a day and create more service opportunities and be motivated by the difference that you can make. You will not be disappointed. Help us to help you. We look forward to seeing you there. Be inspired!



PUBLIC IMAGE

Public Image is the new exciting name for the old Marketing, Public Relations and Communications Committee, matching the terminology used by Rotary International.

Public Image is the responsibility of everyone in the way by which we present Rotary. Everyone is welcome as we all bring different experiences and skills to the event.

We need to make use of every opportunity to publicise our image and it is important that we do so consistently. We need a plan on how we do this.

We need to be creative in a tough world of PR to stand out above all the other competing organisations in the community to maintain and increase our membership.

The Regional Assembly will be a key opportunity to share plans and ideas, and in particular, the Assemblies will be an opportunity to:

- Understand the successes that other attendees have had;
- Consider the importance of consistent Rotary Branding;
- Discuss what additional support the RIBI Public Image committee and Rotary Public Image Coordinator teams can provide;

- Share and understand opportunities for PR Grants and to understand the resources that are available from RIBI and RI.

The breakouts will give you the opportunity to contribute to the learning and sharing of your skills and knowledge.

We look forward to you joining us all around the Assemblies.

I WANT
TO
END
POLIO



endpolionow.org | #worldpolioday

YOUTH SERVICE

“Youth itself is a talent – a perishable talent”

(Eric Hoffer)

Rotary Youth service nurtures that valuable talent through its vast array of Programmes which inspire the next generation. Through these opportunities we can enthuse, encourage, enlighten, engage and above all educate these young people, developing the interpersonal skills and attributes which are keys to adult life, and creating future Rotarians.

Come and join us in the interactive experience where you all will be active participants with the focus on what you can bring, learn and share. You will be vital to proudly developing, stimulating and taking your Clubs and Districts on a journey that will be essential to the next generation.

It is a clear intention to build a world leading youth programme through meaningful discussions and the use of RIBI support resources. We will be pleased to see you at the Regional Assembly.



YOUTH EXCHANGE

We invite and encourage you to join a greater exchange of ideas and hear of successful experiences at one of the Youth Exchange Regional Assemblies.

Zone 17 your invitation is to attend the Birmingham Regional Assembly on Sunday 13th March.

If you are in Zone 8A your invitation is to attend the London Regional Assembly on Saturday 19th March.

If you have a problem with one date please don't miss out register for the other.

Young people across the Rotary world are experiencing meaningful life changing opportunities and building life long relationship crossing cultures and country boundaries. Be a part of it and come along.

Youth Exchange is arguably the original Rotary Peace programme, since it has its roots in the determination among Rotarians following the First World War to build peace and understanding among the young people of the world through exchanging their own children.

Today young people regardless of their connection with Rotary are becoming empowered to change the world through the Youth Exchange programme. Rotary is creating a better future for the next generation, come and hear of the positive powerful impact of how this builds confidence and attitudinal change.

Let us not miss the opportunity to build our membership from a very grateful and appreciative body of parents. Many of the participants in the programme are encouraged to join RYLA, Rotary scholarship programmes or Rotaract and these are our future Rotarians. Please join us to nurture these future Rotarians.

Being involved enables Rotarians to experience the joy of selecting young people for one of our programmes and witness the effect it has on their lives– they never forget and they have great loyalty.

If you do not have a District Youth Exchange officer our invitation is to all Rotarians who have an interest in supporting young people or a member of a youth service committee. Please don't miss out!

Help us to grow Youth Exchange and come along to one of the Regional Assemblies we need you to get involved and widen your Rotary experience, you won't regret it.



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www.rotary.org/clublocator

INTERNATIONAL

We invite you as a district officer, committee member, successful project participant, club international chair or a Rotarian with a wider interest to come and join us at the breakout sessions at the Regional Assembly. No matter what your background or previous involvement you will find much to engage with.

There will be opportunity to learn from others by sharing their successful engagement in International Service, how they started projects and how RIBI's International Service Committee can support you throughout 2016/17.

We will spend time understanding how Rotary can help when disaster strikes anywhere in the world. This will involve looking at how charities respond in terms of immediate aid and how Rotary can work in the disaster area longer term.

Our discussions will look at building requisite skills and using the contacts available to us in

Rotary. This may be about joining with other projects within RIBI as another starting point to getting involved with more humanitarian projects without being the lead club or District.



There are so many resources that are available to support you making such a difference to the lives of others. We intend to provide support for you to shape and design a district and club assembly so help us to help you and come along in March to the Regional Assembly.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

At Regional Assemblies we will explore together how to revitalise this often neglected avenue of service, showing how to make more successful projects, and contribute to membership growth.

Many companies recognise the benefits of introducing skills based volunteering schemes: opportunities for employees to give back to their local community, while using their own skills and developing themselves. Like major businesses, Rotary Clubs can gain significantly from enhancing their vocational service offering.

Community awareness

Having an understanding of the local community and a wider appreciation of diversity is a core benefit of volunteering, which translates into direct benefit to the Club.

Confidence

Service projects help build up members' confidence. For example working on a community youth project can help increase an individual's confidence in people management.

Communication

Activities such as schools talks help improve public speaking and presentation skills.

Networking and relationship building

Volunteering activities forge new networks, both within the Club and externally.

Team-building

Vocational service projects build team spirit and bring people together.

Professional knowledge

Conducting pro-bono work or volunteering in an area directly related to a member's work can help to enhance that member's professional capability.

Workload management

The ability to manage competing workloads is a core benefit of volunteering, particularly for those at the start of their career.

Like businesses, clubs that do this well are more attractive to new members, either as individuals or as Corporate or Associate membership arrangements, but more importantly the quality and diversity of all their avenues of service improve.

ROTARY CLUB CENTRAL PLAN TOGETHER TRACK PROGRESS ACHIEVE GOALS

Get started!

Go to www.rotary.org/clubcentral



It's a one-stop shop.



It eliminates paper.



It fosters continuity in leadership.



It enables clubs to track their progress.



It creates transparency.



It showcases the important work that Rotary clubs do worldwide.