

# Rotary

Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary 

**START YOUR**

**ROTARY JOURNEY**

Rotary  
Great Britain & Ireland





**TOGETHER, WE**

**CHANGE LIVES**

**Rotary**  **PEOPLE OF ACTION**

*Members of Rotary performing repairs and home improvements for vulnerable people.*

# WE ARE PEOPLE OF ACTION

Rotary unites problem solvers in Great Britain and Ireland and across the world, transforming our communities one project at a time.

Rotary is one of the world's largest and most successful global membership and humanitarian service organisations, with over 1.2 million members in 35,000 clubs in over 200 countries.

We have a unique position of being rooted within our own communities, but with a global outlook, ready to tackle challenges at home and abroad.

We are People of Action, ready to turn our ideas and vision into lasting change by creating opportunities, supporting those who need it most and transforming their lives.

Where others see problems, we see solutions: tapping into our professional skills, expertise and knowledge to make a difference. Members of Rotary use their time, energy and passion to mobilise their communities to get the job done.

There are so many projects and activities for you to get involved in as part of Rotary. Our impact starts with you.



# REACHING OUT LOCALLY

**Building community spirit, unlocking the potential of young people and transforming the places we call home – that’s what People of Action do.**

Through Rotary, you can use your time, talents and enthusiasm to benefit the communities that we all call home. This pride and knowledge means Rotary clubs are uniquely placed to make a difference, with each club individually tailoring projects and activities to suit its community’s needs.

Rotary members lead the way on a huge range of projects, such as providing mock interviews for college students, restoring community green spaces or setting up Memory Cafés for those living with dementia.

Even if you don’t have a specific cause in mind, you can foster community spirit in your area through family fun days, summer fayres and Christmas collections, like the famous Rotary Santa Sleighs.

One of Rotary’s leading commitments is to offer young people the platforms and opportunities for them to unlock their potential, develop their skills and broaden their horizons.

Through our RotaKids and Interact programmes, you can help young people from age 7 to 18 get involved with helping their communities in a friendly and sociable environment.

Our national youth competitions in a range of creative fields also give young people the chance to showcase their talents and win amazing prizes. Other activity schemes such as the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and Rotary Youth Exchange help to encourage young people to learn not only about themselves, but the world around them.

## Project spotlight

Peace is a cornerstone of Rotary’s global mission. When the war in Ukraine escalated in 2022, the wheels of an incredible humanitarian response were set in motion by Rotary clubs around the world.

In the 12 months that followed, Rotary clubs in Great Britain and Ireland raised over £6 million worth of donations in cash

and kind, and gave over 100,000 volunteer hours in support of humanitarian relief efforts.

Rotary members have helped to keep people warm over the cold winter by rebuilding homes destroyed by bombing, fundraised for and delivered life-saving medical equipment and supported displaced families who have travelled across the continent seeking safety.



**TOGETHER, WE**

**DEVELOP**

**Rotary**  **PEOPLE OF ACTION**

*Rotary supports young people, with youth competitions and programmes designed to unlock their potential.*

# REACHING OUT GLOBALLY

We are committed to international service. Responding to disasters and implementing innovative projects – that’s what People of Action do.

Supporting communities overseas is a key part of Rotary, with thousands of members helping to support the most vulnerable people in the world.

Many of these people are without access to some of the most basic human rights. Rotary is heavily supportive of long-term projects to bring economic and community development. Our activities provide food, shelter, sanitation facilities, education and healthcare. They provide hope for the future.

Our members also mobilise rapidly in the wake of conflicts, emergencies or extreme weather events. ShelterBox, an official project partner of Rotary, is one of a number of emergency response charities which started life as a Rotary club project and have grown to provide disaster relief to thousands of families all over the world.

Distance is no barrier when it comes to changing lives. Our global network means Rotarians collaborate whilst being thousands of miles apart.

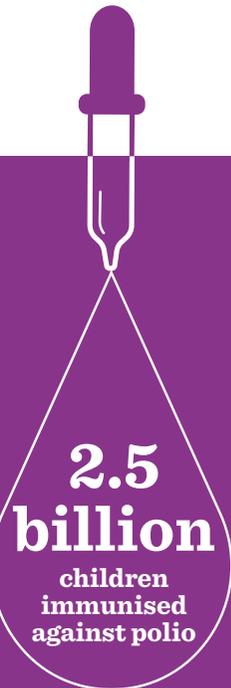
## Project spotlight

Since 1985, Rotary’s key humanitarian priority has been to rid the world of polio.

Rotary spearheaded the campaign at a time when there were over 1,000 cases a day in 125 countries, paralysing and even killing children. Today, case numbers are down by 99.9% and our goal of total eradication is closer than ever.

Over the last 30 years, Rotary has contributed \$2.1 billion to the eradication effort and has protected over 2.5 billion children from the disease through vaccination programmes.

With Rotary you can be a part of international projects that save lives and change the world.





**TOGETHER, WE**

**PROTECT**

**Rotary**



**PEOPLE of ACTION**

*Child in Pakistan receiving an oral vaccine to immunise against polio.*

# 7 AREAS OF FOCUS

Rotary has focused its efforts in seven key areas. These encompass some of the world's most critical humanitarian needs and provide an opportunity for Rotary members to transform communities at home and overseas.



## Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention

Through our partnerships with several leading universities, Rotary Peace Fellows develop the skills to strengthen peace efforts, train local leaders to prevent conflict, and support long-term peacebuilding in areas affected by conflict.



## Disease Prevention and Treatment

We aim to improve and expand access to low-cost and free healthcare in underdeveloped areas. Our members educate and mobilise communities to help prevent the spread of major diseases, such as polio, and sponsor training programmes for health workers.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Water means life. Our projects give communities the ability to develop and maintain sustainable water systems and support studies related to sanitation and hygiene. We build wells, implement rainwater harvesting and improve sanitation facilities.



## Basic Education and Literacy

We believe education is a right. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy. As a member you can educate and uplift students from across the globe, reduce gender disparity in education and inspire the next generation.



## Maternal and Child Health

We provide immunisations and antibiotics to babies, improve access to essential medical services, and support trained healthcare providers for mothers and their children. Our projects ensure sustainability by empowering the local community to take ownership of health care training programmes.



## Community Economic Development

We carry out service projects that enhance economic and community development. We create opportunities and provide sustainable solutions to poverty. We also help strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities through microfinance, training and equipment provision.



## Protecting the Environment

Rotary's newest Area of Focus highlights our dedication to preserving the planet and its resources. We are committed to supporting activities that strengthen the conservation and protection of natural resources, advance ecological sustainability, and foster harmony between communities and the environment.



**TOGETHER, WE**

**TRANSFORM**

**Rotary**



**PEOPLE OF ACTION**

*Child in Ghana washes their hands with water from mechanised water borehole system funded by Rotary.*

# OPEN UP A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES

Rotary brings together people like you from all walks of life. Getting involved with Rotary provides benefits to not only communities, but our members as well.

## Social networking

Rotary is a great way to expand your social circles, meet new people and make lasting friendships, all while having fun and making a difference.



## Connect and learn through Rotary events

Rotary hosts a range of in-person and virtual events each year, offering opportunities to be inspired by guest speakers and thought leaders to develop your global understanding.



## Develop your skills

You can share your personal and vocational skills, take up leadership roles, as well as learning from fellow members on activities such as project planning, communications and service delivery.

## Business opportunities

Rotary was founded over 100 years ago as a business networking group, and this still plays a part in Rotary today. Making connections with other members can enhance your professional life.



## Turn ideas into action

Got a cause you're passionate about? Rotary is the place to give your project lift off. Our own charity, The Rotary Foundation, hands out thousands of grants each year.



## Work with leading organisations

Rotary's reputation has allowed us to establish relationships with leading national and international charities, putting us at the forefront of change.



## Be part of a global community

With 1.4 million members in 35,000 clubs in over 200 countries, Rotary is a global network of neighbours, friends and problem solvers making a difference in our communities.



# START YOUR ROTARY JOURNEY

Involvement in Rotary is flexible and rewarding, with a range of ways to make the most of your membership.

## Join an existing club

There are around 1,500 Rotary groups across Great Britain and Ireland. Clubs are flexible in their meeting times and locations, with multiple clubs often operating in a certain area, giving you options to suit you and your commitments.

Lots of clubs operate with a mixture of face-to-face and online meetings, offering greater flexibility for those who are frequently on the go, or those who lead a particularly busy lifestyle, but still want to give back to the community.

While clubs meet at different times, in different places and in different ways, the thing they all have in common is the fact they come together for hands-on projects, volunteering and community activities to improve the lives of others.

## Form your own Rotary group

Rotary builds from the ground up. So if you've got family, friends, colleagues or acquaintances to join you, why not start your own Rotary group? You can lead the way by facilitating new and vibrant volunteering opportunities in your area. Rotary has a dedicated team of volunteers to help you every step of the way.

## Direct membership - A flexible, 24/7 connection to Rotary

Access all the benefits of the club experience by becoming a member of our direct, online community.

This model of Rotary allows you to connect digitally with like-minded people in location or cause-based hubs where you can join leaders, exchange ideas and take action. You can also link with clubs in your local area for hands-on project opportunities.

Direct membership is a friendly and supportive environment, with a team of experts to get you up and running to build the perfect Rotary experience for you. It's simple, easy and flexible.

## Consider Corporate Membership

Perfect for business! If you and your colleagues want to work closely with your local Rotary club to get involved in the community, you can.

Rotary is a great way to put your organisation's Corporate Social Responsibility ideas into action.



## GET INVOLVED



### Call us:

Speak to a member of the team at the Rotary Support Centre on **01789 765411**



### Visit us:

**rotarygbi.org/join**, pop your details onto our online form and we'll be in touch to talk through exactly what you're looking for.



### Follow us:

You can find us on Facebook, LinkedIn, X (previously Twitter), and Instagram. Just search '**Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland**'.



### Find us:

You can contact your local Rotary club directly. Just type your postcode into **rotarygbi.org/club-finder/** to get started.



### ROTARY SUPPORT CENTRE

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