

## Big Lunch and Rotary Guidance Notes

### Introduction

These guidance notes set out the process by which Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland can work with The Eden Project's Big Lunch. This document is intended to be read by Rotarians, particularly those holding district community and club community chair positions, who are looking for ways to engage with the local community in a fun and sociable way.

The Big Lunch, which has the full support of the Rotary Community Committee, is very grateful for our support across these islands. Organisations, such as Rotary, really bring this event to life as Rotary knows the local areas and the people who live in them.

### Opportunity

There is an opportunity for Rotarians to create a Big Lunch and bring the community together on one day, usually a date in June. Doing so in previous years has increased social inclusion, introduced new people, helped brighten up someone's day and has been tremendous fun. There is a good opportunity to not only introduce people to potential new friends but also to introduce Rotary to a new audience.

### Process

District community chairs and Rotary club community chairs can contact the Big Lunch to request their organiser's pack. These are free to order from the Big Lunch website which is here:

<http://www.thebiglunch.com/>

### Next six steps

1. Discuss your project idea with your club, nearby clubs or district and formulate plan of action. Ideas can be as individual as the club. Some will create street parties, others will have picnics on lawns or even a beach party with a brass band. This is up to the club or district.
2. Obtain your organiser's pack from Big Lunch: <http://www.thebiglunch.com/>
3. Arrange a venue, keeping in mind accessibility, health & safety and other event requirements.
4. Get your volunteers, suppliers and other parties involved. You may be fortunate enough to have a friendly ASDA superstore which could help as ASDA is a Big Lunch sponsor but this would be up to the discretion of the store.
5. If you wish to have a media presence, keep your district and club PR officer informed so that they can co-ordinate this. Remember: Pictures of children and vulnerable adults must have permission of the parent or guardian.

6. Inform your district community chair who can then inform Rotary GBI for information and PR purposes. Sharing information is important as your successes will help other clubs to explore new routes to help communities.

## **PR**

Your activities show Rotary at its best. Make use of your club and district PR chairs who can share the news with your local area and Rotary's PR department in Alcester and the team can share it with the rest of Great Britain and Ireland. Forward planning of events is a great help as the team can prepare stories and let the public know what is going on. Where possible, please send exciting images of your lunch guests enjoying the day along with post-event stories as well. **Notes: All images must have permission of the people in the image to be published.**

## **Further information**

Contact the Rotary in Great Britain & Ireland Project manager via [cds@rotarygbi.org](mailto:cds@rotarygbi.org) or the Big Lunch via the Big Lunch website.