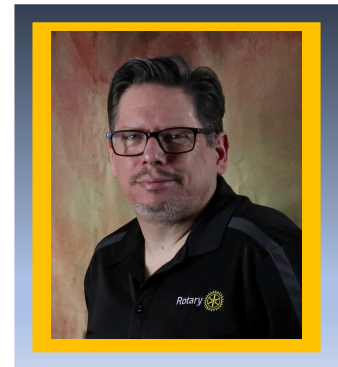


Rotary in GB&I Disaster Recovery Trust

Meet our New Trustee – Darren Hands PHF

Rotary Club of Plympton, District 1175 (Rotary South West Peninsula)

Darren has been a member of Rotary since 2002 having formed the Plymouth Albion Rotary Club – one of the initial “pilot project” Rotary Clubs. This followed being a member of Rotaract since 1996 – so Darren has been involved in the Rotary family since 1996.



Darren’s background is in Finance and Internal Audit and yet his many positions he has held for his club and district have centred around Marketing and PR.

When Rotary International brought out the “This Close to Ending Polio” images, very few people realised back in 2011 that they also provided a template for clubs to produce their own. Through using this template, Darren produced a local variation of the images using celebrity TV chefs, local media personalities and local sports personalities including several Olympians (such as Tom Daley, Toni Couch and Helen Glover). These were used for bus advertising within the West Devon and Cornwall areas, later being copied by other districts on a smaller scale. These images also resulted in him being jointly awarded the RIBI Public Image Trophy that year.

Through Darren’s efforts in promoting various campaigns in the Devon and Cornwall area relating to Rotary’s End Polio Now efforts, in 2017 he was one of 10 recipients to be awarded Rotary’s European “Regional Service Award for a Polio Free World”

In 2017 Darren founded the Rotarians4MentalHealth mental health awareness campaign “**Don’t Bottle It Up**” which continues to grow and has now become a global campaign. So, it is no surprise that he is currently a member of Rotary GB&I Health and Humanitarian Service Team leading on Mental Health.

Current Positions held: -

Trustee of Rotary GB&I Disaster Recovery Trust (Social Media)

Member of Rotary Jaipur Limb Project (Social Media / Publicity)

Member of REMIT (Rotarians Eliminating Malaria in Tanzania)

Darren brings with him a wealth of expertise to the Disaster Recovery Trust Team with his knowledge of Social Media and he is also young enough to hold down a full-time job (not sure where he finds the time) thus reducing the average age of the Trustees.

On behalf of all the Trustees we welcome Darren onto our Team.