

INFORMATION PACK

Rotary **YOUNG**
CITIZEN AWARDS



[ROTARYGBI.ORG](https://rotarygbi.org)

Hosted by

Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland 

Information Pack for 2023-24

The Rotary Young Citizen Awards were created by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (Rotary GB&I) to recognise and celebrate the achievements and commitment of inspiring young people in these islands. There are many young positive role-models who are going out of their way to make a difference and the Rotary Young Citizen Awards are a way to showcase the good that young people are doing.

Who is eligible for nomination?

The Rotary Young Citizen Awards are for young people, or groups of young people, under the age of **25** who have demonstrated positive citizenship, personal achievements, assumed important responsibilities, undertaken community activities, or otherwise stood out as exceptional.

Those nominated do not have to be working on a Rotary project to be eligible for an award. What matters is that they, individually or as part of a group, have made a positive difference which is recognised by a local Rotary club or district or any other individual or organisation (for example, local authority, school, college, university, youth group, uniformed brigades) as being worthy of nomination. Examples might be champions in their school or local community, young carers, fundraisers, volunteers, or young people who have shown courage in some way.

Rotary Young Citizen Awards

The Rotary Young Citizen Award has no set categories and therefore does not limit who can enter.

Alongside the Rotary Young Citizen Award there are three specific awards as set out below. All three are also for young people or groups of young people, under the age of 25.

Rotary Young Citizen Environmentalist Award

This award reflects Rotary's focus on the Environment and recognises young people who are passionate about protecting the environment. This could be through starting or being involved in a project or campaign (e.g., conservation work, litter-picking, campaigning against single-use plastics) or by setting up an environmental charity or community interest company (CIC).

Rotary Young Citizen Peacemaker Award

Reflecting Rotary's focus on promoting peace this Award recognises young people who have made a significant contribution by building peace and understanding. This could for example be in their school or local community by helping tackle anti-social behaviour and youth crime, perhaps as peer mentors, or with a peace project internationally.

Rotary Young Citizen Sporting Hero Award

This Award recognises the achievements and contribution of a sports participant or group of participants or an individual or group who is enabling others to participate in sport. Nominees will have achieved exceptional things in the world of sport, be it able-bodied or disability sport, for example wheelchair sport. Nominees for this award:

- must have made a positive social impact on a community through action and be a positive role model for others;
- must be able to demonstrate the importance of sport in transforming their life and/or the lives of others; and
- must have shown a determination, dedication and commitment in their chosen sport(s).

How to make a nomination for any of these Rotary Young Citizen Awards

Anyone can nominate a young person or group for the Rotary Young Citizen Award or any of the three specific awards. Rotary clubs can also make one or more of their own nominations for any of these Rotary Young Citizen Awards

If you want to make a nomination you have already decided that these young people are worthy of recognition for the difference they have made locally, nationally or internationally. By nominating them, you are acknowledging their commitment and you believe they deserve recognition of their personal achievements.

In the first instance contact your local Rotary club which can be found by using the club finder facility in the top lefthand corner of the home page of the Rotary GB&I website www.rotarygbi.org. In case of difficulty, contact the Rotary Young Citizen Award team by emailing young-citizen@rotarygbi.org for assistance.

Your local Rotary club will provide you with a nomination form for you to complete and return to them with any supporting information by the date they have specified to you. Please provide as much information about the young person/people nominated as possible. This can include newspaper or other media coverage and videos (from YouTube, etc.) but don't rely on this as the only evidence of work done by the nominee. Other information can include statements from the young people's school or from organisations or people who have benefitted from their help, charity numbers, schemes which are up and running and speaking to those involved, obtaining statistics, financial figures if relevant, etc. The nominee(s) can also produce a video of their work/project as part of the application; use of a mobile phone is acceptable.

Rotary club endorsement of nominations

Rotary clubs will consider each nomination they receive, and if they are happy to endorse it will do so before submitting it to Rotary GB&I. They may endorse and submit multiple nominations and may also directly make one or more nominations themselves. **All successful nominations must be submitted by the Rotary club or Rotary district to Rotary GB&I by the deadline of Monday, 26th February 2024 so be sure to submit your nomination by the earlier date they specify to you.**

Recognition as a nominee

Every nominee endorsed by a Rotary club by the deadline will receive a personalised certificate from Rotary GB&I recognising the achievement that led to their nomination.

Selection of Winners

All entries endorsed by a Rotary club and submitted to Rotary GB&I will be reviewed by the judging panel who will identify the winners. The members of the judging panel will be people with appropriate skills, appointed by Rotary GB&I.

The nominees will be notified if they are a winner or not.

Winners of the Rotary Young Citizen Awardees

The winners will receive a trophy, a certificate and £250 to go towards their chosen registered charity or a registered community interest company.

All the winners will be invited to the Awards Presentation Ceremony which will take place on Saturday 20th April 2024 at St Benedict's Catholic High School, Kinwarton Road, Alcester, B49 6PX.

The Rotary Young Citizen Awards winner(s) accommodation, transportation to and from the Awards Presentation Ceremony and any sustenance arrangements are the responsibility of the nominating Rotary club or district.

Please note that in 2024 this Rotary Young Citizen Awards Presentation Ceremony will be taking place alongside the Rotary Young Chef National Final. We encourage everyone to stay for both events and support all the young people involved.

Public Relations

Should a nominee be chosen as a winner the Rotary GB&I Public Relations team will be in contact to arrange for a short film to be recorded about their nomination and to do an interview with them. Specific details will be discussed and agreed in advance.

The Rotary GB&I Public Relations team may also work with the Rotary club and Rotary district to help with appropriate local and national PR coverage celebrate the winners' achievements.

Further information

More information can be found on the [Youth Competition pages](#) of the Rotary GB&I website. Take a look at last year's Rotary Young Citizen Awardees by going to: [Rotary Young Citizen Award Winners 2023](#).

Rotary opportunities for young people

The Rotary Young Citizen Awards is just one of the Rotary opportunities for young people. There are a number of competitions for young people organised by Rotary GB&I. These are: Rotary Young Artist; Rotary Young Chef; Rotary Youth Speaks: A Debate; Rotary Young Environmentalist; Rotary Young Filmmaker; Rotary Young Musician; Rotary Young Photographer; and Rotary Young Writer. A number of clubs organise Rotary Technology Tournaments and there are several Rotary specific programmes including RotaKids, Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Rotary Developing Future Leaders and more. To find out more about these competitions and other opportunities please contact your local Rotary club in the first instance for what is happening locally and also take a look at <https://www.rotarygbi.org/projects/young-people/>.

Working with Children

Rotary GB&I has adopted this statement of policy in working with children, vulnerable adults and those with disability:

The needs and rights of the child, the elderly, the vulnerable and those with disability take priority. It is the duty of every Rotarian to safeguard to the best of their ability, the welfare of and prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect of all children, the elderly, persons with disability or otherwise vulnerable persons with whom they come into contact during their Rotarian duties.