

The Rotary Club of Farnborough

www.farnboroughrotary.co.uk



What does it mean to be a Rotarian?



Rotarians believe that it is people that make communities. They are people who want to get involved to support those in need.

Rotary is an organisation that is respected and trusted by the community. Rotarians are sure of a warm welcome at thousands of clubs around the world.

The motto of Rotary is "**Service above self**"



About Our Club



Our club has about 50 members who are men and women with a shared enthusiasm for our community both at home and overseas. Our weekly meetings over lunch help us to turn acquaintances into friendships and co-ordinate our activities. We occasionally invite speakers who may represent a charity or simply a person with interesting experiences.

We are a secular and non-political club that actively endeavours to support and develop our community. We do so by fundraising and disbursing every penny raised to charities and good causes. We respect the money donated to us and select recipients with care. We give our time and use our skills for the benefit of the community.



We have no membership targets but want to attract people who have an enthusiasm to make a difference in their community and have the willingness to get involved.



We meet each Thursday at 12.30 for 1pm at the Holiday Inn, Lynchford Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6AZ



Our Club has two aspects.

Social



- Weekly lunch meetings
- Quarterly social evenings with partners
- Summer BBQ
- Winter Skittles evening
- Theatre trips
- Inter-club sports such as golf, snooker, table tennis, squash and badminton

Charitable & Community

We give our time in several ways.

- Organising project-based events such as the Christmas Float, Donkey Derby & Music in the Park
- Providing financial support to charities and good causes (80% locally-based, 20% overseas)
- Fundraising quickly for disasters anywhere, with the proceeds spent through our trusted partner charities or Rotary Clubs
- Using our collective skills, we organise and support projects aimed at developing young people.



To co-ordinate our varied activities we have a number of committees; each Rotarian participates in one.

- **Community Service** – proposes and supports local community projects
- **International & Foundation** – identifies and supports individual or larger overseas projects
- **Club Service** – ensures the social health of the club by organising social events
- **Membership** – deals with all matters regarding membership, recruitment and retention
- **Public Relations** – promotes the club and its activities through the various media
- **Vocational Group** – uses our own skills and experiences to help local people





What is the cost and commitment?

The Cost

- An annual Membership fee of £125 (due 1st July). This supports both the Club (e.g. speakers' meals) and a sum to support Rotary International Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI).
- Most Rotarians also opt to donate about £25 annually to the Rotary Foundation.
- Optional social events, rarely costly and normally good value.
- Weekly lunches - £14 for two courses and coffee

Plus...

- Your time
- Your enthusiasm
- Your ideas

The Commitment

- Attending meetings weekly (*or as often as possible*) develops friendships, enables full participation in the club and helps feed in your ideas
- Monthly Committee meetings (usually up to an hour)
- Practical involvement in fundraising activities – a couple of times annually plus our Christmas events
- Involvement in any of the activities is purely voluntary but it is considered to be part of what it means to be a Farnborough Rotarian



Some of Farnborough Rotary's Community Projects

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Club funded the making of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by a Rotary family for local care homes.



Music in the Park, Farnborough, is a biennial event organised and run by our club. It provides our community with a quality, outdoor music event at family prices in aid of our local hospice – Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care.

We have run ten of these events since 2001 and so far have raised £500,000.



Our **Donkey Derby** is an annual joint project between three local Rotary Clubs and is a traditional fun family event. Held on the late spring Bank Holiday it has real donkey races, sideshows such as pet shows, childrens' 5 a-side, singing and band competitions.

The event attracts between 5,000 and 10,000 visitors.





About Rotary

By combining their skills and resources, Rotarians are able to make a real contribution to the lives of others.

In local communities, Rotary clubs raise tens of thousands of pounds for community projects and local charities. Members also volunteer their time – supervising community events, running a host of projects aimed at promoting the achievements of young people and coordinating educational programmes.

Rotarians organise projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as violence, drug abuse, health, hunger, the environment, illiteracy and loneliness. Rotary clubs determine service projects based on local needs. They work for and with young people to address challenges facing the youth of today.

Although each club is autonomous, areas are arranged into Districts that come together for administrative purposes, for mutual support or sharing ideas.

Rotary is in the unique position of being able to reach people in need all over the planet, from running life-changing projects in developing countries to making an immediate response to disaster-hit regions.

Rotary is committed to the drive to wipe out polio from the world. Since Rotary became involved in polio eradication in 1985, we have helped immunize more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. So far, Rotary has contributed more than \$1.8 billion toward eradicating the disease worldwide. Today, polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan, but it is crucial to continue working to keep other countries polio-free. If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year.

Rotary International - *It's Global!*

Paul P. Harris, a Chicago lawyer, founded Rotary to recapture the friendly spirit he had felt in the small town where he had grown up. The name "Rotary" was derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

The mission of Rotary International (RI) a worldwide association of Rotary clubs, is to provide service to others, promote high ethical standards, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

Since its inception in 1905 Rotary has grown to some 1.2m members in 35,000 clubs in over 200 countries worldwide. Rotarians can find a club in most places they may visit around the world and when visiting can be assured of a warm welcome. There are some 47,000 Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) in over 1,700 clubs.



The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary has its own worldwide charity called **The Rotary Foundation**. It is supported on a voluntary basis by clubs in over 200 countries and its huge resources are used to fund projects ranging from the world eradication of diseases like Polio, providing water to dry communities or enabling local Rotarians with projects within their own communities.

How do you join us and Rotary?

Contact the person who gave you this information pack or the Chair of the Membership Committee (membership@farnboroughrotary.co.uk)

We may ask you to attend a preliminary meeting with a few members to address any questions that you have about Rotary and our club.

We will then invite you to attend several club lunch meetings to meet the members, see what we do and then invite you submit an application.

Acceptance into membership is at the discretion of the Club Officers.

We will induct you into the club during a weekly meeting.

Welcome to Rotary!