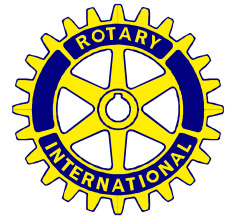


We're not after your money - but we would appreciate your time



The Rotary Club of Bristol South was founded in 1953 (as the Rotary Club of Bedminster), and since then has operated in the South Bristol and Long Ashton area, helping many hundreds, if not thousands, of people in need with both financial and practical aid.

Rotary International is a global organisation, having over 1.2 million members, with the ability to speedily respond to calls for help. Rotary was amongst the first on the scene at many recent disasters (such as the Thai tsunami, the Italian earthquake and the Gloucestershire floods) with relief packages to suit the situation. Help was given by, or under the direction of, local Rotarians with resources pledged from other Rotary districts around the world.

This means that our assets can be released in the certain knowledge that they will be speedily applied by trustworthy people, and without any deduction for administration costs. The Rotary Foundation is, in fact, the largest private charity in the world.

Indeed, the Rotary Club of Bedminster was asked to co-ordinate the relief aid in South Bristol in 1968 as their links to, and knowledge of, the local community were recognised as being second to none.

Rotary has also been a major partner in the drive to eradicate Polio all over the globe, committing many millions of dollars as well as medical, professional and organisational expertise to achieve 99.9% success to date. A final push is underway, and polio should be consigned to history in the next few years.

Whilst these large international projects make the headlines, the work of Rotary Clubs at a local level is equally important, and the Rotary club of Bristol South is proud of its record. Projects ranging from the provision of professional expertise to assist KWADS (Knowle West Against Drugs) in starting up, the provision of sheltered seating in Greville Smyth Park, providing the seed funding for a football training project in Hartcliffe or simply helping to fit security locks in elderly people's houses or planting a few trees to improve the local environment have all achieved a satisfying and worthwhile result.

Membership of the Rotary Club has fallen in recent years, in common with all other voluntary service organisations, and we are therefore asking whether you have a few hours a week to spare to become a Rotarian and enjoy not only the satisfaction of helping others, but also a friendly social experience.

The Club meets at the Dovecote Inn in Long Ashton every Thursday for a low cost meal (and a bit of Rotary business) at 7.00 for 7.30pm, and membership is open to all professional or business people, male and female.

If you would like to consider joining us, or want to discuss the possibility further, please call **Frank Elkins** on **01934 623983** , or e-mail **bob.griffiths@bristolsouthrotary.org.uk** - we look forward to hearing from you.

Bob Griffiths

President 2008-2009

Rotary Club of Bristol South
www.bristolsouthrotary.org.uk