



## FoYR Launch

There was a positive buzz at the Novotel, York when the Friends of Rotary group (FoYR) was officially launched by the Rotary Club of York at the end of May. Over 50 attended the



launch and heard BBC Radio York's well-known Elly Fiorentini open the event. Elly is Patron of FoYR and she demonstrated her enthusiasm for supporting Rotary and it's work in the local community.

Brian Joscelyne, co-ordinator of the new group, and this year's President of York Rotary, explained the background to setting up this networking group and the vision for its future.

The FoYR will allow busy working people, who may not have a lot of time to devote to Rotary or Rotary membership, to keep in touch with the Club's activities and volunteer to help where they can at specific events. In addition, it is an opportunity for like-minded professionals to network, meet socially and support the Club in a variety of ways.

During the evening four "break-out groups" sat and discussed various aspects of how they might work with FoYR and what the benefits of membership might be to them. Lots of ideas emerged which will help the development of the FoYR group as it moves forward.

It's an exciting time for Rotary as it evolves modernises looks at new ways of reaching out to professionals in York.

**DRAFT - TO BE FINALISED AFTER MAY 29<sup>TH</sup>!!!**

## A Message from Elly

*BBC Radio York's Elly Fiorentini, who is an Honorary Member of our Rotary Club, is FoYR's Patron*

"I am delighted to introduce you to Friends of York Rotary.

York Rotary is all about being involved in the community from the schools technology tournament to helping support international disasters and of course there is my favourite, The Dragon Boat Race, which has raised over a million pounds for charities.



There is a lot of hard work and commitment from current members who have now decided that we are missing out on those who could help us out at the odd event.

This is a great opportunity to use any spare time you have to help enhance and support the community you live in.

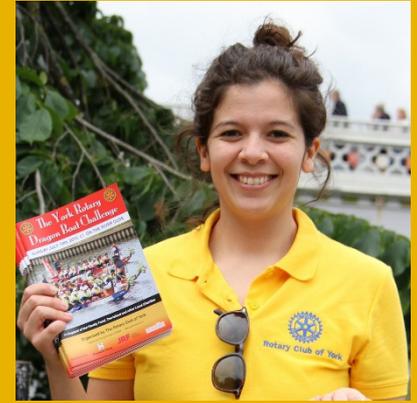
York Rotary has some great events coming up and we would love you to be able to help at one or more of them.

I have loved every minute of supporting them even though, like many of you, I have a full on job.

I hope that we can encourage you to get involved in some way."

Elly

## What does Rotary mean to you?



An interview with York Rotarian Rebecca Mendoza

*You are one of handful of Rotarians in our club from outside the UK. Where are you from and how did you end up in York?*

"I'm from Salinas, California, USA which is Monterey County on California's central coast. It's an agricultural community well known for its produce and for John Steinbeck.

"I came to York in 2012 on a Rotary scholarship to do my masters at the University of York. The scholarship covered the whole of my international tuition fees and some living costs. Without it, there would have been absolutely no way I could have afforded to do a masters. Five and a half years later I'm still here and am now working for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation". (...continued on page 2)

### Dates for your Diary...

**July 8<sup>th</sup> FoYR Visit to York Cocoa Works, Castlegate Street**  
(see following page for details and sign-up)

**July 15<sup>th</sup> Dragon Boat Challenge** (see following page)

**August 5<sup>th</sup> York 10K Run (Baggage store)** (see page 4)

If you can volunteer help with either of the above, please email [friends@yorkrotary.co.uk](mailto:friends@yorkrotary.co.uk)

# What does Rotary mean to you?

...continued



## How long have you been part of Rotary and why did you join?

"I officially became a Rotarian with the Rotary Club of York in 2015 but I've actually been involved in Rotary stuff since 2004. In 2004, when I was 16 years old, I went to Brazil for a year as a part of Rotary's Youth Exchange Programme. It was my first time abroad and it completely changed my life and it got me interested in travelling and international development. When I returned to California I remained involved with my local club and helped out with activities whenever I could. When I went to university, I joined my Uni's Rotaract club and held various positions within the club for three years".

## What Rotary things are you involved in?

"Over the years I've been involved in quite a few different things. I've been the Rotaract Committee lead for two years and now I spend more time helping in the Public Image/External Relations team and help with the club's social media. The last four summers I've been a mentor at RYLA (*Rotary Youth Leadership Awards*) which is a week-long residential programme for 16-17 year-olds and is run by the Rotary district. RYLA is by far my favourite Rotary thing that I'm involved in".

## What's the benefit to you?

"Rotary has offered me the opportunity to travel to new places and get a better education. There have been literally dozens of Rotarians around the world that have helped me achieve the things I couldn't have done on my own and it was obvious to me that as soon as I could become a Rotarian, I would. Now, I get the chance to help other young people and hope that something I do as a Rotarian can positively change their paths and futures".

# Fancy learning how chocolate is made? (and tasting it too!)



## YORK COCOA WORKS

10 Castlegate, York YO1 9RG

### MANUFACTORY TOUR AND TUTORED CHOCOLATE TASTING

By Sophie Jewett  
Founder and Managing Director of York Cocoa House  
And York Cocoa Works

July 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

7.30 pm Sparkling Wine on arrival  
served with a selection of Chocolate Canapés

Tour of the Chocolate Manufactory

Tutored Chocolate Tasting

Opportunity to see her latest Chocolate Creations

£15.00 per person

Proceeds to Rotary Club of York Charities

An exclusive event for



Friends of  
York Rotary

Just 30 places available!  
(max 2 per FoYR member)

For tickets contact Brian at: [friends@yorkrotary.co.uk](mailto:friends@yorkrotary.co.uk)

# The York Rotary Dragon Boat Challenge



Organised by the Rotary Club of York – Registered Charity No. 1025046  
For more information visit – [www.yorkrotary.co.uk](http://www.yorkrotary.co.uk)

It's Dragon Boat time!

Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup> on the River Ouse.....



If you would like to volunteer your help on the day - either in the running of the event, or perhaps helping in our Rotary "tea tent" - please let us know. Just email Brian - [friends@yorkrotary.co.uk](mailto:friends@yorkrotary.co.uk)

# Editorial



This is the first edition of *Community*, the newsletter of the newly-formed **Friends of York Rotary**. We plan to publish it every couple of months, to keep you up to date with news and networking.

FoYR is all about YOU, our members, and we would like to feature stories that you want to tell, about you, your organisation or charity, your thoughts about Rotary and our community.... Whatever!

Please send your ideas or contributions to me at [friends@yorkrotary.co.uk](mailto:friends@yorkrotary.co.uk)

Rotary is a movement, not just a "Club", and it's about giving something back to our wonderful local community here in York. We can all help – and have fun at the same time.

Rotary's theme is "Making a Difference". In our busy lives, what could be better than that?

Brian Joscelyne  
FoYR Co-ordinator



Get in touch...



**Friends of York Rotary**

<http://www.yorkrotary.co.uk/friends>

<https://goo.gl/wXNu75>

**Rotary Club of York**

<http://www.yorkrotary.co.uk>

<https://goo.gl/4d2h7n>

<https://goo.gl/tE1cXW>

## Drumming up support for York Against Cancer

In February 2018, the **Rotary Club of York** teamed up with **York Against Cancer (YAC)** in a "joint venture" to organise and put on a fundraising concert with a difference!



YAC's **Francine Clee** takes up the story...



"We are always delighted to hear from people keen to fundraise for us, whether individuals or established groups such as the Rotary Club of York, renowned for their Dragon Boat Challenge, a big social event and a major source of income for charities.

The Rotarians' organisational prowess is legendary, so when they said they wanted to run a very different event for us and other good causes, we leapt at the opportunity.

The **Kaminari UK Taiko Drummers** were to perform a charity concert at St Peter's School, York, and the Rotary Club asked for our help to publicise the event. The drummers, with their vibrant costumes, stage routines and instruments, were a PR dream.

We visited them in rehearsal, interviewed them and the concert organisers and took professional photographs which secured us two rounds of publicity: a news piece on the event and a subsequent feature on the musicians, which also plugged the concert. We made film clips available for local media to feature on their websites, giving a flavour of the drummers in action.



Minster FM, The Press and Your Local Link carried these, and the PR was backed up by advertising in the approach to the event, as well as entries in local listings and promotion through our social media channels, website and e-newsletters, all linked through to our online ticket purchase facility as well as offering the chance to buy tickets direct from Rotarians.

Just before the event, we enlisted Radio York, who sent a presenter to try their hand at drumming and interview concert organisers and musicians. We believe this led to a flurry of on-the-door ticket sales.

The Rotarians seamlessly organised the event itself, with their own publicity machine boosting our charity's efforts in getting the message out.

On the evening, they held a prize draw and sold interval drinks to a packed house, which with ticket sales raised an impressive £1,330 for ourselves and the same for other Rotary charities.

We also addressed the audience, using the platform to tell hundreds of people about our work and how their contribution would help us make a difference.

It was a hugely successful collaboration and a lot of fun. We are really grateful to the Rotary Club for thinking of us."

Fran

# Can you handle 10k Baggage?



For the past few years, Rotary Club of York has been helping the organisers of the **York 10K** run, particularly in manning the baggage store for runners' gear. On **August 5<sup>th</sup>** we will be there again, and we would welcome any help that members of FoYR could offer.

Location: Knavesmire Time: 7.30am – noon



So, if you're not running yourself, you could still be part of the excitement and help out. It's a fun day!

We give our services free of charge, but the organisers (Jane Tomlinson's Run for All) do make a small donation to our Rotary Charity Fund as a "thank you".

If you would like to volunteer help, please contact Brian at [friends@yorkrotary.co.uk](mailto:friends@yorkrotary.co.uk)



## What is Rotary?

- International organization of business and professional leaders
- 168 countries
- 32,000 Rotary Clubs world wide
- 1.2 million members !
- Provide humanitarian service
- High ethical standards in all vocations
- Help build peace and goodwill in the world



# So, what's Rotary all about?

We asked RCoY member and Past President, Mike Fieldsend



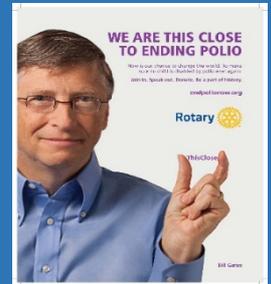
Rotary came into being in 1905 when a Chicago businessman, Paul Harris, saw a need for a forum where professionals with diverse backgrounds could come together to exchange ideas; form meaningful, lifelong friendships; and give back to their communities.

The organisation was called 'Rotary' because, in the early days, meetings 'rotated' between members' offices.

The concept of Rotary grew rapidly and today there are 1.2 million members in 32,000 clubs across the world. Rotary internationally aims to promote peace, fight disease; provide clean water, sanitation and hygiene; save mothers and children; support education; and grow local economies

Rotary's own charity, 'Foundation', is one of the largest in the world and, over the years, has invested \$3.95 billion in different projects. The largest, and most widely known, is the fight to eradicate polio.

In 1997 a project was initiated to immunise 6 million children against polio in the Philippines. From there the idea grew and now, 40 years later, with the aid of funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 99.9% of polio cases have been wiped out. Today polio is only endemic in 3 countries around the world; in 1988 it was in 125.



Turning nearer home, the Rotary Club of York was formed in January 1921. It was the 36<sup>th</sup> Rotary club to be formed in Britain and the 1000<sup>th</sup> worldwide. In the nearly 100 years since then the Club had been intimately involved with local charities and organisations. We currently have some 80 members who meet weekly.

We raise funds to support charitable work in York and internationally. Our biggest fundraiser is the annual Dragon Boat Challenge that, in its 15<sup>th</sup> year in 2017, surpassed £1,000,000 raised for over 150 York and Yorkshire charities.

Other, smaller, fundraising events take place during the year. Recently a highly successful concert of Kaminari Taiko drumming - (*Japanese drumming*) – organised in partnership with York Against Cancer, not only raised in excess of £2,600 but provided a great night out for the enthusiastic audience at St Peter's School. We also help with baggage handling and marshalling at various sporting events.

Fellowship plays an important part of the Club's activities, with the weekly Friday lunch, golf tournaments, walks, and gatherings with fellow Rotarians from clubs in France, Germany and Norway – to cite recent examples. Other ad-hoc entertainments have included barbeques, bowls, and a fascinating evening viewing archive film footage about York.



York Rotary Technology Tournament 2018

We work closely with schools in and around York, promoting events involving technology, cooking, music, etc. and have close partnership arrangements with organisations addressing the needs of disadvantaged or disengaged young people in the City.

So, as you can see, the Rotary Club of York is a busy, thriving operation. However there is always more that we would like to do, and that is where you come in. As a 'Friend' you can help us by getting involved with some of these fund-raising events. Also, by offering a forum for those working, or interested, in the York charitable sector, we hope to better understand the needs of the rapidly changing society in our beautiful City of York. *Mike*



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