

Rotary
Rotary Club Marbella-Guadalmina



Welcome to our Club



Rotary Mission and Values

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who come together to make positive, lasting change in communities at home and abroad.

For more than 110 years, Rotary members have used their passion, energy, and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects. From literacy and peace to water and health, we are always working to better our world, and we stay committed to the end.

Our motto: **Service Above Self**

Our guiding principles have been the foundation of our values: **service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership**. Rotary members believe that we have a shared responsibility to act on our world's most persistent issues. Our 35,000+ clubs work together to:

- Promote peace
- Fight disease
- Provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Save mothers and children
- Support education
- Grow local economies
- Protect the environment



Rotary was founded in 1905 by Paul Harris, a Chicago-based attorney whose aim was to bring together a group of professionals imbued with the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns where he grew up. Initially a gathering with three other professionals at one of their offices in downtown Chicago, the new Club was named "Rotary" because they rotated their meeting locations.

The first Rotary Convention was held in 1910, and by 1925 Rotary had spread to six continents.

Today, Rotary International is headquartered in Evanston, Illinois, USA. There are seven RI international offices around the world, and Clubs are organised into Districts, each with a Governor. Rotary Clubs follow certain principles but otherwise have a good deal of freedom in deciding what projects to support and how to support them.



The Rotary symbol started as a wagon wheel, then evolved into a gear wheel with cogs. After comments from engineers, a keyway was added in the centre, signifying that it could be attached to a shaft. This wheel has a lot of metaphorical significance; connecting people, moving forward, multiplying and gearing up power and effort...

Read more about Rotary: [About Rotary](#)

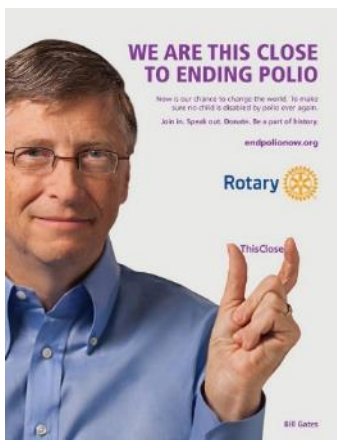
The Object of Rotary

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

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. 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;
3. Application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Avenues of Service form the foundation of club activity.

1. **Club Service** focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of a club.
2. **Vocational Service** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards.
3. **Community Service** covers the projects and activities a club undertakes to improve life in its community.
4. **International Service** encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace. Rotarians can support International Service by sponsoring a project in another country, seeking international project partners, or by personally volunteering at an international project site.
5. **New Generations Service** recognises the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities.



The **Rotary Foundation** invests money to make grants available for Club projects. Rotary's largest overall effort is to eradicate polio. We initiated this campaign in 1979 by vaccinating children in the Philippines. With the help of our global partners, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we have reduced polio cases worldwide by 99.9%.

Bill Gates believes in the power of Rotary. The Gates Foundation has promised to match two to one every dollar the Rotary Foundation commits to the Polio programme. The value of the partnership could be more than US\$500 million. <http://www.endpolio.org/>

Benefits of Rotary Membership



1. Make new friends and business connections in your Club, region, country, and the world. Rotary is the original social network.
2. Continue your personal growth and development. Develop your personality, social skills, and people skills. Become better informed, more capable in your work.
3. Learn new skills; leadership, management, public speaking... Rotary is an organization of leaders & successful people.
4. Become a more effective citizen in your community, and the world. Wherever you travel you can connect with like-minded people, who will welcome you and give assistance if you need it. You have the right to visit any Rotary Club anywhere and you will be welcomed as a friend.
5. Have fun and enjoy an enhanced social life with regular meetings and events.
6. Make a real difference to people who need help - in the most effective manner.
7. Discover how rewarding and fulfilling it is to serve others; to have meaning in your life that comes with service in your community and worldwide.

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself." Ralph Waldo Emerson



Rotary Club Marbella-Guadalupe Club History

Officially chartered 16th December 2010



Michael Foltinger Paul Church Lorraine Powell Alain Pierard (ADG) Einar Askvig Labeed Hamid Anders Hagner Jim Fox

All our presidents to June 2017, with the Assistant District Governor (centre)



Founding President: Michael Foltinger

I learnt about the Rotary organisation, history and ideology from some long-time Rotarian friends. There was an urgent need for a local Rotary Club with English as the official language, which could offer expats the opportunity to join Rotary, and provide the many non-Spanish Rotarians with a club on the Costa del Sol.

To start the Club, I needed 25-30 local expats, who shared similar values and were willing to make the commitment. Having lived and worked in Marbella

since 1986 I was able to call on my extensive network of people from both the private business and the public sectors. The group immediately took on the project of raising funds to help local children in need, as well as uniting the Club with the global Rotary Organisation.

The effort and resources needed to create the Club became a bigger challenge than I had imagined. Thanks to the support of many great people, including Rotarians of other clubs, both international and Spanish, I came to understand how important it was to

succeed. The Club enabled people to serve in the local community, in Spain and worldwide.

For my part, The Rotary experience taught me better ways to serve as a human being and its ideology will always guide me in my daily duties. Thanks again from a very proud founding President, to all our Members, visitors and sponsors, for their trust in me, and to each of you: keep serving as Rotarians. *Michael Foltinger*

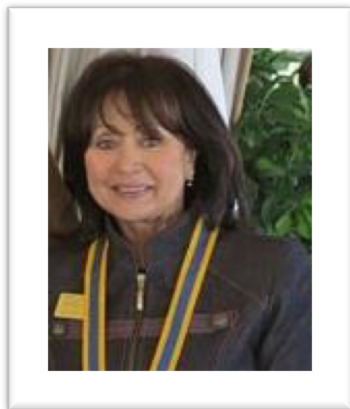


President 2011-12: Paul Church

We were still a very new Club during my Presidency, and we were heavily involved in setting up Procedures and Committees to ensure that we met Rotary International objectives.

Two key achievements were the creation of an effective procedure to identify local causes where we could be very proactive, and the decision to look at our work on an international basis, with approximately one third of all funds raised going towards international projects.

During my Presidency, my wife and I attended the Rotary International Conference in Bangkok and came to fully appreciate the full extent of Rotary's achievements and international outlook. This is a view that I hope I have since been able to communicate to our Club. *Paul Church*



President 2012-13: Lorraine Powell

I was honoured to be the third, and first lady President of our Club. My year as President was focused mainly on consolidating our Club according to Rotary Rules and Regulations.

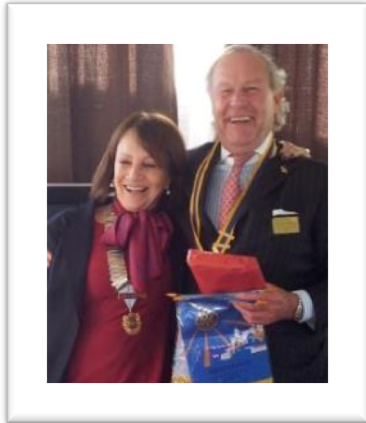
It was a very creative year for me, setting up committees and establishing a format for running the Club with great help from my Board.

During this year, we supported many charitable causes:

- Ser Humano - a charity in Marbella to feed the poor.
- Father Claudio from our local church with toys at Christmas
- The Manacare Foundation in Sri Lanka
- Father Charles in Uganda, providing a water tank and a future project for a Dining Assembly Hall
- Bancosol Alimentos with shelving for their new warehouse
- Nabugabo School in Uganda - sponsoring 10 children

- [\(See 'Projects' on our website for more information.\)](#)

I was also happy to create two new fundraising events: the Charity Walk and the Charity Car Run, both of which have become annual events enjoyed by all. I have continued to be active in Events and SPC. *Lorraine Powell*



Einar with Graciela Waen, one of our Club 'godmothers' and District Governor that year.

President 2013-14: Einar Askvig

- Some 45 years after being a founding member of the first Rotaract club in Norway, I was honoured to be elected as the President for 2013-14.
- The challenge facing our Club was (and still is) to attract new Members who are still active in their professional life, thereby reducing the average age of our Membership.
- The most rewarding and interesting social project initiated during my Presidency was Hogar Betania; a centre for individuals and families in La Linea that suffered from drug and/or alcohol abuse. Many of the people lived rough on the streets and were in desperate need of help to get their lives back on track. Our Club (in cooperation with Nordic Rotarians) were vital sponsors in building up this center. The motto for the year: Service above self. *Einar Askvig*



President 2014-15: Labeed Hamid

I emphasised the importance of a friendly, welcoming and a fun climate in all our meetings and events.

Our Membership continued to increase with a wider draw from different countries making us appear as a mini United Nations.

Thanks to the efforts of our Charity Committee and the generosity of Timeless Gallery of Marbella, a record 75,000 euro was raised and contributed to the Mutomo Water Project in Kenya and other projects in Africa. [\(See 'Projects' on our website for more information.\)](#)

The Town Hall recognised the importance of international clubs like ours, and their contribution to the community. We were invited to attend a meeting with the Mayor of Marbella along with other Rotary Clubs. This was followed by a visit to our Thursday lunch meeting by the Mayor herself.

Promoted the importance of inviting speakers to our lunch meetings to make our meetings more fruitful and interesting. *Labeed Hamid*



President 2015-16: Anders Hagner

During this year the Club gave significant help to the Hogar Betania shelter for the homeless in La Linea. ([See 'Projects' on our website](#)). Along with other Clubs, we bought kitchen equipment, fencing, and doors, as well as contributing food.

We also started to support work in Morocco, with the children in the Rif and Atlas Mountains, where there is little formal health or dental care. We donated and sent spectacles & sunglasses. Some members went to help with the dentists from Dental Mavericks who specialise in treating children.

There was also a visit of about 10 Members to the Rotary Club of Rabat.

Our Club Membership increased, as did the number of guests at meetings.

Anders Hagner



President 2016-17: Jim Fox

While RC Marbella-Guadalmina is still quite young, and has been searching for its' own unique identity, I now feel that we have established ourselves, not only in Marbella, but also in the Spanish community of Rotary Clubs.

While we were an enthusiastic and successful Club in many ways, we were also slightly volatile in our makeup. I felt that the time had come to consolidate our successes, and concentrate on making the Club a more welcoming, friendly organisation - not only for our Members, but also the many visitors we are happy to receive each week.

Halfway through my term as President I noticed that the Club had become a much calmer, warmer group of exciting and interesting people. Our weekly Meetings have become something to really look forward to, in the sound, pleasurable knowledge that you will be greeted in genuine friendship.

During my term, I also attempted to build a strong team ready to lead us on to even greater achievements in the coming years. One of my current projects is to actively seek out our sister Rotary Clubs, join in with their projects and activities, and invite them to join in with ours. In conclusion, I must confess to having had a really great time as President. *Jim Fox*

President 2017-18: Tony Gedge



Tony's term saw the formation of specific Club goals, a three-year strategic plan, and increased consultation with Members, including a Membership Survey.

Tony's vision was 'to make our future bigger than our past'. We continued to support local and international charities, being awarded a Global Grant for the Hagamos Las Paces project, with RC Medellin and Fundación Amor Por Medellin.

The Club became an official sponsor of the new RC Estepona-Sotogrande International and started to work more closely with other local Rotary Clubs.

Tony Gedge

President 2018-19: Joanna Chrzanowska



This was a busy year for the Club, with several events, including the literally record-breaking Guinness World Record Beetle Drive, which changed perceptions about what was possible for the Club to achieve.

We took part in the United Nationalities of Marbella Summit, to develop closer links with the local community, and participated in two Rotary Congresses, in Valencia and Malaga.

The charitable work continued, both locally and abroad, including a second Global Grant to support the training of Palestinian doctors in emergency medicine in Israel.

Local links were further developed by the 'Get Drastic with Plastic' project, which engaged members, and joined in an international Rotary Action day for EndPlasticSoup.

Although a number of members left or transferred, there was a steady stream of new applicants, so the Club has an overall younger and more active membership.

Joanna Chrzanowska

President 2019-20: Mark Shurey



One of District's requests is to form new Clubs, and we founded the new RC Axarquía-Nerja International.

In a publicly televised event on the 28th February 2019 our Club proudly received the Medal of the City of Marbella from the town hall for our contribution to the City.

During the spring of 2020 some of our Members formed RC Marbella East. RC Marbella-Guadalmina are thus delighted to be responsible for the formation of two new international Rotary Clubs during 2019-20, further raising our profile with District.

In March 2020 the country was thrown into the first Covid-19 lockdown. This created new challenges around keeping the Club motivated in fellowship, and continuing service to our community. Our brilliant communications team was able to move the whole Club to a virtual platform within a week, and by the next meeting we were a functioning online Club.

Despite the adversities of the Covid-19 pandemic, we can be proud to have risen to the challenge as a Club, and excelled in our achievements. The year was topped off by our Club receiving the RI Platinum Rotary Citation, the highest award a Rotary Club can achieve.

Mark Shurey

President 2020/21: Pamela Lake



Taking over the Presidency during the Covid-19 pandemic, which continued throughout the year, was very challenging to say the least.

With the focus on ensuring that the spirit of our Club and its Members remained high we held 30 Zoom Club meetings, with 13 speakers scattered amongst them.

Together with some Zoom fellowship evenings interspersed with face-to-face meetings whenever possible, we succeeded in creating some fun, which helped to retain cohesiveness amongst our Members.

Our downtime during the lockdowns was put to good use creating more structure in the way our teams work and coordinate Club activities. Aimed at helping us achieve our tasks and goals more effectively, this is a work in progress.

We have continued to reach out to other clubs and include them in some of our projects, especially those concerning the environment. With EndPlasticSoup (EPS) for example, we organised a webinar in Marbella and an Action Day on 5th June to increase awareness with the public. Additional work on plastic waste in league with other clubs is very much an ongoing mission.

This year has been especially tough on the Events team who have spent significant time and effort on planning a number of events, including some new ones that have had to be shelved until 2022. A Guitar Concert/Festival and Golf Competition are just two such events.

All in all we managed to assist 11 different charity projects that included working with orphanages and helping 'care leavers'; provided food for various charities in greatest need, provided equipment for those requiring physical help; gave emergency donations, assisted Age Concern; provided equipment for emergency Covid cases in India, and aided a centre dealing with street children in Tanzania. By year's end we had donated a total of over €10,500 worth of food and equipment to these causes. We have preserved a sizeable reserve for 2021/22 just in case pandemic restrictions prevent us from holding the planned events we need to raise money.

Thanks to the Communications team we also effectively promoted our activities in the media. This includes some eight videos on YouTube; various news releases; 62 FB posts, a new Projects Booklet for 2020/21, and of course our hosting of 30 Zoom meetings.

All things considered we had a full year, and we hope that 2021/22 will allow us to enjoy a more action-oriented year with our planned events. We also look forward to welcoming the potential applicants who have already indicated their interest in joining our Club.

Pamela Lake

Your obligations as a Member

- Be active in the Club, in fellowship, and in the service of Rotary
- Attend as many meetings as you can (you can make up by attending other clubs' meetings or service projects). It should be a minimum of 50%.
- Let the Sergeant-at-Arms know if you cannot attend. If you consistently fail to do so you can be held liable for the cost of the meal.
- Volunteer to help with Club events and projects, and for leadership roles
- *The main official means of communication in the Club is electronic.* Keep in touch by reading Minutes, emails and other Club communications. Ensure they do not go into your spam folder! Votes are also held on the Club website.
- Vote for service projects, new Member admissions, and any other matters. You will receive e-mails that say: 'There is a new poll/message on the board'. Follow the link to read more and vote.
- Maintain the values of good character, integrity, and leadership, and do not bring Rotary into disrepute.

- Open an account at MyRotary (details below) and learn about Rotary, if you are not already a Rotarian. Ask your mentor and others in the Club. You will receive the Rotarian magazine in English, online.
- Bring new people into our Club
- Pay your dues on time!

How the Club works

The Club is run by a Leadership Team, consisting of the **President, past-President, President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary and Sergeant-at-Arms** (who supervises attendance). Every Member is encouraged to take part in a Team, and eventually to take one or more of the Leadership roles. The point of teamwork is to share responsibility. Many Members travel, but they can help on specific projects.

Teams include:

Speakers/ Club programme - organising a range of interesting speakers for meetings.

Membership - attracting new Members, and looking after the education and welfare of existing Members

Fellowship - ensuring well-being, social and moral support within the Club

Service Projects - performs due diligence on Charities, presents, supervises and follows up on projects, works closely with Events and the Treasurer.

Events - organises both fun and fundraising events. Works closely with Service projects and Communications.

Communications - media relations, advertising, marketing, social media, website, promoting Rotary, the Club, and specific events

Sponsorship - builds relationships with long and short-term sponsors, for the mutual benefit of both Club and sponsor. Works closely with Communications.

Rotary Foundation – works to obtain funds from the Foundation, multiplying the efforts of other committees.

Many Rotarians are Members of a Team/s that fit with their knowledge and skill set. Others are not full-time Members, but make themselves available for temporary roles, e.g. taking minutes when the Secretary is absent, helping the Sergeant-at-Arms during meetings, helping to collect funds and manage events, etc.

Club Customs

Our meetings are friendly and relatively informal, but there is some protocol.

Most people gather in the bar from 2.00 pm. We make a point of welcoming guests and ensuring they are looked after throughout the meal.

The meetings start at 2.30 pm with the Rotary Bell and an invocation.

The Sergeant-at-Arms declares the number of attendees and reads out the names of guests. This is followed by Club news and announcements; sometimes there are short speeches from Members and visitors.

Very often there is a formal speaker after the main course is served. You can see who is speaking, by checking 'Dates' on the Club website.

About once a month there is a raffle. When Members have birthdays or have come back from an interesting trip, they can bring a raffle prize. This is a custom, not an obligation.

There are informal social events organised spontaneously by Members for fellowship. There is no obligation to attend, but they are great fun.

What to do next

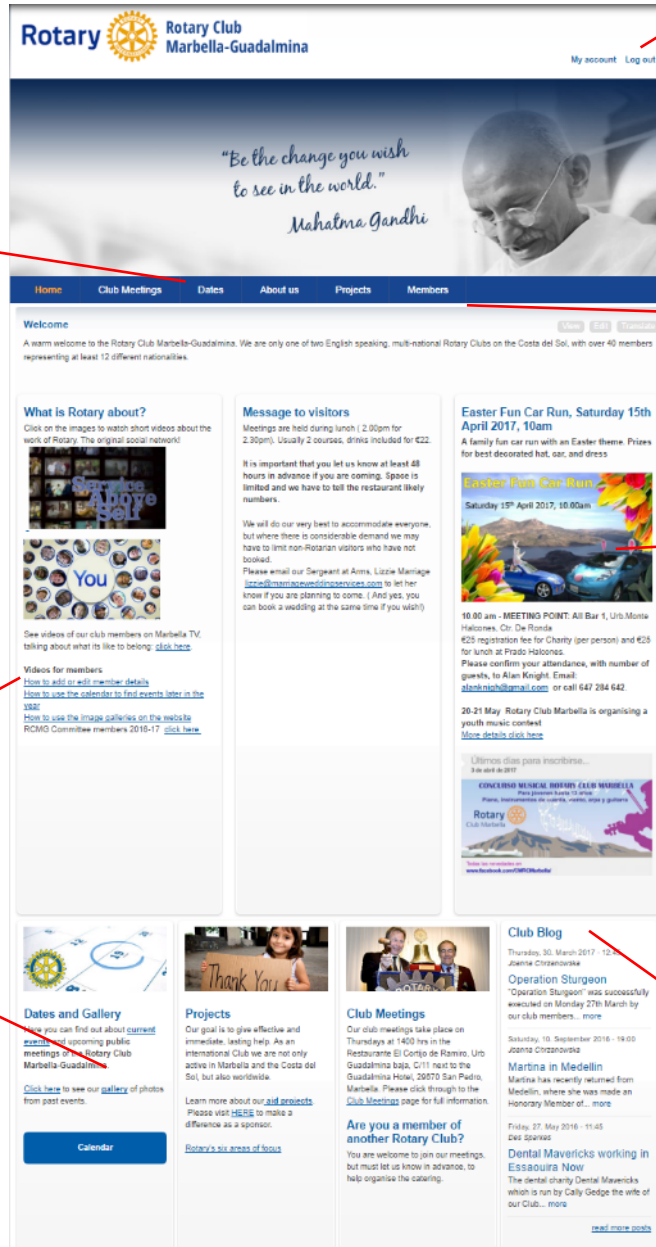
- 1. Upload some details about yourself on the Club website and familiarise yourself with it.**
- 2. Create an account on the main Rotary International website – MyRotary**
- 3. Look through the Roles and Responsibilities document. This will show you the Club goals and the teams**
- 4. Ask your mentor about anything you are uncertain of.**

The Club website: <https://www.marbella-guadalmina-rotary.club/home>

You will receive a login for the Members section of the RCMG website. You will be able to upload information about yourself in the Member's section. There you will find photos of other Members and their e-mail addresses.

You can browse through our projects to familiarise yourself with what the Club has been doing and look at photos from some of our events.

Minutes of the Meetings are kept on the Website and there is a Members Messageboard. In a Club where up to half the Members can be away at any one time, the Messageboard is an important communication tool. Please look out for any messages in your inbox that say: **Rotary International Marbella-Guadalmina: new Message on the board**



Log in for members

Dates of meetings & events

Members area

Latest announcements

Videos on how to use the site

Gallery of photos

Blog - anyone can contribute

How to use the Members area

You need a username and password to log in. A video on the home page shows the process of setting up your account, but help is always available.

The screenshot displays the website interface for the Rotary Club Marbella-Guadalmina. At the top left is the Rotary logo and the club name. On the top right, there are links for 'My account' and 'Log out'. Below this is a large banner image of a paper airplane flying in a blue sky. A dark blue navigation bar contains the following menu items: Home, Club Meetings, Dates, About us, Projects, and **Members**. Below the navigation bar is a 'Login / Logout' section. On the left is a sidebar menu with items: Login / Logout, Members of Rotary Club Marbella-Guadalmina, Current Dates (Members), Previous Dates (Members), Calendar (Members), Messageboard, Polls, Proposed Projects, and Documents. A red vertical line is drawn next to the 'Messageboard', 'Polls', and 'Documents' items. To the right of this line, a red-bordered box contains the text: 'Messageboard, Polls and Documents. Documents includes Accounts, Attendance and Minutes as well as general Club documents'. In the main content area, there is a 'Logout' button and a message: 'You are logged in to the internal members area of the Rotary Club Marbella-Guadalmina. To logout please click on the button below.' At the top right of the main content area are buttons for 'View', 'Edit', and 'Translate'.

Set up a MyRotary Account: <https://my.rotary.org/en>

This will give you access to a lot of resources on the Rotary.org website. You can find out more about Rotary, connect with other clubs, individuals, and special interest groups, and stay up to date. There are also discounts and special offers.

HOW TO CREATE A MY ROTARY ACCOUNT

1 First go to www.rotary.org. Then click on My Rotary.

2 Click on Register for an account.

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3 SIGN IN

If you are a first time user, click on **Create account**.

If you are not a first time user, enter your email address and password. Then click on **Sign In**.

4 ACCOUNT REGISTRATION

Fill in the Account registration information and click on **Continue**.

5 You will be informed that an e-mail has been sent to you.

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6 Complete your Rotary.org registration

Check your email for the address you provided in the step above. You will receive this message. Click on the blue link to finalize the process.

7 ACCOUNT SET-UP

Fill in all the mandatory information and click on **Create account**.

8 ACCOUNT SET-UP

Click on **Continue**.

9 Congratulations! You have created your My Rotary account.

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Please also ensure you fill in a Data Protection permission form, as the Club will submit your personal details to District and Rotary International.