



The PolioPlus Society



In 1985, at a time when there were estimated to be 200,000-250,000 cases of paralytic polio every year, Rotary promised the children of the world to eradicate poliomyelitis forever. This commitment by Rotary led to the formation of the Global Polio Eradication Campaign in 1988, originally with three other partners – WHO, Unicef and CDC, and a public commitment by the WHO at the World Health Assembly in May that year to eradicate poliomyelitis by the year 2000. The original partners in the GPEI were joined in 2007 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and in 2020 by GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance. Although the target of eradication has taken longer than originally anticipated, it is widely agreed by virologists and epidemiologists that the goal is finally in sight, but that there should be no let up until the eradication of wild poliovirus has been certified beyond doubt.

Across the world Rotarians and their friends are showing their commitment to this great humanitarian endeavour by pledging a personal donation of at least **\$100** every year until WHO certifies that the world is free of wild poliovirus. This qualifies them to be a member of the **PolioPlus Society**. It is not necessary to be a Rotarian to become a member and the Society is open to anyone who commits in this way. Although the PolioPlus Society has no official status yet, it is supported by Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee and endorsed by the Chairman of the Rotary Foundation Trustees.

To donate follow this link <https://www.rotarygbi.org/donate/> and click on the link which opens the **RFUK Standing order form**. Within approximately 3 working days you will receive an e-mail from rfuk@rotarygbi.org with your unique standing order reference number and RFUK's bank details which you can use to set up the standing order with your bank. If you are a United Kingdom taxpayer you will also need to complete the RFUK Gift Aid form. Republic of Ireland taxpayers can also qualify for Gift Aid if their donation in a tax year is more than €250 – for more information contact the RFUK Office by email at rfuk@rotarygbi.org.

All donations will be matched 2 to 1 by the Gates Foundation, are eligible for Paul Harris recognition and will also be credited to your Rotary Club. However, please remember that donations to PolioPlus should be in addition to any donation you make to the Annual Programs Fund, and are not included in the amount your district will receive in its District Designated Fund.

Once you have made your donation return this form by email to keithpaver.rotary@gmail.com or by post to PDG Dr Keith Paver, 1 Southgate, Chorltonville, Manchester M21 8EA and you will receive a free PolioPlus Society badge and a signed certificate.

Name: RI Membership Number:

Email: Phone No:

Address Postcode

Club: DistrictNumber:

Enter the amount of your annual donation indicating whether pounds or euros.
The minimum amount will depend on the current exchange rate.
If further information is required contact the RFUK office.

Indicate whether you wish to purchase a lapel pin and/or a car sticker
and you will receive an email with the prices and instructions how to place an order.

Are you a Rotarian? Signature: Date:

Do you give consent for your
name and club to be published?