

## What is the Rotary Business Forum?

Perhaps we should start with "with what is Rotary?"

**Rotary is a worldwide group of some million-plus people who come together to exchange ideas and form friendships and professional connections, while making a difference locally and around the world.**

The Rotary Business Forum is an offshoot of Rotary Cambridge South. The Forum has been created to specifically encourage Cambridge professionals, entrepreneurs and mid-career leaders to get together regularly in a supportive and non-salesy environment.

Our meetings generally take the form of a *conversation*. We'll often have an in-depth discussion about a topic such as business ethics, succession planning or leadership. Occasionally we'll have a more formal presentation from a leader in the local business community.

There are no expectations of weekly 'must-make' attendances and you are not expected to hand out business to people you don't yet know, like or trust.

Our members have found that it's a truly rewarding experience.

Rotary is based on a simple concept:

**"Putting something back" into your community, while using and developing your business and personal talents. It's fun, and you'll be networking while making friends and business contacts. It's good for business!**

## Membership



Becoming a member of the Business Forum enables you to meet other business-minded individuals and leaders. In doing so, you can make an impact both here and around the world.

We invite you to come along to our informal meetings and find out more about us and the opportunities we offer to get involved.

Membership of the Forum is open to anyone with an interest in business or their career. If you are a business owner, self-employed or in management you'll almost certainly get a benefit.

With like-minded individuals to talk to and learn from, you'll leave each meeting topped-up with new ideas and enthusiasm.

From time to time, we'll get involved with community projects that will need your skills and energy, for instance to raise money or mentor someone.

For the first two or three visits, you can come along as an Associate with no cost or commitment. After this, we'll invite you to become a full-status member of the world-wide Rotary organisation.

## Making a difference



Solving real problems takes real effort, commitment, and vision.

Rotarians work to protect communities from preventable disease, keep women and children healthy, improve education and economic outcomes, create safe water and sanitation infrastructure, and make our community and the world a more peaceful place.

Just a few example projects we're involved with:

- Christmas car-parking. This project in central Cambridge raises around £40,000 annually for local and international good causes.
- Rotary Youth Leadership Award. Every year we sponsor 18-26 yr-olds to attend a week long immersive course in Leadership Development. Who do you know who might benefit?
- Special Effect. A UK-based charity which uses video games and technology to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities.
- Shelterbox. Providing emergency accommodation and supplies to disaster areas round the world
- Ending polio: Partnering with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Health Organization, and UNICEF to end polio, once and for all.

## RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award)



RYLA is a great example of the concept of "Rotary in Action". Every year we sponsor between one and three participants to attend this week-long residential programme at Grafham Water.

RYLA enables the development of 18 - 26 year olds as future business and community leaders. It succeeds by:

- helping the participants to find out about themselves
- creating a testing environment to explore skills and behaviours
- creating a challenge both physically and mentally
- supporting whilst dealing with fears and attitudes
- teaching how to be effective and confident leaders
- encouraging involvement in the wider world

We encourage the participants to come along and address the group a few weeks after their course. The results speak for themselves.

### MORE INFORMATION:

Meetings are alternate Fridays at 7:30am. We aim to finish by 8:45am, give participants time to start work. We meet at:

Stirling House  
Cambridge Innovation Park  
Denny End Road,  
Waterbeach  
Cambridge  
CB25 9QE



### CONTACT DETAILS: Co-chairs:

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