

Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland

International Club Twinning Guide

Version 1

June 2006



1 Table of contents

1	Table of contents	2
2	Abbreviations used	2
3	Introduction	2
4	What are Twin Clubs	3
5	Goals	3
6	The Twinning Process	3
7	Determining Club Compatibility	3
8	Resources for Finding a Partner.....	4
9	Establishing a Relationship	4
10	Registering your Twinning with RGBI / RI	4
11	Past successful Twinning Campaigns	5
12	Rotaract Twin Club Awards Form.....	6
13	Rotaract Twinning Certificate.....	8
14	Bournemouth & Panvel Central Rotaract - International Club Twinning Information	9

2 Abbreviations used

The following abbreviations are used in this Extension Manual:

DC Rotaract District Chairman (referred to as District Rotaract Representative (DRR) by RI)

GB&I Great Britain & Ireland

RGBI Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland as a collective body

RI Rotary International

3 Introduction

Thinking about an international service project or friendship with another Rotaract club?

Rotaractors around the world have a unique opportunity to learn about other cultures and foster goodwill through the global family of Rotaract. This partnership can involve establishing a pen-pal/e-mail relationship, arranging Rotaractor visits, exchanging project ideas, and undertaking small international or community service projects.

Rotaract clubs considering such a venture can choose a partner that shares similar interests, challenges, or language capabilities. Rotaractors can also correspond with clubs located in an area of geographical interest. To find a suitable match, Rotaract clubs can use the resources available through the *Worldwide Rotaract Directory*, Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland, their sponsoring Rotary club, and their district Rotaract chairman or representative. The possibilities for friendship are endless and greatly rewarding.

So use this guide to your advantage and have fun twinning with another Rotaract Club.

Lisa Burnett

RGBI Chairman 2005/06

282 Malmesbury Park Road

Bournemouth

Dorset

BH8 8PR

Tel: 07876 341334

Email: lisa@rotaract.org.uk

4 What are Twin Clubs

Twin clubs are two clubs from different Rotary International (RI) countries that have established strong ties and have agreed to team up to complete a special program, may it be an International service project, friendship exchange or cultural exchange. Clubs are invited to register as a part of this activity and are encouraged to undertake a joint program or project in developing the international understanding.

5 Goals

- To emphasise the international aspect of Rotaract service and friendship;
- To establish a long-term relationship with another club that will lead to ongoing and effective projects;
- To enhance the understanding of another culture and each other's differences;
- To further international understanding and foster goodwill;

6 The Twinning Process

- Clubs must be from two different countries and preferably, different continents.
- Programs and / or projects must involve personal participation of Rotaractors; at least 1/3 of the member base should be responsible for the initial relationship building and further maintenance of the program.
- Clubs must complete and sign the Twin Clubs Agreement Certificate provided by RGBI, see section 13.
- Clubs must report their Twin club relationship to RGBI and RI by completing the Rotaract Twin Club Awards Form provided by RGBI, see section 12

7 Determining Club Compatibility

Finding a suitable twin club should be a club effort. The concerns and opinions of every club member must be taken into account if the match is to be successful. In the search for a twin club, clubs should be able to identify their interests, strengths and weaknesses. A brief summary of the club should be written up for potential matches and future correspondence. When selecting a twin club, clubs may want to consider clubs that:

- Hold similar interests;
- Have faced similar challenges;
- Possess expertise in an area that they would like to improve upon;
- Are located in a geographical region of interest;
- Have the same name in the RI official directory (for example: the Rotaract Club of Milan, Italy, and the Rotaract Club of Milan, Texas, USA);
- Have a common language or resources for translation/interpretation.

8 Resources for Finding a Partner

After determining what type of club would be an appropriate match, the next step is to look for a club that meets the established criteria. Below are a few ideas for finding a partner:

- Speak to your Sponsoring Rotary Club/s to see if they already have a relationship with another club;
- Contact the International Representative for RGBI, District Chairman and/or District International Representative to see if they are in contact with anyone suitable;
- Attend International Rotaract meetings such as INTEROTA, EUACO, International RYLA;
- Look at the World Rotaract Directory;
- Seek assistance from RI;
- Subscribe to Rotaract communication groups on the internet such as rotaractnet@yahoogroups.com
- Use search engines on the internet;
- Consider contacting the local Rotaract Clubs that are based in the town that is twinned with yours.

9 Establishing a Relationship

Careful planning and clear communication is essential to establishing a strong relationship. Like any other worthwhile project, twinning takes time and effort. Ensuring that each club has a clear understanding of its role and responsibilities in the partnership is key. To formalise the Twin Club relationship, clubs should sign a letter of agreement, which outlines the goals and length of the partnership. Some ideas for developing a strong relationship include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Establish a penpal/email network for all club members to use
- Undertake an international service project;
- Participate in a friendship or cultural exchange;
- Plan and hold an international projects fair;
- Exchange project ideas or club program ideas;
- Hold a video conference or web-based club meeting;
- Exchange handicrafts and local products;
- Organize an international event;
- Hosting an exchange Rotaract;
- Organise a cultural event exchange e.g. Holi Festival and Easter.

You may use your imagination and creativity to come up with innovative ideas for building your twin club relationship.

10 Registering your Twinning with RGBI / RI

Sharing details about twin club relationships with RGBI and RI is essential so that we are able to share success stories with other clubs. We invite clubs that have established a twin club relationship to send details about programs or projects they have or will carry out. Clubs should send a brief summary of the project, with any supporting news articles. Additionally, good action photos are always welcome. Be sure to include the names of the Rotaract Clubs, district members and contact information for both clubs.

Complete the RGBI Twin Clubs Form (see section *.*) and send it to the RGBI International Officer (international@rotaract.org.uk).

11 Past successful Twinning Campaigns

11.1 Rotaract Club of Bournemouth and the Rotaract club of Panvel Central

Following extensive planning and communication, these two clubs from RGBI District 1110 and Indian District 3130, the 2 clubs embarked on a cross-festival celebration as a joint project. The Panvel Central Rotaractors observed Easter by making Easter bonnets and playing Easter themed games, whilst the Bournemouth Rotaractors honoured the Indian Holi Festival of Colours by learning about Indian Culture and painting colourful pictures and sampling traditional Indian cuisine.

After the celebrations, both clubs worked on a joint bulletin which detailed their experiences. The clubs are still in regular contact via email and bulletin.



Rotaractors of Bournemouth, District 1110 and Panvel Central, District 3130

11.2 Rotaract Club of Manila Metro, Philippines District 3810 and the Rotaract Club of North Balwyn, Australia District 9800

A Chance conversation between 2 DC's at a training seminar led to these 2 clubs embarking on an email and Bulletin swapping relationship. The clubs are looking forward to starting an International service project and a lasting friendship exchange.

11.3 Rotaract Club of Ulm, Germany District 1930 and the Rotaract Club of Tanjung Bungah, Malaysia District 3300

The clubs were brought together by a member of the German club whilst travelling in Malaysia. They signed an agreement and have been completing joint projects since 2003.



Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland



Rotaract Twin Club Awards Form

Identification of Twinning Clubs

Twinning Club #1	District & Club Name:	
	Contact Person	
	Contact Information (Phone numbers, emails)	
Twinning Club #2	District & Club Name:	
	Contact Person	
	Contact Information (Phone numbers, emails)	

Brief Description of the Twinning Process

--

Goals for Twinning

--

Twinning Criteria's Established (Dates and information)

Undertake an International Service project	
Participate in a friendship or cultural exchange	
Plan and hold an international projects fair	
Exchange project ideas or club program ideas	
Hold a video conference or on-line club meeting	

Exchange handicrafts and local products	
Organise an international event	
Hosting an exchange Rotaract	
Other (please specify in detail)	

Through what resource did you find your Twin Club?

--

Main Schedule & Activities (please provide itineraries, programmes etc.)

Results and Follow-up (what are your plans to maintain Twin Club status for the upcoming years?)

Please attach any digital pictures of the project / activities if available

Send this form and additional information to international@rotaract.org.uk



Rotaract Twin Club Certificate



This document is to certify establishment
of a Rotaract Twin Club relationship between

The Rotaract Club of

The Rotaract Club of

District _____

District _____

Club President <term>

Club President <term>

District Rotaract Rep. <term>

District Rotaract Rep. <term>

District Governon <term>

District Governon <term>



Bournemouth Rotaract & Panvel Central Rotaract - International Club Twinning Information

The Beginning

It all started back in April 2003 where good relations were started with the Rotaract Club of Panvel Central, India, District 3130. After several emails and exchanging of information about what each of the clubs get up to, the two clubs decided to do a joint project.

The project was a relatively simple one, whereby each club chose a festival that is celebrated in their own countries and gave the other club information about it and tasks to complete.

Panvel Central Rotaract celebrated Easter and were given the tasks of making Easter Bonnets, Hot Cross Buns and taking part in an Easter Egg Hunt.

Bournemouth Rotaract celebrated the India Holi Festival of Colours. They invited a member of the Bournemouth International Library to come along to a club meeting with Indian Sahri's, music, films and artefacts. The members then spent the evening learning about the festival, painting colourful pictures and of course enjoying India Cuisine!

After the festivals had been celebrated the two clubs wrote a joint bulletin and continued excellent communications.

This is an excellent way of learning about other cultures and working with Rotaract Clubs around the World to achieve the ideals of the organisation.



Bournemouth Rotaract celebrating Holi Festival



Bournemouth Rotaract celebrating Holi Festival with India Cuisine

The 1st Joint Bulletin

As a result of the project detailed above both clubs produced information to be published in the 1st Joint Bulletin. The bulletin was printed professionally by Panvel Central Rotaract and posted to Bournemouth Rotaract.

The 2nd Joint Bulletin

After further emails between the two clubs discussing the success of the festival project and what each club had been up to over the last few months a 2nd joint bulletin was produced.

This was produced in October 2003 and had the theme of the environment. Bournemouth Rotaract prepared messages from the Club President and the Clubs International Chairman as well as information about their club.

Panvel Central Rotaract wrote an article about the dumping of rubbish into rivers and water supplies and Bournemouth Rotaract wrote an article about Poole Harbour, the 2nd largest natural harbour in the world that is very near to Bournemouth.

(A copy of this bulletin is at the end of this document)

Community Project in India

In March of 2004 Panvel Central Rotaract identified a project that needed to be carried out in their local community and asked Bournemouth Rotaract if they would fund it. Bournemouth Rotaract agreed to this and sent an International Cheque. Details of the project are below:

Nandgaon School

The school is based at Nandgaon Wadi and is up to STD 3 but all the 39 students who attend the school try to adjust in a 20ft by 12ft shade spot that is covered by torn aluminium sheets with a dust floor. The Wadi is an ADIVASI village near Nandgaon, which is based on the Panvel bypass road.

To reach Wadi one has to climb a hill for 30 minutes from Nandgaon. There is only 1 teacher in the school, but the dedication of this teacher is noteworthy. She has a B.Sc in Chemistry from ASC College Panvel. She gets just Rs 1,000 as a monthly salary from the Government but at the end of the year most of her salary is spent in buying books for her students. She has to wear a Sari as per the Government rule, by the time she reaches the school her sari is made dirty by the mud from the road.

The leaders of Nandgaon and Wadi are optimistic about improving the school and they want support in their efforts. Paresh Thakur has taken responsibility of creating a proper school for Wadi. Paresh who is an ex Rotaractor had invited the Rotaract Club of Panvel Central to be part of the project, hence Rtr. Ameya, Minakshi, Purvi and Samson visited the Wadi area on 13th January 2004.

The primary objective is to get the children of the school into a reading habit, some of whom don't even have clothes to wear. We as Rotaractors can help this school to make a significant difference to the lives of the people of Wadi. Efforts have been put by many Rotaractors and Rotarians to redevelop this school.

Panvel Central planned a medical check up camp for the village where about 1000 people were checked free of charge. The money donated by Bournemouth Rotaract not only paid for the medical check up it also paid for some new books, boards, notice boards and stationary.

It was a very successful day.

The Twinning Agreements

Bournemouth Rotaract designed the twinning agreements that were to be signed by the Rotary District Governors of 1110 and 3130, the Rotaract District Chairman of 1110 and 3130 and both of the Club Presidents.

The agreements were then emailed to Panvel Central in pdf format and 6 copies printed. Panvel Central Rotaract got all 6 copies signed and posted them to Bournemouth, England. Once they had reached Bournemouth the necessary people in District 1110 signed them.

Bournemouth Rotaract then posted 3 copies back to India, as well as 1 to the National Rotaract International Officer and 1 to the Rotaract District. The 3rd copy was framed and is up on the wall at their meeting venue.

The future

We have continued email contact since the projects and share ideas and what we have been up to. In the future Bournemouth Rotaract would like to do another joint project similar to the festival project that initiated the whole twinning, another joint bulletin and continue to exchange information and greetings.



Samvaad Srushti

ROTARACT CLUB OF PANVEL CENTRAL'S RESOLVE TO SAVE THE MOTHER EARTH with Rotaract Club of Bournemouth, UK

President: Rtr. Samson Massil Editor: Rtr. Mayur /Shrikant Editor in chief: Rtr. Mayur Thakkar

President's Message:

To our extended family and friends in the Rotaract club of Panvel Central, I send our love and kind wishes to you all.

As part of our extended family it is a blessing to communicate with other countries and hear what you do.

Let's join hands together and believe in the very fact that the family works together, stays together and each step we take to fulfil our objectives we shall live knowing we have done well.

We look forward to sharing ideas and news with you and working with you in the future.

Yours in Rotaract

Rtr. Hazel Claxton, RC Bournemouth

International Service Chairman's Message:

To our fellow Rotaractors and friends around the World

It is always fantastic to communicate with other people, particularly Rotaractors, from around the world.

We have already created a great line of communication between numerous Rotaract clubs around the world, sharing our knowledge, culture and friendship with each other. It is when the world of the Internet really brings us all together to share our experiences of what each club does to spread the wings of Rotary and Rotaract.

Spreading light around the globe, each lighting a candle for humanity. The good causes we get involved with, following the example of RI President Robert Maguabe, by lending a hand and helping to ease the suffering.

I wish you all the best in this quest, and hope you have as much fun as we do whilst helping others.

Yours in Rotaract

Rtr. Lisa Burnett, RC Bournemouth

From Editor's Desk:

It is a pleasure moment for all of us at Rotaract Panvel Central as we are moving step closure towards our friendship with our fellows of Rotaract Club of Bournemouth by bringing out a joint Bulletin.

Last month saw the rarest moments of my Rotaract Life with Panvel Central. It was our beloved community service/ fund raising project "Rotaract Diwali Shoppe" every one really worked hard to make it a success. The Project Chairperson Rtr. Shrikant & his team & our president Rtr. Sam worked hard to make it successful. This taught all of us how to fight the crisis & how positive attitude can change impossible to possible.

Again with fund raised we will have an opportunity to have some necessary things for the club as well as we will move ahead towards our dream of having clean Panvel.

Last month we saw our ZRR Rtr. Yogesh visiting us. Now we are working towards our upcoming project on Web page Designing Competition.

Yours in Rotaract,

Rtr. Mayur Thakkar, RC Panvel Central

Bournemouth Rotaract - RGBI Club of the Year 2002

Name of the club and District Number:	Bournemouth Rotaract District 1110
Location:	Bournemouth, England
Sponsored By:	Rotary Club of Westbourne
Date Chartered:	9 th November 2000
Name of D.R.R.:	Jason Twigger
Name of President:	Hazel Claxton
Name of International Service Chairman:	Lisa Burnett
Name of District Rotary Liaison Officer:	Richard Burnett
E-Mail:	info@bournemouth-rotaract.org.uk
Web Site:	www.bournemouth-rotaract.org.uk

Club Details

Bournemouth Rotaract will soon be 3 years old; we were chartered on November 9th 2000. In our first few years we believe we have achieved a lot and are looking forward to the coming years, continuing our work and promoting Rotaract in the local area. Our projects this year have included:

Community Service

- Supporting a local volunteer centre with anything they need.
- Supporting a charity called the Domino Appeal, which is an ongoing project to build a school and accommodation for children with autism.
- Supporting a local charity called Julia's House which provides respite care for children who have cancer/leukaemia and their families.
- Holding raffles at a local hotel, this is donated to a chosen charity.
- With our sponsoring Rotary club we are about to start our latest project. We plan to create a small natural plant and animal woodland in the playground of a local school to help educate the children on environmental issues.

National and International Service

- Through play schools and the local community we are collecting shoe boxes for our Christmas Appeal to be sent to Romania.
- Helping our sponsoring Rotary Club with the Banardos Christmas Tree Appeal, collecting presents for disadvantaged children throughout the UK.
- Holding a sponsored charity event for the national charity Children in Need organised by the BBC.

Club Service

- Regular Meetings (fortnightly)
- Regular introduction of new members
- Wine Tasting evenings
- Beach sandcastle building competitions
- Football with our sponsoring Rotary Club
- BBQ's and international meals
- Organising the District Karaoke night.

Professional Development

- Encouraging members to speak publicly.
- Hosting quiz nights
- Exchanging skills with other club members and much, much more

POOLE HARBOUR

Forming one of the largest natural harbours in the world, Poole Harbour has been of economical and environmental importance to the local population for centuries. The Port of Poole continues to be essential for local commerce. According to Poole Harbour Commissioners ca. 1.9 million tonnes of cargo and 750,000 passengers passed through the port in the 2002 financial year. As well as the trade, other features such as Poole Quay, Brownsea Island and Sandbanks make the harbour attractive as a destination for leisure, tourism and water sports,

As well as the commercial importance, the harbour also encompasses a diverse range of natural and man-made habitats. These include salt marshes, mud flats and mud shores, sandy shores, and seagrass meadows above the tides, and an even more extensive range of habitats below the tidal level. An extremely rich variety of marine plants and animals are found within these habitats, including grey mullet, common mussel, butter fish, sea bass, seals and otters. In addition to these there are many types of sea weed, grasses, wildfowl and seabirds. Close by in Poole Bay larger sea mammals such as whales, dolphins and porpoises have been sighted, with dolphins occasionally making an appearance within the harbour itself.

Naturally a balance has to be reached to ensure commerce, leisure and conservation can continue with the long-term protection of Poole Harbour an essential objective for all. Various bodies are involved in ensuring this aim can be achieved. The Poole Harbour Commissioners run the port on a day-to-day basis and enforce the Aquatic Management Plan to protect the local environment. This includes the designation of separate areas for water sports, enforcing exclusion zones and quiet areas and policing the movement of ships within the harbour. They also undertake an extensive education program to educate the public about the dangers of the harbour and the need for its protection.

A variety of governmental bodies, charities, steering groups and research bodies also have an involvement in monitoring the harbour, educating the public and encouraging public involvement in its protection. Such groups include the Environment Agency, Southern Marine Life Rescue, English Nature and the National Trust, to name just a few. Areas of the harbour also benefit from statutory designations including Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI, UK designation), Special Protection Areas (SPA, EU designation) and Ramsar Sites (Global designation for important wetlands). Such designations and the ongoing work of the many organisations go a long way towards maintaining the balance between the protection of the harbour environment and the needs of its many users. Through continuation of this work the harbour should be an environment to be enjoyed by all for centuries to come.

Recommended websites:

- Bournemouth Rotaract. www.bournemouth-rotaract.org.uk.
- English Nature. www.english-nature.org.uk.
- Environment Agency. www.environment-agency.gov.uk.
- National Trust. www.nationaltrust.org.uk.
- Poole Borough Council. www.poole.gov.uk.
- Poole Harbour Study Group. www.pooleharbourstudygroup.org.uk.
- Poole Harbour Commissioners. www.phc.co.uk.
- Southern Marine Life Rescue. www.SMLR.org.
- Swansea University, Poole Harbour Publication. www.swan.ac.uk/biodiv/poole.

Don't dump it, if you wouldn't drink it.

We've all seen the trash that ends up in our creeks, lakes and rivers following a storm. Other contaminants, not so easily seen, enter our waters in much the same way. When it rains or snow melts, the water soaks into the ground or flows over the land, picking up and carrying pollutants to our waterways. The sediments and dissolved materials carried to our waterways can directly affect the quality of water. While some of these contaminants are natural like sediment from erosion, many are man-made pollutants and include:

- excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides from residential areas and agricultural lands;
- oil, grease, and other toxic chemicals that wash off of streets and parking lots;
- motor oil, car batteries, and home chemical containers that have been improperly disposed of;
- sediment from improperly managed construction sites, crop and forest lands, and eroding stream banks; and
- bacteria and nutrients from livestock, pet wastes and faulty septic systems.

All the seen and unseen contaminants that enter our waters from these diffuse sources make up what is called nonpoint source pollution. Unlike pollution that can be traced to a single source, with nonpoint source pollution there is no factory, no single pipe, no single point that can be identified, monitored, and regulated. Instead, nonpoint source pollution is caused by millions of individual actions, which make it difficult to control. Because we all contribute to nonpoint source pollution, it is everyone's responsibility. We must start at home to help protect our waters for the beneficial uses we all enjoy, like clean drinking water and recreational activities. Begin by taking a close look at what you do at home that might contribute to polluted runoff - you may need to make some changes. As an individual you can practice these conservation habits daily.

*Compiled by Rtr. Samson Massil,
R. C. Panvel Central, Dist 3130*