

Rotary KidsOut 2018 Newsletter

Jointly Compiled by: Rtn. Gordon Moulds CBE – Chief Executive KidsOut
Rtn. Steve Cartwright - RIBI KidsOut Rotary Day Specialist

(This Newsletter circulated by kind permission and with the help of RIBI Home Committee) Lynne Marshall – Chair.

Message from Rtn Gordon Moulds CBE - Chief Executive

I must start by congratulating all Rotarians who made the 27th Anniversary Rotary National KidsOut Day such a resounding success with 28,100 children taken on a very special day out. Sadly, following the Manchester bombing, some schools and homes introduced a new policy to avoid taking children to events that involved crowds, this affected some 1500 children that had been booked to attend but subsequently were understandably cancelled. Had these children attended, it would have been a record year for Rotary.

Often forgotten, KidsOut is a Rotary charity, started by Rotary and run by Rotary. With a Rotarian Patron, 3 Rotary Trustees and 12 Rotary Ambassadors, KidsOut is run on Rotary principles. Together in partnership, we achieve a lot more than just the National Day Out.

KidsOut is more than the one day a year out. In 2017, KidsOut also provided over 25,000 fun days throughout the year aimed at the most vulnerable children in our society. Thanks to Rotary, our new Festive Day Out proved hugely successful with over 13,000 taken to a pantomime or enjoyed a Christmas party. We provided every child who had escaped serious domestic abuse and had been relocated away from the abuser (but also family, friends and school), with a toy box for their new home - over 3,000. Every child in a Women's Aid refuge received a Christmas present, as did many other disadvantaged groups - in all, over 18000 children received a present. 2 more sensory rooms aimed at schools dealing with severely autistic children were provided. Our World Stories, used by over 2000 schools has recently been transformed to enable it to be used as part of the formal curriculum.

More and more Clubs are now using KidsOut services to provide free days out and free toys to their local causes. KidsOut would like to see more Rotary Clubs take the credit for these services and as such are trying to find volunteers to become a Rotary KidsOut Ambassador in every District to help coordinate the services.

KidsOut support to Rotary continues to increase as well. Our baseball cap initiative proved so popular this year that we will again be providing them free of charge for 2018. The only proviso is that we need one contact in District who can coordinate their

requirements and have one distribution point - we will deliver and provide at no cost. Any feedback on this proposed way forward would be appreciated, please contact Steve Cartwright to discuss in more detail.

Please remember, KidsOut only exists because of Rotary; that said, I am only too aware of the superb work that Rotary does in so many areas but still ask that your Club considers as a minimum to participate in the Rotary day out. I would appreciate your thoughts on how we can help you more in order to ensure that this fantastic event continues long into the future.

Checkout the KidsOut website: <http://www.kidsout.org.uk/>

RIBI KidsOut Rotary Day Specialist – Steve Cartwright (Lichfield St Chad D1060)
Checkout Rotary KidsOut RIBI website information: (you will need to log-in)

www.rotarygbi.org/members/humanitarian-service-programmes/community/community-events/rotary-kidsout-day/
and

www.rotarygbi.org/members/club-district-support/opportunities-serve/list-projects/kidsout/

I too wish to reiterate Gordon's comments and express my thanks to every District, Club and member that have been involved in ensuring Rotary KidsOut goes from strength to strength, underlining that we do indeed *Make a Difference* by being *People of Action*. THANK YOU

Rotary Festive Day Out: Whilst this additional day out has been operated by a few clubs in the past, 2017 was the first year that it has become an *official* RIBI KidsOut Day *Project*, with over **3,000 children** sponsored by Clubs enjoying a festive outing ie. meeting Santa, visit to a show, pantomime, zoo, parties etc. A really fantastic effort for our 'RIBI' first year, supported by KidsOut supplying *baseball* caps free of charge and a subsidy of £5.00 per child.

Additionally those in London & Birmingham areas had a great opportunity to go along and see Peter Pan Pantomime with the show producers offering 800 FREE tickets.

'**Hot News**' KidsOut will once again be the official charity partner for 'The World's Biggest Pantomime' company and will have over a thousand free tickets to allocate to Rotary Clubs in December to take disadvantaged children to pantomimes 'Peter Pan' in Leeds and Nottingham and 'Elf' in Manchester, Cardiff and Birmingham. Put your requests in early! *More details to follow.*

Rotary Festive Day Out is held on the first Tuesday in December (or nearest date to suit circumstances)

National Rotary KidsOut Day 13 June 2018: KidsOut are again offering a subsidy of £1.00 per child plus free *baseball* caps and On-Line Registration is now available just click on the *link* below:

<http://www.kidsout.org.uk/forms/national-rotary-kidsout-day/>

Should you require free of charge *baseball* caps, you will need to complete a separate additional order click on the *link* below:

<http://www.kidsout.org.uk/forms/national-rotary-kidsout-day-caps-order-form/>

Please take the opportunity to see the details about National Rotary KidsOut Day on the KidsOut website:

<http://www.kidsout.org.uk/what-we-do/national-rotary-kidsout-day/>

Alternatively you can access all the details and Registrations Forms by going to the KidsOut web: <http://www.kidsout.org.uk/> – see menu at the top of the front page, select ‘*What we do*’, then ‘*National Rotary KidsOut Day*’. The Forms can be seen clearly stated in bold red type, just *click* on these as required.

Rotary KidsOut ‘Ambassadors’: I am pleased to report that we now have ‘Ambassadors’ in the following Districts: **1040, 1060, 1070, 1090, 1100, 1120, 1130, 1145, 1190, 1210, 1230 & 1240**. But we still have **vacancies in the other 13 Districts of RIBI**. Do you know someone in your Club/District that may be interested in becoming an ‘Rotary KidsOut Ambassador’?

If so we would like to invite them along to a Rotary KidsOut Ambassadors meeting and evening event in Birmingham on 6 September with accommodation provided free of charge by KidsOut. *Please contact me for further details.*

Rotary District Conference Speakers: KidsOut will be pleased to provide a ‘Speaker’ for your Conference(s). As alluded to by CEO Gordon, KidsOut is MUCH more than just a ‘Day Out’, why not ensure all your members are aware of the scope and additional good work being done by the charity founded by Rotary? ‘Book NOW to avoid disappointment’. *Please contact me for further details.*

By way of this Newsletter I am asking ANY Rotary Club/ Member/ District to please advise me of their full contact details including email address. *These details will not be used for marketing purposes, but will ensure that any KidsOut information will be sent to the correct person(s).* Help ME to help YOU.

And finally, should you have any questions, queries or comments please do not hesitate to contact me.

PLEASE don’t forget to let me know your full contact details.

Thank you for your continued support for KidsOut, please carry on the good work!

Steve Cartwright

RIBI KidsOut Rotary Day Specialist

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