

Rotary Club of Guildford Eye Project

As of 1st January 2018

The Guildford Rotary Eye Project

will primarily be known by its trademarked name of

Global **Sight** Solutions

THE AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS PROGRAMME

“A donation of just £5 can enable the blind to see again!”

“HELPING THE 50 MILLION BLIND POOR, WHOSE SIGHT CAN BE RESTORED WITH A SIMPLE OPERATION”

**Establishing specialist eye surgery hospitals which
provide free eye care, at world beating prices,
to those in poverty in the developing world.**

You can transform someone's life by enabling their sight to be restored, just by making a
£5 donation to ROTARY CLUB OF GUILDFORD EYE PROJECT.

SUPPORT THE 2020 NEW HOSPITAL CHALLENGE

HELP PROVIDE 50 NEW EYE HOSPITALS BY 2020

HELP US REACH OUR TARGET OF

180,000 + CATARACT OPERATIONS P A BY 2022



In the 1990's Guildford Rotarian S N Das MBE, an eye surgeon and consultant ophthalmic surgeon, started the project in and around Kolkata (Calcutta) with a personal ambition

to restore the sight of 1,000,000 people!

Aided by a generous grant system from the worldwide Rotary Movement, the £15 cost of a cataract, and other similar, operations can be funded by a donation of

JUST £5 FROM YOU!

THE GUILDFORD ROTARY EYE PROJECT provides:-

- **Training for eye surgeons**
- **Microscopes and laser equipment etc.**
- **Eye buses**
- **Hospital transport**
- **Mobile eye screening camps**
- **Facilities for additional treatments**
- **Strives to ensure self-sufficiency for all eye units**
- **These eye hospitals are currently carrying out an impressive 100,000 + operations per annum**
- **Cataract surgery, treatment of glaucoma, retinal detachment and diabetic retinopathy etc**

MUCH MORE CAN BE DONE WITH YOUR SUPPORT in the Indian sub-continent, in Africa and in other economically emerging countries.

TO MAKE AN ONLINE DONATION CLICK

On-line donation.

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TO DONATE BY TEXT:

Text EYES45 £5 TO 70070

Taxpayers in Great Britain can Gift Aid their donation and add to its value:-

On-line donation.



Supported by
Rotary International
in Great Britain & Ireland

**To book a speaker, or to apply to become one of our Ambassadors
please contact:- info@globalsightsolutions.org**

Charity registration number 1127630

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Resume: The Rotary Club of Guildford Eye Project

The Rotary Club of Guildford Eye Project is an avoidable blindness programme which serves those in India and Africa who are too poor to access their own medical care. The charity provides assessment camps, surgical equipment and surgeon training such that free eye operations and treatment are available.

There are 50 million avoidably blind worldwide, of which 18 million are in India, 4+ million being in the Kolkata area.

It is a charity inspired, founded and administered entirely by Rotarians,

As Rotarians are volunteers no administrative costs are incurred.

The charity develops partnership links with Rotary Clubs in the areas of need who are required to provide the premises, while each partner contributes to all other costs. The aim is for all facilities to become self-financing.

The facilities as of June 2018 are providing <1,000,000 free eye examinations, and 100,000+ free eye operations per year.

2020 target: 50 further hospitals thereby providing facilities for 150,000 cataract operations per annum.

With the astute use of Rotary Foundation's Grant scheme the £15 cost of a cataract operation can be funded with a donation of just £5 in the UK.

For Rotarians: An Opportunity to Serve

Objectives

The aim of the Rotary Club of Guildford Eye Project is to serve the avoidably blind by providing Rotary Eye Hospitals which incorporate the provision of assessment camps, surgical equipment and surgeon training, such that free eye operations and treatment can be provided to those in developing countries who are too poor to afford the treatment themselves.

Background

The Eye Project was founded in the 1990's by eye surgeon and ophthalmic consultant Dr Sam Das in conjunction with its other Trustees, all of whom were members of Guildford Rotary Club.

There are nearly 50 million avoidably blind worldwide, of which 18 million are in India, 4+ million being in the Kolkata area.

It is an integral part of the charity's ethos that the land and building required for hospitals and clinics in the areas of need are provided by local support. This is effectively the local Rotary Clubs who organize and administer these medical centres. A proportion of the cost of equipment, and of operations is also required to be funded locally. This means that there is an ongoing enthusiasm for the success of the project locally, and because all funding from foreign sources is processed from Rotary Club to Rotary Club there are no administrative costs to be deducted.

This results in a unit cost per operation of up to 65% less than comparable organisations. The equipment provided is typically microscopes for examination and for operations, laser units, ophthalmoscopes and the like.

Hospitals/Clinics

As of 2018 fifty+ hospitals/clinics have been established in various regions of India and elsewhere.

All of these are supervised and overseen by suitably qualified local Rotarians.

Recently sites in other countries such as The Lebanon, Kenya, Tanzania, Bangladesh Zambia, Uganda, etc have been identified and in the next few years it is hoped to start Rotary Eye Hospitals in these areas.

The declared aim of the charity is for all facilities to eventually become self-financing. A primary source of income is derived from the provision of private eye operations to wealthier patients. This 'business model' is now being extended to the charity's first eye hospital in Nigeria which opened in 2012.

The first ten eye surgeons working in India were trained in the UK through Rotary GSE Projects while the African eye surgeons were trained with support from Indian Rotarians and their Rotary Clubs. All surgeons commit not only to working primarily in the Rotary facilities, but also to train incoming surgeons thereby increasing the medical skills base available.

The facilities in India as of 2018 have provided <1,000,000 free eye examinations and 100,000+ free eye operations per year.

The Rotary Club of Guildford Eye Project provides:

Training for eye surgeons

Microscopes and laser equipment etc

'Eye' buses

Hospital transport

Mobile eye screening camps

Facilities primarily for the treatment of cataracts, glaucoma, retinal detachment & diabetic retinopathy.

How Can Rotary Help?

This is a charity inspired, founded and administered by Rotarians, and as such is unique in the provision of eye treatment to the avoidably blind.

The Eye Project is currently appointing volunteer Ambassadors for every RIBI District in order to raise awareness and increase support for its work. There is no requirement to be from a medical background and the request is simply to 'do what you can'.

Full support will be provided. Please contact info@globalsightsolutions.org for further details.

Every Rotarian can assist by raising awareness of the Eye Project within Rotary and their local community. Rotarians can provide further support by holding fundraising events such as marking World Sight Day each October.

By deploying Rotary Foundation Global Grants a £5 donation can evolve into the £15 cost of a sight restoring cataract operation. Often this £5 evolves to £35!!

Active Rotary promotion of this charity will reflect favourably not only upon the Eye Project itself, but also upon Rotary generally by raising its profile in the hearts and minds of the public at large.

Speakers, educational and publicity material are available to all RIBI Rotarians.

The Eye Project provides maximum effect for minimum cost!

The project's registered charity number is: 1127630.

An important message for Rotarians

This project differs from many other eye-related projects:-

1. We have succeeded in inspiring the recipient community Rotary Clubs to work to resolve their own problems, and they are now convinced that they can do it with only a little help from donor countries.
2. We have motivated the recipient Rotary Clubs to donate many thousands of dollars each year to address the problems on their own doorsteps. They have paid the full cost of land and building for five Rotary hospitals together with one-third of the cost of equipment.
3. These are now self-sustaining; profits from private patients are now funding FREE operations for poor patients. The success of these Rotary projects has prompted other hospitals and Non-Governmental Organisations to work with Rotary.
4. We have previously twice used the Rotary Group Study Exchange (GSE) scheme to train ten eye surgeons from the recipient community here in UK; they are serving their own community as also training others to deliver better quality, thus perpetuating the benefit of GSE.
5. We deploy Global Grants from the Rotary Foundation to equip every Rotary eye hospital; this unique combination has enthused many more local surgeons to give up their time and energy to serve their own community under the Rotary umbrella.
6. Donor clubs in the west are paying only one-third of the cost of equipment and operations, thus getting treble the value for their money.

Any Rotary Club can now sponsor 100 operations for £500; The Bargain of the Century!!

Donor countries must never try to solve other countries' problems without engaging the local community; Rotary Leadership should motivate, inspire and guide them along the right path.

Contact details:

For further information please contact:

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01483 481856

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01483 563242

What can you buy for just £5?

What can you buy for just £5?

you could buy a bottle of wine
you could park your car for 2 hours

you could buy 12 cigarettes
you could buy two editions of Vogue

...Or...



you could fund a sight restoring cataract operation

go:

www.justgiving.com/guildfordeyeproject

...and give someone their life back!

Case histories

Sonali Pal is a 42 year old mother of two.

Her husband suffers from acute TB and is unable to work. Additionally, her immediate family includes an aged father who is too old to work. Sonali is therefore the only bread winner and works as a potter. Over a period of less than a year her eye sight deteriorated and she was advised to seek help from the nearest Rotary Eye Hospital where she was diagnosed with bilateral cataracts.



As a low wage earner she was able to receive free eye care which saved her the cost of £15 per operation. (Nearly two month's income). Such cost is only possible because the hospital is administered by Rotarian volunteers and uses volunteer eye surgeons. The hospital derives its income from a variety of in-house initiatives including the provision of the same top class surgery to those locally who are in a position to pay. After two successful operations Sonali has clear sight and is now able to support her family once more.

You can help the millions of people like Sonali who cannot afford eye care by making a donation of just £5, which will enable grants to be obtained thus covering the cost of a cataract operation.

12 year old Gopal Karmakar

was an excellent student and gifted sportsman until he started to suffer over a four month period from increasingly poor vision. His father took him to the local Rotary Eye Hospital where he was assessed as suffering from onset cataracts. Both eyes were operated upon one month apart and he can now return to his education and to his love of soccer.



Because of his family's financial situation Gopal was able to obtain free medical care.

The actual cost per operation is £15. Such cost is only possible because the hospital is administered by Rotarian volunteers and uses volunteer eye surgeons. The hospital derives its income from a variety of in-house initiatives including the provision of the same top class surgery to those locally who are in a position to pay. After two successful operations Gopal has clear sight and his promising future is once more a reality.

You can help the millions of people like Gopal who cannot afford eye care by making a donation of just £5, which will enable grants to be obtained thus covering the cost of a cataract operation. www.justgiving.com/guildfordeyeproject

Mahadeo Raj is a 60 year old

poultry butcher who's failing eye sight over a two year period resulted in him having many accidents and eventually becoming unable to work. A friend recommended that he travelled to the nearest Rotary Eye Hospital to seek help. There he was diagnosed with mature cataracts and was operated on immediately for one eye and again a month later for the second.



Because of his and his family's dire financial situation Mahadeo was provided with free eye care saving him the equivalent of two months wages.

The actual cost per operation being £15.

Such cost is only possible because the hospital is administered by Rotarian volunteers and uses volunteer eye surgeons. The hospital derives its income from a variety of in-house initiatives including the provision of the same top class surgery to those locally who are in a position to pay. Mahadeo is now back at work and able to support the seven members of his family who rely upon him for their food and shelter.

You can help the millions of people like Mahadeo who cannot afford eye care by making a donation of just £5, which will enable grants to be obtained thus covering the cost of a cataract operation.

Kabita Biswas is 42 years young

and worked as a domestic maid until she lost her job due to her failing eye sight. Assessment at the nearest Rotary Eye Hospital, which was almost 100 Km's away diagnosed the need for cataract surgery. Because she was unemployable due to her vision problems Kabita qualified for free eye care.



The actual cost per operation being £15. Such cost is only possible because the hospital is administered by Rotarian volunteers and uses volunteer eye surgeons. The hospital derives its income from a variety of in-house initiatives including the provision of the same top class surgery to those locally who are in a position to pay.

After successful cataract surgery Kabita has now once again found employment.

You can help the millions of people like Kabita who cannot afford eye care by making a donation of just £5, which will enable grants to be obtained thus covering the cost of a cataract operation. www.justgiving.com/guildfordeyeproject

15 year old Mohd Irfan

suffered declining eye sight over a two year period and when he received a warning from school his prospects as a future university graduate seemed to fade away. His family however strived to resolve the problem and travelled for a full day to the nearest Rotary Eye Hospital to seek advise. There they learned that Mohd was developing cataracts. Because of his family's low income Mohd qualified for two free operations the cost of which represented around six weeks wages for his father.



The actual cost per operation being £15. Such cost is only possible because the hospital is administered by Rotarian volunteers and uses volunteer eye surgeons. The hospital derives its income from a variety of in-house initiatives including the Provision of the same top class surgery to those locally who are in a position to pay. Mohd is now once again doing well as an ambitious scholar and is likely to move successfully through to his goal of obtaining a degree in engineering.

You can help the millions of people like Mohd who cannot afford eye care by making a donation of just £5, which will enable grants to be obtained thus covering the cost of a cataract operation. www.justgiving.com/guildfordeyeproject

46 year old Dibaker

is a van cart driver and the only earner in a family of five. His sight slowly began to fail him leading to accidents and loss of earnings. After visiting the Rotary Eye Hospital nearest to his home he was assessed as being in need of surgery. He had two cataract operations two months apart and is now clear sighted and able once again to support his family.



The cost of the two operations represented more than a month's income and Dibaker therefore qualified for free medical care. The actual cost per operation is £15. Such cost is only possible because the hospital is administered by Rotarian volunteers and uses volunteer eye surgeons. The hospital derives its income from a variety of in-house initiatives including the provision of the same top class surgery to those locally who are in a position to pay. After two successful operations Dibaker has clear sight and is again to return to being a driver.

You can help the millions of people like Dibaker who cannot afford eye care by making a donation of just £5, which will enable grants to be obtained thus covering the cost of a cataract operation. www.justgiving.com/guildfordeyeproject

ROTARY'S GIFT OF SIGHT

THIS IS AN RIBI INITIATIVE

We are delighted to announce that RIBI will support The Guildford Rotary Eye Project for a minimum of three years under their banner of

GIFT OF SIGHT

Their target is to raise \$2 million of Global Grant support

Full details are available on the RIBI website.

Please go to:

www.rotarygbi.org/members/humanitarian-service-programmes/international/current-global-grants/

Please persevere with this link. It's worth the effort!!

YouTube Eye Project Video Link

CLICK ON:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbOV68CuJW4>

GREP mark World Sight Day

THE GUILDFORD ROTARY EYE PROJECT

each year marks

WORLD SIGHT DAY

The World Health Organisation's
World Sight Day
is on the

second Thursday in October each year

The Guildford Rotary Eye Project supports this initiative and will be present at several venues in Guildford to raise awareness of its own avoidable blindness programmes in India and Africa.

Please help The Guildford Rotary Eye Project to help the world's

50 MILLION AVOIDABLY BLIND

by making a donation to:

www.justgiving.com/guildfordeyeproject

and assist its

THE NEW AFRICA + PROGRAMME

“A DONATION OF JUST £5 CAN ENABLE THE BLIND TO SEE AGAIN!”

Charity reg no 1127630.

THE GUILDFORD ROTARY EYE PROJECT

Appendix for Rotarians

The Guildford Rotary Eye Project is a charity inspired, founded and administered by Rotarians, and as such is unique in the provision of eye treatment to the avoidably blind.

Founded in 1998 by Dr Sam Das former eye surgeon and ophthalmic consultant at Guildford's Royal Surrey Hospital the charities aim is to provide operations for patients in the Indian sub-continent, Africa and other economically emerging areas who are sadly too poor to afford the cost of treatment themselves.

These victims of poverty are known as

THE AVOIDABLY BLIND

and there are some 50 million worldwide.

The Guildford Rotary Eye Project's efforts to date have primarily been concentrated in India and it is therefore with great pleasure that they announce a new avoidable blindness programme in Nigeria. This follows an earlier initiative in Uganda.

THE EYE PROJECT PROVIDES

Training for eye surgeons

Microscopes and laser equipment

Eye buses

Hospital transport

Mobile eye screening camps

Facilities for the treatment of:

Cataracts

Glaucoma

Retinal detachment

Diabetic retinopathy.

Its unique funding model requires local partners to provide finance for the hospital buildings and to contribute towards the cost of all medical equipment. The aim is for all facilities to eventually be self funding. Due to The Rotary Movements generous grant system a donation in the UK of just £5, can fully fund a sight restoring eye operation in India or Africa.

SUPPORT THE NEW AFRICA + PROGRAMME

The charity naturally wishes to continue expanding its work in India and is currently undertaking feasibility studies in Kenya, Zambia, Uganda, The Gambia, Ghana, Lebanon, Bangladesh, Nigeria and elsewhere.

There is therefore a need to fund both the initial series of eye operations and also the operating equipment itself.

The Guildford Rotary Eye Project has made a conscious effort recently to raise awareness of its work not only within Rotary, but also amongst the public at large and particularly in the Guildford area itself. Additionally it is busying itself attending shows, fetes, conferences and the like, and is in the throes of organising celebrations for **WORLD SIGHT DAY**, which is a World Health Organisation initiative, on the second Thursday in October.

It is hoped that many **Rotary Clubs** will rise to the challenge and mark **WORLD SIGHT DAY** in their own town on behalf of
The Guildford Rotary Eye Project.

Full support and promotional leaflets for Rotarians are available from:
john.miles13@btinternet.com or phone 01483 481856

Please help The Guildford Rotary Eye Project to help
the avoidably blind by making a donation to:
www.justgiving.com/guildfordeyeproject