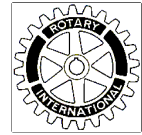




District 1260 International Service
World Community Service
Newsletter No. 3, January 2001



If you want more information about any specific item please contact a member of the International

Have you checked out the District International Service Web Site?

Since the last Newsletter much has happened. Possibly the most important in the clubs has been Christmas. This is a time when clubs are involved with a multiplicity of activities such as collections, playing Farther Christmas, helping with events for the young and the old in their local communities. We are now approaching World Understanding month when our mind turns to our fourth Rotary Objective

“The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace.”

So in addition to sending our greetings to you and your clubs for the year ahead, we also send our best

Since the Last Newsletter

Half Yearly Meeting

Since the last Newsletter we held our half yearly meeting where those attending heard from excellent speakers and we launched the proposals for the Disaster Relief Task Force.

Thanks to my committee and everyone for their support. Especially Peter Meads who after making the arrangements had to leave early to take our guest speaker back to the airport.

Information Technology

The e-group is now up and running and has settled down after a few “Trivia” messages. This is an ideal forum to use if you need any specific support or need information. I would also like more clubs to use it to tell us what they are doing. Guru Guruswamy has been working on the District 1260 International Web site which I am pleased to say is up and running. Regrettably there has been very little response to his request for your thoughts on what you would like to see on it. We will therefore do what we think and hope you will let us have your comments later. The site is also linked to the District Website and many charities.

We intend to keep this site updated and it is hoped that this will be of help and information in the years ahead. Thank you Roger Mundy for your help. The site address is on page 4. *Please give it a try.*

District International Plans Matrix

Guru has also produced his Matrix of clubs International Activities and a summary is on the web site. Has your club sent the information?

Farm Africa

As you are aware the initial Farm Africa goat project could not take place due to withdrawal of support from the Government. However, work is underway on proposals for submission to Foundation for a 3H Grant. This is being led by Bernard Pritchard of the District Foundation Committee. Roy Lester, a member of Ware Club and the District International Committee, will also be giving support.

Disaster Relief Task Force

Alan Cox has so far only received 6 replies from clubs giving names of Rotarians willing to be Disaster Relief contacts in their clubs. Even for Rotary this is a poor response to an activity close to all Rotarians’ hearts. Alan is currently building up the information that we suggested in the proposals and our target is to have some formal arrangements in place before District Assembly on the 10th May 2001.

Responses so far from Amphill and District, St Albans, Aylesbury Hundreds, Hitchin Priory, Chesham and Harpenden.

District Conference

There are two International Aspects of the conference. First the International Stand in the House of Friendship, which I hope you will visit and see various aspects of Disaster Relief.

Second will be the Group Session where we hope to discuss World Community Service and how it meets the Fourth Objective of Rotary, a short presentation of a club project and time for your views.

ROTARY FOUNDATION’S Humanitarian Transportation Grants
See details on page four.

St Albans Priory Help Guides in Kazakhstan

Ken Scott,

Rotary Club of St Albans Priory

At one time I was a member of the committee of Rotarians in Beds / Bucks / Herts which was organising an exchange visit to the UK of about 28 young people from different parts of the former Soviet Union.

Although we were not able to involve Guides on that occasion, we did manage to pay for five Scouts to travel from Bulgaria and to help pay for one girl Scout from Hungary. We had hoped to be able to repeat the exercise - but it was not to be.

Ken says the information about the Hertfordshire Scouts and Guides work in Kazakhstan had immediately fired up the St Albans Priory International Committee who made a small gesture of support for the project.

Ken has sent me an excellent report sent to him by two Guide officials who travelled to Kazakhstan to train prospective leaders and have at least 25 ladies who have taken their promises.

The report was so well received by St Albans Priory Rotarians, that they decided to donate ONE THOUSAND POUNDS to buy equipment or whatever is most needed to help the newly recruited Guiders to set up and run the new units in Kazakhstan.

If you would like more information on this project, I am sure Ken Scott would be pleased to help.

Ken Scott Bus. 01727 869141

Private 01582 768597 Fax 01582 768893

Childrens Hospice in Belaruse

THE ANNE ROBERTS CHILDRENS FUND is an organisation based within District 1260 that has purchased and funded the renovation of a building in Belaruse to form the first Hospice accommodation for Children in the Country.

This is a country which received the worst of the fall out from the Chernobyl Disaster and many children desperately need the assistance such an Hospice can provide.

If you would like to know more about the organisation, contact Les Lee 01494 785076

Classroom in a Box

I have just received information that "Classroom in a Box" has ceased to function.

Please stop any collections and do not send any more money to this charity.

Aquabox Change of Warehouse

All aquaboxes when filled should now be returned to a new Warehouse operated by Wirksworth Club Members.

If you have a box to be returned do not use the Parcel Force prepaid labels addressed to Midland Import Export at Tamworth. Please phone 01629 825178 and ask for a new prepaid label. In the meantime, those boxes not returned are being identified and new labels will be sent out as quickly as possible.

Shelter Box Progress to Date

So far Buckingham, Chesham, Hatfield and Milton Keynes have each sponsored complete boxes. These, together with other donations amount to a total of £2,020.

I thank all the clubs who have supported the project on behalf of Shelter Box.

The Scheme to sleep in the tent at the RIBI conference in Bournemouth is still going ahead. I have already sent sponsor forms to all clubs.

Shelter Box at District Conference

The tent will also be at our Brighton Conference and you will get the chance to sponsor us there.

Dont forget to encourage support in your clubs and bring your contribution from members not attending the conference.

The money raised will go to Shelter Box and Polio Plus.

Millennium Project Progress report

Odessa and Sumy projects have been agreed and we are awaiting paper work to be signed by our Odessa partner club. The Sumi project paperwork is complete and we are now sorting out the financial details with the Foundation.

Sarajevo: the grant has been applied for and some ten weeks after it was sent we have now been asked to clarify some details. This has delayed approval but we still battle on to resolve these projects as quickly as possible.

VSO Contact Numbers

The numbers given in the Project Library are incorrect.
They should read: 0208780 7215 for Fiona Everest
020 870 7289 for Kate Tuck. Fax 020 8780 7376

Bookaid

The project with the guides has now come to an end.
All deliveries should now revert back to 39/41
Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell London SE5 9NR

Tools for Self Reliance

We have been asked by TFSR to concentrate on Quality rather than Quantity due to the high cost of waste disposal.
As there is currently a lack of Storage space it is recommend you make contact first by
Phone 023 8086 9697
Fax 023 8086 8544
e mail tools@gn.apc.org

Need information about other Countries

RIBI now holds names of Rotarians who have some expertise and knowledge in the following areas :
Africa, Albania, Baltic States, Belarus, Russian Federation, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Eastern Europe, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, Scandinavia, Spain, Portugal, France and the Benelux countries.

PC's Wanted

Do you know of family, friends or companies that have any Personal Computers as they are required by Guru for his Old School in Bangalore, India. Phone 01494 728812 or e-mail: b.a.

Pestalozzi Rotary Day

An open day for Rotarians is to be held at the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust on Sunday, 20th May, 2001.
Lunch and Tea provided for a cost of £10.
Further Information from Denise Betteridge Tel: 01424 870444

Mukti Artificial Limbs

There are still many people in India who did not receive the benefits of our Polio Plus work and have lost limbs. I have been advised that demand has outstretched resources and there is an appeal for support. I am advised that a limb can cost as little as £12. All donations go to the project with none used for administration.

Information is a Two Way Street

Whilst I accept that in the week by week business of a club's activities District International Service appear to be of little value or interest to many.

We are here to help and hopefully provide a service of information that may be of interest to you and your members in dealing with the unknown on International matters. We would also like to share your knowledge and experiences - so please let us know what's happening in your clubs.

Since the year started I have only received one club bulletin and that is my own.

Perhaps it is also because I am its editor!!!

RIBI President Norman Proctor Project BESO

If you want a Speaker contact Les Lee 01494 785076

World Community Service

Possibly too late for this year now but for those continuing next year as International Chairman why not find out more about World Community Service. As for the others, why not find out and pass it on to your successor.

World Community Service is really what International Service is all about. The major difference is that WCS works to achieve its objectives of the advancement of International, goodwill, understanding and Peace through **direct action projects** with other countries and Rotary / Rotaract Clubs rather than through the other NGO's we normally deal with. These projects do of course entail more work and take time to set up, but as those clubs in the District who have carried out such projects will agree they are far more rewarding, satisfying and financially more effective if grants can be obtained. Here are various suggestions as to how they can become involved. We have a high involvement and commitment to International Service in RIBI but here are some other possibilities for action

- ◆ Support a project registered in Rotary's WCS Project Exchange.
- ◆ Sponsor a Rotary Volunteer to provide services in the developing world
- ◆ Utilise GSE Team members as resources to identify and implement WCS projects
- ◆ Information provided by Foundation Scholars
- ◆ Foundation Alumni
- ◆ Projects through Twinning and foreign contact clubs
- ◆ Sponsoring or hosting a Youth Exchange Student can facilitate WCS projects
- ◆ Obtain an awareness of how Foundation Grants can assist financing these projects

If you want to know more, contact the District International Service Committee (DISC) . If you are planning to carry out such a project, please let us know!

SACCS

I represented District International at the RIBI Service and Communications Committees Seminar. (SACCS). This is a sort of Half Yearly meeting of District Chairman and I attended the International Session.

We discussed the value of District Assembly and how effective it is. Communications in its widest sense which included the sending in of returns at the end of the year. Another subject was the Project Library - its purpose, user perception and content. The other matter was Disaster Relief and we already seem to be ahead of other districts with our project.

Twining with Germany

Les Rooker on 01642 890801 has names of 6 German Clubs if you are seeking a contact club.

New Clubs

New Clubs have been formed in Benin, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Switzerland, Germany(2), Norway, Spain, Slovenia, Romania(4)

Try the Dist. International Service Website

<http://www.rotary1260.org/users/intnational>

NEW

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION GRANTS

What are they?

The Humanitarian Transportation Grants Program was adopted to fund the shipping of donated humanitarian supplies such as books, clothing or medical equipment to countries in need throughout the world. Goods must be donated to beneficiaries free of charge and must be compatible with local requirements such as electric current or medical laws. The minimum grant request is US\$500 and maximum award will be US\$5,000.

Some Project Ideas:

- Send books to schools in Africa
- Send medical equipment to clinics in South America
- Send vocational training equipment to schools in Eastern Europe
- Send non-perishable food to victims of natural disasters world wide

How are they funded?

Funds come from a special pool of funds established by the donation of unused Humanitarian SHARE District Designated Funds by districts around the world. It is not necessary for a club's district to have contributed to this pool in order to be eligible for a grant. Clubs or districts do not have to contribute matching funds to be eligible.

Because the pool will need continuous donations in order to continue awarding grants, Rotary districts are urged to donate a portion of their unused Humanitarian DDF to Humanitarian Transportation Grants. Contact the SHARE System Senior Coordinator at 847-866-3000 for details on how to donate DDF to the pool.

How can clubs and districts apply for a grant?

Projects are subject to certain criteria. Sponsors should request a copy of the grant application (Pub.No. 117) which contain the complete criteria and can be obtained from the RI Publication Services at tel: 847-866-4600 or fax: 847-866-3276. The application is also available from Service Centers or for download from the web at www.rotary.org.

Applications should be submitted to the Humanitarian Transportation Grants Coordinator at RI World Headquarters. They are considered on a rolling basis throughout the year and there is no deadline for submission.

How can I get more information?

You may contact the Humanitarian Transportation Grants Coordinator, Tiffany Miller, at 1560 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201; tel: 847-866-3448; fax: 847-869-6987 or email: millert@rotaryintl.org