

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE – MEETING 10TH JANUARY 2017

Present:

Robert Boyd-Howell (Chairman), Robin Vickers, Peer Le Fleming, Margaret Griffin, Wendy Jones, Viv Pritchard, Tony Pomeroy, John Bobba, Mary McGeary, John Harris, Neil Fraser.

Apologies:

Alan Holmes, Michael Leadbeater, Caroline Lees

Minutes of Meeting of 13th December

Noted and agreed

Chairman's Remarks

Malawi Books – there has been no contact over the past month
Care International – RB-H to make contact re trustee

Financial Report

£2,600 now available to spend

Juba Project

MG reported that she will be going to South Sudan again in March.

Due to change, the School Certificate exams will now be taken in March rather than January and students will need to return after the long holiday for refresher courses prior to the exam.

At the start of the new academic year, anticipated that there will be 1,000 applications for 250 places.

Donation of £500 received from RC Hythe towards the Teach First Initiative.

St Mary Bredin Church has donated £1,000 to help build a new security wall.

All the donations have been sent via the Salisbury Diocese.

For the Pentangular project, still need to sort out banking details for transferring funds, which will require a dollar account. Investigate possible use of the Salisbury A/C. TP to speak to Dick.

Global Grant application submitted by TP and is currently being assessed.

Syria and Yemen

MM reported that she had investigated possible Syria and Yemen charities but had received advice that the current conflict and political situation makes it very difficult to support small local charities and to get money to the critical areas. There was a discussion about whether we should make a donation through Save the Children Fund which is active. RV to check whether it would be possible to ensure that donation would help Syrian and Yemeni refugees direct; and check on the charity's admin costs.

MM has found a small charity called Rags to Riches which is run by UK expats in Dubai. The charity buys and collects blankets and tailors them into warm clothes for children in Africa and Syria. They have also set up workshops for Syrian widows to provide them with skills and machines to make clothes.

Agreed to donate up to £500 towards Rags to Riches, MM to undertake a trial run with an initial donation of £150 and assess success. She will be visiting Dubai regularly see family.

Other Possible Donations

RB-H to contact Health for All and the Midwifery team to establish whether they will need support for a project in the near future. A £500 donation from the club could attract a District Grant for a further £500.

Next Meeting

A short meeting will be held before the 21st February lunch, at 12.00.