

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held 12th January 2016 at the Cricket Ground

Present. Alan Mepstead, Nan Miller, Leslie Stephenson, Deborah Connolly, Brian Dobinson, Ian Wright, Tim Brett, Brian Wheeler.

Apologies. , Mike Talbot, John Becket

Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th November were approved with all matters arising being covered in this meeting's agenda.

1. **Children's Choir.** This has now become the **BIG SING!**
We are supporting Dan Tomkinson of Christchurch University in an event at the Marlowe in April. 280 children and a 20 piece orchestra. The winner of TCK , Canterbury Voices and possibly the P& O choir will also be performing. Funding of £3,200 in total has been obtained from the Arts Council, Canterbury Council and Rotary. Flyers and Publicity will soon be available
2. **Youth Speaks.** Competition was held 7th January with four teams competing. Winners were Barton Court who now go on to the District final. Brian Dobinson & Dee Mepstead acted as judges and Peter Hermitage as Questioner. AM was MC& Timekeeper.
3. **Schools English speaking competition.** Final is set for Wednesday 10th February 2016 at the Guildhall, with Lady Mayor attending. After semi-finals six teams go on to thjs final to compete for the Brett Cup. Roddy Tynedale-Biscoe and the Inner Wheel are sorting out refreshments. Tim Brett will be away and so unable to present the Brett Cup. AM to ask the President if he will do the honours.
4. **Innovation competition 2016.** **BD** reported. Seven schools have entered so far and another three are possible . All going well.
5. **Student Mentoring.** Tim Brett has been looking at this. Although Kent University have this in place, it may be that Christchurch would welcome the opportunity to help us get involved with local schools. Mock Job interviews, CV writing, Psychological profiling etc. TB will speak to Peter Hermitage who will possibly have an entrée to the right department.
6. **Other Events.**
Vineyards(AM),
Paul Mansfield(TB), Will follow up when it is appropriate.
RAF Memorial (LS next spring) ,
London Gateway(BD) BD is planning this. Will consist of a talk (one hour) and a coach drive around the facility (45 mins) . Tour is free but we will pay for the coach. BD will put a board round.
Dover Tunnels (AM) Quex Park(AM)
Houses of Parliament , Nan Miller to follow up.
We now have a contact for a **Tower Bridge** trip and AM is following up.

Any other Business.

- Tim Brett suggested that in the light of the forthcoming in/out Brexit referendum we should initiate a debate on the merits and or demerits of being in Europe. **AM** will raise at the next Council meeting,

Date of next meeting. February 9th 2016. No meeting December but AM will update all by e-mail as necessary.