

**ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY.**

**VOCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of a meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016 at the Cricket Ground**

**Present:** Alan Mepstead, Leslie Stephenson, Brian Dobinson, Mike Talbot, Nan Miller, Ian Wright, Deborah Connolly, Mary McGearry.

**Apologies.** John Beckett, Tim Brett

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** held on 10<sup>th</sup> May were approved.  
One matter arising – fracking. AM has been unable to find a speaker pro fracking and it was suggested that he should try IGas.
2. **Innovation competition 2016.** BD reported that Final judging is 29<sup>th</sup> June starting 10.00am and at least 9 Rotarians had indicated that they would attend. There are 10 finalists and they will be examined by the judges on their entries. President-Elect Martin Ward together with two judges from Kent University will make the final decision.
3. **Youth Exchange in Rotary.** BD has heard nothing further from District on this.
4. **Programme for next year.**
  - AM is meeting with the other Cluster Groups to promote the idea of pooling resources for the five Rotary district competitions in the next year.
  - We need to evaluate this year's Innovation Competition before deciding what to do next year. It is a considerable amount of work for one person.
  - We will run Youth Speaks and seek to be involved with Big Sing and the ESU Schools Public speaking Competition.
  - We will look at a schools reading assistance project. NM kindly agreed to look at this when her present commitments allow.
  - Dependent on the result of the referendum, consider ways of bringing our young people into contact with theirs.
  - Interact – Possibly with Barton Court. Apparently there is regalia somewhere which we should endeavour to find.
5. **Events.**
  - **Richborough Fort.** As previously reported BD has 16-18 names for this. As far as we know there will be no cost for this other than providing Lunch for David Birmingham and his wife. Date will probably be 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

- **RAF Memorial.** LS has 14 names for this on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Cost is £5 entry and £8.50 Luncheon (This has now taken place and was most interesting and a great success – Thanks are very much due to LS for his organisation.)
- **Town Hall Fordwich.** Deborah is kindly organising this. Date is 18<sup>th</sup> August. Visit to Fordwich Town hall and perhaps the Church. Lunch at the George & Dragon, preceded by a walk.
- **Thames Barge Trip.** BD reported that this is oversubscribed with a waiting list.
- **Chapel Down.** AM is working on a trip to Chapel Down Vineyard in October possibly combined with a visit to Small Hythe Place which was the home of the Victorian Actress Dame Ellen Terry. 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> September or 6<sup>th</sup> October. Cost is £13 or £7.30 for National Trust members. Optional lunch at the Swan restaurant £17 or members can make their own arrangement.
- **National Grid.** We will try to find a contact.
- **A member** has suggested a visit to the tower of London for the Ceremony of the Keys.

#### 6. What are the other committees doing working with young people.

- Community Services are working with St Nicholas School, both on sponsoring a day out and the Duke of Edinburgh awards. They are also been involved with RYLA Awards at Canterbury Academy and the Canterbury Sea Cadets.
- There are also the Millennium Fund and the Pentangular Mini Group Youth Exchange.
- None of these would seem to impact on the present work of Vocational Services but it would be useful to know if and when a crossover takes place. (although maybe St Nicholas could be the catalyst for a Rotary Remedial Reading Scheme.

#### 7. Any other Business. NONE

8. **Date of next meeting.** To fit in more closely with member's holidays this was changed to **19<sup>th</sup> July. 2016 starting 11.45 am** at wherever Rotary luncheon is.