

Canterbury Rotary Club

September 3rd 2013 Minutes for the International Committee

1. Attendance, Rotarians BA, VB, AH. TP (Chairman) and PS.
2. Apologies Rotarians GC and JH.
3. Finance. £6,000 available after Club Council give us £5,000 from the proceeds of Top Choir and the Duck Race. However £1000 is committed to the South Sudan Bursary and £500 to the Kajokeji Educational Trust's Apprentice Training Project in the next six months.
4. The Apprentice Training Project has had a change in venue and will be starting in Liwola in South Sudan in March 2014. The expenses are exactly the same and I have amended the Rotary District Grant application accordingly.
5. Leuven's Orthotics and Prosthetics Educational Project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has arrived- it is the next Joint Pentangular Project (JPP) for 2014- 2016 and is in draft form for a month to allow all Pentangular Clubs time for consultation and only then will Leuven present it in English (to us) and in funding format. All clubs then have to apply for District Designated Funds of 4,000 Euros although Paul Bosmans acknowledges that clubs may get only 30% of that figure- 1,200 Euros. Hopefully within the month my technical problems accessing the Rotary Global Grant Application Process will have been resolved.
6. Noted that the meeting in Leiden in November this year with all the Pentangular Presidents will go ahead and our representatives will be President Geoffrey, President Elect Viv Pritchard and Rosemary Doyle. Our candidate for the 2016/2018 Joint Pentangular project will be the Juba Educational Bursary Project for both girls and boys. Margaret Griffin would be ideal to present our case as she knows the school and the case for Bursaries so well but it depends

on her availability. The cost of the project is 30,000 Euros but Saint Quentin is fielding their own project so we do have competition.

7. I've been in touch with Ivan Chapman the District Funding Officer about the chance of submitting a Global Grant for a new build or restoration work on an existing building at the Juba Model Secondary School and he thinks any building application would be rejected even though the school is on land owned by the Church in South Sudan so there ought to be no disputes about land ownership. His advice is to think about applying for school furniture, books and computers.

8. Newsletter for the Health for All Charity's Micro Credit Programme in the Bihar region of India. This is an interesting example of how small sums of money can have a substantial impact on rural communities.

9. Discussion on other local International Charities we may support. Hope for Romania, the Midwifery Project run by Health for All in Ethiopia and Seeds for Africa were suggested. I have been in touch with Seeds for Africa and it will be on October's agenda. I have also Emailed Health for All about the Ethiopian Midwifery Project.

10. Tool for Self Reliance – Bob has placed fliers in the Kentish Gazette, bowling club, golf club and Bretts which have paid a substantial dividend with quantities tools and his contact for unwanted garden tools has been useful. I did send an Email via Peer to all Rotarians to spread the word.

11. Discussed Daniel O' Shea's request for funding for his trip to Tanzania in July 2014. He has been fund raising and collected £500 so far. There is some community project work involved and he will be visiting Neema Crafts which was set up by the Anglican Church to train disabled young people to be able to work. If we leave this for a couple of months and see how much he has raised perhaps we can consider a donation then?

12. Still waiting for Martin Vye to come back with a suggestion on what we can assist with his International Youth Parliament. I'll Email him.

13. Noted the receipt from Water Aid for our £500 donation.

14. I'll persist with contacting Ashleigh Bell to see how we can assist with her Kenyan Orphanage. The home has 26 children and 6 members of staff and she had two companies in Sweden who donated 1000 Euros each. She does have a website which I will check out. It does seem a worthwhile cause and worthy of our support.

AOB. The humanitarian crisis in Syria was discussed and I promised to scan the Shelterbox web site to find out what their involvement has been. They are involved with "Solidarities International" who specialise in medical aid and assistance in the refugee camps outside Syria. Also with another charity called "Hand in Hand Syria" (HIHS) who distribute ground sheets, blankets, clothes and water inside Syria to those people displaced by the fighting. Perhaps next month we can consider a donation to Shelterbox although we cannot insist the money/box goes specifically to Syria. Apparently one in five schools are no longer functioning due to bomb damage or threats of bombing. Shelterbox has been very active in trying to get aid to both those inside Syria and those who have fled to other countries.

Next International Meeting probably the 8th October 6.30 at the cricket ground.