

# ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY – MEMBERS’ QUESTIONNAIRE

## RESULTS

Number of questionnaires returned = 38

### 1. Your interests:-

Using a scale of 1 (no interest) – 5 (very interested), indicate the degree of your interest

in the following aspects of Rotary:-

Average score

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| a) opportunity to socialise                     | 4.0 |
| b) support local charitable causes              | 4.7 |
| c) support charitable causes in the Third World | 3.7 |
| d) support and develop young people             | 4.2 |
| e) Comments:                                    |     |

*These are what Rotary is about and what we should be doing. Easier to raise funds for local charities but recognise that we are an international organisation. Some concern of corruption in Third World.*

### 2. Meetings:-

Yes No Neutral

- |   |    |    |   |
|---|----|----|---|
| a) Are you generally happy with the present structure of club meetings?                                       | 27 | 9  | 2 |
| b) Are you generally happy with the present arrangement for meals?  | 25 | 11 | 2 |
| c) Do you think it important to retain the present traditional and formal style and content of club meetings? | 20 | 14 | 4 |

d) Comments:

*Meetings too formal, prefer simpler meals/ light lunch/ occasional meeting with no lunch/ one course only for lunch.*

*Need better time keeping, allow time for speakers, restrict business items to business meetings, cramming too many items into meetings*

*Should we review 1.00pm start time?*

*Keep some traditions but less formality, less formal dress code, loyal toast just for special events*

*Cumbersome system of paying for meals*

*Mixed opinions on quality of meals*

*AB not a good alternative venue*

*Fewer speakers/ more business meetings. Suggest 2 lunch + 2 evening meetings a month*

### 3. Other activities:-

- |   |    |    |   |
|---|----|----|---|
| a) Do you think the types and frequency of activities currently organised by the Club is about right?   | 32 | 6  | 0 |
| b) Are there other types of events that you believe the Club should organise?   | 22 | 8  | 8 |
| c) If Y, please state what type:  |    |    |   |
| d) We have had a book club for about 5 years. Would you be interested in any other special interest sections, such as cycling, walking, boating, weekend trips etc? | 13 | 23 | 2 |
| e) If Y, please state what:   |    |    |   |

Comments c) and e)

*Inter club, walking, more fun activities, bat and trap, skittles, quiz evenings, theatre, exhibitions, trips to London, fishing, cycling, sailing, weekend trips, provide a forum for topical issues*

#### 4. Membership:-

- |   |    |   |   |
|---|----|---|---|
| a) Do you think the Club needs to actively seek new members?  | 34 | 3 | 1 |
| b) If Y, how should we target suitable new members?           |    |   |   |
| c) Do you think there are barriers to recruiting new members? | 28 | 8 | 2 |
| d) If Y, what are the barriers?                               |    |   |   |

Comments b) and d)

*Allow spouses, open days, associate membership, personal contacts, contact local businesses, allow flexibility*

*Target newly retired, target local societies, launch campaign, raise profile through local press, General perception for old people, perception of "old boys club", availability at lunchtimes, cost, attitude of existing members, resistance to change, too formal, question of eligibility, imagined "rules"*

*Should not ignore recent success with new recruitment*

#### 5. Communications:-

- |  |    |    |   |
|--|----|----|---|
| a) Do you feel sufficiently well informed about what the club is doing?        | 26 | 12 | 0 |
| b) Do you think the website is an effective way of finding out about the Club? | 25 | 9  | 4 |

Comments:

*Communications: recent improvements, need to keep info up to date,*

*Query whether members use website for info, some members no access to web*

*Council too secretive*

*Members to sit on different committees to get a more rounded understanding of Rotary*

*More information in newsletter. More use of email to inform all members or alert to new info on website*

*Recognise that most enquiries from charities or about membership come via website.*

#### 6. Service:-

- |   |    |   |   |
|---|----|---|---|
| a) In general, do you think the Club is effective at serving our community?       | 31 | 4 | 3 |
| b) How do you think we could improve our service?                                 |    |   |   |
| c) Do you think the Club is effective in fundraising to support charities?        | 25 | 9 | 4 |
| d) What else could we do to raise more funds?                                     |    |   |   |
| e) Do you have any views on how charitable funds should be allocated by the Club? |    |   |   |

*Eg small awards to many organisations or larger awards to fewer*

- |   |    |    |   |
|---|----|----|---|
| f) Do you think we can provide practical help to charities, rather than just money? If so, how? | 20 | 11 | 6 |
|---|----|----|---|

Comments:

*b) Need to understand needs of the community and esp of young people, closer work with other clubs, more press publicity*

*d) Need more innovative ideas, more proactive, half marathon, charity walks*

*e) Too slow in releasing money to charities, do we need to raise more funds?*

*Do we need a more planned approach to charity support? Set annual budgets for committees, Leave as it is, let committees decide,*

*Change ratio of local/ international donations, targeted fundraising, give larger awards to fewer/small grants to help more people, no core funding.*

*f) Practical help – lots of experience in club, many already involved, may be difficult to find new volunteers, management committees, mentoring, working with schools  
Need to be realistic on Members capability, finding volunteers, already at full stretch, other competing charities.*

## **7. The Future:-**

- a) What do you consider to be the main problem/s facing the Club in the longer term, say 5-10 years?

*Ageing, less energetic members, potential rapid reduction in active members in next 5-10 years, need younger members, retain active members.  
Changing attitudes. Move with the times  
Need some members to be more involved/active*

- b) Is there any one change you feel would improve the Club?  
c) Is there anything you personally would like to do to help the Club fulfil the Objects of Rotary?

Comments b) and c)

*Open discussion, review not drawn out, not too bureaucratic, gradual changes only*

- d) Do you think we should embark on a review of the future of the Club?                      16    12    10

## **Any other comments:-**

*Must avoid division in the club by attempts at rapid, top down “reform”,  
No more questionnaires! Resist attempts to “corporatize” the club.*

*General view – it is a good, friendly club,  
Focus on the Objects of Rotary*