

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held 13th October 2015 at the Cricket Ground

Present Wendy Jones, Alan Mepstead, Nan Miller, Leslie Stephenson. Deborah Connolly, Brian Dobinson .John Beckett.

Apologies . Ian Wright, Tim Brett, Mike Talbot.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 15th September were approved with all matters arising being covered in this meeting's agenda.

1. **Children's Choir.** Following our last meeting, Council had approved expenditure up to £500, and a further £500 if necessary, but since then Kerry Boyle has come back to us. She has received an e-mail from Dan Tomkinson at Christchurch University who is targeting local primary schools for a project involving workshops and rehearsals for a BIG sing event to be held at the Marlowe Theatre in April 2016 with 300 children and an 18 piece orchestra.

Peter Hermitage and AM met with Kerry and Dan to discuss the project and ways in which we could help. Dan has approached 30 schools and is hoping for a take up of from 10 to 20 of them. Cost of hiring the Marlowe is £5,400 and the orchestra another £2700. Programme should be self-financing. He will need to sell 700 tickets at an average of £12 per ticket. His application to the Canterbury Arts Council had been turned down because it was not an ongoing event. It was agreed that he should reapply as the intention is to foster interest for a permanent children's choir. We will check his application before it goes in. He has already made application to the Lottery fund. It is hoped that the event will in fact make a profit but it was suggested that we should both try to find sponsors who would be prepared to underwrite any loss.

We will try to get the winners of TCK to perform and perhaps the P& O choir to bolster the event. We will help with publicity and ticket sales and helping to find a suitable compere. We can provide chaperons on the day (CRB check not required for a one day event). We will support to £500 and possibly beyond.

2. **Youth Speaks.** Simon Langton Girls' School have asked to enter the Rotary Youth Speaks competition. This is a District event with the finals in Maidstone next May. AM has therefore sent out to 10 Secondary schools, a pack with the details, rules etc. and a covering letter inviting them to enter. Closing date is 31st October. If there are no further entries SL Girls can go forward as our Canterbury entry. Otherwise a hurried competition will need to be held.
3. **Schools English speaking competition.** No date yet set but will be later in February. ESU are having difficulty contacting Guidhall.
4. **Innovation competition 2016.** BD has written to all concerned. The welcome page is slightly amended. Gerry Warren at the Kentish Gazette has indicated their willingness to be involved. Poster needs to be updated. He is trying to make contact with the Principal of the Innovation Department at Kent University but there has been a change of Personnel. He has asked Sunrise and Forest of Blean if they wish to participate (both have subsequently declined). Entries by 31 March 2016 with the final in June.
5. **CV/Interview training.** To await return of Tim Brett.

6. **Young Musician of the year.** District competition. Await the outcome of Primary Schools concert.
7. **Fungi Walk.** BD reported present total 14. AM has subsequently booked for that number at the Royal Oak in Blean.
8. **Other Events.** Vineyards (AM), Paul Mansfield (TB), RAF Memorial (LS next spring), National Grid (BD) House of Commons (WJ) Dover Tunnels (AM) Quex Park (AM)
9. **Any other Business .** None
10. **Date of next meeting.** November 10th 2015