



**Rotary International District 1220
International Committee
Newsletter – August 2012**

Gail's Comments

Since I circulated the first International Newsletter in March this year I have received a lot of very positive feedback from Rotarians across the District - for which I would like to place on record my thanks.

Whilst making contact with such a lot of clubs over recent months, collating information for the International Return and reading the Club Assembly Reports showing plans for the forthcoming year, I have really noticed the variety of the projects being undertaken by Clubs in the district. As I have said before I do want to showcase these projects for the benefit of other clubs, sharing the knowledge, experience and contacts as widely as possible. I know that DG Dave also shares this wish.

Please keep letting me have copies of your International Committee minutes and newsletters because it is through reading these that I can get a better understanding of what clubs are doing.

*Please enjoy the newsletter.
Yours in Rotary friendship*

Gail

Sand Dams Update

Since a representative from Sand Dams made a presentation to the International break-out group at the District Assembly, it would seem that there is beginning to be a wider interest in this charity. At least four clubs in the District are considering becoming involved in a Sand Dams project during this Rotary year.

If you would like to know more about these long term sustainable water projects please let me know and I will supply you with all the information you need to get involved. Don't forget to make a note in your diary that Richard is coming to speak to us at the International Projects Fair and Dinner on the 1st November. He will give us an update on what is happening with the charity.

Gail

International Projects Fair and Dinner

Thursday, 1st November 2012

at

The Novotel, Bostocks lane, Long Eaton, NG10 4EP

◇ Club Project stalls ◇

◇ International Charity displays ◇

(Stalls open from 6.00pm Set up from 5.30pm)

◇ 3 course dinner with coffee - £17.00p ◇

Presentations by

“Sand Dams”

&

“Save the Children”

To reserve your place at the dinner please send completed booking form with appropriate payment to before 25th October 2012 please

Rotarians and Non-Rotarian guests welcome

Cheques with your application please. Please find booking forms below.

Rotary International District 1220

International Projects Fair and Dinner

Name of Rotarian/guest attending	Rotary Club	Cost
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
		Total £

Please make cheque payable to “Rotary International District 1220”.

***Please return to Rtn Gail Ashley,
11 Westbury Gardens, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 1LD***

*Extracts from a letter from Rotarian Cheryle Berry
Vice President and Chair of International Committee
The Rotary Club of Clay Cross*

Dear Gail,

As promised, I enclose some information about the Orpanage Village, in Kerala, Southern India, which I visited for two weeks in Jan/Feb this year.

During my stay I taught first aid to the housemothers and older children, as well as helping with other jobs. Before I went I showed our Clay Cross Rotarians the work of the Hope Community Village and they were very supportive, giving me £250 to buy something for the children. I was not sure what they needed and waited till I got to India and met them.

I discovered that the children had only one small, very rusty bicycle between all 60 of them. They told me that many children could not even ride a bicycle and that it would be so helpful to cut down the time they travel to school. A nearby town had a cycle shop and I was delighted that the Clay Cross donation bought five bicycles and money to build a cycle shed plus repair kits. It was wonderful to see and hear the excitement when the cycles arrived at Hope Village and how quickly they learned to ride them.

I am going back in January 2013 for a month, to update the first aid training in the community village and go out into the nearby villages to teach them. I am the chair of the County Priory Group for St. John Ambulance, Derbyshire and hope to make contact with St. John Ambulance, India before I go.

Cheryle Berry.



Note from Gail.

Some time after Cheryle returned home, the first aid training that she had given to the housemothers was put to very good use when one of the children began choking. The housemother gave the treatment as Cheryle had instructed preventing potentially disastrous consequences.

Nepal Project

Rtn Joyce Buxton, The Rotary Club of Bakewell

The aim of this project is to help the school and village at Suntakhen and Bhin Devi. The village is situated 21 km north of Kathmandu in the remote foothills of the Himalayas, where access is difficult, particularly during the monsoon season.

The people are very poor but keen that their children should receive a good education, seen as a passport out of poverty. Some children can walk up to 7 miles a day to attend school, where the facilities are very basic for the 350 pupils. Children sitting on the floor, few desks and even less books. Only the boys had toilets. Over the last few years, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Kathmandu Metro we have improved many aspects of life here:-

- Provided tables and chairs for the school – made by local craftsmen
- Provided £1,000 for books to cover the curriculum.
(A District Simplified Grant was used in both these projects.)
- Provided school uniforms for all age groups with Bakewell funding the purchase of the materials and Kathmandu providing sewing machines for the villagers to make them.
- Provided a science cupboard for the safe storage of science equipment.
- We have renovated the school buildings
- Provided library shelving, free transport to and from school,
- Provided a water filtration system to provide safe, clean water for the village,
- Provided stand pipes and toilet facilities for all the children at school.

As a result of the assistance given the local people now take a much greater pride in their community and a more active role in the running of the village, having formed a Village Council and generally being more proactive in the community and village life. Kathmandu Metro supervise the spending of all monetary donations made so that we have full control over how every rupee is spent.

During the Rotary year 2012 – 13 we have allocated a further £500 for projects within the school. I shall be visiting the village in September to see the way the village, the school and the community in general have benefitted from our donations and to identify any further areas where assistance would be useful.



School Aid
Richard Benfield, RC of Derby

The School Aid charity is not a Rotary International initiative but one that has been identified as a worthy cause for us Rotarians to support. Initially it was included as a charity to support via one of Derby club's fund raising events and last year a donation of over £700 was made. One of the charity's speakers travelled up to Derby and elaborated on the scheme at one of the club's weekly lunches.

Subsequently, on visiting their website (<http://www.school-aid.org/>) it was noted that of the many contributing schools around the UK there were none based in the East Midlands. The club's International Service Committee discussed the potential of providing a more hands-on approach by brokering a collections service for schools in and around Derby area.

After first checking with sister Derwent Group clubs to ensure there was no conflict of interest, letters were sent to the librarians at twelve secondary schools. Four schools have responded positively and book collections commenced in July 2012.

One of the key features of this process is that those members volunteering to collect books only have to deliver them to a shop in Derby. School Aid has an arrangement with

a toy shop chain, The Entertainer, which has an outlet in the Westfield Centre. The group has a main distribution depot near to School Aid's warehouse in Buckinghamshire. So any collected resources can be shipped back via returning trucks that would otherwise be predominantly empty.

The most positive aspect of this relationship with the charity is that the club's members can donate their time (and minor fuel expense!) rather than money. It facilitates the recycling of educational resources for the benefit of those in need, especially Africa. This club's main international objective is to support educational projects there as a medium to long term process to help the continent continue to tackle its countless difficulties.

The charity has stressed a need for more early-years' books/materials. To this end the club will be approaching primary schools in the area commencing in the autumn term. If any other clubs can contribute to this then please contact the author .
bennamenna@yahoo.co.uk.

The logo for School Aid features the words "School Aid" in a red, stylized font. The letter "o" in "School" is replaced by a silhouette of a giraffe.

What do they do? School Aid sends schoolbooks and other educational resources direct to schools in need. They collect all these materials in the UK from schools and other donors. They provide this international recycling service with the help of people like us who give donations and sponsor transport and shipping. Their School Aid volunteers collect, sort and pack the boxes for each school before shipping them to African ports.

Note from Gail

I chose these three projects for the Newsletter as each one shows how we can seek "Peace through Service" as defined by the RI President Sakuji Tanaka, in the projects that are undertaken by clubs in the District. Thanks to Cheryle, Joyce and Ben for taking the time to prepare the items. It would be great if I was to receive further similar items from other clubs for the next Newsletter.

Should anyone be interested in assisting in any of these projects please contact either me or the writer of the article.

Available Speakers within District 1220

Rotary Jaipur Limb

Rtn Peter Swinscoe, Rotary Club of Worksop

Rtn David Ashley, Rotary Club of Belper and Duffield

Rtn Keith Jones, Hope Valley

Shelter Box

Rtn. Peter Swift, Rotary Club of Eckington and District

Water Aid

Rtn. John Bendall, Rotary Club of Nottingham

Remit

Rtn Roger Pursey, Rotary Club of Kirkby in Ashfield

District International (general)

Rtn Gail Ashley, Rotary Club of Belper and Duffield

Aquabox

Various speakers from RC of Wirksworth

Coordinator - Rtn Lorraine McGlone, Rotary Club of Wirksworth

International Committee members

Rtn Gail Ashley	Rotary Club of Belper and Duffield Tel: 01773 823357 Mob: 07702885782 Email: dave.gailashley@tiscali.co.uk
Rtn Ingrid Pears	Rotary Club of Nottingham Tel: 01623 824881 Mob: 07803 048747 Email: ingrid@ingridpears.com
Rtn Keith Jones	Rotary Club of Hope Valley Tel: 01246 297536 Mob: 07927 177717 Email: keithjones100@gmail.com
Rtn Jake Jackson	Rotary Club of Eckington & District Tel: 01246 430372
Rtn John Spence	Rotary Club of Vale of Belvoir Tel: 01159 335949 Mob: 07855 806708 Email: jandrspence@btinternet.com
Rtn John Fell	Rotary Club of Derby Tel: 01335 370297 Mob: 07764 207888

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Rtn Cheryle Berry

Rotary Club of Clay Cross

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Rtn Jill Bethell

Rotary Club of Drone Valley

Tel: 01246 413276

Email: jillbethell@doctors.org.uk

Rtn Roger Summers
(A.G.Liaison)

Rotary Club of Amber Valley

Tel: 01773744464

Email: rps@w3z.co.uk

Note:

The above details are provided for the use of Rotarians within the District and should not be used for any other purpose