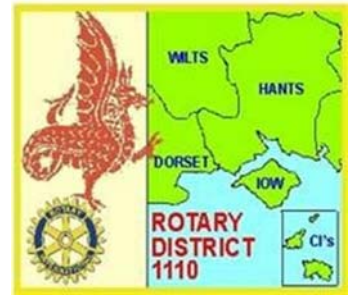




International Service News

D1110 Chairman Dennis Meadus
Newsletter No 10 August 2009



Urgent Appeal

Did you know that institutes catering for young people with disabilities are, every 5 years, obliged to routinely replace millions of pounds worth of sophisticated equipment? Most of the items are still fully serviceable but are simply cut up for scrap.

RC Alton is trying to help someone to ensure that this valuable equipment is made available for disabled young people in a poor country. They would welcome your Club's support.

Colin Budd, acts voluntarily as British Consul Warden in Sucre, Bolivia. Through his work he became aware that the ETI project, a charity supporting people with disabilities, was in desperate need of equipment. 400 people attend their school/college where they are helped and taught how to survive in a society ignorant to their needs.

On one of his return trips to UK Colin Budd heard about all this perfectly good equipment that routinely had to be thrown away. He contacted and met with Principals from very large colleges specialised at caring for students with disabilities. He got 3 colleges to agree to donate, at the end of each term, all their obsolete beds, bedding, physio equipment, mattresses, shower chairs, manual hoists and much more for use in Bolivia. Colin Budd estimates that the value of the equipment over a 12 month period, from these three colleges alone, is worth over one million dollars. ETI were very excited at this news but of course found they were unable to raise the money to collect and ship the items.

This is where RC Alton came in. Rtn Dave Johns knew Colin Budd and what he was trying to do, so got him to speak to the Club. RC Alton are now hoping that other Clubs will join them in making this 'Bolivian Dream' come true.

Alton Rtn Barry Boyson has agreed to make a site available on his farm for a container to receive the items. Now about £6,500 is needed to cover the cost of collection from Colleges, interim storage facilities, collection and shipment from Alton and delivery to Sucre.

ETI is already supported by a Belgian Rotary Club and steps are afoot to make links with them and Rotarians in Sucre. But there is an **urgent** need for some immediate funds to secure the equipment that has already been promised. The Colleges have to be cleared of the equipment before the end of August. £600 would pay for the collection of the donated equipment and £1000 would pay for a second-hand container to be used as storage. (better than renting one as donations will continue every term).

If your Club would like to help this exciting initiative please contact Rtn Dave Johns, RC Alton. Tel 01420 83296; Email davemjohns@aol.com

Message from ISC Chairman Dennis

Following your attendance at the District Assembly on 9.5.09 and receipt of the Changeover Special edition of the International Service News the same day, I am sure all Club International Chairmen are fully prepared and actively working on projects for this new Rotary Year. We do of course still have to consider the last Rotary

Year and R.I.B.I. have sent direct to each International Chairman a blue feedback form to complete for last year. Please post this to me as soon as possible, if you have not already done so. My address is on page 13 of the District Directory under Tennis.

The 3-H Project in Brazil is progressing well. A full time project manager has been appointed this week and a bi lingual website

is being developed for use in this district and district 4670 in Brazil. The first of 20,000 native trees were planted on the river banks in June and another planting event will take place on July 16th. A motor cycle has been presented to the Environmental Police Brigade, together with several flat bottom boats all to be used in patrolling the upper reaches of the River Gravatai for the purposes of enforcing the laws concerning pollution and excessive water extraction by rice farmers.. Work on monitoring the River is underway, with the help of three local universities from Cachoeirinha, Gravatai and Alvorada. They are developing surveys to be used with the local population concerning environmental issues. If any club would like an update talk on the project, with slides, then please contact me.

Literacy is once again one of the R.I. President's emphases which he has asked us to support. He has asked clubs to support a project that can help the poor and needy of society to learn to read and this District has adopted the Literacy Box Trust as the preferred project. The Trust is supported by RIBI with the object of providing educational and other relevant supplies to enable teachers and their pupils in Zambia.

Relevant literature has been provided to all clubs. I have a number of sample display boxes which show the materials required for 25 pupils at a cost of £250. If a club would like any more information or one of the display boxes then please contact me. Some clubs have come up with the good idea of asking members to support one child at £10 a time for a year's schooling.

This project is now our District primary Literacy project and so far the District has raised £6,257. I would like to try and make this £10,000 by the end of this Rotary Year.

Dennis Meadus, District International Chairman

PS Please note that Dennis is D1110 Literacy Box Organiser, not Dorothy Dye as shown in the District Directory.

Shoebox Spin-off.

You will have read in D1110 Rotary News that Group 8 clubs have established links with Romanian schools in areas where Shoeboxes were distributed. Following the successful visit by teachers from Medgidia & Constanta, IOW Clubs now plan to bring a group of pupils to stay in the Island.

Contact Details update

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Dorothy Dye, Wheelchair Fdn Organiser.

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It's a small world

Australian Bush Fires - follow up.

The Bush Fires in Australia featured in ISC Newsletter 8 and D1110 Clubs responded.

John Billingham, RC Locks Heath wrote. *"My son- in-Law is a member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne and he (and my daughter) with members of RCM has been in the front line in the effected areas. There has been a good immediate response with gifts off food, toiletries and clothing from big Stores and Public – but – there is much more that Rotary can do in the next stage. Though Melbourne is a big Club the Clubs in the Fire areas are small and have provided over the years many community facilities such as Halls for general use, recreational Parks and picnic areas. These efforts are largely gone.*

From what my Son-in Law says any contribution would help replenish their dwindling coffers."

RC Newport contributed AU\$1000 and SVP Alan Carson, sent this feedback from his daughter; *" Dear Dad, Just to let you and the Newport Rotary Club know, that today I attended the Melbourne Rotary Club lunch to present them with your raised funds of AU\$1000 for the Bushfire Recovery Fund Appeal.*

As you know, their club is a little larger than yours (over 300 members!) and so I had to stand up at the talking podium and say a few words about why I was there. I



mentioned that a number of you Rotarians have visited Australia, including Melbourne and so felt affected by the news of devastation and lives lost during the bushfires earlier this year.

Everyone was very interested to hear why I was there and about all your good work. The cheque was accepted by Mev Connell (Chairman of the Bushfire Recovery Committee), who asked me to pass on his thanks and appreciation. He said he will email



you some photographs of the handing over of the cheque (maybe so you have proof that I did give it to them and didn't go out shopping!!)

When I asked Mev if they had any plans as yet for the money this particular fund has raised, he said that so far it has mainly gone towards counselling services for the victims, families of the victims and others directly and indirectly involved. Other money has gone towards buying chainsaws and other tools to help clear the devastated areas, which once finished with will then go on to be used in other clean-up projects in Australia and around the world.

The Red Cross has also raised millions of dollars for this cause and along with private insurers are managing immediate issues such as temporary housing and future concerns such as rebuilding costs etc., but invariably they cannot tend to every person's needs in a crisis like this.

This is where the money you have raised will come in. A little further down the track, when a need, such as counseling is discovered that hasn't yet been met, the Rotary Bushfire Recovery Committee will step in to offer their help, money and expertise. I guess you could look at it as "filling in the gaps" for the community.

Anyway, well done to everyone who donated and helped raise the money. Love Donna

Wheelchairs for Nepal



You will recall the appeal by RC Portsmouth and Southsea to help meet their goal of sending 110 wheelchairs to Nepal.

RC's of Jersey, Amesbury, Southbourne & Boscombe and Romsey were amongst those who have already contributed. In all £10,000 was raised which with the DSG applied for will reach the target of £11,000.

Dorothy was able to report to the D1110 ISC that National Organiser Milton Fray is now starting the process to ship the wheelchairs. It is planned that a Rotary group will go to Nepal in March to participate in the distribution. Dorothy will be contacting D1110 Clubs to see if anyone would like to join the group. Milton Fray is putting a pack together and there will be a Wheelchair Foundation stand at the District Conference.

RC Guernsey rethink Shoebox funded Project

Nigel J Dorey reported to DISC that their Bikes4Africa project had hit problems. DISC approved RC Guernsey's proposal that the £780 allocated to them, should be used for another Project. The Just Children Foundation (UK) is a registered charity which raises funds and supports the work of the Just Children Foundation centres in Zimbabwe. The centres in Zimbabwe look after some of the most vulnerable, poor, and needy children in the world by providing them with food, accommodation, education, and hope.

The Foundation raises funds to meet the day-to-day expenses of feeding, clothing and educating hundreds of children in Zimbabwe, and paying for the staff to look after them. They also raise money for specific projects such as the new orphanage for babies in Chitungwiza, and new housing for children at the Faith and Hope centre. The trustees travel regularly to Zimbabwe to see the work on the ground.

Connecticut Trophy



At the last District Council meeting members of the D1110 International Service Committee accepted this RIBI Trophy from DG Nigel Barnfield. The trophy is awarded annually to the district making the maximum progress in International Service during the preceding Rotary year.

The award reflects the efforts of all the Clubs in D1110 and it is hoped that it will be seen at as many Clubs as possible.

Currently DISC members are taking the Trophy around the Clubs of Group 8 IOW. (Seen Here at RC Newport).

