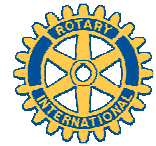




District 1080 International Service 2009/10

Helping and strengthening International Service within the clubs



MARCH NEWSLETTER

From Rtn. Richard Pither Chair International Committee
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Don't forget HAITI The response from clubs in 1080 has been outstanding and the total of donations for immediate relief currently stands at over £130,000 including 252 Shelterboxes. However it is clear that a great deal of further help will be needed and the RIBI Disaster Fund will be channelling funds towards more permanent solutions. One possibility is that they may be funding an orphanage which would respond to 2 Rotary concerns – “the general plight of the country” and the particular need “to keep the children safe from trafficking”. Clubs who are considering the longer term needs may like to support the RIBI fund now, or perhaps set aside any funds until the picture is clearer. (The next newsletter will include any more specifics from RIBI).

In the meantime all clubs will shortly be receiving a conference refund of £3.50 per capita. Clubs are free to use this money as they wish but they might like to consider a donation to RIBI Haiti Disaster Fund might – perhaps awaiting more news on the orphanage proposal.

Please keep me updated on any further Haiti donations and also contact me if you would like the latest totals.

EARTHQUAKE in CHILE Three days in and the extent of damage is only just emerging but the Chilean government has listed *water and tents* as some of the top requirements. All the Rotary box schemes would answer these needs and Shelterbox have already mobilised a consignment of 448 boxes for Chile. If you club decides to collect for Chile please do let me have details of the outcome.



A DISTRICT 1080 PROJECT FOR THE ROTARY YEAR 2010/2011

1080AID is the latest initiative from your International Service Committee. District 1080 will be working with Aid to Hospitals Worldwide, a Bury St Edmunds based charity, that recycles and reuses hospital and other equipment for distribution to some of the world's poorest countries. Clubs will have the opportunity to support Aid to Hospitals Worldwide in the following “avenues of service”.

- **Recycling** – there will be opportunities for sourcing surplus medical and other equipment.
- **Refurbishment and dispatch** – Rotarian can offer a wide range of skills for refurbishment and for general warehouse service. The warehouse provides a certified training course for life challenged people with learning difficulties.
- **Fundraising** – clubs will be able to organise fundraising activities to assist A2HW extend their work.
- **Consignment overseas** – clubs that already have contacts in developing countries will be able to assess requirements and arrange consignments with A2HW
- **Service overseas** – Rotarian volunteers will have the opportunity to assist with the delivery and installation of equipment overseas.

This is a project for the coming year which will be launched at the International breakout session of the District Assembly at Mildenhall on 10th April. Make sure that your club is represented when full details will be announced.

JOHN GRANT TROPHY The 4 pages of International news in the latest Rotary East are all based on last year's nominations for the trophy and this is the copy that should be seen by the public across the District. To get this sort of publicity for you club's project make sure that it is submitted for the next award!

Have you got a news item that might be of interest to other clubs? If so please let me know.

Diary dates for International meetings around the District

Please check details with the club before travelling.

Mon 15 th Mar (eve)	<i>Reepham RC</i> – I shall be updating them with the latest developments on 1080 in Zambia, the water and sanitation project where clubs in this District have already changed the lives of over 1,500 people.
Mon 22 nd Mar (eve)	<i>Ipswich Wolsey RC</i> – a presentation featuring areas of focus for International projects.
Thur 25 th Mar (eve)	<i>Felixstowe Landguard RC</i> – an introduction to 1080AID
Mon 29 th Mar (lunch)	<i>Swaffham RC</i> – Mark Little will be speaking about Child Slavery in the modern world.
Tues 30 th Mar (eve)	District Council Mildenhall – International Briefing at 6 pm. Book for the meal through your club secretary.
Wed 31 st Mar (eve)	<i>Norwich RC</i> – Annual public lecture at UEA; INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT TO 2050. Professor Paul Lewis will be addressing the environmental and development causes to prevent new conflicts.
Sat 10 th April	<i>DISTRICT ASSEMBLY</i> – <i>make sure that your club is represented at the International Service session including 1080AID and all the other priorities for the new Rotary year.</i>

Have you arranged an International meeting that might be of interest to other clubs? If so please let me know. Would you like an International speaker? If so please let me know.

Have you got an International query? If so, the chances are that one of us on the District Committee might be able to assist – if not I probably know where to ask.

Very best wishes.

Richard Pither