

DISTRICT 1010

Youth Opportunities
Community and Vocational Handbook
2008 - 09



District 1010 Handbook 2008-9
Comm. Voc./Youth Opportunities

Youth Opportunities and Community and Vocational Services Committee Contacts.

Youth Opportunities.

Chairman – Brian Raine

East Mayfield, 19, Gannochy Road, Perth PH2 7EF ; Tel. 01738 635516 (H)

Email – brraine@btinternet.com

Interact – George Berstan

Faithlie, Victoria Terrace, Turriff Aberdeenshire AB53 4EE; Tel. 01888 562392 (H)

Email – berstan@faithlie18.freeserve.co.uk

RYLA – Arthur Taylor

Clan-Ay, Westfield Road, Inverurie AB51 3QX: Tel. 01467 621044 (H)

Email – t333art@tiscali.co.uk Mobile. 07775954101

Youth Exchange – Graham McMurdo

76, Woodlea Park, Sauchie, Alloa FK10 3BQ: Tel. 01259 213246 (H)

Email – macuncle@btinternet.com

Community & Vocational Services

Chairman – David Cruickshank

Logie Newton, Huntly, Aberdeenshire AB54 6BB Tel. 01464 841229 (H&W)

Email – davidln@aol.com Mobile 07765232438

Environment – Chris Combe

Corra Linn, Upperhempriggs, Forres, Moray IV36 2UB Tel.01343 850087 (H)

Email – chris@combe60.fsnet.co.uk

Literacy – Hilary Gordon

Woodlands, Polesburn, Methlick, Ellon AB41 7DU Tel.01651 806283 (H)01224 712735 (W)

Email – mail@hilary.org.uk

Challenge Enterprise - Jenny Shirreffs

72, Gray St. Aberdeen AB10 6JE Tel. 01224 321998 (H)

Email - jennys72@hotmail.co.uk

Primary Schools Quiz - Iain Matthews

The Gables, Auchterlees, Turriff AB53 8BA; Tel. 01888 562137 (W) 01888 511354 (H)

Email - info@imfoods.co.uk

Introduction

District 1010 is continuing with the Comm. Voc. and Youth Opportunities working together, which we started in 2007, as there is a natural synergy with a number of overlapping activities. This fits in well, also, with the Club Leadership Plan where responsibility for projects lies with one committee.

Within our two areas of Rotary there are too many projects for us and, indeed, individual clubs to consider and within this handbook we will focus on the main areas that have proved to be successful in District 1010 as well as the focus of our RI President DK Lee 'Make Dreams Real for the World's Children'

Projects supported by RIBI are contained in the Opportunities to Serve library, which is available through the RIBI website.

Youth Opportunities

DK Lee's Rotary theme this year focuses very clearly on Youth and, although the immediate feeling would be that this is an area for International, it is also meant to be directed at Youth in your community. Reducing youth mortality is key to this theme but there are many other aspects that can be tackled within each of our Rotary Club areas. Youth is the future not just for Rotary but for all of us. Working to strengthen our opportunities for youth helps ensure that a new generation of responsible, ethical and volunteer minded young people will be raised within our communities and, hopefully, feed into our Rotary Clubs. Young people are our link to the future of Rotary and a vision of hope that the Rotary promises will be fulfilled.

As a joint Comm. Voc./ Youth Opportunities Committee we are seeking to raise the awareness of Rotarians, young people and those that work with young people, of the opportunities offered to promote community service, to facilitate greater International understanding; identify and develop the leaders of tomorrow; recognise and celebrate the achievements of young people through Interact clubs, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA), Youth Exchange and a range of cultural and sporting activities. We will actively facilitate the promotion of the wide range of Youth Opportunities to enable young people of all ages to enjoy the challenges offered and to develop strong bonds of friendship with other participants & develop a regular and on-going dialogue with young people to help them articulate and realise their hopes, dreams and expectations. .

There is no intention of reinventing the wheel as District 1010 has a superb menu in Youth Projects to work with but, as with all good ideas, we need to revisit them continuously to ensure we are doing the best for our youth. In addition, we need to try out new ideas & I am sure that there are many such ideas in our District that could benefit others if only we communicated them and shared good practice. We would like an open forum of discussion to develop, continually, the excellent work happening at Club and Zone level that could develop into new District Competitions...any ideas from any of you would be absolutely brilliant and I hope to hear of all the things you are all doing. It is always the case that the things you do well are the things others could emulate and this in itself will help us build a larger menu of opportunities for our youth.

If your club has an idea for the development of new Opportunities please contact any of our Committee on the numbers provided. Targeting the children of our communities as well as those world wide is the best dream that Rotary can realise and I am confident that all Rotarians will rise to the challenge of 'Making Dreams Real for the World's Children'.

Youth Exchange

RI's Youth Exchange programme sends literally 'thousands' of students aged between 15 and 25 years of age, on the adventures of a lifetime. The challenge and the rewards of living in another land and experiencing another culture means Rotary's Youth Exchange programme will enable participants to discover themselves and obtain a broader view of the world and its inhabitants.

History

Youth Exchange began as an effort that involved only a few clubs.

The first documented exchanges were initiated by the Rotary

Club of Copenhagen in 1929 and involved only European participants. These European exchanges continued until World War II and resumed after the war in 1946. Exchanges between clubs in California, USA, & Latin American

countries began in 1939 and exchange activities spread to the eastern United States in 1958. The first multi district Youth Exchange activity, known as the Eastern States Student Exchange programme, was formed in the United States in 1962. In 1972 the RI Board of Directors agreed to recommend Youth Exchange to clubs worldwide as a worthwhile international activity; still administered by clubs, districts, and multi district groups, the programme has grown to include approximately 80 countries and more than 7,000 students each year.

Eligibility

The Youth Exchange programme is open to all qualified students ages 15-25 (including children of Rotarians). Qualified applicants are academically above average, articulate and demonstrate community leadership skills. When selecting exchange candidates, be sure not to overlook students with disabilities or those from economically disadvantaged families. The programme can be adapted to fit the needs of any student who qualifies.

Types of programmes

Long-term exchanges usually last an academic year, during which the student lives with more than one family in the host country and attends school there. Open to 15-18 year olds for between 9-12 months. Usually living with three or four host families. Pocket Money is provided by the host Rotary club, but travel and insurance is the responsibility of the student's family.

Short-term exchanges vary from several days to several weeks; they take place, mainly, when school is not in session and usually do not include an academic programme. Short-term exchanges generally involve a home stay experience with a family in the host country, but they can also be organized as international youth camps, which bring together students from many countries.

New Generations Exchange is open to young people between the ages of 18 and 25 and gives young adults the opportunity to do voluntary work or gain work experience in another country. These exchanges may be organised for groups or individuals and last for 3 weeks to 3 months.

Camps & Tours take place, usually, in Europe and can be cultural, study or activity based; there are around 2 or 3 weeks and often include home hosting.

Interact

Why should your Rotary club sponsor an Interact club?

Organizing an Interact club is one of the most rewarding activities a Rotary club can undertake in its community. The Interact programme gives Rotarians the opportunity to mentor dynamic young men and women who want to provide service in their communities and in the global community. Rotarians serve as resources for Interactors who will become tomorrow's parents, business professionals and community leaders.

In turn, an Interact club can bring new energy to a Rotary club, inspire fresh ideas for service, increase support to projects and spread knowledge of Rotary into other sectors of the community. Interactors, with the experience they have gained through this Rotary programme, make exceptional future Rotaractors and later Rotarians.

Are Interact clubs always based at secondary schools?

An Interact club can be school-based or community-based. A community-based Interact club may draw members from several different schools. The Rotarian advisor must attend every meeting of a community-based club. A school-based club is subject to the policies and regulations governing all other organizations of that particular school. In most instances, a faculty advisor — who may or may not be a Rotarian — is appointed to work with the Interactors. In the case of a school-based club, the Rotarian advisor is only required to attend the Interact club's board meetings.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

What's it all about?

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards are designed to develop the leadership skills of young people with potential. This nurtures the skills of the future leaders of our community and helps those who may need some further encouragement to exploit their leadership skills.

The course takes place at the Abernethy Trust, Nethy Bridge and the Convener is Arthur Taylor who is also the male Camp Leader with Hilary Gordon as the female Camp Leader. Instruction is given by the staff of the Abernethy Trust who are fully qualified in all areas covered. Volunteer Rotarians act as Councillors during each of the week sessions. Activities at the Centre are physically challenging and include abseiling, rock climbing, hill walking, canoeing and other water sports (depending on weather conditions).

The course includes:

- The fundamentals of leadership
- Ethics of positive leadership
- Importance of communication skills in effective leadership
- Problem solving and conflict management
- Building self confidence and self esteem
- Elements of community and global citizenship
- What Rotary is and what it does for the local community

The course costs £410 and, in accordance with Rotary International rules, this fee should be borne entirely by the sponsoring Rotary Club. In order to comply with Child Protection policies all candidates MUST be at least 15 years of age and under the age of 17 years and 363 days of age during their time at Nethy Bridge.

Most clubs are already involved with RYLA already sending at least one candidate but if you would like more information contact Arthur Taylor.

Youth Speaks

Public speaking is a very useful skill and many Clubs run some sort of competition for young people. There is a formal national competition called Rotary Youth Speaks which again starts at club level and proceeds from there to District and Regional finals and then to a National Competition held on the 25th. April 2009. There is an intermediate competition for 11-13 year olds and a senior one for the 14-17 age group on 31st. August 2008. Each team consists of three participants (chairperson, speaker and the proposer of the vote of thanks). There is full information on the RIBI website under Youth Opportunities.

Rotary Young Chef

Cooking a healthy meal is an important life skill.

Rotary Young Chef aims to encourage young people to:

- Develop cookery skills
- Develop food presentation skills
- Consider Healthy Eating options
- Prove their organisational and planning skills
- Prove their ability to cope in a demanding situation

Rotary Young Chef 2008/9 is a competition for students aged 17 and under at 31st August 2008. It is open to all students in full time education..

The competition generally begins with a Rotary Club organising a competition at its local school or college. Any Rotary Club wanting to hold a competition must inform myself and send a cheque for £30, payable to District 1010 by 30th. September 2008. Details of the District Final will follow once decided.

The winners of the Club competition progress to a District Competition which must be completed by 1st March 2009 and, thereafter, if successful, via a Regional Competition to the RIBI Final of Rotary Young Chef. At the Final the students will be asked to cook a 3 course healthy meal for two people costing no more than £14 (€21). The National Final is being held on Saturday 2nd. May 2009.

This competition is a great way to involve young people in a growth area and one which has increasingly powerful media coverage....

come on...

READY

STEADY

COOK

Young Musician

Many Clubs already run competitions for Young Musicians and we are still hoping to launch a District Competition. If you run a competition, could you let me know and if you would be willing to help with a District Competition please also contact me.

A project sheet on Rotary and Music can be found in "Opportunities to Serve".

Young Citizens Award

In partnership with BBC 24. This is a celebration of young people in the community who have been involved in projects such as fund raising to buy wheelchairs; environmental projects such as recycling; supporting the elderly, under privileged groups or assisting young disabled people. This taps into Citizenship within schools and by focusing on disenfranchised young people or young disabled within the community we will also be Making Dreams Real.

Rotakids

This has made it easier to access schools and link in with Citizenship and is meant for Primary Schools before Interact. There is information on the website. Most popular projects with the Primary Schools are recycling, water aid, shoe boxes and guide dogs for the blind. Go in with set projects half a term is about right for a project.

Rotary Technology Tournament

This is a relatively easy competition to run whereby groups of young people are presented with an unseen design and technology challenge to solve against the clock. Please let me know if you are going to organise such a competition and I will try to organise a District Competition.

There are other opportunities such as Rotary Design Awards, Young Photographer, Young Writer and Young Golfer.

Community and Vocational

Primary Schools Quiz

This has been a very successful Comm. Voc project which exemplifies the overlapping position mentioned earlier between Youth Opps and Comm. Voc. Well over 50 Clubs are taking part this year across the 8 Zones. Costings are assessed on the number of Clubs taking part and so you will be asked to indicate on a form whether you wish to be involved. If you have not participated before - perhaps because another Club in the area looks after all the schools - then do remember that if you split the schools between you a greater number of children may participate in the Zone Final.

Euroscola 2009

Euroscola has been another very successful project and is a 5 day visit for school students to visit the European Parliament in Strasbourg. There are limited places - this year it was limited to 16. Information for 2009 will be on the 1010 website. Pupils are asked to prepare a CV and also write an essay on a subject of their choice and if there is more than one candidate the Club will hold interviews to select either the best candidate or the one that will benefit most from the experience.

Challenge Enterprise

Challenge Enterprise has run successfully in the past in District 1010 but in 2007/8 we encountered difficulties. Hopefully, we will be able to get this very worthwhile project up and running again. It is aimed at school or college pupils aged 16 to 18 who are interested in a business career. It has run, in the past, from Friday 2 p.m. until just after lunch on the Sunday. Place would be limited so we need to have some idea of clubs who are interested. However, in order to run this project we need Rotary volunteers to spend some time and stay overnight, supervising the young people so that we can maintain the number of adult helpers, in line with the Scottish Executive's Child Protection Guidelines.

Dictionary for Life

RIBI has been able to get dictionaries which normally cost £9, at a price of £2. The dictionaries, which are of high quality, would be attributed to the donating Rotary Club on the inside cover and the idea is to enable every child leaving Primary School to have their own dictionary. This project fits in well with this year's theme - to improve the lot of all children in our communities. The date for order is likely to be mid October with delivery in May 2009.

Rotating Books

This is a simple but very effective idea. Persuade Rotary Club members to bring in good quality books and affix a bookplate available at the website www.rotatingbooks.org and then "liberate" the book at the doctor's surgery or any public place. Hopefully, someone who is not in the habit of reading will notice it and pick it up and read it. It is also a good and free means of publicity for your Club and a way of extending literacy.

Your Help Is Needed & Appreciated.

It is a difficult job as you will appreciate getting all 86 clubs to communicate with the Comm. Voc /Youth Team, as we all sometimes forget, or think someone else has told someone the answer. Could I urge you to let me know the results of your competitions ASAP after your club competitions, and also tell your Assistant Governor responsible for your Zone which would aid the flow of work, no end.

As Chair of Comm. Voc / Youth Opportunities in your club you will have worked hard to get things organised at your club level but we need communication to be effective between the clubs and ourselves if we are to be efficient and do a good job in assisting yourselves.

Adopt a School

The majority of youngsters we are involved with are mainly school age, so if you can forge a link with your local school at secondary and primary levels, finding participants may be easier. Creating dialogue with schools is an ideal way of them asking you about what we are doing this year rather than selling them our competitions.

Would your school let your club have a notice board to publicise our activities to the youngster and their parents.. A liaison Officer would be ideal then to update the board and talk to the staff. Please note that if you want to get schools involved in any way, in any competition you should try to make contact before the end of the session i.e. before the end of June and the summer holidays, so that they can plan ahead.

YOUTH IS OUR FUTURE - THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE

We cannot build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.

Other Ideas produced at Assembly

Rotafun Day (a Community Fun Day); Flower bed initiative involving Primary Schools (pupils design the displays 7 sponsors involved); Mock Interviews & Careers Advice; Top of Form Competition (secondary schools) ; Junior Highland Games (Primary Schools); Respite Weekend for Carers; Rotary Rambling (P7's); Young Families Centre; Cathy Project in Arbroath; Cyclathon; Christmas Post delivery; Creative Writing; Children in Need Quiz (Forres); Safe Highlanders (children taught about the dangers of fire, drugs etc.) ; Links with the Prince's Trust to work with children in the community.

ALEC - Aberdeenshire Life Education Centres.

Organised by Rotarians but a partnership between Education, Learning & Leisure Service and Parents helping children to make healthy choices. Alec gives children an awareness of how their bodies work, how unique and special they are and how their health is affected by the choices they make.