



Rotary District 1060 Youth Exchange



Website Edition



News Update March 2008

Welcome to a long overdue update on the status of the various schemes under the banner of "Rotary Youth Exchange" in District 1060 – "The Heart of England".

Camps & Tours – "Wortham Manor 2008"



After a successful experiment in 2007, when Ella Chen came from Taiwan to the UK for 13 days, including our tour of Scotland, we are opening up the 2008 summer trip to allow more young people to benefit from an international cultural experience.

The 2008 summer trip is based around "Wortham Manor", a medieval mansion in central Devon. This is a Landmark Trust self catering property which takes 15 people in total. Its location allows us to visit places like the Eden Project, Plymouth, and Tintagel. By adding on a day either side in budget hotels, we will also be including areas such as Salisbury and Stonehenge. Rotary Clubs in Salisbury and Plymouth have also been lined up to give a local perspective of their respective areas.

Each place on the trip costs £250, which is inclusive of accommodation, catering, transport and most admission fees, etc. We are aiming for as wide an international mix as possible and would like to be able to offer five places to overseas students.

The summer trip itself runs from the 26th to the 31st May 2008. The participants will be expected to arrive on or around the 24th May and depart up to a week after the trip ends – by the 7th June.

Would your Rotary Club be interested in sponsoring a place?

As well as sponsoring a place, there is an opportunity to host one or more of the inbound participants while they are within our District. If you wanted to get involved with Youth Exchange, but had been a little put off by the need to find hosts for several months, this may well be a chance for you to host for a short time instead.

With the help of the Rotary Club of Solihull St Alphege, we had a very enjoyable "roadshow" last year, which followed the 2007 summer trip. If your Club would like a group visit at your meeting during the week beginning the 2nd June, with two or more of the 2008 trip's participants, please do get in contact as soon as possible.

Camps & Tours – Outbound

Rotary Youth Exchange Camps & Tours can be a great way to give a young person the opportunity to experience other cultures – both of the country hosting the Camp/Tour and of the other participants. They are great value for money as the standard practice is for the District or area hosting the Camp to cover the costs, so that generally the participant only has to pay for travel, insurance and their own spending money.

The offers are now building up on <http://youthribi.org/campstours/camps2007/>, so it is well worth paying that website a visit to see what is available. Each Camp has a different focus, with many variations available and many different interests covered. With a relatively low take up in this part of the world, any potential candidate you have is likely to get their first or second choice, so do think carefully about making use of this aspect of Rotary.

Remember to visit our website for the most current information

<http://rye1060.org.uk>

Long Term Youth Exchange



A few weeks ago, we said goodbye to Luchito Mierez as he returned home to Argentina. Luchito had an interesting start to his Exchange Year when he had to be airlifted to hospital after a skiing accident in France! Things did get much better after that experience though and the Rotary Club of Hagley are to be congratulated on the fine work they put into hosting Luchito.

Cari Spinnler from the USA is now our only inbound Long Term Exchange student. She is hosted by the Godiva Group in the Coventry area and has been doing a great job promoting the programme through her talks at various Clubs in the District.

Christine McElroy had a few delays to the start of her Exchange Year in Cairns, Australia, but soon caught up once she arrived there. She settled in well and has been enjoying a very different Christmas and New Year with a slightly larger number of inbound Exchange students – if the group photos she posted to our blog are anything to go by. Just take a look at <http://rye1060.org.uk> and click on “Student Experiences – Blog” to see what I mean!

Christmas Camp – Adrienne Coche



In keeping with the idea of experimenting and pushing the boundaries a little, we tried something a little special over the Christmas / New Year period for a young lady from Belgium.

Adrienne Coche is 16 and is the oldest of 6 children. She has a keen interest in languages and has wanted to come to England to get the opportunity to practice her English for some time. On the 26th December she arrived via EuroStar and stayed until the 5th January. During her stay, we ran a trip with our Long Term students at the



time, Luchito and Cari, to “Sackville House” in East Grinstead, a 16th Century house that Luchito commented was “older than his country!” Needless to say, Adrienne’s confidence in her English ability received a useful boost and she now has friends in two extra countries as an added bonus.

Special Exchange to “Make Dreams Real”



Next year’s Rotary Theme – “Make Dreams Real” – seems to have a special meaning for a young lady from Brazil. Amanda Amaral is top of her class at school and has a keen interest in languages and international relations. However, she is from a low income family where Rotary Youth Exchange would be out of reach – especially with the fees charged in Brazil. Due to a link between her District and ours, a special Exchange is being setup to allow Amanda to study at Blue Coat School in Coventry for the next academic year. The Rotary Club of Leamington Spa Regency will be taking the lead on her hosting, but if any Club would like to get involved and do something special for Amanda while she is in our District, then please do get in touch.

Rotary International – Youth Exchange Certification

Rotary Youth Exchange has had a major overhaul over the last few years – largely based around the formalising of processes, procedures and rules. In RIBI, the latest version of the Protection Policy is deemed to be sufficient to give our District a status of “Provisional Certification”, with one remaining requirement in the area of incorporation that is still being worked on. If we don’t comply with the requirements, we will have this status withdrawn and we will be prevented from arranging any new Exchanges.

One key area here is what is often termed “Club to Club” Exchanges. These are no longer allowed by Rotary International. If your Club arranges anything they call “Rotary Youth Exchange”, please do make sure that the appropriate application forms are used and that copies are sent to the District Youth Exchange Officer. Little more than that should be required to allow these worthwhile programmes to continue to operate.

Rotary District 1060 – Youth Exchange Officer



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