



COMMUNITY NOTES – OCTOBER 2021

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Know your Community

As we slowly return to a new post COVID normal how are you getting on with “Knowing your Community” Graham and I would be interested to hear of any innovative approaches and the outcome – have you been able to make a difference in your Community and increased membership.

If you are looking for ideas have you seen the RI **Community Assessment** booklet about ways in which you can learn what your community wants, rather than what you think your community wants. Download from the RI website after logging in here

<https://my.rotary.org/en/document/community-assessment-tools>

An alternative approach might be to put on a **Health Fair** – join the virtual one on Saturday November 27th 2pm to 4:30pm (**Register at rotarybgi.org/virtualhealthfair**) and think about perhaps putting one on in your community. It would give an opportunity to Talk to different community members

Environment

First District Environmental Grant Award

We would like to congratulate three clubs Cheltenham, Cheltenham North and Cleeve Vale in their successful application for an environmental grant of £1500 towards their Centenary Tree Planting project. The joint application means that rather than each club applying for £500 and District processing three applications, the process is simplified by a joint application. Obviously individual clubs cannot then make a separate application for the same project.

We look forward to receiving further grant applications.

District Environment Meeting

Club environment Officers and others interested are invited to a District Environment meeting – On Zoom – 10:00am Friday October 22nd. Any topics that you would like to discuss please mail Kirsten and myself so we can circulate an agenda. Joining instructions

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrcO2orTkuGNemLU49okS5RFPrJIn0v-RI>

Climate Change

There are two websites that illustrate to me the challenge of Climate Change globally. Both give interesting but somewhat different perspectives on the way that we might arrest climate change. [Project Drawdown](#) places a lot of emphasis on land use change and improvements as well as electrification and decarbonisation of the energy supply. Climate Interactive on the other hand provides an interactive model [EN-ROADS](#) to illustrate the challenges of getting to the 1.5°C or even 2°C limits given that globally we are already over 1°C warmer than the average of 1850-1900. Recently Rotary Monmouth hosted a workshop for the Town Council based on the EN-ROADS model which participants found very helpful in furthering their understanding of actions that can make a real difference to ameliorating Climate Change.

The Environmental and Sustainability Rotary Action Group [ESRAG](#) is another source of useful information and ideas, plus it has a very active UK section, Kirsten Weber, our District Environment lead is Co-chair of the group.



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Anti-Slavery campaign

I am very willing to talk to Clubs and other groups, perhaps schools, on the issue of Modern Slavery. I encourage anyone interested to review the Rotary Action Group against Slavery **RAGAS** website and join the action group.

UNSEEN, the Bristol based charity has a campaign to raise awareness of County lines, that is mobile phone lines used by criminal gangs to organise illegal drugs to be moved and sold from one village, town or city to another across the UK. Children are most often used to move and sell the drugs

They are recruited by gang members who pose as friends and then trap the young people into a terrifying cycle of violence, exploitation and abuse.

Says UNSEEN's Justine Currell: "The more that people understand the issues, how to spot the signs and where to go for help, the sooner we can reverse the growing numbers of children involved in modern slavery.

"Children caught up in County Lines are not criminals – they are victims of exploitation at the hands of organised criminal gangs."

Information about apps you can download to your phone and the Anti modern Slavery helpline (08000 121 700) is on the District website [here](#).

Any questions or suggestions I am happy for you to contact me at community@rotary1100.org

Bob Handley

Rotary Monmouth/District 1100 Community Lead