

Rotary



Literacy Rotarian Action Group

LitRAG Newsletter
Vol. 3, No.1,
December 2013

LitRAG addresses the Rotary Area of Focus: Basic Education and Literacy.

This focus area supports activities that improve all children's education and children's and adults' literacy. To view the area's Purposes and Goals; Program Eligibility; qualities of successful Humanitarian Projects and Vocational Training Teams, and support for graduate-level scholarships, go to: www.rotary.org/en/documents/595

Note that Projects consisting exclusively of equipment purchases, or of providing tuition or school supplies without future community support are not eligible for global grant funding.

News of some Rotary Literacy Projects from around the world

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) identified the following information about literacy projects. Information provided by PDG David Fowler.

The Dictionary 4 Life Project <http://www.dictionary4life.com/> An international version, with identical content to the popular English dictionaries supported by many clubs in RIBI, is available at low-cost for the Developing World - LCDW - edition (paperback). The minimum order is 100 cartons of 10 books = 1000 books at £2.40 per copy (not available for use in western developed countries). International orders are delivered free to the agreed nearest seaport on main routes from Dubai where the books are printed. The recipient is responsible for all charges, collection, clearance and onward delivery.

The Literacy in a Box Trust <http://www.literacyboxtrust.org.uk/> works in partnership with the Rotary Club of Roborough, Plymouth, D1290. The object is to advance education in schools primarily, but not exclusively, in Zambia and sub-Saharan Africa. It has also helped children of the infamous rubbish dumps in Manila, Philippines. Each box contains writing materials such as exercise books, pens, pencils, chalks, blackboards, etc., for 50 pupils, and currently costs £275.

Mary's Meals – Backpack Project www.marysmeals.org.uk/ encourages children to attend school and supplies much needed school materials to children in Malawi, Liberia and Haiti.

Jole Rider www.jolerider.org Getting to school in Africa means, for many children, walking for miles and arriving late and exhausted. Schools have very few books, and this lack of reading material means literacy, creativity and learning are all stunted. Jole Rider delivers bikes and books to change lives, simply and effectively.

Book Aid International www.bookaid.org/ These days, second hand books are not required, but cash is always needed. 500,000 books are despatched per year to African countries. Books Abroad is a similar organisation for clubs in Scotland www.booksabroad.org.uk.

News Update:

Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) in Nepal

PP Shiv Kumar Singh of the RC of Damauli details a successful four-day CLE teacher-training workshop. He explained, "Altogether 89 teachers participated...from 10 political Districts of Nepal including teachers from the far western region... The first two days were spent on demonstration [while] the last two days [were teacher] practice session[s]" that included 355 students. Ram Chandra Pokhrel, Asst. Zone Governor, opened the training, while DGN Rabindra Piya presented certificates when closing the program.



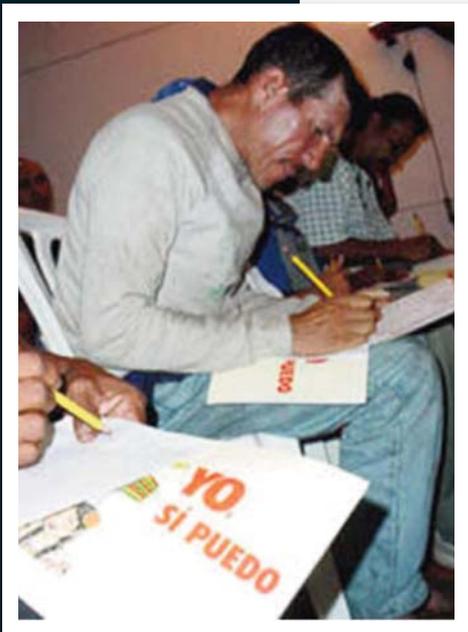
(Above): A teacher practice session with students during CLE training



(Above): Auckland children enjoy a summer holiday story telling session

Summer literacy fun

In D9910, Auckland (New Zealand) City Libraries run annual children's summer holiday sessions. They listen to stories by authors such as Stu Duval, act out plays, take out books and learn how libraries work. Nearly 40,000 children attended sessions over the 2012-2013 Christmas vacation.



Another successful approach to teaching reading

In District 4160, Mexico, many clubs use an approach to literacy teaching developed in Cuba, called Yo si Puedo (Yes I can).

For further information about this approach, visit www.gramma.cu/ingles/cuba-i/25abril-yosipuedo.html

Interested in becoming a member of LitRAG?
Go to <www.litrag.org> and then to the Member Area.
Download and complete the Membership Form.
We look forward to welcoming you!

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The Literacy Rotarian Action Group is an official Rotarian Action Group operating in accordance with Rotary International policy, but it is not an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.