

ATE ACTION THROUGH ENTERPRISE



Following our previous donations in January 2021 when the Club and generous individuals donated a total of **£3,200** to the charity, we have the chance to continue our support. So, following recent conversations with Leela Shanti, Programmes & Development Manager, I have included an excerpt from her request

Dry Season Farming:

ATE's project to scale up dry season farming in Lawra, rural Ghana, makes huge impacts to increase income, tackle food insecurity and hunger for farmers, their families and communities. ATE has recently revised how we give support in order to increase farmers' self-reliance. We now provide 3 years support, and loan - rather than hand out - the equipment needed to expand dry season farms and increase crops, and we enable farmers to purchase the equipment at 50% cost so that they own it outright for themselves at the end of the 3-year period. This also enables ATE to continue to support more and more farmers across Lawra. ATE has very recently successfully gained support from Austin Bailey Foundation through their Overseas Flagship grants for 3 years, to support 6, then 8, then 10 new farmers per year. However, there is a **shortfall of £3,480. ATE appeal to Chippenham Rotary for continued support.**

- The initial cost of equipment for each new farmer is approx. £800-£1,200, so donations of £100 to £300 are a huge support towards these costs.

Access to Education (EducATE):

ATE's access to education programme, called EducATE, provides essential support to enable children in Lawra to access junior high school and complete their basic education through school feeding and support for school materials; such as uniforms, shoes, textbooks, and sanitary pads for girls. Also, following rotary support for girls from rural Biro school to go on to senior high school and vocational colleges, we are expanding these scholarships to children at seven other ATE-supported schools. The costs of a year of provisions for boarding at senior high school is simply out of reach for the vast majority of families in Lawra and these scholarships provide a real opportunity for transformation, a break in the cycle of poverty and a brighter future. *For the scholarships, ATE is keen to engage supporters who are willing and able to commit to the full three years of schooling to ensure that the children have security to continue beyond year one through to the end.

- Costs per child for one year of school meals: £40
- Costs per child for school materials: £10
- Costs per girl for one year of sanitary pads: £10.50
- Costs per child of a scholarship to senior high school: £300 per year for 3 years*



Rotary Charity Golf Day Castle Combe

As many of you will know, we have been running the Rotary Golf Classic event at the magnificent course at the Manor House, Castle Combe for approx 15 years and we have raised close to £100,000 for charities during this time.

This year we are supporting Olive Branch, a local mental health wellbeing charity, which provides a secure and confidential counselling service for the people of Northwest Wiltshire. Their aim is to benefit those on low incomes who do not have access to expensive private counselling. Their counsellors are professionally qualified, have trained at their own expense, and give their time voluntarily. <https://olivebranchcounselling.org.uk/>. A portion of the monies will also go to Rotary charities.

We are holding the event on **Thursday 28th April**. Local businesses have been very supportive of our efforts over the years. Please make contact with the ones that you know well and enquire if they would like to sponsor a hole (£130), or donate an auction lot. They will receive a mention in the auction brochure, and if sponsoring a hole, can have signage around the tee and behind the green. Don't forget, most of the players and attendees at the auction and dinner afterwards are likely to be high net worth individuals who are very supportive of the companies which back our activities!

Best regards - Rotarian Rick Squires - Immediate Past President - Rotary Club of Chippenham



Rotary District 1200 Skittles Competition.

This is the season for playing Skittles and the 1st round matches in the Rotary competition are currently in progress.

The first round is designed to split the teams into two 'streams' with one playing for the main trophy (Cup) and the other playing for the lesser reward (Plate) which is a sort of 'wooden spoon' competition really.

Chippenham Rotary was drawn against the mighty Devizes Rotary with the match being played at the White Hart Pub in Atworth last Tuesday. Despite what the opposition were telling us, they were clearly very keen to win but the match was still played in a relaxed and happy atmosphere. The two teams were 'neck and neck' for the first four 'legs' but Devizes took the lead in the fifth. Shaken into action, the Chippenham team set about overhauling that lead and almost succeeded just losing the match by a narrow margin. So, once again, we will be playing in 'The Plate' half of the competition and wait to find out who our opponents will be. Our top scorer was Sylvia Gibson who played consistently well scoring a couple of 9's in the process.

After the game we all retired to the pub restaurant where we enjoyed a very tasty supper and were able to get to know our guests from Devizes a little better before setting off home in the cold and foggy weather.
Rotarian Richard Meek. (Sport's Office.)