

Greetings fellow Rotarians,

All the best for handover this coming week, I wish I could be there with you.

There is so much going on in Nepal, so much re-building, so many people needing help, so many causes worth supporting it's very hard to know which way to look.

With regards to the money the club has given us to allocate, we are still keeping tight hold. The eye of the world has not completely moved from Nepal and there are wonderful things being done. We are trying to find a cause where the money will make the biggest impact, without being swallowed up in the ether.

The Rotary Club of Dhulikhel are famed for their collaboration with international clubs. They are the most easterly of Nepal's Rotary clubs, and so have received enormous amounts of money from clubs all over the world to help with the earthquake aftermath.

Because they are such an active club, it was them that Kendal club approached to help with their school much further north-east. I

have a project summary guide for the club which is 75 pages long!

So far, I have felt that the club is slightly disappointed that I have not come with an immediate offer of financial collaboration;

however, I am not willing to approach Penrith club with just any venture. There is one school that the Rotary Club of Panauti have a proposal to re-build, which is close to John's heart as it is where he taught 14 years ago. However, after doing our own research the school has recently gone down to only 9 pupils and is possibly going to be merged with a school forty minutes up the ridge. Now, the proposed re-build would cost 25 thousand sterling and that seems possibly financially unwise to me - they have a temporary bamboo building in place which is sufficient for the time being by Nepali standards (harsh as that may sound).

We have been spending much time at a hostel for blind children which is attached to one of our schools. Another Rotary club has already raised a considerable amount for improvement of the building, but we are liaising with people to see if more help is needed as it is a very worthwhile project and at the moment quite a depressing place to be despite the children's unfailing optimism.