

Minutes of 2018 RIC hosted by RC High Suffolk on 18th to 20th May

1. Opening of the Meeting and Welcome

Elaine Nightingale (RC High Suffolk) opened the meeting with a short welcome to the programme entitled 'Simply Suffolk'.

2. Roll Call of the RIC-clubs and Ratification of Presence

Members of the five clubs Leuven-Rotselaar, Lublin, Le Vésinet, High Suffolk and Leipzig were present together with their presidents or presidents elect, each standing when invited, to a variety of comments from other members!

Attendees from Belgium 39, Germany 13, France 6, Poland 8 and Great Britain 18 plus visitors from Holland (2) and Sweden (2).

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous AGM held in Leipzig 2017

Minutes of the former meeting were approved, and no matters arising were raised.

4. Short Annual Report of Member Clubs

Reports were given by the representatives of each club: Elaine Nightingale for High Suffolk, Lars Bosse for Leipzig, Heinz Zillgens for Le Vésinet, Wojciech Brakowiecki for Lublin, and Tomie Yudhira for Leuven-Rotselaar. Each club presented examples of its own social projects that were carried out or initiated during the past year.

The presentations are contained in the links below (please use the PDF version if you do not have PowerPoint).

THE AGM PRESENTATIONS:

PowerPoint

[Belgium](#)

[France](#)

[Germany](#)

[Poland](#)

[UK](#)

PDF

[Belgium](#)

[France](#)

[Germany](#)

[Poland](#)

[UK](#)

5. Report on the Joint Project 2017 by Leipzig

See short power point presentation by following this link

[Leipzig project report\(PPT\)](#)

[Leipzig project report\(PDF\)](#)

Following on the discussions held at the previous AGM (see Leipzig 2017 AGM Minutes) the suggestion was then raised that an exchange programme be developed that could allow children and/or grandchildren from one club to exchange with those of another club. This idea had merits but would also require careful planning and oversight. It was agreed, that to

proceed with an exchange programme, that each club nominate a member who will liaise with other RIC members in order to decide if such an exchange programme was feasible. This will be pursued by RCHS (see agenda item 7c)

6. Proposal of the joint project 2018 by High Suffolk

RC High Suffolk propose to partner with RC Woodbridge-Deben, in a project to provide modern equipment to paediatric units in three hospitals in the Piatra Neamt region of Romania. Tom Griffin of RC Woodbridge-Deben spoke to the meeting. He outlined this project and said with the additional support of RIC clubs enough funds would become available in order to request a global grant.

Tom talked about medical practice being very poor in Romania. He described how initially the project funded doctors to come to a vocational educational training practice conference in 2015 so they could take back and disseminate good practice in Romania. This step was successfully and enthusiastically completed. However, there is an ongoing lack of paediatric equipment and funds to improve healthcare for children, so the next phase is for volunteers from North Norwich University Hospital (NNUH) to go to Piatra Neamt, Romania to help train and take equipment to improve healthcare for children - 3 hospitals to date have donated equipment.

A lively Q&A session then followed where Tom was able to provide sufficient answers that satisfied members such that the meeting supported the joint project for 2018.

Patrick Billiet also stated that 'RIC is working', because being in touch with Nick Corke in 2012 he tipped the existence of a project in Pietra Neamt after being there with his Leuven-Rotselaar club members while visiting the furniture-factory that was run by Patrick Supply.

7. Proposals and Discussion on RIC Future and Possible Acquisition of new RIC members

Patrick Billiet chaired this part of the AGM.

- a) Patrick asked Frank Emmrich to provide feedback from last year's action on a 'common social project'. Frank had intended to coordinate feedback from clubs on this subject, but no club provided an idea for consideration. Frank agrees to pick up this idea again and will take initiative to bring together one (specific) member per club to discuss this and come up with a proposal before next RIC.
- b) RIC website – the recent years Jacek Baj (Lublin) has done a great job to put up and support the RIC-website but this is no longer an option; to avoid the unintended confusion when the ownership of the RIC website transfers from host club to host club, it was agreed that a new single 'webmaster' should take on the responsibility of RIC website management. It was proposed and agreed that Chris Sharpe (High Suffolk) become the webmaster. The existing information (all reports, all pictures, ... from all RIC's so far) will be kept online and accessible. Everybody agrees that the yearly hosting cost will be paid by the organising RIC club and be a part of the RIC cost.
- c) RIC future – Patrick made the observation that we are all very positive and enthusiastic regarding the future of the RIC, when attending the AGM. But a few weeks later, back at home, we do little to follow through with our good intentions, and little progress is made. Collectively we are losing RIC attendees and they are not being replaced by newer (younger) members or by new countries. Patrick agreed to contact clubs in the near future in order to

discuss in detail again the future of the RIC : or we decide to stop this formula, or we really make realistic plans for RIC 2019.

Leipzig supported the earlier intention to look for new members/countries and said that we need to remain positive and suggested that since there are lots of Rotary clubs across Europe that might be interested in joining the RIC. We need to energise and develop these potential links to see if other clubs might join.

d) Chris Sharpe (High Suffolk) commented that too many actions are falling to Patrick Billiet. He proposed that the current organising club should follow through the actions placed at an AGM. This was agreed.

e) Patrick accepted to be the RIC-coordinator for the next year.

8. Presentation of the RIC programme for 2019 by RC Le Vésinet

An Imperial RIC programme was outlined in that the RIC would be centred in Rueil Malmaison; this being where Château de Malmaison, the ‘home’ of Napoleon and Josephine, is situated. An outline programme was described, which include a cruise on the Seine. Each club was informed that they would have to present a traditional dance at the RIC!

For a more detailed description of the Imperial RIC programme follow this link
[RIC 2019 Le Vesinet \(PPT\)](#)
[RIC 2019 Le Vesinet \(PDF\)](#)

The proposed social project would be in memory of Jérôme Montet, who has recently died. This project would support palliative care provided by the Rivage Association.

9. The RIC banner was then passed from RC High Suffolk to RC Le Vésinet.

10. The meeting was closed just after midday.