

President Bill chaired the meeting.

23 members present, plus 3 guests (Wendy Herbert and Amanda Bate from Youth in Romsey. David Johnson – former Head of Romsey Abbey Primary – our main speaker).

After breakfast Linda thanked the Club for the funding support it had recently given to YIR to provide a week's holiday for local school children who would not otherwise have a holiday. A full programme of activities has been arranged and we will receive a full report. Linda said how eagerly local schools had embraced the idea, indicative of considerable need in the local community.

David Johnson gave a vivid narrative of how he came to support a school for deprived children in Kathmandu, Nepal. It started in 2002 when David was part of an international group who undertook a journey by lorry from Beijing to Kathmandu. Their crossing of the China/Nepal border was facilitated by a bright Nepalese boy called Madan, who then reappeared in Kathmandu as a "fixer" for all their needs. It turned out that Madan had been caring for his sister and cousin after a family breakup but was also helping other destitute children in Kathmandu. David and three others from the group were so taken by Madan's ability that they supported his education. David re-visited Nepal in 2009, 2011 and 2016 and saw Madan's progress and his self-sacrifice (giving up offers of higher education) in providing for not only his family members but many destitute children. Most recently he has taken a lease on a plot of land and has built a school. (Photos of Madan and the School attached)

David J continues to fundraise for Madan's school and our Club has provided £100 to complete the school's guttering and electrics. It is hoped that through a contact Madan has already made with the Rotary Club of NE Kathmandu we may be able to establish more sustained support and qualify for matching Rotary funding.

Other matters.

Bill complimented all who had been involved in making the Mayor's Picnic such a great success.

Stewart Mitchell reported on a very successful meeting he and Sandy had had yesterday with Hilliers about the polio project.

Brian Davis reported on a much less successful meeting he had had with the local Romsey Advertiser reporter, Sophie Christian. His impression was that we should not rely on the RA to report on and publicise our activities .

Next week. Meeting in Town Hall, Shaun O'Brien will tell us about himself and Neil Duncan will present the last of the refurbished laptops to Paul and Shirley Barter from Asante.`

Romsey Test Minutes 10 July 2019

Speaker reception for the Barthers,

John Gould

Speaker reception for Shaun,
Room prep and Grace
Room Prep

Keith Cameron
Mike Koscian
John King

Regards John Gould



