

TWINNAGE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER No 117

April 2007

SVP Support: As discussed at our Meeting in Birmingham on 31st March the changes outlined in newsletter 116 concerning tithing (now known as SVP Support) and the effects on Twinnage payments are to be implemented from 1st April.



The new figures will be:	India, Sudan & Guyana	£100 pa
	Grenada	£130 pa
	Romania	£200 pa

Please note that these reductions only apply to conference twins where the conference has paid the SVP Support (SVPS) charge on their income and where the payments are recorded on their returns from the end of the current quarter ie due to be sent in this July.

DCs, CCs and individuals must continue to pay at the old rates as there will be no NC rebate on their donations, they do not pay SVP Support.

The way NC will refund the monies to Twinnage will be to add together all payments to Twinnage recorded on conference returns and calculate the SVPS paid. NC will then pay Twinnage the SVPS received on these sums less agreed admin. costs attributable to Twinnage.

The rebate from National Council to us will only come to us if the conference has made their financial return and paid SVPS under the new rules. If a conference does not make a return we will not get any rebate and will have to make up the shortfall from other sources. Conferences who have paid in advance at £100 for 2007/8 are short changing us although I do not intend to pursue the matter.

Those of a mathematical bent will have noticed that at 20% SVPS levy a conference will have collected £125 to pay a £100 twinnage payment and we should really only be seeking £96. We are asking for the extra £5 to go some way towards meeting our National Office admin costs but will be prepared to accept £96 from any awkward or very poor conferences.

Projects: On projects being paid by conferences Vincent will be asking for a payment less the SVPS. For those where there is a doubt he will show both the full and reduced sums.

Special Collections or Events: Conferences raising money specifically for Twinnage should put these sums through their books, pay SVPS and send the sum raised less SVPS to Twinnage. Our rebate from NC will be increased by the sum of SVPS they have paid so effectively everything they have raised will come to us.

Disaster Fund: Remembering that the Disaster Fund is a National Council fund administered by Twinnage it has been agreed that a proportion of SVPS, representing the CC and DC share only, will be returned specifically to the fund.

Sudan Appeal: Many thanks to all who have supported the appeal. We have now raised well over £250,000 and applications are still coming in at a good rate.

Indian Student Sponsorship: With so much else going on it is inevitable that some of our more established works are going to miss out; this has certainly been the case with the Indian Technical and Vocational Training schemes.

We have just received a request for 2007/8 to support 350 new Technical Training students and 200 new Vocational Training students as well as 586 TTS students continuing their studies.

The total cost to support all these students will be twice the sponsorship received in the year just ended and I would therefore ask for a new push on this scheme as and when circumstances allow.

Sudan Presentations: Those who were in Birmingham were, I am sure, greatly moved by the talks given by Kate and Ian on their recent visit to Sudan and by the plight of the people living in the desert around Khartoum.

There will be another chance to hear them at a Westminster Festival meeting being held at St James, Spanish Place (close to Oxford St) on May 12th and I am sure they would welcome invitations to speak at Festival Meetings in other CCs