



Community & Vocation Committee: Provisional Plans for 2025-2026

(Updated July 2025)

For this new Rotary year, President John wishes to particularly focus on **local community engagement and provision**. As the Community & Vocation Committee, we will aim to accomplish this through the **establishment of strong rapports with local groups and organisations**. We have already begun to hold or provisionally arrange a series of meetings with various representatives, in person where possible, to gauge existing needs and determine how Rotary Towcester can become involved. The provisional projects identified primarily relate to the **Rotary Areas of Focus of Maternal and Child Health/Wellbeing and Basic Education and Literacy**.

Meanwhile, our longstanding partnerships with **Northamptonshire Young Carers, Towcester Toy Bank and William Blake House**, continue to thrive.

<i>GROUP/ORGANISATION</i>	<i>FURTHER DESCRIPTION</i>
Christmas Meals/Parcels	Liaising with Reverend Paula Challen of St Lawrence's Church as the 2025 festive period approaches.
Christmas Tree Festival, St Lawrence's Church	Submitting an entry on behalf of Rotary Towcester in accordance with this year's chosen theme.
Club Bursary Scheme	Relaunching the Club's Bursary Scheme to promote Rotary Towcester and our ethos to a wider audience. Aiming for 10 applications. A separate panel of Rotarians will review applications following the publicity campaign.
Disability Inclusive Sports Club (DISC), Towcester	Potentially participating in the 2026 District 1070 Disability Games, purchasing of sports equipment that will belong solely to DISC, and contributing towards rental costs for the Towcester Leisure Centre sessions twice per month.
Home Start, Daventry and South Northamptonshire (HSDSN)	Assisting with the ongoing development of service provision in Towcester and its surrounding area. The plan is to remain in regular contact with Trustee Caroline Neale. There is a potential opportunity to collaborate with the Rotary Club of Daventry Danetre, but this requires further exploration.

Midsummer Music Festival	Donation towards costs of the popular annual festival.
Northamptonshire Young Carers (NYC)	<p>Tuesday, 29th July 2025 – Carers of secondary school age will visit Sailability at Pitsford Reservoir to discover the freedom and joy that sailing can bring. Lunch will be provided by the onsite caterer for all carers, staff and volunteers in attendance.</p> <p>Tuesday, 26th August 2025 – Up to 40 of the youngest aged carers will enjoy a day trip to remember at Gulliver's Land, Milton Keynes. Transportation costs will be covered for all carers, staff and volunteers in attendance.</p> <p>October Half-Term 2025 – Low cost, outdoor event. TBC with Lead Trevor Froggatt.</p>
Out There Youth Group (LGBTQ+), Towcester	Initial email sent. Project overseen by The Lowdown Northampton and SNYE. For children and young people aged 11-18 years.
Sailability donation	Donation towards project costs/maintenance.
Santa's Sleigh	Paying for the yearly storage costs at Green's Norton Community Centre.
Senior Citizens	Liaising with Age UK and Northamptonshire Carers for links regarding how to support members of the elder population.
South Northamptonshire Youth Engagement (SNYE) – Brackley Youth Engagement (BYE) and Towcester Youth Engagement (TYE)	<p>Assisting with the development of SNYE's Brackley and Towcester Youth Councils initiative.</p> <p>Purchasing of personalised T-shirts for the youth councillors to promote their identity when out and about on youth council duty.</p> <p>Purchasing of six Hi-Vis jackets for SNYE staff and volunteer usage at key events.</p> <p>Sponsoring the annual Play & Activity Day on Thursday, 29th August 2025.</p> <p>Supporting/empowering both youth councils in addressing their concerns regarding street lighting in specific community areas in each town.</p>
Towcester C of E Primary School	Financing part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) refreshed outdoor environment, split into multiple themed sectors. This will include new furniture and resources which will meet the diverse needs of all the children, including those with SEN/D or considered to be more disadvantaged and vulnerable, allowing them to flourish.
Towcester Toy Bank (TTB)	<p>Paying for the yearly storage costs at Green's Norton Community Centre.</p> <p>Supporting project expansion, for example the creation of a "Birthday Bank".</p>

<p>Venture RDA (Riding for the Disabled Association)</p>	<p>Venture RDA's current priority is to replace the existing wooden access ramp with a durable, bespoke metal ramp, which will not only improve safety and longevity, but also include a longer, raised platform. This would offer families/carers a dedicated, accessible space from which they can safely watch their children.</p> <p>Adding a rain shelter over the viewing platform would be a modest yet important enhancement to provide year-round protection.</p> <p>Several quotes gathered for the best value solution by Trustee Krassy Bell.</p> <p>For further discussion/exploration amongst Committee members, including considering applying for a matching district grant. Additional fundraising could be conducted specifically for this project, similarly as to how the Rotary Club of Northampton Becket does for its ongoing Chipiti School project in Malawi.</p>
<p>William Blake House</p>	<p>Liaising with CEO Jane Other for future project ideas.</p>

Rotarian Steph Jones

Chairperson of Community & Vocation Committee, 2025-2026