



**CHAIRMAN: Dick Parsley**

**VICE CHAIRMAN: Nigel Cheetham**

**COMMITTEE: FOUNDATION**

**REPORT FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017**

**KEY PROJECTS:**

- Crocus Bulbs - completed
- Tree planting for Foundation centenary - suspended
- Individual commitment to support our Foundation - ongoing
- Band concert to raise awareness and funds – suspended to avoid clash with B&B
- Support for polio survivors - ongoing
- Bonus ball - ongoing

**REPORT FOR THE YEAR (TO DATE)**

Early in the year we took delivery of 5,000 crocus bulbs which we distributed to the public in Wellingborough during a one day session. This gave us the opportunity to raise the visibility of the Rotary Polio Eradication projects, to raise the profile of Hatton **and to invite the public** to support our efforts. Overall we collected £420 in this way for an initial outlay of £85.

Also in the early part of the year we made contact with the Northamptonshire Branch of the British Polio Fellowship and worked with them on projects to support their activities. We helped out at a disability awareness day in Weston Favell and invited them to have a stand at a "Know Your Rotary" event held in March. At both of these events the Hatton support was very visible and much appreciated. However, the most significant project we have run with the BPF this year is to co-fund in the sum of £450 a pilot programme of regular hydrotherapy for 8 of the branch members. The assessment of progress made was encouraging although not all of those taking part gained the same benefit. However, the scheme is deemed worthy of further use and we now need to work with the branch to secure funding for the period September to December 2017. President Alan has arranged his 'end of year BBQ' in July as a fundraiser to help support this group.

A surprise inclusion in our programme later in the year was the announcement that Wilkins of Tiptree had donated at least one jar of jam for every Rotarian in RIBI to make their support for our Polio campaign. We took delivery of 36 jars and made an initial contribution of £70 from our charity fund for the jam – the donation will be credited to our club contribution to "End Polio Now". The jam is currently being distributed to club members and friends for a small donation and to date a further £116 has been collected, with a little more to come..

An initial intention to plan 100 trees to make the centenary of our Foundation faltered when I failed to convince the Woodland Trust that a planning scheme in Wellingborough met their standards! Therefore we marked the centenary by entering 19 members and family in the annual Waendel Walk and collectively walked well over 100 miles over distances ranging from 3 miles to 10+. Member sponsorship to date amounts to a pledged £105 to go into our Foundation giving account. Furthermore, some members have been logging their personal walking to register an individual distance of at least 100 miles walked at other times.

And finally, the regular bonus ball activity has gained a steady income for Foundation – to date the annual amount collected stands at £363 (which included some winners donating their gain back to our fund) and is likely to match the 16 completed rounds from last year again giving us a total of some £420. We gratefully acknowledge the donation of £201 following Ron Hart's carol evening. An initial sum of £320 has already been forwarded to RFUK but I will be making a proposal at the charity distribution

meeting to top this sum up with what we have in the Foundation fund plus some from the general charity account to bring us up towards the \$100 per member equivalent we proposed at the last Club assembly.

In this centenary year Nigel and I have worked to keep our Foundation included in our programme. We have been fortunate to have the support of President Alan and all of the members as we added the Polio Fellowship to our range of activities thus demonstrating that the work of our foundation is not just about giving but it is also about making things happen locally. We will be looking to make use of a Foundation grant or grants in the coming year to demonstrate this aspect even more clearly.

Our thanks for your support throughout the year.