

DRFC Report to D1080 Council on 21 October 2020

### District Grants

This year we have received applications for 18 projects. The value of the applications is £12,524 which is approx. 50% of the value requested last year. I'd just like to re-iterate the district rules for obtaining a grant.

- The Foundation grant requires match funding and the maximum Foundation grant per project is £500. Multiple clubs can be involved in one project.
- The club must be qualified.
- There should be no reports outstanding
- There should be evidence that the club supports Foundation (I'm serious).

Qualification: a grants management seminar was held in January before lockdown. Most clubs obtained qualification following the event, and those that didn't took the online course. The Foundation committee has agreed that qualification in the future will be solely through the online course and the Grants Management Seminar will not be held.

2019-20 Projects: We understand fully that several projects in 2019-20 have not been completed as planned. Project reports are vital to the continued support of our district by Foundation. The district grants chair has been in touch with the clubs concerned with the objective of making sure that foundation money is used for the projects as planned. I have been able to sign-off the foundation report with caveats regarding the projects that have not yet been completed. The result is that I'm expecting 2020-21 funding to arrive in the next few weeks.

I'd like to emphasize the importance of Project reports. It will always be true that any money received from Foundation will need a report to be completed. The Foundation committee is finding the chasing of clubs for reports to be an overhead that is very time consuming. Please can all clubs remember that a final report is required when a project is complete, and if a final report is not possible then an interim report is required by 31 August each year.

Grants Fair: We still hope to hold a Grants Fair in 2021, probably March / April. This is likely to be online. Please can clubs who have plans for 2021-22 include a presentation to the district at the grants fair.

### DDF

Our DDF account has \$75,352.57. This is the amount before deduction of the district grant. However the amount allowed the Foundation committee to continue our usual donations to the Rotary Peace Centres, the PolioPlus fund and to set aside \$15,000 in the expectation that we will find a new Hilary King scholar. This leaves \$9,296.16 in our DDF account which is a tad low.

### Polio

41 Clubs made a donation to PolioPlus in 19/20. This year's giving has been unduly affected by the pandemic; however it is interesting to note that donations 19/20 amount to \$33,032.79. I hope to encourage more donations. We have Polio pull-ups and these are with David Prichard. Hiring them is free but you need to arrange transport and replacement on loss or damage. There is also a stock of 11 full boxes each with 100 crocus buttonholes. We are keen to sell these within the District.

Recent analysis shows that whilst the number of polio cases in Afghanistan and Pakistan is lower than in 2019 there is a greater spread of cases and this can be attributed to the cessation of

vaccination campaigns due to the coronavirus pandemic. Concentrated outbreaks are easier to deal with than distributed outbreaks.

### Peace

The programme put in place by Pat Webb has been badly affected by the pandemic. However Peace training has been trialled and a peace flag has been presented to the Archbishop Sancroft school in Harleston. Pat has remained in touch with our distance hosted peace fellow who has returned to the USA. The peace conference planned for October this year has been postponed to 16 October 2021. We have again bid for a distance hosted Rotary Peace Fellow from Bradford University. We hope we can benefit from the Peace Fellow if the pandemic allows.

### Scholars

We have 9 Global Scholars, 7 Cambridge and 2 UEA. A big thank you to clubs in Cambridge and Norwich for hosting the scholars. The Region has held a virtual scholars welcome evening focussing on procedures and what Rotary expects (reports?).

The district scholars' welcome evening will be held on Wednesday 28 October at 7pm. Registration is now open.

Scholars will also be available to introduce themselves to clubs (virtually) in the district. Tony Platt will coordinate requests. He will ensure that scholars do not suffer overload with requests.

DRFC: my tenure as DRFC is coming to an end (30 June) and a willing replacement is required.

Derek Rothwell

DRFC D 1080

14 October 2020