



## SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION

One of the greatest gifts that Rotary can give to a community is to support its young people – the next generation of residents. That is why we have taken great pleasure in responding to the most recent requests from some of the town's youth projects amounting to some £2,500.

One was the Fort Boxing Club which now has one of the world's biggest, best and highest quality performance punchbags as part of their standard equipment. This club is not only building a premier reputation in the sport but its work with young people in Whitchurch goes far beyond boxing and well into social, health and character-building skills of which the town has every right to be proud.

Another – with an even longer reputation – is the 'Alport Under 11s 1946' football team for which we funded a pair of new 'mini-goals' to help refine their scoring skills.

Donations have also gone to the newly formed Tilstock Youth Club, to help purchase new games, to Whitchurch Scouts and to Whitchurch Rugby Club which is updating facilities that are also used by younger players.



**Left** – Rotary president Graham King and Community chair Phil Leigh join head coach Dan Bailey and youngsters at a Fort Boxing Club training session

**Below** – junior soccer stars from Alport FC show their new mini goals to Phil Leigh and his Community deputy Andy Danton



## GARY'S AID TO UKRAINE



One of the most moving talks from a guest speaker that the club has had, in recent memory, came from Nantwich estate agent Gary Fear.

For the past two years Gary has been making regular shopping trips to Ukraine to buy food and essentials for people struggling to survive the war.

At the time he visited the club he had raised £63,000 to fund seven visits and he was preparing for his eighth in May.

We helped with a £1,000 donation which Gary said would probably raise the spend to £13,000 and make it "the most successful trip in terms of fund raising".

*Gary Fear - photo by Shropshire Star*

# TWO RECORD BREAKERS FOR WHITCHURCH ROTARY

It's always good to see a record broken. But for the club to break the tape and smash two, within a few weeks, is something really special.

The first occasion came when an amazing 953 men turned up at the Rugby Club to give blood samples for prostate cancer testing. That figure was more than 50% up on the previous screening session – making it one of Rotary's largest community health projects in the country.

The four-hour event centred on a team of professional phlebotomists joining forces with volunteer organisational support by Rotarians, Inner Wheel members, friends and supporters.

The PSA tests - launched nine years ago for early detection of prostate cancer - are done free of charge with costs covered by Rotary from fundraising projects and public donations.

Two people, in particular, were quick to offer their congratulations. One was the Whitchurch Mayor, Andy Hall, who said it was an "amazing achievement from all your awesome team! Congratulations on a new record and job well done! Every year the Rotary raises its game to serve our community."

Oh, and the other person was King Charles. His letter arrived from Buckingham Palace a couple of days later.



The Mayor, Andy Hall was among the first to be tested.



Nearly 1,000 men turned up for PSA tests.

The second record-breaker was the May car boot sale at Alderford which raised a very welcome £1,143 for our charity fund and sets a new target for the rest of the year. The car boot sales are on the first Sunday of each month (except July) through to October.

