



District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Antrim

In early 2017 the M. E. District Grand King, M. E. Comp. Jon McA Pollock advised the Companions of the District Grand Chapter of Antrim that his external charity would be Diabetes (UK), NI branch.

Diabetes UK NI Branch raised £290k in 2016 and had a target of £310k in 2017, however this does not cover the activities of the Charity in NI which is augmented with additional funding from its UK parent which also funds 10 research projects in the Province with a budget of £1.2million p.a.

Within NI 90,000 people have diabetes of which 10% have type 1 diabetes and it is estimated there are 10,000 people undiagnosed. Unfortunately, the typical profile of the undiagnosed parallels the membership of the Order in general in terms of weight, age and lifestyle.

A familiarisation evening was held in Ballymoney Masonic Centre on Thursday 30th November 2017 and was well attended with at least 3 attendees saying that they were going to visit their GP asap.

A second evening is being arranged in Ballymena for Tuesday 6th February and a third in Whiteabbey Masonic Centre, and a fourth in Lisburn Masonic Centre, dates to be advised.

As of Monday 22nd January the following 16 Chapters have send a contribution to DGC.

45, 56, 57, 89, 149, 260, 317, 335, 340, 414, 431, 485, 512, 598, 704.

Also Craft Lodge 990, Kells, Carey and Dunluce Masonic Charity Committee, and Six Mile Valley Masonic Charity Committee have all made substantial contributions, as have Ballymena, including a Funeral Tea contribution.

Some £7000 has already been forwarded and the challenge still rests with the Companions of the District and the DGK is confident that we could, perhaps reach at least £10,000.

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District Grand Registrar.

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