

Express & Star

## COMMENT

Established 1874

# Charitable citizens we salute you

**E**very day of the week we see great acts of generosity in the Black Country and Staffordshire.

Today we highlight the fundraising of the Rotary Club of Wolverhampton and its Best Foot Forward event.

This brilliant initiative, helped through generous donations by local businesses, has seen nearly £12,000 given to three worthy causes this year.

This sort of selfless work goes on in our communities 365 days a year. We are grateful that there are so many benevolent people in this region who want to help others.

So many organisations rely on the generous support of donors and volunteers. Without these people our communities really would not be the great places they are.

We want to say thank you to each and every person who is involved in charitable and good causes in the Black Country and Staffordshire. What you do really does make a difference.

The past decade has not been an easy one. The crash in the economy and the subsequent era of austerity has brought new pressures and challenges for everyone. But it is in these straitened times that we need strong and cohesive communities more than ever.

It is deeply encouraging to see so many people remain committed to doing what they can to help others.

Groups such as the Wolverhampton MS Therapy Centre and the Central Youth Theatre in Wolverhampton rely on our support.

Small charities and organisations such as these do not have the big budgets that major charities have at their disposal to promote their work and organise big fundraising events.

So the donations made through Best Foot Forward really will go far.

There is so much great work that goes on across our region.

And we must do what we can to celebrate their achievements and help them continue for many years yet. They more than pay back society through the benefits they give local people.

The Black Country and Staffordshire truly is a wonderful place to live, work and bring up a family.

And every day we hear inspirational stories about the fantastic work that is going on across our region by our army of volunteers.

We salute every single person who supports local causes whether that be through voluntary work or a donation.