



NIGEL SAVORY
Chairman of
The R C Snelling
Charitable Trust.

↑ Just a few of the activities we have been involved with recently

I SUGGEST THAT YOU START your read of this edition of *The Snellings* Newsletter by turning to page 8 and seeing what Stephen French has been up to. Suffice to say his personality and team work and technical ability to come up with solutions played a big part in SBS winning a large new contract.

Not all of us have the opportunity to make such a big impact on the business but if each one of us does something special, however small, imagine how big the overall effect would be. We can do it and that's what doing the right thing can be all about.

I have been told that some of us think that because our companies are owned by a Charity, profits don't matter. Well I want to dispel that notion because they do. We want our companies to flourish and be here for the long term. To do this they must make money in order to provide working capital and reinvestment into the business. We also look to them to make profits to help fund the charitable causes we support.

Despite a tough economic background I am confident that things are beginning to get better. The PM has nailed his colours to the mast to beat inflation and get the cost of borrowing down. With an election coming up later in the year I am sure that he will try his best to deliver on this promise before he goes to the Country.

2024 is our seventieth anniversary. Let's all make it a year to celebrate.

Nigel Savory
Chairman, The R C Snelling Charitable Trust.



GRANT RECIPIENTS GIVE FEEDBACK ON HOW THEY HAVE USED THEIR GRANTS FROM THE TRUST.

THE R C SNELLING Charitable Trust continues to support local good causes with valuable grants to applications which meet the criteria set up by the Trust. Each quarter the Trustees meet to review the applications for grants which have been received and a careful process is followed to make sure grants are given to the most deserving cases. So it's always good when the Trustees hear about the very positive effect of grants previously given. Below are just a few examples of the positive effect our grant awards have made:- ☺

Welcome to EP Youth

Important food bank and support charity gets support from the Trust.

IN OCTOBER, EP YOUTH, a charity in Fakenham who specialise in helping to support vulnerable young people in North Norfolk, approached the Trust for support. A grant of £1,000 was given, which helped a lot in the running of the charity's activities. Helping young adults gain important City & Guilds qualifications as well as making sure that they have access to good quality food at reasonable prices was obviously a good cause. At the end of December, Lucinda Freestone, the Charity's Administrator wrote to the Trustees to thank them for the grant and explained how important the grant had been. "We became part of the Nourishing Norfolk Network in January and with the help of the R C Snelling Charitable Trust we were able to successfully help over 2,000 young people and over 100 vulnerable households in and around Fakenham", explained Lucinda. ☺



£1,000 donated to Bramble Bears Playgroup.

BASED IN ASHWELLTHORPE, Norfolk, this rural playgroup uses the village hall to offer both outdoor safe spaces and indoor spaces for your children to relax, play and learn. They had asked the Trust for support in their costs for first aid training for 4 of their adult volunteers. Seen presenting the cheque for £1,000 on behalf of the Trust, Alex Weston said "It's great that the Trust were able to help this very special playgroup in Ashwellthorpe and the people who give up their time so freely to make sure the children have a safe space to play and learn". ☺

Charity which helps children and their families with additional needs in Great Yarmouth benefits from a grant from the Trust.

SHINE APPROACHED THE TRUSTEES for help to continue their work and support for children in East Norfolk. The charity needed a range of additional learning furniture and the Trust gave a grant of £2,000. Karen Leggett, the senior manager at the Charity explained that the furniture was required to give the children a better learning experience. "The grant has enabled us to purchase 3 new height adjusted tables and special supportive chairs. These children have special wheelchairs and having the tables adjustable makes the children have more access to everyday activities". ☺



IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL FOR ALEX!

ALEX WESTON OF SBS left her primary school on Browick Road in Wymondham a little while ago now, but recently she returned to help present a cheque for £10,000. The money was granted by the Trustees following their December meeting. "At SBS, we were celebrating the 10th anniversary of moving from the original SBS building in Blofield to our new offices in Wymondham and so it was felt that to celebrate our 10 years here, we should help our local school", explained Alex. "They had asked for a grant to help fund an outdoor safe area and here we thought an award of £10,000 was appropriate, to tie in with our 10th anniversary. It was quite a funny feeling going back to my old school, but it felt really special being a former pupil and presenting the cheque". ☺

Meet Nigel Savory, the Trust's Chairman.

Q. How did you come to be involved with the Trust?

A. At the time I was Roy Snelling's accountant and audit partner. After Roy's first wife Shiela died when Roy was understandably feeling very low he received an opportunistic call to try and persuade him to sell his business. Roy was shattered that anyone could be so insensitive and was determined to find a more lasting solution. I showed him a business near Wellingborough called Scott Bader which had been set up under a Commonwealth which Roy liked. We then enlisted the help of Ben Goodfellow a partner in DHP Solicitors and the R C Snelling Charitable Trust was established. At first it didn't own shares in the Group but the Trustees held regular meetings and were consulted as though they were fully involved in the business. This helped no end when Roy died and the shares were transferred to the Trust. It is an example of Roy's great foresight.

Q. Looking back over your time what do you think is your greatest achievement?

A. I suppose being involved so closely in finding a long term solution to safeguard the businesses, everybody's jobs and promoting Roy's values. Since then it has been to try and build upon Roy's legacy.

Q. What gives you most pride about the people who work for the companies?

A. I think we still have many of the best family business attributes that really stand out. You might call them old fashioned, but I think they are beacons because when you are the customer you are delighted to find them. We remain a friendly company to do business with; our people are knowledgeable, they make meeting their customers' requirements their priority and they try to deliver a great experience.

Q. What's your view of our future? Is it a good one?

A. The World continually moves on but without innovation there would have been no television and Snellings would not exist. So we should embrace chance and champion finding the right solutions for our clients. I have to remain optimistic.

Q. If you had your time again what would you have done differently?

A. I would like to have set up my own business

Q. What do you do when you're not working?

A. I really don't differentiate between work and down time. In part I suppose it comes from living on a farm where things happen any time and don't just wait for Monday morning. It is also because I do so many

North Norfolk Community Transport is helped by the Trust

JANE BISHOP, THE EXECUTIVE Lead for North Norfolk Community Transport, recently wrote to thank the Trustees for their grant to help in their charity which helps to reduce the isolation some elderly residents can face. "We have helped over 908 people with our service", she explained. ☺



THE TRUSTEES CIRCULATE an E-newsletter showing all of the grants which have been approved after each Trustee meeting, so if you have a special connection with any of the organisations and charities which are given grants, then please get in touch with Rowland Cogman, Trustee, who will see if you are able to present the grant award personally on behalf of the Trustees. ☺



different things. I help other businesses and charities, and I like to be busy. That said I am trying to find a bit more "me and Annabel time". We have spent the last year doing up our retirement home which you will be pleased to hear is full of Snelling appliances and is toasty warm compared to where we use to live. I love the country, my dogs, being in a boat or playing golf with friends. We like to travel when we can and last year had the holiday of a life-time driving 2000 miles around Namibia. It was a real adventure with 3 punctures, camping in the wild, sleeping on the roof of the Toyota Land cruiser and seeing wonderful animals and scenery. My aim is to keep active for as long as I can. ☺

CHRISTMAS STAFF RAFFLE RAISES £1,350 FOR IT'S ON THE BALL, OUR NOMINATED STAFF CHARITY.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE was once again a great success. Suppliers were asked to donate items which created a fantastic prize selection, with raffle tickets being sold for the prize draw. Unfortunately the main prizes seemed to be won by our Trustees, but with the Trust's matched funding a significant contribution was made to our staff nominated charity. Alex and Mark would like to thank everyone for supporting the raffle. 🍀



JANUARY BOWLS A GREAT WINTER WINNER.

IN JANUARY, TEAMS FROM SBS and Snellings / Gerald Giles got together for the first joint social event of the year. The venue was the Hollywood Bowl centre in Riverside, Norwich. It was a great event with lots of fun and friendly rivalry. In the first game teams were made up of staff mixed from the various companies and in the second game the teams were company specific. Given the success of the evening, another ten pin bowling event will be planned later in the year. 🍀

Stephen's Christmas jumper look helps create warm relationships and leads to major new client win.

INTUITIVE SURGICAL, the world's largest surgical robot manufacturers had reported issues with their AV system which had been installed by a competitor at their site in Emmendingen, south Germany. SBS's Stephen French picks up the story.

"SBS were invited to attend the site to just analyse the issues and recommend some actions to resolve them. I attended the Emmendingen site on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December. This overlapped with the Christmas Jumper Day I had organised in the SBS office on Thursday 7th December to raise funds for Save The Children. Obviously as the organiser, I felt compelled to wear my Christmas jumper on the Thursday even if I was working on site in Germany. I mentioned that I would do this to some of the Intuitive staff so they would not be surprised by a crazy Englishman wearing a Christmas jumper to work. When Lea Nowak the Senior Administrative Assistant at Intuitive in Emmendingen heard on the Wednesday what I was planning to do, she said, "I have a Christmas jumper too. I will also wear mine tomorrow."

"During the visit, I managed to resolve the reported issues with some excellent remote assistance via Teams from Matt Loveridge and Lee Naunton.

Our efficacy to resolve these issues must have impressed Intuitive Surgical. Following the success of this visit, Intuitive Surgical then invited us to bid for the tender to fit out their new HQ offices in Freiburg. Now we have been awarded that contract, I feel very proud of the part I have played in our success." 🍀



AGM and staff social event takes place on May 15th.

The Staff AGM and subsequent social fun day takes place on Wednesday 15th. May. The AGM follows the familiar format and this takes place in the Roy Snelling Lecture Theatre which is in the Bob Champion Research & Education Building at the Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital site. Afterwards there will be transport laid on to take us all to Whitlingham Park on the outskirts of Norwich for our fun day. Food, drinks and fun games are all arranged and Mark Gook is sounding out how many would like to take part in the water-based activity which the Park hosts. 🍀

