

RAFA Belgian Branch Welfare Report to AGM 18th April 2018

During the year 2017 the Welfare activities have been carried out by me with the assistance, for the Christmas visits, of our Branch Honorary President Air Cdre John Maas and our Chairman Michel de Norman

We have been quite busy, with the usual home and hospital visits and over 450 telephone calls, mail, postal and non face to face contacts, and unfortunately attendance to funerals of members.

All together we have been in touch with 12 different friends all over the country, through visits, contacts with relatives, helpers, and doctors. We had two new cases referred to us during the year; sadly we lost two members with whom we were in regular contacts during the course of the year.

Financially, the Treasurer as indicated in his report the total amount of funds spent for Welfare assistance and Christmas gifts. .

In 2017, we did not ask any financial support from the **RAF Benevolent Fund** but we know that if the needs occurred we can rely on them.

As far as visits, social contacts and other activities are concerned:

We are trying in the best possible manner to acknowledge queries and problems put to us.

The visits made by some of our Branch members' in some members home, are greatly appreciated by those concerned.

The traditional Christmas visits took place as usual in December in Brussels and surroundings, Ostend and Ligny.

On these Christmas visits we are, as usual, giving a Christmas hamper and to those most in need, we are also giving financial assistance as indicated in the Treasurer report. The recipients of these financial gifts are very grateful for this help. They are always insisting that I should convey to you their sincere thanks.

Closing remark

As discussed at last year AGM, I can confirm that the trend experienced in the last years is confirmed: as our members are becoming older, their needs for medical and social support have become greater. One very important link for them with our Branch, is to receive again the Newsletter; I am happy to convey here the thanks of members to the Editorial Team of the Newsletter.

For 2018, we do not envisage to draw money from our reserve.

In closing this report I am inviting members to be alert to welfare and friendship needs and to let me know where we might be of help.

Personally, I wish to thank all the members for their continuous support and for their financial help.

Ghislaine Walkden
HWO RAFA Belgian Branch

Brussels 16 April 2018.