



Provincial Charity Committee

Newsletter December 2019

Stats Forms

Firstly my thanks to all those who have completed and returned this year's stats form.

At the last count there are still 31 Lodges that have not done so and I would ask if you could do so with some urgency, it would be very much appreciated.

The closing date for receipt of the forms has been extended to 31st Dec but will not be included after that date.

Charitable giving

I am very pleased to advise that the overall amount donated to WRMCL by the Brethren and Lodges of Yorkshire West Riding for the year ending 30th September 2019 is £457,287.03, , an increase after claiming Gift Aid of 24% on the previous year.

Thank you Brethren for making this happen and please congratulate the Brethren of your Lodge and thank them for their generosity.

However a new year is now upon us and whilst ever there is need amongst our Brethren and in the wider community I trust we will continue to aid and assist all we can.

There are still less than 50% of our Brethren who are contributing via their Charity Stewards to West Riding Masonic Charities Limited although they may well be contributing to Worshipful Masters Funds via raffles and social events.

Please encourage your Brethren to set up a standing order in favour of WRMCL if they can.

Please also be mindful of any financial difficulty that a Brother might be experiencing.

Charitable Donations

I have recently accompanied the PGM and W Bro Stuart Cadman, Chairman of WRMCL to Nostel Air Support Unit to present cheques totalling £8,000.00 to Yorkshire Air Ambulance; £4,000.00 from MCF and £4000,00 from WRMCL.

On a very wet day we were shown around the unit and the PGM got to sit in the helicopter.

YAA are very grateful for the support of YWR Brethren through their donations to West Riding Masonic Charities Limited.

I also visited Forget Me Not Children's Hospice on two occasions; once to see the fantastic electronic equipment supplied by Lifelites Charity who we support through WRMCL and again to present certificates for grants from MCF to them and to neighbouring Kirkwood and Overgate hospices.

PGM's Fund

I understand that there are again a record number of applications to the PGM's fund this quarter and the successful applicants will be announced in due course.

Please continue to scour your local areas for worthy recipients and congratulations to those Lodges that have been successful.

Please remember that if your application does not meet the criteria of WRMCL but is still a worthy cause, our national charity, Masonic Charitable Foundation may well be able to assist.

Masonic Charitable Foundation

MCF has again been busy in our area during the past 12 months and has announced the following:-

99 freemasons and their family members helped with grants totalling £336,915.00

£199,787 to help people cover their essential daily living costs

£62,504 to give access to lifesaving and life-changing health support

£74,624 to help families with care and education costs

21 grants to local charities totalling £115,760

Monthly Charity reports

Not all of the Brethren in our Province will receive this newsletter, for whatever reason and some of those who do will not read it.

To ensure that all of our Brethren are aware of the good we do locally and within the wider Province, would you please arrange for a Charity Report as an agenda item to be included on your Lodge summons each month so that you can update the Brethren on charitable activities.

It may be also worth sending an electronic copy of your report to Brethren who have missed the meeting.

Yorkshire West Riding Masonic Activities Limited

YWRMAL have again been successful this Autumn in providing remembrance ties in support of the Poppy Appeal and the Royal British Legion with the tie again proving very popular.

At this festive time of year it might be a good idea to look on the Provincial website at all the other items they have for sale such as ties, cufflinks, pens, socks and many more.

Perhaps your loved one might be persuaded to buy you a new pair of white gloves for Christmas.

All profits, with the exception of the remembrance ties, go to WRMCL.

Promotional Material

If you or your Lodge members are involved in local presentations please send any photographs and information to your Communications Committee member or directly to the White Rose for publication.

Finally Brethren

Thank you all once again for your continued support.

I hope you and your families will all have a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a healthy 2020.



Michael J Holmes
Provincial Grand Charity Steward

For distribution to: Charity stewards, PCAs, Area Managers, Provincial office for WRMCL, LLO's, Lodge Secretaries and Scribe E's, Provincial website