



Provincial Charity Committee

Newsletter October 2019

Firstly my congratulations to the Worshipful Master and Brethren of Mirfield Lodge No 1102 and the members of Area 1 Charity Committee who organised a cheque presentation evening on the 11th October.

An excellent meal, which was preceded by home-grown entertainment from the Brethren, was followed by the formal presentation of cheques to four recipients who had the opportunity to thank the Brethren and describe how their particular grants were being used.

Well done to everyone concerned.

I would recommend all Areas to follow this example.

New PCC Secretary

After 6 months as Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary, W Bro Colin Symes has found that his new responsibilities require more of his time than his current workload allows and from a long list of committees that Colin is Secretary of, the Provincial Charity Committee is one that he must reluctantly give up.

W Bro Colin took on the role in September 2011 and has overseen four different Provincial Grand Charity Stewards.

He has given his time, his expertise and his advice unstintingly to those four for the past eight years as well as to the Area Chairmen and all of the Charity team.

Colin will be continuing as his Lodge Charity Steward and as a PCA and Secretary of the Area 1 Charity Committee.

In the last eighteen months I have very much appreciated his guidance and indeed his friendship and we all wish him well in his new role.

As a consequence I am therefore very pleased to advise that W Bro Derek Riley of De Grey & Ripon Lodge No 837 has agreed to come out of retirement to take on the task and we welcome him to the Provincial Charity team.

Derek has a wealth of experience as a Charity Steward and PCA for Area 3 and was Committee Secretary for a number of years before taking a well-earned rest being a grandfather and participating in his other passion, skiing.

As a former computer programmer Derek's skills will be well utilised and I know he will be a great asset to the team.

Charity Accounts

I mentioned last month that for many of us it is time to put the annual Charity statement together and I trust yours are progressing.

I also mentioned that it is important that the records are examined by members of the audit committee and that these records should remain confidential.

At a recent Lodge Installation I attended, it gave me cause for thought when the two auditors for the coming year were named as the Senior and Junior Wardens.

It is difficult if not impossible for the auditors to examine the Charity records without being privy to sensitive information and when the Wardens act as Auditors, in time, everyone coming up the ladder will have access to that information.

I would earnestly recommend that Charity records are examined by two senior members of the Lodge, preferably past Charity Stewards and if possible the same ones each year so that confidential records are kept confidential.

Stats Forms

Your stats form should now be with you, partially filled in when it arrived.

The information required should be available from your records and whilst we would not ask anything sensitive, the information we ask for does enable us to see trends and plan future policy accordingly.

I would therefore ask for your assistance in completing your form and returning it either to your PCA or directly to W Bro Colin Symes.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Masonic Charitable Foundation

MCF has been busy in our Province over the past few weeks with both major and minor grants coming to our area.

Large Grant

darts (Doncaster Community Arts) - £70,702 over 3 years

Charity Number: 1056799

darts' mission is to create art with people in Doncaster to improve life, learning and health. This grant will fund Singing for Memory sessions for older people with dementia and their carers, providing a space for them to have fun, sing familiar songs and meet people, in order to help reduce social isolation.

Charity address: The Point, 16 South Parade, Doncaster DN1 2DR

Project location: Doncaster.

Small grant

Haven House Project - £15,000 over 3 years.

Charity Number: 1096964

The Haven House Project supports children and young people and their families who have been affected by domestic abuse. The charity offers specialist therapeutic sessions to help young people cope with the trauma, they also provide group work sessions and follow up sessions through a drop in centre once one to one sessions have ended. Therapy is provided by specialist, qualified practitioners using a programme developed with Sheffield University.

Charity address: 4 Norfolk Park Road, Sheffield S2 3QE

MCF has also made a grant to Yorkshire Air Ambulance of £4,000.00 that WRMCL have match funded.

In addition to grants for projects to local hospices administered by Hospice UK, the MCF has awarded £300,000 in core funding grants to hospices across England and Wales.

In May this year, hospices who receive less than 60% of their funding from the NHS were invited to apply for these grants.

The following grants have been awarded.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Barnsley Hospice | £1,050 |
| Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice | £1,400 |
| Forget Me Not Children's Hospice | £1,070 |
| Kirkwood Hospice | £1,875 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Manorlands Hospice Sue Ryder Care | £1,820 |
| Martin House Children's Hospice | £1,500 |
| Overgate Hospice | £500 |
| Saint Michael's Hospice | £1,550 |
| St Gemma's Hospice | £1,500 |
| St Luke's Hospice Sheffield | £2,095 |
| Wakefield Hospice | £1,375 |
| Wheatfields Hospice - Sue Ryder | £1,985 |

Could I please ask Area Chairmen to arrange to make a presentation to Hospices in their Areas.

Presentation certificates will be made available for all the recipients.

If you have an good cause that falls outside the remit of the PGM's Fund but is non the less worthwhile, call MCF on **020 3146 3333**.

If you are unsure at all contact your PCA or Area Chairman.

Remembrance Ties

Stocks of Remembrance Ties are available from Yorkshire West Riding Masonic Activities Ltd either via the website shop or by application to W. Bro James Steel. All proceeds will go to the Royal British Legion.

Thank you all once again for your continued support.



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