



Provincial Charity Committee Newsletter September 2017

“Thank You”

On behalf of the RMBI, The Festival President RW PGM David S Pratt, The Chairman of the Festival Organising Committee W Bro John Boyington, The Provincial Grand Charity Steward W Bro James S Watson but most of all the beneficiaries who reside in a RMBI Care Home. Thank you to those who gave most generously of both their time and money to make our Festival such a success, ending with a magnificent total, of £3,300,300.00.

(Charity Stewards, please read the above out at your next Lodge meeting).

Revised Charity Stewards Manual

A revised Charity Stewards Manual and Charity Stewards Address Notes have been published and are available to be viewed on the Provincial website. The whole manual or sections can be downloaded and printed. Some of the sections revised are relating to; The MCF, which has been created by the amalgamation of the old four Central Charities, Data Protection and how it affects Charity Stewards, particularly when leaving Office. All changes are detailed at the back of the manual. Charity Stewards would benefit from reading the Charity Stewards Manual taking note of the revisions. I am most grateful to W Bro Colin Symes, Secretary to the Provincial Charity Committee, for the many hours he has spent over the summer updating the Charity Stewards Manual and Address Notes.

Future Donations

It would appear that some clarification is required regarding my request that from the end of the Festival brethren should designate WRMCL as their choice of Charity to where their ‘regular’ donations go. This should be in preference to, more specifically the PGM’s Fund because funds can be transferred from WRMCL to fund the PGM’s Fund but due to the way the PGM’s Fund is set up it can not transfer funds to WRMCL. However, it is the individual brothers choice as to where his donations go and his Charity Steward can advise him of all the Masonic Charities he could donate to.

Raffles at Festive Boards

I would like to remind brethren that it is essential when holding a raffle at a Festive Board that the name of the recipient Charity or Good Cause is announced before any money is collected. Feedback since the end of the Festival shows that some brethren would like to continue to raise money for the PGM’s Fund and as the PGM does not want events organising, to give lodges and their brethren a rest from fundraising, perhaps lodges could consider the PGM’s Fund as the recipient of Festive Board Raffles.

MCF Tercentenary Community Awards 2017.

Three Hundred Charities, Three Million Pounds, Three Hundred Years of Freemasonry

The 8 Charities nominated by the Province have received grants totalling £79,000 broken down to £4,000 x 3, £6,000 x 2, £15,000 x 2 and £25,000 x 1. The amount each charity received was decided by a vote, which was open to masons, their families and the general public.

A Presentation event is being planned with details published separately.

The names of the 8 nominated Charities and the amount each received are as follows: -

Aurora Wellbeing Centres have been awarded £25,000. They support local people and their families living with cancer. Anyone with a diagnosis receives a free package of support, wellbeing programs and holistic & beauty treatments to help raise their self-esteem and confidence. The centre is based in Mexborough.

Vision Support Harrogate District has been awarded £15,000. They seek to enable visually impaired people to live independently and provide opportunities to meet and interact with other visually impaired people. They offer Information Technology training; provide advice on the help that is available; information on what being visually impaired means; opportunities to socialise, develop, or re-awaken craft skills.

Paperworks (Harrogate) Limited has been awarded £15,000. They assist people with learning and / or physical disabilities through educational and vocational training to encourage them to find gainful employment.

Motive8 Bradford LTD has been awarded £6,000. Motive8 offers a tailor-made provision for young people that are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training). Learners are to identify their own goals and will be helped to realise their potential through personalised learning plans.

Autism Plus has been awarded £6,000. It is a charity that supports adults and young people with Autism, learning disabilities and mental health conditions across Yorkshire and Humber. Based in Sheffield and Thorne.

Skillshop Limited has been awarded £4,000. The aim of Skillshop is to provide specialised training for adults with learning disabilities in a caring environment. The objectives are to improve self-esteem, confidence and personal development and break down social isolation. Based in Halifax.

Selby District Peter Pan Nursery has been awarded £4,000. They are a pre school nursery for children and families in North and West Yorkshire with additional needs. Places are available for children with disabilities, illness, learning difficulties, behavioural issues etc. They also support children whose families are experiencing difficulties or are in need of respite and support.

Learning Partnerships have been awarded £4,000. They are a Leeds based charity with 25 years experience of working in the inner city to provide opportunities and support for children, young people and adults to access education, employment, training and volunteering. Learning Partnerships offer a range of programs and opportunities from volunteering and work placement schemes to diverse training and educational courses.

MCF News

MCF Masonic Support – Grants awarded during the previous quarter

Q1 = 1st April 2017 to 30th June 2017. 44 Grants with a total value of £2,105,63.23.

In September York Minster was visited by VW Bro James Newman to award a grant of £170,000

The MCF has formed a partnership with Hospice UK to draw on their knowledge and ensure that grants are targeted at those most in need of support. The current scheme will be replaced next year.

MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Provincial Charity Committee will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 17th October 2017 at the Masonic Hall, Bruntcliffe Road, Morley.



W Bro James S Watson
Provincial Grand Charity Steward

For distribution to:

Charity stewards

PCAs

Area charity representatives

Provincial office for WRMCL, LLO's and Scribe E's

Charity Newsletter section, Provincial website via
Area 4 Chairman