



Province of West Lancashire 2021 Festival



Masonic
Charitable Foundation



Province of West Lancashire 2021 Festival



**Festival President
RWPrGM Tony Harrison**

I was delighted on behalf of the Province of West Lancashire to accept the invitation of the newly formed Masonic Charitable Foundation to arrange a Festival in support of their work and for our Province to have the privilege to be the first to be invited by them to do so.

The Province of West Lancashire has a fine heritage of giving and supporting charitable causes both Masonic and non-Masonic and those who find themselves in need.

It will therefore be an honour to provide a Festival in support of the new overarching Masonic Charitable Foundation which notably will take over the work of the four separate Central Masonic Charities in providing a wide range of grants to Freemasons and their families who have financial, health and care or family need.

It is also doubly reassuring to know that the Foundation will award grants to other non-masonic charities, medical research studies and disaster relief appeals.

The four year Festival will coincide with the celebration of 300 years of Freemasonry and provide an opportunity to demonstrate that our charitable giving and care for others is as strong now as ever before.

I therefore have no hesitation in heartily recommending this most worthy cause and would ask you to give your fullest support to it in the time honoured West Lancashire Way, putting service before self in support of those in need and those less fortunate than ourselves.



The Marchington's Story

Masonic Charitable Foundation - Making an impact

That a simple grant can reunite a family is testament to the impact the charities have had on so many lives. The story of Caroline and her children, David and Louise (pictured below), is another moving example. The family received support from the Masonic Charitable Foundation after the unexpected death of Caroline's Freemason husband Tony in 2011. 'We were on a family holiday and Tony became poorly,' says Caroline. 'We took him to the hospital and discovered that he had melanoma. Within six weeks we lost him.'

The family was naturally concerned about the future. 'As a 13-year-old losing your dad, it's a very unstable time,' says Louise, now 17. 'I knew things were going to change and that was a massive worry.' While the charity could not undo the tragedy, they could ensure that David and Louise were not otherwise disadvantaged.



'The Masonic Charity helped David and Louise with their education,' says Caroline. 'David is now at the University of Oxford and Louise is applying for university thanks to them.'



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Charitable Foundation



Festival Vice President David Winder



I feel that we would all accept that charity is at the very heart of being a Freemason; that said, I never cease to be amazed at the generosity shown by Freemasons in West Lancashire in support of charity and in assisting those who find themselves in need.

The new and overarching Masonic Charitable Foundation covers the whole spectrum of care and support so it is doubly pleasing to know that our 4 year Festival which coincides with the celebration of 300 years of Freemasonry, will give us the pride and heartfelt boost to show that charity is as prevalent in our province now as it has always been and that we are indeed, ever mindful of the needs of others.

I therefore invite you to wholeheartedly support the West Lancashire 2021 Festival in aid of the Masonic Charitable Foundation and to give it your fullest support and priority.

David Winder

Festival Chairman Phil Preston



We were all asked the same question when we were initiated into Freemasonry, the question being '*Have you anything to give in the cause of Charity*'. As the Chairman of the MCF 2021 Festival and the Provincial Grand Charity Steward for the Province of West Lancashire I am sure that all our Membership will expect me to ask this question on many occasions.

My response will be that I will encourage Brethren to donate to the Festival whatever is affordable to them and that hopefully along the way and throughout the next four years we will have a lot of fun doing so. I feel sure that whatever the final figure turns out to be we will remember the good

times we have all enjoyed in raising monies for the benefit of those less fortunate than ourselves.

We have put together over the last year a very proactive Festival Committee headed by David Winder the 2021 Festival Vice President and I thank him and them for all their past and future endeavours. We are also fortunate to have in this Province eight hard working Regional Charity Stewards along with Twenty Three Group Charity Stewards and around Five Hundred Lodge, Chapter and Festival Representatives, who will be encouraging you all to give freely to the Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival.

I wish each and every one of you well and look forward to your help and support throughout this most important undertaking.

Phil Preston

Geoff Cousens' Story

Many of you will know what an active Freemason Geoff was in West Lancashire until he suffered two strokes. 'It was the worst time of my life' he said. 'I thought I would never leave hospital'.

Geoff's daughter Sue explains that the support he received from the Masonic Charity meant that he could return home to be with his family.

'The Masonic Charity helped us with everything from physio to all the equipment we needed at home. It wasn't just the grant it was the fact that Dad could be with his family again that was so important to us all'.

The story of Geoff and the others featured are typical of tens of thousands of Masonic families who have received support from the charities. The new Masonic Charitable Foundation will ensure that the same support continues to be available long into the future!

'Dad could be with his family again. Without the Masonic Charity it would have been impossible'



Sadly Geoff has passed away but the family wanted his story to be told and to show the wonderful work of the Masonic Charitable Foundation for which they will always be grateful.



Masonic
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Paula Kilshawe-Falls' Story

'The Freemasons are just like a family to us.'

Paula's husband Adam died unexpectedly when he was just 39 and she was 34 with two children, Sarah and Adam who were four and three.

Adam Snr had run a property maintenance firm and it was only when he died that Paula realised how badly things had been going. Paula and the children lost their home and sought refuge with her parents. Worse was to come, though, because Adam had used that house as collateral and soon it, too, was swallowed in the debt. 'My parents lost the home they'd been in for 40 years,' says Paula, whose father died soon after.

After Adam's death, Paula had written to his lodge to notify them. The lodge contacted the Provincial Grand Almoner and, within days, the lodge almoner visited Paula. He saw that the family needed financial and emotional support if they were not, despite Paula's best efforts, to sink. First, he took Paula through the state benefits she was entitled to and then helped her to apply for grants from the Masonic Charitable Foundation. She received awards from both and cried when she found out. A one-off grant from West Lancashire Province lifted the family out of homelessness.

There were still unpaid debts, however, and Paula was told that the only way forward would be to declare herself bankrupt. The Almoner supported her by going with her to court. She could finally start anew.

Paula is an upbeat, resilient woman, glowing with pride in her daughter and son, who are able to go on educational trips thanks to help from the Masonic Charitable Foundation. 'I thank God every day that my husband had a connection with the Freemasons. My son wants to become a mason one day, and I'd like that. It seems such an amazing thing to be.'



'I used to call the Lodge Almoner my fairy godfather - he gave me advice and emotional support.'



Masonic
Charitable Foundation

Support for Freemasons, for families, for everyone



Masonic
Charitable Foundation

HOW DO WE HELP?

A wide range of help and support is available for financial, health and family related needs, including

Financial

- ~ Essential daily living costs
- ~ Grants following an accident, redundancy or personal crisis
- ~ Funeral bills
- ~ Minor home repairs

Health

- ~ Medical treatment
- ~ Dental treatment
- ~ Mobility aids and essential home adaptations
- ~ Respite care
- ~ Counselling

Family - Children in full-time education

- ~ Essential costs for education or training
- ~ Scholarships, travel grants and student accommodation
- ~ Supporting exceptional talent in sport, music or the performing arts

Family - Care

- ~ Masonic care homes - including nursing, residential, respite and dementia care
- ~ UK holidays

Practical assistance

Our Advice and Support Team offers confidential, impartial and practical guidance about the help we provide. The Team can also help with applications for state and local authority benefits, and can put you in touch with other organisations who can give advice on care, employment and education.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Those seeking support must demonstrate the following:

A Masonic connection

You must be a Freemason or have a strong family connection to a Freemason under the United Grand Lodge of England. The Freemason does not necessarily need to be a subscribing member, but he must have been before the need arose.

A financial, health or family need

A financial or family need often follows a decrease in household income, but it may also arise because of a life-changing event such as a medical diagnosis, changing care needs, family breakdown or the death of a family member.

Can we help you?

If you would like to speak to someone about the range of support available to Freemasons and their families, please speak to your Lodge Almoner or call our dedicated freephone enquiry line: **0800 036 6090**

Enquiries can also be sent to
help@mcf.org.uk or
Masonic Charitable Foundation
60 Great Queen Street
London
WC28 5AZ

The Festival Jewel

In the 1700s it became common for charities to raise money at events such as music festivals or dinners which provided donors with entertainment and linked social activities with charitable aims.

The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was the first Masonic charity to do this in 1789 when it was decided to hold a church service and dinner to celebrate the school's first anniversary. Collections were taken both at the church service and the dinner and opened up a source of donations other than by individual lodges or members. Until the middle of the 1800s 'Festivals' were fairly informal: members (and non-Masonic donors including wives) gave a minimum donation for which they would be called 'Stewards' of the Festival. But as funding requirements grew, the system became more formalised. Provincial Grand Masters would agree to chair a particular 'Festival' and members in that Province would focus their charitable efforts on it for a number of years. It usually culminated in a Festival Dinner when the total amount raised was announced. Any member who donated money to a Festival received a 'Stewards' Jewel'.



*Pictured above are examples of West Lancashire
Stewards' jewels for Masonic charities, from left to right:*

the first West Lancs Stewards' Jewel with a ribbon and medal, issued in 1891 for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, a 1913 RMIB, a 1925 RMIG, 1952 RMIB and a 1981 RMIB.

Originally these were rosettes, made with fabric and bullion tassels, but eventually a medal-like form was adopted. The ribbon of this jewel also settled into one of three colours, crimson for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, light blue for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and white for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Every year the jewel was different, often incorporating the coat of arms of that year's patron of the festival or the emblem of the Province that organised it. A Mason was permitted to wear the jewel for a year, although in some years the presence of a Royal Patron made the jewel a permanent addition. Although the majority of the jewels were identical, the members of the committee that organised the festival would often have jewels with a bar that indicated their office, whilst the President of the festival might be awarded a more elaborate jewel.



Pictured left is the MCF 2021 Stewards' Jewel.



In recent years the option of wearing a bar attached to the jewel to indicate the level of giving an individual member has made to the 'Festival' has been adopted by the Masonic Charities. This has caused some brethren to feel that the wearing of a 'Festival Jewel' shows their level of giving to other brethren and as a result they have not worn the jewel. Given the wide diversity of brethren and their different levels of disposable income it is inevitable that levels of the support given by brethren will vary, however, it is no reflection on any Brother.

Although bars with: Vice Patron, Patron and Grand Patron, will be issued to brethren who make different levels of donation to the MCF 2021 Festival, it is the wish of the Provincial Grand Master that all brethren who have made a commitment to donate to the West Lancashire 2021 Masonic Charitable Foundation Festival, using a 'Direct Debit' should wear their 'Stewards' Jewel' which features the Province of West Lancashire coat of arms with pride. It is the first time that the coat of arms has been allowed to be incorporated into a Festival Jewel, making this jewel totally bespoke to the Province of West Lancashire, and indeed unique to it.

The Provincial Grand Master and all the brethren in the Province of West Lancashire are privileged to be in the very first Province to be asked to do so and every donation, whatever the amount is thankfully received and will be faithfully applied by the Masonic Charitable Foundation. Wear your 'Stewards' Jewel' with PRIDE.



Grants to Charities

The Masonic Charitable Foundation looks beyond Freemasonry, making significant financial grants which help people to live happy, fulfilling lives and to participate actively in society through the Community Support and Research Programme.

To achieve this aim, grants are awarded to registered charities that provide support in the following areas.

Education and employability

for disadvantaged children and young people

Financial hardship

poverty, debt or unemployment

Health and disability

for people experiencing chronic or life-limiting conditions and disabilities

Social exclusion and disadvantages

for those facing barriers to participating in society

The Masonic Charitable Foundation also provides funding to

Advance medical and social research

Hospices throughout England and Wales

Air Ambulance and rescue services

Disaster relief appeals

Lifelites

Lifelites provides education and fun technology packages for every baby and children's hospice in the British Isles.

Founded as a Masonic initiative,

Lifelites has become a well-established charity in its own right and raises its funds from Freemasons and other sources.

The Masonic Charitable Foundation helps by providing office premises meaning Lifelites can focus on delivering its life-enhancing technology.

For further information visit:
www.mcf.org.uk/lifelites

Lifelites registered charity
in England and Wales,
No. 115655

The charities supported by the Masonic Charitable Foundation make a significant and lasting difference to people in need. Our grants seek to benefit as many people as possible and further those causes about which Freemasons and their families have told us they are most concerned.

Through the work of the four Charities which have joined together to form the Masonic Charitable Foundation, Freemasons have provided support amounting to around £130 million to charities across England and Wales and overseas.

For more information about our community grants and to find out how to apply, please visit: www.mcf.org.uk/community



Masonic
Charitable Foundation

Grants & Charitable Support



Masonic
Charitable Foundation

Will the Masonic Charitable Foundation provide the same types of support to Freemasons and their families?

Yes. The Masonic Charitable Foundation will continue to provide the same types of support previously available. The Foundation will also be better placed to develop new services to support Freemasons and their families.

Will the criteria for providing charitable support to beneficiaries change?

The criteria for supporting Masonic beneficiaries will be standardised to make eligibility fairer and simpler to understand.

Will those seeking support have to wait longer for a decision?

The Masonic Charitable Foundation will enable the provision of a more effective and responsive service for those seeking support.

Will the Masonic Charitable Foundation support community causes?

Yes. The Masonic Charitable Foundation will support registered charities and causes in communities across England and Wales as well as medical research studies and disaster relief appeals at home and overseas.

Will beneficiaries still receive support that has already been agreed?

Yes. All grants that have been approved will continue to be protected.

Funding and Donations

What will happen in Provinces that are in Festival to one of the four separate Charities?

All current Festival Appeals will continue as planned supporting the Charity for which the Festival Appeal was launched. From 1st April 2016, donations will be used by the Masonic Charitable Foundation to provide grants and support in keeping with the remit of the Charity supported by the Appeal.

Will all future Festival Appeals be in support of the MCF?

Yes. The Festival system remains our most important fundraising method. All Festivals due to conclude during or after the year 2022 will support the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

Will I still be able to donate to one of the four separate Charities?

Yes. With the exception of Festival Appeals currently supporting the four separate Charities, it is preferred that new donations be given to the Masonic Charitable Foundation so that they can be used to meet the full range of needs across the Masonic family. However, you may donate to one of the separate Charities if you so wish.

Further information

If you would like further information about the Masonic Charitable Foundation, or if your question has not been answered here, please email: info@mcf.org.uk or call 020 3146 3333

Making a Festival donation

Completing the forms to make either a monthly Direct Debit or a one off contribution is straightforward. The example form below shows the areas to complete for a monthly Stewards Jewel payment and the opposite page for a single payment contribution. Your Festival representative will also be able to help and further details are also available on the Provincial website: www.westlancsfreemasons.org.uk following the Festival page link.

The Freemasons' Grand Charity
(Registered Charity No. 281942)

Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:
The Freemasons' Grand Charity, 30 Great Queen Street, London EC2R 3AZ
Name and full postal address of your bank or building society

To: Free Steward

HALIFAX P.L.C.

Address: **188 FISHERGATE, PRESTON**

Postcode: **PR1 2PP**

Name(s) of Account holder(s): **A & B PARTRIDGE**

Bank/building society account number: **12345678**

Branch and code: **16 01 16**

Bank/building societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account

Instruction to your Bank/Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

Direct Debit Number: **926098**

Reference number: **01/01/2017**

Signature: **A. Partridge.**

Date: **01/01/2017**

Register Donations into the Relief Chest for the Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

I promise to pay you the actual sum of £ **5.00**

every Month ☒ Year ☐ 3 months ☐ 6 months ☐

Payments are to start on **11/01/2017**

(This sum must be paid into our account after the day that you sign for this)

and are to continue for a period of three ☐ four ☒ five ☐ years

Please attach this Regular Donation to:

Lodge Chapter name: **MADEUP LODGE**

Lodge Chapter No: **10123** Relief Chest No: **FEST2021**

The Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

Single Donations into the Relief Chest for the Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

Please tick one or more of the following as applicable:

☐ I enclose a cheque payable to The Freemasons' Grand Charity for the sum of £ **5.00**

☐ I make a donation of £ **5.00**

☐ or in kind the **11/01/2017**

Please attach this Single Donation to:

Lodge Chapter name: **FEST2021**

Lodge Chapter No: **10123**

The Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

Gift Aid

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

If you are a UK tax payer, under the Government's Gift Aid Scheme, the Relief Chest Scheme of The Freemasons' Grand Charity (Registered Charity Number 281942) can reclaim the tax you have already paid on your donation and add it to the value of your gift.

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

DECLARATION

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the relevant box(es) below:

☐ on this donation only ☒ in the past 4 years ☒ in the future

Please notify us if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or your home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

Barcode: **000104672215**

Date: **01/01/2017**

Personal Details:

Please enter your name and address in FULL using BLOCK CAPITALS.

Title: ☒ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Dr ☐ Other ()

Surname: **PARTRIDGE**

Forename(s): **ALAN**

Address: **1 CANARY STREET**
BIRDSWOLD

Postcode: **BD1 2EF**

Telephone: **01772723456**

Signature: **A. Partridge.**

Gift Aid It

Don't forget to complete the Gift Aid envelopes as well as the forms to boost your contribution by 25p for every £1 donated.



Relief Chest Scheme

Gift Aid It



Thank You

Very kindly fill in the following details and return the form to the charity.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone:

Mobile:

Email:

Event: **FEST2021**

Signature:

Date:

The Freemasons' Grand Charity

(Registered Charity No. 2015001)

Instruction to your Bank/Building Society to pay by Direct Debit



Please fill in the details below using a ball-point pen and send to:
The Freemasons' Grand Charity, 10, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 3AL

Name and full postal address of your bank or building society

To: The Manager

Bank/Building Society

Address

Postcode

Branch/Building Society Account Number

Branch Sort Code

Bank and building societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account

Instruction to your bank or building society

Please pay The Grand Charity of the United Grand Lodge of England Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assumed by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with The Grand Charity of the United Grand Lodge of England and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature:

Date:

Donate: Donations into the Relief Chest for the Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

I promise to pay you the amount sum of £

every Month ☐ Year ☐ 12 months ☐ 6 months ☐

Payments are to start on

(You may wish to consider months after the day that you sign this form)

will end to continue for a period of days ☐ Year ☐ 12 months ☐ 6 months ☐

or ☐ years thereafter, or until my death, whichever is earlier

Please allocate this Regular Donation to:

Larger Chapter name

Larger Chapter No.

Relief Chest No. **FEST2021**

The Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

Donate: Donations into the Relief Chest for the Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

☒ Please tick one or more of the following as applicable:

I enclose a cheque payable to The Freemasons' Grand Charity

for the sum of £ **240.00**

☐ I make a donation of £

on or about the

Please allocate this Single Donation to:

Larger Chapter name **MADE UP LODGE**

Larger Chapter No. **10123**

Relief Chest No. **FEST2021**

The Province of West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Foundation 2021 Festival

Gift Aid

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

If you are a UK tax payer, under the Government's Gift Aid Scheme, the Relief Chest Scheme of The Freemasons' Grand Charity (Registered Charity Number 2015001) can reclaim the tax you have already paid on your donation and add it to the value of your gift.

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

DECLARATION

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the relevant box(es) below:

☐ on this donation only ☒ in the past 4 years ☒ in the future

Please notify us if you:

1. Want to cancel this declaration;

2. Change your name or your home address;

3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.



Date **01 / 01 / 2017**

Personal Details:

Please enter your name and address IN FULL using BLOCK CAPITALS:

Title: ☒ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Dr ☐ Other ()

Surname: **PARTRIDGE**

Forename(s): **ALAN**

Address: **1 CANARY STREET**

BIRDSWOLD

Postcode: **BD1 2EF**

Telephone: **01772723456**

Signature: **A. Partridge.**



Festival Patronage Amounts



JEWEL

Steward £240 (£5 Per Month)

Vice Patron £480 (£10 Per Month)

Patron £720 (£15 Per Month)

Grand Patron £1200 (£25 Per Month)



LODGES OR GROUPS

Vice Patron £1500

Patron £3000

Grand Patron £4500



ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS

Half The Above
Amounts For Lodges



Fundraising

It is hoped that Groups, Lodges and Chapters would wish to organise events in support of the festival with any proceeds going towards it. Quite separate to formal donations within lodge or Chapter and using the white relief chest scheme envelopes, donations can be made from outside events or Lodge and Chapter Festive Boards using the Miscellaneous donation form.



A new and permanent Provincial tie and cufflinks will be available for craft and royal arch with all proceeds going to festival. These items will match the coat of arms on the festival jewel and will form a splendid set of apparel to enhance the festival jewel.

It is hoped that lodges and chapters celebrating significant milestones will choose to make suitable donations to the festival and become patrons of it, entitling them to append to their Summonses that they are indeed a patron of the festival.

The whole charity team from myself through the Provincial Grand Charity Steward Phil Preston, Regional, Group, Lodge, Chapter Charity Stewards and Festival Reps will be on hand to assist you with questions and advice on all matters relating to the 2021 MCF Festival.

There is further advice and information available from the Masonic Charitable Foundation link on the front page of our own West Lancashire website which also shows videos of real life beneficiaries from the charity.

We very much look forward to your support.

With thanks
David Winder
Festival Vice President

Province of West Lancashire
2021 Festival





Festival Committee

David Winder ~ Vice President

Phil Preston ~ Chairman

Geoff Saul ~ Secretary

John Whitehead ~ Assistant Secretary

David Randerson ~ Design & Procurement of all Marketing Materials

Chris Butterfield ~ Royal Arch Cabinet Representative

Frank Umbers ~ Group Chairmen Representative

Mark Holloway ~ Communications Officer

www.westlancsfreemasons.org.uk

Province of West Lancashire
2021 Festival

