

Your Charity



Helping those in need

How we can help you

The West Lancashire Freemasons' Charity is the charity of and for the Freemasons of West Lancashire. We help Freemasons of our Province and their dependants who are experiencing financial difficulty. We can also provide support, in certain cases, for non-Freemasons and for a variety of charitable purposes. Unfortunately, we cannot help in every instance but every application whether from an individual or a group of people, will be carefully considered.

Your charity was formed in 2008 by the amalgamation of all the former West Lancashire Masonic charities and is now the largest Freemasons' charity outside London.

Assistance is available to help with living costs, emergency payments and essential home maintenance. We also assist with education related activities for residents in the Province whose parents and grandparents were **not** Freemasons and certain community projects. In some cases we can provide help for other charitable causes.

If you are or have been a Freemason or are a widow or dependant of a Freemason and are in need of financial assistance, we may be able to help you. You can start the process by contacting your Lodge Almoner, the Provincial Almoner, someone you know who is a Freemason or by ringing Freemasonry Cares on 0300 020 0120.

If you are aware of a deserving community project, you can direct the leaders of the project to our website, www.westlancsfreemasons.org.uk/wlcf-home/ where they will find guidance and an application form on the 'apply' page.

Please be assured that all applications are treated in the strictest confidence.

How you can help us

In order to help so many people and organisations, we need to raise funds each and every year. All our funds come from Freemasons directly or indirectly. Indirectly in the form of investment income on the funds which have been accumulated over many years as a result of Masonic donations. Your charity holds significant investment assets which produce an income each year. This income is utilised, in its entirety, to meet our obligations to our petitioners. However, our investment income alone is insufficient to meet all our costs and this is precisely the reason why we are so dependent upon your donations. It is also essential that we do not utilise capital in order to meet our costs as this would necessarily erode our investment income. Direct giving arises from Freemasons' donations either through their Lodges and Groups or straight to the charity in the form of individual donations or legacies. You can make a difference by ensuring that your charity is top of the list when considering your Lodge donations each year. If you are able, you may also consider a regular donation direct to the charity. This can be done by standing order, monthly, quarterly or annually. If you are a tax payer, this can be done with the benefit of gift aid which means that the government make a useful, free, addition to your donation. If you would be so generous as to consider donating in this fashion, please complete the two forms on the back of this booklet.

Over the years, many of the funds which are comprised within our investment portfolio have been donated to your charity by individual legacies. Many people leave money or assets to charity on their demise, to help those less fortunate than themselves, after their death. This is a very effective means for the charity to increase its funds and has the advantage of being a deduction from ones estate in calculating any inheritance tax liability. If you consider leaving a legacy to your charity, we do recommend that you seek professional advice in making your will or in adding a codicil in the event that your will is already written.

Giving regularly

If you are a UK bank account holder and would like to make a regular donation to your charity simply complete the banker's order form below and send it to us.

Banker's order form

To (name of your bank)

Bank address

Please pay from my account to **The West Lancashire Freemasons' Charity**

Sort code: **40-29-28**

Account number : **91007572**

The sum of
(in figures)

£

(in words)

Each month/quarter/year until further notice

Account

Holder

Sort code

Account no.

Starting date

Signature

Date

Please send the completed form to FREE-POST WLFC

Gift aid declaration

If you are a UK tax payer and income tax has been levied on your income at the time you earned it (including your pension) we can re-claim tax that you paid, at the basic rate, thereby enhancing the value of your donation, at no additional cost to you.

Gift aid declaration form

Forename
(s)

Surname

Address

Post code

I am a UK taxpayer paying at the basic or higher rate of tax. I would like the West Lancashire Freemasons' Charity to treat as Gift Aid Donations any donations I have made during the previous six years and any donations I make from the date of this declaration until further notice.

Signature

Date

One off payment

I enclose a cheque payable to 'The West Lancashire Freemasons' Charity

OR I wish to pay £.....by

Card name

Card No:

Expiry date

Issue No.

Signature