



**Masonic**  
Charitable Foundation

# Your New Masonic Charity **Essential Guide**





Building better lives by enabling opportunity, advancing healthcare and education and promoting independence for Freemasons, their families and the wider community.



## For Freemasons, for families, for everyone

English Freemasons have a long and honourable history of charitable giving. The funds raised have improved the lives of many thousands of Freemasons and family members, as well as those in the wider community, who are in need.

The formation of the Masonic Charitable Foundation brings together the full range of centralised charitable support that has evolved over more than two centuries. By providing a single focal point for all fundraising and charitable support activities, the new charity will provide a robust and modern organisation that is fit for the future.

I consider it a great honour to be the Grand President of the Masonic Charitable Foundation, one of the largest charities in the country. I commend it to you and trust that you will join me in giving it the active support that it deserves.

**HRH The Duke of Kent, KG  
Grand Master**





### Geoff's Story

Take a look at our video where Geoff and his daughter Sue tell us how our support helped their family.

**You**  [masonic\\_charity](https://www.youtube.com/masonic_charity)



## A Message from our Chairman and Chief Executive

In 1973, then Assistant Grand Master Lord Cornwallis commented that “the future of the charities is fundamental to the existence and success of Freemasonry”. It was with this in mind that our Presidents, Trustees, Chief Executives and staff embarked on a review, culminating in the launch of this new, overarching charity: the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

The launch of the Foundation marks a new era in the long and proud history of Masonic charity. It will build on the increasing collaboration between the four Charities over recent years and go one step further by providing a truly consistent, more readily accessible and highly responsive service to the Masonic community.

Just as the new logo depicts a charitable heart at the centre of

the widely recognisable square and compasses symbol, it is our hope that the Masonic Charitable Foundation will become firmly established at the heart of Freemasonry. We also believe that the Foundation has the potential to become instantly recognisable as a force for good within the charity sector and by the public at large through its support for the wider community.

The start of this new era is an exciting moment for Freemasonry and we hope you will embrace your new charity as you did its predecessors.

**James H. Newman**  
Chairman

**David Innes**  
Chief Executive



# Support for Freemasons and families



## The Marchington's Story

Watch our video to find out how we supported the children of the Marchington family after the loss of their father, Tony.

YouTube [masonic\\_charity](https://www.youtube.com/masonic_charity)



## 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 – Older people

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

### ♥ Practical assistance

Our Advice & Support Team offers confidential, impartial and practical guidance about the help we can 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

Those seeking support 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 035 60 90**

Enquiries can also be sent to [help@mcf.org.uk](mailto:help@mcf.org.uk) or

Masonic Charitable Foundation  
60 Great Queen Street,  
London WC2B 5AZ



# Community support and research



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.

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** for those in poverty, debt or unemployment
- ♥ **Health and disability** for people experiencing chronic or life-limiting conditions and disabilities
- ♥ **Social exclusion and disadvantage** 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**

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](http://www.mcf.org.uk/community)



Lifelites provides educational 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 and administrative services meaning Lifelites can focus on delivering its life-enhancing technology.

For further information visit: [www.mcf.org.uk/lifelites](http://www.mcf.org.uk/lifelites)

Lifelites registered charity in England and Wales  
No: 1115655



# Supporting your new charity



## Fundraising

We rely upon the generous donations of Freemasons and their families to enable us to provide our range of charitable support.

We do not fundraise from members of the public or use street collections.

## Festival Appeals

Each year, four Masonic Provinces hold a Festival to celebrate their achievement in raising funds for our work. During the years leading up to the Festival, fundraising events and activities take place that make a significant contribution to our income.

There are many ways to fundraise including sponsored challenges and social events. We are extremely grateful to everyone who supports us.

## Legacies

Legacy gifts make an important contribution to the funding of the Masonic Charitable Foundation. Every gift, large or small, can help to make a difference to those assisted through our support and services.

## The Relief Chest Scheme

The Relief Chest Scheme is a free service that Lodges, Chapters, Provinces and other recognised Masonic organisations can use to manage their charitable giving efficiently.

The Relief Chest Scheme holds the funds in a dedicated account and uses its charitable status to provide a range of benefits to the donor, including reclaiming Gift Aid.

The services provided by the Relief Chest Scheme relieve the chest holders of the burden of administration of charity funds, therefore saving time and resources and allowing them to concentrate on fundraising.

For further information, or to open a Relief Chest for your Lodge, Chapter or Appeal, please visit:

[www.mcf.org.uk/reliefchest](http://www.mcf.org.uk/reliefchest)



# Your Questions Answered



## Grants and Charitable Support

**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.

## Fundraising 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.

**My Province is currently in Festival to one of the four separate Masonic Charities. Do I need to change my direct debit or standing order?**

No. Please do not change or cancel any regular payment arrangements. All donations will continue to be received by the existing Charities and count towards Festival Appeals already launched. All donations will be used to fund charitable activities in keeping with the cause that the Appeal is supporting.

**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.

**Continued on next page >**



## 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.

## General

### Why was a review of the central Masonic Charities necessary?

The last major review of the Charities took place over 40 years ago. Much has changed since then, however charity remains a fundamental principle of Freemasonry. The Masonic Charitable Foundation will ensure that charitable support remains effective and adaptable in order to meet the future needs of Freemasons and their families.

### What will happen to the funds of the four separate Charities?

The separate Charities will remain as legal entities in order to receive legacies and donations from the ongoing Festival Appeals. The Masonic Charitable Foundation will be the Corporate Trustee of the separate Charities and will allocate their funds for the purpose for which they were originally donated.

### Further Information

If you would like further information about the Masonic Charitable Foundation, or if your question has not been answered on these pages, please email: [info@mcf.org.uk](mailto:info@mcf.org.uk) or call **020 3146 3333**



## Who governs the Masonic Charitable Foundation?

The Masonic Charitable Foundation is governed by a board of Trustees. There are also Members appointed by each Province and committees of Freemasons to help govern the work of the charity, which is administered by a Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer and staff.

### Trustees

**Charles Akle**  
London

**John Boyington CBE**  
Yorkshire,  
West Riding

**Michael Codd**  
Hampshire  
& Isle of Wight

**Jean-Paul da Costa**  
London

**Charles Cunnington**  
Derbyshire

**Tim Dallas-Chapman**  
Jersey

**Simon Duckworth OBE, DL**  
Cambridgeshire

**Adrian Flook**  
London

**Tony Harvey**  
Derbyshire

**Chris Head**  
West Kent

**Mike Heenan**  
Staffordshire

**Richard Hone QC**  
London

**John Hornblow**  
Sussex

**James Newman**  
Chairman,  
Yorkshire, West Riding

**Andrew Ross OBE**  
London

**Ian Sabin**  
London

**Willie Shackell CBE**  
Buckinghamshire

**Sandy Stewart TD**  
Staffordshire

**Nigel Vaughan**  
London

**David Watson**  
Northamptonshire  
& Huntingdonshire

**Andrew Wauchope**  
London

**Chris White**  
East Lancashire

**Sir Paul Williams OBE, DL**  
South Wales

**Mike Woodcock**  
Nottinghamshire

### Senior Leadership

**David Innes**  
Chief Executive

**Les Hutchinson**  
Chief Operating Officer



From 1 April 2016, the Masonic Charitable Foundation will be responsible for processing personal data currently processed by the central Masonic Charities. The ways in which your data will be used will not change. You can view our privacy policy in full at [mcf.org.uk/privacy](http://mcf.org.uk/privacy). Please contact us if you have any objection to your data being processed by the Masonic Charitable Foundation.





**Bringing the four charities together**



**Single charity**



**Full range of  
Masonic and  
community grants**



**One point  
of enquiry**



**Dependent on  
Masonic donations**



**Please show  
your support**



**Masonic**  
Charitable Foundation

**For Freemasons, for families, for everyone**

60 Great Queen Street | London | WC2B 5AZ

Tel: 020 3146 3333 | [info@mcf.org.uk](mailto:info@mcf.org.uk)

[www.mcf.org.uk](http://www.mcf.org.uk)



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