

About The Freemasons' Grand Charity

The Freemasons' Grand Charity is a grant-making charity that supports:

- Freemasons and their dependants who are in financial need
- National charities serving England and Wales, and worldwide emergency relief work
- Other Masonic Charities.

The Charity is funded by Freemasons and their families, mainly through an annual contribution made by individual Masons via their Lodges; fundraising 'Festivals' held each year in one of the Provinces within England and Wales; donations and legacies.

The grants made by the Charity continue a commitment to charitable support that began nearly 300 years ago in the earliest days of organised Freemasonry.

The Charity also operates the Relief Chest Scheme – a free service for Masonic organisations that was specifically established to help them efficiently manage the money they collect to donate to charity.

Since 1981, The Freemasons' Grand Charity has made grants totalling more than £80 million



THE FREEMASONS' GRAND CHARITY

Registered Charity No. 281942

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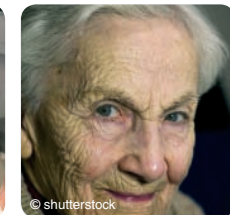
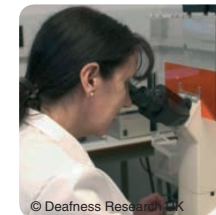
Website: www.grandcharity.org

If you would like more information about the work of The Freemasons' Grand Charity, including details of how to apply for a grant, then please visit our website or contact us at the above address.

Alternatively, anyone interested in the activities of The Freemasons' Grand Charity is welcome to attend one of the regular General Meetings held at locations throughout England and Wales. Contact the office for details of forthcoming meetings.

Date of publication: March 2009

INTRODUCING THE FREEMASONS' GRAND CHARITY



THE FREEMASONS' GRAND CHARITY

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

The Freemasons' Grand Charity has been providing charitable support since 1981

- **Over £80 million dedicated to charitable support**

NON-MASONIC GRANTS

- **Over £30 million donated to non-Masonic charities working in England and Wales**

- **Over £7.5 million given to more than 250 hospice services in support of their care for thousands of patients**

- **Nearly £2 million for emergency relief work worldwide following devastating disasters**

MASONIC GRANTS

- **Over £45 million given to assist Freemasons, in financial need, and their dependants**

- **Over £5 million given to support the other Central Masonic Charities**

Masonic Support

The Freemasons' Grand Charity supports individual Freemasons and their dependants. It also assists other Masonic charities and aids the charitable activities of many local and Provincial Lodges.

Masonic Relief Grants

One of the primary aims of The Freemasons' Grand Charity is to provide assistance for individual Freemasons and their dependants – including widows, partners and divorced spouses. Financial grants are made to cover essential everyday living costs, unexpected needs (eg funeral bills) and the purchase of mobility equipment (eg stairlifts).

The Grand Charity Relief Chest Scheme

The Relief Chest Scheme enables Masonic organisations to efficiently manage the money they collect to donate to charity. Around 4,000 Lodges, Chapters and other Masonic organisations take advantage of the free service that works on their behalf to reclaim tax relief under Gift Aid and invest funds at a favourable rate of interest.



Other Masonic Charities

The Freemasons' Grand Charity has the unique responsibility of providing financial support for the work of the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and the Masonic Samaritan Fund, when justifiable needs are identified.

Support for Charities

The Freemasons' Grand Charity has given grants to hundreds of charities to support their work in areas of relevance and interest to Masons. Grants can range from a few hundred pounds to over £1 million.

These are a few examples of grants given since 1981:

Medical Research

The Institute of Cancer Research and Ovarian Cancer Action were awarded grants of £1 million each. The grants fund respectively *'The Grand Charity of Freemasons Chair of Molecular Biology'* for research into male cancers and work towards the prevention and cure of ovarian cancer.

Youth Opportunities

The Scout Association was awarded a grant of £500,000 as a contribution towards the Kids Outdoors Campaign, which promotes the personal development of young people from all walks of life by giving them access to outdoor activities and helping them to learn new skills.

Vulnerable People

SSAFA Forces Help received a grant of £100,000 to provide family accommodation alongside the medical facilities for injured service men and women. Many service personnel face extended periods of residential treatment and having the support of family and friends is crucial to recovery.

Hospices

The Freemasons' Grand Charity has been helping hospices throughout England and Wales since 1984. During this time, more than £7.5 million has been donated towards their operating costs.

Air Ambulances

The Freemasons' Grand Charity has supported air ambulance charities in the delivery of their life-saving services. To date £370,000 has been donated to one of the busiest voluntary emergency services in the country.

Emergency Disaster Relief

The President of the Grand Charity is empowered to make emergency grants to help fund disaster relief work at home and overseas. For example, following the 2004 tsunami three emergency grants, totalling £135,000, were made to the British Red Cross and the District Grand Lodges of Sri Lanka and Madras.