



Masonic
Charitable Foundation



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT 2027 FESTIVAL APPEAL

**MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**



Supporting your masonic charity

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#2027FESTIVAL



Message from the PGM

RW Bro Jonathan Charles Whitaker
Provincial Grand Master



It is a huge pleasure to announce the launch of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight 2027 Festival in support of the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF), the Freemasons' Charity.

The Festival, launched at our Provincial AGM on 29 July 2021, will focus our fundraising over the next few years for the MCF and its beneficiaries. As we gradually come out of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am conscious of the toll that it has taken upon our members, families and friends. We therefore launch our Festival in the knowledge that we will continue, as we always have, to give of our best, as our circumstances allow. Charity is one of the four key values of Freemasonry and this 2027 Festival should be the main aim of lodge giving during this period. Your lodge Charity Steward and Visiting Officer will be able to lead and support your lodge fundraising activities, with plenty of

guidance from the Area and Provincial Festival teams. Individual regular payment giving is by far the easiest and most effective way of supporting the Festival and I hope that every Freemason in our Province will be able to make some donation, within their means. A festival jewel will be available to those that qualify.

I look forward to sharing the fundraising efforts and events with you throughout the 2027 Festival period and with them the enjoyment it will bring along the way.

Thank you for your support and commitment to our own Masonic Charitable Foundation.

Why should I support the Hampshire & Isle of Wight 2027 Festival Appeal?

The MCF is your charity

Freemasonry has a long and proud history of charitable giving, which continues today through the work of the MCF.

The MCF builds better lives by encouraging opportunity, promoting independence and improving wellbeing for Freemasons, their families and the wider community.

The MCF relies on the masonic community to identify those in need and to provide the generous donations that fund their entire work.

Every year the MCF supports

5,000 members of the masonic community at a cost of over **£15 million**

Hundreds of charities with grants totalling **£5.5 million**



By donating to the MCF you could...

- Help families make ends meet when times get tough
- Give greater independence to people with disabilities
- Give young people the opportunity to succeed in their education
- Provide high-quality care for older, disabled or seriously ill people
- Fund life-saving and life-changing medical treatment
- Tackle social isolation and loneliness
- Advance ground-breaking medical research

Support in Hampshire & Isle of Wight

OVER THE PAST YEAR* THE MCF HAS GIVEN

256 GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE MASONIC COMMUNITY TOTALLING

£517,973

10 LOCAL CHARITIES RECEIVED SUPPORT, WITH GRANTS TOTALLING

£30,380



THE 2016 HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL APPEAL RAISED £7,746,319 FOR THE Royal Masonic Trust For Girls And Boys

WHICH RELIEVED POVERTY AND ADVANCED EDUCATION TO GIVE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE THE BEST START IN LIFE.

* financial year 2019/20

When Gus was 17 years old, his father died suddenly, leaving behind Gus, his mother and two sisters.

“My family heard of the MCF through my grandma. We got in touch, and they gave me a grant for educational expenses, which helped massively because my mother was a single mother, and it was often difficult for her to afford the things I needed and to help me out as much as she wanted to. The MCF also gave me a laptop with a lot of accessories, which at university is essential.”

“In my last year of university, I realised that I really wanted to become a teacher. To get onto a teacher training course, I had to work as a teacher, not being paid. The MCF once again stepped up and gave me a grant to help me through that year.

“I’m a PE teacher now, and I absolutely love what I do. I would really recommend anyone facing hard times to contact the MCF. They can help in so many different ways.”



When Mark’s wife, Jacqui, was involved in a car accident which left her with serious brain injuries, their lives and the lives of their two daughters, Ella and Grace were changed forever.

“I’m not someone who would usually ask for help, but when I finally contacted my lodge Almoner, he was already waiting for me. I told him what had happened, and that my family were now facing severe financial difficulties as a result. We put together an application, and the MCF soon came back with a grant to help me cover the cost of our bills.

“Now, we receive costs towards our travel so that we are able to visit Jacqui regularly. We go every week, and it’s particularly important for the girls. Visiting will always be an emotional struggle, but I have got good friends to support me and my family.

“The support from the MCF has been ten out of ten, there is no shadow of a doubt. I feel like they’ve got my back and my daughters’ backs. It’s not just the money, it’s the sense of family.”



When Margaret developed a problem with her wrist, she found herself facing a huge NHS waiting list, so she turned to us for help.

“I had four operations cancelled in a year – every time I was given a date for the surgery, it was cancelled. I eventually had emergency surgery, but it failed, and this was the start of a series of unsuccessful operations.

“I was finding it hard to get on with everyday life, so my husband Ray suggested I ask the MCF for help. Our Almoner came round and sat us down, and together we filled out an application – job done!

“The MCF provided me with funding for another operation, and thankfully things are looking good so far. In fact, I hope to start driving again soon – good news for Ray, since he doesn’t drive so I am his chauffer! The MCF have really come up trumps and I am massively grateful for all of their help.”



After a premature birth, Ted developed cerebral palsy and his mobility is severely affected. His mother, Sally, turned to the MCF for help with Ted’s walking.

“I got in touch with the MCF, and they helped us fund an Upsee mobility harness, which allows for assisted walking. This means Ted is able to enjoy the great outdoors!

“Now, Ted is able to do so much more than he could before. He can join in with his brother when they run around the garden, and loves chasing Alex around their grandparents’ house!

“The boys love holding hands with each other and cuddling – it’s moments like these that make having twins really special. The MCF’s support has really given Ted a sense of independence, which is really important for a growing child. We are all so thankful.”



How can I get involved with the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Festival Appeal?

By taking these three easy steps, you can make a huge difference to the Hampshire & Isle of Wight 2027 Festival Appeal and the people we support:

- 1 Donate**
- 2 Fundraise**
- 3 Spread the word**

Get in touch

For further guidance on how to donate, get in touch with the Relief Chest team:

 reliefchest@mcf.org.uk

 020 3146 3352



1 Donate

There are lots of different ways you can donate to the Hampshire & Isle of Wight 2027 Festival Appeal, whether it's a one-off donation or a long-term commitment.

Donate online

Make a single donation or set up a regular donation:

 [fundraising.mcf.org.uk/
Festival-MCF2027](https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Festival-MCF2027)

Donate over the phone

To set up a regular donation:

 020 3146 3345

To make a single donation by debit or credit card:

 020 3146 3346

Donate by text

Donate £5 by texting **MCF2027** to:

 **70500**

Use Gift Aid envelopes

The MCF can supply Gift Aid envelopes for alms collections, festive boards and other occasions; use of the envelopes will boost eligible donations by 25 per cent.

Envelopes can be obtained from the Provincial office:

 023 8026 1555

Use paper forms

You can complete the form at the back of this booklet, or download the donation form that's right for you from the MCF website:

 [fundraising.mcf.org.uk/
Festival-MCF2027](https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Festival-MCF2027)

Completed forms and Gift Aid envelopes should be returned to:

 **Relief Chest Scheme
Masonic Charitable
Foundation,
60 Great Queen Street,
London WC2B 5AZ**

Donate using a QR code

Scan this QR code with your phone to make a donation

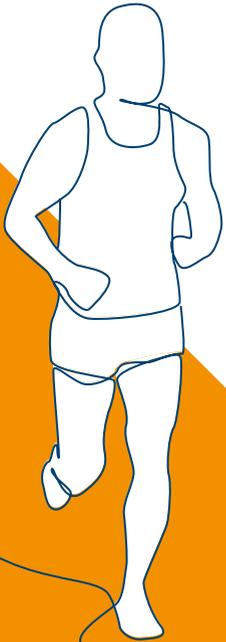


2 Fundraise

Social or sponsored events will raise vital funds for the Festival and it is important that each lodge gives careful consideration to planning and holding one or more events each year.

Make it fun

There are many ways of taking part to raise money. You could arrange a quiz night or special dinner, take part in a daring challenge or sign up for a sponsored event – whatever you do, make it fun!



Make it easy

Setting up an online fundraising page takes just a few minutes and is an easy way for your friends and family to sponsor you. All the donations will go directly into the Festival Relief Chest, saving you time and helping you focus on your fundraising.

Sharing your page through social media or email is a great way to build momentum and keep your friends up to date.

Visit the MCF website to create your own online fundraising page:

 mcf.org.uk/festival

The MCF's sponsorship and Gift Aid forms make it easy to collect donations both in person and online.

Visit the MCF website and download the donation forms you need to start fundraising:

 mcf.org.uk/festival

 020 3146 3333



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Make it worth more

If you are a UK taxpayer, the MCF can reclaim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. It won't cost you any extra – all you have to do is make a Gift Aid declaration.

You can find out more about Gift Aid on the Relief Chest Scheme resources page:

 mcf.org.uk/reliefchest/resources

Make it MCF

From running tops and water bottles, to keyrings and coasters, the MCF has a wide range of branded merchandise that will help you to get in the fundraising spirit and spread the word.

Contact us to get inspired:

 communications@mcf.org.uk



3 Spread the word!

The 2027 Festival Appeal is not just a chance to raise vital funds for the MCF; it is also an opportunity to educate every member in Hampshire & Isle of Wight about the support available and the work carried out in your area, so that if anyone ever finds themselves in need, they know that they can approach the MCF.

To find out more about the MCF's impact in your area visit:

 mcf.org.uk/2020/how-we-helped-your-local-community

Get online

Keep up to date with all the latest MCF news by subscribing to their newsletter or following them on social media. Comment on stories and share them with friends and family to spread the word.

 mcf.org.uk/sign-up

 [@themcf](https://www.facebook.com/themcf)

 [@Masonic_Charity](https://twitter.com/Masonic_Charity)

 [@masonic_charity](https://www.instagram.com/masonic_charity)

 [/MasonicCharitableFoundation](https://www.youtube.com/MasonicCharitableFoundation)



The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit The Grand Charity of the United Grand Lodge of England will notify you ten working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request The Grand Charity of the United Grand Lodge of England to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by The Grand Charity of the United Grand Lodge of England or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society. If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when The Grand Charity of the United Grand Lodge of England asks you to.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

Honorifics

Individual honorifics

The Province of Hampshire & Isle of Wight wishes to acknowledge the generosity of its members by issuing festival jewels to all qualifying brethren. The Province fully understands that it may not be within every brother's means to qualify for the various honorifics and greatly appreciates all donations made.

Become a **Steward*** of the 2027 Festival by paying or promising to pay a minimum of £500 towards the Festival Appeal. Once qualified and on payment of £10 to help defray production costs you will receive your Festival jewel.

Become a **Vice-Patron*** of the 2027 Festival by paying a minimum of £1,000 towards the Festival Appeal.

Become a **Patron*** of the 2027 Festival by paying a minimum of £1,500 towards the Festival Appeal.

Become a **Grand-Patron*** of the 2027 Festival by paying a minimum of £2,000 towards the Festival Appeal.

Partners may become a **Steward** of the 2027 Festival by paying a minimum of £50 (excluding Gift Aid).

Lodge honorifics

A series of honorifics have been set to acknowledge and celebrate lodge financial achievements. Certificates will be awarded to lodges that donate or promise to donate at the following level:

Bronze – £375 (average per capita as of festival Launch date)

Silver – £500

Gold – £750

Platinum – £1,000



* = excluding GiftAid and the interest awarded by the MCF.

Support for Freemasons and their families

The MCF can provide a wide range of help and support for financial, health, family and care-related needs including:

Daily living costs

- Household arrears
- Support for rent and security deposit
- Emergency household repairs
- Boiler replacement
- White goods and furnishings
- Funeral costs
- Childcare costs

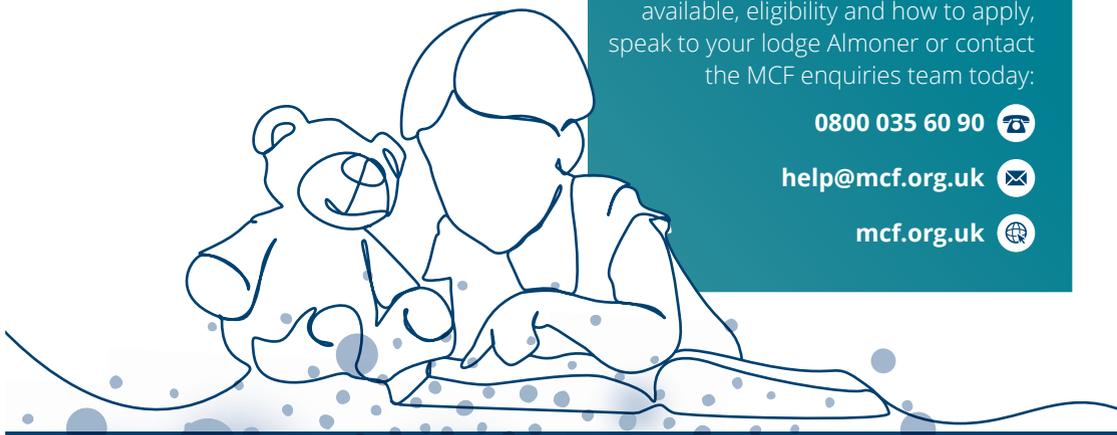
Health, care and wellbeing

- Initial consultations
- Investigative tests and scans
- Surgery
- Physiotherapy
- Manual therapy
- Speech therapy
- Occupational therapy assessments
- Mobility equipment
- Home adaptations
- Motability vehicle support
- Dental work
- Mental health support
- Short breaks for carers

Children, young people and education

- Computer equipment
- Educational assessments
- School fees – in exceptional circumstances
- Higher education
- Apprenticeships
- Childcare costs
- Support for exceptional talent

The above are not exhaustive lists of support available, and all support is considered on a case-by-case basis.



Can the MCF help you?

For advice about the support available, eligibility and how to apply, speak to your lodge Almoner or contact the MCF enquiries team today:

0800 035 60 90

help@mcf.org.uk

mcf.org.uk



Relief Chest Scheme Masonic Charitable Foundation, 60 Great Queen Street London WC2B 5AZ
Telephone: 020 3146 3352 Email: reliefchest@mcf.org.uk Web: www.mcf.org.uk/reliefchest

Regular & Single Donation Form



Hampshire & Isle of Wight 2027 Festival Relief Chest No: MCF2027



Important Notes

1. This form contains a Single/Regular Donation, Gift Aid Declaration a Direct Debit Mandate and Guarantee. Please complete the relevant parts and pass it to your Relief Chest Representative.
2. All donations for the Relief Chest under a Regular Donation have to be made by Direct Debit from a Bank or Building Society account in the United Kingdom. Bank Standing orders, cash and cheques cannot be accepted for a Regular Donation. The charity is authorised to collect only the fixed amount specified on your form. The charity guarantees that it will make no other collections. Should it do so in error, a full and immediate refund will be made. To allow for both the charity and your Bank to process Direct Debits, this form must be received in the Relief Chest Scheme Office at least two months before the first payment is due.
3. You must complete a separate form for each Relief Chest if you wish to support more than one.
4. Please notify us if you change your name, address or Bank/Building Society details.
5. Tax cannot be reclaimed unless the relevant box(es) of the Gift Aid Declaration overleaf are ticked.
6. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

For further information on Gift Aid, please visit www.hmrc.gov.uk

Why not increase your donation by letting us reclaim your tax?

If you Gift Aid your donation, we can reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give.

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Oral Gift Aid Declaration

For use by Relief Chest Representative only.

If the donor has completed this form overleaf please leave this section blank. If you have been unable to obtain the donor's signature you can ask them if they are willing to make a Gift Aid Declaration and then tell us if they agree. We do not require the donor's signature. We will simply confirm the details to the donor in writing. Please fill in the donor's full name and address, post code and Lodge/Chest information on the other side of this form and sign the declaration below.

I confirm that the person named overleaf told me on _____ (date) that he/she wished all qualifying donations made to the Relief Chest Scheme (The Grand Charity Registered Charity Number 281942) in the last four years and all donations made in the future to be treated as Gift Aid until otherwise notified. If a valid Gift Aid Declaration from this donor is not already held, The Relief Chest office will confirm in writing to him/her.

Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) - Privacy Notice

The Relief Chest Scheme is committed to protecting your personal information. The scheme is fully compliant with DPA and UK GDPR legislation when handling your personal data. Our legal basis for collecting, processing and sharing personal information as set out in our Privacy Policy is based on the legitimate interest of the Relief Chest Scheme.

To find out more about how we handle, share and store your personal information and how to amend or request a copy of any personal information we hold about you, please visit www.mcf/reliefchest/privacypolicy

Signature _____

Date _____



Building better lives

60 Great Queen Street | London | WC2B 5AZ

Tel: 020 3146 3333 | info@mcf.org.uk

mcf.org.uk

Charity number 1164703. Company number 09751836.

Keep up to date with all the latest Hampshire & Isle of Wight 2027 Festival Appeal news:

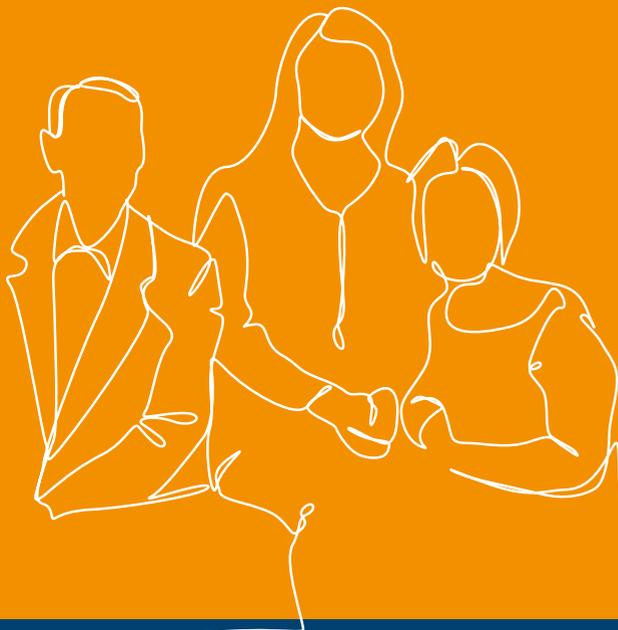


 hiowmasons.org/2027festival

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