



## **Province of Yorkshire West Riding.**

### **Masonic Charity**

Welcome to the fraternity that is Freemasonry and to the Province of Yorkshire West Riding.

There are three Grand principles on which our Order is founded and which are stated in the ritual; these are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. A modern interpretation of these are the newer values of Integrity, Friendship, Respect and Charity. These principles and values are at the very heart of Freemasonry.

Relief or Charity, in a Masonic context, is the realization of the opportunity to provide assistance, both financially and materially, to those in need or those who are experiencing difficulty both within Freemasonry and our local communities.

Charity is at the very heart of all we do as Freemasons both in terms of looking after our own Brethren who may need our assistance and in providing support to our local communities by way of financial grants and by contributing our time to helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

Your time and your regular contributions, without either proving to be a burden on you or your family, will be an expectation of your membership of our fraternity.

There are two Masonic Charities of which you should be aware. The Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF) is a national charity administered from Great Queen Street. The MCF provides support for Freemasons and their families when life takes an unexpected turn for the worse. It offers a wide range of grants and support services for financial, health, family and care-related needs. The MCF also funds hospices, medical research and disaster relief appeals. West Riding Masonic Charities Ltd (WRMCL) is the local charity for this Province. WRMCL provides support to individuals through CHOICES (Community Help Offering Independent Care & Effective Support) and makes grants to non-masonic charities and charitable organisations within our Province through the Provincial Grand Master's Fund.

In offering this insight into Masonic Charity we would ask, should you decide our organisation is for you, to consider making a regular donation of whatever you can comfortably give to Masonic Charities. This can be done by standing order and, if you complete a Gift Aid Declaration, we can reclaim tax on the donations you may make. You can do this through your Charity Steward in your own Lodge.

We trust having made the decision to join us that you will enjoy your Freemasonry and all that it can offer.