

Province of Yorkshire, West Riding. The Lodge Almoner

Each lodge appoints an almoner whose duty is to look to the welfare and wellbeing of the members of the lodge, their partners, widows, and dependents. The lodge almoner is supported by the Provincial Almoner, Bob Greening-Jackson, and his team of assistants.

The Provincial Almoner works closely with two masonic charities, The Masonic Charitable Foundation, ("MCF"), and in our province West Riding Masonic Charities Limited, ("WRMCL"), and is the conduit for applications referred by lodge almoners to those charities.

MCF is the major masonic charity and provides financial assistance by way of one-off grants, medical grants, and continuing income support to those in need who are referred to them. The charity's website https://mcf.org.uk/ gives full details of their activities and eligibility of a freemason's dependents for assistance.

WRMCL is our local charity, and whilst the level of support it can give is not of the level the national charity supports, through the CHOICES fund it provides a quick and "agile" response to those cases referred to it. As well as giving financial assistance, CHOICES helps by way of providing white goods, carrying out house repairs and improvements such as installation of grab rails and wheelchair ramps. WRMCL maintains the same eligibility criteria as MCF for the dependents of freemasons.

If you need assistance, you can approach the almoner of your lodge or contact the charities through the Confidential Helpline **03449 020 220**, or the confidential help mail helpline@wrprovince.org.uk. These details can be found on the Almoner pages of the Provincial website. In all cases your request will be treated in strict confidence