

FROM OUR PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER



Toni and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2020. What a fantastic year it has been for the Devonshire Festival – with pledges running at over £1.2M and with 1,138 Brethren having become Stewards or above. Thank you each and every one for making this important commitment to our Charity. I know from this response that you recognise the great work of the MCF. This last year they helped 114 Devonshire freemasons with grants totalling £451,517 and this support will continue year on year.

Over 350 calls were made from our Brethren to the advice and support team and in addition the MCF gave £200,000 to our local charities.

Brethren, I am so proud and grateful for what you all do to support Charity and especially at Christmas it hits home that we can really make a difference and support our Brethren.

I know the Festival Committee has an exciting year ahead planned. Any event, big or small that raises funds and any donation, large or tiny which helps the Festival, has my personal thanks and admiration. Thank you, Brethren, – have a very enjoyable start to 2020.

RW Bro Ian Kingsbury JP PGM

FROM OUR FESTIVAL CHAIRMAN

Brethren, I wish to take this opportunity to thank W. Bro. Dr. Adrian Rogers, PAGDC, DepPGChap, for the tremendous hard work he has put into the organisation and running of the Festival as its secretary since its inception in April 2017. The Festival has benefited from his knowledge and enthusiasm and he will be missed.

This has left us with the need to appoint a new Secretary and W Bro Walker Laphorne, PPrSGW has offered to take on this new challenge.

I wish both of them all the best in their future endeavours and feel sure that both will continue to support the Festival through to its conclusion in 2023.

W Bro Peter Keaty PSGD, APM

FESTIVAL EVENTS

2019 saw some spectacularly good events- even in the last 2 weeks!

The Vale of Haldon Lodge and Salem Lodge dinner at the Langstone Cliff – was a superbly organised and great fun evening with cabaret and a choice of menu. Around £2500 was raised for the Devonshire 2023 Festival – thank you Vale of Haldon!



Carol Service Dinner – brilliantly organised by the Festival Events Team following the lovely Carol Service at St Mary Plympton on 15th December there was an extremely good Christmas Dinner. Together these have raised well over £1000 for the Devonshire Festival. Thank you to John Pritchard and his team.



W Bro Keith Williams Events Co-ordinator says- *we have all had such fun this year running and attending these events – if you would like to put on an event do get in touch and I can try and ensure you get the publicity you need and that dates don't clash with other events.* (keithw.events@pqldevonshire.org.uk 07973921999.

There are a number of exciting events being planned for 2020 please keep an eye on the Provincial Website, Facebook and Twitter.

Confirmed Future Events

12th March 2020 Comedy Evening

A comedy evening at the "Sportsmans Inn" Ivybridge to be organised and compered by Martyn Aldridge 07917188067- this would be the first of a number of "comedy club" events to be promoted.

Christmas 2020

Rodney Walsom had offered to organise a dinner after the Carol Service in Exeter in 2020 on 12th December 2020.

PUTTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT only 3p per £ in costs.

Our Provincial Grand Charity Steward Reuben Ayres writes

You should know that the MCF is one of the most efficient charities in the UK with only 3p in every pound raised going in administration and salaries

The Charity Commission website shows that for every £1 donated to the MCF, 97p goes to charitable causes ie helping a brother in distress [two thirds] or to a non-masonic charity [one third]].

Comparative charities are far less efficient so for every £1 raised:

<i>St. John Ambulance</i>	<i>91p.</i>
<i>Macmillan Cancer Support</i>	<i>72p.</i>
<i>Alzheimer's Research UK:</i>	<i>71p.</i>
<i>Marie Curie:</i>	<i>67p.</i>
<i>Cancer Research UK:</i>	<i>72p.</i>
<i>Guide Dogs:</i>	<i>57p.</i>
<i>British Heart Foundation:</i>	<i>39p.</i>

The MCF would appear to be an extremely efficient charity. We are proud to support it.

1:1000 Club

The **1 to 1,000 Club Draw** was set up to support the Devonshire 2023 MCF Festival. Brethren purchase a draw number for themselves and/or members of their family at a cost of £1 a week, payable by quarterly standing order of £13.

The draw takes place quarterly at a Lodge Festive Board on a rotation basis around the Province. There are 10 prizes at each draw with approx. 56% of the draw proceeds paid out to the winning numbers and the remainder donated to the Festival Fund. For further information do contact keithw.events@pgldevonshire.org.uk

REGALIA AT PGL

W Bro Andrew Yelland and Festival Friends will have a used regalia stall with items for sale on the morning of PGL so please buy from it or bring in unwanted regalia.

WAKE FUND

Don't forget the wake fund does not require lodges to provide joint funding during the Festival years so it is worth bearing in mind that fact and if you are keen to support a local charity. consider making an application to the WAKE fund and give the money you might otherwise have given your charity to the Festival.

REMEMBER "NOTHING TO DO WITH THE FESTIVAL!"

Thank you to Chris Wadsworth who responded to our request to help with the library and archive. He has steadily been working away cataloguing our provincial treasures- we hope to have the catalogue on line for all to see sometime in 2020.