



FESTIVAL FOCUS 3: CONCORD JUNE 2017

FESTIVAL 2021 IN AID OF THE MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Brethren

Welcome to third edition of the Festival Focus, we are now 9 months into the Festival and in that time have made great progress in ensuring that every Lodge is fully engaged in raising much needed funds for the Masonic Charitable Foundation. I never miss an opportunity to remind brethren that we must remember when raising money for the MCF that we in Bucks have received in the past 11 years over £2.5m of support for our brethren and charities.

I am always mindful that not every Lodge can give large donations; there will always be smaller Lodges who cannot achieve large totals. However the really positive thing is that every Lodge is doing something and supporting this wonderful Province.

There have been many events held by Lodges for the Festival 2017 which have been enjoyed by all who have attended. I am sure there is a direct correlation between my waistline and the amount of events and dinners I have attended. Notable events have been Manor of Swanburn Casino Night held in April which raised a fantastic £3275, The Murder Mystery Night arranged the Provincial events team at Missenden Abbey which raised £2500 , a Blues Brothers Night held by Bletchley Park Lodge raising over £3500 and the Grand Union Walk which saw 10 teams walk a 10km stretch of the Grand Union Canal, this included a Provincial Team led by the PGM RW Bro Gordon Robertson who's team alone raised a magnificent £2500 for the Festival.



Brentford Locks on a rainy Saturday morning with (from left to right), Paul Waldron, Graham Dearing, Martin Wing, Fran Robertson and our PGM Gordon Robertson. The photo was taken by Mike Dearing my son who also walked.

To those events which I have not mentioned I apologise but there are so many, please keep the invites coming as I will try attending as many as possible.

You will now start to see brethren including the PGM wearing their very special “I Took the Festival Challenge Pin”



If you have taken part in a sponsored event or done something special for the Festival, please apply for one of these pins. They can only be earned and not purchased.

All you need to do is email me at grahamdearing@aol.com and I will send one by return of post. Just let me know what you have done. Wear it with pride.

To every Lodge and every Brother who has donated or in the process of doing so

‘THANK YOU’

MCF COMMUNITY AWARDS – TRICENTENARY FUNDS

As part of Freemasonry's 300th anniversary celebrations the Province was allowed to choose 6 charities within the Province to share in a grant totalling £58,000, this is part of a £3 million MCF Tricentenary Fund which is being distributed across every Province in the country, another great reason why we should all support the Festival. The six Charities nominated in Buckinghamshire are:-

- HEARING DOGS FOR THE DEAF
- KARENS BIG SMILES
- STOKE MANDEVILLE CANCER AND HAEMATOLOGY FUND
- THE GRAHAM FULFORD CHARITABLE TRUST
- MEDICAL DETECTION DOGS
- LINDEGATE

These represent not only a geographical split across the Province but cover many Charities who we have worked with and supported over the years. Believe me it was not any easy choice.

As part of a public vote taking place between 12th June -31st July the nominated Charities will be asked to get their supporters to nominate their charity and determine who will receive the largest share of our fund. The minimum any charity will receive is £4000 with the Charity with the winning vote will receive £25,000.

To vote for your nominated charity please log into
www.mcf.org.uk/vote

**Let's all support and vote for our Charities and continue to celebrate the
Tricentenary**

New Charity Steward



At the Bucks Masters Meeting on May 2nd our Provincial Grand Master announced the appointment of a new Provincial Charity Steward who will be W Bro Michael Clanfield. Mike will have a hard act to follow on from W Bro Ron King who did such a wonderful job launching the Festival so successfully. Mike is a very active member of Vale Lodge and has been active in many Provincial programmes over the years, I am sure we all wish him well in this new role which will formally start when he is invested at our October Provincial Meeting.

It is vital when raising money for any charity that you know where the money goes, and I strongly urge you all to visit www.mcf.org. This will tell you everything you need

to know about the Masonic Charitable Foundation and hopefully spur you on to want to donate to this wonderful Masonic Charity.

Provincial Festival Representatives

You will all be aware that we have 6 Provincial reps for the Festival who have all been fantastic in helping to raise awareness for the Festival and helping lodges and individuals understand more about the Festival and how they can help. I thought it would be a good idea to remind you of who they are and how they can be contacted:-

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

- AREA 1 W BRO DAVID DYSON AYLESBURY-THAME-KIMBLE-LINSLADE-PENN LODGES
daviddomappliance@tiscali.co.uk
- AREA 2 W BRO STEVEN MATTHEWS BEACONSFIELD-DENHAM LODGE
steven.matthews2@btinternet.com
- AREA 3 W BRO GARY CHARNOCK OLNEY-STONY STRATFORD-WOLVERTON LODGES
gary.charnock@hotmail.co.uk
- AREA 4 W BRO BOBBY COLE SLOUGH LODGES
bobcole8@live.com
- AREA 5 W BRO STEVE PERRY BLETCHLEY-WINSLOW-BUCKINGHAM LODGES
Perrys7@sky.com
- AREA 6 W BRO MARK STOCK MARLOW LODGES
mstockcfs@aol.com

They are all here to help and assist and are happy to support you or your Lodge.

Brethren my final requests to you all is this :-

If you have not donated or pledged a regular donation and can afford to please do so. The easiest way is go to www.bucks2021.org and set up a regular donation online.

Wear your Festival Jewel with pride

“Regarding the Festival Jewel, honorific bars will be available for those who would like one later in the year”

Wear your Festival Challenge Pin with pride.

Make it your daily advancement in Masonic Knowledge by visiting www.mcf.org and find out more about the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

**Have a great summer break
W Bro Graham Dearing
Festival Chairman**