

REPORT TO PGL OF T&F November 2017

PGM, Brethren.

As we approach the season of Installations and Festive Boards I would like to take this opportunity to encourage Brethren when responding to the Charity Appeals to make use of Gift Aid Envelopes. Every **£20.00** note in an envelope means **£25.00** to Charity. In this regard could I ask our Stewards of Charities to be proactive and provide an envelope to every brother and his guests at our festive boards.

To assist our Stewards of Charities and those making appeals on behalf of our Benevolent Institutions can I give you a brief overview of what is being done with our money.

In **2016** the **VJMBF** assisted **424** Brethren and Widows of Brethren financially. The **MWF** provided assistance to **60** applicants. At present the **Masonic Girls Benefit Fund** is supporting **257 Girls** and the **Masonic Boys Fund** is supporting **164 Boys**. In **2016** the **T&FLMBF** dealt with **12** applications for assistance and paid out a total of **£12,000.00**. In relation to the Masonic Girls Fund it is worth noting that applications will now be considered in respect of the Granddaughters of Deceased and Financially Distressed Freemasons. This extension does not apply at present to the Boys Fund.

Could I ask that any lodge that has still to forward their Charity Money for 2017 to do so as soon as possible to their respective Charity Committees.

In conclusion could I on behalf of the **many beneficiaries** of our Charities thank Stewards of Charities and those Brethren that assist within lodges in respect of fundraising and appeals. I would also like to thank the Brethren of Tyrone and Fermanagh for their support.

PGM, Brethren. That concludes my report.