



**THE FREEMASONS'  
GRAND CHARITY**

# Charitable Giving

**Every year Freemasons help  
thousands of people in need**

**How?**

**By donating millions of  
pounds to charitable causes**



# Funding medical research

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Since 1981, the Grand Charity has donated nearly £10 million for medical research - £312,500 was awarded during 2014. Providing benefit to people everywhere, medical research funding is an integral part of the Charity's grant-making programme.

In 2014, The Brain Tumour Charity received £50,000 to carry out research on high-grade gliomas, the most common type of brain tumour. Brain tumours remain one of the greatest challenges in oncology, killing more children and adults under 40 than any other cancer. This research will focus on creating radical new treatments including the use of certain safe viruses to kill cancerous cells and the development of blood cells that may be able to carry drugs effectively to the brain from the blood stream.

The Masonic Samaritan Fund also donated £50,000 towards this project, bringing the total donation to £100,000.

Ed Jones, 49, was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumour in May 2012, six years after the death of his father from the same disease. Ed has been told he has a 1% chance of surviving for 5 years.

*To me, research into brain tumours is absolutely fundamental. I was told the average lifespan for someone with my type of tumour is 15 months. We have to change that. I don't want to hear it, and more importantly, I don't want people in the future to have to hear from their doctors that there's no hope.*

Ed Jones



# Helping Freemasons and their families through difficult times

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**A priority for the Grand Charity is assisting Freemasons and their families who are in financial distress normally following a life-changing event. During 2014, hundreds of applicants were helped with grants totalling £3.4million.**

## **Grants are made towards:**

- Essential daily living expenses (e.g. utility bills, food and clothing).
- Unexpected needs (e.g. financial distress caused by bereavement, accident, redundancy or other personal crisis).

Around half of those assisted are of retirement age, the majority of whom are recently widowed and find themselves in financial distress due to their changed circumstances.

Those of working age normally require short-term assistance as their financial distress is due to unforeseen health issues or because through no fault of their own they have lost their job or business. A grant is intended to reduce financial distress making it easier for them to recuperate or find new work. In 2014, a total of 1,527 Masonic Relief Grants were made.

Graham Patterson received a grant to assist with his living costs following redundancy. This extra help enabled him to provide for his family before securing a new job.

*The Grand Charity really came through for me. It's been a great comfort to be able to rely on Freemasonry in this way after all these years of being a member.*

Graham Patterson



# Providing opportunities for young people

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Since 1981, the Grand Charity has donated over £5.5 million to help disadvantaged young people get the most out of life - £419,500 was awarded during 2014.

In 2014, Youth at Risk received £85,000 to fund a 3-year programme to support vulnerable young people in becoming successful, independent adults.

Youth at Risk works with young people in difficult circumstances, enabling them to discover their talents, develop self-confidence and to take responsibility for their actions. Many of the young people involved are either at risk of or already experiencing a variety of issues such as homelessness, substance abuse and behavioural problems, which are inhibiting their ability to make a positive start to their adult lives.

Mark, 16, was struggling both at home and at school. He had a poor relationship with his parents, was angry with everyone around him and regularly took drugs. With the support of Youth at Risk, Mark has confronted his issues, grown in confidence and started taking responsibility for his own actions. He is now taking great strides in turning his life around; he has a part-time job working in a restaurant and has started an apprenticeship to become a chef.

*Youth at Risk has helped me turn my life around. Without their help I don't know where I would be right now.*

Mark



# Supporting vulnerable people to get the most out of life

Since 1981, the Grand Charity has given nearly £25 million to fund projects that support people in a variety of difficult situations, including serious illness, disability, homelessness, poverty and deprivation. **£816,000** was awarded during 2014.

In 2014, Carers UK received £100,000 to help fund their national advice and information service, offering support to 6.5 million full-time carers in the UK. Carers can get guidance on the practicalities of caring, information about their rights and entitlements and find a sympathetic ear when it is needed. It truly is a lifeline.

Margaret Dangoor, 75, knows how tough caring for a loved one can be. Margaret regularly visited her mother in her nursing home until her death aged 102, whilst also caring for her husband Eddie, who suffers from Alzheimer's. Margaret knows only too well the difficulties of caring and the strain it can put on a person.

*Sometimes people are so focused on the person they care for they often lose themselves, and forget their own health and wellbeing. It's a big role looking after someone's health and it can be extremely daunting. Carers UK helped me when I really needed it, and that's why I am proud to spread the word and hopefully reach more people who might be caring alone.*

Margaret  
Dangoor



# Helping thousands of people in need

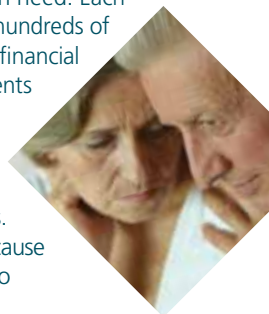
**A grand total of £6 million was given to support people in need during 2014.**

The Freemasons' Grand Charity is a grant-making charity dedicated to supporting people in need. Each year the Grand Charity provides help for hundreds of Freemasons and their families who are in financial distress, normally due to life changing events beyond their control.

In addition, the Grand Charity funds hundreds of nationwide charities, as well as hospice and air ambulance services. These charitable causes are supported because they aim to make a significant difference to people in need.

The Grand Charity supports:

- Freemasons and their dependants who are experiencing financial hardship
- Medical research
- Youth opportunities
- Vulnerable people
- Hospice services
- Air ambulance services
- Worldwide disaster relief



# Dedicated support for hospices

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**For thirty years the Grand Charity has provided dedicated annual support to hospice services in England and Wales.**

The hospice programme has been one of the Charity's most popular areas of grant-making since its inception in 1984. Since then £11.5 million has been donated to hundreds of hospices across England and Wales.

Grants are available for all hospice services that receive less than 60% of their income from the NHS. Hospice grants are awarded for running costs only and no contributions are made to capital appeals - this means the money goes directly to caring. The Grand Charity donates a total of £600,000 every year to hospice services.

Freemasons are passionate about supporting hospices because the help and care they provide to people at emotionally difficult times is invaluable. Hospice services aim to ease pain and trauma through kindness, comfort and understanding, as well as by providing exceptional medical care.

*For thirty years we have supported vital hospice services with over £11 million. It is a cause close to the hearts of many Freemasons, myself included.*

**Richard Hone QC, President of the Grand Charity**



# Grand Charity key facts

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- Over £120 million has been donated to charitable causes since 1981.
- The Grand Charity is funded entirely by Freemasons and their families.
- Since 1984, 290 hospices have received a total of £11.5 million.
- Nearly £10 million in medical research funding has contributed to successful treatments for a wide range of illnesses.
- Thousands of Freemasons and their families who have experienced financial difficulty have been helped.
- Since 2007, £1.5 million has been donated to support air ambulance charities.

## The Freemasons' Grand Charity

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 The Freemasons' Grand Charity

 The Grand Charity





# 2014 Grants List Total: £6,025,238



## MEDICAL RESEARCH £312,500

<b>Alzheimer's Research UK</b>	<b>£75,000</b>
Research into Alzheimer's	
<b>Blond McIndoe Research Foundation</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
Research into burns and diabetic wounds	
<b>The Brain Tumour Charity</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
Research into brain tumours	
<b>Cancer Research UK</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
Research into pancreatic cancer	
<b>International Spinal Research Trust</b>	<b>£21,000</b>
Research into spinal cord injury	
<b>The National Society for Epilepsy</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
Research into molecular cause of epilepsy	
<b>University of Leicester</b>	<b>£16,500</b>
Heart Research	

## SUPPORTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE £816,000

<b>Bipolar UK</b>	<b>£40,000</b>
Salary of four youth officers	
<b>British Red Cross</b>	<b>£48,000</b>
Emergency vehicle in Sussex	
<b>Carers UK</b>	<b>£100,000</b>
Funding for national advice and information service	
<b>Deafblind UK</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Digital inclusion project for deaf blind people	
<b>Designability</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Manufacture of Wizzybugs wheelchairs	
<b>Dogs for the Disabled</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Service for children with autism	
<b>Down's Syndrome Association</b>	<b>£30,000</b>
Provision of online resources	
<b>Fledglings Family Services</b>	<b>£13,000</b>
Assistance for children with special needs	

## The Lullaby Trust £15,000

Support for parents who have suffered a sudden infant death	
<b>The Macular Society</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
Workshops for sufferers of Macular conditions	
<b>Manchester Royal Eye Hospital Charity</b>	<b>£15,000</b>
Salary for an Eye Clinic liaison officer	
<b>MIND</b>	<b>£40,000</b>
Provision of a smartphone app to enable mental health peer support	
<b>Music in Hospitals</b>	<b>£21,000</b>
Concerts for people in health & care settings	
<b>Parkinson's UK</b>	<b>£90,000</b>
Salary for a nurse specialist in Lancashire	
<b>PHAB</b>	<b>£10,000</b>
Courses on inclusive living for disabled people	
<b>Rainbow Trust Children's Charity</b>	<b>£35,000</b>
Salary for a family support officer in Manchester	
<b>Shelter</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Provision of advice services in Norfolk	
<b>SignHealth</b>	<b>£24,000</b>
Support for vulnerable deaf women and children	
<b>SSAFA</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
Mentoring for medically discharged military men and women	
<b>St John Ambulance</b>	<b>£24,500</b>
Funding for the RISE project which trains young people in first aid	
<b>The Children's Trust</b>	<b>£13,000</b>
Salary for an online coordinator of the Brain Injury Hub	
<b>The Queen Alexandra Hospital Home</b>	<b>£60,000</b>
Funding for the occupational therapy department	
<b>Whizz-Kidz</b>	<b>£37,500</b>
Salary for three mobility therapists	

## YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES £419,500

<b>Brathay Trust</b>	<b>£12,500</b>
Training for disadvantaged young people	
<b>Canterbury Cathedral Trust</b>	<b>£22,000</b>
Stonemasonry apprenticeship for a disadvantaged young person	
<b>Chetham's School of Music</b>	<b>£75,000</b>
Community outreach service	
<b>Envision</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Supporting an interschool competition which encourages young people to develop their employability skills	
<b>Red Balloon Learner Centres</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Bursary scheme for bullied children to attend specialist learner centres	
<b>Skillforce</b>	<b>£100,000</b>
Coaching of pupils by ex-Service personnel	
<b>The Lord Mayor's Appeal</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
Funding for Raleigh International's youth agency partnership	
<b>Villiers Park Educational Trust</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Bursary scheme to enable disadvantaged young people to attend the Inspiring Excellence residential educational courses	
<b>Youth at Risk</b>	<b>£85,000</b>
Funding for a transition to independence programme for children leaving care	
<b>OTHER GRANTS</b>	<b>£952,000</b>
<b>Air Ambulances</b>	<b>£192,000</b>
22 Air Ambulance and equivalent rescue services	
<b>Hospice Grants</b>	<b>£600,000</b>
241 Hospices	
<b>Minor Grants</b>	<b>£150,000</b>
Grants of £5,000 or less to 45 smaller charities	
<b>Religious Buildings</b>	<b>£10,000</b>
Towards the upgrade of Durham Cathedral	

## EMERGENCY GRANTS FOR DISASTER RELIEF £87,500

<b>British Red Cross</b>	<b>£20,000</b>
UK Floods	
<b>British Red Cross</b>	<b>£30,000</b>
Balkan Floods Bosnia & Herzegovina	
<b>Burnham-on-Sea Area Rescue Boat</b>	<b>£1,500</b>
UK Floods	
<b>Cardigan Flood Appeal</b>	<b>£1,000</b>
UK Floods	
<b>Dawlish Town Council Flood Relief</b>	<b>£1,500</b>
UK Floods	
<b>Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Flood Relief Fund</b>	<b>£5,000</b>
UK Floods	
<b>Somerset Community Foundation</b>	<b>£28,500</b>
UK Floods	
<b>NON-MASONIC GRANTS TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,587,500</b>
<b>MASONIC RELIEF GRANTS TOTAL</b>	<b>£3,437,738</b>
<b>Assistance to individuals in financial need*</b>	<b>£3,082,738</b>
<b>TBF payments</b>	<b>£355,000</b>

\*Not including refunds

## Big support for smaller charities

The Minor Grants Programme supports smaller charities that are carrying out vital work. Grants range from £500 - £5,000. With many charities experiencing cuts to their income in recent years, the Grand Charity's Minor Grants Programme has become even more relevant.

## Rhona & George's Story

My wife Rhona and I have been married for 35 years. She means the world to me. Our lives were forever altered five years ago when Rhona was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Unfortunately her condition has deteriorated and she now requires constant care. Forced into early retirement I not only had to watch my wife's condition worsen, but I was also faced with the strain of holding our household together with a limited income. Concerned about our situation, we received a visit from my Lodge Almoner who suggested the Grand Charity might assist. To our delight the application was successful. The extra help has eased the burden, allowing me to put my energy into caring for Rhona.

## Helping to rebuild lives

Severe flooding devastated parts of the UK in 2014. The Grand Charity responded with emergency grants, including £28,500 for the Somerset Community Foundation. In addition, Freemasons across the country donated in excess of £200,000 to help rebuild communities in Somerset.

"Recovery has to be more than just rebuilding homes. It is about rebuilding the local economy, doing whatever can be done to reduce the risk of future flooding and about rebuilding a community that is more resilient, emotionally and practically. We are very grateful to the Freemasons for recognising that their fund could be used to support a broader recovery and resilience effort based on the strength that community brings."

*Justin Sargent, Chief Executive of the Somerset Community Foundation*

## Saving lives in emergency situations

Over the last eight years £1.5 million has been donated by the Grand Charity to support air ambulance services. Freemasons are passionate about supporting air ambulance charities because they save thousands of lives each year, relying almost exclusively on charitable donations. During 2014, £192,000 was distributed to 22 rescue services.

