

# RICHARDSON MEMORIAL CHARITY FUND

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31 December 2023

Richardson Memorial Charity Fund — Registered Charity in Northern Ireland No. 103647  
**Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.**

The trustees of the Richardson Memorial Charity Fund are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

Objectives and Activities.

The object of the Fund as set out in our Constitution is that the Fund shall be used: -

1. For the prevention or relief of poverty of Freemasons, their widows or other relatives experiencing financial hardship who are members of lodges under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Armagh.
2. For the benefit of any other Masonic charitable institution as the Provincial Grand Lodge of Armagh shall decide.
3. For the prevention or relief of poverty in the Masonic Province of Armagh (comprising the counties of Armagh, Monaghan and Louth) through the provision of financial grants to individuals in need and / or charities or other organizations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

The Fund is managed by a Management Committee which consists of all the appointed trustees and some other senior office holders within the Provincial Grand Lodge of Armagh. A number of the trustees also hold offices within the Provincial Grand Lodge of Armagh. The Management Committee of the Fund met on three occasions in the year 2023, March, June and October, to monitor progress towards the Fund's Objectives and to consider applications for grants from Masonic Lodges within the Province of Armagh. At each meeting the Treasurer presents up-to-date accounts, these are reviewed against applications for grants and forecasted spending. All spending is discussed and approved.

Members of the Management Committee continue to brief members of Masonic Lodges to remind them of the Richardson Memorial Charity Fund, its objectives and how it may be supported.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have considered the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

in 2023 the Fund made 10 grants totalling £11,450 and €3,750. While the grants were made towards work in areas focused on addressing community-wide disadvantage we also supported organizations which address issues on a wider geographical basis and

some masonic charities. Local Masonic Lodges would identify the organisation and apply to the Fund for a grant to present to the organisation.

	Sterling	Euro
Southern Area Hospice	£750	
Louth Area Hospice		€ 750
Southern Area Hospice	£1,000	
Mac Millan Nurses	£1,000	
Beyond the Battlefield	£2000	
Angel Wings	£1500	
Children to Lapland Trust	£3000	
Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust	£2200	
St. Maeldoids Church Hall Fund Castleblaney		€3000
Totals	£11,450	€3,750

The allocation of the grants as detailed allowed the Fund to help other Charities and Organizations in assisting sufferers, their carers and families in most difficult times and circumstances.

#### Financial Review.

The Fund had an opening balance on 1 January 2023 of £55391.45 and €7365.39

Donations from Masonic Lodges, other Branches of Masonry and fund-raising activities contributed an income of £20050.10 and €9060

Expenditure for the year was £11496.23 and €3789.15 (Grants and Bank Charges) leaving a surplus of £8553.87 and €5270.85 resulting in a closing balance of £63945.32 and €12681.24.

In addition, the Fund has a Charity Capital of £10,800 and £71,500 in NSI Income Bonds and the Central Investment Fund for Charities.

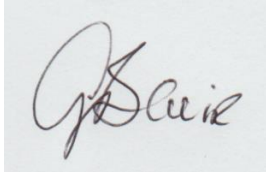
As at 31 December 2023 the Fund has no funds in material deficit.

#### Support

The trustees wish to acknowledge the support given by the many members of the Masonic Order to the Fund. The Management Committee give freely and generously of their time to travel and attend meetings and it should be noted that no administration costs are associated with the Fund.

The trustees wish to place on record their recognition and gratitude for all these contributions.

Approved and adopted by the Management Committee on 7 October 2024 and signed on their behalf,

A square image containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is cursive and appears to read "G. Blair".

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## Reference and Administrative Details.

Charity Name

The Richardson Memorial Charity Fund.

Charity Number

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland No. 103645

Principal Address

14 Tudor Lodge,

Waringstown,

Co. Armagh.

BT66 7SX

Charity Trustees as of October 2019.

Mr. M. Osbourne Steenson

Mr. John Richardson

Mr. Gilbert T Irvine

Mr. James R Blair

Mr. Michael Bellew

Management Committee Members

Mr. Gilbert T Irvine

Rev. Richard Moore

Mr. John A G James

Mr. John Montgomery

Mr. John Crozier

Mr. Raymond Walsh.

Mr. Thomas McBirney.

Mr. Roger Gill.

Mr. James R Blair, Secretary