

Secretaries & Scribe Ezra - Please post a copy to members who are not on email

Teambrief

Keeping Essex Masons Informed

Plus



Team Brief Plus Editor W.Bro. Peter Low PPGReg; 07572 620689 peterlowuk@aol.com

"Enjoy our Freemasonry, Grow our membership, Increase our community engagement"

PROVINCIAL ALMONER'S COVID-19 APPEAL

24th March 2020

Brethren

In his address to all members on 19th March 2020 the Pro GM stated "the Coronavirus outbreak is providing society with its most testing time since World War 2. Freemasons have always been guided by their four core values of Friendship, Integrity, Charity and Respect. During this crisis period, it is more important than ever that we stand firmly by these principles, and that we're seen to stand by them. We must work together to help each other and the wider community."



In Essex we had hoped, with the support of some of the masonic centre caterers in the Province and with the support of the Essex Freemasons' Community Fund, to launch a Food Parcel delivery service for brethren, their families and widows who were in financial difficulties during the coronavirus epidemic. Unfortunately, uncertainty around regular and sustained supplies meant the idea could not be progressed.

Means-tested financial support is, as always, available through the MCF but we have been consulting with the trustees of the Essex Provincial Charity Fund and I am pleased to say that they have agreed to make an immediate grant of £10,000 to the Essex Provincial Almoner's Fund, to allow the Provincial Grand Almoner's Team to quickly provide financial assistance to brethren who are suffering financial difficulties as a result of the current epidemic. If that includes you, please speak to your Lodge Almoner so that he can inform his Deputy Group Almoner.

Motivated by concern for the fellow brethren several brethren on the Essex Freemasons Facebook page have already indicated they and/or their lodge would happily contribute to an Almoner's Appeal and if you would like to join them I encourage you to contribute whatever you can afford to the Essex Provincial Almoner's Appeal. It will ensure the Almoner's Team can assist more brethren.

Donations (which can be gift-aided to increase their value) can be made at Just Giving (www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/colin-felton-2) or by BACS payment to the Essex Provincial Almoner's Fund:

Sort Code: 20-25-19; Account No: 30718890

Please quote COVID+YOUR SURNAME or Lodge/Chapter number (i.e., L6825 or C6825) as the reference. Cheques can be made payable to EPAF and sent to:

Gary Hostler, 152, Warren Drive, Hornchurch, Essex, RM12 4QX

Brethren, I thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely and fraternally

Rodney L. Bass OBE, Prov Grand Master/Grand Supt

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