

RMBI 2015 Festival News

Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire
www.pglel.co.uk

Issue Number 4

October 2010

The RMBI's David Innes visits the Appeal Committee as Festival total raised exceeds £300,000



David Innes
 Chief Executive of the RMBI

David Innes, the Chief Executive of the RMBI joined us at one of our monthly Appeal Committee meetings during the summer. Apart from being delighted at our progress so far, he was also delighted to be with us.

After the main business he had a few words:

“There are 5 or 6 Provinces actively engaged in fund raising for their Festival for the RMBI. All brethren should understand more about the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution—it is a vast business.

There is much information about the RMBI on our website (www.rmbi.org.uk) and your own Provincial website. In recent years and ongoing we are seeing a shift from Residential Care to Nursing care, especially **Dementia Nursing**.

With a population living longer (average age in our homes is 89) our service provision is being expanded. Out of 1000 beds we have 83 Dementia places, but 2/3 of our residents have some form of dementia. Care is provided for these in the main part of the homes—it is just not currently viable to build or convert more specialist wings. In addition we have regulatory changes which have meant our focus has become driven by outcomes rather than policies and procedures. Thus we are also implementing a major training program for staff more tailored to individual care—“What would

you like for breakfast’ replaces, ‘Here is your breakfast’. This is challenging but means people are getting more of what they want and retain further dignity.



We are doing major building refurbishment - a £25M capital investment programme is running and you will know of the improvements made to Ecclesholme recently and that going on at Tithebarn.

We are also looking to expand the business—to provide more beds, sheltered accommodation and enlarge the work of our Care Advice Team, who look after people in their own homes. We are starting focus groups for relatives of those who have dementia, and also for those who haven’t—as there is a 66% chance they will develop it! We are also looking to providing Day Care with lounges, baths, catering and some respite care as well—some Masonic Halls will be supporting us with this if available during the daytime.

Our oldest resident is 109 years old. Some of our residents may be with us for just days, some for up to 24 years. When funding options are no longer available for residents the RMBI picks up the tab. **Annually we have a shortfall approaching £5M.**

The funds raised by the brethren during their Provinces’ RMBI Appeals are used wisely to cover this shortfall, and enable us to continue with our usual day to day work and the ever increasing demands of the very necessary extra work described here. It is a great privilege to be involved with looking after our residents—the majority of whom are Freemasons or their dependants.

I am indebted to the brethren of this great Province for the support they are giving, and hope this gives a flavour of what we are about”.

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- Book a Roadshow with Brian
- Silver Festival Brooch for Ladies and Lapel Pin for Gentlemen
- 2015 Festival Club
- Latest News
- Fundraising Initiatives
- A Model Lodge



RMBI 2015 Fund Raising

Vienna Proms Night Supporting the Festival



The Festival Appeal Committee presents the "Vienna Proms Night", with the National Concert Orchestra of Great Britain conducted by Greg Francis.

Terry Kakoullis, Fund Raising Manager on the Festival Appeal Committee, has organised this fabulous evening out in 2011. It is open to all Freemasons, Ladies and their Guests, and promises to be a night for us all to remember—what better way to raise money than by fund raising while you are out enjoying yourself.

To be held at the Albert Halls, Bolton

Friday 11th March 2011
Commencing at 7:30 pm

Tickets: £19.50

All booking to be made direct to the Albert Halls
Tel No 01204 334400 (quoting 'Early Doors')
website: www.alberthalls.bolton.co.uk

Tickets on sale now
Further information:

Terry Kakoullis : email terrykakoullis@btinternet.com
or
David Rothwell : email dave@daverothwell.com

Walk the Province in aid of the RMBI 2015 Festival



Walk the Province for the Festival

The idea is to have six walks through the Province of East Lancashire in the **summer of 2011**. All six areas (with Manchester and Salford counting as one) will be responsible for organising and staging their own event. **Each Area Festival Manager (AFM) will be in charge of organising and arranging their respective**

walks with support from the District Festival Reps (DFRs), District Teams and hopefully the Lodge and Chapter Festival Reps. They each will be in touch to make arrangements and let everyone in the Districts discover when and how the walk is being arranged in your area. There will be no allotted date, time or sequence to the

walks and these will no doubt be fabulous family events that we can all enjoy.

We hope to start in the North of the Province with the PGM launching the event by handing a 'Provincial baton' over, then eventually receiving the baton in Manchester on the final leg of the walk.

Good Luck Everybody!

Festival Merchandise

Don't forget we have a stock of solid silver ladies brooches available for purchase as depicted below left. These are available from your Area Festival Manager or you can make direct contact with Bro David Greenhalgh on 07766 777222 or by e-mail at d.l.greenhalgh@btinternet.com

There is no need for ladies to qualify as a Steward to purchase these. There are also solid silver lapel pins available for the men from the same source (right).

All of these are priced at £20 per item.



RMBI 2015 Fund Raising

The RMBI 2015 Festival Club

Join the 2015
FESTIVAL CLUB
today!
The more members, the bigger
the prizes!

It all adds up.

If you join with a Monthly £5 Standing Order

With **500** Members the Monthly Prize money is **£625**
to be shared amongst 3 winners

With **1000** Members the Monthly Prize money is **£1250**
to be shared amongst 3 winners

With **2000** Members the Monthly Prize money is **£2500**
to be shared amongst 3 winners.

Join now!

Contact Bro David Greenhalgh on
d.l.greenhalgh@btinternet.com
or get a Festival Club Application Form
via the Provincial website.



Download an Application Form: http://www.pglel.co.uk/rmbi2015/2015_festival_club.asp



FAQ

If a Brother/Companion joins the 2015 Festival Club, does the £15 every quarter also get credited to his individual contribution to the Festival?

A donor cannot be fully credited with the £15 as 25% of their contribution will be given away as a prize.

However, we estimate that a further 25% of a donors money will go towards a bumper prize in 2015.

This leaves 50% of their £15 [£7.50] which can be credited to the donor but no tax can be reclaimed as it is illegal to reclaim tax from gambling profits.

FAQ

Can a Brother/Companion's wife or partner join the 2015 Festival Club?

They can join if they wish to. They would however have to do so in the name of their husband or partner who would be issued with an additional number representing her/his membership.

FAQ

Should the Festival be our priority?

Most Definitely **YES**

The Provincial Grand Master would like each of us to make the Festival our priority as far as giving is concerned.

Next we should consider the ELMC.

Any other Giving beyond this is a matter for the Lodge, Chapter or Mason to consider.

Festival Information

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Festival Roadshows

The Area and District Festival teams will be ensuring that the Festival Road Show is shown in in each District at the earliest opportunity as this is integral in providing information about the purpose of the Festival to you all. WBro Brian Sigsworth, Deputy Chairman of the Festival Appeal Committee, (far right) will be running the Roadshows and bookings should be made directly via Brian:

bsigsworth@talktalk.net

Tel: 01226 297714

The Road Show Presentations will be of great interest, not only to Lodges, Chapters and District Teams, but also to Ladies' and other Committees.

The presentation explains the work of the RMBI, gives some insight as to what the Festival is all about, details why we should support the RMBI and talks about how, exactly, we can do just that. We can vary the length of the presentation to suit the audience—from 20 to 40 minutes. There will be plenty of time for questions and to discuss any aspects of the RMBI (or our Festival) that hasn't been covered.

A number of Districts and Lodges have already booked dates for their presentation. This will be an excellent aid to assist with the improvement of everyone's understanding regarding our Appeal and why the RMBI is so in need of our support. Don't delay—contact Brian now—he will be delighted to hear from you.



WBro Brian Sigsworth, ProvGChStwd

Festival News

Delphi Lodge, No 9061

On 15th September, I, along with Stephen Blank, John Pearson and Norman Clarke, attended the Installation meeting of Delphi Lodge at Stanley House, Audenshaw. During the course of the meeting the Lodge donated £900 to the Stanley House Building Fund, £100 to the Audenshaw Masonic Fellowship, **£2400 to the 2015 Festival** [which now qualifies them as a Grand Patron] and **a further £1425 to the Festival** so that each of their 19 members could qualify as a Festival Steward. Each of their members then purchased a Festival jewel.

There are only 11 other Lodges [no Chapters] from within the Province who have currently qualified as Grand Patrons and this is the only Lodge or Chapter within the Province which has attained a 100% membership qualification as Festival Stewards. I hope such a magnanimous act as this, will be encouraging to your Lodges and Chapters as a superb example about what can be achieved from a membership of only 19.

This, so far, is a unique and most valued contribution to the Festival - well done!



David Thompson

New Festival Manager

Chris Wildman has recently been appointed as the Festival Office Manager and he will be regularly available in the Festival Office on a Tuesday afternoon. You can contact him by telephone at Bridge Street on: 0161 832 6256, or by e-mail: chriswildman@2015festival.org

He is now responsible for processing all the donations received and would like to bring to your attention the following:

- Ensure that you allow two months for any Direct Debits that are to be activated, to enable the Grand Charity to process your application forms.
- With all donations please check, if you are a UK tax payer, that you correctly complete the Gift Aid section to add a further 28% to your donation.
- RMBI lapel pin badges, key rings and Festival merchandise (ties etc.) are available from Chris on request.

The new Festival Database, for recording money received, is nearing completion and we are grateful to Wayne Kilford, from Salford, for his valuable contribution in getting this up and running—a super piece of software.

Donate online



Click Logo above for Just Giving



Provincial Grand Lodge of
East Lancashire

Because we Care

RMBI 2015 Festival Office
Freemasons' Hall
Bridge Street
Manchester M3 3BT

E-mail:

enquiries@2015festival.org

All cheques payable to:
EL 2015 Festival

We are on the Web:

<http://www.pglel.co.uk/rmbi2015/rmbi2015.asp>