

## RMBI 2015 Festival - Contact details

### Appeal Committee

Chairman	David H Thompson	<a href="mailto:davidhthompson@2015Festival.org">davidhthompson@2015Festival.org</a>
Deputy Chairman	Brian Sigsworth	<a href="mailto:briansigsworth@2015Festival.org">briansigsworth@2015Festival.org</a>
Secretary	David Rothwell	<a href="mailto:daverothwell@2015Festival.org">daverothwell@2015Festival.org</a>
Treasurer	Barry Axford	<a href="mailto:barryaxford@2015Festival.org">barryaxford@2015Festival.org</a>
Training & Education	Peter RB Messum	<a href="mailto:petermessum@2015Festival.org">petermessum@2015Festival.org</a>
Communications	Chad Northcott	<a href="mailto:chadnorthcott@2015Festival.org">chadnorthcott@2015Festival.org</a>
Banquets Organiser	Brian Durkin	<a href="mailto:briandurkin@2015Festival.org">briandurkin@2015Festival.org</a>
Fund Raiser	Terry Kakoullis	<a href="mailto:terrykakoullis@2015Festival.org">terrykakoullis@2015Festival.org</a>
Marketing & Design	Phil Atkinson	<a href="mailto:philatkinson@2015Festival.org">philatkinson@2015Festival.org</a>

### Area (District) Festival Managers

City Starkie	Andrew Jenkins	<a href="mailto:andrewjenkins@2015Festival.org">andrewjenkins@2015Festival.org</a>
City Sykes	Peter Harding	<a href="mailto:peterharding@2015Festival.org">peterharding@2015Festival.org</a>
City Salford	Malcolm T Roberts	<a href="mailto:malcolmroberts@2015Festival.org">malcolmroberts@2015Festival.org</a>
City Derby	Paul Clark	<a href="mailto:paulclark@2015Festival.org">paulclark@2015Festival.org</a>
Audenshaw, Ashton & Mossley	Peter Cole	<a href="mailto:petercole@2015Festival.org">petercole@2015Festival.org</a>
Oldham & Rochdale	Nigel Love	<a href="mailto:nigellove@2015Festival.org">nigellove@2015Festival.org</a>
Bolton & Bury	Stephen Pollitt	<a href="mailto:stephenpollitt@2015Festival.org">stephenpollitt@2015Festival.org</a>
Blackburn & Accrington	William B Livesey	<a href="mailto:williamblivesey@2015Festival.org">williamblivesey@2015Festival.org</a>
Rossendale, Burnley & Pendle	Graeme A Wilkinson	<a href="mailto:graemeawilkinson@2015Festival.org">graemeawilkinson@2015Festival.org</a>

### Webmasters

Email Addresses	Sid Jenkinson	<a href="mailto:sidjenkinson@2015Festival.org">sidjenkinson@2015Festival.org</a>
	Jim Sutcliffe	<a href="mailto:jimsutcliffe@2015Festival.org">jimsutcliffe@2015Festival.org</a>
	Chad Northcott	<a href="mailto:chadnorthcott@2015Festival.org">chadnorthcott@2015Festival.org</a>

### Festival Office

RMBI 2015 Festival Administration	Freemasons' Hall, Bridge Street, Manchester. M3 3BT
Telephone	0161 832 6256
e-mail address	<a href="mailto:enquiries@2015Festival.org">enquiries@2015Festival.org</a>

### Website

Find us on the Provincial website at [www.pglel.co.uk](http://www.pglel.co.uk)  
Or go direct to:  
[www.pglel.co.uk/rmbi2015/rmbi2015.asp](http://www.pglel.co.uk/rmbi2015/rmbi2015.asp)

**REMEMBER**—all cheques payable to “EL 2015 Festival”



## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE RMBI 2015 FESTIVAL A message from the Provincial Grand Master



Jack Price  
RWPGM / MEGSupt

The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, existing for almost 170 years, is the second oldest of our great Charities, which include the Freemasons' Grand Charity, the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys and the Masonic Samaritan Fund. Collectively they give some £15 Million per year, through the Provinces, to support our brethren and their dependants who are in need. Of this more than £500K comes into East Lancashire. Nearly all of this has been raised by brethren like us, during the various Masonic Festivals running concurrently throughout Grand Lodge.

The RMBI is a very special charity offering immediate response to calls for assistance from the needy brother or his family, and providing exactly what is required from the excellent range of services they have available. Each year the RMBI has to find an additional sum (in the region of £5M) to pay for the charitable support of over 450 brethren and dependants who have become unable to pay for their own care in RMBI Homes. The Charity always steps in to supply the necessary funds !

These are the reasons that I, on behalf of our Province, have agreed with Grand Lodge, that we will take advantage of this golden opportunity to give something back, add to the might of generosity and together work during the next 5 years to support this extremely worthy cause.

In recent years, East Lancashire has developed a tremendous reputation for fund raising and we have an innate proclivity for giving, doing good in our local communities and communicating the results of our success to the outside world. Let us now repeat this time honoured commitment and apply our benevolence and consideration to this Festival.

As Freemasons, we all share that special connection and I implore you to support the RMBI with your usual tenacity. Please give in whatever way you can – whether this be organising the innovative function or event which raises funds, completing your own Gift Aided Regular Payment Promise or encouraging your colleagues in Lodge or Chapter to do the same matters not – we are then all doing something.

In 2015, I will be with you at the Festival as we donate to the RMBI a sum worthy of this splendid Province. When we entered the Craft the First Degree taught us valuable lessons –the foremost of these was putting our trust in God and later, using great imagery, the importance of **Charity** was explained in a way which gave us a clear, favourable and lasting understanding of its meaning. Why in the First Degree? – I suggest because Charity is the greatest of the Virtues and encompasses many of the others – generosity, compassion, gratitude, prudence and Love to name but a few. It is, perhaps, the most significant of our lessons. My only target brethren, is for you to remember the importance of charity, as we enter this period of fundraising, and satisfy the demands of your own conscience by supporting our Festival for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at the best level at which your circumstances and personal desires allow.

Thank you and God Bless You all, Yours Aye,



# RMBI 2015 Festival

## Frequently Asked Questions



### What is a Masonic Festival?

A Festival is a major fund-raising project, spread over a number of years and run by a Masonic Province, to benefit one of the four central Masonic Charities, namely the Freemasons' Grand Charity, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls & Boys and the Masonic Samaritan Fund.

### What does the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution do?

The RMBI seeks to offer high quality care, support and assistance to older Freemasons and their dependants. It accommodates over 1000 residents in 17 Care Homes around the country, offering degrees of care, support and assistance appropriate to the individual's needs. It currently enhances the quality of life for over 4000 people throughout England and Wales.

### Who can benefit from the RMBI?

The care provided by the RMBI is for Brethren, wives, widows and their dependants who meet eligibility criteria.

### Why is East Lancashire running a Festival?

Masonic Provinces run Festivals in rotation on an eleven year cycle. Our last Festival was in 2004 and raised just over £4m for The Grand Charity. It is now our turn again.

### What do I get out of the East Lancashire Festival?

You will be replenishing the fund so that it is available for others and in case you, your family or other dependants, need it. It is one of the Fundamental Principles, to which we agreed when we became a Freemason; that we help our Brother Masons and their dependants receive care and attention, should they need it and should they need help to receive it.

### How will the Festival be organised?

The Provincial Grand Master has set up a separate Festival Appeal Committee under the chairmanship of WBro David H Thompson to run the Festival. Management of the Festival has been divided into seven area Teams, each Team to correspond with the current area of responsibility of each of the Craft APGM's and with an Area Festival Manager appointed to each Team. Each Area Festival Manager will administer the Festival in his Area and will be assisted by a District Festival Representative in each District. Each Lodge and Chapter has been asked to appoint their own Festival Representative from their membership, who can concentrate on promoting the Festival from within.

### What is the Lodge / Chapter target?

The Provincial Grand Master has stated that he does not wish to set targets for the Festival, but to rely upon the pride and integrity of the Brethren / Companions to support the charitable Principles of their Order to the extent that their own circumstances and wishes will permit.

### What do you want from me?

For all the Brethren / Companions from within the Province to support the Festival, by making a financial commitment by bankers order direct to the RMBI and to get involved with the Festival's events and activities through your Lodge, Chapter and at District level.

### How can I give to the Festival?

The best method of making a donation is by completing a regular payment promise for the term of the Festival, and a Gift Aid declaration which, if you are a UK taxpayer, will currently enhance your donation by at least 25%. These donations will receive an attractive rate of interest through the Relief Chest Scheme which will be credited in the name of the donor and of the Lodge or Chapter which the donor has nominated. Personal donations can also be Gift Aided, assuming the donor is a UK tax payer. Assistance to obtain and complete forms for all donation methods can be obtained from your Lodge/Chapter Festival Representative.

### I have seen Gift Aid envelopes used in Lodges, how do we use them?

By completing a Gift Aid envelope when undertaking a charity collection, a UK tax paying donor's contribution is currently enhanced by 28%, which will also reflect in the Lodge's overall total.

### Will there be a Festival Jewel and if so what is the qualification for obtaining one?

The minimum payment to the Festival to qualify as a Steward and to qualify to purchase a Festival Jewel is £75 and the cost of purchasing a Jewel is an additional £20. This will then entitle the donor to attend the Festival Banquet in 2015.



### Will there be a Festival tie?

Yes and other items of memorabilia which will be available for sale during the period of the Festival.

### Will Ladies be required to qualify as Stewards of the Festival, and wear the Festival Jewel, in order to attend the Festival Banquet?

For a lady to qualify as a Steward and attend the Banquet, she (or her husband/partner on her behalf!) will need to contribute a minimum of £25 to the Festival. There is no obligation for a lady to purchase a Festival brooch, but she may wish to do so at a cost of £20. The brooch, shown here, is the size of a 20p piece.



### I am a member of more than one Lodge / Chapter in the Province, how will my contributions be recognised?

When making a donation a donor may nominate only one Lodge / Chapter per donation; he decides to which Lodge / Chapter that individual contribution is to be credited. However, the sum of all his contributions to all his nominated Lodges / Chapters will count towards his personal contribution total.

### What about the ELMC?

The ELMC will still need funds to honour its ongoing commitments and funds have been set aside to cater for these needs. However, it is a personal choice for an individual brother / companion as to which charity or charities he may wish to support.