

RMBI 2015 Festival News

Province of East Lancashire
www.pglel.co.uk

Issue 3

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Congratulations



WBro David Thompson
 Festival Appeal Committee Chairman

It has only been a few months since the PGM launched the Festival and together we have already raised over £200,000. I hope this Newsletter helps to bring you up to speed with all that is happening in the Province to support our fundraising.

You will see that we now have an online giving facility and people are starting to make more

use of the website to gain information, promote their fundraising activities, and report on the same, to let us all know what's been going on.

When completing paperwork for payment promises and so on there are still a few mistakes being made. Please utilise the knowledge of your Lodge and Chapter Reps and seek their advice to help in completing forms. You can now download a PowerPoint Presentation to help avoid the common pitfalls with the Area and District Festival Officers being up to speed with this.

Our closest RMBI home, Ecclesholme, has a summer fair on June 6th and support from the brethren and ladies of the Province will be much appreciated. Please also remember that Ecclesholme welcomes small groups of people for conducted tours—certainly well worth a trip to see exactly how RMBI funds are wisely used.

Finally let me raise for your information that the Festival Club is now up and running—there is an application form on the final page of this Newsletter. Just another part of the fun that can be had as we raise awareness and much needed funding for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

David Thompson

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Special points of interest:

- Online Giving is available
- Silver Festival Brooch for Ladies and Lapel Pin for Gentlemen
- 2015 Festival Club
- How to make use of the Website
- Avoid pitfalls with the paperwork

Ecclesholme Summer Fair

The Association of Friends of Ecclesholme Summer Fair is on:

Sunday 6th June
 2.00pm—3.30pm

At Elm Bank Masonic Hall, Half Edge Lane, Eccles

TOMBOLA

GAMES

RAFFLES

GIFTS

BOOKS

CAKES

Entrance is 50p

Lodge Secretaries also have tickets

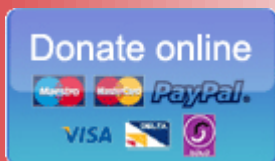
Please come along and support. The Friends do a tremendous amount to improve the quality of life for the Residents.



RMBI 2015 Festival News

Online Giving at:

www.justgiving.com/EL2015



We have set up a page on the "Just Giving" website to allow online donations to be made to the Festival.

There is nothing easier than making a donation to the RMBI online directly through this website. If you are a UK Tax Payer you can also Gift Aid your donation. You can set up single donations or regular monthly donations.

The Just Giving website takes you through all the necessary steps to make your donation to

the RMBI online. Click on the link above to try it out and make your donation now.

When you have made your donation the last page gives you the opportunity to add your own PERSONAL MESSAGE to the 2015 Festival and the RMBI.

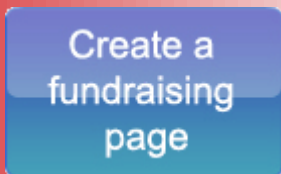
All personal, Lodge or Chapter donations made in this way, including the tax reclaimed, if applicable, will be attributed to the individual or body who has made the donation.

Charities pay a 5% fee on donations (which they take from the Gift Aid they reclaim on our behalf) and in return they help us raise more money, more efficiently. By leaving the costly and time-consuming stuff to them, we can spend more time and energy on other fundraising activities.

For every £10 donated through 'Just Giving' the EL 2015 Festival Appeal will receive £11.92.

Your own Online Giving Page at:

www.justgiving.com/rmbi/raisemoney



This is a valuable way to collect donations if, for example, you are doing a sponsored event or other fundraising activity that requires individual donations. You can personalise your page with your own colours, photos and message. Then just email it to your friends and family, so

they can donate online and leave you messages of support. We will also promote your Just Giving page on the Provincial website so members of the Province, family, friends and colleagues can easily find it. Just Giving sends donations straight to the Royal Masonic

Benevolent Institution and adds Gift Aid to every eligible donation. **Please read** the detailed instructions on the Provincial website on the Festival Pages before embarking with your own Just Giving Page to ensure donations are allocated correctly to the Festival.

Festival Merchandise

We now have a stock of solid silver ladies brooches and necklaces 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.i.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.



The RMBI 2015 Festival Web Pages

Please take a look at the Provincial website and you will find (if you haven't already) a whole set of pages completely devoted to the Festival.

Find out what the RMBI (Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution) is and what it does. Do you know why they need you to donate and support this Festival? More importantly do you know what the money is spent on and how many Freemasons and their dependants

are supported and helped with donations made through the Festival system?

The website is yours, brethren, to learn how we can raise money, how to give and how to organise events. Please use the pages therein to promote your events—your District Comms Officer will ensure that your information is displayed. Afterwards we will be delighted to publish stories about your fundraising activities and do

remember that some photos will bring your words to life.

You can also contact all the people involved in the running of the Festival through the website. There is also a comprehensive 'frequently asked questions' section which we add to regularly.

There is important information here brethren, please make use of it and ask us if you cannot find what you are looking for.



Paperwork Completion

Many mistakes have been made when completing and submitting paperwork (Regular Payment Promises etc) to the Festival Office. This has ranged from missing signatures to cheques made out to the wrong people. On others, boxes have been left incomplete or the wrong parts are filled in.

Please check your completed paperwork before giving to your Festival Rep for onward transmission to the Festival Office. The download section of the RMBI Festival pages on the Provincial website contains a PowerPoint Presentation that will explain paperwork and its completion for you in detail.

We commend this to you and suggest that if you have any uncertainty you discuss it first with your Lodge or Chapter Festival Representative who will seek assistance from the Area Festival Manager, District Festival Representative or the relevant Appeal Committee member if appropriate.

ALL CHEQUES

Should be made payable to:

“EL 2015 Festival”

Not the Grand Charity

Jewels and Honorifics

Please do not confuse the Festival Jewel (pictured right) with the brooches and lapel badges shown on page 2. The Festival Jewel is available for purchase by all brethren who have qualified as a Steward of the Festival by donating the sum of £75 or more to the

Festival. The Festival Jewel costs £20 and is available through your Lodge and Chapter Festival Reps once the requisite donation has been recorded by the Festival Office.

A full table of Festival Honorifics can be viewed on

the Festival website. Your Lodge and Chapter Festival Rep will also be able to answer any questions you may have.

The profits from the sale of Jewels, ties and other goods sold in the name of the Festival are used to cover admin costs.



2015 Festival Club

WBro David Greenhalgh administrates the 2015 Festival Club and he can be contacted at any time for information. Preferably by email at d.l.greenhalgh@btinternet.com

The Registration and Direct Debit form below can be cut out or can be downloaded and printed as a pdf from the Provincial website's Festival Pages.

Complete registration form below:

Name: Lodge/Chapter No.

Address:

Post Code:

And return this section to:

D Greenhalgh c/o Rochdale Masonic Hall, Richard Street, Rochdale, OL11 1DU or email above details to d.l.greenhalgh@btinternet.com

I do not wish publicity in the event of a win (please tick box)



To (Bank):

Account No. Date:

Please make the payments detailed below and debit my/our account

Name of account to be debited:

Reference to be quoted (Lodge/Chapter No):

Name of Payee: **2015 Festival Club**

Account No: **10257324** Sort Code: **16-29-34**

Bank & Branch to which **ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC**

Payment is to be made **THE BUTTS, ROCHDALE, OL16 1EY**

Amount: **£15.00** **FIFTEEN POUNDS QUARTERLY**

Frequency of Payments: **Quarterly**

Date of first payment:

Payments are to continue until **INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO STOP**

Standing orders must be paid prior to the 20th of the month to be included in that months prize draw.

This instruction cancels any previous order in favour of the Payee named under this reference.

Signature: Date:

SUPPORT THE FESTIVAL



Frequently asked Question

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 in minor expenses and providing 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.



3 LUCKY WINNERS EVERY MONTH

will share 25% of the fund

ONLY £5 A MONTH!

Payments by standing order. Prize monies paid directly into members bank account. Complete the S.O on the reverse and present to your bank

For more details contact D Greenhalgh on d.l.greenhalgh@btinternet.com



Province of East Lancashire

Because we Care

RMBI 2015 Festival Office

Freemasons' Hall

Bridge Street

Manchester M3 3BT

E-mail:

enquiries@2015festival.org

All cheques made out to:

EL 2015 Festival

Were on the Web

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