

The Cleeves and Whitehead Trust

Registered Charity No. 223903

The charity of the

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons

West Yorkshire

CHAIRMAN OF THE TRUSTEES REPORT 2nd March 2019

Brother President, Ladies, Brethren this Annual Report covers the period between the 3rd March 2018 and the 2nd March 2019.

Let me begin by saying that the last 12 months has been busy for all the Trustees and Officers. The Trust is changing in many ways as to how it conducts its business but I can assure you that the fundamental requirements of the Cleeves and Whitehead remain the same as they have always been. That is the Pastoral Care and Support of the Members and their dependents in difficult times and wherever possible to support local Charities and worthy causes, and of course the Mark Benevolent Fund. In the past year the Trust has issued grants of over £36,000 within the Province and a further £12,000 plus to local Charities, with The Mark Benevolent Fund receiving some £46,876. In addition we have also held our two Almoners' Lunches, in total hosting over 350 Brethren, Widows and Dependents and our next Almoners' Lunch will be held at The Cedar Court Hotel at Ainsley Top on the 1st of April. I have to both thank and congratulate W. Bro Tony Hobson and W. Bro Jim Reynolds on the success of both these events. Well done.

The annual holiday was this year held in Lytham at **The Inn on the Prom**, where the venue was good, the weather was good and the food was good. My thanks go out to W. Bro Bob Winterflood for his help and assistance with the Holiday and most especially to our Provincial Almoner Alex Steele, his assistant Paul Leach and our Secretary Jim Reynolds who all did a great job with the organising of the event. I would also like to thank the Provincial Grand Master for his visit to the hotel and for standing in as Entertainments Officer for the day.

Our next holiday will be held again at The Inn on the Prom between the dates of the **23rd and the 29th of June**. Such events require funding and income from personal donations by Brethren amounted to £65,700 and that is from just 400 members.

Wouldn't it be nice to improved on number.

We are also very fortunate that the Trust has received several generous, and substantial Legacies this year and on one particular occasion we received a donation from a Company of the name of **A.I.M.I.A.** which is a multi-national company based in Canada.

W. Bro. Alan Griffin of White Rose had put the Trust's name forward for consideration to his daughter Emma, who works for A.I.M.I.A. as an Executive Director, and who was authorised by the Board to distribute funds to worthy Charities. The Cleeves and Whitehead Trust, thanks to Alan's salesmanship, received £8,600 [\$15,000 Canadian Dollars] from the fund and for that we are eternally grateful since as far as we are aware that's the first time the Trust has received aid from outside Freemasonry, and I can assure you it has been gratefully received and will be faithfully applied.

A big thank you must also go to **Emma Griffin**, Alan's daughter, for her help and guidance and to A.I.M.I.A. for their benevolent generosity. It's nice to be on the receiving end once in a while.

Speaking of donations you may not be aware but the web site Mydonate will be closing in the summer but don't let that stop **your** donations Brethren. W. Bros. Chris Oldfield and Warren Marsden have found an alternative site and are busy setting it up to receive donations as before, but in the mean time please keep using Mydonate.

Further changes to the Trust are at an advanced stage with the **Charitable Incorporated Organisation** proposals nearing completion. W. Bro David Hymas, aided by V. W. Bro. Ian Wolstencroft have worked with the Charity Commission to change the Trust's status to a C.I.O. My thanks go to both David and Ian for the tremendous amount work put into this project by them and completion should be achieved shortly.

Our thanks also go to our Charity Representatives for the work they have put in over the last year. Along with our Lodge Almoners and Charity Stewards the Cleeves and Whitehead Trust would not be in as strong a position as it is today. Strong enough to support the Brethren of this Province, and the 2023 West Yorkshire Festival for the Mark Benevolent Fund, and of course our brilliant Welfare Officers Liz Nowell, Freda Buxton, and the late Mrs. Judith Mann.

Finally I would like to thank you all for your support and in doing so hope that together, we will see both the Festival and the Cleeves and Whitehead Trust strengthen their positions even further.

Brother President, Mrs Buxton, Brethren, that concludes my Yearly Report for the Cleeves and Whitehead Trust.

Thank you.