

Almoners Report for
The Portsmouth Lodge No.487
Friday 26th September 2025

I've only been informed of one member who has unfortunately been taken ill this month, and that's WBro Chris Ford.

Chris has been really having a bad time recently and can't sit or stand for any period of time without bad abdominal and back pain. He has an appointment with Urology booked for the 7th oct, when hopefully they can find out what's going on and return him to full health, and I'm sure I say on behalf of all of you, that we wish him a speedy recovery, and look forward to seeing him back at our meeting's very soon.

I also need to report to you that WBro Roger Smith had a short stay in a hospital in London earlier in the month for an operation, but I'm glad to say all went well, and it's delightful to see him back with us here tonight, doing an amazing job as always supplying us with music.

As you are all aware, during the holiday period, we had the Funeral of Trevor Foster, which was very well attended by Brethren from 487 to pay Tribute and give him a fitting farewell. Since then, I have tried contacting Mary multiple times by phone, but unfortunately to no avail, so I will go and pay her a home visit in the coming days to make sure everything is ok, and offer any assistance that she may need.

I want to make you all aware that there is a PSA Blood test event being held at the Cosham Masonic Center on Saturday 18th October from 10am-3pm, and it is recommended that every man over 50 (or over 40 if there is a family history of prostate cancer) knows his PSA, so please, if you have some spare time on that Sat and fit the criteria, please go and book an appointment, and I will email details in the coming days.

I also want to bring to your attention, especially those of you that are caring for a relative or friend, and that is to inform you that there has been a Home and Well being Hub set up in partnership with SGN, and will be held at Gosport waterfront baptist church, 102 Grove Rd, Elton, Gosport, PO12 4JN on Tuesday 14th October between 10am - 2pm.

So if you feel you may benefit from this and get valuable advice you might find beneficial, and I get a flyer emailed out to you all in the next coming days.

May I also point out, if you don't know already, there are a few Amity Groups that have been set up, 11 in total across the Province, to promote fellowship and companionship amongst lodge widows, retired/semi retired brethren and their partners, so please, if you

feel this is something you might like, dont hesitate to contact me or our secretary and we can point you in the right direction to get contact details of your local group.

The MCT (Masonic charitable trust) is once again providing support to those that Need a holiday but for some reason unable to take one in the last few years. This maybe due to financial hardship, trauma, illness or bereavement for which a break would be the ideal remedy. So if you, or anyone you know with a masonic connection feel that they may benefit from this, then please come and see me.

If you have, or know of any youngsters with a masonic connection, there is also a Provincial Tall ships youth trust, that hopes to help youngsters with masonic connections enhance their life skills, and broaden their knowledge and experiences on the open seas, so once again, if you know of any youngster that you feel may benefit from this, then please let me know. And I will also put more details of this out via email in the coming months also.

And lastly I thought i would let you all know i had my first induction/training session on my new role as almoner, which i have to say, I found really helpful, and very informative, and it was great to put some faces to names, and get to meet the people thay work so hard behind the scenes at the MCF, MCT and Provincial almoner roles. As Im still very new to this, it was definitely a learning curve, but i still have loads more to learn, and i hope i can put what i learn into practice by helping and supporting you to the best of my ability. So once again, if you, or your know of anyone who might need some help and support, please let me know too!

Many Thanks

G.Manson

"487" Almoner