

THE PORTSMOUTH LODGE NO 487

Charity Steward:
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Charity Steward Report – December 2025

Freemasonry in the Community

Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and I.O.W are promoting Freemasonry in the community (FITC), this initiative provides the province with a formal link with the wider community. It's designed to increase public awareness of our organisation. FITC is part of the drive to make Freemasonry more accessible and transparent to the general public. Taking part in events across our region is also the ideal platform to attract new members.

Unlike other exhibitors we do not have a physical product and neither are we a charity asking for money, we are just selling ourselves and we are the exhibit and how we present ourselves reflects directly on Freemasonry. We should ensure that the correct branding and message from us is used at any event. Each area is responsible for creating its programme of FITC events. Area FITC teams ensure that the necessary display materials are available for each event.

The Provinces central repository of FITC material is located at Kings Court Masonic Centre in Chandlers Ford. It is managed by the coordinator Jeff Godsall. If planning an event, Jeff should be advised of your requirements.

Hampshire & IOW Province

No further updates are available at this time.

For More information see: -<https://hantsiowfreemasons.org/members-area/welfare/>

The Portsmouth Lodge as of 07/01/2026 has:-

a) Pledged **£22,381** - to the **Hampshire and I.O.W 2027 Festival** which is **95%** towards our Silver Honorific of **£23,500**

b) a **Charity Account** balance of - **£1,750.13**

For Worshipful Master Charity - **£ 523.00**

For Charity Steward disbursement - **£1,227.13**

c) a **Relief Chest** balance of - **£ 1,542.74**

Year to Date Receipts - **£ 1,530.00**

Year to Date Donations - **£ 1,100.00**

At the January meeting a Notice of Motion will be given, that a sum ne £600 be allocated from the Charity account for the Worshipful Masters charity The Elizabeth foundation.

The Elizabeth foundation is based at Queen Alexandra Hospital Portsmouth. The Foundation, provides a wide range of services to offer young deaf children (from birth to five years old).

Through all of their services they aim to help children learn to listen and talk. They provide residential services for families all across the UK. They also work in partnership with Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust to provide audiology services for local children.

At the January meeting a Proposition will be given for:

A sum not exceeding £200.00 be allocated to, The Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport, a charity which started The Basics Bank in July 2003. The Basics Bank provides short term practical support to anyone in a crisis or emergency situation. In the past 12 months the Basics Bank has dealt with some 3000 referrals for people in our community who find themselves facing a crisis and who don't have enough money to buy food. Parcels include basic food and toiletries and other essentials. To access the service, a voucher is required. This can only be obtained through agencies that come into contact with people who are likely to need assistance. These include Citizens Advice, Local Authorities, services provided through the NHS, Schools, Doctors' Surgeries etc'. They rely on these agencies to confirm the need and to manage the relationship with their client.

Charities Donated to in 2025

From The Lodge Charity Account: -

Date	Charity	Charity Number	Donation
Apr 25	Prostate Cancer Research	1156027	£ 250
Apr 25	Friends of Zetland Court		£ 100
Sept 25	Portsmouth Down Syndrome As	1147355	£1,400
Sept 25	Miscarriage Association	1076829	£1,400
Oct 25	Solent Diabetes Association	1141865	£ 200
Nov 25	Oakhaven Hospice	900215	£ 150
Dec 25	Lord Mayor charity appeal	1100417-2	£200
Total			£3,500

From The Lodge Relief Chest: -

Date	Charity	Charity Number	Donation
Jan 25	Cancer Research UK	1089464	£250
Jan 25	Prostate Cancer UK	1005541	£50
Jan 25	Hearing for Dogs	293358	£50
Jan 25	Key to Joy	1201453	£250
Mar 25	MCF 2030 Festival - Surrey (Crime and Craft Talk)		£250
May 25	Moving on Project	1147632	£250
Dec 25	Friends of the Homeless	1194360	£200
Total			£1,300

Scan the QR code at the top right-hand corner to **donate** to the MCF Festival or our Lodge Relief Chest.

Bro Mike Crick
Charity Steward