

# THE PORTSMOUTH LODGE NO 487

Charity Steward:  
Bro. M. Crick  
5 Livingstone Road  
Portsmouth  
Hampshire PO51RS  
Tel: 07971829083  
E-mail:  
[thecrickster69@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:thecrickster69@hotmail.co.uk)



## Charity Steward Report – March 2026

### Learning and Development

Every Freemason is informed at their Initiation to 'make a daily advancement' in their Masonic knowledge. There are many reasons as to why this line is included in the Charge to the Initiate but first and foremost is to encourage Brethren to 'open your mind' and, through an open and enquiring mind, will endeavour to improve your own understanding of yourself and of Freemasonry and its teachings.

The lead within Lodges for the promotion of learning lies with the Lodge Mentor, supported by the Membership Officer.

Our Province is split into six Areas and each Area has, as part of the Area Team under the direction of an Assistant Provincial Grand Master, been appointed an Area Learning and Development Officer (ALDO). Each ALDO is responsible to the Area APGM for all training and development within that Area.

Progression, should you wish to do so, will be enhanced by attending the seminars and workshops, along with Lodges of Instruction (LOIs), within your Area. Brethren should be encouraged to attend the relevant seminar pertinent to the next office you aspire to. LOIs provide ongoing support to those Brethren approaching the Chair by way of instruction in a relaxed and informal gathering.

Our Learning and Development officer for the Solent Area is our visiting officer W.Bro. Peter Ambrose. So please speak to him for further information.

I had the great pleasure to visit The Elizabeth foundation and present a cheque on behalf of the brethren for £523.00 to Joanne Bent and Lucy Smith the fundraising managers at the foundation. It was very much appreciated by them and will provide a continued wide range of services they offer young deaf children attending the nursery.

They sent a very nice letter expressing their sincere gratitude to the Brethren of the lodge.

Also an open invitation to those of you who would like to visit the family centre to see the work they do.

### Hampshire & IOW Province

No further updates are available at this time.

For More information see: [-https://hantsiowfreemasons.org/members-area/welfare.](https://hantsiowfreemasons.org/members-area/welfare)

**The Portsmouth Lodge** as of 05/03/2026 has:-

a) Pledged **£22,421** - 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 - **£ 1,627.13**

For Worshipful Master Charity - £ 120.00

For Charity Steward disbursement - £1,507.13

c) a **Relief Chest** balance of - **£ 1,552.28**

Year to Date Receipts - £ 210.00

Year to Date Donations - £ 200.00

At the April meeting a Proposition will be given, that a sum ne £250.00 be allocated from the Charity account for the Solent Multiple Sclerosis Therapies unit based in Portsmouth. They provide therapies – high dosage oxygen therapy, Physiotherapy, Osteopathy, Shitatsu , Reflexology and pain relief therapy to people with multiple Multiple Sclerosis and other health conditions in our area. They offer advice and support and a community building for the users.

As mentioned at last month’s meeting a prize draw for the ‘Association of friends of Zetland Court’ will take place at their annual fete on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026. If anyone wants to go along and attend please let me know and I’ll give you the details. They have sent raffle tickets for the event with a first prize of £250. I will have tickets with me again for the April meeting. Tickets are just £1.00 each, so please bring along some spare change for a chance to win a various prizes.

### **Charities Donated to in 2025-26**

**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
Mar 26	Elizabeth Foundation	293835	£ 523
Apr 26	Solent Multiple Sclerosis		
Total			£ 4,023

**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
Jan 26	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**