

THE PORTSMOUTH LODGE NO 487

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Charity Steward Report – April 2026

Cricket and the Craft

Something a bit lighter this month, a visit to the UGLE museum' which is well worth a visit, you can visit, shop and carry out research. Included within the museums collection are Three unique cricket freemasonry jewels.

With the Cricket season in full swing, it is a good time to highlight these cricket-related jewels. Kennington Lodge No. 1381 met initially at the Surrey Tavern in Kennington Oval Cricket Ground. One of its founders was a cricket bat maker, so it is fitting that bats, wickets and balls feature on the ribbon of their jewels. The jewel of the Lodge of Grace No. 8566 is more subtle. This Gloucestershire Lodge is named after the county's most famous cricketer son, W.G. Grace, and the tree columns of their founders' jewel are arranged as a wicket with square and compasses bails. The founders' jewel for the Cricket Lodge of Essex No. 10009 does not hide its name or symbolism. The Lodge meets in Chelmsford, not far from the home of the Essex County Cricket Club. The jewel is one of the newest additions to the collection.

For brethren interested in exploring cricket and Freemasonry further, there is a feature called: "Black History Month – Famous Black Freemasons: Cricket Knights". This piece celebrates the contributions of prominent cricketers who were also Freemasons, showing the rich intersection of cricket and Masonic history. You can also source a video featuring English Ashes hero Herbert Sutcliffe, a celebrated cricketer legend.

Following the approval at April's meeting, that a sum of £250.00 be allocated from the charity account for the Solent Multiple Sclerosis Therapies unit based in Portsmouth. I am arranging to visit the unit in June and meet the Manager to present the cheque on behalf of the Lodge and Brethren.

The charity provides many therapies, including – 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.

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 05/04/2026 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 - **£ 1,752.13**

For Worshipful Master Charity - **£ 120.00**

For Charity Steward disbursement - **£1,632.13**

c) a **Relief Chest** balance of - **£ 1,624.30**

Year to Date Receipts - **£ 282.00**

Year to Date Donations - **£ 200.00**

A cheque for £120.00 was sent to the 'Association of friends of Zetland Court', this included a donation from the lodge and purchased raffle tickets. The annual fete at Zetland Court is on the 6th June 2026. If anyone wants to go along and attend please let me know and I'll give you the details.

Charities Donated to in 2025-26

From The Lodge Charity Account: -

Date	Charity	Charity Number	Donation
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		£ 250
May 26	Friends of Zetland Court		£ 100
Total			£ 4,223

From The Lodge Relief Chest: -

Date	Charity	Charity Number	Donation
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			£ 700

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