

THE PORTSMOUTH LODGE NO 487

Charity Steward:
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Charity Steward Report – September 2026

Welcome back to Freemasonry after the summer break and trust you have all managed to enjoy the lovely weather and look forward to seeing everyone in the coming months in the Temple and at the festive Board.

Families facing challenging situations at Home

Unfortunately, some families have to resolve problems with their children due to their behaviour, this can be seen through self-harm, violence and refusing to go to school etc'. 30 local families dealing with the above problems have received increased help and support thanks to a grant of £64,685 from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Freemasons to the Youth Options Charity.

The grant will support the 'Families Together' project over the next 3 years, where they offer bespoke whole family support courses for parents with the addition of one-to-one and small groups for young people. Through these courses, parents will receive the tools required to break down barriers and address the issues. The programme will focus on all aspects of family life to change and improve life for everyone involved.

Children need positive and stable relationships to reach their full potential. The courses aim to reduce violent behaviour and build relationships. Every family and young person deserves an opportunity to lead a good life.

The grant from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Freemasons comes through the Masonic Charitable Foundation funded by all freemasons. The Project team is based in Eastleigh. The Youth Options Chief Executive is grateful for the additional support they can now offer children and young people across the county.

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 30/8/2026 has:-

a) Pledged **£22,432** - 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 - **£ 1,777.13**

For Worshipful Master Charity - **£ 490.00**

For Charity Steward disbursement - **£1,387.13**

c) a **Relief Chest** balance of - **£ 1,820.62**

Year to Date Receipts - **£ 478.00**

Year to Date Donations - **£ 200.00**

At the September meeting a Notice of Motion will be given, that a sum ne £250.00 be allocated from the charity account for **Connors Toy Library** based in Portsmouth. This charity has been a trusted part of the community for over five decades, proudly celebrating 52 years of service this year. They have been dedicated to supporting families and helping children thrive through play. For many families' life brings extra challenges. Some face isolation and loneliness, others are navigating disability, long term health conditions, financial struggles or difficult personal circumstances.

They offer a welcoming and inclusive environment where families can access a wide range of quality toys, resources and support.

Charities Donated to in 2025-26

From The Lodge Charity Account: -

Date	Charity	Charity Number	Donation
Mar 26	Elizabeth Foundation	293835	£ 523
Apr 26	Solent Multiple Sclerosis	299545	£ 250
May 26	Friends of Zetland Court		£ 100
Total			£ 873

From The Lodge Relief Chest: -

Date	Charity	Charity Number	Donation
Jan 26	Friends of the Homeless	1194360	£200
Total			£ 200

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