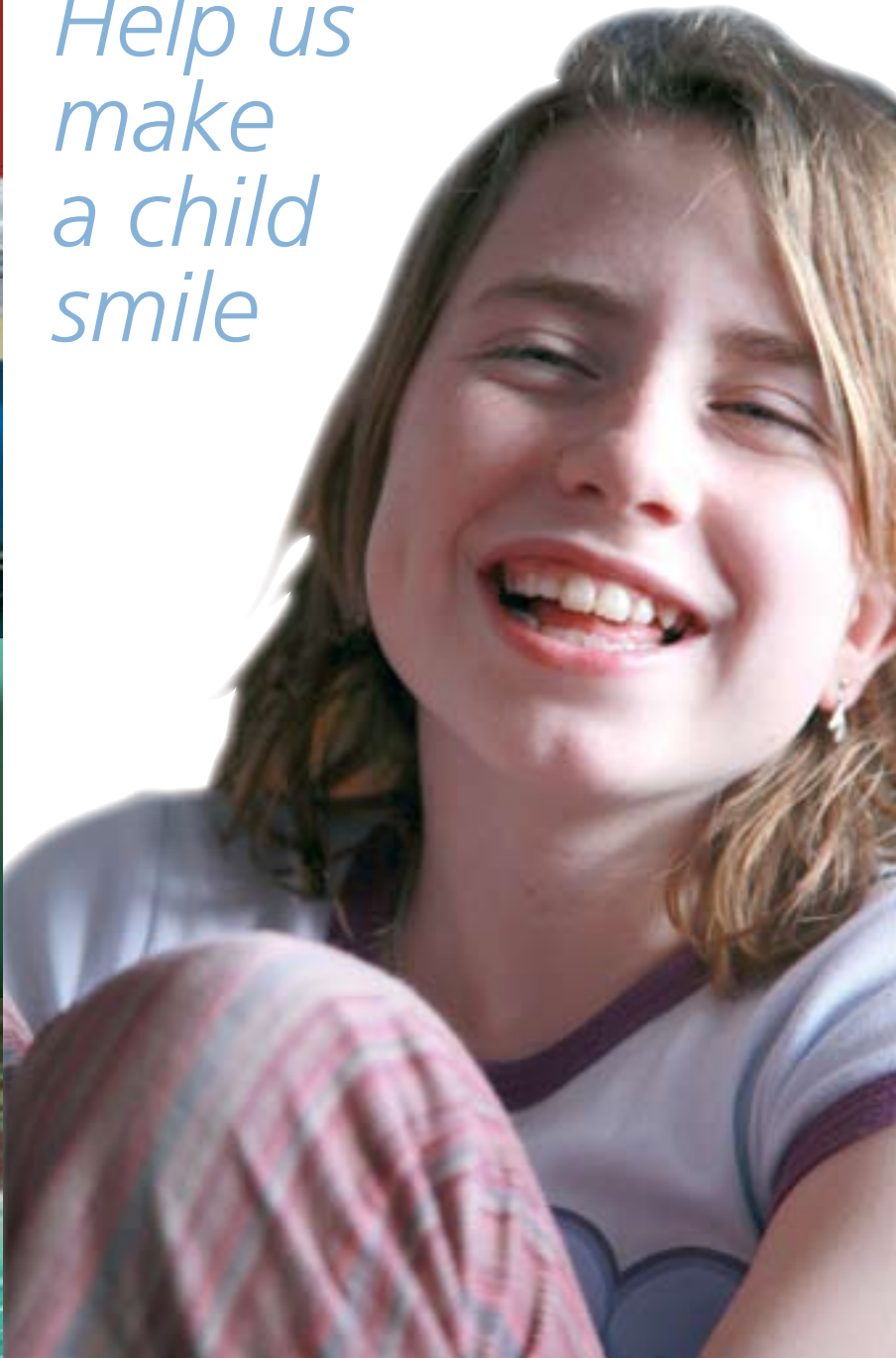


Annual Review 2006



*Help us
make
a child
smile*



President's Statement

It is my pleasure to present this Annual Review and Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2006.

During the year we supported over 1,800 children and accepted new Petitions for financial assistance on behalf of 110 children, all of whom are children of the family of a Freemason. Whether a case is accepted due to the death, disability, desertion of a parent, or financial distress experienced by the family as a whole, each brings its own unique heartbreak and turmoil. In addition we have continued limited help to children not connected with Masonic families, in particular by continuing to offer bursaries at cathedrals and choral foundations.

Lifelites, our millennium project, was established in 1999 when we designated £7.5m to enable all children's hospice in England and Wales to realise the potential of IT for education and recreational purposes. The expansion of the children's hospices movement has exceeded our expectations and we are proud that we have now funded this programme in all 38 hospices in England and Wales. This success has led us to establish Lifelites as a separate charity able to seek the Masonic and non-Masonic support that will safeguard its future independently of the Trust. Lifelites is an innovative, emotive and worthwhile cause which is a vital supporter of the successful Children's Hospice movement and I wish it every success in the future.

Throughout the Trust's long and successful history we have been proud to state that we have never turned away an eligible candidate because of a lack of funds; this has not been an easy task. The return on our investments provides about half the amount needed to meet our current commitments and is the vital platform that allows us to make the commitment to each beneficiary for their future support. We must not allow that endowment to be eroded.

The continued effort and generosity of all Freemasons, but in particular from those in Provinces supporting a Festival, is crucial to our future existence and is vital to our ability to make the long term commitment to our beneficiaries. It is with much pleasure, therefore, that I record the grateful thanks of the Council to RW Bro Richard Anderson, Provincial Grand Master for Yorkshire, North and East Ridings, and the Brethren and Ladies of the Province of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings for their magnificent efforts culminating in a splendid result which was announced at the annual meeting of the Province held on 20th May 2006. I thank you all for your continued support.

The work that the four National Masonic Charities have undertaken over the last seven years in facing the challenges of achieving our charitable objectives and realising efficiencies in our operations is coming to fruition. The move by all four Charities into Freemasons' Hall in the Autumn represents a major step towards meeting this goal. There is further work to be done to achieve the significant potential savings in the cost of administering the Charities but the move is a crucial step in ensuring that we meet the standards of best practice so that Freemasons are well served by those Charities that they so generously support.

Our current headquarters have been the home of the Trust and its predecessor charity the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls for over 80 years. The building has served us well and I was very pleased to celebrate our 80th Birthday at 31 Great Queen Street last October in the presence of the Grand Master, HRH the Duke of Kent. Bringing that to an



Our Mission and History

end is an emotional step but the move will enable the Trust to maximise the financial return on its London properties.

I record my deep appreciation to the Senior Management Team and all the staff at the Trust for all their hard work and dedication. I must in particular record our appreciation of someone who has devoted his working life to the Trust with skill and dedication. W Bro Keith Hulks, PAGDC (right), retired in September 2006 having served for 44 years in Great Queen Street. Keith began his career in August 1962 at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys as a junior, rising to the post of Head of Petitions in that organisation. With the amalgamation of the former charities into the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys he eventually moved into the Festival Department latterly serving as Festivals Manager – in fact



he has attended, and been involved in the arrangements for 44 Festivals. His last Festival was on 20 May 2006 in the Province of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings when the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Richard Anderson (left), called him up and presented him with a citation recording his 44 years service.

I must also thank the Council of the Trust who voluntarily give up their time and expertise to oversee the running of the charity and play a significant part in ensuring that the benefits available to our children are maximised.

In April 2008, I will retire after eight years as President of the Trust. I hope that I leave my successor with a charity that is well placed to meet the challenges of the future and most importantly the continuing needs of our Masonic families who are, through no fault of their own, suffering from poverty and distress.

Andrew Stebbings

Grand President

HRH The Duke of Kent KG GCMG GCVO ADC
Grand Master

President

Andrew Stebbings

Treasurer

Nigel Buchanan

Chief Executive

Clive Andrews

Secretary to the Council

Les Hutchinson



In 1801 Thomas Stothard painted a picture of Chevalier Ruspini, one of the founders of the Royal Masonic Trust, leading a group of female beneficiaries into Grand Lodge. The picture above is a reproduction of a rarely seen engraving, almost cartoon-like, based on the painting. Copies were probably sold to raise funds for the charity. To the left of Bartolomeo Ruspini stands the Prince of Wales and on the right the Duke of York and the Lord Mayor of London.

Mission: To continue to relieve poverty and provide an education and preparation for life for the children of the family of a Freemason and, where funds permit, for any children, as their fathers would have done, had they been able so to do.

Petition Beneficiaries

The core work of the Trust has always been, and continues to be, support for the children of Masonic families in times of need.

Every Petition family the Trust helps has suffered distress – the death, severe illness or desertion of a parent, financial hardship or the disability of a child. In all too many cases the cruel hand of fate has struck more than once.



Kate (above) and her two brothers became beneficiaries of the Trust in 2002, following the breakdown of their parents' marriage. Kate's brother Will is shown below



Trust support has helped Kate, who is dyslexic, to achieve her full potential. She will sit her GCSE examinations this summer and her predicted grades reflect her hard work and commitment to her studies.

In addition to playing hockey, Kate plays the flute and the Trust meets the cost of her music lessons.

When **Joseph** and **Holly's** father became ill, he was unable to work and could not afford to meet his children's school fees.

This was a very unsettling time for the family and by awarding

fee bursaries, the Trust ensured that Joseph and Holly could remain in the familiar and supportive environment of their school.

Now aged eight and six, Joseph and Holly (below – seen with their mother) continue to make excellent progress and the Trust is always pleased to receive their latest school reports. In addition to termly Maintenance Allowances, both children receive additional grants for piano lessons and Holly also receives assistance with the cost of her football lessons.



Petition Beneficiaries

Each of the Trust's eight Case Advisers is responsible for the day-to-day support of about 200 petition children and young people. They prepare the initial papers for the grant-making committee to consider and then supervise the case on an on-going basis. They take an enormous interest in the progress and well-being of 'their children'.

Often Case Advisers and family never meet face to face although they communicate frequently by letter, e-mail and telephone. Nothing gives a Case Adviser greater pleasure than hearing of a beneficiary's success and achievement.



Blake (left) has Down's Syndrome. His father died in 2000 when Blake was only three years old. Soon after, the Trust started to assist with a termly Maintenance Allowance, part of which is used to allow Blake to receive horse riding lessons, which he loves.

Blake's grandparents live locally and have a close, caring relationship with their daughter and grandson. Blake's grandfather has been a Freemason for over 20 years and it is because of Freemasons like him, that the Trust is able to help Blake and many other children.

Talentaïd

Lloyd (right) has been ice-skating since the age of five. By the age of nine he was skating six days a week and was taking part in competitions all over the country, winning medals in both free skating and ice dance.

At sixteen Lloyd left school and moved to London to concentrate on his skating. He and his partner have been training together since summer 2004 and they have been

extremely successful. Together they have become members of the British Junior Squad and Team GB, the squad for potential Olympians. Lloyd and his partner are currently the British Junior Ice Dance Champions.

The Trust has helped Lloyd with some of his many expenses by awarding a TalentAid General Grant of £3,500 for the year 2006/07.



Subsidiary Funds

As well as disbursing its own funds, the Royal Masonic Trust administers many 'subsidiary funds'. Some of these are independent charities, others are funds belonging to the Trust but designated by their donors for special purposes.

The Old Masonians Memorial Trust, a small subsidiary fund, was established in 1989 to commemorate Norman Taylor Sinclair, a former headmaster of the Royal Masonic School for Boys, to former pupils who gave their lives in the service of their Country, and the achievements of the school during its 179-year history. The school closed in 1977 and the fund is used to help young people who have not completed their education or vocational training. In most cases grants are given as a contribution towards the cost of an educational trip abroad. Last year **Alex** (right) received a grant from this fund and below he talks of his experience.

"On the 15th October 2006, with the help of the Royal Masonic Trust, I flew out to Ghana to spend three months as a volunteer working just outside the capital city, Accra. I lived in a compound with 35 other volunteers, spending my mornings at a local hospital assisting where I could and my afternoons at an orphanage.

Due to a shortage of health care workers in Ghana many of the hospitals are understaffed and so



an extra pair of hands can be of great benefit. My roles included assisting doctors and nurses on the wards and in surgery, assisting patients with tasks they could not do alone (e.g. walking to the toilet) and cleaning up around the hospital. During my time in the hospital I gained a great deal of experience in general health care and hope to make full use of it when I enter medical school.

In the afternoons, after my morning at the hospital I helped out at a nearby orphanage preparing the children for school. This involved teaching them to read and write as well as basic maths.

At the weekends and during the final week of the trip I was free to travel around Ghana with the



Above: The children from the orphanage. Top right: Alex (right) with a colleague on safari

other volunteers. This gave me a brilliant chance to experience the culture as well as see some of the African wildlife, with the highlight being when I was able to hold the tail of a crocodile while it ate.

My trip to Ghana was a wonderful experience and I would like to thank the Royal Masonic Trust for their contribution."

Non-Masonic Grants

Choral Bursaries

The Trust's Choral Bursary scheme awards grants to choristers at 25 cathedrals and other choral foundations. The bursaries enable children to join a choir and attend the choir school when their families are unable to meet the fees.

The bursaries are part of the Trust's non-Masonic giving programme and the candidates do not have to come from a Masonic family.

The photograph is of **Allan** (right), the Trust's Choral Bursary

recipient at Exeter Cathedral. Allan was awarded the bursary in September 2003. In addition to his fees, the Trust assists with the cost of Allan's trumpet and piano lessons.



Non-Masonic Postgraduate Bursaries

Each year the Trust awards a small number of bursaries to students undertaking research in a field of particular interest to the Trust. Recipients are encouraged to share with Trust staff insights gained from their research.



Beneficiaries have included a PhD student whose research focussed on the experiences of parents with Special Needs children and another who was studying for a Masters Degree in Educational Psychology.

Rachel (left) received a bursary while she undertook postgraduate study in Art Psychotherapy. She writes:

"As I am Deaf and a sign language user, I had to rely on interpreters during my postgraduate training. The cost of an interpreter is very high, as much as £50 per hour. The statutory grant available for disabled students

on postgraduate courses is much less than that awarded to undergraduates. The grant was simply not enough. The RMTGB bursary helped me greatly. It was as if a burden was taken off my shoulders. The Trust also provided me with a laptop computer and printer which helped me overcome communication barriers and produce a high quality dissertation. I have now obtained a unique post helping Deaf patients with mental health needs.

No words can express my deep gratitude for what the RMTGB has done for me and I cannot thank them enough."

Present, past and future

Welfare support

Julia Young has been with the Trust for eight years and has been the senior welfare adviser for the past five. During her time at the Trust the welfare team has expanded from two advisers to four. Over the past eight years, it is estimated she has visited, assisted and advised over 4,000 families in the UK and overseas.

Alongside her duties of managing the welfare team and visiting families, she has also forged strong links with the Royal Masonic School for Girls in Rickmansworth. She visits weekly and spends time with pupils and staff and supporting beneficiaries who might need a shoulder to lean on or sympathetic ear.

Seeing girls who might otherwise not have had the opportunity to attend such a prestigious school blossom and fulfil their potential has given

her great pleasure over the years. Many past beneficiaries are still in touch and take pleasure in keeping her up to date with their achievements.

Julia lives in Sussex and is now a proud Grandmother!!



Celebrating the past and looking to the future

On 3 October 2006 the Royal Masonic Trust hosted a reception to celebrate 80 years since the current headquarters were built in Great Queen Street.

Guest of honour was HRH The Duke of Kent. In his welcoming speech, Andrew Stebbings, President of the Trust, recalled that in its 218 year history the Trust had had many Royal Patrons including King William IV, Queen Victoria and King George V, but that none had served as long as the Duke who was in his 39th year as Grand

President. Andrew Stebbings also noted, to the great satisfaction of Council members, that the building had increased in value by 22,000 per cent since it was built.

Chief Executive of the Trust, Clive Andrews, then spoke about the tens of thousands of children and young people who had been helped by the Trust in the last 80 years, and introduced a current beneficiary, **Demelza Stafford** (left), a post-graduate opera student, who sang a moving song originally written for Dame Nellie Melba, the international singing star who was at the height of her career at the time the offices were built.

Later this year the Trust will relocate its offices to the lower ground floor of Freemasons' Hall, where all four central Craft charities will be housed. 31 Great Queen Street, which has been the symbol of immeasurable support for Masonic children for 80 years, will then be used to generate much needed income.



The 21st Anniversary Festival

The Province of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings

On 20 May 2006, the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys held its 21st Anniversary Festival. A magnificent total of £2,325,736 was announced, including donations from Her Majesty the Queen and the Grand President of the Trust, MW Bro His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Grand Master, with the President's Festival Province producing £2,087,056.

In a change to tradition the Festival was held as part of the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings at the University of York. The Festival President was RW Bro Richard Anderson, Provincial Grand Master.

Distinguished guests included RW Bro David Williamson, Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Iain Bryce, Past Deputy Grand Master and a former Provincial Grand Master of the Festival Province, also RW Bros John Hale, Provincial Grand Master for Cumberland and Westmorland and President of the Trust's Festival in 2007, Gordon Smith, Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire, John Clayton, Provincial Grand Master for Yorkshire, West Riding, Derek Richmond, Provincial Grand Master for Durham and John Raylor, Past Provincial Grand Master for Yorkshire, North and East Ridings together with a number of Deputy and Assistant Provincial Grand Masters from neighbouring Provinces and nearly one thousand brethren of the Festival Province.



London raised £160,883 with Districts and Lodges Overseas producing £4,142, of which £1,171 came from Gibraltar.

Lodges and individuals in Provinces other than Yorkshire, North and East Ridings brought in a total of £73,655. The ten highest being from:

Essex	£11,708
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	£10,647
Isle of Man	£7,477
West Lancashire	£6,518
Middlesex	£4,421
Warwickshire	£3,293
West Kent	£2,804
Berkshire	£2,799
East Lancashire	£2,731
Nottinghamshire	£2,588

The Festival Province

The President's Personal List amounted to £456,762 and included the following donations from Masonic bodies within the Province:

Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings	£10,925
Provincial Grand Chapter of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings	£2,047
Provincial Grand Charity of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings	£325,912
Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings	£39,498

All Lodges within the Province brought up Lists.

The top ten were:

Eboracum Lodge No 1611	£57,036
Cleveland Lodge No 543	£48,847
Beresford-Peirse Lodge No 2610	£42,949
Old Hymerian Lodge No 6885	£36,602
Old Guisborian Lodge No 7793	£33,393
Lodge of St Michael No 7833	£32,111
Vulcan Lodge No 4510	£30,344
Ferrum Lodge No 1848	£30,000
Zetland Lodge No 561	£29,256
Falcon Lodge No 1416	£29,046

Making it happen – raising the money

Legacy Giving

By remembering the Royal Masonic Trust in your Will you can make a real difference to the level of support we provide.

Legacies are immensely important to our work. Making a Will is a simple but very important step. It is the only way of ensuring that you decide who will benefit from your estate after your death.

Your legacy can help us to change the lives of generations of children by enabling us to continue our work well into the future.

Planning an Open Day?

Did you know that the Trust has professional presentation stands, which can be used to illustrate some of the important works carried out by this charity?

Guest Speakers

The Secretary to the Council will, on request, be happy to arrange for a speaker to attend Lodge meetings to talk about the work of the Trust.

Honorific Ranks

Brethren obtain honorific ranks in the Trust as follows: **Subscriber £60, Vice-Patron £300, Patron £600, Grand Patron £1,200.**

Ladies, or Lewises being minors, receive the honorific ranks for half the total sums for all ranks. Lodges, Chapters etc. receive the honorific ranks for double the amounts shown for all ranks.

Festival Ranks

In addition to achieving cumulative ranks in the Trust qualified Stewards may also obtain ranks in specific RMTGB Festivals.

giftaid it

The Trust actively encourages all eligible donors to complete a Gift Aid declaration, which enables the benefit of their donation to be maximised.

For your donations to qualify for Gift Aid you must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the Trust reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year (currently 28p for each £1 you give). Please ensure that you contact the Trust if your tax situation changes or if you change address.

Gift Aid Envelopes

A Gift Aid envelope is also available. The envelope enables the Trust to reclaim tax on donations made through alms collections, festive boards and ladies nights.

*Thankfully received...
faithfully applied*

For further details about any of the items above please visit our web-site at www.rmtgb.org or complete and return the response form at the back of this Annual Review.

Financial Report – 2006

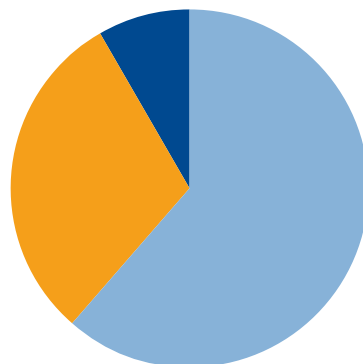
Investment income continues to be our largest source of revenue. Expenditure has reduced from previous years. The deficit, which is lower than 2005, is funded from capital.

The Trust's strategic aim is to ensure that it can continue to meet its long-term commitments and the plan is to bring expenditure more into line with revenue, over time.

The Trust's investment managers again performed well.

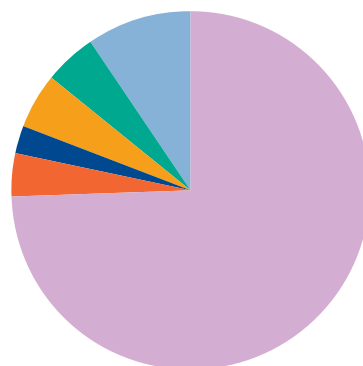
Full accounts, which have been audited without qualification, and signed on 31 May 2007, can be obtained from the Trust's offices at 31 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AG.

The audited accounts were approved at the Annual General Meeting and General Court on 20 June 2007.



Where our money came from

- Net investment income (including interest & rents) 61%
- Festival income and other donations 30.5%
- Legacies 8.5%



How the money was spent

- Amounts paid to beneficiaries 74.5%
- TalentAid 4%
- Choral bursaries and non-Masonic grants 2.5%
- Fundraising expenditure 5%
- Lifelites 4.5%
- Governance 9.5%

Extracts from Group Accounts 2005 – 2006 (including the Subsidiary Trusts)

	2006	2005
	£'000	£'000
Net investment income (including interest and rents)	£4,474	£3,542
Festival income and other donations	£2,274	£2,972
Legacies	£605	£210

Total Incoming Resources

	£7,353	£6,724
Amount paid on behalf of beneficiaries	£6,926	£6,990
TalentAid	£366	£317
Choral bursaries and non-Masonic Grants	£220	£209
Fundraising expenditure	£470	£425
Lifelites	£421	£708
Governance	£875	£809

Total resources expended

(Deficit) (£1,925) (£2,734)

Total Funds £147,828 £140,693

The Future in your Hands

Marcus is six years old and his sister Isabella is 11. Their father died in 2001 at the tragically young age of 37. The Trust started helping the family shortly afterwards. Both children receive a termly maintenance allowance and help with the cost of swimming lessons. Isabella is also learning to play the clarinet and the cost of her lessons are paid for by the Trust.

The Trust will continue to support these children as long as there is need. Nothing can ever make up for the loss of their father but the Trust will do all it can to help these children fulfil their potential.

Will you help us in our mission and support the Trust?



Thank you for your support

**Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys
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