

A Seniors Day To Remember

The Lopes Lodge No. 5526



Senior members of The Lopes Lodge No. 5526 with The Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Michael T. Penny at the special meeting celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Consecration of the Lodge and held jointly with their Mother Lodge, the Lodge of Union No. 444 at Freemasons Hall, Gandy Street, 22nd June 2010.

A Hole Won

Loyal Lodge No. 251



The golfing prowess of two members of Loyal Lodge No. 251 came to the fore when they won the Devon Masonic Challenge Cup at Honiton recently. The competition, which was instigated by W. Bro. Peter Haig in 1960 and is organised by W. Bro. Alan Seager, is open to Freemasons in the Province of Devonshire and is played for on a 'Better Ball - Stapleford' basis. W. Bro. Clarry Dunn and Bro. Dudley Boothroyd mounted a strong challenge from Loyal Lodge and won the competition with a score of 39 points.

The photograph shows Clarry and Dudley being presented with the cup by W. Bro. Stan Pye who travelled from The Old Denstonian School Lodge No. 5490 in the Province of Staffordshire in order to carry out that duty at the September meeting of Loyal Lodge.

Report Of The Province Of Devonshire Benevolent Fund 2011

This last year - 2010 - has seen considerable changes to the organisation and structure of the Provincial Charities namely: the Provincial Benevolent Fund (PBF); the Widows and Fortescue Fund (W&FF); and the Devon Masonic Education Fund (DMEF). After a thorough review of the operations of the Funds conducted by The Provincial Charity Steward and The Provincial Deputy Registrar, The Provincial Grand Master and his executive accepted the report recommendation that both the W&FF and DMEF be dissolved and their assets and liabilities be transferred to the PBF. The work of the 3 Funds would largely continue unaltered, albeit under the umbrella of one enlarged PBF.

W. Bro. Colin Gale was appointed Project Manager to manage the merger of the funds. Together with W. Bro. John Shepherd (PBF Treasurer), W. Bro. Conrad Donaldson (Provincial Charity Steward) and the outgoing Secretaries and Treasurers of the W&FF and DMEF, a smooth changeover was effected. W. Bro. Michael Walker was appointed Assistant Secretary of the PBF to manage the administration and applications to the new Funds, coupled with his existing duties within the William Alexander Kneel Endowment (WAKE) Fund.

The DMEF was renamed the Davie Educational Fund (DEF) and the W&FF was renamed the Fortescue Relief Fund (FRF) - both now being designated Funds within the PBF.

During 2010 the DEF has received and approved 21 applications, which totalled £16,611, and the FRF has received and approved 15 applications which totalled £20,000. The DEF inherited 3 ongoing approved grants. The FRF inherited one ongoing approved grant.

To reduce some of the workload of the Provincial Benevolent Committee a Sub-Committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of V.W. Bro. Colin Turner (Deputy Provincial Grand Master) and consists of: W. Bro. John Shepherd, W. Bro. Tony Morrell (Provincial Grand Almoner), W. Bro. Conrad Donaldson, W. Bro. Frank Handscombe (Secretary Provincial Benevolent Fund), W. Bro. Colin Gale, and W. Bro. Michael Walker. The Sub-Committee met twice in 2010, in addition to the two meetings of the full

Benevolent Committee. It is thus able to act as a discussion forum, looking at ways of moving the Funds forward, reviewing applications and making recommendations to the main committee.

As at 31st December, 2010 the market value of the combined PBF stood at £3.0m comprising FRF £0.8m, DEF £0.5m and WAKE £1.5m. The combined Fund benefited from £286,000 of investment gains with the recovery in stock markets.

The 2010 Annual disbursements from the WAKE Fund took place on Friday 30th April at the Masonic Hall, Teignmouth and on Friday 1st October at the Masonic Hall, Sidmouth. The members of the Benevolent Committee thank the respective Hall companies and all the helpers at these events - these events continue to be very important showcases for Freemasonry in Devon.

At Teignmouth, 28 recipients received a total of £23,750 from the Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Michael T. Penny. At the second disbursement at Sidmouth there were 27 recipients, receiving £26,500 from the Provincial Grand Master. In addition a further £1,250 has been donated to other worthy causes during the year, making a total of £51,500.

Compared with other Provinces, we are most fortunate to have this significant endowment which enables Masonic giving to continue at the same time as raising funds for the 2012 Festival Appeal for the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys.

Our thanks must go to The Provincial Grand Master and his Executive, the members of the Benevolent Fund and its Sub-Committee, W. Bro. Shepherd and the other Trustees together with Mrs Angela Pulman who provides much valuable assistance in the administration.

W. Bro. Frank Handscombe, PAGDC
Secretary

W. Bro. Michael Walker, PPRSGD
Assistant Secretary