

Mark Benevolent Fund Honorifics Qualification of Donors

	Bro.	Ladies/Lewis	Lodge	Province
Life Subscriber	£50	£25		
Life Governor	£100	£50		
Vice-Patron	£250	£125	£25 pm	£50 pm
Patron	£500	£250	£50 pm	£100 pm
Grand Patron	£1,000	£500	Patron + £1,000	Patron + £2,000
Grand Patron Gold Award	£2,500	£1,250	G. Patron + £2,500	G. Patron + £5,000

Lodges which at the time of application have contributed to the Fund not less than £50 or £25 for every subscribing member may qualify as Patrons or Vice Patrons respectively. After Patron status they may qualify for Grand Patron on contributing a further £1000 to the Fund. After Grand Patron status they may qualify for Grand Patron Gold Award on contributing a further £2500 to the Fund. Lodges which have attained a qualification prior to 30th August 1993 shall remain entitled to such qualification.

Provinces or Districts which at the time of application have contributed £100 or £50 for every subscribing member within the Province or District may qualify as Patrons or Vice Patrons respectively. After Patron status they may qualify for Grand Patron if all of their Lodges have Grand Patron status and on contributing a further £2000 to the Fund. After Grand Patron status they may qualify for Grand Patron Gold Award if all their Lodges have Grand Patron Gold Award status and on contributing a further £5000 to the Fund.

The Fund has dispensed many millions to individual petitioners and an even greater sum in grants to charities within the wider community. Grants have been made to Hospices with every Lodge throughout the country being given £1000 to donate to a Hospice of their choice. Mark Provinces were able, from a total grant of £2m to donate one fully equipped new Crusader Ambulance to each St. John Ambulance Brigade District. A major grant of £1.6m to the RNLI provided a new Tamar Class Lifeboat at their station at Angle in South West Wales, and so the list goes on. This can only be achieved by your help.

When a Lodge Almoner is made aware of a Brother or his family in distress he should immediately arrange a visit by himself or a visiting Brother to assess the circumstances and then complete a grant application form with as much information as possible. This is then passed to the M.B.F. via the Provincial Almoner. The case is then reviewed, any further information deemed necessary asked for and then submitted to the next Petitions Committee.

It is important for Lodge Almoners to be aware of Brethren not dining, missing meetings or failing to pay annual fees as this may be a sign of distress and it is their function to try and assist if at all possible.