

***Please photocopy, and if possible, send out with your next notice***

**TO ALL STEWARDS OF CHARITIES, ALMONERS AND SECRETARIES**

**MASONIC GIRLS AND BOYS BENEFIT FUNDS**

<u>2009</u>	<u>Girls Fund</u>	<u>Boys Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
<i>Number of Beneficiaries</i>	270	133	403
<i>Amount of Assistance</i>	€574,613	€242,649	€817,262
<i>Average Assistance</i>	€2,128	€1,824	€2,028

*The Funds support:-*

- *Sons and daughters of deceased Freemasons where there is financial distress*
- *Sons and daughters of financially distressed Freemasons and Freemasons in temporary need*
- *Support is available until a son or daughter has completed their education*
- *The Girls Fund also supports adult daughters who are financially distressed*
- *There is an action plan being prepared to promote amongst Lodges that both Funds will consider children of financially distressed Freemasons.*

*Application Forms for all Funds can be requested from the Masonic Benevolent Institutions at:-*

*17 Molesworth Street  
Dublin 2*

*115 The Mount  
Belfast  
BT5 4ND*

*Phone: 01 6796799  
Fax: 01 6761002  
E-Mail: [boys\\_girls@freemason.ie](mailto:boys_girls@freemason.ie)  
[vj\\_haven\\_welfare@freemason.ie](mailto:vj_haven_welfare@freemason.ie)*

*Phone: 028 90 451020  
E-Mail: [vj\\_mbf\\_belfast@freemason.ie](mailto:vj_mbf_belfast@freemason.ie)  
Fax: 028-90-739025*

***November 2009***

Please photocopy, and where possible, send out to all your Lodge Members with your next notice

TO ALL STEWARDS OF CHARITIES, ALMONERS AND SECRETARIES

VICTORIA JUBILEE MASONIC BENEVOLENT FUND

The V.J.M.B.F. has overall responsibility for some 680 Annuitants. Annuities are based on Definable Income and are reviewed annually. Definable Income is Gross Income from all sources less

- (Rebated) Rent / Rates / Mortgage

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 our Weekly Income Bands will be as follows:-

Band	Annuity	Weekly Income
Super	£1,200 (€1,920)	<£88 (€141)
A	£760 (€1,200)	£88 - £122 (€141 - €194)
B	£500 (€800)	£122 - £154 (€194 - €254)
C	£350 (€560)	£154 - £176 (€254 - €276)
Attendance Allowance Band		£200
Legacy Band		£200 (€320)
Nursing / Residential Home		£200 (€320)

The V.J.M.B.F.

1. Will continue to afford relief by Annuity
2. Are maintaining (with your help) a Register of Widows
3. Once again this year we have communicated with some 5,300 widows on our Register by sending them a Greetings Card along with an information booklet entitled "Preventing Accidents in your Home".
4. Lodges are reminded that the Fund can provide assistance to elderly and distressed **Brethren** as well as widows of deceased members.

MASONIC WELFARE FUND

The Fund

- Will develop its ability to offer assistance to those financial cases which fall outside the scope of other Masonic Charities, especially relief for Carers.
- Grants to Masons or their family members who are experiencing financial difficulties.
- Have supported many different forms of financial hardship.
- Elect some Annuitants who do not come under the strict criteria of the V.J.M.B.F. and Girls and Boys Funds
- Will continue to provide assistance for financially distressed Masons or their family members in their middle years when expenses can be at their highest.

November 2009.

# Masonic Benevolent Institutions

MASONIC GIRLS BENEFIT FUND - MASONIC BOYS BENEFIT FUND - VICTORIA JUBILEE MASONIC BENEVOLENT FUND - MASONIC WELFARE FUND

Telephone  
Dublin 679 6799  
679 5465  
676 1337  
662 4485  
Fax 676 1002

17/19 MOLESWORTH STREET,  
DUBLIN 2  
E-mail: boys\_girls@freemason.ie  
or  
vj\_haven\_welfare@freemason.ie

6<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

*TO ALL LODGE SECRETARIES*

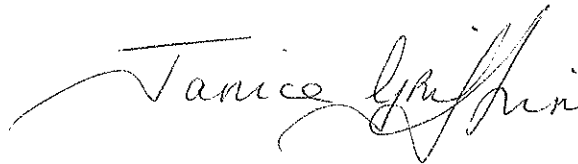
*Dear Lodge Secretary,*

*I have been directed by the Board of the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund to write and advise you that with effect from this year that any Annual Review Forms that are NOT properly completed and returned by the stated deadline will result in the cancellation of the relevant Annuity.*

*The Annual Review Forms for 2010 will be issued on 1<sup>st</sup> April and the date for return has been set as 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010.*

*I would appreciate it if you would advise your Lodge Almoner of this.*

*Yours sincerely,*



JANICE GRIFFIN

*c.c TO:- Provincial Secretaries and Almoners and Board Representatives.*

# Masonic Benevolent Institutions

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vj\_haven\_welfare@freemason.ie

## Masonic Boys & Girls Benefit Fund

December 2009

*To be copied and given to every member of your Lodge please.*

Dear Sir & Brother,

*It has come to our attention that there is a need to communicate to the Brethren the great benefits our Funds bring to many deserving cases. It is important to inform our Brethren, particularly our younger Brethren, the work that is being done on their behalf and to make them and their Lodges aware of the help available to those in need.*

*The Masonic Girls and Boys Benefit Funds were set up following the sale of the schools in 1972 and 1981 respectively. The professional and prudent management of the funds has enabled the Committees not to seek additional financial assistance from our Brethren. This fact is important and should bring great satisfaction, if not joy, in the knowledge that this charitable work is being done at no cost to Lodge Funds.*

*The principle of the scheme is to help with the educational needs, maintenance and welfare of the children of Deceased or Incapacitated Brethren and Brethren who have difficulties in financing the education of their children. Each application is considered on its merits, every case is visited by our professional visitors and detailed reports are prepared for consideration by the Management Committees who meet four times a year.*

*This year (2009) the number of cases approved were:*

<i>Fund</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Masonic Girls Benefit Fund</i>	<i>270</i>	<i>€574,613</i>
<i>Masonic Boys Benefit Fund</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>€242,649</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>403</i>	<i>€817,262</i>

*Each case is initiated at Lodge level where the Almoner, after making discreet enquiries, would complete the application form, obtain Lodge approval and return it to the Dublin Office via your Provincial Grand Lodge.*

*We regularly get letters of thanks and appreciation from the recipients and this gives us the confidence to continue with this worthy cause and great pride in the fact that Masonic Benevolence has helped, improved and changed so many lives.*

*Yours Sincerely and Fraternally,*

**T.A (Bert) Wilson**

*Deputy Chairman Masonic Boys Benefit Fund*

**&**

**Diarmuid McNulty**

*Chairman Masonic Girls Benefit Fund*