

United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101757

Details

Known as	UMCC
Status	Received
Registered	2015-07-30
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	40 Orangefield Gardens Belfast BT5 6dp BT5 6DP
Phone	02890654355
Email	desmond.mg@btinternet.com

Activities

Purposes: The objects of the Charity Committee shall be: - The relief of poverty of widows and, or, relatives of Masons and Masons who are experiencing financial hardship who were/are subscribing members of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Down. The Charity Committee can, where necessary, assist in other charitable purposes as set out in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 both in County Down and the rest of Northern Ireland and shall also have the object of raising money for the purpose of assisting any duly constituted Masonic Charities, i.e. the Masonic Benevolent Institutions or any other charitable undertaking approved by a majority of the members of the Charity Committee.

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: General charitable purposes, Relief of poverty, Welfare/benevolent

Who the charity helps: Children (5-13 year olds), Men, Older people, Preschool (0-5 year olds), Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£19,088	£31,100	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr David Cairns		
Mr David Mercer		
Mr Desmond Boyd		
Mr John Nixon		
Mr Robert Graham Walker		
Mr Russell Parkes		
Mr Thomas Anthony Blair		
Mr Trevor George Mccaughey		

United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101757

Accounts

UNITED MASONIC CHARITY COMMITTEE



NI Charity Registration 101757

Founded 2013

Accounts

Year Ending 31st December 2024

2023		2024
£8,368.41	Opening Balance	£11,306.52
£26,593.11	Income	£31,620.94
£23,655.00	Expenditure	£25,812.00
£11,306.52	Closing Balance	£17,115.46

We have examined the foregoing accounts & associated documentation and we certify that the accounts are correct

<u>R.W. Bro. D Woodrow</u>	 Signature	<u>31/01/25</u> Date
<u>R.W. Bro J Kilpatrick</u>	 Signature	<u>31/01/25</u> Date
<u>Treasurer</u> <u>Bro. R Parkes</u>	 Signature	<u>31/01/25</u> Date

2023	Income	2024
£22,653.90	Lodges Chapters etc.	£19,250.15
£2,561.00	PGL / DGRAC	£1,499.30
£0.00	Gift Aid Rebate	£9,085.49
£917.00	Dinner Tcket Reciepts	£1,111.00
£390.00	Dinner Collection	£460.00
£71.21	Expenses Donations	£65.00
£0.00	VJB&WF Admin Grant	£150.00
£26,593.11	Total	£31,620.94

2023	Expenditure	2024
£13,200.00	Victoria Jubilee	£14,200.00
£800.00	Down Masonic Widows	£1,370.00
£1,800.00	Belfast Masonic Charity	£1,750.00
£2,300.00	Belfast Masonic Widows	£2,600.00
£1,400.00	Margaret Elizabeth Daniel	£660.00
£1,100.00	Harold McMaster Taggart	£1,790.00
£500.00	Joseph Karmel	£625.00
£500.00	Masonic Orphan Welfare	£475.00
£400.00	TLC	£830.00
£500.00	External Charities	£500.00
£861.00	Charity Dinner	£1,012.00
£100.00	Carol Service	£0.00
£0.00	Bank Charges	£0.00
£194.00	Other Fees or Expenses	£0.00
£23,655.00	Total	£25,812.00

Elected Committee

Chairman:	W.Bro. John Nixon
Vice Chariman:	W.Bro. K McKnight
Secretary:	W.Bro. Desie Boyd
Treasurer:	Bro. Russ Parkes
Gift Aid Organiser:	W.Bro. Davie Cairns

Hall Representatives:

Hollywood:	W.Bro. Graham Walker
Galwally:	R.W.Bro. Trevor McCaughey

United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101757

Accounts

2022	Income	2023
£9,736.20	Lodges Chapters etc.	£22,653.90
£464.00	PGL / DGRAC	£2,561.00
£4,824.08	Gift Aid Rebate	£0.00
£820.00	Charity Dinner	£917.00
£425.00	Dinner Collection	£390.00
£370.00	Carol Service Collection	£0.00
£13.52	Expenses Donations	£71.21
£16,652.80	Total	£26,593.11

2022	Expenditure	2023
£11,332.00	Victoria Jubilee	£13,200.00
£2,628.00	Masonic Welfare	
£1,615.00	Down Masonic Widows	£800.00
£4,175.00	Belfast Masonic Charity	£1,800.00
£3,519.00	Belfast Masonic Widows	£2,300.00
£1,400.00	Margaret Elizabeth Daniel	£1,400.00
£2,471.00	Harold McMaster Taggart	£1,100.00
£1,420.00	Joseph Karmel	£500.00
£1,337.00	Masonic Orphan Welfare	£500.00
£380.00	TLC	£400.00
£100.00	St. Patricks Church	£0.00
£500.00	External Charities	£500.00
£210.00	GM Festival	£0.00
£880.00	Charity Dinner	£861.00
£62.50	Carol Service	£100.00
£0.00	Bank Charges	£0.00
£0.00	Other Fees or Expenses	£194.00
£32,029.50	Total	£23,655.00

UNITED MASONIC CHARITY COMMITTEE



Charity Registration XT34165
Founded 2013

Accounts

Year Ending 31st December 2023

2022		2023
£23,745.11	Opening Balance	£8,368.41
£16,652.80	Income	£26,593.11
£32,029.50	Expenditure	£23,655.00
£8,368.41	Closing Balance	£11,306.52

We have examined the foregoing accounts & associated documentation and we certify that the accounts are correct

R.W. Bro. D Woodrow

29/02/24 Date

W. Bro. K McKnight

29/02/24 Date

Assistant Treasurer

W. Bro. D Cairns

26 Feb 24 Date

Elected Committee

Chairman: W. Bro. Tony Blair

Vice Chariman: W. Bro. John Nixon

Secretary: W. Bro. Desie Boyd

Treasurer: Bro. Russ Parkes

Gift Aid Organiser: W. Bro. Davie Cairns

Hall Representatives:

Hollywood: W. Bro. Graham Walker

Galwally: R.W. Bro. Trevor McCaughy

United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101757

Annual report

United Masonic Charity Committee

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2023

Reference & Administration Details

Charity name: United Masonic Charity Committee

Registered charity number: NIC 101757

Principle address: 40 Orangefield Gardens
Belfast
BT5 6DP

Names of the trustees who manage the charity:

Chairman	Tony Blair
Vice Chairman	John Nixon
Treasurer	Russell Parkes
Secretary	Desmond Boyd
Asst Treasurer	David Cairns
Gift Aid Organisers	Trevor McCaughey Graham Walker
Trustee	David Mercer

Structure, Governance & Management

The United Masonic Charity Committee is an unincorporated association and is governed by a constitution adopted on 27th February 2012 and last amended on 7th July 2015.

The Charity Committee is managed and administered by a Management Committee comprising the officers and other members elected in accordance with the constitution to act as trustees.

The Charity Committee does not pay or remunerate any trustee or member of the Committee.

Objectives & Activities

The principal function of the United Masonic Charity Committee is to raise funds through the various Masonic Lodges situated within its District. It does so by promoting the benefits of fundraising to the members of the Lodges, assisting them with collecting information about potential beneficiaries and identifying other sources of income for those beneficiaries, such as rate rebates or other forms of income support. It does this with the assistance of dedicated individuals within each lodge.

Potential beneficiaries are identified by the respective lodges and application forms completed and forwarded to the Committee. These are reviewed, collated and forwarded to the most suitable Masonic Fund. The Committee receives all funds raised by the Lodges, collates, claims tax relief and distributes to the respective Masonic Funds for distribution to beneficiaries.

The Committee can, additionally, assist in other charitable purposes as set out in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 throughout Northern Ireland.

The trustees of the United Masonic Charity Committee confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 3 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (as amended) to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the Committee in the year to 31st December 2023.

Achievements & Performance

The Committee, through its respective Lodges, raised funds and passed on £22k to various Masonic Benevolent Institutions. The principle fund being the Freemasons of Ireland Victoria Jubilee Benevolent & Welfare Fund who continue to support some 50 widows residing within the District.

The Marie Curie Hospice, Belfast is a charity dedicated to providing a range of care and support for people with life-limiting conditions, ensuring that they get the care they need, when they need it, within their local committee. Mr Aiden Campbell, local author and long-term volunteer and fundraiser with Marie Curie attended the April committee meeting and following an interesting and informative presentation was presented with a cheque for £500.00.

In addition, individual Lodges through their own independent fund raising, forwarded over £10.5k to local charities and good causes in their respective areas.

Financial Review

The Committee received c£12k in Gift Aided Contributions and c£10k in non-Gift Aided Contributions.

No portion of any subscription, donation, devise or bequest or of any money obtained by way of reclaim of income tax shall be utilised for administration expense or for any purpose whatsoever, other than that of assisting any duly constituted Masonic Charity or other charitable purposes as set out in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

The trustees hold in reserve an amount appropriate to provide emergency assistance in suitable cases as approved by a majority of the Committee.

The Committee is not intending to levy any costs on Lodges for administration as ongoing voluntary donations from Lodges to offset expenses allows for sufficient funds within its Committee Account to meet those costs for the foreseeable future.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Committee's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the 'Trustees' Annual Report' above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees.

Signature(s) *Tony Blair*

Trevor McCaughey

Full name(s) Tony Blair

Trevor McCaughey

Position Chairman

Past Chairman

Date 4th March 2024

4th March 2024

United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101757

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of the United Masonic Charity Committee

I report on the accounts of the United Masonic Charity Committee for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the CCNI under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

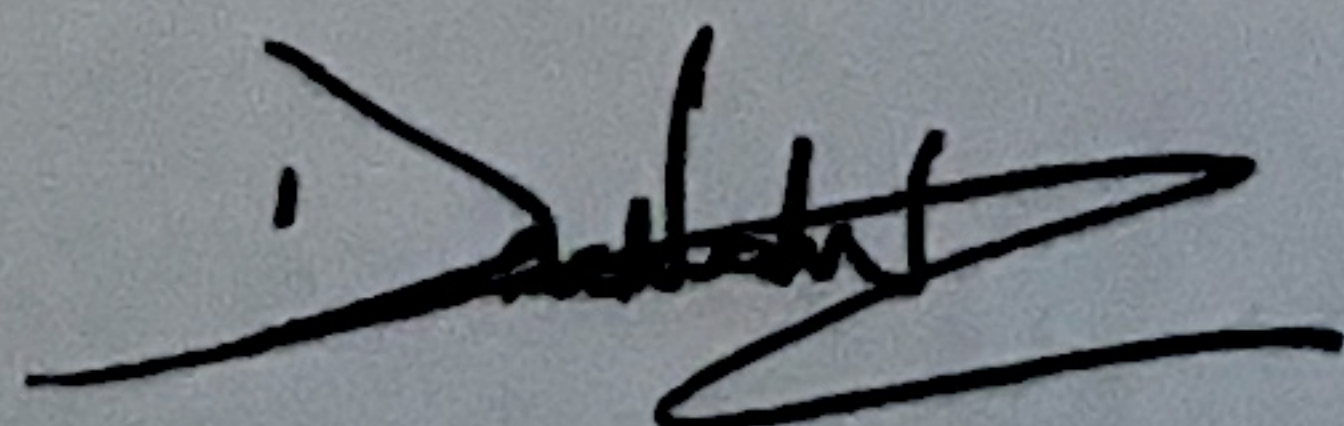
I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in accordance with following the directions of the CCNI, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: David Woodrow, Retired Bank Manager

Address: 8 The Grange, Saintfield, BT24 7NF

Date: 29 February 2024

Signed:



United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101757

Accounts

2021	Income	2022
£7,084.15	Lodges, Chapters etc.	£9,736.20
£0.00	Provincial	£464.00
£0.00	Gift Aid Rebate	£4,824.08
£0.00	Charity Dinner	£820.00
£0.00	Dinner Collection	£425.00
£0.00	Carol Collection	£370.00
£0.00	Concert	£0.00
£5.00	Expenses Donations	£13.52
£0.00	Fundraising	£0.00
£7,089.15	Total	£16,652.80

2021	Expenses	2022
£0.00	Charity Dinner	£880.00
£0.00	Carol Service	£62.50
£0.00	Bank Charges	£0.00
£0.00	Total	£942.50

2021	Expenditure	2022
£0.00	Victoria Jubilee	£11,332.00
£0.00	Masonic Welfare	£2,628.00
£0.00	Down Masonic Widows	£1,615.00
£0.00	Belfast Masonic Charity	£4,175.00
£0.00	Belfast Masonic Widows	£3,519.00
£0.00	Margaret Elizabeth Daniel	£1,400.00
£0.00	Harold McMaster Taggart	£2,471.00
£0.00	Joseph Karmel	£1,420.00
£0.00	Masonic Orphan Welfare	£1,337.00
£0.00	Brainwaves	£0.00
£0.00	TLC	£380.00
£100.00	St. Patricks Church	£100.00
£0.00	External Charity	£500.00
£0	GM Festival	£210
£100	Total	£31,087.00

Elected Committee

Chairman: W. Bro. Tony Blair
Vice Chairman: W. Bro. John Nixon
Secretary: W. Bro. Desie Boyd
Treasurer: Bro. Russ Parkes
Gift Aid Organiser: W. Bro. Davie Cairns

Hall Representatives:

Hollywood: W. Bro. Graham Walker
Galwally: RW Bro. Trevor McCaughey

UNITED MASONIC CHARITY COMMITTEE



Charity Registration XT34165

Founded 2013

Accounts y/e 31st December 2022

2021		2022
£16,755.96	Opening Balance	£23,745.11
£7,089.15	Income	£16,652.80
£100.00	Expenditure	£ 32,029.50
£23,745.11	Closing Balance	£ 8,368.41

United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101757

Annual report

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Treasurer	Russell Parkes
Secretary	Desmond Boyd
Asst Treasurer	David Cairns
Gift Aid Organisers	Trevor McCaughey Graham Walker
Trustee	David Mercer

Structure, Governance & Management

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The Charity Committee does not pay or remunerate any trustee or member of the Committee.

Objectives & Activities

The principal function of the United Masonic Charity Committee is to raise funds through the various Masonic Lodges situated within its District. It does so by promoting the benefits of fundraising to the members of the Lodges, assisting them with collecting information about potential beneficiaries and identifying other sources of income for those beneficiaries, such as rate rebates or other forms of income support. It does this with the assistance of dedicated individuals within each lodge.

Potential beneficiaries are identified by the respective lodges and application forms completed and forwarded to the Committee. These are reviewed, collated and forwarded to the most suitable Masonic Fund.

The Committee receives all funds raised by the Lodges, collates, claims tax relief and distributes to the respective Masonic Funds for distribution to beneficiaries.

The Committee can, additionally, assist in other charitable purposes as set out in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 throughout Northern Ireland.

The trustees of the United Masonic Charity Committee confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 3 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (as amended) to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the Committee in the year to 31st December 2022.

Achievements & Performance

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic there was only one full meeting of the Committee in 2020 and none in 2021. Communication during this period was maintained by the management committee via electronic means. With the relaxation of restrictions physical meetings thankfully recommenced in 2022.

Autism NI, based in Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Belfast, is Northern Ireland's longest serving autism charity and training provider. They campaign to inspire and educate local people, communities, businesses and government to ensure everyone can understand autism, and how to support autistic people. Representatives from this charity attended the April committee meeting and following an interesting and informative presentation were presented with a cheque for £500.00.

The Committee, through its respective Lodges, raised funds and passed on £31k to various Masonic Funds; the principle fund being the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund who continue to support some 50 widows residing within the District.

Our outreach to the local community was continued in December when we were at last able to recommence our annual Christmas Carol Service in St Patrick's Parish Church. This was attended by the families of Masonic brethren and local residents alike. This support allowed for donations to both Church and Masonic Funds. Christmas gifts were also delivered by Santa to a large number of children in attendance.

Financial Review

An opening balance of £23k in January 2022 was a result of no meetings having taken place in 2021 thereby preventing the dispersal of funds in the normal manner. This amount was added to by a further £3k of gift aided contributions, £8k of non gift aided contributions and £5k relating to an HMRC gift aid reclaim for 2021.

No portion of any subscription, donation, devise or bequest or of any money obtained by way of reclaim of income tax shall be utilised for administration expense or for any purpose whatsoever, other than that of assisting any duly constituted Masonic Charity or other charitable purposes as set out in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

The trustees hold in reserve an amount appropriate to provide emergency assistance in suitable cases as approved by a majority of the Committee.

The Committee is not intending to levy any costs on Lodges for administration as ongoing voluntary donations from Lodges to offset expenses allows for sufficient funds within its Committee Account to meet those costs for the foreseeable future.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Committee's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the 'Trustees' Annual Report' above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees.

Signature(s) *Tony Blair*

Trevor McCaughey

Full name(s) Tony Blair

Trevor McCaughey

Position Chairman

Past Chairman

Date 7th March 2023

7th March 2023

United Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101757

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of United Masonic Charity Committee

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Basis of independent examiner's report

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Independent examiner's statement

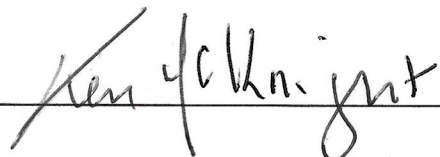
I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Ken McKnight

Address:

Date: 27th February, 2023

Signed :

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken McKnight', is written over a horizontal line.

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of United Masonic Charity Committee

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4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Jim Kilpatrick, Retired Bank Official
Address: 7 Edgewater Cove, Donaghadee, BT21 0EG

Date: 27th February, 2023

Signed :  _____