

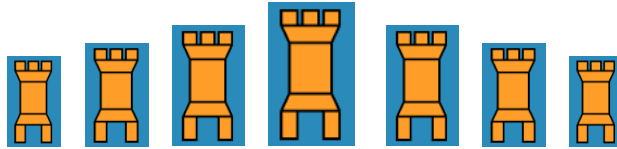
SEVEN TOWERS AND MASSEREENE MASONIC CHARITY COMMITTEE (NIC 102862)

Trustees' Report

Year Ended 31st December 2024

Trustees' Annual Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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SEVEN TOWERS AND MASSEREENE MASONIC CHARITY COMMITTEE (NIC 102862)

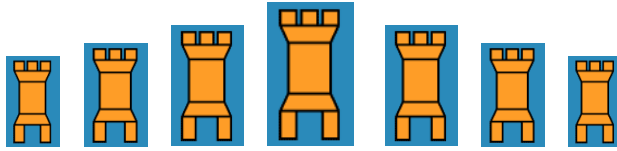
Trustees;

Mr. Hugo Swan	(Chairman)
Mr. Joey Douglas	(Vice-Chairman)
Mr. George Peden	(Treasurer)
Mr. Alan Barr	(Gift Aid Secretary)
Mr. Samuel Eccles	(Secretary)
Mr. Allen Mercer	(Events)

Address; Ballymena Masonic Hall
103 Mill Street
Ballymena
BT43 5AD

The Seven Towers and Massereene Masonic Charity Committee is governed by our Constitution document which was approved and adopted by the Committee at a Special Meeting of the Seven Towers and Massereene Masonic Charity Committee held on 16 September 2015 at the Masonic Hall, 103 Mill Street, Ballymena.

The Committee was registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 18th January 2016 and issued the charity number NIC 102862. The Committee has been accepted as a charity by HMRC using reference number XN45375.



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Year Ended 31st December 2024

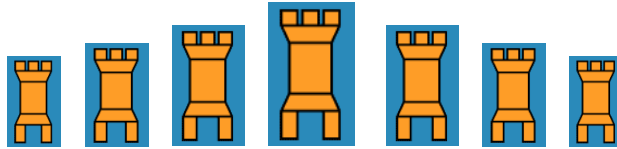
The objectives of the Charity Committee are detailed within their Constitution Document as follows;

- To relieve poverty amongst widows of freemasons, relatives of Freemasons or Freemasons who are experiencing financial hardship and who were or are subscribing Members of Lodges within the Seven Towers and Massereene District as defined by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim.
- At its discretion, The Charity Committee can, provide financial assistance for other exclusively charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

The Trustees have had regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

During the year ended 31st December 2024 the Committee oversaw activities in pursuance of their responsibility toward public benefit –

As a result of contact and discussion at the time of our Divine Service we took the decision to support a local charity doing valuable work in providing support to women and children. Women's Aid ABCLN provide support to those in need, sometimes sadly as a result of domestic abuse. Women and children are offered secure accommodation when necessary and until alternative arrangements can be made. They cover an area



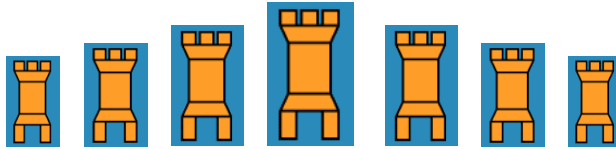
SEVEN TOWERS AND MASSEREENE MASONIC CHARITY COMMITTEE (NIC 102862)

which includes much of our Seven Towers District. The committee of Ballymena Masonic Club joined with us in fund raising. This enabled us to pay for the redecoration of a suite of rooms in the local accommodation facility. We purchased shopping vouchers which enabled those in need to have a degree of personal independence when shopping. The remaining funds were donated as cash to be directed toward the areas of most need. A "Make A Cuppa" event was held in the Masonic Centre and we were delighted with the support it received both from Masonic members, their families and the wider community. The total raised was £4,000 and we were delighted to have been able to assist such a local cause.

A member of our committee took the lead and helped us organise a Clay Target Shoot in aid of The Samaritans. The owner of Carnview Farm Clay Target was very supportive of the event allowing us full use of the facilities. Sponsorship from local business helped increase the amount raised to £1500. We would like to thank all those who attended and donated so generously to The Samaritans, who provide crucial support to those people experiencing acute personal difficulty.

We were delighted to attend Castle Tower School in Ballymena in June for the presentation of their new specially equipped bus. In 2018 we had arranged a Big Breakfast and raised £6,000 toward the purchase of the bus. Covid intervened and the purchase took longer than hoped. Our Seven Towers logo can be seen on both sides of the bus recognising the part we played.

In addition to the funds raised and listed above many of the Lodges etc. within our District organise events. The details of such events and the amount raised for various causes remain unreported. This continues as a fault in our communications as many such events contribute positively to Public Benefit, reaching as they do into the wider community.



SEVEN TOWERS AND MASSEREENE MASONIC CHARITY COMMITTEE (NIC 102862)

Distributed to Masonic Charity;

Belfast Masonic Chaity Fund - £18,000

Freemasons of Ireland V.J. & Welfare Fund - £7,000

Harold McMaster Taggart Fund - £1,000

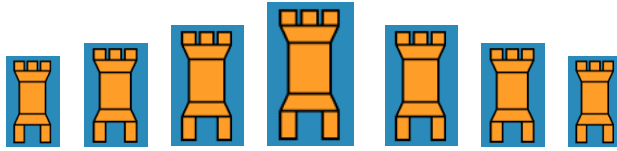
Belfast Masonic Widows Fund - £700

Joseph Karmel Fund - £500

Our annual Divine Service took place in May once again at Craigs Parish Church. A good attendance by brethren and family members meant the Service was well supported and the collection amounted to £660. Once again we are indebted to the Rector and Select Vestry for hosting us.

The funds donated from Lodges etc. were processed for Gift Aid and the annual return from HMRC amounted to £6,677. Total income for distribution therefore amounted to approx. £37,000 and this amount was distributed to the various Charities as directed by the donors or in accordance with the District Committee's decision of Unallocated Funds being split 70% to BMCF and 30% to VJ.

The results of the Committee's activities during the year 2024 are contained in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities on page 3 and the Receipts and Payments Accounts on page 4. The Trustees look forward once again to the support of all their brethren within the district. With Covid restrictions relaxed and hopefully never again needed we look forward to a full return to activity allowing brethren to once again make the



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generous donations essential to further the Committee's purposes as laid out in their Constitution.

The report was approved by the Trustees at a meeting held on 16th April 2025

And signed on their behalf by:

Sam Eccles

Samuel Eccles (Secretary)

SEVEN TOWERS AND MASSEREENE