



261 NEWS

Information newsletter for
The Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity Number 261

Issue No 3 April 2015

16th March 2015 - Teddies for Loving Care (TLC)

The simple objective of the TLC Appeal is for Freemasons to provide small Teddy Bears to Hospital Accident and Emergency units, for the medical staff to give, at their discretion, to children admitted who are in severe distress and where the staff feel that a Teddy to cuddle will calm the child and help alleviate the stress and assist them in their work. These can also be given to admitted children in other areas of the hospital, if thought appropriate and useful by the staff.

The TLC Appeal now covers virtually the whole of the UK. The money to purchase the teddies is raised from individual Freemasons, Masonic Lodges and fund-raising events.

The photograph shows the 5,000th Teddy being given to Musgrove Park Hospital on Monday March 16 2015 by Stuart Hadler, the Somerset Masonic Provincial Grand Master and other Somerset masons who help to run the TLC Appeal. Freemasons give 50-80 Teddies per month to Musgrove Park Hospital. Since the Appeal started in 2006 34,000 have been given out in total throughout Somerset and a staggering 1,000,000 throughout the UK. Many parents whose children have received Teddies prior to procedures have praised the Freemasons for providing the Teddies which have soothed the child and helped them through their traumatic experience.

Pictured top left to right: Steve Defries (Somerset Area TLC Co-ordinator), Adrian Halliwell (Taunton Area TLC Co-ordinator), Dr. Rhona Fitzpatrick (Locum Emergency Department Doctor), Stuart Hadler (PGM), Peter Light (LIO).

Pictured bottom left to right: Amanda Toogood (Acting Safeguarding Children's Nurse) and Immacolata Notaro (Emergency Department Staff Nurse).



You, too, can support this very worthy cause by getting together a team to take part in the quiz – details below:

Saturday 9th May 2015

7:00 for 7:30 start

at the

Taunton Masonic Centre

The Crescent

Maximum of SIX per team

£2.50 per person

Open to all

All proceeds to the TLC Appeal

**Supplying teddies for children in distress at Musgrove Park Hospital,
your local hospital**

Numbers are strictly limited so

**Contact W Bro Adrian Halliwell, as above,
as soon as possible**

I will be looking to make up a team for any quizmasters who would care to join me. Give Jack a call on 421510.

Another for your diary is the Cadogan Court Summer Fair on the 20th June. Full details have been sent around to you already and are also posted on the TMH notice board

Our Ladies Festival will be held at the Norton Park Hotel Winchester 9 -11th October. Deposits of £100 per person are requested to Senior Warden W.Bro David Brandhuber soonest please. Why not call a few friends and make up a table for this splendid weekend or just come for the evening.

A meeting is taking place on Tuesday 7th April with LIOs of all Taunton lodges to discuss, among other things, events we might organise between Craft Lodges and side degrees, events which could raise the profile of Freemasonry in the community, assist in recruiting new members, help us retain existing members, make our meetings more interesting, relevant and enjoyable. If any member of 261 has any ideas or suggestions which they might like me to put forward at this meeting please e-mail me at your earliest opportunity. I will let everyone know the outcome of the meeting in due course.

Any other items of news can be passed on to me for distribution at any time.

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