



The Benevolent Committee of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham

The Caring Committee

The Caring Committee consists of :
Paul Debenham, PAGStB, Provincial Grand Almoner (Chairman)
Anthony Raine, PPSGW, (Treasurer)
Ron Black, PAGChap, ProvGChap

The main role of the Caring Committee is to oversee the care of the widowed partners in the Province whose partners belonged to Lodges which have now closed. Personal contact is important especially when people become older and often less mobile and more isolated and lonely. In addition, personal contact demonstrates the caring nature of our fine organisation.

The Caring Committee is assisted by a team of Caring Volunteers whose role is: to make regular contact with and visits to a small number of widowed partners unattached to any Lodges, highlight the Masonic help and support available through the MCF or other Masonic Charities, keep them informed of the Group Breaks and Masonic Homes as well as send each a birthday and Christmas card.

We are always looking for more people in the north of the Province in particular. If anyone is interested in joining the Caring Volunteers team, please contact the Provincial Grand Almoner. It is essential you have your own transport and time to commit to visiting.

In the event of potential Lodge Closure:

When a Lodge is aware that it wishes to close and surrender its warrant, the Lodge will be made aware of the Provincial Grand Lodge policy.

On its closure, each Lodge will be expected to submit a full list of the Lodge's widowed partners with names, addresses and contact details, at date of closure, as shown in Provincial Grand Lodge's document titled Lodge/Chapter Closure document. In addition, the Provincial Grand Almoner and Caring Committee will expect a donation towards the future care and support of those widowed partners.

Useful contact details:

Paul Debenham	Provincial Grand Almoner	almoner@pgl Durham.org
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