

About Durham Benevolence

Charity – one of the 3 fundamental principles of Freemasonry is administered in our Province by the **Durham Masonic Benevolent Fund**, registered charity number 279313.

The Benevolent Committee consists of an elected member from every Lodge in the Province meeting quarterly with various sub-groups meeting more frequently as required. Further information including grant application forms and reports of our activity are published on the Provincial website.

As a charity we are very proud of our low administrative costs mainly due to the time and experience freely given by so many dedicated and enthusiastic Freemasons and by our employed staff in Provincial office.



Future Plans

Our two residential housing properties at Fulwell, Sunderland and Bishop Auckland are flagships of our organisation and we intend to maintain and improve these facilities to ensure the highest possible standards of accommodation is provided to our residents. We may consider further similar developments subject to future demand and affordability.

We have established a **Legacy Fund** specifically to invest legacy donations and have plans to expand our grant scheme using investment income, whilst ensuring such donations are dispersed in accordance with any specific wishes of the donor.

All legacy donations are acknowledged in our annual report and on the Provincial website unless anonymity is requested.

Get in Touch

For more information about **Durham Benevolence**, or to find out more about leaving a legacy, please get in touch, by the details shown here, or through your Lodge Benevolent Representative.

To contact the committee please email or write:

@ benevolence@pgl Durham.org

✉ **Durham Benevolence Ltd**
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SR2 7BH



Charity No. 279313



**DURHAM
BENEVOLENCE**

Leaving a Legacy

Charity No. 279313

Leaving a Legacy to Durham Benevolence

Have you ever considered leaving something in your Will to help Durham Benevolence continue its invaluable charitable work?

Legacies

Making a Will can help you bring security to your family's future, a legacy to Durham Benevolence can help us continue our work in supporting your family and the community long after you've gone.

None of us know what problems our loved ones may face in the future.

By adding us to your Will, you can help secure not just our future, but that of your family and your community.

Every adult should have a Will, regardless of their age, income or wealth – it is the only way of ensuring your wishes are met after your death. And yet 1 in 5 people in the UK die without one, potentially causing unnecessary complications for their loved ones at a difficult time.

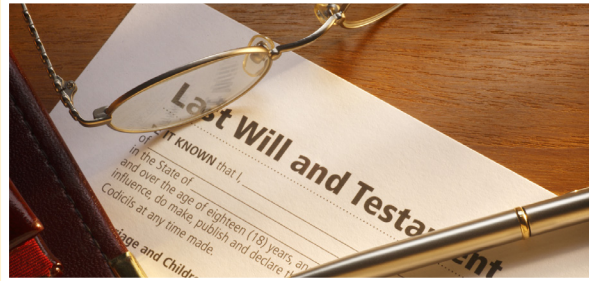


What is a Will?

Making a Will is the only way you can ensure that the people you love most will benefit after your death. If you die without one, they can face months of legal wrangling to establish what is rightfully theirs.

A Will also allows you to make a donation large or small to a charity of your choice. In the case of Durham Benevolence, you could change the lives of many people for the better.

So why not make a Will and leave a lasting memorial by improving the lives of others.



What to do when making a Will

There are various ways in which you can help us when making a Will; you can leave a legacy to us in one of the following ways:

Residual Bequest

This is either the residue or part residue of your estate after all other legacies, taxes, debts and expenses have been paid.

Pecuniary Bequest

This is a legacy of a specific sum of money from your estate.

If making a Will for the first time we advise you to speak to a solicitor who specialises in the field. The cost is usually reasonable and will ensure that your wishes are fully complied with.

Your Legacy at work

Here are the areas where your legacy can make an important difference:

We are committed to the care of those most vulnerable and in need, this is not solely for Freemasons we support both Masonic and non-Masonic giving.

In the Province of Durham, we run two sheltered accommodation establishments – **Peter Stracey House** in Sunderland and **Boundary Court** in Bishop Auckland.

We support many local charities including Scouts, Guides and other youth groups, sports clubs, choirs, community charities, helping disabled and disadvantaged people, churches and voluntary emergency services including Air Ambulance and Mountain Rescue.

The fund makes individual grants for Convalescent Breaks and arranges Group Breaks aimed primarily at those who may not otherwise have a holiday.

Durham Benevolence gives interim financial assistance while assisting applicants to the National Masonic Charities, and practical help by arranging benefit reviews and access to specialist support or equipment, such as stair lifts.

Durham Benevolence also regularly gives financial assistance by way of Welfare Grants to those who due to circumstances beyond their control find themselves in financial difficulties, perhaps due to illness, or unexpected redundancy. Our help can also be practical i.e. A stair lift or adapted equipment to assist when a family member becomes disabled, making their lives better.

