



# CMBA NEWSLETTER

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## WHAT IS THE CMBA?

The **Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association (CBMA)** is one of the first of its kind to be formed in English Freemasonry. Formal motions to establish an organisation to centralise the charitable giving of the Cambridgeshire masons were passed in November 1882. Now the Association, of which every Freemason of the 30 Lodges in the Province of Cambridgeshire is automatically a member, takes care of more than half of all the money local Freemasons donate to charities, both Masonic and non-Masonic.

Almost all regular Lodge charitable giving passes through the books of the Association but there are, of course, frequent occasions when an individual or Lodge prefers to make a direct contribution to a particular charitable cause. Monies passed through the Association can be specifically targeted by the individual or Lodge donor or left for the Association to use as part of its declared programme. The advantages of centralised administration and better interest rates are very clear.

The Association supports the **Masonic Charitable Foundation**, and, through the **Province of Cambridgeshire Charity for Care and Relief**, makes grants to individuals and local non-Masonic Charities.

Last year the **MCF**:

- i. Helped 25 people visit their loved ones in hospital,
- ii. Helped 27 people adapt their homes to make it easier to get in and out of the house,
- iii. Gave 45 people more freedom by funding the costs of a mobility scooter or wheelchair,
- iv. Helped 21 people relax more comfortably and safely in their homes by funding the cost of a rise and recline chair and
- v. Made it easier for 32 people to get around their homes by funding the cost of a stair lift.

In addition to this £395K has gone to Masonic families in the Cambridgeshire Province over the last five years and £2.2M to non-Masonic organisations, such as Air Ambulance, East Anglia Children's Hospices, Medical Research and Homeless Charities like Jimmy's Night Shelters, as well as many others.

If you wish to make a donation to the MCF via Festival 2023 then the Festival page is at the following link [Festival 2023 Donation](#)

**Festival 2023 Update** (Click on link to video) – it is now one year since **Festival 2023** was launched. To date it has raised in excess of £280K towards its target of £900,000 and, at the time of going to press, our Province now has 367 Festival Stewards. With more than 1,500 members this represents almost 25% of our members and the **Provincial Grand Master, William Dastur**, would like to thank all brethren who have so far signed a Repeat Payment Promise and urge all members who can afford to do so via their Lodge Charity Steward or to fill one in on-line at our Festival Website: **Festival 2023 Donation**

What does it mean when a Province is 'in Festival'? The MCF has produced a short video explaining how Festivals work, their aims and objectives and their importance to our charitable giving. Follow this link:

**Festival Video**

If you have a story or event we want to hear about it. Contact the CMBA Secretary at [cmba@pglcambs.org.uk](mailto:cmba@pglcambs.org.uk)



On 20th July 2019 **Bob Hammett** will abseil from the top of The Orbit Tower in London's Olympic Park for **Festival 2023**.

At 262ft the Orbit is the UK's highest freetail abseil from the UK's

tallest sculpture.

Please help Bob by giving whatever you can at the following link: [Give Now — Bob Hammett](#)

The Province of Cambridgeshire **Masonic Golf Association's annual competition** will be held on Thursday 30th May at Lakeside Lodge Golf Club, Pidley, Huntingdon, PE28 3DF.



Tickets are £45.00 a head which includes 18 holes of golf, a two-course dinner and various prizes. Contact [ri.rowlett@ntlworld.com](mailto:ri.rowlett@ntlworld.com) for details

**Date for the diary:** The Ely Lodges are joining forces again to put on a **Summer Fair** in Watson's Meadow, Wisbech Road, Littleport on **Sunday 1st September** to raise funds for **Festival 2023**.

Admission from 1100 until 1800  
Burgers, Veggie Burgers, Giant Hot Dogs  
Grand Tombola (Prize donations welcome)



Music: JACEN BRUCE and friends  
Ely Masonic Centre Bar – Festival Specials!  
Competitions Amusements Entertainment for All Ages

**Only £10 a ticket Children FREE**

**Date for the Diary:** Kynourse (Kynaston and Nourse Lodges) is proud to announce it is holding a **James Bond Themed Race Night** on **Saturday 31st August** at Masonic Hall, Bateman St, with a prize for the best dressed Bond or Bond villain.

Ticket price is £20.00pp which includes supper and a horse. Contact [james-burt@btconnect.com](mailto:james-burt@btconnect.com) for details and book your tickets early for what should be a magical evening.



**Date for the Diary:**

On **Sunday 2nd June** Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No 6125 & Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809 will be hosting a **Strawberry Tea** at Trinity Cottage, Church Lane, Tydd St. Mary, Wisbech PE13 5QJ.



For further information and to book your tickets contact **Ray Page** at [raymondpage@gmail.com](mailto:raymondpage@gmail.com)

Thanks to the following:

- i. **Bro Simon Phillips** and his wife raised £500, running three races in 11 hours covering 75km
- ii. **Bro Andy Murfitt** raised £575, running the Cambridge half marathon
- iii. The Provincial Pantomime, led by **WBro Mark Long**, raised £3,500 over three memorable performances.
- iv. The **Ely Lodges** joined forces and raised £1,100 by holding a Murder Mystery Evening

