



# Mark

# Benevolent

# Fund

## Q3 Review

## July – September 2022



# Fund Activity Summary

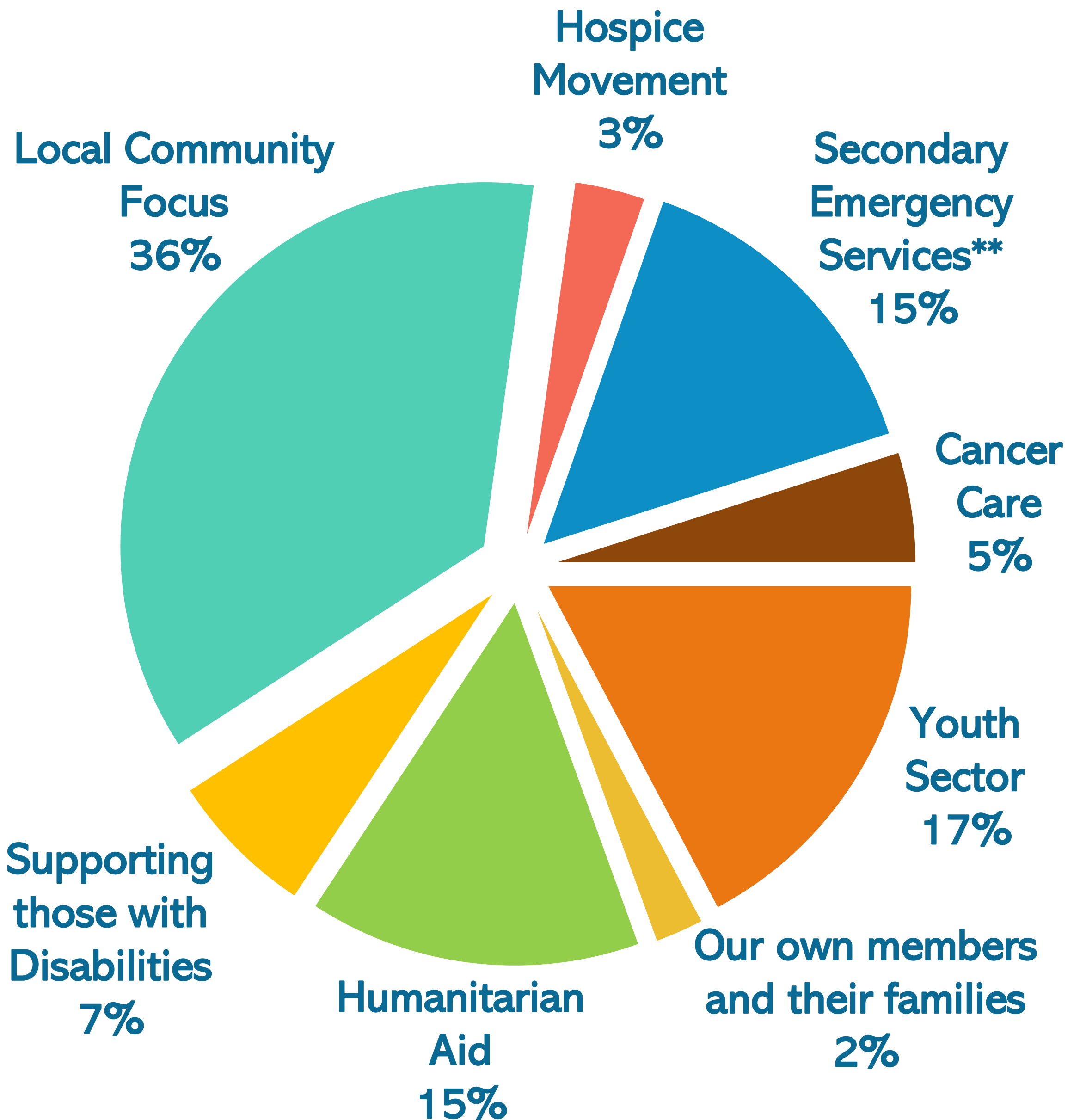
- £33,400 - Supporting those with Disabilities
- £75,000 - Humanitarian Aid
- £87,528 - Youth Sector
- £11,138 - Our own members and families
- £184,208 - Local Community Focus
- £74,552 - Secondary Emergency Services
- £16,102 - Hospice Movement
- £25,000 - Cancer Care







# At a Glance...

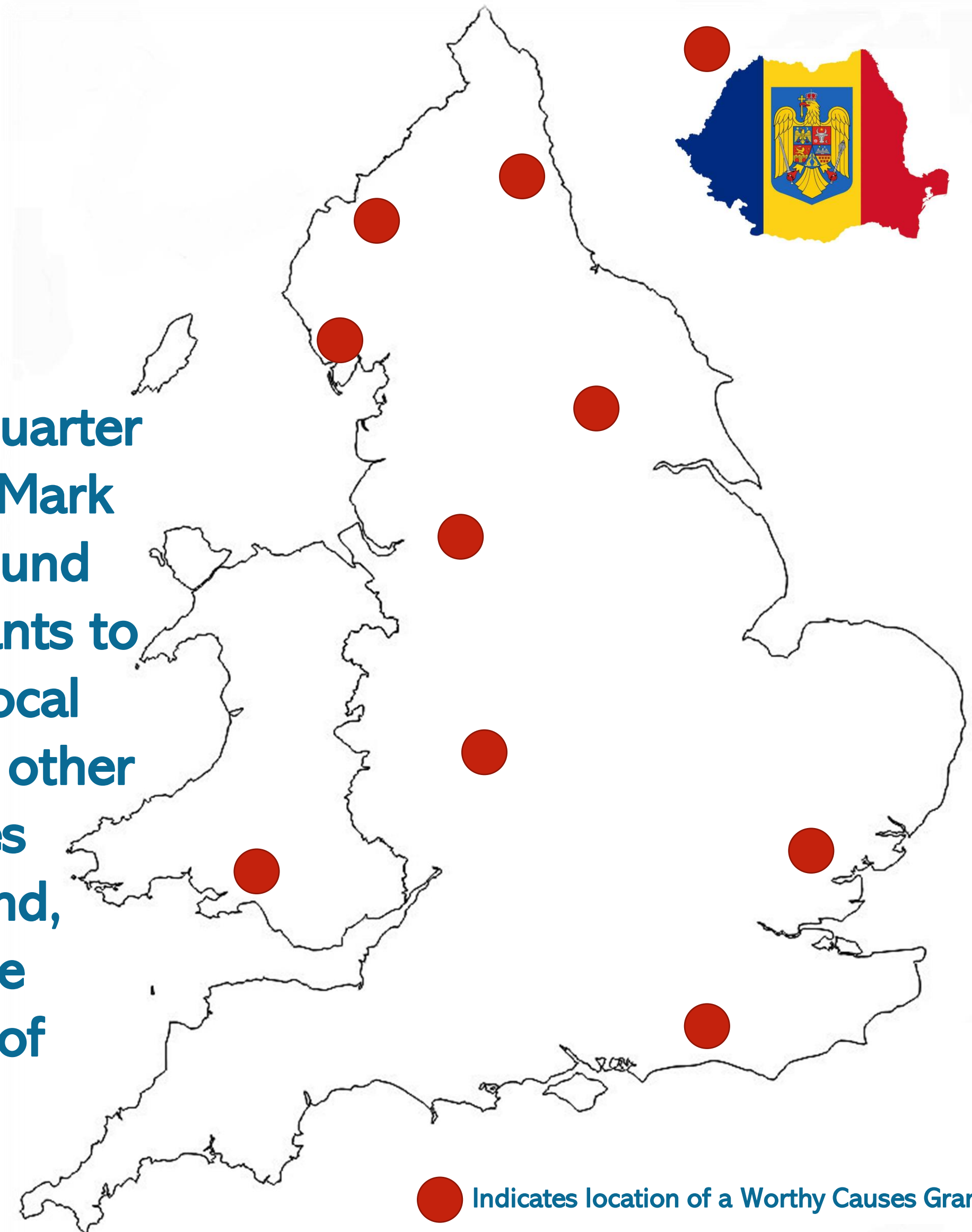


\*\* Covering Blood Bikes and Volunteer Life Brigade



# £506,928

In the third quarter of 2022 the Mark Benevolent Fund made 16 Grants to individuals, local charities and other worthy causes across England, Wales and the Inspectorate of Romania.







Woodland  
House



Birmingham  
Women's Hospital  
Charity

# £100,000

In 2020 the MBF pledged funding to the Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital charity to go towards the fitting out of counselling rooms in a new £1.5m neo natal bereavement centre called Woodland House.

The charity reached its fundraising goal earlier this year and representatives of the MBF along with the Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire, R.W.Bro. Philip Wills and W.Bro. Nigel Clemson, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, joined the team in the ground-breaking ceremony.

The centre is expected to open in the autumn of 2023. This pledge was made very early in the fundraising process and inspired other organisations to make their donations.







**£46,090**

R.W.Bro. Keith Hodgson presented a Cheque for £46,090 to Angela Dixon, CEO & Susan Dust, the Office Manager of the Millom Network Centre on behalf of the MBF, following a break-in at their premises when their van was also stolen and vandalised.

The charity in South Cumbria acts as a supplier of furniture and household goods to those in need who don't have the funds to purchase them. It also acts as a foodbank and food distribution centre.

The Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Raymond John Smith, presented the cheque for the Millom Network Centre to R.W.Bro. Keith Hodgson on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund at their Sesquicentenary Celebration on 6 August 2022.







**£38,118**

This grant was for the purchase of an electric van. One of their vans is reaching the end of its useful life and they are looking for funding to replace it.

In line with the move to provide more eco-friendly means of transport the funding for an electric van will allow them to deliver to clients around the whole county.



**St Peter & St James Hospice**  
*Hospice care in the heart of Sussex*

**£16,102**

The hospice needs to move the existing In-Patient Unit Nurse Station, which is out of sight of many of the bedrooms. It will create a new integrated unit closer to the main hub of all the bedrooms and nursing activity.





**£18,801**



The charity had one of its bikes stolen while working in the region. It was later found badly damaged, leaving Blood Bikes Manchester with only three bikes to cover over 500 square miles.

The bike was able to be repaired but had over 85,000 miles on the clock. It was already nearing the end working life and they would look to retire it sooner than expected given its condition. The MBF stepped up to replace the bike.



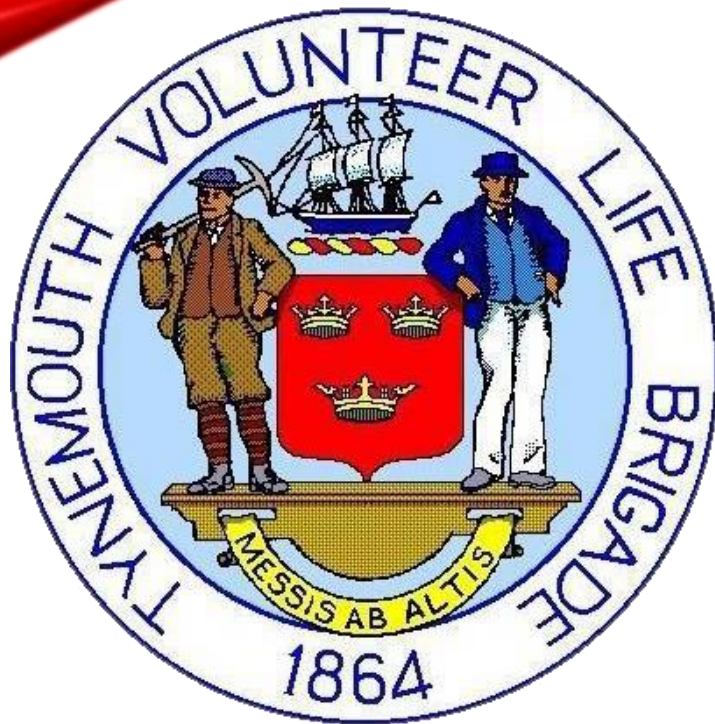


**£87,528**

A grant of £87,528 was made to The Rock Youth Project, Currock and Upperby in Carlisle, to build their new Club House. They were in desperate need of financial support so they could replace the dilapidated, vermin infested wooden huts that they operate from in order to keep young and vulnerable children off the streets and out of trouble at night.

The result of the application was revealed to R.W.Bro. Barry Kirkbride at his investiture as the new Mark Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland on 22nd September 2022, by M.W.Bro. John Herbert Prizeman, our new Pro Grand Master, on behalf of the MBF.





**£55,751**

The Brigade provides a 24-hour, 365-day, multi-disciplinary, shore-based, coastal rescue service. The rescue team is a declared facility to HM Coastguard and represents the Coastguard Rescue Service in the North Tyneside and Newcastle area. The brigade currently has twenty-three members and responds to an average of 120 callouts per year. The purchase of a second rescue vehicle and radio equipment will enable them to operate more effectively.



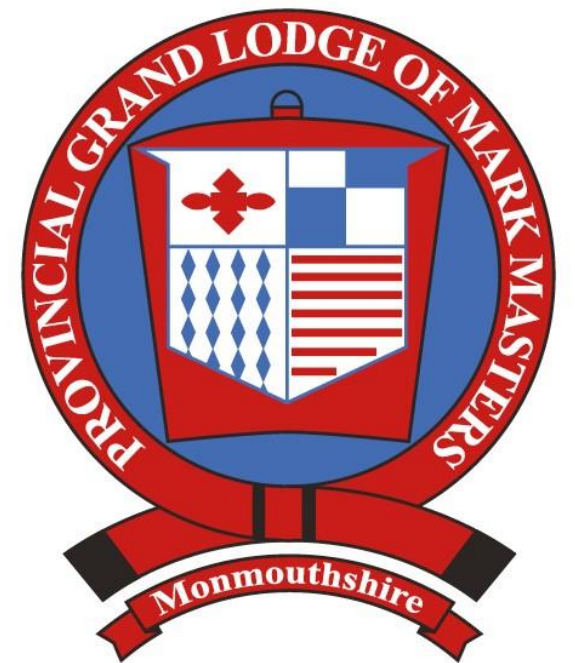
**Lennox  
Children's  
Cancer Fund**



**£25,000**

The charity provides practical and financial support for children and their families experiencing the trauma and heartache of a childhood cancer diagnosis. The funds will strengthen their emotional support service by providing therapy 'Treasure Boxes' alongside professional counselling to a child with cancer and their family.





**£33,400**

Ospreys Wheelchair Rugby Club was set up in 1989 by Keith Jones and Paul Jenkins. It was established by people who loved the game and wanted to create sporting and rehabilitation opportunities for people with a disability. The club is run by volunteers, parents and ex-players.

The club was in need of 4 new wheelchairs, replacement wheels for another 11 players chairs and new inert tubes. The wheels are now in need of being replaced due to the contact battering they have received on the pitch.





**6**

**Grants totalling  
£11,138 were  
made to  
Individuals**

**Who  
did we  
help?**

- Four of our Masonic Widows received grants to help with the rigours of daily living. As the cost of living crisis starts to bite every penny now makes a difference. Are you struggling to make ends meet? Speak to your Lodge Almoner for more details.
- W.Bro. M received an emergency grant to help with immediate family costs. This Brother had sadly lost his wife leaving him with young children to care for as well as holding down a full-time job. Members of the Province also rallied round to helping ease the burden on him. As this is an emergency grant the MBF Petitions Committee will review his case once the result of his MCF application is known.

Did you know that you should also initiate an application to the MBF at the same time as making an application to the MCF? Ask your Lodge Almoner or Provincial Grand Almoner for further information.





# £75,000

Earlier this year at the Communication of Mark Grand Lodge, the Pro Grand Master announced that the MBF would be providing financial support to the Inspectorate of Romania to help fund its relief work for Ukrainian refugees. The Inspectorate has been working closely with government agencies to provide, among other things:

- special tents for more than 20 people
- electrical heating devices
- beds and blankets
- personal hygiene products
- emergency medical and small surgery kits
- antibiotics and other different medicines
- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
- food and water

Mark Emergency Relief Fund  
MMM185622

To make a donation  
scan with phone camera to open  
or visit URL

<https://gtap.uk/mmm185622>



This tremendous endeavour has touched Freemasons across the Constitution and many of our Brethren have been keen to add their own support by making a donation.



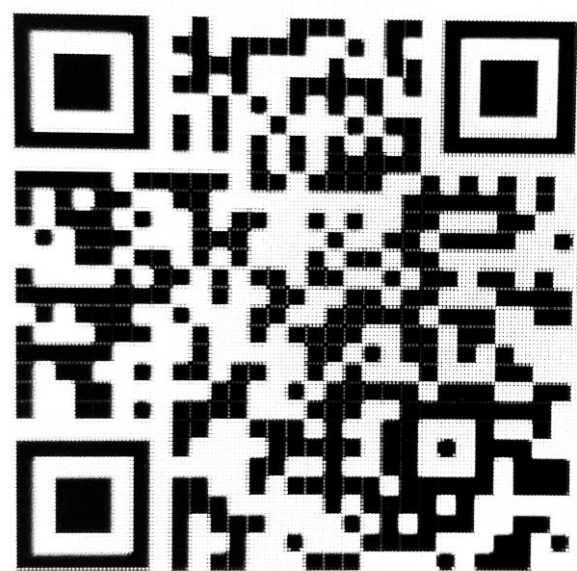


**155<sup>th</sup> MBF Festival Banquet**  
will be held at the  
**Harrogate Conference Centre**

**Kings Rd**  
**Harrogate**  
**HG1 5LA**

**Saturday, 1 July 2023**

**BOOK HERE**







# Your Notes





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## July – September 2022

Issued by  
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