



3 March 2014

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**“LODGE HELPS LOCAL COMMUNITY**

Lodge Canongate Kilwinning has been in existence for more than 337 years and has resided in the Canongate area of Edinburgh for several centuries. Part of the ethos of this Scottish Masonic Lodge is to be involved with the local community. Through development of an External Charities Fund it plans to award sums of money to local worthy causes and registered charities in the area. The Charities Fund relies on donations from its existing membership and members of the public. It has made awards to local institutions such as The Royal Mile Primary School in recent times but due to a legacy gifted to the Lodge by one of its recently deceased members its plans to disperse funds over several causes in the area were accelerated.

At the end of January the current Master of the Lodge accompanied by the Lodge Secretary visited a number of establishments in the Canongate area to present such sums for specific needs identified by them. The charities patronised by the Lodge, on this occasion, were The Salvation Army (The Pleasance), Streetwork (Crisis Centre), Canongate Kirk, St. John Scotland, The Scottish Veterans' Residence and the Canongate Youth Project. The awards varied from £2,000 to £4,000 and the Lodge is confident that the funds will be put to good use in and around the Canongate area. The Salvation Army work locally providing aid to the homeless. Streetwork Crisis Centre helps find accommodation for those in urgent need as well as assisting those unfortunate people who find themselves living on the streets. The Canongate Kirk work closely with The Bethany Trust who also aid homelessness. St. John Scotland is World renowned for charitable aid through medical and rescue activities but closer to home they are involved with Scottish Mountain Rescue as well as Scottish Rescue Boat Services. The Scottish Veterans' Residency provides accommodation for members of our armed forces of all ages and also provides them with access to various sporting and leisure activities. The Canongate Youth Project provides safe and happy support, recreation and training opportunities for 5 to 25 year olds from local and surrounding communities.

**More follows**

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23 St John Street Edinburgh EH8 8DG**



**Continued**

In addition to awards made to these registered charities funds were also gifted to The Royal Mile Primary School who will be purchasing outdoor protective clothing (40 sets of wellingtons, waterproof jackets and trousers) necessary for field trips for the children of the school. This will help expand the scope the school has to take children on more varied field trips. The Head of the School Nicola Johnston said "A huge thanks to Canongate Kilwinning, this equipment will open up learning in the outdoors for our pupils".

The Lodge, funds permitting, intends to continue the practice of patronising the local community with funds for worthy causes and welcomes donations to its External Charities Fund from anyone, including its members, who share the sentiments instilled by the Lodge. Information regarding the Lodge and its External Charities Fund can be accessed on their web site [www.lck2.co.uk](http://www.lck2.co.uk). Alternatively the Secretary can be contacted by email at [secretary@lck2.co.uk](mailto:secretary@lck2.co.uk) or by post at 23 St. John Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8DG."

**Ends**

For further information Press Agents can contact the **Lodge Secretary, Mr Patrick Givan**, by email at [secretary@lck2.co.uk](mailto:secretary@lck2.co.uk) or on **07541817672** and all of the above named organisations are open to contact from a press agent on this matter. Photographs of presentations are also available.

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