

## **Information Release**

**10<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

### **FREEMASONS' GRAND CHARITY ANNOUNCES NEW £250,000 GRANT**

A new annual grant initiative has been announced at The Freemasons' Grand Charity - **£250,000** to a major national charity. '*Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) Forces Help*' is to receive the first grant. The money is to be divided and distributed to branches throughout the country, providing funding at a local level.

Over the past year The Grand Charity has received numerous requests from individual members asking us to donate to charities supporting the Armed Forces. The Council selected SSAFA Forces Help as the first recipient of a grant under the new initiative to support their excellent work in helping current and former members of the Armed Forces and their families.

The members approved the grant of £250,000 for SSAFA Forces Help at the Annual General Meeting of The Freemasons' Grand Charity on June 9 2010. The aim of this grant is to support local branches, allowing them to decide how they spend their money. We believe that the people on the ground know best where to direct these funds, which will assist hundreds of servicemen and women past and present, and their families. The Freemasons' Grand Charity is dedicated to finding new ways of grant-making, in order to provide maximum benefit to people in need.

Letters have been sent out to all Provincial Grand Secretaries providing them with further information about the new grant and how and when the money will be distributed.

#### **Further information:**

For questions concerning this new grant or The Freemasons' Grand Charity please contact Katrina Baker on 020 7395 9314 or [kbaker@the-grand-charity.org](mailto:kbaker@the-grand-charity.org).

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