



The 'Teddy Loving Care' project, launched in the Paphos area in late 2006, is proving to be a great success in Paphos and Paralimni. Due to the efforts of W.Bro Peter Moore (shown presenting staff at Famagusta General in Paralimni with the first lot of teddy bears) and helpers from Lord Kitchener and Othello Lodges last year the Appeal is now operating in the Hospital. W.Bro Anthony Luce of St Georges Lodge, Nicosia has done a roaring trade selling Teddy Bear lapel badges and has so far collected €438. Additionally, a route has now been identified to obtain written approval from the Ministry of Health to introduce the Appeal into other hospitals



W.Bro Maurice Stephenson, the TCC Co-ordinator, and W.Bro Peter Moore found a novel way to raise funds in the Paphos area for the purchase of teddy bears by organising a Quiz Night and Grand Raffle. The main prize was a 'wheelbarrow full of booze'; Keo kindly supplied the booze and One Stop DIY supplied the wheelbarrow. Local Freemasons and friends also donated generously towards the appeal.

Unfortunately the project has proved to be a failure in the remainder of the District. This is sad considering that in Essex, where the project was originally launched, every General Hospital takes part in TLC.

### JAZZ CONCERT A SWINGING SUCCESS

Once again the District Charity Steward, W.Bro Bob Jarvis, pulled out all the stops in organising and hosting a Jazz Band Concert and Dance on 15th March at the Kanika Hotel in Limassol. Over 150 attended the function and were entertained by the South Shore Stompers (previously known as the Dhekalia Jazz Band). A successful raffle, where the first prize was two return tickets Larnaca to Vienna, raised the magnificent sum of €3,893, which will go towards the 2008 District Charity projects.

### AN EXCELLENT EFFORT FROM CYPRUS FREEMASONS

During the past 12 months the following local charitable organisations and other worthy causes have benefited from the generosity of Cyprus Freemasons.

- Toys for Underprivileged Children
- Cyprus War Veterans Association
- Royal British Legion
- Larnaca & Famagusta Kidney Association
- Pan Cyprian Thalassaemia Association
- Theotokos Home for Disabled Children, Limassol
- Cyprus Kidney Association
- Friends for Life
- Riding for the Disabled
- Cyprus Parkinsons Society
- Teddy Loving Care for Distressed Children
- Paphos Hospital Blood Unit
- 'Stickstep' helping children in UK with cerebral palsy
- Cyprus Alzheimer's Society
- St George's Hospital for Children with Special Needs
- Arodaphnosa Palliative Care Centre, Nicosia
- Phillips Zymed Holter System
- Greek Fire Disaster Appeal
- Rumanian Children's Association
- A severely-ill Brother

In all a total in excess of €70,000 was raised to assist these organisations.

### INTERNATIONAL HELP

#### GREEK FIRE DISASTER

The Board of Benevolence presented a cheque for €10,000 to the Greek Ambassador to Cyprus to help those affected by the devastating fires in Greece that occurred during the summer.

All Lodges donated to this worthy cause and in addition many individuals responded generously to the Board's appeal for assistance.

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# Charity around the District

## The Newsletter of the District Board of Benevolence

Firstly I would like to thank all the members of the Board for their support and assistance throughout the year, particularly my predecessor, W. Bro John James, for his hard work in organising the annual band concerts. I took over as President of the Board at the Annual Communication in 2007 with three projects ongoing in the District:

- Phillips Zymed Holter System
- St George's Home for Children with special needs
- Palliative Care Centre, Nicosia

The Phillips Zymed Holter System was found to be an urgent requirement and the District Grand Master formally handed over the equipment, on paper, at the Band Concert in July to a delegation from the recipients. I am pleased to say that the remaining two projects were completed before the end of the year. The total donated by the District to these projects was £28,362 or €48,459.

During the year Brethren and widows of the District continued to receive support from the Grand Charity and the New Masonic Samaritans Fund in the UK. Finally, I would ask all Lodges and Chapters, and individual Brethren, to please bear in mind the District Benevolent Fund when considering giving to charity as without your support there would be no funds available.

W. Bro Trevor Lacey,  
President of the District Board of Benevolence

### DIONYSOS LODGE LOOKS FURTHER AFIELD TO HELP NEEDY CHILDREN

Dionysos Lodge always has a busy social year raising funds for good causes and this year was no exception. Apart from a number of socials at the popular Kamares Club, the Lodge, together with Agapinor Lodge, held another successful Poppy Promenade Dance to raise money for the Royal British Legion and the Cyprus War Veterans Association. The Lodge's main charities for the year were the Rumanian Childrens Association and the Cyprus Kidney Association, both of which benefitted from generous donations.

### A VERY 'EYEBROW' AFFAIR FOR AGAPINOR LODGE

One quirky charity initiative within Agapinor Lodge was dubbed 'Alms for Eyebrows' in which W.Bro John Rafferty pledged his overflowing eyebrows if CYP500 was raised for his favourite charity - Riding for the Disabled. The money was raised by circulating buckets at every charity event and, true to his word, John had the offending eyebrows duly trimmed.

Agapinor Lodge has continued in its tradition of supporting local charitable events with the result that the public profile of Masonry and its charitable activities in Paphos has been raised. Various events were held throughout the year, including a Burns Night, a Horse Racing Night and a boat trip. More formal events were the May Ball and the Golf Dinner, held after an enjoyable day of golf at Tsada. A special mention must go to the Ladies of Agapinor Lodge members who raised a considerable sum of money at their dinners held on Lodge evenings.

### ST PAUL'S LODGE

This past year St Paul's has concentrated on a matter close to home by providing substantial financial assistance and lots of moral support to a Brother following complicated life-saving surgery. The Lodge is continuing to maintain this support until he fully recovers. Obviously this has meant that the Lodge has not been able to offer as much support to local charities as they have in the past. Even so, the members recently responded to the District Grand Master's appeal for donations to the New Masonic Samaritan Fund by making a generous donation to this worthy cause.

### LORD KITCHENER'S LODGE CHILDREN'S SPECIAL

A successful year of charity events was rounded off with a Christmas Social 'Toys 4 the Children of Larnaca', where over 400 toys were distributed under the guidance of the Larnaca Welfare Officer, Mrs Demetra Tembriou, to the underprivileged, disadvantaged and deprived children of Larnaca and Famagusta District, including Liopetri. The photograph shows the WM, John Searle, accompanied



by W.Bro Peter van de Pol, his wife, Brenda (behind the camera) and W. Bro Reg Kidd. When one little was given her teddy bear she hugged it and then tried to give it back. She hadn't realised that she could keep it; a gesture which softened the hearts of all present.

### A COMMENDABLE YEAR FOR OTHELLO LODGE

'A year of commendable commitment from the Brethren, who responded generously to local, District and international causes', writes Bro Ray Clark, Charity Steward. The number one project for the Lodge was the District-sponsored aid to supply necessary equipment to St George's Hospital for Children with Special Needs. More locally a donation was made to the Cyprus Kidney Association to supply equipment to the Blood Dialysis department at Larnaca General Hospital. On an individual level financial assistance was provided to a 17-year old Cypriot boy with severe kidney problems and who lived outside the hospital's transport radius. A Lodge function was held at the Henipa Hotel to raise funds for the Pan Cyprian Thallassemia Association to assist them in their work against this common blood disorder in Cyprus.

### Thought for the day

*"My father once told me that there are two kinds of people; those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there is much less competition there."* Indira Gandhi

### ONCE AGAIN APOLLO LODGE MEMBERS DIG DEEP



W.Bro Bob Humphries, Master in 2006, presents a cheque to Dr Marios of the Cyprus Parkinson's Society. Bob was accompanied by Mrs Jan Burton whose husband, Jeff, is a Parkinson's sufferer.

The WM for 2007, WBro Tony Fox, was well supported at a number of events, including a Barn Dance and the ever-popular quiz night, which was attended by over 100 masochists (well, you try answering some of the questions!). As a result charity money raised was divided between the District Grand Lodge charity fund, the Theotokos Home for disabled children in Limassol, the Friends for Life Limassol hospice care appeal and "Stickstep", a UK based charity assisting children with cerebral palsy.

### THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE IDENTIFIES PROJECTS FOR 2009

There are many worthy causes deserving of help and the Board has the difficult decision of choosing which to support. For 2009 two causes have been chosen which will assist the young and the very young.

The Centre of Protection and Occupation of Children in Kato Paphos is in desperate need of funding for their centre and the Board has decided it will receive financial help of up to €5,000 for equipment and facilities to make life easier for the children.

There is only one Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Cyprus for the care of premature babies. The equipment used in the treatment is very specialised and expensive, and some of it is in need of replacement. The Board has pledged to raise around €30,000, which will be used for the purchase of the much-needed equipment. Apart from their own local fund-raising activities all Lodges are being urged to support this worthy cause.