

The

MERCURY LITE

ISSUE 5



£3 Million in 3 Years

THANK YOU

Making Memories

'You' have already helped make some amazing memories for children; yes, 'you'. 'You' have hit an amazing £3,000,000 in donations and promises to the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys!

The Brethren of Middlesex Lodges and the Companions of Middlesex Chapters have, in just three years, donated an incredible £3,000,000 to the RMTGB!

On behalf of all those children who directly benefit, a massive THANK YOU for achieving such an incredible total in such a short space of time.

Whilst I have your attention, let me relate a story to you.

Lilly and Poppy are watching their Daddy die, because Jason has Fazio-Londe, a form of Motor Neurone Disease. Fazio causes lung, heart and liver failure as well as strokes! BUT whilst you're suffering all of this, your mind is unaffected and functions normally! To add insult to injury, both girls will develop the disease, because it's genetic, but only in girls!

Liz and Jason met on Facebook and after a couple of weeks Jason plucked up the courage to ask Liz out on a date. The rest, as they say, is HIS-tory. In fact, this is Lilly and Poppy's story!

Jason had some weakness in his thumb, when he met Liz, but didn't really take much notice of it until the weakness started to move up his arm; however, it didn't stop there. It travelled into

his shoulder and the Doctor then delivered the devastating news. At this point Liz and Jason were already blessed with Lilly and Liz was 20 weeks pregnant with Poppy!

Jason WILL die at a very young age and Lilly and Poppy will be without their Daddy. The added cruelty of the situation is that both Lilly and Poppy will display increasingly devastating symptoms of the disease themselves at some point. The RMTGB is doing a fantastic job of supporting this family by financing days out and trips away so Lilly and Poppy can 'make memories' of their time with their Daddy as well as creating some memories for their own 'shortened' lives. The RMTGB is also doing an incredible job of supporting many other families in very challenging circumstances. 'Your' support has made and will continue to make an enormous positive difference to Lilly and Poppy and 'you' have helped create some wonderful memories, directly through your generosity, for Lilly and Poppy, and let's not forget Liz.

Can you imagine what the RMTGB could do for even more children with even more financial support?

You all remember the posters 'Your Country needs you'. Well, Lilly and Poppy, and many many other children, 'need you'. 'You' have done an incredible job so far; let everyone say 'Middlesex Masons stood tall' when it was needed.

Because 'You' Have Never Stood So Tall As When 'You' Kneelt To Help A Child.

50 YEARS



As most, if not all, of you know David Allan, one of the APGMs in Middlesex and, of course, Chairman of The 2020 Festival, I thought I would embarrass him further (because he wasn't quite embarrassed enough on the evening) by printing this in The Mercury Lite.

In December last year at Albert Duke of York Lodge's White Table, David celebrated his 50 years in Freemasonry. At the Festive Board David was presented with two cakes adorned with photographs. One cake had a perfectly presentable photo of David wearing his chain, the other a photo from many years ago that I'm sure he would rather forget - not likely when I'm involved!



60 YEARS

W Bro Christopher Richards has achieved a remarkable 60 years in Masonry and on Tuesday 16 January W Bro Brian Fisher, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, visited Chris at his home in Nettlebed, near Henley, to present him with his Certificate. Brian also presented Chris with a beautiful 'Masonic' cake, baked by Brian's wife Mo.

Brian was accompanied by W Bro Robert Curd, the current Worshipful Master of the Round Table Lodge of Middlesex and W Bro John Simpson, the Lodge Secretary. The visit was arranged because Chris now finds travelling to Cole Court very difficult. It was a delightful occasion and Chris's charming wife, Marlene, treated the visitors to a sumptuous afternoon tea of scones and cakes.

Chris was initiated on 2nd May 1957 in Haven Lodge No 2022 and was installed as Master in 1964 and 1979. He is a Founder member of the Round Table Lodge of Middlesex No. 8301 (consecrated on 24th November 1969) becoming Master in 1988.

Chris practiced as a solicitor in Ealing, being (in the time-hallowed way) articulated for 5 years to Edward Mackie and Co where he subsequently rose to the rank of Partner. On Chris's retirement he and Marlene moved house from Ealing Common to their current house in Nettlebed.



THE MIDDLESEX 'FEEL INSPIRED' JUNIOR CAMP

On 7 June 2018, the MMSA (Middlesex Masonic Sports Association) is arranging and sponsoring an event at Brunel University, where all children aged between 12 and 18 who are wheelchair users and live or go to school in the Province of Middlesex will be invited to a junior sports camp. With the assistance of the full team at "WheelPower" (British Wheelchair Sport), including their coaches and several Paralympians, we will introduce the children to wheelchair sports such as tennis, basketball, hockey and many others.

Events will be held on the track and in the main sports hall. The National Paralympian Clay Pigeon Shooting Squad have also expressed a desire to attend and set up their laser training equipment for the children to try out. This will be a wonderful and inspirational opportunity for the children.

WheelPower is the national charity for wheelchair sport and provides opportunities, facilities, and expertise that enable disabled people (specifically those with a physical or locomotor impairment) to participate in sport and physical activity and lead healthy active lives.

The MMSA are very happy to be working in collaboration with WheelPower and Brunel University to deliver a fun sports activity camp for young disabled children.

The Middlesex "Feel Inspired" Junior Camp is a great way for children and young people with a disability to discover sport in a safe, welcoming and friendly environment and all activity is adapted to suit their abilities. The Camp is also a great way to make new friends, improve health and have fun! One of WheelPower's aims as an organisation is to support young people to find a sport or physical activity that they are passionate about and enjoy.

Where:	Brunel University, London
When:	7th June 2018 (1 day only)
Who for:	12-18 year olds with a physical or mild sensory disability
Timings:	10am - 3pm

The plan is to run the event with groups going around in teams to try all of the sports. There is a wide variety to the sports on offer and these will include:

Main Sports Hall: Tennis - Wheelchair Basketball - Zone Hockey - Boccia

Athletics Bubble: Wheelchair Sprints - Wheelchair Slalom - Sitting Volleyball - Laser Shooting

The sports will not all be wheelchair sports. They will be sports adapted to cater for wheelchair users or those with a physical impairment.

Brunel University have just recently set up a disabled sports programme and the "Feel Inspired" Camp will fit neatly into their development programme.

The children will be contacted via their schools from existing contacts through both WheelPower and Brunel University, however, if any one knows of a school or child who has not been contacted, please let us know.

How you can help

The MMSA have committed to pay all costs associated with running this day. Please consider making a small donation from your Lodge or Chapter. All monies will help us run this wonderful event.

You can make a donation by sending a cheque made payable to the MMSA to Chris Beavers, 4, Burnham Way, London, W13 9YD or by paying by BACS to Acc. No. 84003368 Sort Code: 77-91-55. Please remember to put your Lodge (L) number or Chapter (C) number as a reference.

There will be an opportunity to attend this event as a spectator, however, as all attendees will have to register and will receive a pre-printed lanyard and ID card and receive refreshments, a small fee of £5.00 per person will be charged. Further information will be sent out shortly to register as a spectator.

Volunteers:

We will also require a number of volunteers to assist on the day. This will include marshalling and the provision of catering on the day. If you feel you can help, please contact Paul Sully or any of the MMSA team.

Also as part of this event, there are a number of volunteering opportunities that can be granted to Brunel University students (these relate to sports delivery and event support).

CPD opportunities:

Prior to or after the event there is the opportunity for WheelPower to deliver an Agility, Balance and Coordination course that covers the fundamentals of wheelchair sport, movement, maintenance and safety. This course would be free for students to attend and will last approximately 3 hours and includes both practical and theory elements.



Feel Inspired

JUNIOR

SPORTS

CAMP

07 June 2018

Brunel University

The Middlesex Feel Inspired Junior Sports Camp is a great way for young people aged 12 to 18 with a disability to discover sport in a safe, welcoming and friendly environment.



WHERE

Brunel University Sports
Kingston Lane
Uxbridge
UB8 3PH

WHEN

07 June 2018
10.15am - 2.30pm

GET INVOLVED

Contact Paul Sully On:
07973 415212

For more information
visit

www.mmsasports.uk

Transforming lives through sport



If your Lodge is having an event which is interesting or maybe different and you think others would like to know about it please email the details so it can be considered for inclusion into The Mercury Lite.

Paul Steventon - themercury@pglm.org.uk