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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the work carried out on behalf of the Province of Middlesex, throughout the 2024 / 2025 Masonic season (1st September – 31st August), in support of the Teddies for Loving Care charity which primarily delivers special teddy bears to hospital Accident & Emergency paediatric units for nurses to give at their discretion to bring comfort and a smile to young children.



The TLC is funded and supported locally by Freemasons across 47 Provinces and has delivered almost 4 million teddy bears to over 300 hospitals nationwide since 2001.

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Welcome to the 2024 / 25 annual report of the Middlesex Teddies for Loving Care charity.

This past year we've continued and built on the work carried out by the Province of Middlesex since joining the scheme in 2005 and we have not only celebrated our 20 year anniversary of being part of the nationwide TLC charity, but we've also marked this "China" anniversary year by delivering our 35,000th teddy bear to the children's A&E department at Northwick Park Hospital on the 13th August, 2025.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the volunteers, donors and hospital staff who've helped us reach this 20-year milestone and look forward to working with you in the coming years.

Sometime in September this year the TLC expects to deliver its 4 millionth teddy bear to one of the 300 hospitals across the United Kingdom since the scheme started back in 2001.

Every single penny donated to the Middlesex TLC Appeal goes towards purchasing the 10" hospital teddy bears and this past year we've spent £11, 834.18 on purchasing over 5000 teddy bears and have received donations totalling £7,436.87, relying on the charity's reserves to meet demand. This deficit isn't sustainable if we are to continue supporting the 7 Middlesex hospitals and 2 children's hospices in the years to come, so now more than ever, donations are needed which we hope will come from expanding the patronage scheme to the Lodges and Chapters not already in the scheme and from the support of the Middlesex Mark Order.

I hope you enjoy the report as it shows in detail what's been achieved these past 12 months and if you have any unanswered questions please do not hesitate to ask me directly :

campbell.caraher@googlemail.com

Thank you
Campbell Caraher
Middlesex TLC Representative

History & Growth

On 12th March 2001 an extraordinary and unique scheme was launched by Essex Freemasons: it was a simple idea – to raise funds to provide Essex A&E departments with Teddies for the medical staff to give to children brought into their care to help relieve their distress.

The Province of Middlesex joined the scheme in 2005 and over the past 20 years has delivered over 35,000 hospital teddy bears with 5,328 being delivered across Middlesex between 1st September 2024 and the 31st August 2025.

In 2019 the charity expanded from 33 to 54 locally managed divisions, including 47 Provinces and TLC Metropolitan Grand Lodge. Districts now include Cyprus, Gibraltar, Hong Kong & New Zealand. The TLC has also been going strong in Ireland for the past 12 years and Scotland started trialing the scheme in 2024.

In 2019 the Masonic Charitable Foundation took over from Essex TLC to provide central support and guidance on the effective delivery of TLC legal compliance and to increase visibility and recognition of the scheme.

The TLC scheme is managed by Campbell Caraher on behalf of the Middlesex Province, assisted by Mick Blake as Middlesex TLC Treasurer and volunteer, John Hoare and the members of Roll Call Lodge who deliver to the West Middlesex and Kingston hospitals and Eddie Smith, Janet Hadlow and Julia Graystone who receive teddy bear deliveries at the Harrow & Twickenham District Masonic Centres.





The Teddies for Loving Care initiative provides unique cuddly bears to Accident & Emergency departments for medical staff to give at their discretion to young children. The bears are used to calm children down, reward them for being brave or to demonstrate procedures. Often the bears distract children so nurses and Doctors can get their jobs done quickly and efficiently. The TLC teddy has become an invaluable tool for medical professionals and a real comfort for children.

Once the TLC teddy bears are ordered through PMS International, they are delivered to the Masonic centres at Harrow and Twickenham where they are collected by the volunteers and distributed to the various hospitals throughout the Province.

Every child given a TLC teddy bear gets to take it home with them.



The work of TLC is funded through the generous donations of Freemasons, their families and supporters of the programme. Many Freemasons also volunteer hundreds of hours each year to manage the scheme, deliver bears to hospitals, campaign to raise funds and increase awareness through social events and talks.

Objectives

Below is a schedule of objectives the Middlesex TLC achieved throughout the past year :

- Engaged with other Province TLC teams and share initiatives and ideas for both fundraising and hospital support.
- Maintained a sustainable income to meet the hospital teddy bear needs.
- Controlled the TLC Middlesex account and maintain accurate records in accordance with MCF & charity commission guidelines.
- Produce and issue a full annual accounts to the Prov Grand Treasurer.
- Engaged with the Middlesex Mark Order for their future support of the TLC.
- Provided TLC presentations and talks to Masonic units that would be willing to receive them.
- Expanded the Patronage scheme to further Craft, Royal Arch & Mark Chapters and Lodges.
- Presented TLC Patron Certificates, Badges & Fund Raising Teddy Bears to eligible recipients.
- Investigated the possibility of delivering teddy bears to other child related organisations, including the London Fire Brigade and London Ambulance Service.
- Built on the relationship with the various hospital staff.
- Attended the Middlesex Provincial Craft & RA AGM to promote the TLC.
- Attended the Shooting Stars Lodge BBQ to promote the TLC.
- Attended the annual Northwick Park hospital's children's play festival.
- Sent thank you letters and certificates to every TLC donor.
- Obtained sponsorship for the TLC Patron Badges.
- Engaged with the staff at the Uxbridge, Harrow and Twickenham Masonic centres to continue the promotion and sale of countertop lapel pins and large TLC teddy bears.
- Produced and issued an annual report detailing the work and progress the Province has achieved throughout the season.

Hospitals

Post the global COVID – 19 pandemic the Middlesex Province continues to meet the requirements of seven paediatric Accident & Emergency units, delivering TLC teddy bears across Middlesex and Kingston hospital (Surrey), including the Shooting Stars and Noah's Ark children's hospices.



North Middlesex A&E paediatric nursing staff



West Middlesex hospital A&E Department



Northwick Park A&E paediatric nursing staff



John Hoare and members of Roll Call Lodge no. 2523 deliver TLC teddy bears to the children's A&E ward at Kingston Hospital (Surrey) every Christmas Day.



Ealing Hospital Urgent Care staff



Central Middlesex hospital paediatric staff



Shooting Stars Children's Hospice Hampton



Noah's Ark Children's Hospice Barnet



Hillingdon Hospital paediatric nursing staff

Alison Batten, Hillingdon hospitals play specialist provided the following feedback :

"The bears are always a great comfort and distraction especially for our anxious patients. The joy on their faces when they get to choose a teddy bear is priceless - you can almost see the tension melt away. They often hold onto them tightly during difficult moments, and they've become trusted companions for many children heading into theatre, during blood tests, or while waiting in busy hospital environments. They also bring a sense of safety and reassurance that helps transform what could be a stressful experience into one they feel more able to cope with.

Thank you again to all the Freemasons in Middlesex who support the TLC and for providing such a simple but powerful source of comfort for our patients - it really does make a difference".

Fundraising

Apart from Lodge, Chapter and individual donations, funds have been raised and received in support of the "Middlesex TLC Appeal" through the sale of large TLC teddy bears at the Twickenham and Harrow Masonic Centres, the sale of TLC teddy bear lapel pins at the Twickenham, Harrow and Uxbridge Masonic Centres, the sale of the Middlesex TLC roundel badges at the various TLC attended events and presentations and through the support of the Provincial Trailer Team and Howard A Lewis's sale of second and regalia.

£167.94 was collected from the countertop "lapel pin badge" collection boxes at the Twickenham, Harrow and Uxbridge Masonic Centres and at the AGM and Middlesex Shooting Sports Lodge BBQ enabling 70 hospital teddy bears to be purchased and delivered to hospitals across the Middlesex Province.



Uxbridge

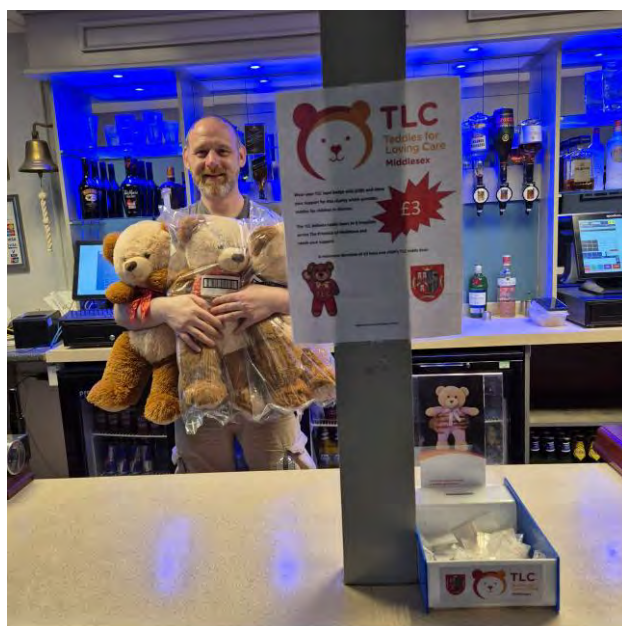


Harrow



Twickenham

£480.00 was raised from the sale of Large TLC teddy bears at both the Twickenham and Harrow Masonic Centres enabling over 200 hospital teddy bears to be purchased and delivered to hospitals across the Province of Middlesex.



Eddie Smith at the Harrow District Masonic Centre

Donations into the Middlesex TLC Appeal Relief Chest E0194 have been made through the “gtap App” using the URL <https://gtap.uk/e0194> and by using the QR code link below:



Patronage Scheme

37 Craft Lodge Secretary and Charity Stewards and 39 Royal Arch Scribe E and Charity Stewards were contacted directly by email asking if their units would like to support the Middlesex TLC and become patrons of the charity, where a unit agrees to making a 5 year financial commitment towards the TLC.

18 units were awarded TLC Patronage over the past 12 months along with 5 individuals who committed or have already donated £250.00 towards the TLC.



Andrew Elliot & Sam Huxter after being presented with a TLC Patronage certificate and large TLC teddy bear following the Cedars of Lebanon Lodge no.4317 becoming Middlesex TLC Patrons and Mike Platon receiving his Patronage certificate for his continued generous support of the TLC.



Jason Nandal & Don Campbell after being presented with a TLC Patronage certificate and large TLC teddy bear following the Middlesex Shooting Sports Lodge no.1702 becoming Middlesex TLC Patrons



Tom Jolly receiving his TLC Patronage certificate after sponsoring the purchasing of 100 TLC Patron badges.



Stan Marut accepting a TLC Patronage certificate on behalf of St.Clair Chapter no. 2902 and with Sandra Marut after becoming individual TLC Patrons.

Presentations & Events

TLC presentations have been made to the following Lodges and Chapters over the past 12 months:

Keystone Lodge no.107 (London Mark Master Masons)

Lodge of Sincere Friendship no.8548

Shepperton Lodge no.8611

Shooting Sports Lodge no.1702

Grecia Lodge no.1105 (London)



Middlesex Shooting Sports Lodge no.1702 hosting their annual BBQ at Cole Court Twickenham



TLC display stand at the entrance to the Grand Temple at the 2025 combined Middlesex Royal Arch & Craft AGM's.



Howard Lewis (long term TLC donor) & Mick Blake (TLC Treasurer and volunteer) at the 2025 AGM both of whom received Provincial honours



Members of the Prince Michael of Kent Chapter on duty outside the entrance to the Grand Temple

Northwick Park Hospital's Play Festival



Middlesex TLC were invited to attend the annual Northwick Park Hospital Play Festival along with other children's charities and organisations including Starlight Healthcare, London NorthWest Healthcare, Little Journeys and the Children's Dental Care team on the 13th August, 2025.

Hospital, paediatric, administration and play team staff joined the Middlesex Teddies for Loving Care charity to celebrate their 20 year anniversary of raising funds and providing 10" teddy bears to local hospitals, including Northwick Park, across the Province of Middlesex since 2005, with the 35,000th TLC teddy bear gratefully received by Jalpa Gohil Northwick Park's Emergency Departments play specialist.

The Play Festival was organised by Gail Manning, Northwick Park Hospitals registered health play specialist, supported by the play teams staff with Harrow Radio providing the music and members from the London Fire Brigade and the London Ambulance service, much to the delight of all the children and parents' in attendance and enabled the Middx TLC Chairman Campbell Caraher explain to the staff, parents' and wider community how the scheme has been funded and managed by local Freemasons over the past two decades.

One nurse explained that once a child has been given a bear the effect is immediate, and they feel protected and safe which helps the nurses carryout their treatments and assessments.





Middlesex TLC Representative Campbell Caraher presenting the Middlesex Provinces' 35,000th TLC teddy bear to Jalpa Gohil, Northwick Park hospital's Emergency Department Play Specialist.



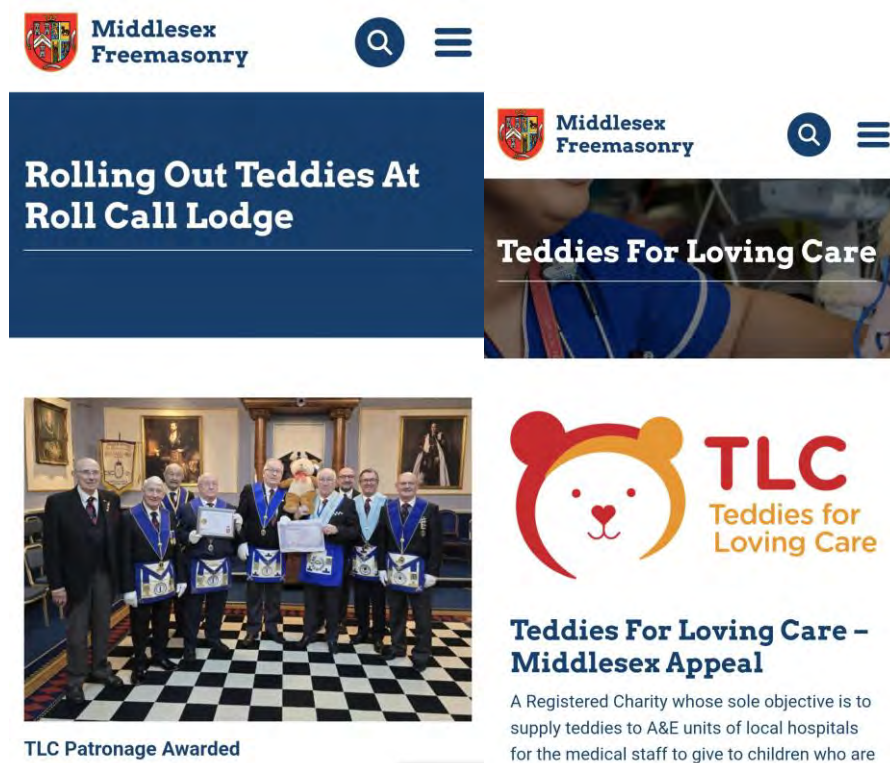
Northwick Park Hospital play team staff enjoying the annual Play Festival



Social Media

Social Media plays a valuable part in how we promote the work of the TLC and inform the wider community of the benefits of providing TLC teddy bears to local hospitals in the scheme.

With the help of Peter Swatton and Stan Marut from the Middlesex Provincial Communications Team, eight (8) TLC related articles have been posted on the Provincial website this past season, including Lodge / Chapter and individual patron awards, events and appeals raising awareness of the Province's support of the TLC.



Middlesex Provincial website screenshots



Eleven (11) newsworthy articles have been posted on the Middlesex TLC facebook page over the past year, with some shared with the Main TLC and Middlesex Province facebook pages.

Masonic Unit Donations

The following are schedules of Masonic units who made donations to the Middlesex TLC Appeal throughout the 2023 / 24 & 2024 / 25 Masonic season (1st September to 31st August)

Craft Lodge Name (2023/24) :	No.	RA Chapter Name (2023/24) :	No.
Stanwell Lodge	L7468	St Clair Chapter	C2902
Roll Call Lodge	L2523	Stanwell Chapter	C7488
Albert Lodge	L5861	Argus Chapter *P*	C5903
Shepperton Lodge *P*	L8611	Middlesex West Chapter	C5770
Parthenon Lodge	L7310	Strawberry Hill Chapter *P*	C946
Middlesex Masters Southgate Lodge	L9240	Middlesex First Principals Chapter	C9240
Old Masonians Lodge	L7568	Burdett Chapter *P*	C1293
Sir Francis Burdett Lodge *P*	L1503	Bushy Park Chapter *P*	C2381
Alma Lodge	L3534	Richmond Chapter *P*	C2032
Middlesex Masters Uxbridge	L9292	Chiswick Chapter *P*	C2012
David Bonner Lodge	L9678	Elizabethan Chapter *P*	C7324
Grecia Lodge (London Craft) *P*	1105	Herga Chapter *P*	C2548
Edengate Lodge *P*	L8181	Sir Charles Bright Chapter *P*	C1793
Sir Charles Bright Lodge	L1793		
Kenton Manor Lodge	L7882		
Gothic Lodge *P*	L4517		
Hundred Elms Lodge *P*	L5749		
Featherstone Lodge *P*	L7851		
Athenian Lodge	L8415		
Keystone Lodge (London Mark) *P*	107		
Northwood Lodge *P*	L4994		

***P* Signifies TLC Patronage Awarded**

Craft Lodge Name (2024/25) :	No.	RA Chapter Name (2024/25) :	No.
Stanwell Lodge	L7468	St Clair Chapter *P*	C2902
St Clair Lodge	L2902	South Middlesex Chapter *P*	C858
Caledonian Lodge	L134	Carnarvon Chapter *P*	C708
Lodge of Sincere Friendship *P*	L8548	London Stone Chapter *P*	C2536
Sunbury Lodge *P*	L1733	Wembley Chapter *P*	C2914
Middlesex Masters *P*	L3420	Royal Hanover Chapter *P*	C1777
Jersey Lodge *P*	L2163	Era Chapter *P*	C1423
Middlesex Shooting Sports Lodge *P*	L1702	Jersey Chapter *P*	C2163
Barra Hall Lodge	L8096	Royal Hanover Chapter *P*	C1777
Roll Call Lodge *P*	L2523		
Jubilee Lodge	L8822		
Putney Bridge Lodge	L6686		
Temple of Athene Lodge *P*	L9541		
Argus Lodge	L5903		
Osterley Lodge	L6430		
Cedars of Lebanon Lodge *P*	L4317		
Norma Lodge	L5902		
Middlesex Armed Forces Lodge	L9940		
Albert Lodge	L5861		

***P* Signifies TLC Patronage Awarded**

Donation Breakdown

The following is a breakdown and summary of donations received throughout the 2024 / 25 Masonic season (1st September to 31st August)

£5,630.00 donated by 19 Middlesex Craft Lodges (and one London Lodge).

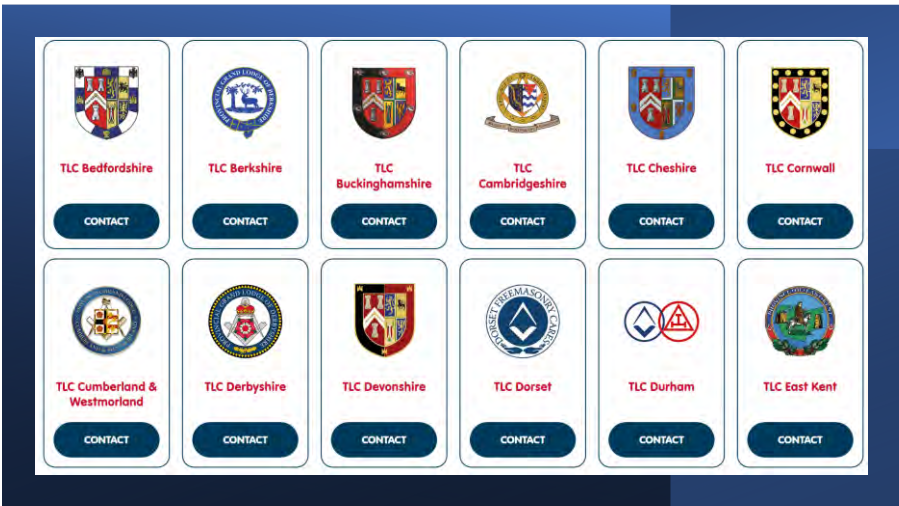
£2,300.00 donated by 9 Middlesex Royal Arch Chapters (and one London Mark & Craft Lodges).

£231.00 donated by 9 Individuals.

£480.00 collected from the sale of the large TLC teddy bears at the Harrow and Twickenham Masonic centres.

£700.00 donated by Howard A Lewis from the sale of second hand regalia.

£167.94 collected from the counter top boxes at the Twickenham, Harrow & Uxbridge Masonic centres and the RA & Craft AGM.



Financial Account

(By Mick Blake Middlesex TLC Treasurer & volunteer)

Having been a volunteer for the TLC Charity for some time now, and by delivering Teddies directly to hospitals within the Province of Middlesex, I have been able to see first-hand the positive impact this initiative has on the lives of children going through an extremely stressful period in their young lives. I continue to carry out this important function, along with a few others, and so it really wasn't difficult for me to accept the role of Treasurer of the Middlesex TLC from September 2024, as I see the monitoring of income and expenditure, the life blood of the TLC, as a vital function to ensure that sufficient funds continue to be received and that the provision of Teddies for Loving Care can be both maintained and increased to match demand.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Rob Davies, not only for his commitment to the scheme, his comprehensive approach to all matters financial, but also for the support he has given me over the past year to maintain continuity and ensure that funds are maintained to a healthy level to ensure needs are met.

We continue to increase the number of Middlesex Hospitals we deliver to and indeed the frequency of those deliveries. Because of this additional demand for teddies, we obviously have to purchase many more, with the additional burden of greater expenditure. Accordingly, we need more income by way of donations and the challenge going forward is the generation and maintaining of greater sums of money. We have already introduced some initiatives to supplement and increase monies available, with the offer of presentations to Lodges and Chapters explaining the TLC generally in the hope that such Lodges and Chapters will make a donation, which they generally do in a generous manner. We have also continued the sale of the large teddies at Twickenham and Harrow Centres (Ideal for raffles etc) and continue to benefit from the sale of lapel pins from the countertop boxes at Twickenham, Harrow and Uxbridge Centres where the lapel badges can be purchased and also the sale of Roundel badges.

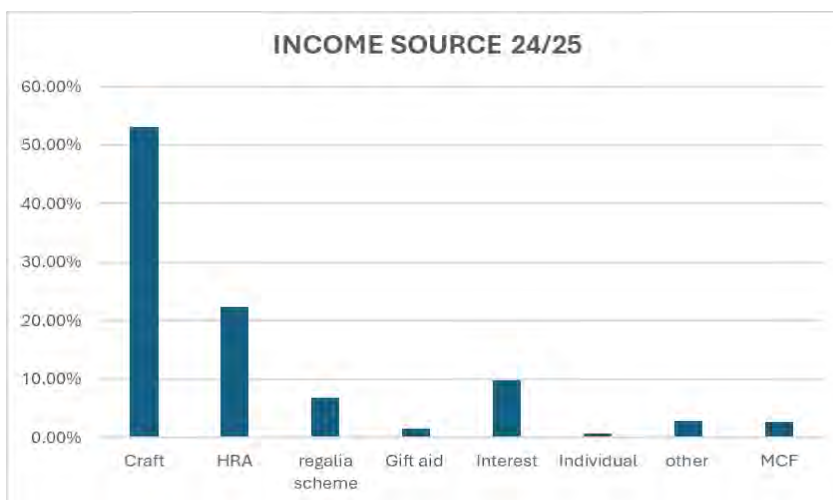
The introduction of the Patronage scheme has also been very successful, and we hope more Lodges and Chapters will sign up to become Patrons going forward. More details about the scheme can be found elsewhere in this report, alternative contact Campbell via campbell.caraher@googlemail.com and he will gladly explain the scheme.

I must give special thanks to W. Bro. Howard Lewis for donating a portion of the income from sales of 2nd Hand regalia at the Harrow Masonic Centre and W.Bro. Mike Platon for his continued and regular donations to the Middlesex TLC Appeal.

Our greatest challenge currently is maintaining and indeed increasing the level of support financially that we receive in order to provide for the clear demand on this magnificent and very worthy initiative which we can all be so proud of.

Finally for this section of the report, having witnessed the joy that the children exhibit when receiving the teddies and listening to the testimonials of the doctors and nurses of the great benefits in regard to the impact on children's anxiety levels, which is clearly a benefit to the medical staff, Middlesex should rightly be very proud in being so supportive of this wonderful initiative.

The chart below presents the sources of income received this year.



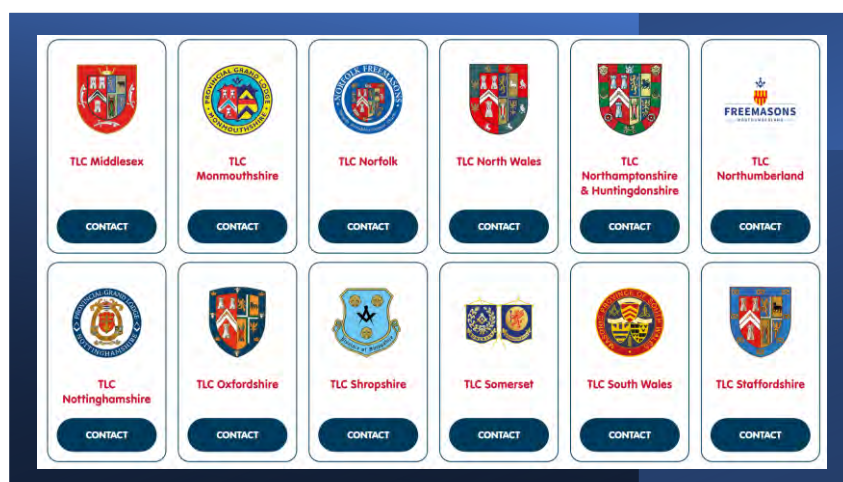
In agreement with the Middlesex Provincial Treasurer, at the beginning of September, full TLC annual accounts will be issued to Kanti Misti for adopted within the Province's annual account report.



TLC volunteer fuel & EV charging vehicle costs, ULEZ, parking and traffic related fines are paid for by the volunteers who give up their time to deliver the TLC teddy bears to the various hospitals supported by the Middlesex Province.

Look-a-head (2025 – 2026)

- Continue to meet the demand of the hospitals currently supported by the Middlesex Province.
- Continue to meet the demand of the hospices currently supported by the Middlesex Province.
- Presentation of TLC certificate to Howard Lewis (Jubilee Lodge meeting).
- Attend a TLC stand at the Middlesex Provincial Service of Thanksgiving Nov 2025.
- Further engage with the Middlesex Mark Executive for their support of the TLC.
- Engage with the Middlesex Mark Order to sponsor a new Middlesex Mark TLC fundraising token.
- Engage with the London Ambulance Service to provide TLC within Ambulances.
- Engage with the London Fire Brigade to provide TLC within Fire Engines.
- Apply for an MCF grant to support the Middlesex TLC Appeal.
- Invite the remaining Middlesex Chapter Scribe E's & Charity Stewards to join the Patron scheme.
- Invite the remaining Middlesex Lodge Secretary's & Charity Stewards to join the Patron scheme.



CLOSING STATEMENT & THANK YOU'S

To close out this report I'd like to firstly extend my fraternal gratitude to Robert Davies & Mick Blake for their hard work managing the TLC accounts and answering all my questions over the past few years and the staff at MCF who have provided guidance and answered our questions regarding the Relief Chest scheme and the TLC, namely Mallory Shirt, Helen Bainbridge, Dilhani Jayasingle and Karon Chatterton.

The Middlesex Province has demonstrated our continued commitment to the Teddis for Loving Care charity over the past two decades, handing over our 35,000th teddy bears since joining the scheme back in 2005, I'd like to thank everyone who's supported the Appeal either by giving up their time or by making donations individually or on behalf of their Masonic units and who should all feel a great sense of pride supporting this worthy charity.

In particular I'd also like to thank the following:

- Mick Blake for stepping in and delivering teddy bears to a number of hospitals when I was unable to.
- Serena Brown at PMS International for arranging deliveries of the TLC teddy bears.
- Eddie Smith at the Harrow District Masonic Centre.
- Julia Graystone TDMC at the Twickenham District Masonic Centre.
- Janet Hadow (Provincial Office) for storing our various stock of teddy bears.
- Tom Jolly for his sponsorship of the Patron badges.
- Bridget Costello, David Ruben & Gerry Inow and the TDMC committee and staff for all their help at the Uxbridge, Harrow & Twickenham centres.
- Sam Huxter and the other members of Middlesex Shooting Spors Lodge no.1702.
- David Ruben & Gerry Inow for allowing the storage of TLC teddy bears at the HDMC.
- John Hoare and the members of Roll Call Lodge for their donations and assistance with delivering teddy bears to both the West Middlesex & Kingston hospitals.
- All those APMG's and Visiting Officers who have encouraged their units to support the TLC.
- All the Secretaries & Scribe E's who've accepted my invitation to present to their Masonic units.
- All those who've donated individually or through their Lodges & Chapters, in particular Mike Platon.
- Howard A Lewis for his generous donations from the sale of second hand regalia.
- Peter Swatton and Stan Marut and the Provincial Media Team for all the help they've given with promoting the TLC through the Province's website.
- Michael Lavender for his administrative support as Provincial Grand Secretary.
- Mark Millard for his support when arranging events as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Middlesex Provincial Media, MCF & TLC protocols have been followed when using individual names within this report, including written consent when using both child and adult photographs.

THANK YOU'S (Continued)

- Stan & Sharon Marut for their support of the TLC and for becoming TLC Patrons.
- Nigel Harris-Cooksley and the other Middlesex Province administrators who have shared our TLC posts.
- Peter Hyde, Steve Heynes and John Briggs for their initial engagement and anticipated support of the Middlesex TLC appeal from the Middlesex Mark Master Masons Order.
- All the Charity Stewards who've encouraged their members to support the TLC.
- And last by certainly not least, all the NHS staff, nurses and play specialists who've I've and the other TLC volunteers have meet and engaged with this past year.

For anyone wishing to donate to the Middlesex TLC Appeal Relief Chest E0194 please either raise a voucher though the relief chest scheme or make a payment through the following Bank Transfer details:

Acc no. 02585235

Sort Code: 18 – 00 - 02

Please include your name and / or Masonic unit reference.

For anyone interested in hosting a TLC presentation please contact Campbell Caraher, email address below.

I thank you and look forward to your continued support throughout the 2025 / 26 Masonic season.

Campbell Caraher

Middx TLC Rep

campbell.caraher@googlemail.com





Specific paediatric ward and NHS hospital staff names have not been included within this report to comply with both GDPR, NHS and MCF Child safeguarding guidelines, unless otherwise agreed upon.