



Press Information

Norfolk Freemasons Help for Hospice

More than 500 Freemasons from every one of Norfolk's 75 Lodges were present at St Andrews Hall, Norwich on Thursday 28 May 2009 to celebrate the 250th annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk (the Freemasons AGM). Provincial Grand Master, John Rushmer welcomed other Provincial Grand Masters from across the Eastern region and as far away as Northumberland and East Kent. Special guest this year was the Deputy Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, Jonathan Spence (the third most senior Freemason after the Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent and the Pro Grand Master).

The first meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge was held on 6 September 1759 at the Three Tuns Public House in London Lane, Norwich and was attended by representatives of all 16 lodges working in Norfolk, 12 of which were based in Norwich.

Just two years ago and to mark our 250th anniversary, Norfolk's 4,200 masons were asked to raise funds for a special project – the **New Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House (Snettisham near Kings Lynn) Appeal**. The hope was that a donation of up to £100,000 could be made towards the cost of the new building to provide an outpatient unit, home care team facilities, a day hospice and much needed in-patient beds for the terminally ill in West and North Norfolk and its surrounding area.

At the close of formal business the Chairman of the Norfolk Hospice Capital Campaign Fund, Nicholas Corah and Chief Executive, Janet Doyle were formally escorted into Provincial Grand Lodge to receive a donation of £100,000 plus a further £40,000, part of which would be spent immediately on a new hydrotherapy bathing pool to be installed in Tapping House Hospice and later transferred to their new building.

The accompanying images include shots of John Rushmer, Nicholas Corah and Janet Doyle presenting and receiving the donation of £140,000.

Norfolk freemasons, their partners, families and friends who worked so hard to raise funds for this much needed community health facility would be delighted if you could include a report and/or captioned photograph in your paper.

Further information:

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