

'Heart of York Appeal'

The Lord Mayor of York presented a donation on behalf of Mitre Lodge of York and Provincial Grand Charity to help funds for the 'Heart of York Appeal' to raise £50,000 to purchase an Echocardiograph machine for York District Hospital, which will hopefully cut the waiting time for scans from six weeks to three weeks.

Nigel Durham, consultant Cardiologist at the Hospital said the York Teaching Hospital's Charity Fund was delighted to have the support of local Freemasons for this appeal. The cardiology department in York performs over 6,000 echocardiograms each year and are continuing to have an increased demand to investigate and assess patients who may have suspected heart problems. The new machine will enable patients to be seen more quickly and we will be able to treat them faster which will ultimately save lives. The department operates two machines at the moment and the additional machine will help to reduce the need for patients to have to travel to Leeds for their heart scans.

Mike Birch, Chairman of the Provincial Grand Charity said a few words of introduction before inviting the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of York, Councillor Susan Galloway to present the donation of £5,000 to Dr. Nigel Durham on behalf of Mitre Lodge and the Provincial Grand Charity to help towards the cost of purchasing this much needed equipment.

Mitre Lodge raised £1,000 towards the appeal and the Provincial Grand Charity was delighted to have been able to boost this amount by £4,000 after receiving a Grant Petition submitted by the lodge.

The appeal is progressing well with almost £30,000 now having been raised with other amounts already in the pipeline, such that, it is hoped to secure the funds required by the end of February 2011.



Left to right - Neil Reader Charity Steward, Mitre Lodge, Mike Birch Chairman Provincial Grand Charity, Dr. Nigel Durham, Roy Crosbie-Wood Master of Mitre Lodge and the Lord Mayor of York Councillor Susan Galloway with one of the existing Encardiograph Machines