

RMTGB Presentation St Saviourgate York 9th January 2006

The second of three presentations was made at St Saviourgate to an audience of 100 brethren who had travelled from all areas of the Province. It was not a wasted journey.

The speakers, Les Hutchinson Secretary to the Council of the Trust and Mike Woodcock Chairman of the Public Relations and Fund Raising Committee, gave an in-depth view of the work , benefits and aspirations of The Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys [see the report 22 November 2005 Beverley Road Hull]

A very significant development in Masonic Charity was explained to the meeting in respect of "Lifelites". Lifelites, which was launched as the Millennium Project of the Trust to provide computers to Children's Hospices throughout the country, has become a separate independently funded charity. The Trust Deed forming the Charity came into force on the 1st January 2006 and is supported by an endowment from RMTGB of £4 million. This of course is just the first footstep on a long path to assist those who sadly find themselves in need of support during the closing period of a short life.

It is projected that it will need a minimum of £500,000 annually to continue and develop from the existing 36 Hospices to over 40 in the coming year. A full report of this initiative will be in the next Masonic Quarterly magazine.

The Provincial Grand Master closed the meeting and invited questions during supper. The brethren stimulated by the presentation took the opportunity and also expressed many opinions regarding the undoubted value of such events.

The last presentation will be at Middlesbrough Masonic Hall on the 31st January 2006 at 7.00pm. Contact the Scribe E of the Provincial Grand Stewards Chapter or Festival Secretary for further information.

The York meeting sponsored by Eboracum Lodge No 1611 was a huge success. The organising committee did a splendid job and we owe them a very big THANK YOU.