



**Mark**

**Benevolent**

**Fund**

**Q2 Review**

**April – June 2022**



# Fund Activity Summary

**15%**

of funds went to direct applications from charities

£12,830 - Supporting those with Disabilities

£70,000 - Humanitarian Aid

£14,910 - Youth Sector

£9,000 - Our own members and their families

**33%**

of funds went to applications directly initiated by our Provinces

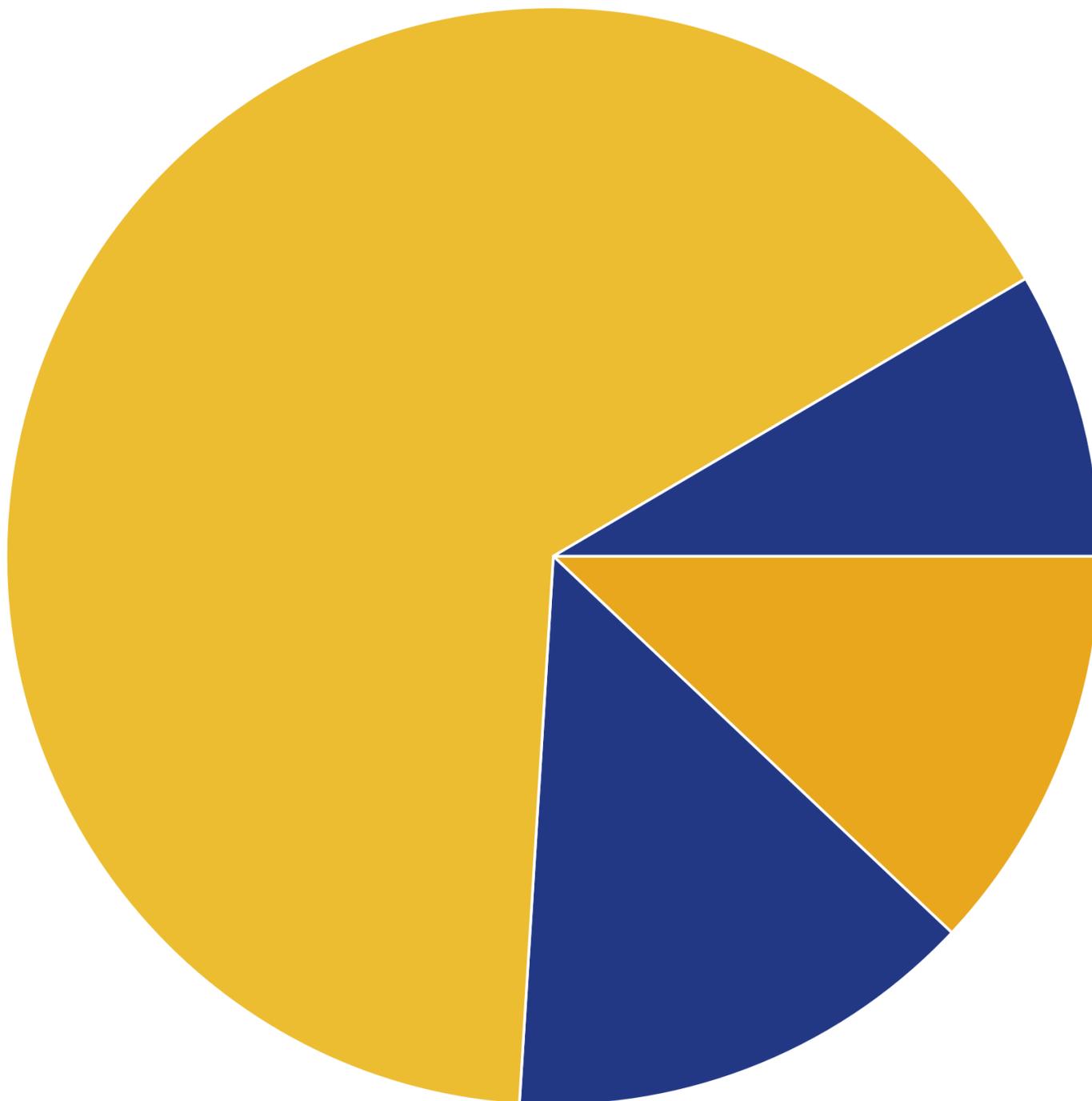
**52%**

of funds from this quarter came from the Ukraine Fund to aid refugees



# At a Glance...

**Humanitarian  
Aid  
66%**



**Our own  
members and  
their families  
8%**

**Supporting  
those with  
Disabilities  
12%**

**Youth  
Sector  
14%**



# £106,740

In the second quarter of 2022 the Mark Benevolent Fund made 17 Grants to individuals, local charities and other worthy cause across England and the Inspectorate of Romania.





**£9,460**

The Cornwall County Scout Council needed support for the purchase of vital safety and security equipment. Every four years they hold the 'Kernow Jamboree', a week-long activity camp, which usually attracts in excess of 1,000 young people and over 500 volunteer leaders and support teams.



**£10,000**

AMBULANCEAID.CO.UK is a non-profit making group of volunteers delivering ambulances and medical aid to the Ukraine. The funds bought a fully equipped ambulance to be driven initially to Poland and then on to the Ukraine. The volunteers filled the ambulance with medical supplies and other urgently needed equipment.



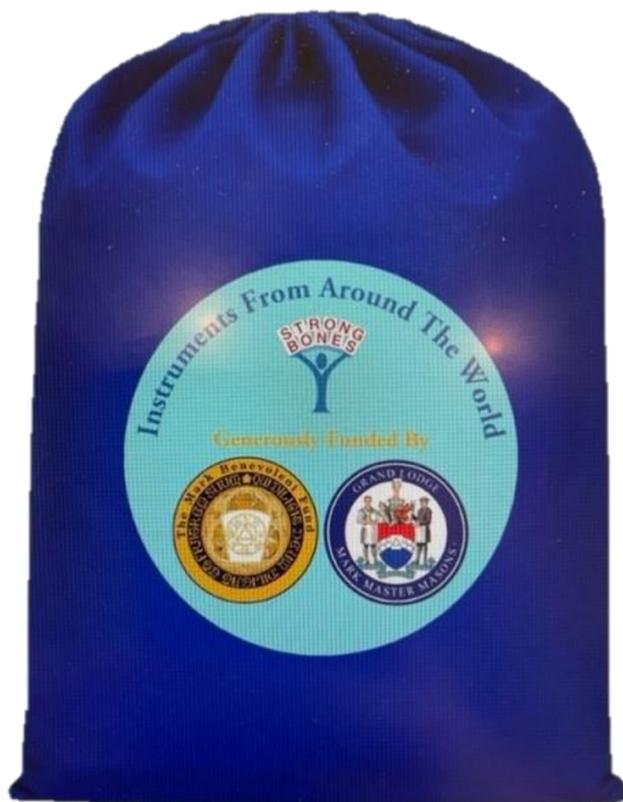


# STRONGBONES

CHILDREN'S CHARITABLE TRUST

## £5,750

This National charity helps families and disabled young people under the age of 21 who have complex needs including scoliosis, spina bifida, brittle bone disease or any other bone condition. This grant is funding a Sensory equipment project which is different every year. They supply hundreds of sensory educational packs each time with a different theme, ranging from the 'solar system' to 'under the sea'. The theme of this year's pack is 'Musical Instruments from Around the World'. 50 packs have now been provided by your donations.



*Meet Myles, looking as 'Pleased as Punch' with his new musical pack*



**£5,450**

This charity works with disadvantaged young people aged between 11 and 16 living in areas of social and economic deprivation in Swindon and surrounding Wiltshire. Each year they help up to 360 young people build resilience, develop confidence and learn skills that will last a lifetime. These funds will provide the organisation with 15 new tents for volunteers, staff and children to use at the camps taking place this summer holiday.



**Merlin  
MS Centre**



**£7,080**

The Merlin MS Centre is upgrading their older, larger minibus for something more economical and practical. The rising cost of fuel and a reduction in volunteers who are able to obtain a specific license for the larger vehicle have been a major factor in taking this decision. The changing dynamic of travel in the county also continues to change the way in which they run the service. Thankfully they will receive a significant trade-in discount on the purchase of the new vehicle.



**£75,000**

At the March Communication of Mark Grand Lodge, the Pro Grand Master announced that the Mark Benevolent Fund would be providing financial support to the Inspectorate of Romania to help fund its relief work for Ukrainian refugees. The Inspectorate has been working closely with government agencies to provide, among other things:

- special tents for more than 20 people
- electrical heating devices
- beds and blankets
- personal hygiene products
- emergency medical and small surgery kits
- antibiotics and other different medicines
- PPE
- food and water

Mark Emergency Relief Fund  
MMM185622

**To make a donation**  
scan with phone camera to open  
or visit URL

<https://gtap.uk/mmm185622>



This tremendous endeavour has touched Freemasons across the Constitution and many of our Brethren have been keen to add their own support by making a donation.



**9**

**Grants totalling  
£9,000 were  
made to  
Individuals**

**Who  
did we  
help?**

- W.Bro. K needed help. The rising cost of living and illnesses suffered by members of his immediate family had prevented him from returning to work which had a knock-effect on finances. The MBF assisted with a grant that took the pressure off the family and helped them get back on their feet.
- Mrs M had been managing with a fridge-freezer that was well past its sell-by date and definitely not keeping food as cold as it should be. During a visit by our Visiting Brother, he also noticed that she struggled to get in and out of her armchair. He decided to ask the Petitions Committee if the MBF could help. As well as a daily living allowance the MBF replaced Mrs M's fridge-freezer and arranged for her to have a new recliner chair to make her life just that little bit more comfortable.
- V.W.Bro. P, having received help from the MBF on a previous occasion, asked his Provincial Grand Almoner for some help to replace a carpet that was becoming threadbare and dangerous. During his visit, the Provincial Grand Almoner found that the state of the flat was in a much worse state than V.W.Bro. P. had led him to believe. He applied immediately to the Petitions Committee for a capital grant to help with repairs and redecoration. Saving money where they could, Brethren from his Lodge also helped complete the work leaving him in a much more pleasant and relaxing environment.



A fantastic evening was had by all as the Grand Secretary announced the final total of the 2022 MBF Festival hosted by Surrey in Brighton.

R.W.Bro. Ian N. Clark, Provincial Grand Master and Festival President, paid tribute to the enormous efforts made by the Festivals fund-raising and support teams, not just limited to Mark Brethren but also their spouses, partners and families.

Download your copy of the Festival Booklet [Click Here](#)





**155<sup>th</sup> MBF Festival Banquet**  
will be held at the  
**Harrogate Conference Centre**

**Kings Rd**  
**Harrogate**  
**HG1 5LA**

**Saturday, 1 July 2023**

**BOOK HERE**



# Q2 Review

## April – June 2022

Issued by  
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