

Scottish
Masonic
Charitable
Foundation

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Year Book 2023 - 2024

Providing relief to the
West Australian Community

Our Mission, Vision & Values

Our Mission

"Improve the quality of lives of Western Australians, through the provision of relief and creation of meaningful partnerships that are sustainable and mutually beneficial."

The Foundation aims to achieve this by working with local Scottish Masonic Lodges and charitable/not-for-profit organisations that demonstrate commitment to those in need within our State.

The Foundation also provides broader based community support utilizing the resources and skills of our brethren to facilitate and support initiatives with significant benefit to the WA community.

Our Vision

Improving the quality of life of all Western Australians through a more highly visible community practice of the principles and values of Scottish Freemasonry.

Our Values

Our decisions and actions are guided by our values which are:

Brotherly Love:

Every true Freemason will show tolerance and respect for the opinions of others and behave with kindness and understanding to his fellow creatures.

Relief:

Freemasons are taught to practice charity and to care, not only for their own, but also for the community both by charitable giving, and by voluntary efforts and works as individuals.

Truth:

Freemasons strive for truth, requiring high moral standards and aiming to achieve them in their own lives.

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SMCFWA Board



George Rogers
Chairman



Andrew Bruce
Vice Chairman



Clive Lynn



Bronwyn Waugh



Stewart Mitchell



Lindsay Mitchell



Alan MacKenzie

News From The Foundation

In April 2024, Ron decided it was time to retire from the Board of SMCFWA and from being the DGLWA Secretary.

Ron was involved with the Foundation for many years. He started by helping out in the background, then attending Board meetings as an invited guest in 2018, then finally joining the Board in 2019 when the composition changed due to a change in the governing rules.

Ron first became involved in Perth based freemasonry when he joined Lodge Menzies Doric No. 890 In 1975. He would later become master of this lodge in 1981-82 and then again in 2000-01. After joining the District Grand Lodge of Western Australia in 1982, he rose through the ranks until becoming the District Grand Master for five years between 1993 and 1998. After this tenure, he was appointed as District Grand Secretary in 1999, he would hold this position until his retirement in April 2024, after 25 years.



Thank you, Ron, for your commitment to both the DGLWA and SMCFWA over the many years. Enjoy your retirement.

The Foundation was advised in June 2024 of the death of Michael Croucher. Michael was involved in the District as Secretary during the 1980's and 1990's.

Michael was also a member of Lodge St Andrew during this time. Michael was involved in the Foundation and District during the time when the Foundation was running the Retirement Village in Menora, and this was a cause close to his heart.



Upon his death the Foundation received a bequest of \$25,000. This money will be incorporated into our Grant program though the final details are still to be confirmed.

Chairman's Report

I am happy once more to report that the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of Western Australia, through the hard work of the Board of Directors, continues to be in a strong financial position.

During the past year, we have been able to fulfil our commitment to providing support to the community:

This year, we have supported the following:

\$30,000.00 to Surf Life Saving WA to support their TOAD and RISE-UP camps. As well as the Nipper and Youth Awards.

\$20,000.00 will be donated to the MND Society of Western Australia to continue to assist with funding for equipment and a respiratory nurse to create treatment plans for MND patients at Fiona Stanley Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, and St. John of God Midland.

\$15,000.00 to the Returned Services League of Western Australia to fund 300 Christmas Hampers for Veterans at Christmas time.

\$10,000.00 to the Lions Cancer Institute to assist in the maintenance and running costs of the mobile Cancer Screening coach.

\$5,000.00 to the Perth Metro Pipe Band, who provided entertainment at our Annual Gala Dinner and our Charity Golf Day.

\$850.00 to Freemasons WA Annual Charity Golf Day: as Silver Sponsors. We also had a team of four participate in the event.

The Yearly Grant Programme, available to each of the 10 Scottish Lodges in the District, explains that the Foundation will match the value of \$1,000.00 for any donation that each of these Lodges would like to donate to a local recipient.

So far, we have matched the \$1,000.00 from Lodge Robbie Burns for the Soroptimists Int. Return to School Project in Mandurah, making a total of \$2,000.00

\$1,000.00 for Lodge Menzies Doric to add to their donation of \$2,000.00 to the Men's Shed at Rockingham, making a total of \$3,000.00

\$500.00 from Lodge Sir Walter Scott Breadalbane towards Movember and \$500.00 for Orana House, a local women's refuge, making a total of \$2,000.00

\$1,000.00 from Lodge Kilwinning to assist homelessness in the Fremantle area through St Pats Community Support Centre, making a total of \$2,000.00

We are pleased that some of the Lodges have again taken the opportunity to become more involved with the Foundation in their local community.

On Tuesday, the 9th of January, Peta, Andrew and I travelled to Margaret River to see the new permanent camp location and to present a cheque to Surf Life Saving WA at the annual TOAD Camp. We were provided overnight accommodation and shared the evening meal with the camp participants; two of whom were delighted to receive the cheque on behalf of SLSWA and responded with their stories of what the camp meant to them.

On Thursday, the 22nd of February, I had the pleasure of presenting a happily received cheque to the Motor Neurone Disease Society of WA at their headquarters in Carlisle.

On Monday, the 29th of April, a team representing the Foundation took part in the Grand Lodge of Western Australia Charity Golf Day at The Vines Golf and Country Club. They had a thoroughly enjoyable day despite not finishing in the prizes. Congratulations to Brother Fred Geldart for organising another successful day.

On Saturday, the 18th of May, Alan Mackenzie and I attended the Surf Life Saving Nipper and Youth Awards Ceremony. We both had the great pleasure of presenting several awards to the different age groups. We also enjoyed a cup of tea and some lovely sandwiches afterwards.

On Saturday, the 15th of June, we were again involved in the Surf Life Saving Gala Awards Ceremony. On this occasion, June and I, accompanied by fellow Board Member Lindsay Mitchell and his wife Karen, enjoyed the VIP Reception before the Official Ceremony took place. We were then treated to a lovely dinner, and I was, again, given the honour to present two of the awards.

I would also like to express my dearest thanks to Mrs. Peta McLean and all the Board Members for their continued efforts and dedication to the well running of the Foundation. I also extend my thanks to the Scottish Lodges in this District for their continuing support of the Foundation.

**George J Rogers,
Chairman**



News From The Foundation

During 2023 -2024, the Foundation has maintained a constant level of Grants, which has been sizably due to the continual returns on our investments.

During this time, we granted funds to Surf Life Saving WA, Motor Neurone Disease Association of Western Australia, Lions Cancer Institute, RSLWA, and Perth Metro Pipe Band. We also sponsored a hole and sent a team to the Freemasons WA Golf Day in April at The Vines Resort.

Motor Neurone Disease Association of WA (MNDAWA)

The Foundation provided funding to help MNDAWA fund a Respiratory Physiotherapist, who will be able to provide support to those in the community suffering from Motor Neuron Disease. \$20,000 was approved for use in this program.

George Rogers presented the cheque to their Chief Executive Officer, Maeve Egan.



News From The Foundation

Lions Cancer Institute

In October 2023, the Lions Cancer Institute approached the Foundation to see if we would supply another grant of \$10,000 towards the Mobile Cancer Screening Coach.



As this cause is close to many people's hearts, the Board was happy to provide the Grant.



RSLWA

This year again saw the Foundation support the RSLWA in their Christmas Hampers for Veterans (Hamper for Vets) project by providing a grant of \$15,000.

These hampers go to around 300 Veterans and their families during Christmas time.

Surf Life Saving WA

The Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA (Inc) plays a significant role in developing young lifesavers within Western Australia, through their support of Surf Life Saving WA (SLSWA).

Youth Program & Pathways

SLSWA's Youth Program encompasses members aged U14 through to U17 and includes the Youth Leaders' Program and the Youth Program Pathways.

The ultimate aim of the Youth Program is

to engage, enthuse and educate all graduating 'Nippers' and new youth members, regardless of ability in the surf sport discipline, and aid the retention and development of members.

The program provides learning experiences across four main areas, namely lifesaving, training, leadership and surf sports.

SLSWA offers statewide Youth Pathway Courses, empowering its youth members to actively engage in the various areas of Surf Life Saving. These courses include the Youth Age Manager, Youth Coach, Youth Event Producer, Youth Trainer and Youth Official.

Youth Leaders Program

Within the broader Youth Program Curriculum is the opt in Youth Leaders Program (YLP). Available to all youth members, the optional Youth Leaders Program tracks the hours a youth member puts into lifesaving, training and surf sports.

There are three recognition levels to the program; Bronze, Silver and Gold, which are increasingly difficult to obtain. To achieve Gold Level, members have accumulated in excess of 230 volunteer hours during their period as a Surf Life Saving youth member (13-16-year-olds).

The certificates achieved at each level of the YLP carry the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA's logo.

This past year, an impressive 32 youth members achieved Gold level status in the YLP. These members were recognised at the 2024 Nipper & Youth Awards presented by the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA, which took place Saturday, 18 May 2024.

Over the 2022/23 season, funding provided by the Foundation has assisted SLSWA in four key areas, namely:

1. Continued support of the statewide Youth Program & Pathways
2. Continued support of the Youth Leaders Program (YLP)
3. Continued support and further enhancement of the popular Youth Development Camps - Rise Up and T.O.A.D.
4. Continued support as presenting rights partner of the SLSWA Nipper and Youth Awards

Nipper & Youth Awards, presented by the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA

Over 300 guests gathered for the 2024 Nipper & Youth Awards on Saturday 18 May, as more than 100 outstanding young members from across WA were recognised for their achievements across a range of areas, including surf sports, lifesaving, competition and volunteering.

Thirty-two outstanding individuals from a number of clubs were recognised for their attainment of Gold Level in Surf Life Saving WA's Youth Leaders Program, which required them to have accumulated more than 230 volunteer hours during their period as a youth member, requiring significant commitment and dedication across multiple seasons.

2024 Surf Life Saving WA Awards of Excellence Saturday, 15th June 2024

The Surf Life Saving WA Awards of Excellence recognise the achievements and contributions of members and clubs across a range of categories and areas of Surf Life Saving, including the key areas of surf sports, education and training, youth and lifesaving.

This year, 460 people came together at Crown Ballroom on Saturday, 15th July to celebrate the 2023/24 season. George Rogers from the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA presented

two awards on the evening –
Official of the Year and Age
Manager of the Year.



Youth Development Camps – Rise Up and T.O.A.D.

Each year, SLSWA runs two development camps for youth members. These sold-out camps provide opportunities for teamwork and leadership skills to be developed by those attending. Rise Up camp ran from the third to sixth of January, while T.O.A.D camp ran from the eighth to eleventh of January.

Rise Up Camp

The Rise-Up camp saw 59 U17 members in attendance where they spent the first day getting to know each other through a series of games and ice-breaker activities.



Across the following days they participated in activities such as abseiling and Coasteering which saw them challenge themselves and push beyond what they thought they were capable of.

Additional to this they also completed the required bridging course to upskill their bronze medallion to first aid which forms as a prerequisite to the Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Course.



Saving WA

T.O.A.D. (Teamwork, Opportunity and Development) Camp

The TOAD camp also had 59 youth members in attendance from the U14 and U15 age groups.

Throughout their time on camp they completed their Radio Operators certificate as well as participating in a range of team building exercises and making use of the pool at the SWDC. Fun was had by all when participating in their Coasteering and High Ropes activities as well as a nightly game of Spotlight.

We are once again grateful for the ongoing support from the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of WA and their generous sponsorship of the Youth Development Camps. The long-standing relationship between SLSWA and the Foundation was celebrated at the 2024 Nipper and Youth Awards with the presentation of the meritorious support award.



The assistance of the SMCFWA continues to help us deliver these camps and provide our regional youth with generous travel subsidies to enable them to attend. It also allows us to deliver a range of exciting and challenging activities, ensuring our youth members have a great camp experience.



Once again, it was wonderful to have representatives from the SMCFWA, join our Toadies on camp one afternoon where they presented the group with a cheque for \$30,000, representing their ongoing support for SLSWA and our youth members.



We sincerely thank the Foundation for its continued support.

Perth Metro Pipe Band

There is growing excitement amongst the ranks of the Perth Metro Pipe Band with their recent announcement that they plan to return to Scotland in 2026 for the World Pipe Band Championships.

The band first attended in 2016, where they took home first place in the grade 3B category.

Returning in 2018, they were third in grade 3A.

These were outstanding results, given every grade field had approximately 20 bands.

A planned return in 2020 was ultimately shut down by COVID-19.

Post-COVID, the band, like many bands around the world, experienced dropping numbers. However, with a solid core keeping the band together, it is hoped that numbers will grow to pre-COVID levels with the promise of a 'World' trip.

Taking a band to Scotland is not surprisingly an expensive exercise. Whilst each member funds their own travel, the band funds accommodation and internal coach costs to get to and from several leadup events. The band will also host a few international guest players, who will require full uniforms. For 2026, the band is anticipating it needs to fundraise approximately \$40,000.

The ongoing financial support provided by the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation has provided valuable funds to the band. In the past, these funds have been used to purchase uniforms and drums. The current round of funding will go towards the trip fund.



In addition to supporting charitable and community events, the band participated in the Fremantle Highland Championships. The band unveiled a new March, Strathspey and Reel (MSR) set. As well as a new Medley. Despite limited practice time, they were delighted to take out 1st place in their grade winning both the MSR and Medley sections.

District Grand Lodge Of WA

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SMCFWA & WA

As part of the Foundation's Grant program, an amount of \$10,000 is set aside for use by the Scottish Lodges. This money allows each Lodge to donate any amount to any cause and then apply to the Foundation for an amount up to and including \$1,000 during each financial year. During the past year, four Lodges took up this donation.

Lodge Menzies Doric

This Lodge approached the Foundation with a request for \$1,000 for the Rockingham Men's Shed. This was approved by the Foundation and with the Lodge's donation of \$2,000 a total of \$3,000 was donated. The cheque was presented to the representatives of the Rockingham Men's Shed by RWM Lodge Menzies Doric Bro David Russell.



Lodge Kilwinning

The request received from this Lodge was for \$1,000 to match their donation of \$1,000 to St Pats Community Support Centre in Fremantle. This organisation helps with homelessness in and around Fremantle.

Scottish Lodges Grants

Lodge Robbie Burns

The Lodge approached the Foundation to match their donation of \$1,000 to Soroptimist Int – Return to School Program.

The Foundation agreed to match this and made a donation of \$2,000.



Lodge Sir Walter Scott-Breadalbane

This Lodge approached us as Bro Andrew Anderson was again participating in Movember. We have supplied this grant for the past four years. The request for \$500 was matched and a total of \$1,000 was donated to Movember.

The Lodge also requested a Grant for \$500 to Orana House. The Foundation agreed to match this and a \$1,000 donation was made to this organisation which helps Women and Children experiencing Family and Domestic Violence.

Highland Gathering 2024

Since 2004 we have been provisioners of the Licensed Area, colloquially known as “The Highland Tavern”, for the annual City of Armadale **Highland Gathering** and Perth Kilt Run.

I’m very proud and honoured by the relationship that has been established between the C.o.A. and the Foundation since Brian Watkins, former Fire Emergency and Ranger Service Coordinator of the City of Armadale and Past District Grand Master of Scottish Freemasonry in Western Australia and former Chairman of the Scottish Masonic Charitable Foundation of W.A. 2008-2013 recommended our involvement.

This important fund-raising and public awareness activity is only possible by the continued support and commitment of many Brethren and their partners from the Lodges within the district that serve the refreshments and maintain the area safely, including NPB Security who control the crowd and our gate.

At this years’ event recently held on 6th October at the Champion Lakes Rowing Centre (due to Rail works in Armadale) we raised \$6160 in just 5 hours of trading, preceded by many planning meetings, and the set-up and pack-down that comes with major events. These funds are thankfully received and faithfully applied within the Foundation and District Grand Lodge.



Our presence at the Highland Gathering creates a lot of enthusiasm amongst both our members and the public in general too as the average attendance is in the vicinity of 10,000 annually, becoming our largest community event.

We look forward to many more years of continued participation and support with the City of Armadale at this cultural extravaganza.

Faithfully and Fraternally,
Alan Miller, Approved Manager
and Licensee (2010-2024)



SMCFWA Charity Golf Day 2023

Silver Sponsor

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**Masonic Care WA has
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Our philosophy is built on respect, integrity, compassion, and exceptional service—that's because we believe every resident deserves a place where care and comfort are par for the course.

Our 11 independent retirement living villages, ten rental villages, and two residential aged care homes offer a variety of options that meet the unique preferences and needs of WA seniors.

As a proud sponsor of the SMCFWA Charity Golf Open, we're honoured to support our WA Masonic communities both on and off the green.

Book your tour at masoniccarewa.com.au



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SMCFWA Charity Golf Day 2023

On Monday, 9th October, the 14th Annual Scottish Masonic Charity Golf Day was held at Wanneroo Golf Club.



After a sausage sizzle and some practice putts, we all assembled at the putting green. I was able to acknowledge our valued sponsors, welcome all the players and thank them for their participation. I then introduced the General Manager, Mr Mick Smith, who laid out some rules regarding the golf buggies. The Club Professional then addressed the players on the rules for the day as it was an Ambrose Competition as well on course etiquette before leading the teams to the appropriate tees for a 12:30 pm shotgun start.



We had 44 players take part and a fantastic time was had by all. The golf course was, as usual, presented in perfect condition.

After a refreshing shower and a cooling refreshment, we sat down for a lovely meal before the trophy presentation.

Once again, Mr Mick Smith, the General Manager of Wanneroo Golf Club and his friendly staff looked after us very well with the food and drinks.

SMCFWA Charity Golf Day 2023

The Winners this year were the PQR/WSG team consisting of Paul Reed, Craig Wilson, Jamie Johnston and George Rogers with a gross score of 67; nett 56.25

Runners Up were the Sir Walter Scott Breadalbane team of Jim Anderson, Frank Anderson, Andrew Gedrim and Graham Irvine with a gross score of 68; nett 57.75

Nearest the Pin winners were Harry Proud at Hole 4; Adam Tong at Hole 8; Chris Brain at Hole 11 and George Whyte at Hole 15. Thanks to Wanneroo Golf Club for providing the magnums of wine for each winner.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank our loyal volunteers, Mrs Pat McKay, Mrs Maureen Wakenshaw and Mrs Peta McLean for the registration and administration duties and to Brothers Kevin McKay and Rob Loney for driving the drinks cart and keeping us all refreshed throughout the day and lastly to all who took part and helped make the Event a success raising some \$5,470.00.

We are booked to play at Secret Harbour Golf Club on Friday 18th of October 2024 and our valued Sponsors have indicated they are happy and willing to continue their support and we also have another silver sponsor and a bronze sponsor who have come on board and we can look forward to another successful event.



George J. Rogers



Golf Day Sponsors



Golf Day Sponsors





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