



Information Sheet

YOUR GUIDE TO THE RMBI

The RMBI has been caring for older Freemasons and their dependants for over 160 years. We operate 17 care homes across England and Wales offering a range of high quality care. Many of our Homes are registered for both residential and nursing care and all can offer places to people with dementia following an assessment of their needs.

Limited sheltered accommodation is offered for those people who prefer to live more independently, but with support nearby in an emergency.

The RMBI can also offer short-stay breaks, including respite care. These are helpful for both those living alone, and for families that need a little respite from the demands of caring for an older relative.

At the RMBI, we believe in treating everyone as an individual. Every potential resident is assessed to find out what type of care package would best meet their needs. A tailor-made care plan is put together, which is reviewed on a regular basis.

Residents who choose an RMBI Home, have the security of knowing that they have a home for life regardless of any change in their financial circumstances, as long as we can cater for their particular care needs.

The Care Advice Team

The RMBI has a team of Care Advice Visitors who cover the whole of England and Wales, and who know a great deal about health and welfare rights and benefits. The Team visit people in their own homes, or may speak to someone via telephone and post out information.

The Team give advice on how to apply for residency in our Homes, how this would be financed and may also carry out pre-admission assessments. They can also give advice on all aspects of the services offered by the RMBI, the other Masonic charities and by statutory and voluntary agencies.

They also advise on the other services the RMBI provides such as home improvement loans and holidays. Each year they assess Annuitants and grant recipients, who have been sponsored by their Provinces, to attend a two week all expenses paid holiday in Malta. The RMBI also arranges four annual holidays and the Care Advice Team identify potential attendees and carry out the suitability assessments.

The Team automatically writes to new recipients of the Grand Charity's Relief Grant to introduce themselves and to ask if they need any help or information. They undertake home visits with, or on behalf of, Lodge Almoners or at the request of others worried about the welfare of someone they know.

The Team also visit and make presentations to Almoners, Charity Stewards, Lodges and Masonic Widows' Groups and Fellowships to speak about the work of the RMBI and the help we can give.

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Respite Care

Respite care is available in all RMBI Homes depending on the availability of beds. Respite care could be needed to give a carer a break from looking after their dependant, to allow time for a person to recover after a hospital stay, or to sample what it is like to live in a care home.

The RMBI works alongside the Masonic Samaritan Fund (MSF) who can offer up to four weeks funding in certain cases for respite in an RMBI Home.

For more information please contact our Care Advice Team at the RMBI's Head Office.

Holidays

The RMBI organises all expenses paid two week half board holidays for those receiving Masonic financial assistance. Holidays are held in Eastbourne, Westcliff-on-Sea, Bournemouth and Llandudno every summer.

"For me this was the holiday of a lifetime. I cannot express my gratitude enough to the people who made it possible. The RMBI gave so much care and attention to all the details. The whole holiday was full of laughter and Masonic friendship. Thank you all so much."

About the holiday to Malta

The summer holidays are paid for by the Good Neighbour Fund, which benefits from the fundraising activities of the 'Friends of the RMBI' and various Masonic charity organisations around the country. The Fund also has provision for discretionary use by the Chief Executive in cases of urgent need.

There is also a winter holiday in Malta for a limited number of people sponsored by their Provinces.

For more information please contact our Care Advice Team at Head Office.

Home Improvement Loans

A substantial fund exists as a consequence of a generous gift by the late W Bro Lt Col V C Donaldson, FRICS, PJGD. The purpose of the fund is to lend money to older people, or recipients of Grand Charity grants, in order to enhance the quality of their life by carrying out repairs or improvements to their homes, for example:

- Rewiring
- Replacement of roofs
- Installing stair lifts
- Converting rooms to assist disabled individuals
- Double glazing
- Installing/replacement of central heating

The loan is repaid with interest, either when the property is sold or on the death of the recipient.

For more information please contact the RMBI's Head Office on 020 7596 2400.

How to contact us

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