



Education

The chisel, in the Mark Master degree, is one of the working tools and symbolizes the effects of education on the human mind.

William Preston (Illustrations of Masonry, 1812, page 86)



Official Newsletter of the Masonic Education Fund of South Africa

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Masonic Education Fund
Public Benefit Organisation 930009242

WB Leslie Alexander Martin: An exceptional Life member

W. Bro Leslie Alexander Martin PGStdB of British Lodge No:334 EC joined the ranks of the existing Life Members on the 9th of September 2023.

He was congratulated and handed his Certificate, Jewel and Lapel Badge confirming his Life Membership at a recent British Lodge meeting on the 24th of April 2024 by the vice-chairman of the MEF, Cornelis Burger.

During the brief presentation Cornelis encouraged and invited the other masons to become Life Members of this very worthy charity. Cornelis also expressed the hope that W.Bro Martin would find time in his busy masonic schedule to involve himself in the general well-being of the charity fund.



You too can wear a MEF Jewel with pride!
See application form



Don't miss the deadline!
The deadline for MEF applications is 31 August of each year.
Application forms can be obtained via email request to pegned@iafrica.com



You can now complete the MEF forms directly without printing the pages, save the completed document and mail it to pegned@iafrica.com.



Message From The
CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Well, once again another year is almost over.....done and dusted. All the scholars and students throughout the country have completed this current years' study and written their exams for which we hope that all have done well, particularly those whom the MEF (Masonic Education Fund) have supported over several years.

On the 28th of November 2024 we had our last meetings of the General, Finance and Enquiry Committees, the most important ones of the year, other than the Annual General Meeting. A reminder that in terms of process, the Finance Committee in consultation with the treasurer informs the Enquiry Committee of the available funds which can be made available for distribution for grants in 2025. The Enquiry Committee, after carefully scrutinizing all the applications (and all applications regardless are considered), reported this year that all the current applications had been correctly completed and met all the criteria and thus made its recommendations to the General Committee. The General Committee then decides to whom the grants will be allocated. It is a time-consuming process and is taken very seriously.

This is why the attendance of the appointed representatives of the different Constitutions at these meetings is so important. It is not only in these decisions that their contributions are valued, but also in the contributions they make to all the other required decisions which will have a direct bearing on the members of the Constitutions they represent.

I must state that each and every year the amount of financial support given to successful applicants is directly dependent on both the number of applications

and the success, or otherwise, of the MEF investments and other donated income.

So, the final granted amount will vary every year, calculated retrospectively. While the names of the successful applicants remain highly confidential, the MEF has been able to provide a more generous financial support in 2025 than it has in previous years.

This will not necessarily be the case in 2026, but is a step closer to the goal of the Fund to be able to FULLY support the educational requirements of the children of masons, or their widows, who find themselves in necessitous circumstances across the four Constitutions.

The General Committee agreed to leave the MEF investments with the present investment agencies, as currently, these are all doing well. The number of Life Memberships has been increased by 17. You are all most welcome, and I express the fervent hope, that you will all in time, involve yourselves in the machinations of the administration and dealings of the Fund.

Our roving ambassador, Cobis Wilson is currently presenting their certificates, jewels and lapel badges to each of the new members in their lodges.

The MEF looks toward another successful year in 2026 of gaining additional Life Members.

The Committee and I wish all a very Blessed and safe festive season and a prosperous new year and until we can meet again in fraternal friendship, be well.

Bro. Jock Wood

Chairman

Masonic Education Fund

