



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

Editor: Bro. Manny de Freitas | Email: TheChiselMEF@gmail.com

**Masonic Education Fund
Public Benefit Organisation 930009242**

A record 3 BB become MEF Life Members in 1 night!



Three Brethren from Lodge de Goede Hoop (GLSA) became MEF Life Members and were awarded their MEF jewel at the Lodge de Goede Hoop Christmas working on 11 December 2024. Standing with the MEF Roving Ambassador MW Cobis Wilson (extreme left) are the 3 BB who are now Masonic Education Fund (MEF) Life Members, (from left to right) , BB Luther Delpont, Dirk Aggenbag and Guy Taylor.

Letter of gratitude received on behalf of MEF beneficiary, Tristan Strydom

Dear Members of the Masonic Education Fund Committee,
I hope this message finds you well. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the

(Continued on page 2)

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

Greetings Brethren for the first time this year, it is my pleasure to write this short report for the newsletter and to bring you all up to speed with what has been happening to the MEF over the past few months.

The short answer is...very little. This is traditionally the quiet time in our year for the Fund and before the whirlly-burly of activities which begin with the AGM and then on to dealing with the range of applications for financial support from masons across the four Constitutions. The scholars and students whom the MEF is assisting this year are already at the end of their first semester and the Fund hopes they are all doing well.

This year the Fund is in the fortunate position financially to be able to increase grants to those successful applicants. This situation was made possible because of the MEF investment portfolio overall performing reasonably well, combined with some generous donations and Life Membership number increases. I need once again of course to emphasize the need for kind donations from lodges to help the MEF in assisting the learners of parents in distress. I must also emphasize that each year is dealt with as a financial entity on its own and there is no guarantee that the same financial dispensations will prevail for the year 2026.

We have just received a very generous bequest from the estate of the late Rt. Wor. Bro. Peter Duckworth. The bequest will be invested in a separate entity and called the Peter and Helena Duckworth Fund.

Each year the Financial Committee, once all the successful applications have been attended to, makes available a small amount which is called the Chairman's Discretionary Fund. This money is only to be used if and when there is an emergency appeal for help from a suddenly distressed mason. I had the opportunity of using the Discretionary Fund to assist a brother in need by paying towards his child's school fees.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9 July 2025. So, please look out for that general notice. It would be great to see many more of you at this meeting and also be able to put some new faces onto the General Committee. The General Committee usually only meet three or four times a year.

Once again thanks to all who have assisted and especially to our Executive Committee members.

Fraternally,

Bro. Jock Wood

Chairman: Masonic Education Fund

Save the date

Masonic Education Fund Annual General Meeting 2025

Date: 9 July 2025 (Wednesday)

Time: 17h15

(Continued from page 1)

incredibly generous grant you provided to help with Tristan's school fees. Your support means so much to our family and has lifted a huge weight off our shoulders.

Knowing that Tristan can continue his education without the added financial stress is a blessing. Your kindness exemplifies the true spirit of Masonry, charity, brotherhood and a commitment to uplifting others. It's deeply humbling to witness these principles in action and to feel the warmth of this great fraternity.

Tristan is thriving, and I know this wouldn't be possible without your support. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for believing in us and helping my son pursue his dreams.

With sincere gratitude

Fraternally

W Bro Morne Strydom

“

**Your kindness exemplifies
the true spirit of Masonry,
charity, brotherhood and a
commitment to uplifting
others.**

”