**THE ROYAL ARCH MASONIC CENTENNIAL AWARD FUND**

The Royal Arch Masonic Centennial Award Fund was established in 1987 to celebrate the Centennial of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand in 1992.

The purpose of the Award is the promotion and encouragement of excellence and of skills in some aspect of professional, commercial, technical, or other practical endeavour.

Biannual awards are made to researchers who have had at least three years’ practical experience after qualifying in their respective fields of endeavour, and wish to improve their skills by study or practical experience out of New Zealand, or to a highly skilled person not resident in New Zealand who would be prepared to visit New Zealand for the purpose of communicating his or her skills to members of his or her profession, trade, or other occupation.

Awards in the range of $20,000 – $35, 000 have been made in fields such as Medicine, Dentistry, Geology, Agriculture, and Horticulture, and Veterinary Science.

Independent research funding such as that offered through the Royal Arch Masonic Centennial Award is essential in enabling researchers to work on projects which may fall outside government funding perimeters and criteria, as well as allowing different, and sometimes more appropriate, timeframes and requirements of accountability. The members of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand are proud of the contribution this fund has makes to the health and happiness of New Zealanders.

In contributing funding for higher research, the Royal Arch Masonic Centennial Award Fund complements the work of the Royal Arch Jubilee Scholarship Fund which assists students.