



Freemasons New Zealand

Annual Report 2024–25



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PO Box 6439
Marion Square
Wellington 6141
New Zealand
+64 4 385 6622
secretary@freemasons.nz
www.freemasons.nz

Front cover: 2025 New Zealand Special Olympics –
Freemasons New Zealand premier sponsor.

Grand Master's Report



"Change, approached with courage and care, refocuses and strengthens our Craft, paving the way for a thriving future for generations to come."

As I prepare this, we are approaching the end of my term as Grand Master, and it is with pride and satisfaction that I reflect on the journey we have undertaken together over the past couple of years. Visiting Lodges around the country and engaging with Brethren has once again reinforced my admiration for the dedication, enthusiasm, and fellowship that defines Freemasonry in New Zealand.

Over the past year, we have focused on consolidating and embedding the significant changes we began implementing during my term. The governance reforms, operational improvements, and adjustments to our Masonic processes are now becoming part of the everyday life of our Craft. Lodges and members are gradually adapting to these improvements, and the benefits of clearer reporting structures, simplified procedures, and enhanced support are increasingly evident.

The slow but continued growth in membership reflects the vitality of our organisation and the willingness of Brethren to embrace change while upholding the traditions that make Freemasonry meaningful. Our return to an Annual Communication, the refinements to the Masonic Difference and Offence process, and the strengthened oversight of our charitable activities have all contributed to a more agile and responsive Grand Lodge. The Charities Management Committee, under the chairmanship of the Grand Almoner, now has full responsibility for all Masonic trusts overseen by the Grand Lodge Trustees, enabling resources to be allocated more effectively in support of those in need.

The work of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group has now concluded. The recommendations put forward by the Working Group were formally adopted at our most recent Annual Communication, and all proposed changes will take full effect at the commencement of the 2025–2028 term. Implementing these recommendations ensures that our Craft is well-positioned to remain

forward-looking, responsive, and adaptable to future developments, ensuring the Craft remains relevant in today's society.

I would like to pay tribute to the many Brethren who have contributed so generously of their time, expertise, and passion throughout my term. Your dedication has been vital to the success of this transformation. To VWBro Warwick Bell, PDistGM, as Chair of the Board of Directors, and to RWBro Neville Patrick, PDepGM OSM, together with their Boards, I extend my heartfelt thanks for their leadership and guidance throughout this period of change and transition. I also wish to acknowledge with gratitude the outstanding support of our Grand Secretary, RWBro Duane Williams PGW MBE, our Executive Director, WBro Andrew Cowie, and the National Office team – Debbie, Jacky, Bianca, and Daria – whose tireless work underpins everything we do.

As we get close to concluding this term, I am pleased to acknowledge the appointment of the new leadership team for the 2025–2028 term. I am confident that, under their stewardship, the Craft will continue to thrive and grow. I am also delighted that RWBro Paul Chappel, Deputy Grand Master has been appointed Grand Master Elect, and I look forward to supporting him as he takes up the mantle in the years ahead.

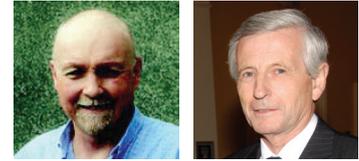
As I prepare to conclude my term, I am encouraged to see that the foundations we have laid are taking root. Freemasonry in New Zealand is stronger, more cohesive, and better positioned to thrive in the years ahead. The work of consolidation may seem gradual, but the progress is real and enduring.

Finally, Penny and I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you – the members, the Lodges, and our Masonic family – for your warm hospitality, support, and commitment. Together, we have achieved much, and I am confident that the Craft is well-placed to continue its proud legacy into the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Watt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

MWBro Jim Watt, Grand Master

Review of Progress



Report from the Board Chairs July 2024–June 2025

Like the previous year, November 2024 was a significant milestone for our organisation, when the recommendations of the Operational Review were adopted at the Annual Communication in Auckland, establishing nine geographic regions as of Grand Installation October 2025. The following period has seen significant input to work through the finer details of the changes and ensure the various appointments are in place.

The Annual Communication also resulted in the transitional Board of Directors established in 2023 being replaced by the appointment of seven Grand Lodge trustees who also form the new smaller Board of Directors. They comprise the Deputy Grand Master and six appointees. Both the Grand Master and the Grand Treasurer stepped back from the Board's at this time as did RWBro Steve Salmon, RWBro Eddie Eeles and VWBro Michael Wooding. Their input and contribution as Trustees and/or Directors is heartily acknowledged.

The new governance team, have worked collegially together to continue the mission previously articulated, convening as either the Board of Directors or Board of Trustees, with separate Chairs as required. The Grand Master is still in attendance, and his wise counsel is regularly sought and appreciated.

The Board continues on a mission to improve efficiency, working on initiatives that will positively impact on the future of our organisation. Particularly the vision to create a brighter and more sustainable future for Freemasons New Zealand.

The Strategic Direction established in 2019 was extended out until 2026 given the time loss due to the COVID epidemic. The Board of Directors have instigated a review of the strategies and initial thinking is not to make wholesale changes but to refresh the approach and keep us a journey focusing on our members, the community and charity.

There are still challenges facing the organisation that cannot be ignored, but with every challenge there is opportunity. Addressing engagement of brethren across the country through improved communication and providing value through offerings to our members and the Lodges that meet the challenges they face is paramount.

We had several aspirations for the past year, many of which we continue to pursue.

Communication and Connection

The launch of our digital app, Masonica occurred midway through 2024. Over 2000 brethren have now connected with the app and regularly use it. The app continues to be adapted to provide additional access to resources including providing every member in the lodge a real time view of their lodges compliance. We are indebted to RW Russell Pratt PDivGM and his team for this initiative.

Maintaining good relationships with Lodges is paramount. Our goal is to keep every member abreast of crucial decisions, maintaining an environment of trust, clarity, and understanding. The Boards are committed to regular communication with our members and will continue to provide an update after each meeting.

The Operational Review

As previously mentioned in the introduction, much effort as gone in to ensure the restructure of the organisation and establishment of new roles will have a sound platform to build on when it is realised at the time of the Grand Installation. It is a period of transition and the Boards appreciate that some flexibility is required over the next three years to ensure its success.

Embedding the All of Governance Recommendations

The AoG Review in 2023 made a number of recommendations to ensure the effectiveness of governance of our organisation. The Boards continue to be focussed on realising these. The three Board Committees and various strategic committees are now in place and working well. A number of brethren from around the country have been appointed to contribute to these. A Directors and Trustee Panel is in the process of being established to provide a pool of capable brethren to assist Lodges and Masonic entities when required. Both the Property & Insurance and Membership & Growth committees are undertaking some great work to address the challenges the organisation is facing.

Finances

We have continued to target 'financial efficiency and effectiveness of spend' for Freemasons NZ. The national office team have been closely looking at all costs to reduce expenses while upholding our commitment to providing exceptional service to our members and the charitable causes we support. That said the costs of providing service are being proportionally higher in regard to our membership. It will be necessary to seriously address this issue going forward.

Protecting our Assets

Our Grand Lodges Trustees primary role is overseeing our assets across the organisation. This is enshrined in statute under the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of New Zealand Trustees Act 1903. This last year has seen significant matters regarding property being addressed, as well as a keener focus on the various Masonic Trusts under their purview. Property will continue as a major focus, especially given pending seismic upgrade challenges and ongoing insurance costs being unaffordable for many facilities.

Celebrating the Staff

We again acknowledge the contribution of our National office team. WBro. Andrew Cowie as our Executive Director and the Grand Secretary RWBro Duane Williams, along with the other staff – Debbie, Bianca, Jacky and Daria (contract Charity assistant) – have continued to provide sterling service in managing Freemasons NZ. We thank them on behalf of all Freemasons in New Zealand.

A Salute to Past Contributions

With election as Grand Master, RWBro Paul Chappel DepGM and with appointment as Divisional Grand Master designate, VWBro Dave Piper PDistGM, both brethren are stepping down as a Grand Lodge Trustee and Director at the Grand Installation. Our Deputy GM has contributed significantly to the Board given his commercial acumen while VWBro Piper's contribution as Chair of both the Audit & Risk and Remuneration & Nominations Committees has been invaluable. We wish both well in their new roles.

In summary, the members of the two Boards are committed to continuing their focus on improved assistance to Lodges, reducing costs, prudent management of our resources and improving communication channels. We wish to thank the other members of the Board and Trustees who have committed their time to making Freemasons New Zealand a better organisation. More importantly we thank all Freemasons contributing to the ONE TEAM for their enthusiasm in furthering Freemasonry and the role we play in society.



VWBro Warwick Bell PDistGM
Chair Board of Directors



RWBro Neville Patrick PDepGM
Chair Board of Trustees

Our Organisation

The Grand Lodge of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of New Zealand is an unincorporated Society trading under the name of Freemasons New Zealand. Its 4,700 brethren are members of 173 Lodges across New Zealand. Each Lodge operates under a charter issued by The Grand Lodge. The assets of The Grand Lodge are held in trust by the Grand Lodge Trustees under an act of parliament. These assets include the proceeds from the sale of Lodges held in the Masonic Building Fund to be used for the acquiring and preserving of buildings or land. The Grand Lodge has established a separate registered charity CC46016, with its own trust deed. It's known as The Freemasons Charity and is devoted solely to charity within New Zealand.

A brief history

Freemasonry was established officially when the first Grand Lodge was formed in 1717 in England. In reality, it is much older than that, dating back to late 13th-century stonemasons' guilds.

In 1842, Freemasonry came to New Zealand with Lodges from the English, Irish and Scottish Constitutions.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was formed in 1890. As of 30 June 2025, there are 165 Lodges in New Zealand, from Kaitaia to the Bluff, with a total of 4,553 members.

Our vision

To add value to society by supporting good men, their families and their communities.

The principal aim of Freemasonry is the promotion of universal and lasting happiness of all people.

Our principles

Freemasonry is founded upon the principles of tolerance and acceptance, care, kindness, honesty and trust.

For every man who aspires to be a better person, Freemasonry helps you develop the knowledge and skills to be the best you can be – through a unique mix of ceremony, fresh thinking and good works in an enjoyable and supportive environment, because only Freemasonry uses long-proven principles that empower you to unlock your full potential, for a better future.

Our structure and governance

Grand Master

Our ceremonial head is responsible for the overall administration of The Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

Board of Trustees

There are 7 Grand Lodge Trustees including the Deputy Grand Master and 6 members elected at the Communication. They hold the assets of The Grand Lodge of New Zealand on behalf of its members, monitor investments and administer The Freemasons Charity and the Potter, Rankin and Lawson-Smith masonic charitable trusts.

Board of Directors

The 7 trustees constitute the Board of Directors and look after The Grand Lodge of New Zealand (governance and policy) between Communications.

Board Committees

We have three Board Committees:

Audit and Risk

An independent committee of the Board of Directors that oversees and advises on financial and other risks. They ensure that The Grand Lodge of New Zealand properly manages its risk and complies with its statutory obligations in New Zealand.

Strategy Committee

The Strategy Committee assists the Board of Directors in the proper discharge of their responsibilities to produce a strategic plan, to promote and resource the plan, and to monitor / review the plan's targeted outcomes.

Nomination and Remuneration Committee

The Nomination and Remuneration Committee assists the Board of Directors in determining the strategic direction of the Craft by ensuring succession is in place, nomination of key personnel and oversight of senior employees at Freemasons NZ.

Freemasons Charity Management Committee

An independent committee, established under the Charitable Trust Deed, to administer and manage The Freemasons Charity. It oversees the prudent management of the Trust's investments. It is made up of the Grand Almoner, two appointed members and one person seconded by the Board of Directors.

Changes to governance arrangements in the 2023/24 year

As indicated by the incoming Grand Master, the organisation set about conducting an All of Governance (AoG) Review to ensure that it was fit for purpose and the future.

The AoG review group presented the recommendations at the Special Communication in November 2023 at the Wellesley Hotel in Wellington.

This meant that for the period from November 2023 to November 2024 there is an interim governance arrangement in place whereby the five trustees were also appointed directors alongside the previous directors to constitute an interim Board of Directors.

In November 2024 the new reduced Board of Trustees and Board of Directors consisting of seven members was established.

National Office

The Executive Director and team of five provide Membership Services, including Lodge, membership and administration support.

They provide support to The Freemasons Charity and Charitable Trust.

Our National Office promotes Freemasonry through our channels including our Website, Social Media and quarterly Magazine.

The National Office also works with external specialists to deliver our Strategic Plan and key projects.



Duane, Debbie, Bianca, Jacky and Andrew.



Meet the Board and Trustees

Board of Directors and Grand Lodge Trustees as of 30 June 2025



Warwick Bell
Chair

A member of the Executive Leadership Team, Warwick is a Registered Architect and Company

Director. He has extensive Board governance and strategic leadership experience. Including NZQA, NZ Industry Training Federation and as Chair of the NZ Registered Architects Board and Chair of Trustees NZ Scout Youth Foundation. A Freemason since 1989, Warwick is a Past District Grand Master and has held other appointments.



Paul Chappel
Deputy Grand Master

Upon appointment to the position of Deputy Grand Master in 29 Jan 2024, Paul vacated the role of Chair of the

Board of Directors. He is also the Past District Grand Master for the Counties-Hauraki District, and he also brings a rich skillset from 28 years in the transport sector and owning a commercial buildings company. His leadership spans 14 years with the National Road Carriers, serving as Vice-President, President, and later Chairman of its parent group.



David Piper

David has been a Freemason since 2005 and held several positions, including four terms as Master of Lodge Herne Bay United. He was a

District Grand Master for Auckland from 2019–2022 and was appointed to the Board in November 2022 and is also the Chair of the Risk and Audit Committee. Professionally, he has worked in human resources for over 25 years and more recently has led the HR function at Bridgestone NZ for the last 10 years, where his people and change management skills have greatly assisted the Board.



Neville Patrick
Chair of the
Grand Lodge Trustees

Neville Patrick is currently the Chair of the Grand Lodge Trustees and is

part of the Executive Leadership Team. Having served in various offices from local ceremonial, national ceremonial and GL Board duties from 2002 through to the present time. During his working life Neville has occupied senior roles in the NZ Defence Force, senior HR roles and Line management in contracting companies and general management positions in Defence/Civilian contracting. With these various positions, Neville brings a wealth of knowledge in people management, risk management, ISO auditing, Leadership and Employment relations.



Graham Wrigley

Graham served as Grand Master in 2019–2022. He has extensive experience in the governance of Freemasonry, having served as a

Board member, President of the Board, Deputy Grand Master and then as Grand Master. Outside of Freemasonry, Graham had an extensive New Zealand and international senior Fire Service career for 32 years followed by 25 years with the NZ Red Cross.



Donald Seath

Don Seath has served in various Lodge and Grand Lodge offices over a period of 54 years. During his working life as a dairy farmer he

was elected to the Board of the NZ Co-op Dairy Co. and several dairy industry and agriculture related companies during a period of rapid change. He is a Chartered Member of the NZ Institute of Directors and has applied his governance training to assist Lodges and his District with strategic planning. This knowledge and experience assisted several not-for-profit organisations in re-structuring, reviewing constitutions and amalgamations. He is a member of Lodge Waikato No.475 and Lodge Copernicus No.505.



Mark Bunting

Mark is a relatively young mason, having been initiated in 2019, becoming the Worshipful Master of Lodge Waikato 475 this year.

Having spent 6 years as a Hamilton City Councillor and 15 as a lines company trustee, Mark is no stranger to governance. Mark has made a life out of communications, with 35 years of radio and

TV broadcasting, an education degree, teaching background under his ever lengthening belt. He now runs his own communications training business and works with corporate, councils and high level sports teams, teaching them to get on with each other. He has a passion for freemasonry and is passionate about turning around the decline in membership, as he believes the answer to so many ills in NZ society lie within the portals of freemasonry.

Attendees

Jim Watt Grand Master

Jim brings a broad range of skills gained from 40-plus years of managing his own event management and hospitality business. He also has a sound knowledge of our Ceremonial Rules and the Book of Constitution.

Duane Williams MBE, JP Grand Secretary

Duane has been a Freemason for over 40 years in Papua New Guinea and New Zealand. Professionally, he was an International Banker for most of that time. He has been a Past District Grand Master for Kapiti-Wellington District 2008–10, Grand Secretary since 2018 and continues with several other duties within the National Office, including Manager Operations, Editor of *New Zealand Freemason* magazine, websites and social media.

Andrew Cowie Executive Director

Andrew joined as Freemasons New Zealand as Executive Director in November 2023 following a number of roles in the private and public sectors of New Zealand and the UK. He was initiated into Freemasonry in 2011 at Waihenga St Marks Lodge No 37 in Martinborough.

Changes in the Board 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 explained

Within the period from November 2023 to November 2024, the transitional Board was in place and bedding in the new arrangements. At the November Annual Communication, RWBro Eddie Eeles and RWBro Stephen Salmon, who were interim transitional Directors/Trustees, then retired.

The Board of Directors has discretion to invite Divisional Grand Masters and Committee chairs, including the Grand Treasurer and other Executive Grand Lodge Officers; to attend meetings of the Directors.

Board of Directors and Board of Trustees

VWBro Warwick Bell (Chairs BoD)
 RWBro Neville Patrick (Chairs BoT)
 MWBro Graham Wrigley
 RWBro Paul Chappel, Deputy Grand Master, Ex Officio
 VWBro David Piper
 VWBro Don Seath
 WBro Mark Bunting

Strategy Committee

VWBro Warwick Bell (Chair)
 MWBro Jim Watt (Grand Master)
 WBro Mark Bunting
 WBro Andrew Cowie (Executive Director)

Audit and Risk Committee

WBro Dene Saunders (Chair)
 VWBro David Piper
 VWBro Don Seath
 WBro Henry Davies
 Bro Andrew Jack

Nominations and Remuneration Committee

VWBro David Piper (Chair)
 VWBro Warwick Bell
 VWBro Graham Law

The Charities Management Committee

VWBro Jeff Mear (Chair)
 Amanda Chappel (Independent Member)
 RWBro Stephen Salmon
 VWBro Adrian Douglas
 WBro Nick Langley
 WBro Craig Ancell

Property and Insurance Committee

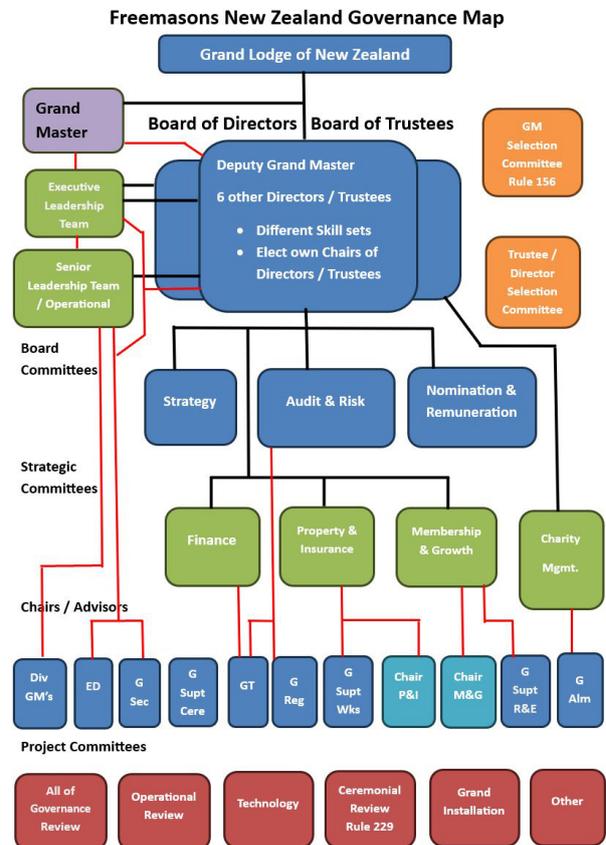
WBro Cameron Smith (Chair)
 RWBro Paul Chappel
 RWBro Neville Patrick

Membership and Growth Committee

Bro Mark Bunting (Chair)
 RWBro John Lukaszewicz
 WBro Ainsley Watson
 WBro Luke Boustridge
 Bro Neil McCarthy

Finance Committee

VWBro Graham Law (Chair)
 VWBro Don Seath
 WBro Mathew Robertson



The Freemasons Charity

2024–25 Report

The 2024-25 financial year saw the continued governance of the Charities under the Charities Management Committee who report on activity to the Board of Grand Lodge Trustees, ensuring the continuing and equitable support for various charitable initiatives that align with our strategic priorities. Here are the key highlights:

Leadership Arrangements

RWBro Jeff Mear remains the appointed Chair of Charities Management Committee (CMC) and is supported by a team of five members including an independent and a Grand Lodge Trustee to ensure that the link between the Committee and the Trustees is maintained.

National-Level Charitable Endeavours

Throughout the 2024-25 financial year, we maintained our steadfast commitment to supporting various national-level charitable initiatives. These included:

- Continued support for CAR-T Cell cancer research conducted by the Malaghan Institute of Medical Research.
- Ongoing backing for the “Camp Purple Live” programme, a vital initiative by Crohn’s and Colitis New Zealand.
- Sustained funding for Freemasons University Scholarships, a tradition extending over 47 years.
- Nurturing young talents through postgraduate Paediatrics and Child Health Fellowships in partnership with the University of Otago, spanning over three decades.
- Established a new three-year Memorandum of Understanding with Special Olympics New Zealand to be the premier partner of their 2025 National Summer Games and foster a volunteer relationship with Freemasons New Zealand Lodges and Districts.
- Entered into a new three-year Memorandum of Understanding to support YSAR (Youth Search and Rescue) Trust to help support the training of young people and other community members

through Search and Rescue and Emergency Management Programmes in the skills required to save lives of lost and injured people.

Community Support Initiatives

Local Lodges and Districts continued to demonstrate robust support for community projects. These initiatives often involved local fundraising, supplemented by subsidy support from The Freemasons Charity.

The Freemasons Charity Paramedicine Scholarship

The Charity launched a new initiative in 2024 designed to support students pursuing a qualification to become a Paramedic. This scholarship is available to those studying either on-campus or via distance learning at Whitireia/WelTec.

Up to ten scholarships are awarded, each valued at up to \$5,000. The program aims to ensure representation across the Southern Division, with at least one recipient intended from each district. In keeping with Masonic values, applications are evaluated based on both academic merit and community service.

A special acknowledgment goes to W. Bro Graeme Wakelin, Lodge of Progress, for his contribution in proposing this scholarship initiative.

Special Olympics New Zealand (SONZ) Participation

Our partnership with the Special Olympics NZ National Summer Games continues to flourish as we gear up for December 2025. The Freemasons Charity has directly engaged the Special Olympics Clubs nationwide, establishing a funding model and fund-matching programme to support the volunteers and athletes to attend the Summer Games through the support of the Lodges. With the support of The Freemasons Charity, Freemasons New Zealand is the Premier Partner of the 2025 Special Olympics National Summer Games in Christchurch.

Freemasons University Scholarships

Following the successful presentation of the Freemasons University Scholarships in the Legislative Council Chamber and Grand Hall of New Zealand Parliament in May 2024, the presentation event was again held at Parliament marking the 47th year of the Freemasons University Scholarships. We celebrated 29 recipients in the Legislative Council Chamber alongside the host MP, Camilla Belich and guest speaker Professor Stephen Croucher.

Also presented at this event were the Heartland Bank Freemasons Scholarships, the Lawson-Smith Freemasons Education Trust Veterinary Scholarships, and the Freemasons Orakei Scholarship.

1. Benevolence and Almoning

Individual & Critical Needs Grants

TFC assisted 46 individuals by providing funding of **\$45,580 through Critical Needs grants**, and a further **\$57,265.79 with 12 Individual Assistance grants - totalling \$102,845.79.**

Hospital Packs Granted

TFC granted \$5,839 for Hospital Packs for patients staying in hospital.

2. Enhancing Our Communities

Lodge & District Projects

TFC supports local Lodge & District community projects by matching funds raised by the Lodge 1:1, a District project may qualify for 2:1 funding from TFC.

Over this period the Lodges supported 87 local and district community projects and raised a total of \$279,156.

TFC funded \$364,624 towards Lodge & District Projects through matched funding.

The subsidy matching scheme in total funded **\$643,780** to charitable and not for profit organisations to support local communities throughout New Zealand.

Over the 2024/25 period...

Northern Division initiated **34** Lodge/District Projects and raised and contributed **\$66,815.99.**

The Freemasons Charity funded \$81,639.95

Central Division initiated **28** Lodge/District Projects and raised and contributed **\$68,489.02**

The Freemasons Charity funded \$78,038.00

Southern Division initiated **25** Lodge/District Projects and raised and contributed **\$143,850.77**

The Freemasons Charity funded \$204,946.13

Camp Purple Live – Crohn’s and Colitis NZ

TFC granted \$30,000 in support of Camp Purple Live 2025 to assist young people living with Crohn’s and Colitis to attend the camp.

3. Education and Personal Development

Freemasons University Scholarships

The Freemasons Charity funded a total of \$196,000 to provide the **2025 Freemasons University and Postgraduate Scholarships** to **29** students attending University in New Zealand. These scholarships are awarded annually.

Freemasons Orakei Scholarship

The Freemasons Charity, in conjunction with the **Auckland Masonic Education Foundation Trust**, funds **\$10,000 annually** for a Postgraduate Scholarship awarded to a University of Auckland student of engineering or the natural or formal sciences.

Youth Search and Rescue (YSAR) Trust

In 2025 the Charity has reengaged with Youth Search and Rescue Trust (YSAR) to establish a new three-year Memorandum of Understanding to help support the training of young people and other community members through Search and Rescue, and Emergency Management Programmes focused on the skills required to save lives of lost and injured people.

The Freemasons Charity has agreed to grant a total of \$150,000 to YSAR over the course of the three-year MoU, with the first payment of \$50,000 being paid out in 2025.



2025 Freemasons Orakei Scholarship Recipient – Jean-Daniel Rosset.

Hugh McDougall Rankin Trust Secondary Scholarship

The Rankin Education Trust Scholarships are provided annually by the Hugh McDougall Rankin Education Trust, set up by the late Hugh McDougall Rankin to encourage young people to advance their interest in the Sciences. This scholarship allows for one scholarship to be awarded to each of the Christchurch based public schools on the nomination received from the school. This is awarded to the best science student of the graduating year group.

The participating schools are Avonside Girls' High School, Burnside High School, Cashmere High School, Christchurch Boys' High School, Christchurch Girls' High School, Haeta Community Campus, Hagley College, Hillmorton High School, Hornby High School, Te Aratai College (formerly Linwood College), Mairehau High School, Papanui High School, and Shirley Boys' High School

Hugh McDougall Rankin Trust Tertiary Scholarship

The Rankin Education Trust Scholarships are provided annually by the Hugh McDougall Rankin Education Trust, set up by the late Hugh McDougall Rankin to encourage young people to advance their interest in the Sciences. This scholarship is awarded to high achieving tertiary students undergoing an undergraduate degree programme in any physical science subject at Lincoln University, University of Canterbury, or Ara Institute of Canterbury. They must also have already completed at least one year of their undergraduate degree.

Lawson Smith Scholarship

The purpose of the Lawson Smith Trust is to promote and support programs and facilities, education and qualification, and training for individuals with an animal welfare interest where appropriate. This scholarship is open to any students undertaking veterinary science and or an animal science related course at any of the Massey University Campus institutions within New Zealand.

Potter Masonic Trust

The Potter Masonic Trust does charitable work for the benefit of New Zealand's young people north of Taupo. It aims to provide opportunities for change, increasing self-confidence, develop life and social skills, and to improve the lives of those participating. Additionally, to support the improvement of health, both mentally and physically. Finally, to provide respite to family and other supporters of young people and provide access to support for those who are otherwise unable to attain the support needed.

4. Supporting Innovative and Quality Medical Research

Medical and scientific research has been supported with long term collaborations with the University of Otago, and the Malaghan Institute.

Child Health and Paediatrics Fellowships

The Freemasons Charity granted a total of \$133,500 to support Child Health and Paediatric research at the University of Otago. TFC contributes annually towards student tuition fees and to research programmes developing innovative studies in Paediatrics.

Malaghan Institute of Medical Research – CAR-T-Cell Research Programme

The Freemasons Charity has been a long-standing supporter of the Malaghan Institute and their innovative medical research. In 2024–25, TFC and Malaghan are still actively engaged in a three-year partnership to provide funding of \$200,000 annually until 2026.

Lodge and District Projects

Northern Division

Lodge Projects

The Ara Lodge No. 1	Botany Downs Primary School
Manukau-Westmere Lodge No.24	West Auckland Hospice
Manukau-Westmere Lodge No.24	Muscular Dystrophy Association of New Zealand Incorporated
Manukau-Westmere Lodge No.24	Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa/New Zealand
The Te Aroha Lodge No. 52	Te Aroha and District Health Services Charitable Trust
The Ponsonby Lodge No. 54	New Zealand Riding for the Disabled Association Incorporated
The Franklin Lodge No. 58	Waiuku College
The Franklin Lodge No. 58	Pukekohe High School
The Alpha Lodge No. 81	The Salvation Army New Zealand
The Onehunga Lodge No. 168	Onehunga Primary School
The Onehunga Lodge No. 168	Parent To Parent New Zealand Incorporated
The Onehunga Lodge No. 168	Give a Kid a Blanket
Lodge Katikati No. 295	Rotary Club of Katikati Charitable Trust
Lodge Howick No. 314	Eastern Refuge Society Incorporated
Lodge Howick No. 314	Bellyful New Zealand Trust
The Mangere Lodge No. 330	Play and Learn Daycare
Lodge Waiheke No. 367	The Waiheke Homecare Hospice Trust
Lodge Orewa No. 370	Hibiscus Coast Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren Incorporated
Lodge Kaimanawa No. 426	Pregnancy Help
Lodge Hatea No. 431	CCS Disability Action Incorporated
Lodge Hatea No. 431	Board of Governors of Kirkpatrick House
Lodge Hatea No. 431	Northtec
Lodge Matariki No. 476	Manurewa Central School

District Projects

2 Auckland	The Youth Project NZ Trust
2 Auckland	Taurima Rongo
2 Auckland	Camp Quality New Zealand
2 Auckland	Eastern Refuge Society Incorporated
5 Counties-Hauraki	The Middlemore Foundation
5 Counties-Hauraki	Glenbrook Vintage Railway Charitable Trust Board
6 Waikato	Waikato, Hauraki/Coromandel Rural Support Trust
6 Waikato	Waikato District Teddy Bear Appeal
7 Bay of Plenty	Club Filipino Tauranga

Central Division

Lodge Projects

New Zealand Pacific Lodge No. 2	The Salvation Army New Zealand
New Zealand Pacific Lodge No. 2	Downtown Community Ministry Wellington Inc
Scinde Lodge No. 5	Bay Ballers Basketball Teams
Patea Kilwinning No. 18	Hospice Taranaki Incorporated
The Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge No. 47	Awahuri Forest/Kitchener Park Trust
The Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge No. 47	Freemasons Willson Lewis Scholarship
The St. Andrews Kilwinning Lodge No. 79	Alzheimers Whanganui
Empire Fergusson No. 225	Vincents Art Workshop Incorporated
Lodge Whangamomona No. 234	The Little Fighters Trust
Lodge Whangamomona No. 234	District Health Forums
Lodge Whangamomona No. 234	Bell Block and Leppertin Co-Operating Parish
The Herbert Teagle-Taia Lodge No. 300	Wellington Hospitals Foundation, Wellington Hospital
Westminster Lodge No. 308	Wellington Free Ambulance Service (Incorporated)
Lodge Te Puni No. 315	Stokes Valley Food Bank
Lodge Pa-Ka-Ma No.319	Kate Blincoe
Ngatiawa-Russell Lodge No. 345	The Little Miracles Trust
The Baden Powell Lodge No. 381	The Scout Association of New Zealand
Lodge Waikanae No. 433	Kāpiti Youth Employment Foundation
United Horowhenua Lodge No. 464	Horowhenua Masonic Knitting Group
United Horowhenua Lodge No. 464	Fundraising for Parkinson's Disease
United Horowhenua Lodge No. 464	Riley Codlin as an Automotive Apprentice (tools)
The United Lodge of Wanganui No. 468	Wanganui Masonic Court

District Projects

14 Taranaki	Waitara & District Community Childcare Centre inc.
14 Taranaki	For the Taranaki Hospice
15 Ruapehu	The Masonic Villages Trust
17 Eastland Ruahine	Cancer Society of New Zealand Hawke's Bay Centre Incorporated
21 Hutt Wairarapa	Wellington Education Intervention Trust (WEIT)
21 Hutt Wairarapa	Upper Hutt Women's Centre Incorporated

Southern Division

Lodge Projects

Lodge of Progress No. 22	Friends of Ellesmere Hospital
The Ashley Lodge No. 28	Kiwi Family Trust
The Hiram Lodge No. 46	The Wildlife Hospital Trust
Lodge Oamaru Kilwinning No. 82	Dunedin Hospital Shuttle Service (Oamaru)
Lake Lodge of Ophir No. 85	Frankton Volunteer Fire Brigade Incorporated
Lodge St John No. 94	Child Cancer Foundation Incorporated
The Waitohi Lodge No. 111	Waikawa Bay School
The Forest Lodge No. 116	Wakefield Play Space – Forest Memorial
The Crown Lodge No. 138	Odyssey House Christchurch
The Crown Lodge No. 138	It Takes a Village Hub (NZ)
The Crown Lodge No. 138	Special Olympics Canterbury Trust
Lodge Waverly No. 226	Balmoral Body Corporate
Lodge Doric Brighton No. 236	Cancer Society of New Zealand Incorporated
United Forces Lodge No. 245	Family Support Trust
Lodge of Unanimity Sumner No. 3	Cat Rescue Christchurch Charitable Trust
Unity Lodge No. 271	Invercargill Masonic Heritage Building Charitable Trust
The Lodge of Remembrance No. 318	Southland Multiple Sclerosis Society Incorporated
The Lodge of Remembrance No. 318	Cancer Society of New Zealand Marlborough Centre Incorporated
Lodge Eckford No. 334	University of Otago Student Volunteer Army
The United Lodge of Otago No. 448	Student Volunteer Army Foundation
The United Lodge of Otago No. 448	

District Projects

23 Nelson-Marlborough	Nayland College – Library
23 Nelson-Marlborough	Electrix Cheersports Incorporated
25 Canterbury	Parafed Canterbury Incorporated
25 Canterbury	Cancer Society of New Zealand Canterbury–West Coast Division Incorporated
28 Midland	Canterbury West Coast Air Rescue Trust

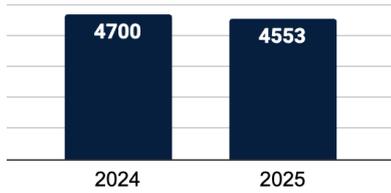
Our membership

Our total membership has reached a point of stability, with resignations and deaths remaining consistent. However, with consolidations and closures of lodges, in the period, there have been a number of

resignations that have not been able to be replaced with sufficient new members. Our forecast for the coming year indicates that there will be net stable number of lodges and Freemasons.

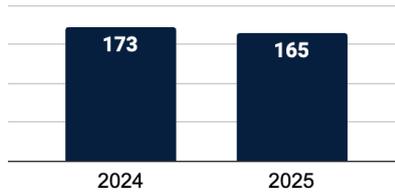
Total membership as at 30 June

Change: -147 (-3.1%)



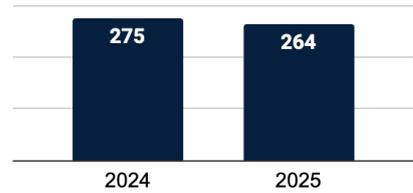
Lodges as at 30 June

Change: -8 (-4.6%)

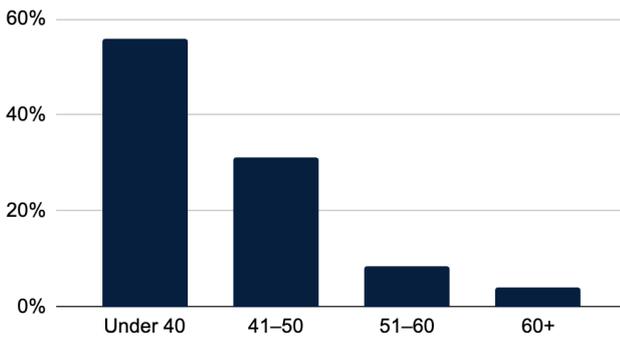


Propositions to join

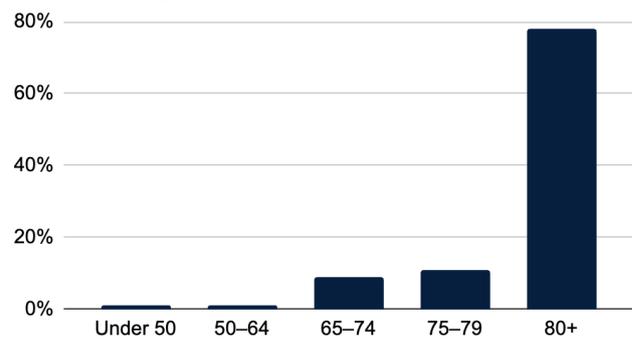
Change: -11 (-4%)



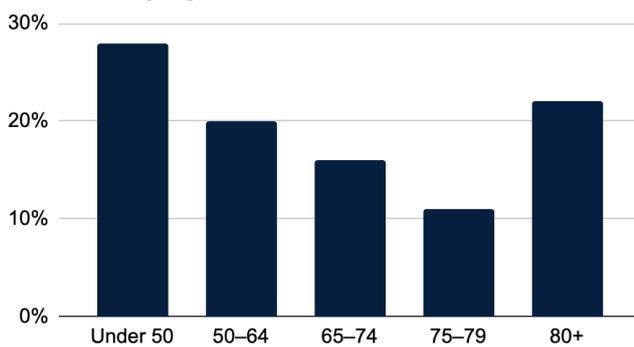
New initiates by age



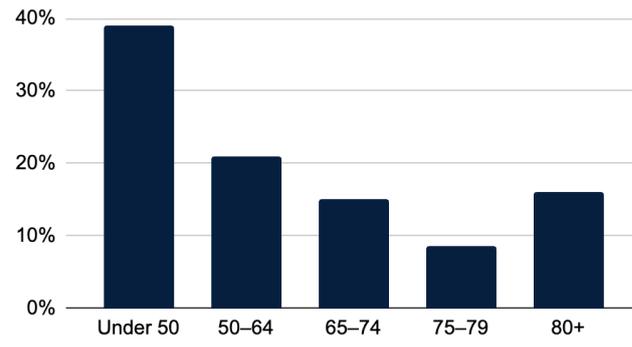
Deaths by age



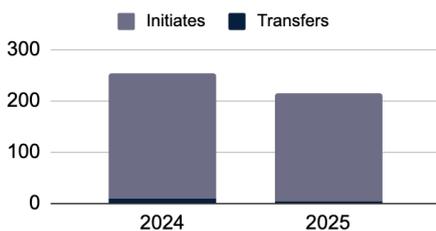
Members by age



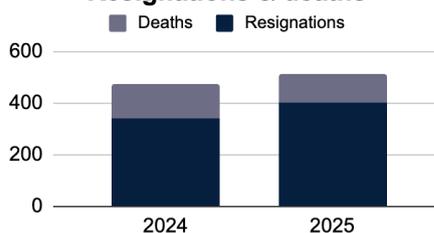
Resignations by age



Initiates & transfers



Resignations & deaths



Freemasons New Zealand

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Income and Expenses For year ended 30 June 2025	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	General Fund \$	Building Fund \$	Total \$	General Fund \$	Building Fund \$	Total \$
Operating Income						
Capitation Fees	461,372	-	461,372	456,632	-	456,632
Other Income (including Administrative Services)	361,303	(3,970)	357,333	383,800	12,594	396,394
Member Contributions (net)	-	371,864	371,864	-	1,018,402	1,018,402
Building Fund Loans Interest and Rental Income	-	340,223	340,223	-	288,215	288,215
Total Operating Income	822,675	708,118	1,530,793	840,432	1,319,211	2,159,643
Operating Expenses						
National Office	716,383	-	716,383	788,001	-	788,001
Grand Lodge	324,188	-	324,188	189,073	-	189,073
Strategic Initiatives	12,122	-	12,122	39,705	-	39,705
Building Fund and Property Rental Expenses	-	183,238	183,238	-	78,202	78,202
Total Operating Expenses	1,052,693	183,238	1,235,931	1,016,779	78,202	1,094,981
Operating surplus/(deficit) before tax	(230,018)	524,880	294,862	(176,347)	1,241,009	1,064,662
Interest Received	154,247	59,843	214,090	165,985	18,007	183,992
Brokerage Commission Received	246,880	-	246,880	272,622	-	272,622
Surplus/(deficit) before tax	171,109	584,723	755,832	262,260	1,259,016	1,521,276
Taxation	62,089	7,212	69,301	60,827	1,644	62,471
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	109,020	577,511	686,531	201,433	1,257,372	1,458,805

Commentary

Freemason New Zealand's general operating activities (i.e. the General Fund) are kept separate from the building operating activities (i.e. the Building Fund).

The **General Fund's** key sources of operating income are capitation fees and charging for administration services performed for various masonic charities, trusts and property companies. The General Fund's main operating costs are National Office costs (including staff, IT, administration costs, rent, general insurance etc) and Grand Lodge (including governance costs, ceremonial, annual

communication and strategic initiatives costs).

The General Fund runs at an operating loss before non-operating income, which relates to bank interest and commissions from Heartland Bank deposit scheme.

The **Building Fund** charges interest on loans, rents on properties and receives lodge contributions relating to buildings. The Building funds operating expenses are mainly administration fees, property rental costs and EV charger costs. Resulting in the Building Fund having a surplus in the current year.

Net Assets	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
As at 30 June 2025	General	Building	Total	General	Building	Total
	Fund	Fund	Total	Fund	Fund	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Current Assets						
Bank Accounts	3,166,445	1,797,572	4,964,017	3,099,553	1,859,690	4,959,243
Other Current Assets	140,920	(791)	140,129	95,592	(10,803)	84,790
Total Current Assets	3,307,365	1,796,781	5,104,146	3,195,145	1,848,888	5,044,033
Non Current Assets						
Building Fund Investments	-	8,172,953	8,172,954	-	7,960,182	7,960,182
Property, Plant & Equipment	126,683	33,746	160,429	126,690	33,901	160,591
Total Non Current Assets	126,683	8,206,700	8,333,383	126,690	7,994,083	8,120,773
Total Assets	3,434,047	10,003,481	13,437,529	3,321,835	9,842,971	13,164,806
Current Liabilities	150,138	9,543	159,681	146,944	426,545	573,489
Net Assets	3,283,910	9,993,938	13,277,848	3,174,891	9,416,426	12,591,317

Commentary

Freemason New Zealand's General Fund's net assets are kept separate from the Building Fund's net assets.

The General Fund's operating assets are predominantly in bank balances and deposits.

The Building Fund's investments are in property investments and loans.

Full audited financial accounts are on the Freemasons New Zealand website

Freemasons Charities

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Income and Expenses For year ended 30 June 2025	2025 Freemasons Charity \$	2025 Potter Masonic Trust \$	2025 Lawson-Smith Education Trust \$	2025 Hugh McDougall Rankin Ed. Trust \$	2025 Total \$
Income					
Net Investment Income (realised and unrealised)	3,336,829	3,623,814	186,475	216,572	7,363,690
Bequests and Donations	916,338	7,600	-	-	923,938
Total Income	4,253,167	3,631,414	186,475	216,572	8,287,628
Expenses					
Grants and donations	1,092,809	1,499,737	40,000	9,990	2,642,535
Other expenses	281,127	167,921	13,200	54,700	516,947
Total Expenses	1,373,935	1,667,657	53,200	64,690	3,159,482
Surplus for the year	2,879,231	1,963,757	133,275	151,882	5,128,145

	2024 Freemasons Charity \$	2024 Potter Masonic Trust \$	2024 Lawson-Smith Education Trust \$	2024 Hugh McDougall Rankin Ed. Trust \$	2024 Total \$
Income					
Net Investment Income (realised and unrealised)	3,967,199	4,833,200	227,581	253,232	9,281,212
Bequests and Donations	47,825	2,617	-	-	50,442
Total Income	4,015,024	4,835,817	227,581	253,232	9,331,654
Expenses					
Grants and donations	1,019,702	1,187,797	40,000	16,887	2,264,386
Other expenses	254,526	131,537	15,141	58,400	459,604
Total Expenses	1,274,227	1,319,334	55,141	75,287	2,723,990
Surplus for the year	2,740,796	3,516,483	172,440	177,945	6,607,664

Commentary

The Freemasons charities all had strong investment returns in 2025. This reflects the long-term investment strategy which matches our long-term charitable objectives. The investment income is net of investment management and monitoring costs

(including imputation credits not claimed). The gross investment returns (before management fees and costs) and related benchmark returns were (see table below):

	1 Year		3 Years	
	Portfolio	Benchmark	Portfolio	Benchmark
Freemasons Charity	8.1%	11.0%	35.5%	31.8%
Potter Masonic Trust - Investments	9.6%	10.6%	36.9%	31.6%
Potter Masonic Trust - Property	11.0%	11.1%	44.5%	33.4%
Lawson Smith Education Trust	9.6%	10.5%	38.7%	34.3%
Hugh McDougal Rankin Education Trust	9.4%	10.5%	38.0%	34.3%

Grants, donations and related expenses account for 83.6% of the charities expenditure. Other expenses

includes the administration services fees charged by Freemasons New Zealand National Office.

Net Assets As at 30 June 2025	2025 Freemasons Charity \$	2025 Potter Masonic Trust \$	2025 Lawson-Smith Education Trust \$	2025 Hugh McDougall Rankin Ed. Trust \$	2025 Total \$
Investments (current and non-current)	43,167,550	40,132,263	2,273,570	2,694,096	88,267,479
Current Assets (including bank balances)	260,633	29,602	3,114	6,742	300,091
Current Liabilities (accounts payable and accruals)	(41,031)	(12,520)	(3,979)	(10,979)	(68,509)
Net Assets	43,387,152	40,149,344	2,272,705	2,689,859	88,499,060

	2024 Freemasons Charity \$	2024 Potter Masonic Trust \$	2024 Lawson-Smith Education Trust \$	2024 Hugh McDougall Rankin Ed. Trust \$	2024 Total \$
Investments (current and non-current)	40,490,158	38,170,694	2,140,709	2,524,564	83,326,126
Current Assets (including bank balances)	77,905	28,119	2,584	24,277	132,885
Current Liabilities (accounts payable and accrual)	(60,142)	(13,225)	(3,864)	(10,864)	(88,095)
Net Assets	40,507,921	38,185,588	2,139,429	2,537,977	83,370,915

Commentary

Investments are independently managed by JB Were under a Statement of Investment Policy & Objectives (SIPO) for each charity.

Full audited financial accounts are on the Freemasons New Zealand website

