

# **Order of the Secret Monitor Benevolent Fund**



## **A Guide to the O.S.M. Benevolent Fund and How to Qualify for Patronage**

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# The OSM Benevolent Fund

Towards the close of the 19th Century, The Order of the Secret Monitor resolved to form a Benevolent Fund and in December 1899 it was formally opened with a credit balance of seventeen guineas.

In order to promote this Benevolent Fund and to increase the membership of the Order of the Secret Monitor, a senior member, R.Wy.Bro. Judge Philbrick conceived the idea of forming an appendant rite to be known as The Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord.

Candidates for this Order were required to be Princes of the O.S.M. and members of its Benevolent Fund.

The six grades of the Rite were:

Grade 1: Where candidates were elected to be Ostiarii or Doorkeepers.

Grade 2: Where they were chosen to be Lectors or Readers.

Grade 3: They were promoted to be Fellows.

Grade 4: Preferred as members of the Court of Assistants.

Grade 5: Dedicated as High Priests.

Grade 6: Installed as Knights.

The Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor was 'Summus' of this Rite and other high ranking Secret Monitors were appointed to such impressive titles such as; Regent, Vicarius, Episcopus, Diaconus, Cancellarius, King of Arms etc. Court Dress or uniform was obligatory for Grand Officers and full evening dress for others. Admission to and promotion within the grades was permitted by attaining certain ranks in the O.S.M. and by making donations to the Benevolent Fund.

The Metropolitan Consistory worked regularly until 1914 but went into abeyance during the war years; it was revived in 1919 but ceased operations in 1929, possibly due to the onset of the World Depression following the Wall Street Crash.

During the thirty years it was worked regularly, it raised a great deal of money for the O.S.M. Benevolent Fund. So much so that today, the fund, which annually distributes thousands of pounds to Secret Monitor Petitioners and local charities with virtually no incoming donations, still boasts a significant credit balance.

A short while ago it was decided that if the Order for the OSM Benevolent Fund was to become more active and properly justify its Charitable Status, it would be necessary for a source of funding to be devised and The Grand Supreme Ruler consented to the Royal Order being revived. This took place in 2006 with the Consecration of the Scarlet Cord Conclave No. 500 and in excess of 500 members of the OSM have joined this Conclave and the Benevolent Fund has subsequently been increased by their contributions.

Such has been the enthusiasm for this Royal Order that The Grand Supreme Ruler has decreed that Provincial Conclaves should be established for its better government and several Provinces have already done this, either on their own or in conjunction with one or more other Provinces.

It is important for Visiting Deacons to be aware of Brethren not dining, missing meetings or failing to pay annual fees. This may be a sign of distress and it is their function to try and assist if at all possible. When a Visiting Deacon is made aware of a Brother or his family in distress he should immediately contact the Recorder of the Conclave to arrange a visit by himself or a visiting Brother to assess the circumstances and make a formal application to Grand Conclave.



O.S.M.  
Benevolent Fund

Honorifics  
Application  
Form

Please detach and complete



## Section A - New Applications and Fees

I enclose full payment to qualify as a

	Tick Box	
Mandatory one off Jewel Cost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£15
Steward	<input type="checkbox"/>	£25
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	£50
President	<input type="checkbox"/>	£100
Vice Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	£150
Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	£300
Grand Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	£500
Grand Patron Gold	<input type="checkbox"/>	£750
AMOUNT TO CHARGE		£ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

Charity Gift Aid Declaration – single donation

### Boost your donation by 25p for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ to:

Name of Charity OSM Benevolent Fund

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

### Complete Credit/Debit Card Details

Card No.

Valid From       Expiry Date

\*If paying by Bank Transfer send to **82-12-08 / 90020461** and use your **MMH membership number in the reference field.**

\*\*If paying by Cheque make it payable to '**OSM BENEVOLENT FUND**'

Signature

Date

## Section B - Current Honorific Holders

I am currently a

I now wish to qualify as a\*

Tick Box		Tick Box	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Steward	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vice President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	President
<input type="checkbox"/>	President	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vice Patron
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vice Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patron
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grand Patron
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grand Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grand Patron Gold
	AMOUNT TO CHARGE		£ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

\*The amount to pay is the difference in fees between the two honorifics

Please notify the charity if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Security Number

Visa  Mastercard

**Return this form to**

**Linda Read  
Charities Finance Manager  
Mark Masons' Hall  
86 St James's Street  
LONDON  
SW1A 1PL  
020 7747 1171**

**or email it to  
[L.Read@mmh.org.uk](mailto:L.Read@mmh.org.uk)**

# O.S.M. Benevolent Fund Guide to Honorifics



**Steward**



**Vice President**



**President**



**Vice Patron**



**Patron**



**Grand Patron**



**Grand Patron Gold**