

## A Donation to the Sutton Women's Centre



In February our Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Wy.Bro. Colin Beerling, together with Shelley Sykes from the Sutton Masonic Hall, went along to The Woman's Centre in Sutton to present a cheque for £1,200 to support the work they do in the community.

In 1982 a group of local women started meeting at the Roundshaw Centre in Wallington and formed a committee with the aim of identifying and progressing the needs of local women. In December 1983, the Greater London Council awarded a grant to the committee towards the creation of a women's centre. They were then registered as a charity.

After a long search for a suitable property, contracts were exchanged on a house in Palmerston Road, Sutton and on 1st of May 1985 Sutton Women's Centre opened its doors for the first time. Over the years many thousands of women have come through their front door.



Their aims are:

- To support and empower women to increase their confidence and self-esteem, to enable them to make positive life decisions for themselves and their children.
- To provide advice to local women to ensure that they can access appropriate services, support and increase communication between women.
- To provide inclusive educational and learning opportunities to improve the life chances of local women and their children, increase their career related skills and enable women to develop the tools they need to be active citizens.
- To provide information to women that respects their individual needs and improves their life chances, reduces isolation, and increases communication between women.
- To champion the needs of local women to local partners and collaborate to find solutions.

They said that the donations made have been able to help a mum and her little girl who had to leave a domestic abuse home and the money helped buy a bed, a cooker, and a fridge. It also helped with getting new flooring in the centre, as well as getting the garden ready for the summer.

In her letter of thanks Liz McGarry, Centre Manager said:

*Dear Colin*

*We were delighted to meet with you and Shelley yesterday and wish to thank you for your donation to the centre for £1200 and for arranging to match fund the initial sum of £600.00.*

*Can you please thank the Hill of Zion Conclave on our behalf for their donation of £100.00. We really appreciate your donations, and we will use them to further our support for local women.*

*Yours sincerely Liz McGarry  
Centre Manager*



# A visit to Waverley Conclave

On Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> of January a team of Provincial Officers attended the installation meeting of Waverley Conclave No. 361 at the Masonic Hall, Godalming. The Conclave was being honoured by a visit from our Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Wy.Bro. Ian Bloodworth.



Unfortunately, as someone, no names, left the hall locked while he went over to the pub we were left out in the cold....



We finally got in and set up the Temple for the Conclave meeting. After the Conclave was opened by the acting Supreme Ruler, Wy.Bro. Leslie Grout, the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, accompanied by several Provincial Officers of the year, entered and took the Chair. He said how pleased he was to be visiting Waverley Conclave, introduced the Provincial team, and took the minutes. Wy.Bro. Chris Eley gave a moving tribute to R.Wy.Bro. Laurie Young our Past Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler.



The main item on the agenda was to install Wy.Bro. Jack Love as Supreme Ruler. This was done in his usual excellent manner by W.Bro. Leslie Grout assisted by Wy.Bro. Ian Bloodworth who gave the Address to the Supreme Ruler.

The Conclave was closed, and after the usual photographs we retired to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a most enjoyable meal at the Godalming Masonic Hall.