

The Freemasons of Nottinghamshire are proud to support the ongoing work of Worksop College in keeping our NHS and other key workers safe, and help the College raise over £5,000 to increase the production of NHS visors.



(Nottinghamshire Freemason Ken Chui who is a hospital radiographer and his wife Gladys who is a Carer in a local care home were among the people who received a visor made at Worksop College)

In late March 2020, the Government put the whole of the UK into lockdown. Before this, the Head of Freemasonry in England and Wales, the Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, had put Freemasonry into suspension for four months to 17th July. This, however, did not stop the Freemasons of Nottinghamshire from continuing to support their local communities, charities and other good causes through raising money, donating time, equipment, and resources.

Therefore, when Worksop College put out an appeal through their Old Worksopian Society for donations to help boost their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) project to supply the hospital and care sector with desperately needed face visors, the Freemasons were quick to react and donations were quickly forthcoming from the Provincial Grand Lodge, Worksop Masonic Club and the Old Worksopian Lodge.

Thanks to these donations and those of their community, in just 36 hours the College raised over £5,000 worth of equipment to increase production levels of protective face visors.

Since the lockdown began, the College has been working daily to make personal protective equipment for NHS staff battling Coronavirus, a project initiated by Head of Design Technology, Gary Duckering. It came as a national shortage of PPE for NHS staff on the front-line resulted in many key workers suffering injuries from wearing uncomfortable equipment for long hours, or going without any vital protective wear at all.

The College had been funding the initiative from existing materials to produce 10 – 12 protective face visors a day to help local hospitals and surgeries in the UK, using an existing 3D printer. College staff invested in an additional two printers to increase production levels but put a request out for support to increase production levels even further.

The College is so grateful for all the support they have been shown from individuals, as well as the Freemasons.

(Image below-Line of donated printers)



The funds have seen the addition of 13 new printers, along with reels of filament material which is used to produce the protective face visors.

Headmaster, Dr John Price, said; “We are incredibly grateful for the support we have received from our Old Worksopians, as well as the Freemasons in the local province; it is testament to the strong community that exists both inside and outside the College. The additional printers and materials required to produce the protective visors will enable us to increase our

production significantly, making a huge difference to those who need them most in the region.”

To date, the college has sent out over 500 visors across the region, to Bassetlaw Hospital, GP surgeries, local healthcare practitioners, care homes, and crematorium staff. The visors have also been sent further afield to the Royal Papworth Hospital in Cambridge and St George’s Hospital in London, where members of our alumni community work.

The Head of Freemasonry in Nottinghamshire, the Provincial Grand Master, Philip Marshall added “Nottinghamshire Freemasons are very proud to be part of the communities found in our fine county, including those working in an education sector which is so key to our prosperity. Our relationship with Worksop College is very important to us and we are pleased to be in partnership with the college on an initiative which assists in protecting the NHS and those working in the care sector.”

Local NHS providers who are seeking support for PPE are asked to send requests to Lucy Smithson at l.smithson@wsnl.co.uk