



The

FREEMASONS

of the Province of Yorkshire (West Riding)

Our Mission,

Objectives and Values

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Our Mission

To be good citizens

**by practising the highest moral and social
standards**

in friendship, charity and integrity

Our Objectives

To achieve and maintain the highest moral standards

To encourage our members to serve their own religion and community

To demonstrate that we are a society of upright men

To enjoy each others company and develop team spirit and fellowship

The Highest Moral Standards

- We are concerned with human behaviour especially the distinction between good and bad and right and wrong
- We are taught to be aware that all individuals have a natural tendency towards both good and evil; to consider our options and choose the former
- We define our moral standards as
 - Obeying the laws of the land
 - Working hard
 - Living peaceably and creditably
 - Acting honourably and with understanding and charity to all

Serve Their Own Religion

- Freemasonry is not a religion, but is about man's relationship with man
- There is no Masonic God
- However, all Freemasons must declare a belief in a Supreme Being and we therefore have members of many faiths, including Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism
- We are encouraged to practise our own religion, whatever faith it may be, and regard Freemasonry as a moral code subordinate to, but supportive of, that religion
- We do not admit atheists or agnostics into Freemasonry



Enjoy Each Others Company

- Our social activities and our enjoyment of Freemasonry cannot be over-emphasised. The objectives of Freemasonry are serious but our members are ordinary, fun-loving individuals who seek a good balance in life
- Most of our meetings include a social dimension where the focus is on good fellowship and enjoyment in the company of like minded friends
- Our family and friends are important to us and are actively encouraged to participate in our social activities just as we participate in theirs

Develop Team Spirit and Fellowship

- We develop team spirit and fellowship through all our activities and gain an understanding of the needs of others which in turn leads to increased tolerance and respect
- We therefore consider Freemasonry to be a way of life which, when practised, makes us good citizens
- Happiness is the outcome of such activity. It cannot be expressed in words but can only be experienced in the heart. As such it is sometimes described as the only true mystery of Freemasonry



Our Values

Friendship ♦ Charity ♦ Integrity

Respect ♦ Virtue

Self - discipline ♦ Patience ♦ Discretion

- Our Values are expressed as single words which describe those attributes which Freemasons try to practise
- The following expanded list of attributes contains the traditional words used in our ceremonies together with others which add to the overall picture of what we value in our Freemasonry and the standards we strive to achieve

Friendship	Affection - Fellowship - Harmony - Love	FRATERNITY Benevolence
Charity	Compassion - Generosity - Assistance	Benevolence
Integrity	Honesty - Dependability - Faithfulness - Truth	Fidelity
Respect	Esteem - Reputation - Duty - Trustworthiness	Obedience - Honour
Virtue	Ethicalness - Goodness - Honesty - Uprightness	Justice
Self - discipline	Forbearance - Moderation - Restraint	Temperance
Patience	Courage - Determination - Endurance	Fortitude
Discretion	Common Sense - Wisdom - Caution	Prudence

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The aims and principles of the Freemasons of the Province of Yorkshire (West Riding) are summarised in this booklet which we first published in January 1998 ©

Further information can be obtained by any member of the public from the address below

We welcome new members and anyone interested in joining should approach a Freemason already known to them or write to



The

FREEMASONS

of the Province of Yorkshire (West Riding)

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