

For every bear that ever there was ...

Written by Graham Riche

Friday, 06 July 2012 09:20 - Last Updated Friday, 06 July 2012 09:21



When Alan Shirley, the steward at West Bridgford Masonic Hall, opened the doors to the building on Friday 19 November, he was almost knocked over as a throng of furry creatures invaded the premises. Word had got round that there was a feast to celebrate the 5th anniversary of 'Teddies for Loving Care' in Nottinghamshire and bears from all over the Province had gathered in eager anticipation.

The meal at the Festive Board, following the meeting of Radcliffe Lodge, had been especially designed by the chef to appeal to bears - featuring their favourites such as salmon, honey, oats and berries. All bears attending were made most welcome and were soon making themselves at home; some more than they needed - on the raffle table where several bottles of alcoholic beverage were to be found! The meal itself was deemed a great success with courses disappearing in rapid order.

A report on the work of TLC was presented by Graham Riche. He told the assembled brethren about two recent incidents where the giving of a teddy to a child had proved, yet again, to have helped the nursing staff and the child concerned. In each case the bear had become a very special friend. He explained how the charity really did reach out and connect with the local community.

Thanks were given to Province for their support and in particular, the DPrGM Steve Mather, the President, and to John Hastie who, as Provincial Almoner, has given support and advice. The lodge members raised their glasses in a toast to the committee, all of Radcliffe Lodge, to thank them for their hard work.

For every bear that ever there was ...

Written by Graham Riche

Friday, 06 July 2012 09:20 - Last Updated Friday, 06 July 2012 09:21

Attention was drawn to this (the new) website and its creator Kevan Goddard - who was also thanked for his magnificent contribution. All present were encouraged to refer to the website on a regular basis - in order to keep up to date with the Charity's work and to learn about the fundraising events held throughout the year.

The evening was great fun all the more so for being shared with a number of visiting brethren. At the close a goodly number of members left with a new 'bear friend' and a smile on their face. The remaining bears left with hardly a murmur, however there was the odd growl but then again, they were ... ***'tired little teddy bears'!***

[See 'Image Galleries' for more photos](#)



□