



THE FREEMASONS'
GRAND CHARITY

Information Release

23rd February 2011

£30,000 FOR NEW ZEALAND EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS



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In response to a severe earthquake, which took place on Tuesday in Christchurch, New Zealand, the President of the Grand Charity has approved an emergency grant of **£30,000** to the British Red Cross to assist with their recovery appeal.

Over 75 people have been killed and over 300 are still reported as missing. The 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck at a shallow depth of 5km (3.1 miles) on Tuesday at 1251 local time (2351 GMT on Monday), when the South Island city was at its busiest.

The Red Cross has launched an emergency appeal which will be used to support the New Zealand Red Cross response to the disaster.

This grant follows a £10,000 grant that was given following a large earthquake in the same area in September 2010. On that occasion the money was passed to the District Grand Master's appeal on behalf of the Mayor of Christchurch Earthquake Relief Fund, which was to help the wider community with their immediate needs following the earthquake.

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Visit The Freemasons' Grand Charity website at www.grandcharity.org

For further information about the Red Cross Appeal:

<http://www.redcross.org.uk/About-us/News/2011/February/Red-Cross-launches-New-Zealand-Earthquake-Appeal>