

HULL: Freemasons donate soft toys to hospital

# Charming teddies help sick children

Up to 1000 teddy bears are to be donated to Hull Royal Infirmary to cheer up poorly children.

Freemasons, from the Province of Yorkshire North and East Ridings, have set up a Teddies For Loving Care scheme at hospitals in the region, including Hull Royal Infirmary in Anlaby Road,

By **KATIE KNASS**  
NEWS REPORTER

**HUNDREDS of teddies are to be donated to Hull Royal Infirmary to cheer up sick children.**

Freemasons, from the Province of Yorkshire North and East Ridings, launched their Teddies For Loving Care (TLC) scheme for the hospital this week.

Up to 1,000 teddies will be presented to the paediatric accident and emergency department at the Anlaby Road hospital in Hull to cheer up distressed children.

The money to buy the teddies has been donated by members of the Freemasons, who decided to set up the scheme following similar successful ones across the country.

Hull Royal Infirmary is one of several hospitals in the North and East Yorkshire region to benefit from the cuddly gifts.

Judy Carter, nurse practitioner in the paediatric accident and emergency department, said: "We are extremely grateful to the Freemasons for including us in their TLC scheme.

"It can be very traumatic for a child to be brought into accident and emergency and it is a pleasure to see their faces light up when they are given a teddy."

Tony Burke, a member of the Freemasons, said it was a great experience seeing the children smiling when they were given their teddy.

He said: "Recently Laura, the play specialist, was busy with a young lad who had been in an accident and had broken his leg.

He was in a lot of pain and one of her colleagues asked if she could have two teddies.

"She gave one to the young lad and one to his younger sister.

"When she gave them their teddies, I saw them smile. It was wonderful.



**GRATEFUL:** Hull Royal Infirmary play specialist **Laura Burton** with teddies **donated by** the Freemasons **PICTURES:** Jack Hariand

"It just shows the power of the teddies to relieve the stresses and strains of the children."

*k.knass@mailnewsmedia.co.uk*



**TEDDY SCHEME:** Freemasons Assistant Provincial Grand Master **John Trout**

"I later asked the little girl what she was going to call her teddy and she said Lucky

"I am not certain, but her brother might have called his Unlucky.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire north and East Ridings  
[www.pgl-york.org](http://www.pgl-york.org)  
Hull And East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust  
[www.hey.nhs.uk](http://www.hey.nhs.uk)