

THE WAKE MEMORIAL TRUST

Medstead Parish Council administers a trust fund known as the Wake Memorial Trust, which was set up in 1998 thanks to the generosity of three residents of our village.

The Wake Family were long-established landowners in Medstead and records of their holdings go back over several centuries. Miss Renee Wake, who lived in Wield Road, was the last surviving member of the family and during her later years, she was looked after by her neighbours, Tony and Daphne Chivers. She had no close relatives and in her Will she left the bulk of her estate to her neighbours as a gesture of thanks for the care they had given her.

Tony and Daphne were a very public-spirited couple who were involved in many of Medstead's organisations and they decided that they would like to share their good fortune with the rest of the village. They therefore generously donated £41,000 to the Parish Council. Because of Tony's keen interest in sport (he had been an international long-distance runner in his younger days) they stipulated that £16,000 should be passed on to the Bowls Club and the Tennis Club, which were both in their early stages at that time.

The terms of the Trust required the Parish Council to invest the remaining £25,000 and to maintain this sum as a capital reserve. The interest earned on this sum could be made available "for the benefit of the people of Medstead."

The Council had to appoint three trustees and it was decided that these should be the Chairman of Council and the Chairmen of the Council's Maintenance Committee and Planning Committee, so that whoever holds these posts from time to time automatically becomes a trustee of the Wake Memorial Trust. Decisions on applications for grants from the trust fund are made by the three trustees, although in practice the views of the whole Parish Council are always sought first.

Although at the present time rates of interest are somewhat minimal, there is about £7,000 which has built up in the fund over the years which is available "for the benefit of the people of Medstead".

Any application for a grant to be considered, should in the first instance, be made to the Clerk of the Parish Council either by e mail to clerk@medsteadpc.org or by post to PO Box 343, ALTON, Hampshire GU34 9JS.