

**NEWS RELEASE** 

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# Master Locksmiths Association helps our heroes



MLA member and serving Territorial Army soldier Gary Watts and Val Stokes MLA President and London region Treasurer present the cheque for £3,500 to Sarah Walker the Charities London Co-ordinator

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Help for Heroes, a charity set up to support wounded Servicemen and women, has received a welcome boost after receiving a cheque for £3,500 from members of the London Region of the Master Locksmiths Association (MLA).

For further information on the MLA please contact: Dr Steffan George, Director of Business Development, Master Locksmiths Association 5D Great Central Way, Woodford Halse, Daventry, Northants NN11 3PZ Mob: 07814 911040, Tel: 01327 262255, E-Mail: steffan.george@locksmiths.co.uk As the group's nominated charity for 2009 and 2010, the MLA's London region raised the money for Help for Heroes by hosting a Christmas fundraising evening and a series of money raising raffles during their monthly meetings.

Val Stokes MLA President and London region Treasurer said: "Every year the Londonbased MLA members choose a nominated charity to support with money raised through our monthly get-togethers. Help for Heroes is a fantastic charity and is doing some great work across the UK to improve the lives of soldiers who have been injured in action.

"In the past we have supported charities including Great Ormond Street Hospital and Little Haven Children's hospice and we are pleased to be able to support another deserving cause. I am very proud that we have raised so much money for this worthwhile charity and we are looking forward to raising even more for the organisation throughout the rest of 2010."

Help for Heroes was launched in October 2007 by Bryn and Emma Parry who were so moved by a visit to Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham they set up the charity to help those badly wounded in action. Since its launch the charity has raised over £1million a month with the £45million raised to date spent on facilities and services to improve the lives of those in the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

The most recent London Region meeting saw MLA member and serving Territorial Army soldier Gary Watts and Val Stokes present the cheque to Sarah Walker the Charities London Co-ordinator.

Bryn Parry Help for Heroes co-founder added: "When Emma and I decided to do our bit to help wounded servicemen in 2007 we had no idea so many people across the UK would decide to join us and together, create the Help for Heroes phenomenon. We have already spent millions and we have a shopping list of future projects that will ensure they get the very best. We may not be able to prevent them from being hurt but we can certainly do our bit to help them get better. "The Master Locksmiths Association's wonderful fundraising is hugely welcomed, and the London members of the Association should be congratulated and, on behalf of all those who the money will benefit, thanked."

### ENDS

### Notes to Editor

Issued on behalf of the Master Locksmiths Association by Karol Marketing Group. For further information, pictures or to set up interviews please contact Hayley Ford on 0191 265 7765 or email <u>hayley@karolmarketing.com</u>

# About the MLA

The Master Locksmiths Association (MLA) was established over 50 years ago to set and promote standards of conduct, practice and materials within locksmithing. The MLA is recognised as the authoritative body for locksmithing by the police, home office and other leading organisations such as the British Standards Institute. As a not for profit association, the MLA ensure its member companies undergo strict vetting procedures so the public, government and industry receive the appropriate service and advice. MLA members share the ethos that 'skill and integrity' remain paramount in locksmithing and are able to provide sound advice based on knowledge and experience.

A list of approved MLA companies are listed on the MLA website, for further information please visit: <u>www.locksmiths.co.uk</u>

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