

Freemasonry@86 News - 20 May 2022



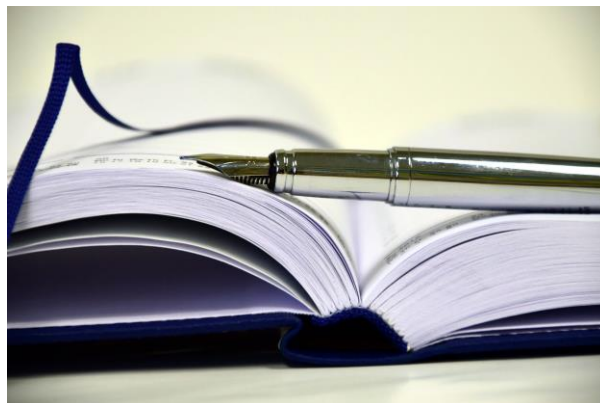
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Progressive Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

This bulletin is emailed to all Rulers in the Provinces, Districts & Divisions and their Secretariats, as well as subscribers.

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Progressive Orders Diary



Below are some upcoming dates of events for our Grand teams in their respective Orders.

You can find the calendar of the regular annual meetings of our Orders further down this newsletter.

Saturday, 21 May - O.S.M. Installation of Wy.Bro. Michael Bryan Le Conte, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Channel Islands

Wednesday, 25 May - S.C. Consecration of Tennyson Down Consistory No. 141, Province of Hampshire, Isle of Wight and The Channel Islands

Thursday, 26 May - Mark Whitwell Lodge of M.M.M. No. 151 Sesquicentenary, Province of Cumberland & Westmorland

Saturday, 28 May - K.T. Confirmation in Office of R.E.Kt. Richard Francis Micklefield as Provincial Prior for Dorset and Wiltshire

Saturday, 28 May - A.M.D. Installation of W.Bro. Brian Butterfield, P.G.St.B., as District Grand Prefect for Yorkshire

Monday, 30 May - Mark Anglebury Lodge of M.M.M. No. 763 Centenary, Province of Dorset

Tuesday, 31 May - Mark Installation of W.Bro. Brian Percival Gargett, P.G.J.D., as Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire and Herefordshire

Tuesday, 7 June - Mark Annual Investiture Meeting, Freemasons' Hall, London

Tuesday, 14 June - Mark Dover & Cinque Ports Lodge of M.M.M. Centenary, Province of Kent

Wednesday 15th June – O.S.M. Installation of Wy.Bro. William Anthony Stringer, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Cheshire & North Wales

Thursday, 16 June - Mark Installation of W.Bro. Stephen Lee, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire

Monday, 20 June - Mark Stony Gate Lodge of M.M.M. No. 751 Centenary, Province of Leicestershire and Rutland

Thursday, 23 June - Mark Installation of W.Bro. Keith David Bristow, P.G.S.D., as Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire

Saturday, 2 July - Mark M.B.F. Festival hosted by the Mark Province of Surrey at Brighton

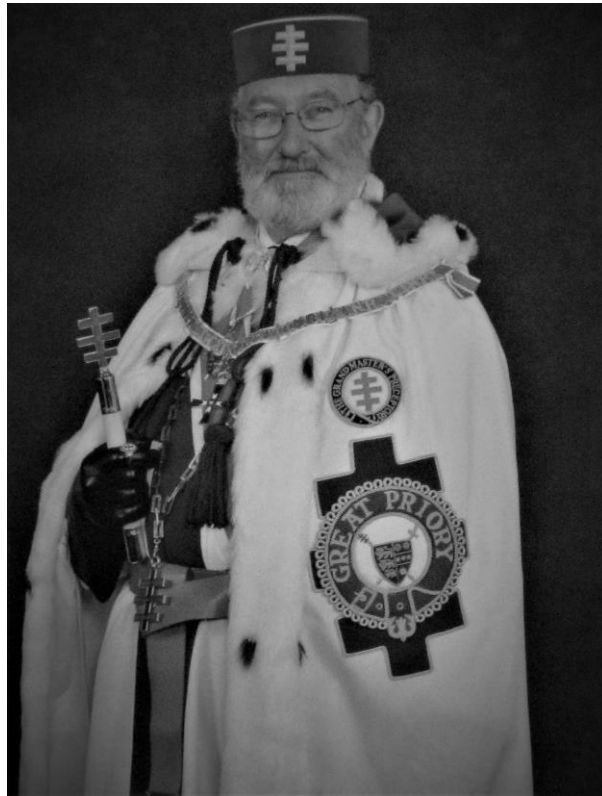
Tuesday, 5 July - R.C.C. Annual Assembly of Grand Imperial Conclave, Freemasons' Hall London

Knights Templar Annual Chapter of Great Priory



Wednesday marked the return of the Knights Templar Annual Chapter of Great priory to Freemasons' Hall after the long break due to Covid, since May 2019; although we had been fortunate enough to enjoy the Great Priory of Malta meeting in November of 2021.

The meeting was tinged with sadness as only days previously, we had received the news of the passing of our Immediate Past Grand Master, Most Eminent and Supreme Knight Timothy John Lewis, G.C.T.



Brother Knights of the K.T., along with Brethren of the Allied Masonic Degrees (the two Orders of which Tim, as he was affectionately known, had been the Grand Master), had received instructions to wear black ties at their meetings as a mark of respect, with further instructions for members of Preceptories and Councils of which he was a member.

M.E. & S.Kt. Lewis' Masonic record speaks for itself and is long and varied, but four years as Grand Master of the A.M.D, eight years as Grand Secretary across all of our Orders at Mark Masons' Hall, and six years as Grand Master of the K.T. must be the shining and standout highlights.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T., opened the meeting with a touching tribute, recalling the effort his predecessor had made to attend Great Priory in 2017 in order to Install Paul as his successor.

After the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master had been re-elected, he then re-appointed Very High and Right Eminent Knight Andrew Christopher Rainbow, G.C.T., as Great Seneschal. And went on to appoint Right Eminent Knights Anthony John Helliard, Prov.Prior for Essex, and Malcolm Frederick Bilton, Prov.Prior for Lincolnshire, to the honour and dignity of Knight Commander of the Temple.

There followed the appointment and investiture of the active Great Priory Officers of the year, and investiture of those receiving first appointments and promotions in Great Rank.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master then invited E.Kt. Jamie Ingham Clark, the newly invested Deputy Great Sword Bearer and trustee of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital, to join him on the dais to receive a cheque for £80,677. This was the magnificent total raised for the Eye Hospital by the "20 for 2020" appeal and it was very pleasing to see so many swift lapel pins on display at the meeting, worn as tokens of appreciation by those who had made a contribution.

This is a milestone year for the Eye Hospital as it is the 140th anniversary of its founding, and the centenary of its reopening after World War One.

The Knights Templar raised approximately one quarter of the funding needed for the reopening! There is due to be a published history of the Hospital to mark this special occasion.

Jamie has been able to report that services are almost back to normal post pandemic. In 2021 they treated over 134,000 patients (2019 was 137,000) and performed almost 6,500 major surgeries (2019 was less than 5,800).

This year will see new Communication, Fundraising and Digital strategies being developed.

The mission of the Hospital and its Trustees remains to eradicate preventable eye disease in the areas we operate, whilst upholding the Values of

- Compassion
- Accountability
- Respect and
- Excellence

Compared to some other sources, the Knights Templar fundraising has been wonderfully resilient over the last two years and the 20 for 2020 appeal is part of that success. The Trustees acknowledge and appreciate the over 100 years of support from the K.T.

On behalf of the patients and staff, Jamie and his fellow Trustees are keen thank the Brother Knights for their ever-inventive ways of supporting the work. With the lifting of Covid restrictions, there is always a welcome to any Knight who wishes to visit Jerusalem.



In his address, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master was pleased to congratulate the two Provincial Priors who had been appointed this Masonic year, R.E.Kt. Colin Birkbeck, Provincial Prior for East Anglia, and R.E.Kt. Peter Burrows, Provincial Prior for Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

He then welcomed visitors from sister Great Priories; Scotland, Greece, Germany, Finland, France, Netherlands, and the Great Priory of CBCS of Belgium; as well a Brother Knights from our own Provinces of South East Asia, and Far East; and a host of Heads of Order from other UK Masonic Orders.

We were then reminded of the Knights Templar Church Service being held at Wells Cathedral in the K.T. Province of Somerset, on Saturday, 24 September this year.

In closing, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master expressed his pleasure at the reports of the good number of Candidates waiting to be installed as Knights of our Order and he commented that this is a golden opportunity to grow the Order by attracting quality Knights through quality ceremonies.

The meeting ended with the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master wishing the Brother Knights, their families and loved ones, to keep safe and well.























































And it didn't end there for the Grand Master...

Twenty-four hours later, the Grand Master and some of his team of active Great Officers had touched down in Guernsey to attend the Malta meeting of St. George of Guernsey Preceptory No. 491.

The meeting was presided over by Eminent Prior Andrew Henton, assisted by the Preceptory Marshal/Priory Mareschal, E.Kt. Roger Wood, who had been invested as the Great Herald the previous day.

A great evening was had by all. Just over 40 attended a triple Installation of Candidates: Kt's John Marquis, Simon Gibbs & Keith Bell.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master performed the Accolade, and presented the newly installed Knights of Malta with their Malta Jewels, in what was a memorable evening for them and the Priory.

The Grand Master also presented four Great Priory of Malta Certificates to Knights Simon Boreham, John Bell, Derek Baudains and Matthew Polson. The Grand Master gave a wonderful explanation of how the current Malta certificate came into being and his part in its current design, besides having his personal Coat of Arms on it, which are issued by the College of Arms.

A very convivial four course Festive Board took place and all retired after Port had been taken.

With thanks to E.Kt. Allan D. Gaudion, O.Gt.R., Registrar



Mark Emergency Relief Fund

We were delighted to receive this video from the Mark Inspectorate of Romania showing their endeavours distributing the aid and support packages which has been purchased through your generosity.

Details of how to donate can be found further down this Newsletter.



<https://sway.office.com/wJECewZC6GTOzexa#content=YAyC5vloiD07px>

We've also received this video from the two intrepid Ambulance donors, W.Bro. Mike Ross of Neston Lodge of M.M.M. No. 1445 and his Brother from the Craft, Paul Stevenson. The video shows some of the highlights from their trip to deliver the Ambulance which was purchased for donation by the Mark Province of Cheshire and the M.B.F.



<https://sway.office.com/wJECewZC6GTOzexa#content=87qTFUh9qGSSdK>

Meanwhile, in Essex...



After many weeks of waiting, a Ukrainian family of 3 flew into Luton Airport to be greeted by their sponsoring family. After a wait for news about their visas, Natalya and her 2 children, Karyba, 15, and 8-month-old Emilia learned that they had been granted and that their temporary residence in Moldova, would be replaced with a family in England.

W.Bro. Colin Kendrick of St. Nicholas Mark Lodge No.413, had been contacted by his friend, Vova, as the war in Ukraine started and asked him to take his family to safety. The family had been sheltering in their basement amid the dangers of the invasion and plans were made to receive the family in England. Many weeks later, the flight into Luton would see the family safe.

On the evening that the phone call was made, the family started a journey to take them out of Mykolaiv. Outside the city, transportation by Bus had been arranged for the now displaced residents

to take the women and children to safety. On arrival, there were two buses left both going to Moldova. The family squeezed onto one of the remaining buses and said their farewells to Vova, who was to remain in Ukraine.

The journey to Moldova was a long one and on arrival, they and many other families were placed into temporary accommodation whilst further travel plans were made. On 18 March, their Visa applications were made out and the wait began.

During this time the Mark men of Essex have been supporting W.Bro. Kendrick with raising money for the family. At a Cluster Mark meeting, held under the banner of the Aurelius Mark Lodge No. 814, at Clacton, the Brethren donated their evening Raffle collection, Natalya, with their best wishes.

At the 150th Anniversary of the Constantine Mark Lodge No. 145, held on 22 April 2022, the Essex 2030 MBF Festival mascot, 'Rory' the Lion was donated so that Emilia would have a new soft toy on her arrival.



On 2 May, the family landed at Luton and were met at the Arrivals gate. It had been 8 weeks since the phone call and all the efforts to get them into England had finally paid off. A group of Mark men attended to assist the family and Rory the Lion was given to little Emilia, which she sleeps with every night.

After a week since their arrival, the family has settled in well and has made the most of Harwich, especially the beaches and the sea air. They are safe and await news of Vova.

Thanks go to the Mark Brethren of the North of Essex and the Essex Mark Province for the support they have given and continue to give. The family is safe and they look forward to the end of the war and the opportunity to return so that they might begin to rebuild their country.

With thanks to W.Bro. Dave Todd, P.Prov.G.Stwd.

Priors united as Deacons



Chief of the Builders Mark Lodge and Royal Ark Mariner Lodge No. 1806 meet twice per year on Friday morning at Dunston, just south of the river Tyne, the boundary between the Provinces of Durham and Northumberland.

Although they are within the Mark Province of Durham, the main purpose of these Chief of the Builders Lodges is to attract Heads of Orders and other senior members of the Craft and other Progressive Orders the opportunity to fit Mark and R.A.M. masonry into their busy masonic schedules.

Friday, 13 May 2022 proved to be the morning when Knights Templar had a significant involvement at the annual installation meeting of the R.A.M. Lodge.

Bro. John L. Webster, Great Herald of Great Priory (past Prov. Treasurer of Durham K.T.) was installed as Worshipful Commander by W.Bro. R. Alan Hume, K.C.T., Past Provincial Prior of Northumberland.

Bro. Kevin P. Stannard and Bro. Richard G Scott were then duly appointed and invested as Senior and Junior Deacon of the Lodge, they are the current Provincial Priors of Northumberland and Durham.

To prevent any unlucky visitors on Friday 13th, the Lodge was secured by W.Bro. John D. Watts, Sub Prior of Durham K.T. acting as Guardian.

We look forward to following the neighbouring Provincial Priors working together as they progress towards the Commander's chair of their Royal Ark Mariner Lodge.

With thanks to W.Bro. John Watts, Prov.R.A.M.G.R.

It's all go in Cheshire



As the Cheshire Mark Degree enters the last two years of its 2024 Festival the Allied Masonic Degrees stepped up to support them by presenting the Province with a cheque for £750.00, the District Grand Prefect for Cheshire and North Wales, R.W.Bro. Peter Talbot, supported by his Deputy, V.W.Bro. David Wright, P.G.Reg., presented the cheque at a meeting of Joppa Lodge of R.A.M.

R.W.Bro. Gary Horstman, Mark Prov.G.M. for Cheshire, accepted the cheque with grateful thanks for the support shown between the two Degrees, also present was V.W.Bro. Austin Bamber, the Deputy in the R.A.M. degree.

This shows how close all the degrees have worked together, not only to ensure that the Festival will be a success but also to ensure the future of the Orders in this region, by working together they share good ideas and assist each other as we all recover from the turmoil of the pandemic.

But there was more to come, as on Monday, 16 May, 87 members gathered at Middlewich for the first annual Masters and Commanders dinner after the Covid pandemic, for a very enjoyable evening and to support the 2024 Festival.

R.W.Bro. Gary Raymond Horstman made a number of presentations including one to Liz Topp in recognition of all her work over 31 years in support of Freemasonry in relation to the catering at Middlewich Masonic Hall.



The New Assistant Provincial Grand Master Worshipful Brother John David Miller, met with the members of Wythenshawe Mark Lodge No. 532 & Weaver Lodge of R.A.M. No. 532.









Summus in the City



On Tuesday, 17 May Mark Masons' Hall hosted the Provincial Grand Senatus of London for the Installation of Julian James Greenwall as the Right Distinguished Provincial Grand Summus for the Scarlet Cord Province of London.



In attendance were members of the Grand Tzaddikim who did an excellent job of the arch of steel for the processions.



There were many Provincial Grand Summi attending to support the Province of London.



Present at the meeting was the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, seen here with his Assisting Officers.



Provincial Grand Senatus was opened in due form by the Presiding Officer. The Grand Director of Ceremonies, V.Dist.Comp. Phillip Purves, was admitted and advised the Presiding Officer that the Grand Summus, Most Distinguished Companion Ian Stanley Currans, was outside the door of Provincial Grand Senatus. The Grand Summus entered in procession led by the Grand Sword Bearer and followed by the Grand Standard Bearer.

The Most Distinguished Grand Summus, was received, welcomed by the Presiding Officer and took the Chair. The Installing Officer appointed his Officers and was saluted with eleven under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Installing Officer addressed the Companions and directed the Grand Recorder to call the roll of Consistories in the Province. He then directed the Grand Director of Ceremonies to ascertain that the Provincial Grand Summus designate was in attendance.

An escort was formed, and the Grand Director of Ceremonies introduced the Provincial Grand Summus designate in due form. The Installing Officer addressed the Provincial Grand Summus designate and requested the Grand Recorder to read the Patent of Appointment. Julian James Greenwall was obligated, invested, and installed as the Provincial Grand Summus of London, and was proclaimed and saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies.



The Provincial Grand Summus appointed and invested Dist.Comp. Boon Sin Tan, IV, P.A.G.D.C., as Deputy Provincial Grand Summus; and Dist.Comp. Dr Surjit Singh Shalla, III, as Assistant Provincial Grand Summus.

The Provincial Grand Summus addressed the Installing Officer to thank him and his team for making this a very special morning for the Province of London. The Installing Officer and his team then retired.



Provincial Grand Senatus was closed in due form and the Right Distinguished Provincial Grand Summus retired in procession with his Officers and Companions of the Province.

The Installing team then returned for photographs.



And the Grand Summus congratulated R.Dist.Comp. Jules wishing him all the best for the future.



After refreshments the Companions of the Province of London and their guests sat down to a splendid lunch in the dining room of Mark Masons' Hall.

Article and photos by Dist.Comp. Chris Eley, Provincial Grand Recorder, Surrey











Scarlet Cord Province of Cheshire & North Wales Annual Meeting



Although marking the start of his third year as Provincial Grand Summus, it was the first occasion Right Distinguished Companion Chris Welton had to address the Province in person.

Right Distinguished Companion Chris welcomed everyone to the joyous occasion, especially the seven visiting Provincial Grand Summi.

He thanked each Consistory for the work they had done in achieving his first target of recruiting 2 new members per Consistory, and set them a new target of carrying on with the recruitment programme and recruiting two more each.

His first major achievement within the Province was the creation of a brand new Provincial Tzaddikim, under the careful leadership of Commander, Distinguished Companion Geoff Glover, Geoff being well known throughout many Provinces of the Order.

Chris also congratulated Distinguished Companion John Thomson on being appointed Grand Sword Bearer, and Distinguished Companion Geoff Glover on his appointment as Deputy Grand Episcopus.

After a number of other congratulations and thanks, the Provincial Grand Senatus was closed in due form, and the Companions enjoyed a convivial luncheon.

For more photographs and a transcript of the Provincial Grand Summus address, please visit their website [Here](#)

With thanks to Tony Stringer, P.G.Swd.B., Prov.G.D.C.; Pictures: Geoff Glover, Dep.G.Ep., Commander, Prov.Tz.

Pictured top are: R.Dist.Comp. Chris Welton, Provincial Grand Summus; V.Dist.Comp. Wally Edwards, Dep.Prov.G.S. (Left);

Dist.Comp. Bob Jordan, A.Prov.G.S. (Right)



2 - The new Provincial Team



3 - Eight Provincial Grand Summi



4 - The Commander of the Provincial Grand Tzaddikim, Dist.Comp. Geoff Glover



5 - The new Provincial Grand Tzaddikim: Comp. Cameron Chalmers; Comp. Dave Loughlin; Comp. David Littlewood; Comp. Mark Gleave; Comp. Richard Sutton

Jamaica & Cayman Islands Outreach



As we begin the Omicron phase of the Covid-19 Pandemic (hopefully our 3rd & final) we pause to re-evaluate our Mark District # 45's Outreach Programmes. We have traditionally concentrated on Child Health and in previous years organized contributions for Restorative Dentistry at the Bustamante Children's Hospital (BCH) Dental Clinic (the only such unit in the Commonwealth Caribbean) and provided some equipment for the nascent Paediatric Unit at the Spauldings (Percy Junior) General Hospital. This is of course separate & apart from our *other* Mark District Outreach – the webinars on Family Health & Financial Planning, an excellent series of presentations for Masons & non-masons alike – our version of the “Lockdown Lectures”. These were recorded & may be viewed on YouTube!

Last year a number of our colleagues - both Medical & Masonic - called our attention to the Black River Hospital (BRH). This Hospital has a rather interesting history. It's located in southwestern Jamaica, overlooking the Caribbean Sea. The site was long known as “Auction Ground” - the place where newly arrived slaves were sold. After the abolition of the slave trade the British Army built their south coast barracks on the site. This later became the first home of Munro College, one of Jamaica's premier boarding schools, which was then relocated to other (and many would say far less salubrious!) surroundings and the building converted to a hospital by the local community. The original military barracks house the hospitals' male and female wards. In the late 1930's a 2-story building was constructed, providing additional ward space. This and the first Children's' Ward was largely the brainchild of Dr. Curtis Johnston, a medical practitioner of the town and a Freemason (initiated Ewing Lodge No. 3258, May 1924). A plaque bearing his name remains on the building. The

Hospital is now a 150 bed centre providing medical services in the following specialties for a catchment area of at least 180,000 people:

- Accident & Emergency (24 hrs)
- Internal Medicine
- General Surgery
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Paediatrics
- Ophthalmology
- Psychiatry
- A Sickle Cell Anaemia clinic

Apparently our new South Coast Highway has brought significant benefits & new problems –it's become an accident hotspot & the BRH is the nearest Emergency Centre. Moreover, it is now easier for patients to travel to Black River than other centres which have traditionally provided hospital care. This has created a number of critical needs, and the 25 bed Children's Unit is definitely one. The increasing number of births being handled at this hospital has created a demand for neonatal and other paediatric facilities, including a phototherapy lamp (used to treat newborns with jaundice) and vital signs monitors.

We've looked at what may be within the length of our cable tow. Phototherapy lamps for treating jaundice in newborn babies were the most cost-effective option and we have obtained two of these for the Black River Hospital and will contribute others to a Paediatric Unit at another small rural hospital. Unsolicited feedback from hospital staff and doctors in the town says that the lamps we provided have already had considerable use and obviated a need for patient transfers. Another regional hospital has contracted the District inquiring about a possible donation to them!

The Covid-19 outbreak and the long local suspension of Masonic activity have interfered with communication amongst the Brethren and made it difficult to plan outreach charity in the usual way. However individual Lodges and individual Brethren have independently continued to give a helping hand by keeping an eye on elderly shut-ins, assisting with doctor's appointments, and allowing neighborhood schoolchildren to use their personal internet access for online classes. The District itself is looking for activities where small contributions can make a big difference. Adolescent mental health may be one such area. Mentorship is another favourite of our DGM. In disadvantaged communities, where fathers are frequently absentee figures, there are many opportunities for older Masons to have a mentorship role in small schools, PTA's & other community activities.

Mark Masonry's outreach in the District of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands sees many an opportunity before us, and will rise to the challenge!

Pictured are the The District Grand Master, the CEO of Black River Hospital and members of staff.

With thanks to R.W.Bro. Linton Andrews, Dist.G.M. for Jamaica & Cayman Islands

£28,795 donated to The Christies Charitable Fund – Bloods Closer to Home



On 12 May 2022, the Mark Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire, R.W.Bro. John Smith, accompanied by his wife Jane, and the Provincial Grand Almoner, W.Bro. Barry Heal and W.Bro. Stewart Mills attended the premises of The Christie Charitable Fund in Manchester.

The purpose of the visit was to officially present a cheque for £28,795, generously funded by the Mark Benevolent Fund, for the set up costs of the “Bloods Closer to Home” project.

They were met by Hazel Rushton, Trust and Foundations Manager and Marie Toller, Head of Major Relationships and taken to a meeting room where refreshments were served. They then had a very happy discussion in which the Provincial Grand Master outlined the background of the Mark Benevolent Fund and some of the recent grants that have been made. In return, Marie gave them a fascinating insight in new projects at the Hospital, including medical research into many forms of Cancer and particularly how important the “Bloods Closer to Home” project is.

Patients at The Christie require a routine blood test before having Systemic AntiCancer Therapies on consecutive days. This means they have to visit The Christie twice during the week of treatment.

The Christie has been testing the potential for the development of a local blood testing service to enable patients to have routine blood tests closer to where they live.

Following a successful pilot, Christie now want to expand on this and create permanent local Christie blood testing clinics around Greater Manchester to reduce the need for patients to travel long distances to The Christie in Withington for blood tests. Feedback from patients is that they would much prefer to receive all their treatment closer to home where this is clinically possible.

The Christie Charity supports the development of cancer prevention, treatment, research and education through investment in staff, equipment, facilities and other support services that are over and above what the NHS funds.

The Mark Benevolent Fund grant is in support of the new equipment required to facilitate the new clinics which will enable cancer patients to receive their routine blood tests closer to where they live.

Local blood testing is the next step to providing more personalised and convenient cancer treatment and could boost recruitment to clinical trials, providing more treatment options for patients.

Helen Rushton said “on behalf of Christie staff and patients, I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Mark Benevolent Fund for this kind gift and for your support.”

On presenting the cheque, John Smith said how delighted the Mark Benevolent Fund were to be able to help The Christie and importantly, so many people who will benefit from the new facilities. It really is an example of ‘making a difference’.

Pictured below are, left to right: Barry Heal, John Smith, Hazel Rushton, Jane Smith and Marie Toller.

With thanks to W.Bro. Barry R. Heal, P.Dep.G.Swd.B., Provincial Grand Almoner



Cycling challenge on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund Festival, West Yorkshire



From the 2nd to the 6th June 2022, a group of cyclists will begin to ride the perimeter of the Mark Province of West Yorkshire. Some will attempt it all and some just a section, or even part of a section. All will be contributing to a huge event which will be the major Provincial fundraiser for 2022. Please give generously and support the efforts of the riders.

You can read more about this and make a donation on the website [Here](#)

Welcomed to Whirlow



This week, Charities Manager, W.Bro. Darren Coleman-Heald, paid a visit to the Whirlow Hall Farm Trust in Sheffield to see a grant from the Mark Benevolent Fund hard at work.

The MBF granted £20,000 to refurbish two children's dormitories at the farmhouse on this residential working farm. Each year the charity provides learning and developmental experience for over 11,000 children and young adults. Many come from disadvantaged backgrounds, coming from inner city areas of Sheffield and have disabilities and special needs. Often it will be the first time a child has stayed away from home. These highly important residential visits help the children grow in confidence, gain independence and develop social skills. The last two years has left a huge gap in these areas and the charity is helping get these children back on track.

Darren was joined by Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire, R.W.Bro. Jim Steggles, his wife, Joan. W.Bro. Dr Philip Drury, P.G.J.D. and his wife Ruth also joined the group being regular visitors to the farm which is open to all.

R.W.Bro. Steggles said, 'We are hugely in awe of the dedication and commitment of the staff and volunteers at the farm. We are delighted that the grant from the Mark Benevolent Fund has made such a difference to those who stay at the farm and we will certainly be visiting again.'

Find out more:

www.whirlowhallfarm.org @WhirlowHallFarm

<https://twitter.com/whirlowhallfarm>











Across Social Media

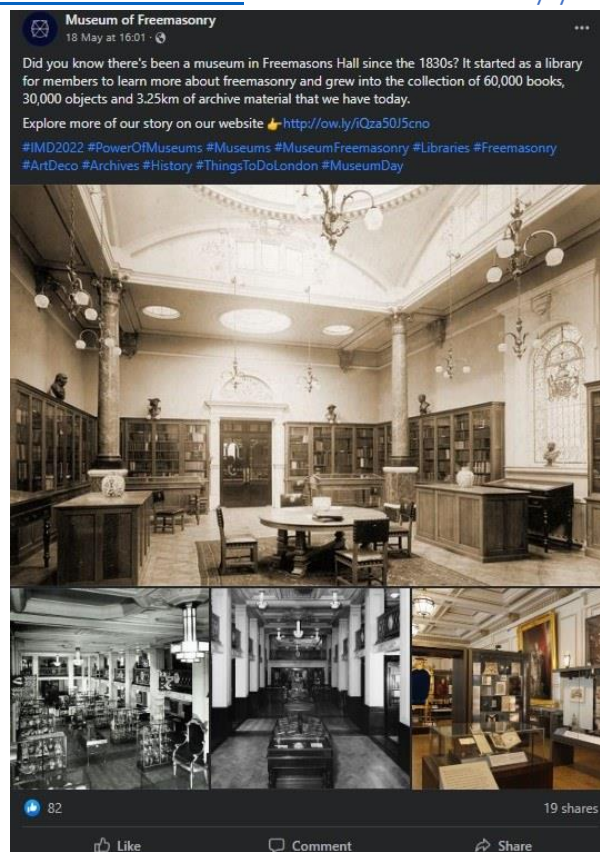
On [Twitter](https://twitter.com/statuses/1526867245099524096) - Dogs continue to be the pet of choice for helping us learn our rituals
[http://twitter.com/statuses/1526867245099524096](https://twitter.com/statuses/1526867245099524096)

And, Eurovision causes a look back at the Grand Summus' Abba inspired elevator pitch
[http://twitter.com/statuses/1525422816832659456](https://twitter.com/statuses/1525422816832659456)

On [Facebook](#) - The [Provincial Priory of Durham](#) get the red carpet treatment



And, the [Museum at Freemasons' Hall](#) looks back at its early years and development



Not seeing your news? Join us on Social Media

Social Media is becoming an increasingly important platform for how we get to hear about what is going on further afield in all of our Orders. If your Province/District/Division has a Facebook Page/Group or Twitter Feed, or if you represent a Masonic Club or Society linked to our Orders, please send us an invite to join or follow you.

We can be found at:

Facebook - [Mark Secretariat](#) - This is the contact account for the [Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page](#)

Twitter - [@MarkMasonsHall](#)

Or you can email us at communications@mmh.org.uk

Calendar of Annual Meetings

Grand Meetings Calendar 2022 - All Orders

Please note all timings are approximate. Refer to the Summons for confirmation.

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Intended Time	Meeting Starts	Meeting Ends	Temp. Meet	Approx. Finish
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 6 March 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council	Thursday, 10 April 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
SC	Grand Senatus	Thursday, 10 May 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT	Grand Priory	Wednesday, 18 May 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Provincial Officers	Thursday, 10 June 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM
WCC	Grand Imperial Conference	Thursday, 10 July 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:45 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Provincial Officers	Thursday, 11 September 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
KBHC	Grand Priory	Thursday, 11 September 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
AMD	Grand Council	Thursday, 20 October 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	11:30 AM	1:15 PM	2:15 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
OSM	Grand Council	Thursday, 20 November 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT	Grand Priory of Wales	Thursday, 21 November 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RAM	Regional Assembly	Thursday, 21 December 2022	MMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 3AZ	2:00 PM	4:45 PM	6:00 PM	6:45 PM	8:30 PM

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

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At the meeting of Mark Grand Lodge at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Raymond John Smith, announced that the Mark Benevolent Fund would be donating

£25,000 to the Mark Inspectorate of Romania who have been working proactively in many ways to provide support and relief to their neighbours in Ukraine.

This tremendous endeavour has touched Freemasons across the Constitution and many of our Brethren are keen to add their own support by making a donation.

We have set up a Relief Chest with the M.C.F. under the name of the **Mark Emergency Relief Fund** and you can now make donations in a variety of ways.

We know that there is enormous support for this already. To make the administration of donations as smooth as possible, enabling funds to be transferred efficiently to where they are needed most, we ask that you note the following advice regarding donations:

For individual donations of less than £100 - please make arrangements with your Mark Lodge for these to be collected centrally and then for the Lodge to make one consolidated donation into the Fund. These consolidated donations will count toward the Lodge's M.B.F. honorifics, rather than each individuals.

Donations of £100 or more may be made by individuals directly into the fund and will count towards the Brother's M.B.F. Honorifics

In all correspondence please ensure you are donating to:

Mark Emergency Relief Fund

Relief Chest No.: **MMM185622**

The quickest and easiest way to donate is by scanning the QR code below or following this [Link](#).



For a Credit Card Donation Form [Click Here](#) - remembering to use your **Craft Lodge name and number**, not your Mark Lodge.

For a Single Donation Form [Click Here](#) - remembering to use your **Craft Lodge name and number**, not your Mark Lodge.

If you would like more information about the ways in which you can donate using the digital options above, you can read the Digital Donations Guide by [Clicking Here](#)

And if you, or your Lodge, already hold a Relief Chest from which you would like to donate funds, there is a further, specific guide available by [Clicking Here](#) and a simple transfer guide available by [Clicking Here](#)

[V.W.Bro. Cristian Mihutoiu, Grand Inspector for Romania has sent us details of the humanitarian activities he and his Brethren are developing for the Ukrainian refugees.](#)

1) ACCOMMODATION

For both refugees coming from the North by car and on foot, and those coming from the South by ferry, there are requirements for short term accommodation places for at least 3-4 days, after which some of them are travelling to other European countries while others are being hosted by Romanian families. For this purpose we are cooperating with the Government to supply the following facilities:

- special tents for more than 20 people

- electrical heating devices
- beds and blankets
- personal hygiene products

On the other hand, there are many small hotel owners which offer their facilities for the refugees asking in return for the payment for the utilities (gas, water, electricity).

2) MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- emergency kits
- small surgery kits
- antibiotics and other different medicines
- disinfecting solvents
- cleaning sets
- medical face masks

3) FOOD AND WATER SUPPLIES

- sandwiches
- warm food freshly prepared
- still water
- disposable plates and cups

4) TRANSPORTATION FROM THE BORDER TO DIFFERENT CITIES AND AIRPORT

Many Ukrainian refugees are leaving Romania after 3-4 days spent at the border, through the major airports, especially Bucharest. So they need free transportation.

5) SPECIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE FOR CHILDREN AND MOTHERS

Small children and mothers are very shocked and need specialised psychological assistance to recover.

6) CLOTHES SUPPLIES

Collecting and storing clothes for adults and children and distributing to the refugees as well as specialised articles for children.

Additionally we face the problem with those refugees who are asking to stay in Romania and need integration, long term accommodation and integration in our society. Many of them speak only Ukrainian or Russian.

Please also note that in the first wave of refugees arriving in the past 10 days, most of them have some financial resources. But the second wave, starting next week, will be those with very poor resources and who will require better care and support.

As of Wednesday, more than 250,000 refugees crossed the Romanian border and we are expecting up to 1 million in the next 30 days or less.

We are developing different support programs including in cooperation with other important organisations such as our National Craft Grand Lodge and international charity organisations such as LIONS Romania.

This is a brief presentation of our activities in support of the Ukrainian refugees who are facing a dramatic situation at the Romanian borders.

We are living in difficult times which require us, more than ever, and out of compassion and unity, to help those in difficult situations. Brotherhood and friendship must prevail.

Fraternal regards,

Cristian.

The Shop@86

[Click Here](#) to visit the Shop@86 website

Please note: As a result of the current pandemic and supply issues, there may be delays to the despatch of orders. For enquiries about your order please email Regalia@mmh.org.uk





MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels

The new-look MBF Stewardship Jewels have now been designed for the following Festivals:

[2022 Surrey](#)

[2023 West Yorkshire](#)

[2024 Cheshire](#)

[2025 Oxfordshire](#)

[2026 Hampshire & IOW](#)

[2027 Warwickshire](#)

[2028 Somerset](#)

[2030 Essex](#)

We have added the bank account name to all the forms so please use the latest form and details as found in the links above.

















We reported recently that the new style MBF Festival Stewardship is aimed principally, but not exclusively, at members of each host Festival Province.

In return for a qualifying donation of £100, each Steward will be entitled to:

- A distinctive Stewards' breast jewel, year bar and pocket jewel holder.
- Inclusion of their name in the Festival Stewards' Roll of Honour in the Festival booklet
- And for individuals making their first donation under the scheme, qualification as a Life Governor of the Mark Benevolent Fund – the first step on the ladder of honorifics.

Monies raised by the take-up of Festival Stewardships will, of course, be included in each respective Festival total.

Helping to Combat Covid



At the start of Lockdown the Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Ryan A. Williams, P.G.J.W., shared the [COVID Symptom Study](#) app.

As local lockdowns and UK cases increase, with over 4 million users, this app is a useful source of information regarding the situation in your area, as well as being a portal through which people of all ages and backgrounds are joining together to fight COVID, support the NHS, help scientific research and help get us out of lockdown safely.

Admin Departments @86



We're pleased to have now fully re-opened Mark Masons' Hall, with the Admin teams, Catering staff and Bar facilities operating business as usual.

All departments and teams are available via email and telephone to help and support members and visitors.

Most communication for Masonic Administration should go via the Provincial Secretary or equivalent and they will know who to contact here at M.M.H. if they are unable to answer the query themselves.

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