

# Freemasonry@86 News 27 October 2023



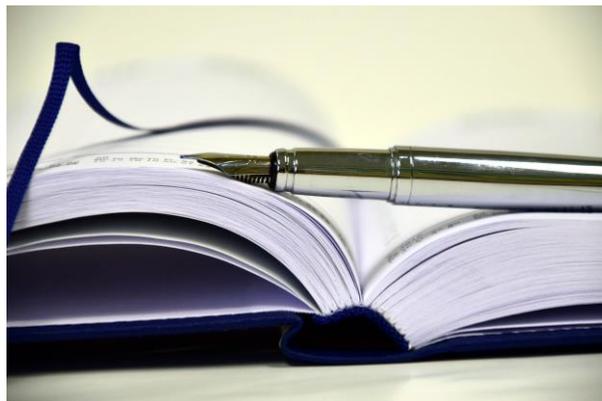
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Companion Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

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## Companion 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, 28 October - Mark** Installation of V.W.Bro. John Trevor Bolton, P.G.J.O., as Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire

**Thursday, 9 November - O.S.M.** Annual Convocation of Grand Conclave, Freemasons' Hall, London [Click Here](#) for more details

**Thursday, 16 November - S.C.** Installation of Dist.Comp. Terence Douglas Sheern, Prov.G.Reg., as Prov.G.S. for Essex

**Saturday, 18 November - A.M.D.** Installation of W.Bro. Lawrence James Hinde, P.G.S.D., as District Grand Prefect for Cumberland and Westmorland

**Tuesday, 21 November - K.T.** Chapter of Great Priory of Malta, Freemasons' Hall, London [Click Here](#) for more details

**Monday, 4 December - K.B.H.C.** Consecration of Verulamium Lodge of S.M.S.A. No. 22, Prefecture of Anglo-Saxon

**Monday, 11 December - R.A.M.** Annual Assembly, Freemasons' Hall, London [Click Here](#) for more details

**Wednesday, 13 December - R.S.M.** Consecration of Lancashire Council of Anointed Kings No. 344, District of Lancashire

## A.M.D. Grand Council



On Tuesday, Brethren from across the Constitution and the worldwide A.M.D. community could not be deterred from going 'on tramp' to Freemasons' Hall, London, despite severe flooding in parts of the UK and bomb threats in French airports.

The annual meeting of Grand Council was presided over by M.W.Bro. Thomas Firth Jackson, Grand Master, in his usual warm and welcoming manner. He was delighted to confer appointment to, or Promotion in, Grand Rank on 114 Brethren and invest those present. The Grand Master was also extremely pleased to welcome representatives from around the World, including: Spain, South and East Caribbean, America, India, France, South East Asia, and Bolivia.

Thank you to all those who made such an effort to be present and support the meeting and their friends and Brethren receiving the Grand Ranks. And our congratulations to all those recipients. We hope you had a very enjoyable day.

You can read the text of the Grand Masters address [here](#).







## Scarlet Cord Consecrations



The Grand Summus of the Scarlet Cord, Ian Currans, was delighted to be in Bordeaux last weekend for the Consecration of four new Consistories within the Inspectorate of France. He was pleased to be accompanied by so many Companions of the Order who had chosen to join the trip at their own expense. The Grand Episcopus, Charles Aspinell, had chosen the four groups of tribes appointed to guard the Tabernacle as a theme with which to weave together the four Orations, in order that they would make a complete story. So it was rather fitting that, before returning to the UK, the team were invited to visit the awe-inspiring eleventh-century monolithic church of St Emilion.

We are grateful to our Companions in France for the welcome we received and the hospitality we enjoyed. We wish these new Consistories every success in the future and look forward to watching them grow and flourish.





## Hertfordshire R.S.M. District Meeting



On Saturday 21 October, a delegation from Surrey braved the rain and the M25 to attend the Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of Hertfordshire held at The Cloisters in Letchworth Garden City. We received a very warm welcome from R.III.Comp. Peter John Brindle, District Grand Master, and the Hertfordshire Companions. Present at the meeting were many Right Illustrious Companions from other Districts. The Companions were called to Order to receive the Past District Grand Master for Hertfordshire. The Companions were again called to Order to receive the District Grand Master who entered the Temple in procession, accompanied by the Provincial Grand Officers of the Year. District Grand Council was opened in due form and the District Grand Master was saluted with seven under direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The District Grand Master welcomed the honoured guests of the District and other Distinguished Companions. The Right Illustrious Companions were saluted with seven under the direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies and R.III.Comp. Vince Driver, District Grand Master for London, responded appropriately.

After the regular business of District Grand Council had been concluded, the District Grand Master was pleased to re-appoint V.III.Comp. John Harlow Wickes, **P.G.Lect.**, as Deputy District Grand Master thanking him for his support during the past year. V.III.Comp. John was saluted with five under the direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The District Grand Master announced that he was appointing III.Comp. John Stuart Kay, **P.A.G.D.C.**, as District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work. A procession was formed to escort the District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work Designate into the Temple. III.Comp. John was obligated, invested,

and installed as Deputy District Grand Master. He was then saluted with five under the direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies. The District Grand Master then appointed and invested his Officers.

The District Grand Master addressed District Grand Council. He said how delighted he was to see so many Companions in the Temple and congratulated all those who had received District Grand Rank that day. He thanked all the guests for attending to support the District and thanked them for their hospitality when he and his team visited their Districts. He charged everyone with invigorating Cryptic Masonry in Hertfordshire and asked them to support the Craft and Royal Arch, where our candidates come from. He thanked the District Grand Recorder and the District Grand Director of Ceremonies and their teams for all their hard work in ensuring today was such a success.

District Grand Council was closed in due form and the Right Illustrious District Grand Master retired in procession accompanied by Right Illustrious Companions, and Honoured Guests. The District Grand Master greeted his honoured guests on their way out of the Temple. We were then invited to a drinks reception where we had another opportunity to catch up with old friends. The Companions of the Province of Hertfordshire and their guests sat down to enjoy a convivial meal together in the dining room at The Cloisters.













## Allied Masonic Degrees – Thames Valley District Annual Meeting 2023



On 21 October 2023, Thames Valley District held their Annual Meeting at a new venue at Freemasons Hall, Bletchley, Buckinghamshire. The District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. Robert Chevin was delighted with over 70 Brethren including a number visiting DGP's from other Districts attending his first meeting since his Installation in 2022. The District Grand Prefect re-appointed his Deputy, A Bro. Simon Gillis and the rest of the District Officers. The Brethren then retired for an excellent Festive Board.







## Mark Ladies Night in Hong Kong



On 14 October 2023, the District Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons' of Hong Kong held their Ladies Night. Over 80 people attended and dined on a Chinese supper. It was a wonderful way to thank them for their ongoing support and encouragement for their partners who were able to attend regular Lodge Meetings throughout the year. They are an important part of our Freemasonry community, and their contributions are greatly appreciated. Many thanks to District Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Patrick Purnell-Edwards and his Deputy Worshipful Brother Doctor Buddy Wong for kindly sponsoring Wine and Fizz. The District Grand Junior Warden, W.Bro. John Wan toasted the ladies and thanked them for their support and encouragement.

## A Special Evening for Cheshire View Consistory 12TI



Wednesday, 18 October proved to be a Special Evening for 12TI on many levels. First, we enjoyed a splendid turnout of Officers and Members. Secondly, we were honoured with a Visit from our Provincial Grand Summus and his Deputy, accompanied by a goodly proportion of his Provincial Team and Tzaddikim. Thirdly, we had not one, but Four Princes of the Secret Monitor joining us for a First Grade Ceremony. The Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist. Comp. J. Christopher Welton, V, was welcomed by the President, Dist.Comp. Malcolm Orr III, and held the Gavel just long enough to

introduce those members of the Provincial Team in attendance. The whole company reassembled downstairs to spend the remainder of the evening in a most enjoyable Social Board.



## Grand High Priest Degree



Valley Council No.229 had an Emergency meeting on Saturday, 21 October to admit ten Candidates to the High Priest degree. Eight turn up, one made an excuse and one was out of the Island. The degree was done by

W.Bros. Achirri Adams doing the first part and Alfrec Taylor doing the second. The candidates were Bros. Stanton C Haynes, Joseph C T Evelyn, Gary A Ramsay, Andre L Adams, Samuel E Mason, Patrick O Hinkson,

Leo F S Brewster and Kofi P Hinds. It was a great degree with some nice ritual work. I was there as the District Grand Prefect to offer support and W.Bro. Michael W Smith assisted with the Ritual work. I will see after the 23rd.



## A Fine Example of Mark Caring



A Mark Caring Committee Meeting was held at the end of September at the home of the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, V.W. Bro. Roy Neville, attended by Assistant Grand Master W.Bro. Michael Wilkinson. At the conclusion of the meeting and as Michael departed, Roy commented that as a result of his wife's illness he had lost control of his front garden. With a half smile Michael responded that next time he would bring his shovel.

On Saturday, 30 September Michael and his wife Anita turned up at Roy's house with a shovel and a full set of gardening tools together with trays of flowers which would survive the winter. And so began the transformation. They returned on the following Saturday, 07 October, to complete what they had started with their only reward being the satisfaction of bringing a little sunshine into a difficult situation.

After many years of approving grants and issuing cheques to worthy causes and Mark Master Masons in distress, Roy found himself on the receiving end with this wonderful gesture by Michael and Anita. Caring can be demonstrated in so many ways and this outstanding act of kindness is a good illustration of how Michael intends to address the subject in the Province of Durham with the full support of the Provincial Grand Almoner, V.W.Bro. Keith Liddell.

## New Most Puissant Sovereign for Dyfrig Sant Conclave No. 295



At the Meeting of the Dyfrig Sant Conclave No. 295 at the Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Merthyr Tydfil on Tuesday 17 October 2023. Em.Kt. Christopher D. Davies was enthroned as the new Most Puissant Sovereign for the ensuing year by his blood brother M.P. Kt. Geraint W. Davies Divisional Prefect.

The Ceremony of Enthronement was carried out in an outstanding and expert manner by M.P. Kt. Geraint W. Davies Div.Pref. The Ceremony of Consecration of Worthy Knight Kevin R. Jones as

Eminent Viceroy by Em.Kt. Christopher D. Davies P.Div.Sent. was completed in a very impressive manner.

In attendance were R.III.Kt. Nigel Lloyd Angell JP Intendant General, III.Kt. John M. Steward P.G.Chamb., Deputy Intendant General and Divisional Eusebius III.Kt. Keith O. Fry P.G.Pref. Accompanied by a very good number of Divisional Officers supporting both the Divisional Executive and the Dyfrig Sant Conclave. These included the Divisional General's Sword Bearer, acting Standard Bearer's and the Division Sepulchre Guard captained by P. Kt. Alan R. Hulbert Div Warden of Regalia who's also an active member of the Grand, Sepulchre Guard. Also in attendance were Grand Officers, in particular III.Kt.D. Geraint Puw P.G.Chamb, Captain of the Grand Sepulchre Guard. At the Festive the Intendant General while presenting an unofficial certificate to M.P.Kt. Christopher D. Davies as a memento of the evening, which is a custom within this Division. R.III.Kt. Nigel L. Angell *JP*, commented upon the very high standard of the ritual carried out by all participating within the Conclave at the very convivial

Festive Board, held within the Masonic Hall the caterers provided its usual excellent repast for the attendees.

## Lord Bolton Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 785



Friday, 20 October 2023 saw the Lord Bolton Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 785 celebrate 100 years of Mark Masonry at Beverley Road, Hull. The Lodge were honoured by the presence of the Assistant Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Keith Wilson and the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies W.Bro. Andrew James Brown.

The Lodge was also honoured by the presence of the Provincial Grand Master of North & East Yorkshire R.W.Bro. Bob Clancey, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master W.Bro. Ian Murdoch and seventeen members of the Provincial team along with visiting Grand Officers for this daytime Mark Lodge meeting. The Provincial Grand Master then gave out a Provincial field appointment of P.P.G.S.D to W.Bro. Tim Dillon.

The Assistant Grand Master presented the Centenary Warrant to the Worshipful Master and the current members were introduced to him.

W.Bro.J. Stephen Priestley, P.G.J.D. then delivered a short history of the Lodge, its change to a daylight Lodge, and also identified members of the Orde-Powlett (Lord Bolton) family to whom the Lodge owed its' name.

Those present then retired to a wonderful all you can eat buffet served by the excellent chef at Beverley Road, Hull.



## The Cheshire Deputy Provincial Grand Master's Report from Italy



Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Derek Joseph Walsh JP, and his wife Dawn, having landed at Rome Fiumicino on Friday, 20 October, enjoyed the evening in Roman city. On Saturday 20th, W.Bro. Derek attended the District Grand Lodge of Mark Master of Italy's AGM, receiving the warmest of Italian style welcomes and finding himself in very illustrious company. From left, A.G.M. Grand Lodge of France, Prov.G.M. Middlesex, Derek Walsh, Dist.G.M. Romania, A.Dist.G.M. Romania, Past Grand Master Finland, Dist.G.M. Netherlands.

A special meeting, the first for the District Grand Master after his investiture in 2022.

W.Bro. Derek was invited to deliver an explanation of the 2024 Mark Benevolent Fund Festival Banquet weekend and not one to miss an opportunity, presented the District Grand Master with a 2024 Pin Badge and then invited all the brethren present to buy one at the festive board, no mean feat given that our Dep.Prov.G.M. speaks little Italian. The Dep.Dist.G.M. Guilliano kindly translated the words.

The meeting was followed by an Italian styled festive board. Many courses complimented with wines, toasts and speeches of thanks and compliments.

The Dep.Prov.G.M., accompanied by the Dep.Dist.G.M. and the Dist.G.D.C., managed to sell all his stock of pin badges to the Brethren.

Now that's a result.

Special thanks to the Dist.G.M. of Romania and the Brethren for their support.









Deeside Lodge of  
Mark Master Masons



**Centenary Celebration**  
**1923 - 2023**

**Friday 29th September 2023**  
**Wallasey Masonic Hall**  
**Manor Road**  
**Wallasey CH45 7LU**









## Reasons to be cheerful



As we all know, waiting for buses can sometimes be a very frustrating past time you wait and wait and wait and suddenly three turn up at the same time. The same can equally be said of Candidates!

Such had been the case for Chichester Conclave No. 471, in the Province of Sussex, until today! Our Prov.G.S.R. and his team have been on a charm offensive throughout the Lodges and Centres of Sussex, holding talks and arranging open days, to promote both the Order of the Secret Monitor and the Scarlet Cord, and happily the positive approach is now reaping positive results.

The conclave held their Installation meeting on 03 October 2023 at the Chichester Masonic Hall and Wy.Bro. Tim Wheeler was proclaimed as Supreme Ruler for a second year. But the main event of the night was a triple Induction. Bros. Stephen Campbell, Maurice Campbell (no relation) and Tony Edwards were all Inducted into the Order and this was no ordinary meeting, no sir.

In attendance was not only the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Sussex, R.Wy.Bro. Dries Van de Burgh but the Grand Supreme Ruler himself M.Wy.Bro. Andrew Sweeney, attended by his Grand Director of Ceremonies, Wy.Bro. Ray Ellis.

This is a small Conclave and any absences are keenly felt so when on the morning of the meeting we learned of an injury to the Director of Ceremonies who just also happened to be the Installing Officer for the Proclamation, last minute changes had to be made, a stand in Director of Ceremonies and Installing Officer were hurriedly arranged. After the conclave was Opened the Grand Supreme Ruler entered and was warmly welcomed by the Brethren in attendance. The triple induction was carried out with the Supreme Ruler, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and the Grand Supreme Ruler all taking part to provide a very unique evening and one our three Inductees will not soon forget. The evening nearly came to a calamitous early finish when in a complete fluke one of the Candidates was accidentally struck by a misfired arrow! I cannot tell you of the shocked gasp that went around the room. Thankfully no serious harm was done and the rest of the ceremony proceeded without incident. Nor can I tell you who fired the arrow, owing to the very strict GDPR regulations that exist in the Netherlands.

In contrast the Proclamation was a very calm affair and our new Inductees were very quickly put to use, all receiving Offices in the appointment of Officers. After the meeting closed, the Brethren retired and a very convivial Festive Board was held before bidding goodnight and safe travels to the Grand Supreme Ruler for a very long drive home.

You might have expected three Candidates in one week to be enough for any Province, but no! The evening before the meeting in Chichester, Royal Sussex Conclave No. 10 held and Induction for their 5th Candidate in the past 12 months. The Provincial Grand Supreme ruler was also in attendance for this meeting, having had to hot foot back from Freemasons Hall, where he had been attending the celebratory Sesquicentenary Meeting of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters.

Bro. Andrew Kilvington was Inducted into the Conclave, in a very well organized and highly polished evening. All present enjoyed a wonderful ceremony in the conclave and a cosy but lively festive board afterwards. Bro. Andrew who owing to the miseries of disruption of covid had patiently been awaiting his chance to join, said afterwards, that the evening had entirely lived up to all of his expectations.

All in all, this has been a fantastic week for the Secret Monitor in Sussex, and with the Prov.G.S.R's roadshows being a great pull, it is hoped that further candidates will soon be coming in to the other Conclaves of the Province as well.



## Man of Kent Consistory No.36 TI



It was a busy night at Man of Kent Consistory No.36 TI starting with an official visit from the Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Phil Clare accompanied by his Deputy and Assistant.

Then the Consistory got to work with a candidate taking his 1st Grade, no less than 5 Companions taking their 3rd Grade and the presentation of 5 Preparation Certificates.

Applications for 3 candidates were read and as can be seen by the last photo, this Consistory is in amazing health and continues to prosper.





## Maeides Stana Conclave No. 341 in Kent



Maeides Stana Conclave No. 341 in Kent had a busy evening starting with an official visit from the newly appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Wy.Bro. Scott Dunn.

The work then started with the Supreme Ruler, Wy.Bro. Ian Sullivan, giving a Shakespearian performance as 2 Brethren took their Princes Degree.





**Aberteifi Conclave No. 397 Enthronement Assembly held at the Masonic Hall Napier Street Cardigan 25 October 2023**



What a wonderful evening of Christian Fellowship witnessed and enjoyed by all who attended, including those Conclave members and Divisional Officers who participated in both the Proclamation Ceremony for a further term in office of the current Sovereign P.Kt. David Harries. Likewise, the Consecration Ceremony of W.Kt. Peter B. Turner A.Div.Rec. as the incoming Aberteifi Conclave Viceroy.

The Conclave was opened at 6pm by the Sovereign, Salutations were afforded to the Sovereign and the Intendant-General of the Division of South Wales and Monmouthshire R.III.Kt. Nigel Lloyd Angell *JP*, Deputy Intendant-General III.Kt. John M. Steward P.G.Chamb, and Divisional Eusebius III.Kt. Keith O. Fry P.G.Pref. all of whom responded appropriately.

The Deputy Intendant General III. Kt. John M. Steward P.G.Chamb. taking up the position as High Prelate for the evening. The Worthy Knights stood as a mark of respect to V.III.Kt. Gareth D. Gait, P.G.H.Alm. a Past Deputy Intendant-General of this Division who had been called to Higher Service over the last week.

III.Kt. Stephen Waters P.G. Prefect, Divisional Marshal supported the Conclave by acting as Conclave Marshal during both these very important Ceremonies for the Conclave. III.Kt. Stephen was also honoured to be requested to carry out what can only be described as a superb Proclamation Ceremony of P.Kt. David Harries. The current Viceroy Em.Kt. Christopher Samuel assisted by the Divisional Recorder III. Kt. Barry J. Stubbings P.G.St.B.(L.) Consecrated the Viceroy elect W.Kt. Peter B. Turner, in a very impressive manner.

The Conclave Marshal III.Kt. D Nigel Adams P.G. Chamb. on behalf of the Conclave members thanked all those Divisional Officers who had stood in, to assist the Conclave due to the higher than usual number of apologies received from the Conclave membership.

The Intendant General R.III.Kt. Nigel L. Angell *JP*, commented upon the very high standard of the ritual carried out by all participating within the Conclave at the very convivial Festive Board, held within the Masonic Hall the caterers provided its usual excellent repast for the attendees.

## O.S.M. Province celebrates Golden Jubilee



At the amalgamation of the O.S.M. Provinces of Durham and Northumberland in July 2023 into the North-East Province the inscription on a ceremonial sword “presented by R.W.Bro. W Robinson P.G.V. on the occasion of the constitution of N-E Province 17 October 1973” inspired members to celebrate the 50th anniversary of that event.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler R.Wy.Bro. John David Watts therefore led the first full provincial visit of the reconstituted province to Wudcester Conclave at Ashington on 24 October 2023, the first possible meeting after the anniversary on 17 October.

20 Acting Provincial Officers supported by 11 members of the Provincial Arch of Steel witnessed second degree candidate Bro Andrew Charles Jennings (Mark Dep.G.D.C.) become a Prince of the Order in a ceremony well delivered by S.R. Wy.Bro. Paul Dunning.

At the festive board which followed three Past Provincial Supreme Rulers of the Northumberland and Durham Provinces formed in April 2002, R.Wy.Bros. John Warham, Kenneth Embleton and Colin Hume assisted John Watts to use the ceremonial sword and cut a celebration cake.



## Charities round up



## Working together with the Craft Degree in Cumberland and Westmorland



A request was received from The Solway Aviation Museum for assistance in the purchase of a defibrillator.

The museum which is located near Carlisle Airport, is run entirely by volunteers. Having a defibrillator on site provides peace of mind and the means to afford assistance to the volunteers or visitors.

Following a brief discussion between the Mark Prov.G.M. R.W.Bro. Barry Kirkbride and the Craft Prov.G.M., R.W.Bro. Bill Bewley, resulting in meetings of the trustees of both Provincial Benevolent Funds. The Craft and the Mark decided to jointly fund the provision of the machine. The cost to each Order was £807.

On Thursday, 26 October both Provincial Grand Masters together with their teams were delighted to make the presentation to the museum.

The defibrillator is mounted in a secure box outside the museum so that it can be accessed by members of the public when the museum is closed and is full registered with the local emergency services. The plaque attached to the defibrillator refers the Craft and the Mark.

R.W.Bro. Bill Bewley often says, 'We are all in the same outfit we just wear different caps.' This is the first joint donation and we hope there will be many more.



## Jerusalem and Gaza update



**St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group**

**CEO Update on Current Crisis**

1. **Gaza:** hostilities in Gaza and Israel have continued for the 18th day with an increased number of casualties. Based on clear instructions from the Israeli Military Authorities, most of the Gazans residing in the northern districts have fled to the south. Humanitarian supplies have started to reach from the Rafah Crossing which opened for the third consecutive day, allowing entry of 54 trucks carrying food, water, and medical supplies. For detailed information on the current crisis, please refer to the latest update from the United Nations' Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

As for our staff, all have also fled to the south district of the Gaza Strip, and all remain unharmed. However, it is worth mentioning that we have not been able to contact all of them due to electricity and telecommunication problems.

The Board has decided to pay our staff in Gaza their full salaries despite the fact that our work has stopped since the beginning of the crisis. This decision was well received by the staff in Gaza as well as all at the Group.

2. **Jerusalem:** in the past 24 hours, the Israeli Authority has started allowing emergency surgical cases to reach East Jerusalem Hospitals. The surgical appoint team has been working hard to overcome logistical issues related to patients' transportation as well as movements within the West Bank. We will utilize this window of opportunity to bring in as many surgical patients as possible.

Meanwhile, all new recruitment has been frozen until end of the year, and staff have been advised to consume all their annual leaves.

Due to the continued restrictions on movement for both staff and patients the surgical workload in Jerusalem is at 30-35% of normal activities. As for outpatients there has been a slight recovery and as many as 100-120 patients are seen daily at the OPD which makes up 50-60% of the usual/normal activities.

**Kufor Aqab Clinic:** due to the inability of patients to reach Jerusalem, we have commenced subspecialty medical retina, uveitis, oculoplastic and pediatric services at the clinic. As for clinical activities, we are at almost 90% capacity.

The outreach team manages to conduct clinics most days, but a number of clinics had to be cancelled due to staff safety issues.

3. **Hebron Hospital:** the Hospital is functioning at almost 90% capacity with a noticeable increase in surgical activities reaching 100% of the normal workload.

4. **Anabta Centre:** due to the increased movement restrictions in the northern districts, clinical activities in Anabta fluctuate on a daily basis. However, since the beginning of the current crisis activities remain at 40% of the expected workload. Until now, it has been unsafe for our doctors to travel from Jerusalem to conduct subspecialty clinics in Anabta. Subject to a favorable security situation, it is likely that we will resume these visits next week.

5. The SJEHG Board and the Senior Leadership Team met on 19/10/2023 to update on the current position, on the status of the Emergency Appeal (details on the SJEHG website) and to ensure as far as possible sustainable services are maintained and delivered across Jerusalem and the West Bank.

## 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, and how we share the most up-to-date information with members. 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.

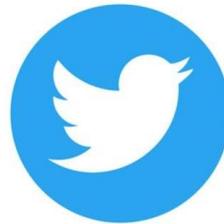
We can be found at:

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

Twitter - [@MarkMasonsHall](#)

Instagram - [@markmasonshall](#)

Or you can email us at [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)



## Calendar of Annual Meetings

### Grand Meetings Calendar 2023 - All Orders

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

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Refreshment Time	Meeting Starts	Medical Enthus	Official Start	Annex Ensh
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 7 March 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 AM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council - Limited Capacity	Tuesday, 18 April 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	3:00 PM
SC	Grand Senatus	Thursday, 4 May 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:00 PM
KT	Great Priory	Wednesday, 17 May 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Investiture Act 1818	Tuesday, 13 June 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	1:00 PM	3:15 PM	4:15 PM	5:45 PM
RCC	Grand Imperial Conclave	Tuesday, 4 July 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Investiture Proceedings	Tuesday, 12 September 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
KBHC	Grand Priory	Thursday, 14 September 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council - 150 Celebrations	Tuesday, 3 October 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	5:00 PM
AMD	Grand Council	Tuesday, 24 October 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:15 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
OSM	Grand Conclave	Thursday, 9 November 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT - Malta	Great Priory of Malta	Tuesday, 21 November 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RAM	Annual Assembly	Monday, 11 December 2023	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	5:00 PM

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

4/16/2023

[Click Here](#) to download a PDF copy of the Calendar

## MBF Festival Cheshire 2024



The image displays two heraldic crests. The left crest is a shield with a blue top section containing the word 'STEWARD' in gold. Below this is a gold band with a circular emblem, and a red bottom section with a shield and the word 'CHESHIRE'. The right crest is a shield with a red top section containing the words 'MARK BENEVOLENT FUND' and a red bottom section containing 'CHESHIRE 2024'. A QR code is positioned below the text.

156<sup>th</sup> MBF Festival Banquet  
will be held at the  
Concorde Conference Centre  
Wilmslow Old Rd, Altrincham  
WA15 8XQ  
Saturday, 6 July 2024

**BOOK HERE**



### Stewardship Jewels

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

[2024 Cheshire](#)

[2025 Oxfordshire](#)

[2026 Hampshire & IOW](#)

[2027 Warwickshire](#)

[2028 Somerset](#)

[2029 Durham](#)

[2030 Essex](#)

[2031 Northumberland](#)

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.



The Mark Emergency Relief Fund allows you to make donations in a variety of ways to the Ukraine Fund and the Türkiye / Syria earthquake and the recent Morocco earthquake (via our partners ShelterBox).

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](#).

Mark Emergency Relief Fund  
MMM185622

**To make a donation**  
scan with phone camera to open  
or visit URL

<https://gtap.uk/mmm185622>



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](#)

## Swift pins still available



For those who may not have been able to get their hands on one of the K.T. £20 for 2020 Appeal Swift Pins, there are still some available.

Provinces can order in bulk, or individuals can purchase single pins, by contacting Linda Read, M.M.H. Charities Finance Manager at [L.Read@mmh.org.uk](mailto:L.Read@mmh.org.uk) and Finance Assistant, Millie Pilson, [M.Pilson@mmh.org.uk](mailto:M.Pilson@mmh.org.uk)

Pins are £20 each and funds raised will go to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.

## Social Media Guidelines



**With our relatively new Pro Grand Masters in both the Craft and the Mark, we are continuing our close working relationship with our Brethren at Freemasons' Hall.**

**While we enjoy and encourage our members' enthusiasm for our Orders, it's important that we are mindful where and how we share our passion for Freemasonry.**

**Please ensure that any posts on social media about the Companion Orders are either restricted to groups, pages and websites that are open to all Orders or, if destined for Craft specific areas, are posted via a moderator to ensure they are a welcome additions to the news feed.**

## The Shop@86

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





## Admin Departments @86



All departments and teams at Mark Masons' Hall 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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