

Lodges in Province of Berkshire

Lodge	Venue	Meeting Dates	Contact Name	Tel. Number	Email Address
027 Porchester	Newbury	2nd Wed Feb, Mar, Oct, Nov	Roger McGuire	01635 42414	roger.mcguire@btinternet.com
235 Leopold	Sindlesham	Last Mon Jan, Mar, Sep	L Elwyn Hopkin	01344 750603	elwynhopkin@btinternet.com
257 Jersey	Wokingham	1st Thu Mar, 2nd Thu Apr, 1st Fri Oct, 3rd Thu Dec	Les Canham	0118 958 1348	les.canham1566@btinternet.com
519 Windsor Castle	Windsor	3rd Wed Nov, Jan, Mar	Alan Fone	01784 473404	alanfone@tsocali.co.uk
623 Valerita	Wokingham	4th Wed Feb, Apr, Oct, Nov	Tim Drummer	0118 377 8132	lodge.sec@ntworld.com
1094 Pangbourne	Pangbourne	2nd Fri Mar, May, Jul, Sep	Adrian S Lovell	01635 871872	adie5456@gmail.com
1162 Wallingford	Wallingford	2nd Wed Apr & Dec, Last Wed Jun & Sep	Frank Hames	01865 858393	frank.hames@btinternet.com
1207 Wantage	Wantage	2nd Mon in Jan, May, Sep	Geoff Webb	01235 819978	geoff@geoff1657.fisnet.co.uk
1330 Berks & Oxon Inst. Masters	Wallingford	1st Fri May, 4th Fri Oct	Huw Hopkin	01792 390255	huw.hopkin@lineone.net
1342 Hungerford	Newbury	2nd Tue Apr, Jul, Sep	Steve Berkshire	011635 30405	steve.berkshire@sky.com
1398 Old Rectory	Caversham	1st Thu Feb, May, Nov	Don Cox	0118 947 5126	don.cox@freetek.com
1430 Conrad Costin	Sindlesham	4th Tue Feb, Apr, 1st Tue Nov	Richard Mackrow	0118 961 1152	richardmackrow@btinternet.com
1555 Friendship & Care	Sindlesham	3rd Tue Jan, Mar, Nov	Paul Digby	01628 412712	pauldsm@aol.com
1568 Linden Acre	Wokingham	2nd Tue Apr, Oct	David Medley	01932 874111	mmnsec@lindenacre.org.uk
1616 Cranley	Windsor	2nd Mon Apr, 3rd Mon Oct	H E Henry Hobson	0208 780 2131	henry@snappysnaps-putney.co.uk
1627 Erleigh	Sindlesham	4th Sat Mar, 3rd Sat May, 2nd Sat Sep	Silverio Ostrowski	01793 783652	silverio@piece5-plus.com
1631 Caduceus	Wallingford	1st Mon Mar, Jul, Sep	Paul Ackland-Snow	01628 638183	paul.ackland-snow@sky.com
1657 Charles Wilkinson	Sindlesham	4th Thu Apr, 1st Thu Oct	Philip Batten	0118 969 9819	philipbatten@hotmail.com
1868 Wilder	Sindlesham	4th Tue Apr, Oct	Alan Smees	01628 660845	alanaj.smees@btopenworld.com

PROVINCIAL CONTACTS

Provincial Grand Master

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V.W.Bro. Graham D Seeman, P.G.J.O.
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W.Bro. A Huw Hopkin, P.G.Stwd.
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Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

W.Bro. Stephen (Steve) J Berkshire, P.G.J.D
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Provincial Grand Lodge of
Mark Master Masons
of
Berkshire



The Mark Degree

The Friendly Degree

Consider your next step
in Masonry

BERKSHIRE MARK

The Province of Berkshire was constituted in 1994 following the division of the former Province of Berkshire and Oxfordshire which was constituted in 1858, two years after the founding of Mark Grand Lodge in 1856.

The union of the two Craft Grand Lodges in 1813 'moved' the Mark Degree from being worked as part of Craft or Royal Arch Ceremonies and established its independence.

When numbers had grown sufficiently, this independence was cemented in 1856, by the formation of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons whose sesquicentenary was celebrated at the Royal Albert Hall in 2006.

This degree is the third largest in Masonry.

All Brethren are eligible to join the Mark Degree as soon as they become Master Masons in the Craft and there is no prerequisite to have attained the chair in the Craft before becoming a Worshipful Master in the Mark Degree. In fact, in this degree there is a very much fuller explanation of the role of Adoniram, which helps make some sense of his inclusion in the Craft ceremony.

This Mark Province of Berkshire has its own Benevolent Fund, the Berkshire Mark Benevolent Association (BeMBA), which supports members and their families and prides itself on its rapid response to requests for help.

THE DEGREE EXPLAINED

The Mark Degree is one of hope and encouragement and the ritual is built upon a single verse of Psalm 118, "*The stone which the builders rejected has become the headstone of the corner*". It deals with the building of King Solomon's Temple and the various Craftsmen employed, but its real message is one of contemplation of human strength and weakness.

The Degree contains many messages for the discerning man and illustrates that the wisest of men can be mistaken, that the experts are often wrong, that the weakest can display greater perseverance than the strongest, that the insignificant has the potential for distinction and that we all have a part to play in the *Building of Life*. It is for each to put his own interpretation on the message which the Degree proclaims, but there is a firm statement that no man is beyond redemption and the possibility of distinction is always within our grasp.

Finally the Degree reminds us that when the wisest and cleverest of the builders were gathered together only one exhibited the wisdom necessary to assume the mantle of leadership.

The degree represents the everyday life of each one of us, for the Stone hewn from the virgin rock depicts us all on our journey through life, and its final recognition as perfection should be the guide to our conduct through life so that we too *may finally be found worthy*.

This leaflet is published to draw your attention to the existence of the Mark Degree and to invite you to seriously consider taking '*the next regular step*'.

If you wish to know more about Mark Masonry please take a look on our website www.berksmark.org.uk, speak to one of the Lodge Secretaries, the Provincial Secretary, or any member of the Provincial Executive whose names, telephone numbers and email addresses may be found on the back of this leaflet and in the Mark section of the Berkshire Year Book; any of them will be very pleased to help you.

