

Freemasonry@86 News - 11 September 2020



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

This bulletin is emailed to all 'leaders' in the Provinces, Districts & Divisions and their Secretariats.

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Following the Government announcement



The Government announcement on Tuesday about maximum numbers has been the cause of much discussion across all Orders of Freemasonry this week and no doubt many Brethren have questions.

¹<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

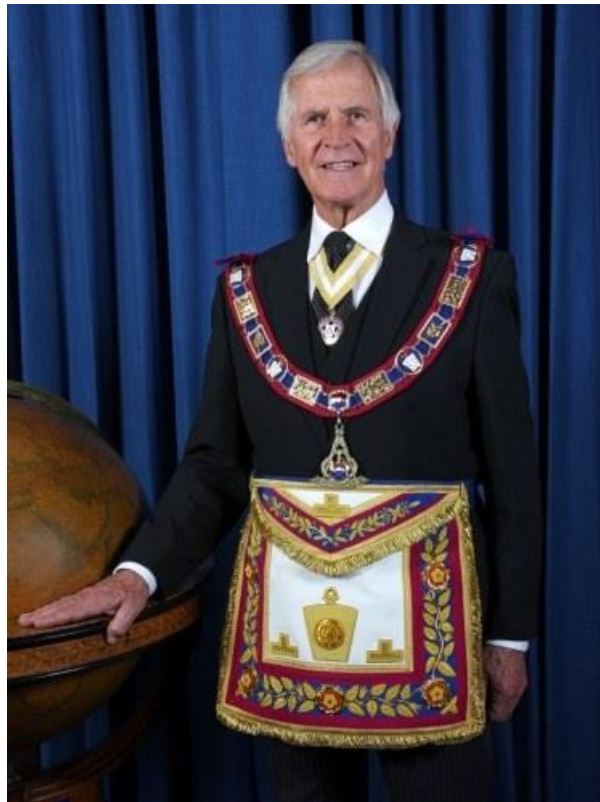
We will be able to answer these in due course but not until the legal advisers have been able to fully digest the legislation that is due to come into force on Monday.

The Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Ryan Williams, P.G.J.W., issued the following statement and we will update Brethren further as soon as the advice becomes available:

It is imperative that when UGLE and MMH issue guidance in response to the latest announcement about changes to Covid-19 legislation, it is based on a clear understanding of the implications and any exemption that might apply. It may be Monday before we can confirm the position.

In the meantime, this week we have lots to report on what we have been able to achieve in the short time since the General Suspension was lifted.

Mark Grand Lodge - September Communication



On Tuesday, the day of what was to have been the September Communication of Mark Grand Lodge, M.W.Bro. Raymond John Smith, Pro Grand Master, shared these words with Brethren:

It's a little more than two years since we took the decision to give over the September Communication to those Brethren being honoured with a promotion in Grand Rank.

The fact that so many of you have supported this meeting in the last two years, and in such large numbers, testifies to it being the right decision and I hope that, in more normal circumstances, you will feel able to continue that support in the future.

We stand on the brink of a new masonic year at a time when Freemasonry faces perhaps its greatest trial. The lifting of the General Suspension of Masonic Activity just six weeks ago, signalled the start

of a process aimed at creating an environment in which Lodges could resume their activities properly and safely.

Where this cannot happen, we have made it possible for administrative business to be conducted remotely, keeping things ticking over until face to face meetings can take place.

Communication has never been more important if we are to minimise the impact the pandemic will have on our numbers. Keeping in touch with one another; maintaining our interest in our craft; and demonstrating that Freemasonry is still relevant even in these unprecedented times, must be at the forefront of our actions.

Amid the difficulties we are all facing right now, we must look for hope and opportunities to celebrate Mark Masonry. Today, that hope exists in the achievements of those whom the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been pleased to promote in Grand Rank. Their preferment recognises their past contribution and is a reward for future efforts.

To you all, I send my warmest good wishes and to those for whom today is a special occasion, I offer you hearty congratulations on your preferment.

In his goodwill message last June, the Most Worshipful Grand Master charged each of us not to let the past dictate what we are, but to let it shape what we will become – perhaps a leaner organisation than before but one that is fitter and stronger.

In the spirit of that message, let us continue to look forward together to brighter days when we can resume our masonry safely and confidently.

KBHC Grand Priory



Likewise, on Thursday, on what would have been the day of the Annual Meeting of the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City, The M.Em. & Revd. Grand Master, Michael Edward Herbert, shared these words:

Today should have been the Annual Meeting of Grand Priory but because of the COVID-19 pandemic we are unable to meet. We would also have held an emergency meeting of the Prefecture of St. George of London, No.1 at which we would have created and commissioned as Knights many Squire Novices who have all merited this distinction. We look forward to being able to hold our Lodge meetings in the future but we must consider the health, safety and welfare of all of our members before doing so.

At the meeting of Grand Priory, I would have had the pleasure of conferring the honour and dignity of Knight Commander of the Holy City on V.Revd.Kt. Kessick John Jones and V.Revd.Kt. Ryan Andrew Williams. I congratulate them both. I also congratulate those Knights who would have been appointed to, or promoted in, Grand Rank. Although I am unable to invest them personally their new rank becomes effective from today.

The early part of the year had many encouraging and positive features. The sharing of the readings enabled many more members to participate in the ceremony and the candidates now have a seat provided for them whilst listening to the longer discourses. I am delighted by the enthusiasm being shown by all the members and this is reflected by the high morale across all the four Prefectures. Most pleasingly all of the newest Lodges have been established on a sure foundation and are already showing steady growth. I have spoken with all the Regional Prefects and I admire the manner in which they have led their Region through out these difficult times. In addition, we are blessed that senior Knights Templar are showing a keen desire to join our Order.

I must now give my grateful thanks to the Deputy Grand Master, R.Revd.Kt. John Wright; the Grand Visitor General, R.Revd.Kt. Vivian Thomas; the President of the Grand Master's Council, R.Revd.Kt. Kessick Jones; the Grand Chancellor, R.Revd.Kt. Ryan Williams and all the other senior officers and the staff at Mark Masons` Hall for their loyalty, support and sound advice.

Over the years Freemasonry has weathered many storms. We now need patience and a firm resolve until we finally emerge from this pandemic when we will be ready to meet our new challenges. We look forward to consecrating a new Lodge in Avalon.

May the Great Architect of the Universe keep you safe and well.

God bless you all.

The Knights of the Vision Beautiful

[24 Hour Relay in aid of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital](#)

On Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th September 2020 a Team of fifteen Knights and two wives completed socially-distanced laps of a roughly 5.5 mile course around central London in aid of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital. They chose the team name Knights of the Vision Beautiful to both reflect the Christian nature of our United Orders and the work of the Eye Hospital.

The Provincial Priorities of London itself, Middlesex, Essex, Surrey, Sussex, Kent, Somerset and Dorset & Wiltshire were all represented by the Members of the Team. They were also joined by Knights from the Scottish Constitution and a Knight of the Rose Croix.

The course started and ended at the New Temple by the gate to Temple Church, the second area in London occupied by the original Knights Templar. It followed a number of historical landmarks, not the least being the Tower of London & Malta Monument, Churches, the London Wall, the Guildhall, the Charterhouse (passing the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group office), the historical and modern Order of the Hospital of St John Headquarters at St John's Gate and back to the start via the Old Temple site.

Knights travelled around the course non-stop from midday on the Saturday until midday on the Sunday. One Knight, Will Rouse of Essex, even did an extra warm-up lap to map out the course in his head before he took over officially (the Team also suspect that he may have snuck the odd extra lap in within his time!). Seirios Kokkalis (of London), the Team Pheidippides, was due to be "*Knight Watchmen*" from midnight until 5am, but decided to come early and, in a socially-distanced manner, join his good friend, Wayne Krause, in doing the 23:00 stint *as well!* He therefore now classes as an Ultramarathon Runner, if he did not already.

Nik Blackmore and his wife, Sophie, also stayed in a hotel close to the start, took many of the photographs and assisted the Captain with the distribution of the Vests, which had only arrived the night before. Sophie then supported by hire cycle. Chris Griggs was also joined by his wife, Rosalia, making a total team of seventeen. Graham McGlashen of Surrey, a London Black Cabbie, somehow managed to complete entirely the correct course (we have the GPS to prove it), but due to "the Knowledge" somehow managed to even beat the Captain and designer of the course in doing it in the least distance. He then remained in the area providing free lifts to any Knights in need.

Another impressive feat was completed by Angus Cameron (Knight of Sussex), who had a major operation to defeat prostate cancer mere months ago and pushed through a leg injury. Having driven up from where he was staying in Dorset first thing Sunday morning, also defeated Tube closures, he completed the final lap perfectly in the hour arriving as the Midday bells struck.

They had a Team fundraising target of £11,670, which is the cost of a specialised surgeon's stool that is both functional and comfortable for lengthy surgeries, especially a vitreoretinal surgery session. They had the benefit of the fundraising already completed by the Team Captain* from his personal challenges, which provided a head start. (*He has a solo Skydive for the same cause booked for Friday 24th September).

Adding up the offline donations and Gift Aid (which JustGiving does not add to the Team Total displayed), at time of writing, the team has raised a total of £11,191.20 or nearly 96% of the £11,670 target. For more information see: <https://www.justgiving.com/team/Vision-Beautiful>

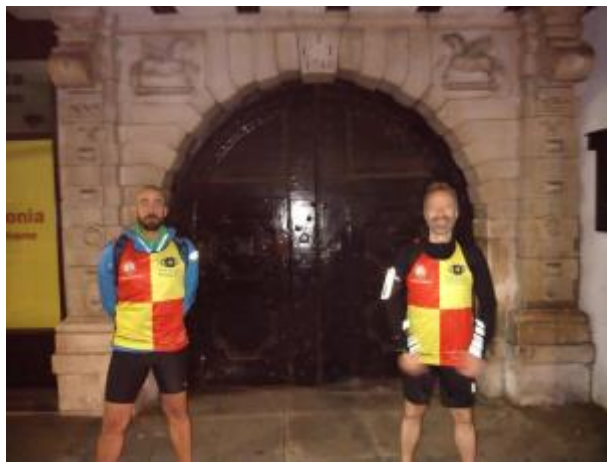
A plan is already being developed for a different Team challenge in September 2021, which would enable cycling skills to also be used for those not wishing to run. Please feel free to contact the Team Captain if you are interested in taking part: chevalier.de.milton@gmail.com²

²<mailto:chevalier.de.milton@gmail.com>















West London Masonic Centre serves 10,000 meals and is still going strong



West London Masonic Centre passes its ten thousand meals target and still counting. Bob Hancock, Chairman of West London Masonic Centre, said 'This is a fantastic achievement by our magnificent kitchen staff Bro. Dan Lee and Bro. Bob Whitelock (both pictured in Chef whites) ably supported by Centre Manager W.Bro. John Holdsworth and the Board of Directors W.Bro. Rohit Pattni, W.Bro. John Holdsworth, W.Bro. Mike Craft and W.Bro. Alan South.

Our sincere thanks to Metropolitan Grand Lodge, Mark Province of London and the lodges and chapters at the centre who have provided the much needed finance to fund this marvelous project. We are still operating the food service and plan to keep providing meals as they are wanted through September.



The benefits of volunteering



Donald McGarr is well known to many Freemasons in and around London, not only as an enthusiastic Mason but also as a driver on the London Underground. Here he tells of his experiences swapping a tube train for a van to help those in need...

The Covid pandemic and the Lockdown have affected people in different ways, some getting pause for thought and realising how lucky they are to have security of employment, a roof over their head, food in the fridge and money in the bank. For others it has meant life has fallen apart, losing loved ones to the virus, losing their jobs, feeling isolated, being made homeless, being unable to afford food. For all of us, we now have a clearer idea of how to concentrate on the important things.

I am very lucky to have been in the former category, and to have kept working and earning throughout, but the inescapable headlines on the news, Poverty, Unemployment, Hunger and Recession, led me to realise that, in my comfortable existence, a fiver in the raffle, a donation to charity, was, for me, no longer enough. I realised I was living life comfortably enough but not really doing anything for anyone other than myself. When in my life had I ever done something that nobody had asked me to do?

Volunteering is essentially that, doing something that you don't have to do, because you want to do it. Charitable giving was one thing, but in the absence of Masonic activity I realised that I also had time and energy to spare. I had more to give.

When I was a teenager, I had a part time job in a supermarket. Ethically the most difficult task was to take bin liners of freshly baked bread and put them in the rubbish compacter. Perfectly normal edible food which was put in landfill for no other reason than its sell by date was up. Taking anything home was a sackable offence, they had to be binned. It broke my heart. Ever since then I have hated to see food wasted, as anyone who has sat next to me at a festive board can testify!

A friend of mine, Mason and fellow Railwayman, had started volunteering with a charity called Fareshare. This and its sister charity, The Felix Project, gather food in bulk from restaurants, bakeries, food retailers and supermarkets, and through their team of volunteers, sort these bulk loads into smaller quantities, and deliver them by van to individual charities such as school lunch clubs, women's refuges, church outreach charities, soup kitchens, food banks, community cafes and lunch clubs. Thus, the surplus supermarket food and the bread leftover at the end of the bakers day goes directly to feed the young, the elderly, the homeless, the disadvantaged, the poor and the isolated. Fareshare and Felix are the link between the spare food, and the people who so badly need it.

In re-evaluating my priorities, I was led to a desire to get involved. From Mid-July I have spent one day a week working for Fareshare at Deptford, from 8am - 4.30 driving a van, loading 750kg of food

and delivering it all over South London. I now also spend four hours on a Tuesday doing the same in North London for the Felix Project in Enfield, together with occasional evening warehouse shifts at their other depot in Park Royal.

What do I get out of it? Well, apart from the obvious satisfaction of helping the vulnerable, fighting hunger and tackling food waste, it's also a good physical workout, they give me a van to drive (yay!), my geography of South and North London is improving by the week, and I get to meet lots of genuine and generous people, not only the other warehouse and driver volunteers, but more especially those working in the individual charities we deliver to, which take the food and convert it into nutritious meals or food parcels for the vulnerable. 50 percent Perspiration, 50 percent Inspiration, if you like!

The shifts are flexible, mornings and afternoons, no more than 4-5 hours for warehouse work, and 4 hours or 7.5 hours for driving. Felix are taking over the London Operation of Fareshare, and they are always looking for volunteers, so if you have time to spare, and are reasonably fit, I can thoroughly recommend volunteering. No charity we deliver to has to pay for the food they get, as Fareshare and Felix rely on fundraising and corporate sponsorship to function.

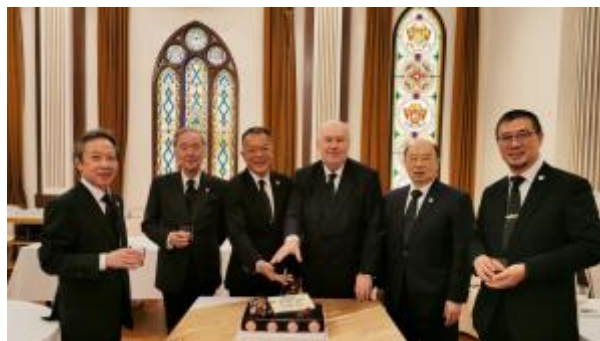
Why not donate your time (or some money) to making sure that no one in this city and beyond needs to go hungry? Have a look at their websites for more about what they do.

www.fareshare.org.uk³

www.thefelixproject.org⁴



Marking Well for 100 Years in Hong Kong



³<http://www.fareshare.org.uk/>

⁴<http://www.thefelixproject.org/>

In Hong Kong, Concordia Lodge No 721 held its centenary meeting on Thursday 10 September. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, a festive board was not possible, but instead the very numerous brethren and visitors enjoyed a centenary cake.

Pictured left to right - Bro Kendall Oei (S.W.), R W Bro Kenneth Tan P.Dist.G.M., W Bro Louis Fung (W.M.), V W Bro Patrick Purnell-Edwards Dep.Dist.G.M.C., R W Bro Herbert Tsoi P.Dist.G.M., Bro Andrew Kinoshita (J.W.)



Back in business in the OSM in Guernsey



Le Marchant Conclave 421 based in Guernsey held its well attended Installation meeting on September 7th. 2020 at the Masonic Centre, Guernsey.

It was a full meeting with festive board shared with the Channel Islands shortened annual 2020 Provincial meeting which followed the conclave meeting.

Only Guernsey residents could attend as the Island has a 14 day quarantine period for incomers. There are no cases of Covid on the Island so no social distancing etc.

Wy Bro Rob Grant (below) installed Wy Bro Martin Lucas as SR in the presence of the Dep PGSR Wy Bro Mike Le Conte. Martin is a very senior Fire officer and the only one in the Conclave who smokes !!!in

Mike presided over the Provincial meeting with the permission of R Wy Bro Stephen Regal PGSR who, as a Jersey resident, could not attend. The provincial officers who could attend Guernsey were invested at the provincial meeting while the Jersey based officers will be invested by Stephen at the upcoming Fidele Amietchi Conclave installation meeting in Jersey on September 24th.



And in Sussex by the Sea



The first Conclave meeting in Sussex since lockdown has now been held and it was the Installation of Tan Rusby, Dep.Prov.G.S.R.

as Supreme Ruler of the Philip B. Waterfall Conclave No. 621, of which he was the Consecrating and Founding D.C.

A very different, but enjoyable meeting under the watchful eye of the Prov.G.S.R. Andries van der Burgh who is very active in getting the Order in Sussex back into operation. Everything went well and safety was maintained throughout the evening.

London RSM hold their Annual District Meeting



A slightly blurry photo of yesterday's minimalist version of the District of London's Annual Grand Meeting, postponed from our regular date in June which fell under the General Suspension.

Although, for obvious reasons, it was not possible to hold a full meeting, essential business of the District was conducted, and the District Grand Master, R.III.Comp. Vincent Driver was also able to affirm the appointments of his Deputy V.III.Comp. Jules Greenwall, District P.C.W. III.Comp. Ben Dykes and the other Officers of the District, expressing his regret that many of them could not be there in person to be congratulated, but hoping that they will enjoy their appointment nonetheless.

We were also graced by the presence two unexpected guests from the Eastern Archipelago who just happened to "drop in"!

Although many Districts and Provinces are, understandably, holding virtual "Zoom" meetings, the District of London has already engaged their members in various such meet-ups, and the Executive felt that it was important to try and make steps back to some semblance of normality, no matter how small, by having a physical meeting – with the District Recorder showing some remarkable foresight in picking this date in view of the likely resumption of restrictions on our meetings.

A Special Meeting of the Pride of Surrey Council



The September meeting of the Pride of Surrey Council No. 168 was going to be a very special one. Not only was this the first meeting of a Council in the District of Surrey since the resumption of Masonic meetings, but we had three Candidates to take the Degree of Select Master.

Alan Boniface, the Council's Director of Ceremonies, and Chris Eley, the Recorder, arrived early to set up the Temple. The Temple had already been deep cleaned and disinfected by Shelley and the team at Sutton Masonic Hall by the time we arrived so all we had to do was lay out the furniture in a socially distanced manner. The additional furniture for the meeting was the three pedestals for the Bibles to be used by each Candidate during the Ceremony.

The Council was opened by the Thrice Illustrious Master, Ill.Comp. Steve Jones, who welcomed everyone, especially our Honorary Member R.Ill.Comp. Arnold Long, Past District Grand Master, who kindly acted as Captain of the Guard for the meeting. The Past District Grand Master was saluted with 7 times 9 under the direction of the Director of Ceremonies.

The main item on the agenda was to ballot for Bros. Jeff Flint, Allan Thompson and David Coombes, all members of Weald of Surrey Lodge of Mark Master Masons. This proved in their favour.

The ceremony of Select Master was undertaken by the Thrice Illustrious Master, Ill.Comp. Steve Jones; each Candidate being received individually. The T.I.M. was assisted by Ill.Comp. Chris Eley who entrusted the Candidates with the secrets of the Degree and also presented the history of the Degree. Companions Jeff, Allan and David were then welcomed into the Council by Ill.Comp. Steve and into the Order by R.Ill.Comp Arnold Long, our Past District Grand Master. It was great to see Comp. Roy Miller with us – at 96 years young a little Covid isn't going to put off an old war veteran

Thanks to all who took part to ensure that Jeff, Alan and David had a great ceremony – as close to 'normal' as we could get it. Having the main Temple in Sutton ensured that we were able to easily adhere to the social distancing guidelines. Thanks to Arnold, Garth, Alan, Tim and Bill for taking office, some at the last minute - good teamwork. It was a most enjoyable ceremony and everyone did their part well.

In the Mark Province of Buckinghamshire there's a new home for Olney Mark & Royal Ark Mariner Lodges



For many years the Great Ouse Valley Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges, together with Craft, Royal Arch and other Orders have met at the United Reformed Church in Olney High Street, North Buckinghamshire. However, in recent years the premises became unsuitable for meetings and the storage of equipment so it was decided to move to a new venue.

The Mark, R.A.M and all other Orders involved are now established at the Village Institute in North Crawley, Buckinghamshire. A great deal of work has gone on to make the hall suitable for meetings

and is now an excellent venue. It has the advantage of a pub on the other side of the road whose landlord is happy to provide meals either in the hall or for small numbers, in the pub in a private room.

This move is a very brave one by all concerned and it is hoped that it will have the success it deserves.

Across Social Media

On the Podcasts - Brother. Beyond the Craft deep dive into the Royal Ark Mariner



This week the Brother. Beyond the Craft team are joined by Matthew Christmas to look at The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner and we've got an exclusive preview. You can listen Here⁵:

And the Mark Province of Kent have also been promoting the Royal Ark Mariner on Facebook

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src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FKentMarkMasterMasons%2Fposts%2F2707836959485066&width=500" width="500" height="256" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowTransparency="true" allow="encrypted-media"></iframe>
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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.

⁵<https://www.buzzsprout.com/174852/5379451>

We can be found at:

Facebook - Mark Secretariat⁶ - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page⁷

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall⁸

Art@86

Continuing our look at some of the portraiture at Mark Masons' Hall and the personalities behind the pictures.



H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, KG, (1901 H.M. King Edward VII) was born on 9 November 1841 and Christened Albert Edward (named after his father), the eldest son of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

Having been Initiated into Freemasonry in 1868 under the Swedish Constitution, the Prince of Wales was advanced into the Mark in England in 1883 and, later that same year, was Installed as Past Grand Master by the Grand Master at that time, The 5th Lord Henniker, VD, FSA. At this time he was

⁶<https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

⁷<https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

⁸<https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

already Grand Master of the Craft (in England) and First Grand Principal of Supreme Grand Chapter, having been appointed in 1874 and in 1886 he was appointed Grand Master of the Mark. He would hold both of these positions until his accession to the throne in 1901.

As Prince of Wales he had quite a reputation for being a man-about-town, perhaps even a Playboy Prince in today's media parlance, earning himself the nickname Bertie the Bounder. But he was also a keen and enthusiastic Freemason and upon relinquishing his Grand Mastership he was made "Protector of the Craft" in recognition of his services. Other Masonic titles included The Patron of the Masonic Order in Scotland, and the same title in Ireland.

In the Knights Templar he was Sovereign of the United Orders in Great Britain and Ireland, becoming Patron as King Edward VII. And he was also promoted to the 33 Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite and, later, Grand Patron of that Order.

According to legend, one of his personal fashion idiosyncrasies endures at our meetings today. It is said that the habit of wearing the bottom button of a gentleman's waistcoat undone became the trend as a result of our Past Grand Master's increasing waistline, and his subjects' eagerness not to make him feel awkward in their presence leading them following suit. Of course, several other theories are equally plausible, but it makes for a bit of conversational trivia at the Festive Board.



And so we come to our final subject on this whistle stop tour of the portraiture of Mark Masons' Hall.

Most Worshipful Brother His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, *GCMG*.

H.R.H. Michael George Charles Franklin of Kent was born on 4 July 1942 to Prince George, Duke of Kent and Princess Marina of Greece and Denmark. He is the younger Brother of the Craft Grand Master, the Duke of Kent, first cousin to H.M. Queen Elizabeth II and Grandson of King George V and Queen Mary.

Educated at Sunningdale School and Eton College he went on to be commissioned into the 11th Hussars with tours of duty in Germany, Hong Kong and Cyprus.

He was appointed Provincial Grand Master of the Craft for Middlesex in 1982 and succeeded The 4th Earl of Stradbroke, *KStJ*, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons that same year., having been advanced into Milestone Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 1000 in 1979.

In sport, he rowed for Sandhurst, represented Great Britain in Bobsleigh and has tried his hand at rally car driving.

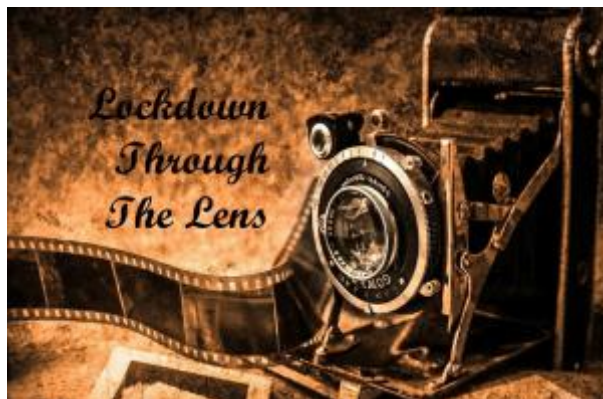
He's also much admired for his sartorial elegance and Gentlemen's fashion magazines often carry photographs highlighting the timeless style of his double breasted suits.

Our Grand Master takes a very active interest in what happens within the Mark and Royal Ark Mariner and is a keen supporter. If you attend a meeting of Grand Lodge over which he is presiding you'll notice that he always recites the parts of the ceremony requiring ritual, in just the same way we, his Brethren, are required to do in our own Lodge meetings. One of the most endearing signs of his affection for Freemasonry is his signature. Seek out any Masonic document bearing his hand and you'll see it signed simply Michael.

But nothing can sum up the achievements and service of our Grand Master quite like the Proclamation, recited annually following his re-election at the March communication of Grand Lodge. So we shall leave you with the words of the Grand Director of Ceremonies, To Order Brethren!

Be it known that HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE MICHAEL GEORGE CHARLES FRANKLIN OF KENT of Kensington Palace in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in the County of Greater London; Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order; Knight of Justice of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem; Honorary Vice Admiral of the Royal Naval Reserve; Honorary Colonel in Her Majesty's Army; Honorary Air Marshal of the Royal Air Force; Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex in the United Fraternity of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Grand Scribe Nehemiah in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33rd Degree, and an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council 33rd Degree in the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Grand Master; Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Has this day been Elected and Proclaimed Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; Whom, May the Great Overseer and Supreme Commander of the Universe long preserve.

Last Call for entries into the "Lockdown Through The Lens" photography competition



Since the beginning of Lockdown many Freemasons have taken this opportunity to get busy with their cameras. To mark World Photography Day on Wednesday 19 August we announced the launch of our "Lockdown Through The Lens" photography competition.

There are three prizes of Amazon gift vouchers up for grabs with £100, £50 & £25 for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place respectively. And the winning picture will be professionally printed, framed and hung in Mark Masons' Hall.

All you need to do is submit a picture, taken since Lockdown was announced, which captures something about the times that we are currently living in. It can be any subject matter you like, friends/family reunited, clear skies, abundant wildlife, empty streets. Just give it a title, explain in no more than one-hundred words what it represents to you, and submit it via email or post, along with the entry form, available [Here](#)⁹.

Entries must be received by noon on Monday 14 September.

We look forward to receiving your entries. Below are some pictures which may provide inspiration.



1 - Last to leave the allotment

⁹[http://download.mmh.org.uk/Lockdown Through The Lens Entry Form.pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/Lockdown_Through_The_Lens_Entry_Form.pdf)



2 - Flying the Flag



3 - Tranquil Sunset



4 - All's quiet on Savile Row



5 - Waiting for play to resume



6 - First time out



7 - No vapour trails

The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now raised more than £30,000.00



You can support the Eye Hospital by making a £20 donation. Just [Click Here](#)¹⁰ or use the Text Donate facility below.

100 per cent of donations will be given to St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group to support their vital work. To recognise your generosity and support, The Great Priory of Knights Templar is sending a limited-edition Swift tie/lapel pin to every donor.

The Swift pins are now being posted out but please bear with us as we are only in the office one day per week to carry out this task so some deliveries will take longer than others. Thank you for your patience.



**The Knights Templar
20 for 2020 Appeal**



Text **KT2042020 to **70500** to donate **£20****

All monies donated to this text number go towards the **The Knights Templar 20 for 2020 Appeal**

For a text donation, you will be charged for one standard text message plus your donation of £20. Always get the bill payer's permission. The Relief Chest will receive 100% of your donation. If you do not want to be contacted by text in the future, add the words NO INFO when texting your donation. All donations are administered by the Relief Chest Scheme (Grand Charity Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 020 3146 3362. Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1164703, Company No. 08751836

80 Great Queen Street | London | WC2B 5AZ | www.mcf.org.uk

¹⁰<http://everydayhero.co.uk/event/KT2042020>

MBF Festival 2021



East Lancashire Province, hosts of the **153rd Mark Benevolent Fund Annual Festival in 2021**, have produced a unique **Souvenir Festival Calendar** for the year **2021** and copies are now available.

These large, wall hanging calendars feature twelve contrasting prints of iconic sights in East Lancashire, commencing with the beauty of Pendle Hill in January and ending with Manchester's colourful Christmas Market in December. The 12 original watercolours were painted by Annette Young over the past four years specially for this calendar without cost to the Province. Calendars are priced at £10 each and all proceeds will go to the MBF.

So, let us brighten your kitchen or office wall and at the same time provide much needed support for our Mark Benevolent Fund. Why not purchase several more copies to send to friends and family at Christmas?

Thank you very much for your support.



The calendar measures: 318mm x 228mm folded – 318mm x 456mm open

To order:

By email: eastlancscalendars@gmail.com¹¹ By telephone: 07766731307

Payment by **cheque to East Lancs Mark 2021 Festival** – post to:

East Lancs Calendars. 47 St Leonards Way, Woore, Crewe. CW39SS

¹¹<mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com>

Or contact them for electronic payment details

And don't forget, Stewardship, Badge and Festival orders can be places as well.

Click Here¹² for the Stewardship and Festival Badge Form

Click Here¹³ for the complete Festival pack

And you can visit the Province of East Lancashire's website Here¹⁴

The Shop@86 is now open



As well as being able to accept online orders, we are pleased to announce the Shop@86 is now open to visitors, initially from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday.

For those who have received appointment to, or promotion in, Grand Rank - you may still place your order using the methods outlined in the form provided with your offer letter.

Please note: orders will be dispatched as soon as possible but may be subject to delays caused by Covid-19 restrictions.

Visit the Shop@86 website Here¹⁵

¹²https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Stewardship_Badge_Form.pdf

¹³https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Festival_Complete_Forms_Pack.pdf

¹⁴<http://www.wordpress.eastlancsmark.org/?p=11465>

¹⁵<https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>



Business as usual for the Staff@86 while away from Mark Masons' Hall

Mark Masons' Hall may have 'closed for business' during the imposed lockdown, but all departments and teams are available on email to help and support.

