



Freemasonry@86 News - 19 February 2021



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

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

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¹<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

Welcome to two new faces in the Red Cross of Constantine

Introducing R.III.Kt. Michael Frederick John Baptist, the new Intendant-General for the Red Cross of Constantine Division of Cheshire



Hello Brethren, I have the honour of being the newly appointed Intendant-General for the Division of Cheshire.

I was born in Cheshire in 1949 to Eunice and Walter and I am the eldest of three sons. I grew up in a typical modest home in Crewe only a few miles from where I now live. I attended St. Mary's RC junior school, before going on to my local grammar school, then on to Hartford College to study catering, after which I attended 'Hollins' Manchester University, where I gained a degree in Hotel Management and a degree in Business Management.

My first paid job was as the head chef at my local hospital, where together with my Catering Manager, I was given the opportunity and active role in assisting in the design and setting up the catering facility at the then, newly built NHS Leighton General Hospital, and worked there for several years as the Deputy Catering Manager. I then moved-on expanding my experience and knowledge in several management rolls before taking on the roll as General Catering Manager for the north of England for the Wellcome Foundation Ltd, based at Crewe Hall. When they closed the Crewe site to relocate at their Dartford site, I chose not to make the move and took a different direction, opting to re-skill and joined Cheshire County Council, Children's Services where I stayed for ten years before taking an early retirement at 63.

I was widowed three years ago, but I had the amazing good fortune to meet and marry an incredible woman. Maureen was my wife and friend for 51 years. We have a daughter Michelle, who together with her husband Scott, has given us two wonderful granddaughters, Jazmyn and Darsi, I am fortunate that they live close, and are a great help especially given these strange and uncertain times.

I was initiated into freemasonry in January 1981 and can in all honesty say that I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the past 40 years of being a member. I am a member of ten separate orders plus four separate off shoots from those orders. I am an active participant, holding office in all my lodges and have had the privilege to serve as an acting Provincial Officer in most of the Orders, and honored with promotion to Grand Rank in several orders, with the ultimate honour of being appointed as the Intendant-General for the Division of Cheshire.

My interests outside Freemasonry have included in my former and fitter years: 20 years of Boy Scouting, whilst at college/uni, as a member of the national swimming squad, 40 years of martial arts, golf, horse riding with my daughter, I have always enjoyed listening to a wide range of music, classical, jazz, popular, big bands, reading, chess, snooker and most recently playing bridge 'poorly'.

Although I am comfortable with, and fully understand the current restrictions, I like many others deeply miss masonry and its comradery and hope we can get together again soon to enjoy our masonic fellowship.

Stay safe and well.

Kindest regards

Michael

And R.III.Kt. Nigel Lloyd Angell, *JP*, the new Intendant-General for the Red Cross of Constantine Division of South Wales and Monmouthshire



Hello. I have the honour of being the most recently appointed Intendant-General of The Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and The Orders of Holy Sepulchre and of St. John the Evangelist South Wales and Monmouthshire Division.

I was born in Tredegar South Wales in 1952 to Sylvia and Tom, their number three son, as I have two older brothers.

We lived in a house in a village called Pontllanfraith in the Sirhowy Valley of South Wales, approximately 7 miles from where I live now.

My schooling began at Pontllanfraith infant/junior school, about half a mile from where we lived. I finished my education at the Rhiw Syr Dafydd Secondary Modern School in the village of Oakdale some 6 miles from where we lived. We were taken to school and returned home from school by the West Mon Bus Company. If we were late getting to the bus stop, the bus would not wait, it would leave without us, which meant we would have to walk the journey - which I did on many occasions! I left school at the age of 15.

I was very fortunate to leave school on Friday, then start work as an apprentice motor mechanic on the following Monday at the local Ford motor dealership. There I completed my apprenticeship. In those days you were not automatically given a job as a tradesman. In 1973 at the age of 21, I joined the then Taff Fechan Water Board, supplying clean drinking water to the area, which over the years has become Welsh Water. I was first employed as a motor mechanic. After about 18 months I was transferred to the mobile mechanical department to carry out repairs and mechanical maintenance on all equipment used in the water industry. This included things such as water/chemical pumps, generators, and drinking water disinfection equipment to mention but a few. I specialised in water disinfection using micro

strainers and chlorinators which injected chlorine gas into the water trunk mains within the treatment plants. I retired at the age of 65 in 2017 after 44 enjoyable years' service.

I share my life with my wife Margaret. We live in a bungalow in Croespenmaen on the outskirts of the village of Oakdale where I went to secondary school. We are both retired and we have two daughters. Kelly the eldest is a deputy head teacher who lives in Yeovil with her husband Adam and two children. Haydn who is aged 5 a delightful little fella who we love to spend time with and Gethin who was born in November 2020. We have only had the pleasure of seeing him face to face on two occasions due to COVID restrictions. Our second daughter Danielle lives nearby in Cardiff. She is the Income Generation and Events Manager for the charity Kidney Wales which is based in Cardiff but covers the whole of Wales.

I was initiated into Freemasonry in 1985, after becoming a Master Mason in 1986 there was no stopping me. I really enjoy freemasonry especially the Progressive Orders administered by Mark Masons' Hall. I feel we are able to make new friendships and build on existing friendships so much easier with the progressive Orders.

I have always been a very active and hands on mason no matter what degree, taking on secretary or equivalent roles. I am currently treasurer of a Mark and RAM Grand Officers Lodge. I was the Provincial Almoner in the Mark Degree Province of Monmouthshire for 10 years.

I was invited by the immediate Past Intendant-General R.III.Kt. Graham Spencer Gubb, K.C.C., to take the offices of RCC Divisional assistant recorder back in 2009, Divisional recorder 2014. It was really a proud day for me when I was appointed Deputy Intendant-General in 2018. Each office I thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of the work required, also making great friendships with Knights of RCC Divisions within England, and across the Division of South Wales and Monmouthshire.

My sincere thanks goes to R.III.Kt. Graham S. Gubb for the trust he placed in me by appointing me as a Divisional Officer, for all his assistance and his invaluable support and friendship throughout my RCC masonic career. Not forgetting my predecessor as Divisional recorder the late V.III.Kt. Alan Ford Thomas who was also very helpful to me during my journey and a dear friend. Here I am today Intendant-General of this Division - the icing on the cake.

Apart from Freemasonry, there are a few other things that fill my time. I am a local magistrate specialising in the family court which keeps me busy on average 5 days a month. I also support Kidney Wales as a volunteer whenever required. I also enjoy Formula 1 or any kind of motor racing, wildlife, and visiting our local seaside town Porthcawl to have lunch and meet up with friends we have known for many years.

Before lockdown my wife or both of us used to babysit our grandson in Yeovil every other week before he started school in September 2020. Now we can look forward to babysitting our new grandson Gethin when we are able to do so.

I am looking forward, once circumstances permit, to again, meet with Worthy Knights throughout the Divisions of England and Wales.

Best wishes,

Nigel.

Scarlet Cord in the Red Rose County



Em.Comp. Des Ashton writes:

The Scarlet Cord Provincial Grand Senatus of East Lancashire held a virtual business meeting on Saturday, 13 February 2021. Within minutes of opening the call there were 65 companions of the order assembled with the retired military contingent firing of their usual good humoured mockery; and numbers peaked at 150 during the formal meeting, with Companions from all over the UK and representatives from around the world: Australia, Hong Kong, India, The Caribbean, and the United States.



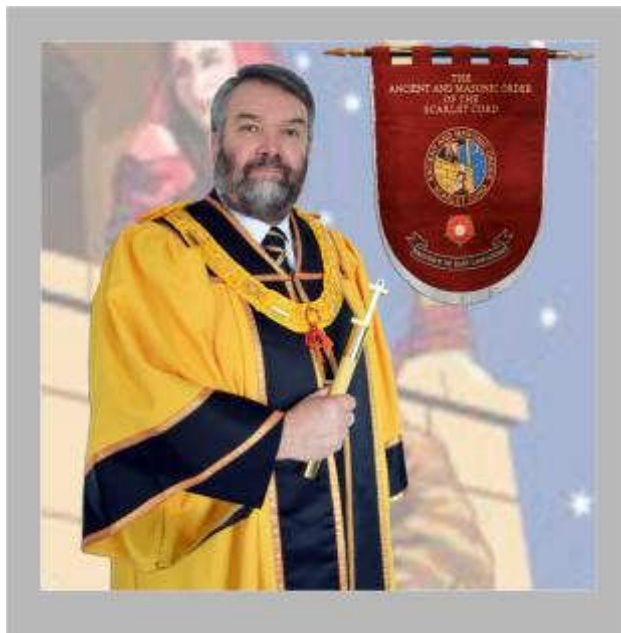
R.Dist.Comp. Howard S. Nuttall the Provincial Grand Summus opened the meeting by welcoming the honoured guests and Companions of the Province.

The Provincial Grand Recorder then read the dispensation granting the meeting to be held virtually. This was followed by the Deputy Grand Summus giving the obituary for our only departed Distinguished Companion David Higginbotham (81 years old). The minutes of the last Provincial meeting and the accounts were submitted and approved as submitted by online ballot.

Howard then Introduced the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian S. Currans and made his final remarks; stating how proud and honoured he had been to serve the Province during his tenure, he made personal thanks to a number of the leadership and congratulated his successor on his preferment and was sure that the province would be in more than safe hands. He then handed control of the meeting to the Grand Summus.



The Grand Summus addressed the meeting and thanked Howard and his team for the sterling work carried out by them and that they handed over the Province in much better condition than that in which they received it. After a few pertinent remarks surrounding the effect of the Pandemic he went on to appoint by patent the new Provincial Grand Summus for East Lancashire R. Dist. Comp. Allan Martin Shields. He went on to mention the stellar Masonic career of Allan and stated that he was confident Allan was the right man for the job. Further, he was certain that Allan was going to lead the Province to a brighter future building on the solid foundation his predecessor had left him.



Allan then went on to announce the appointment of Dist.Comp. Trevor Jewett as his deputy and Dist.Comp. David Greenhalgh as his Assistant.

During the business of the Province, the Grand Summus made an intervention in which he made a field promotion to Past Grand Lecturer for Dist.Comp. Ian Ronson who was surprised and honoured to receive this personal award from the Grand Summus. Congratulations Very Distinguished Companion Ian.

David Greenhalgh asked Howard if his wife was close by, and when she appeared, he made a presentation of an engraved decanter and glasses along with a bottle of gin to remember his time as our leader then as a thank you to his wife Carol he presented an engraved flower vase in recognition of her unstinting support during Howards term in Office. Howard told everyone they would be thankfully received and properly applied.





The Mark Boiler Fund



Hope 4 (Rugby) Ltd were awarded a grant of £6,154 by The Mark Benevolent Fund to replace the old uneconomical one that had well past its best, and we were always wondering when it would stop working and leave us in the cold.

The new boiler will enable us to continue to welcome our clients to a warm environment in which to access our support and services, something that is crucial in the colder months like we are experiencing currently. The new modern boiler will also be more efficient and will contribute to financial savings too.

The charity provides practical help for homeless and badly housed people. We offer housing advice, hot meals, showers, laundry and networking as well as providing sleeping bags and changes of clothes.

You can visit our website Here²

²<https://www.hope4.org.uk/>



London Mark spearheads the way forward



W.Bro. Chris James, G.S.D., writes:

It started out as a way to encourage those newly Advanced Mark Masons who haven't been able to attend meetings and those whose admission into this Friendly Degree has had to be postponed due to the present circumstances. It was also geared to attract, if possible, Craft/Chapter Freemasons who would like to consider joining the Mark Degree. The idea was to run a virtual Mark Awareness Evening, the live version of which having proved to be very popular over the past 6 years or so. Based upon the original text by V.W Bro. Keith Florence, P.A.Prov.G.M., one of the current A.Prov.G.M.s, W.Bro. David Lucas, produced a PowerPoint Presentation which was geared up for the "Zoom" platform. At each stage of the production the whole of the Provincial Executive were involved and the fruits of their labours were soon to be appreciated.

168 Brethren of whom 64 were potential candidates, attended this informal but highly structured and enjoyable presentation where the Prov.G.M., his Deputy, the 4A.Prov.G.M.s and the Provincial Grand Secretary each presented their various sections, accompanied by informative slides in a friendly and professional manner. At the close of the presentation there was a lively Q & A session after which our Prov.G.M. thanked everyone for attending and the “behind the scenes Communications Team”, and the meeting was closed.

We were delighted to have seen everyone who attended and in particular the other Provincial and District Grand Masters plus a selection of very senior Mark Masons of New Zealand, South Africa, (the Transvaal, Kimberley, Swaziland) and Romania, Hungary, Germany, Italy, France, Dorset, Cornwall, Monmouthshire, the Isle of Man and even as far away as Kent! Everyone was welcome and judging by the amount of very positive feedback, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A highly successful evening, which leaves us with the rather nice task of following up the new recruits.

If you were unable to attend this time, don't worry, we shall be producing another Mark Awareness Evening on Wednesday, 19th May at 7.30. If you want to make sure of your place then drop an email to chrisjames2849@gmail.com³ and I will be delighted to add you to our list.

Surrey Mark Province's gift to the staff of James Terry Court



Our Surrey Mark Festival Events Manager, W.Bro. Alan Brockwell, is here pictured presenting a splendid Rum Cake baked by our Master Baker, V.W.Bro. Jerry Gangadeen, to Anna Francombe for the staff of James Terry Court (RMBI Care Home) to enjoy.

The Rum Cake was kindly donated by W.Bro. John Massey, the Chair of our 2022 Festival Committee, who won the cake as the star prize at the recent Mark Christmas Zoom Quiz.

It was felt that the quantity of Rum in the cake made it a more appropriate donation to the hard working JTC staff than the residents!


³<mailto:chrisjames2849@gmail.com>

Article and photo by Alan Brockwell

Buckinghamshire's Mark Time


Buckinghamshire Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons and Royal Ark Masons

MARK TIME





ISSUE NO. 11 Date: 03/02/2021

Selection of items in this edition

WANTED See inside! And ALIVE!!!		Cartoons to make you various chuckle.	Quizzes & Suduko's AND MORE!
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Highlights from your Provincial Executive

	<p><i>"Unfortunately, the past year has been a very difficult one and most of what I would have written has already been printed in our Mark Time Magazine so this letter will be much shorter than normal. (Hooray - hear you chorus!!)"</i></p>
	<p><i>"It was particularly disappointing last year that the Provincial Meeting at Sindlesham was postponed and that Provincial Honours couldn't be conferred in person."</i></p>

Message From our Deputy Prov. G.M.

Brethren All!

Firstly, may I on behalf of myself and the Provincial Grand Master wish you all a belated 'very happy, healthy, and prosperous new year'. I hope that you and your families had an enjoyable and Covid-19-free Christmas. Without doubt it was different to the usual celebrations, but hopefully family Zoom meetings made up for not being able to visit in person.

Certainly, the Bristow family games evening via Zoom will be long remembered! (the skulduggery by some of looking up the answers off-camera may indeed never be forgotten should we have a re-run next year!) Despite that, it was a very merry occasion and enjoyed by all. I'm sure when we all meet up again face to face there will be many similar stories to tell!

It was particularly disappointing last year that the Provincial Meeting at Sindlesham was postponed and that Provincial Honours couldn't be conferred in person. It is hoped that by June this year the Pandemic restrictions will be eased to allow our annual general meeting to take place on 24th June 2021. Provisional plans are under way for this to happen and details will be published in due course - circumstances permitting.

In the meantime, we are being actively encouraged by Mark Grand Lodge to conduct 'Virtual Business Meetings' within 14 days either side of the dates of our Lodge regular meetings and so the Provincial Grand Master, myself and the Mark Executive very much look forward to being invited to join in your meetings.

However, our Mark Time Bulletin is an excellent vehicle to keep us all in regular contact, and I would take this opportunity to once again thank the Deputy Provincial Secretary, Nigel Beaven for his continued enthusiasm and skill in producing these editions. Additionally, I would thank all those who submit the entertaining and thought-provoking articles.

Additionally, social media is rapidly changing the way in which we communicate, share thoughts, and interact with our families and friends, and I very much welcome the Provincial Grand Master's initiative of creating a Facebook account for the Province and we look forward to receiving applications for the position to manage this project featured in the following pages.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Mark Time and are taking every opportunity to stay safe.

With fraternal regards

Mark Brown

Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

News from the Quarries

Brethren,

The one light in the great tunnel of darkness over the last months has been the arrival of the Covid-19 Vaccine. By now, I hope most of you, like me, have had at least the first dose of this potential life saver, but with the peace of mind that comes with the job, other waves appear on the calm seas. My dear wife, being in the next cohort down from me and therefore not yet received the call, is now rather jealous of my good fortune, and is making her dissatisfaction known in many ways. I keep pointing out to her that this is the great benefit of youth, but such comments fall on stony ground.

Therefore, I have been filling my time with re-writing a Secretaries/Scribes manual for the Province. This is not to assume that I have any greater knowledge of the role than others of you, but I am happy to share my ignorance, and it gives me something to do! I hope to make this available over the next few weeks. So, by Easter let us hope that we will all be fit, energised, and well informed – and ready to get back to the Mark Masonry that we all enjoy.

Keep well

Simon

The Masonic Deck of Cards

One evening a lodge Mentor retired with a young Brother who could not witness a ceremony in a higher degree. The Mentor produced a pack of playing cards and said to the younger Brother: "Did you know that you can learn a great deal about Freemasonry from these?" "No, indeed," said the young Brother, "What can they teach me?"

"They are useful for improving your memory", said the Mentor, he continued, "Look here, now".

- The ACE reminds me of the Great Architect of the Universe.
- The TWO reminds me of the two great pillars at the entrance of King Solomon's Temple.
- The THREE reminds me of the 3 who rule the lodge:
 - the WM
 - the SW
 - and the JW
- The FOUR reminds me of our progression in the Craft:
 - Entered Apprentice
 - Fellowcraft
 - Master Mason
 - And Worshipful Master.

- The FIVE reminds me of the 5 noble Orders of Architecture:
 - Tuscan
 - Doric
 - Ionic
 - Corinthian
 - and Composite
- The SIX reminds me of the 6 principles of our Order:
 - Brotherly Love
 - Relief
 - Truth
 - Faith
 - Hope
 - and Charity
- The SEVEN reminds me of the 7 liberal arts and sciences:
 - Grammar
 - Logic
 - Rhetoric
 - Arithmetic
 - Music
 - Geometry
 - and Astronomy.
- The EIGHT reminds me that we must have members from all faiths, Muslims believe that there are 8 paradises, signifying God's mercy. In Buddhism, 8 is a lucky number.
- The NINE reminds me of the working tools. Three for each of the three degrees.
- The TEN reminds me of the 10 Commandments on which our Order is based. TEN was also the Pythagorean symbol of perfection or completeness.
- The JACK reminds me of the word we share in the Fellow Craft Degree.
- The QUEEN reminds me of the widow who bore the famous son and, also our Sovereign.
- The KING reminds me of King Solomon the principal figure of our Order.
- There are TWELVE face cards which reminds me of:
 - the 12 Tribes of Israel
 - and the 12 signs of the Zodiac.
- There are Two COLOURS which remind me of:
 - Night and Day
 - Good and Evil
- There are FOUR SUITS which remind me of:
 - Prudence
 - Temperance
 - Fortitude
 - and Justice

"I am most grateful", said the young Brother, "I will never forget all that you have said, but tell me, there are two cards which you haven't yet explained". "Oh, those", said the Mentor, "those are the two JOCKERS who Proposed and Seconded you after telling you that being a Freemason would take no more than one evening a month of your time".

Letter from our Prov.G.M.

Brother,

As you are well aware, it is my usual custom at this time of year to write my New Year letter outlining what has gone on since the previous June and looking forward to events in the future. Unfortunately, the past year has been a very difficult one and most of what I would have written has already been printed in our Mark Time Magazine so this letter will be much shorter than normal. (Hokey! I hear you chorus!!) see us COVID-19 - 14th
I am very proud of our Mark Time Magazine and I thank all those who have contributed and continue to do so. It keeps us in touch and maybe, even takes away some of the boredom of lockdown. I am deeply indebted to W. Bro. Nigel Beaven for putting together and editing the copies and also to W. Bro's Keith Bristow and Simon Saines for their continued enthusiasm for the magazine.
I hope very much that it will continue to be produced on a regular basis but it does need your input to make it work.

I recently sent out a letter confirming the suspension of all face-to-face meetings until the Tiers change. This could happen locally as opposed to nationally so we hope very much that people in Buckinghamshire will follow the guidelines and help reduce the effects of Covid-19 in our Province so that we can commence meeting again.

Our annual Provincial Meeting is scheduled for the 24th June. Owing to the current situation I have taken the decision to move the meeting from Sindlesham to Beaconsfield on that date. The reason for this is that even if we are allowed to meet, I don't think we shall be able to hold a full meeting with guests from other Provinces. The Beaconsfield centre has been booked and will hold approximately 100 brethren. Once we get some sort of confirmation that we can meet then details will be forwarded by the Provincial Secretary.

As I am sure you know, the Provincial Officers will be held over for a further year and all have accepted this proposal. There is only one change. With the sad passing of W. Bro. Jim Little, W. Bro. Stephen Knight has kindly agreed to take on this role as well as being the Provincial Chaplain.

There will be, however, some first appointments to Past Rank and promotions but these have yet to be decided.

In June we are hoping for at least two of our members to be promoted to Grand Rank. It is unlikely that the investiture meeting will be held but Grand Lodge is hopeful that it can be held in September.

I am pleased that W. Bro. John Ströbling has been given another year as Grand Standard Bearer which will enable him to carry out those duties as he would wish. In December, the M.W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint W. Bro. Graham Deating to P.A.S.D.C. for his support and hard work during the lockdown period and beyond and I congratulate him and all the members he represents on their outstanding commitment to others. I also congratulate W. Bro. Matt Arnold of Bradwell Abbey Lodge on his appointment to R.A.M.G.R. in December of last year.

On another sad note, W. Bro. Andrew McWhirter has passed to the Grand Lodge Above. Andrew was the Provincial Senior Warden in 2018 and, despite his illness carried out his duties to the best of his ability. I was so pleased that he was able to be present at the 2019 Provincial Meeting. He was a very kind man and a first-class mason. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Another Brother who has passed away is W. Bro. Frank Hames from Berkshire. Frank was well known to many of us and regularly attend our Provincial Meeting and other meetings within our Province. Once again, he will be sadly missed.

Brethren, as we move swiftly into 2021, we must remain positive and stay in contact with all our friends, families and Lodge Members. Use whatever means you have available, zoom, telephone or even a letter. Let others know that you care and that you are thinking of them especially if they are on their own.

In closing my wife and I wish you and your families good health for the coming year, stay safe and I look forward to meeting up with you all in the not-too-distant future.

Fraternally,

David

This joke was sent in by David Sawyer

A person goes to the local parts dept. to find a part for their car, requesting a "710Cap," the guy behind the counter is a little confused, he calls a colleague, who is also confused. The 3 of them discuss the issue, the car owner says is most definitely a 710cap!

No-one understood what was being asked for, luckily the car is an artist by profession, so they draw the 710cap!

What do you think was drawn?

For Answer see later

Editorial

The Provincial Grand Master has started THREE separate initiatives:-

- A) An Update to the SECRETARIES HANDBOOK for BUCKS
- B) INCREASING OUR THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA, particularly Facebook
- C) STARTING A WHATSAPP GROUP FOR OUR SECRETARIES TO USE

"WhatsApp"

Taking the last one first, all Secretaries & Scribes in Bucks will be invited to join a "BUCKS SECRETARIES WHATSAPP GROUP."

WhatsApp is a secure messaging system which may be used on a Smartphone & / or computer. It is used heavily by many of us; it can used for pictures, video's calls and messages. Some Provinces have found it useful for members to keep in touch; others have found it useful for members to help each other. We wish to offer this service specifically to secretaries to keep in-touch and to help each other. If you are a Mark Secretary or a RAM Scribe in Bucks, then, you will be personally invited to join via the Provincial Secretariat. If you wish to take up the offer the email the Deputy Provincial Secretary by return and you will be added.

"Mark Time" Facebook Page

This was launched some weeks ago initially as lowkey way of members keeping in touch & chatting to each other, we know need to expand its use where possible for all members of Bucks Mark & Ram to keep in touch, if they wish to use that facility. It is only for our members in Bucks! It will be a Closed Group! PLEASE SEE THE ADVERT FOR THE ROLE ELSEWHERE

I now turn to the "SECRETARIES HANDBOOK for BUCKS"

Approximately ten years ago our Prov.G.M. who was at the time the Prov.G.Sec., updated a small handbook for Secretaries. AS you may have read previously, with the changes of recent years, the current Prov.G.Sec. has been thinking that it needs updating and may be even re-writing. Our Prov.G.M. has now tasked Simon as lead to do just that! One of the key issues of course is that Secretaries need to be much more computer skilled & to be able to work with the Mark Masons' Hall system known as "KeyStone-on-Line". And, whilst this new handbook will have much about Keystone in it, there will be much, much, more. Hopefully, all Secretaries will take advantage of this new Document. More information was given at the recent Secretaries Zoom Meeting.

Something new -

*From W. Bro. Matt Arnold, BAMGW
Master Elect St. Peter and St. Paul's Mark Lodge No. 163,
Bradwell Abbey RAM Lodge No. 763.B
Past Deputy Master Lodge St. Myles No. 774
Scottish Constitution Province of Argyll and the Isles.*

Brethren,

As some of you will know, I'm a member of the Scottish Constitution as well as the English. I took my Mark Degree in Scotland some twenty years ago, but I've only been a member of the English Mark for four years.

Our Provincial Grand Master, R. W. Bro. David Tremaine asked me to put together a talk comparing the two Constitutions and lockdown seems like as good a time as any to do that.

As in the English Constitution, there are several 'workings' of Craft Masonry in Scotland, so with regard to the ritual, the comparisons will be between English Emulation Working and the D. M. Goudelock Scottish ritual, as these are the ones that I'm familiar with.



I will be explaining the differences between the Grand Lodges, Provincial Grand Lodges, the three Craft Degrees, Installation of Master, the Mark Degree and the qualification required for joining the Royal Arch. The audience for this talk will be Mark, Royal Ark Mariner and Royal and Select Master brethren, but ever mindful there may be brethren present who have not been installed into the Chair of a Craft Lodge.



The pictures show a plain Scottish Craft Apron, and a Past Master's Apron.

As I'm still in the process of collating this material prior to putting it on paper, I'm unsure as to how long the talk will take to deliver, as some audience participation and questions will be included, it may need to be in two parts.

I hope to have this finished and 'polished' in the next few months, with a view to being in a position to deliver it when we can once again meet properly.

(Matt's Scottish Lodge Meets on the Isle of Arran - edited)

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH SOCIAL MEDIA IN GENERAL?

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH FACEBOOK?

Mark Masonry In Bucks needs you!!!

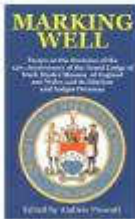


As you should have seen previously in this tome, the Prov.G.M. is looking for someone to get involved with the role of a FACEBOOK "Guru" to specifically look at spreading the use of this part of social media for the benefit of our members and for spreading the good things and works that happen in our Province.

The person we are looking for should be a member of the Mark and ideally the RAM. The rank of the person is not important, the person to take on the role might be someone who has recently joined. He should be conversant in Facebook, the running of a social page. He should be aware of the need to comply with GDPR in relation to social media issues, the need to ensure that the MARK TIME Facebook page is updated with interesting articles, information and news from around the Province. Posts must be suitable for a Masonic FACEBOOK page in line with wishes of the Provincial Executive and Mark Grand Lodge, but foremost it will be a Bucks - Mark - Facebook page. It must be said that this position will not go with a Provincial Appointment. But the person involved will work in conjunction with the Prov.G.Sec. and the rest of the Provincial Executive. You will see that we have 50 members of this page out of the almost 400 members.



Please contact the Editor of MARK TIME Magazine at: - depsecbucksmark@gmail.com



A good Mark read -

A recommendation by W. Bro. David Peck - Haddenham Lodge MMM 162H

If you are looking for something to do during lockdown you might well consider reading one or more the books below. Each is the authors / editors are / were personally known to me.

Available from: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Marking-Well-Celebration-Anniversary-Masons/dp/0853187663>

Broaden your knowledge of the Mark Degree with this exciting and informative volume. Written in the form of a series of articles from some of the world's leading Masonic writers, experts, and historians, this title covers many varied aspects of the Mark Degree and its history. This is a book that anyone interested in Freemasonry would value.

This book was originally published by Lewis Masonic in 2006 as a collection of essays on the occasion of the 150th Anniversary of Mark Grand Lodge.

Available from: <https://www.barnesandnoble.co.uk/search/results.html?isbn=9781851827663>



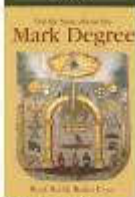
The 20 talks in this book cover a range of interesting topics, including:

- *The Mark of Independence*
- *The Keystone*
- *The Overseers*
- *Who was "Molochim"?*
- *Working Tools*
- *Biblical Noah*
- *The Deluge*
- *Why the "Psephism" Stone?*

Available from: <https://www.lewis-masonic.co.uk/general/tell-me-more-about-the-mark-degree.htm>

The late Neville Barker Cray, author of the ever-popular *I Just Didn't Know That*, *Did You Know This Too?* and *What Do You Know About the Royal Arch?* brought his attention to the Mark Degree!

In this amazing volume, Cray presents ten, ten-minute talks, which are both inspiring and educational, and because they are written in such an "easy to read" manner, they can be performed in a Mark Lodge or simply a pleasure to read at home.

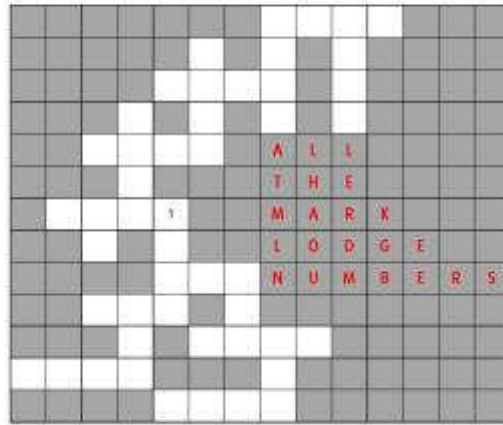


Subjects include:

- About the Mark Man and Mark Master
- About the Mark
- The true Meaning of the Key Stone and the Cornerstone
- What exactly is this act of "beave over"?
- Travel back in time to the oldest known mark working!
- Discover the symbolism behind the Mark Facing Board and much, much more!

And now something completely different -
W. Bro Tony Robinson sent this in -

Tony's Teatime Teaser



Your Starter Clue: - 1 is a good number to start with

In case, someone in your family wants to have ago here are all the Numbers of Mark Lodges in Bucks:

97	1087	1648
163	1350	1675
292	1499	1712
376	1510	1768
480	1629	1779
975	1634	1941

Calculate Your Next Travel Destination	
Instructions	Destination
1. Choose any number between 1 and 9	1. New Zealand
2. Multiply it by 3.	2. Bignor Regis
3. Add 3.	3. Slough
4. Multiply it by 3 again.	4. Canada
5. Add the two digits of your answer together.	5. South Korea
6. Number you get is where you're travelling to.	6. Cambodia
	7. Windsor
	8. Brazil
	9. Stay at home
	10. Japan
	11. Thailand
	12. Spain
	13. Aylesbury
	14. Singapore
	15. Reading



Two Saddles

	1		4	7			
					8	1	
6						3	
3		5		1			6
	2				4	8	1
	9				5		
4							5
		2	5		9	7	4
	3		7	4		2	1
							9

The above is from Neil Harvey

The one below is from Nigel Reaven

1					8	7	
2				9		4	
	3	5					2
				7			6
	5	1					
				5	6	1	2
							5
2	1					6	9
	6			3	1		

Answers to Tony Robinson's quiz!

						1	5	1	0					
				1		0		4						
			1	7	6	8		9						
		1		7		7		9						
	1	6	2	9		A	L	L						
		3				T	H	E						
1	9	4	1			M	A	R	K					
	7		7			L	O	D	G	E				
			1	6	3	N	U	M	B	E	R	S		
		2	9	2		7								
			7			1	6	4	8					
L	6	7	5											
				1	5	1	0							

So, what did the artist draw to obtain a 710cap?

See next page-----



And, Finally: ---

Now here we are in the 2nd ZOOMED out! But then at least we have kept in touch not by ZOOM (other platforms are available, including Teams, Skype, Duo, PowWowNow, & Meet as well as many others, I counted as many as 12 others.) The telephone seems so old now. Just think that 80years ago as I type this, (Feb1st 2021), the first flight of the Avro Lancaster took place, 90years ago Boris Yeltsin was born; 120 years ago Clark Gable was born; 125 years ago Puccini premiered "La Boheme"; 137 years ago the first ten volumes of the OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY was published; and, sady today (1st Feb2021) marks the 18th anniversary of 7 deaths on Space Shuttle Columbia as it returned to earth over Texas.

As our Prov.G.M. has stated in this edition: - "I hope very much that it will continue to be produced on a regular basis but it does need your input to make it work." So, we need you regular input to make this happen!! - PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

Fraternally & with best wishes

Nigel

STOP PRESS!!!!!! STOP PRESS!!!!!!



See Next Page!!

This just in!

In a city park in the middle of England stood two naked statues, one female and the other male. These two statues had faced each other for many years.

Early one morning, an angel appeared before the statues and said: -

"Since the two of you have been exemplary statues and have brought enjoyment to many people, I am giving you your greatest wish. I hereby give you the gift of life. You have 30 minutes to do whatever you desire!"

And with that command, the statues came to life, smiled at each other, ran toward some nearby woods and disappeared behind a couple of bushes.

The angel smiled to himself as he listened to the two statues giggling, bushes rustling and twigs snapping, all accompanied with much laughter!

After 15 minutes, the two statues emerged from the bushes, satisfied and smiling.

Looking very puzzled, the angel looked at his watch and asked the statues: -

"You still have 15 minutes. Would you like to continue?"

The male statue looked at the female and asked: -
"Do you want to do it again?"

Smiling, the female statue said: - "Of course, let's! But this time you hold the pigeon down and I'll poop on its head!"

From a prospective Candidate via Night Exam!!

The End!

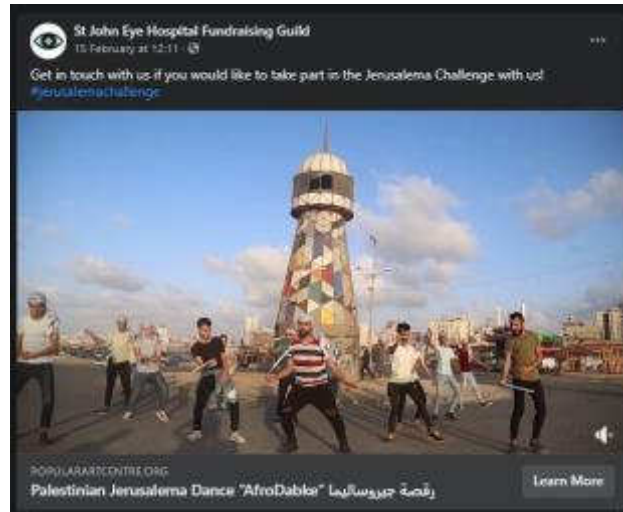
[Click Here⁴](#) to read the full Newsletter

Across Social Media

On Facebook - Give us a twirl and join The St John Eye Hospital Fundraising Guild as they encourage supporters to post their attempts at the Jerusalema dance craze [#jerusalemachallenge⁵](#)

⁴http://download.mmh.org.uk/Bucks_MarkTime_IssueNo_11.pdf

⁵<https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/jerusalemachallenge>



[Kent Brethren find a little light reading](#)

Embed://<iframe

src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FKentMarkMasterMasons%2Fposts%2F2846110782324349&width=500&show_text=true&height=486&appId" width="500" height="486" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>

KT and Malta Pens now available from the Provincial Priory of Durham



One Kt & Malta Pen Set inc p+p = £12
Two Kt & Malta Pen Sets inc p+p = £23
Mail Orders
KtandMaltaPens@gmail.com

On Twitter - Mark Masons' Hall becomes a venue for St John Ambulance vaccinator training

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1362519373655719938>

Brother. The Masonic Podcast prepares for their next episode

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1362718859778785285>

Northumbria Widows Sons help spread the word about the Mark

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1362010681139159040>

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

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall⁸

Or you can email us at communications@mmh.org.uk⁹

The Shop@86 is open for online orders via the website

[Click Here¹⁰](#) to visit the Shop@86 website

Please note: During the current Government Lockdown restrictions, there will be limited access to Mark Masons' Hall. As a result there will be delays to the despatch of orders, which will take place on a weekly basis, normally on a Tuesday. Customers will be notified via email once their order has been despatched. For enquiries about your order please email ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk¹¹



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

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

⁸<https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

⁹<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

¹⁰<https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>

¹¹<mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk>



The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now raised over £45,500 and continues to grow



Please note that the MCF, who are handling donations to this appeal, have moved their payment collection site from the Everyday Hero platform to that of Just Giving. This doesn't impact how you make your donation but unfortunately it isn't possible for us to set the amount of your donation automatically to £20. The default set by the website is £30 and you will need to adjust it down.

You can support the Eye Hospital by making a £20 donation. [Just Click Here¹²](#) or use the Text Donate facility below.

100% of donations will be given to the 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.

¹²<https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Appeal-KT2042020>



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 3252. Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1164703; Company No. 09751836

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

MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels 2022 and 2023 now available



We reported last week 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 (opposite), 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.

Now, we're pleased to announce that the West Yorkshire Jewel for 2023 will be available.

Click Here¹³ to download a 2022 Surrey Stewardship Jewel Form

Click Here¹⁴ to download a 2023 West Yorkshire Stewardship Jewel Form

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.

¹³http://download.mmh.org.uk/2022_Surrey_MBF_Festival_Stewardship_Form_.pdf

¹⁴http://download.mmh.org.uk/2023_West_Yorkshire_MBF_Festival_Stewardship_Form_.pdf



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

To order:

By email: eastlancscalendars@gmail.com¹⁵ By telephone: 07766731307

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

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

Or contact them for electronic payment details

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

Click Here¹⁶ for the Stewardship and Festival Badge Form

Click Here¹⁷ for the updated complete Festival pack

And you can visit the Province of East Lancashire's website Here¹⁸

Helping to Combat Covid



¹⁵<mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com>

¹⁶https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Stewardship_Badge_Form.pdf

¹⁷[http://download.mmh.org.uk/Complete_Forms_Pack_Final_2021_-_Updated_18.01.2021_\(002\).pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/Complete_Forms_Pack_Final_2021_-_Updated_18.01.2021_(002).pdf)

¹⁸<http://www.wordpress.eastlancsmark.org/?p=11465>

At the start of Lockdown the Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Ryan A. Williams, P.G.J.W., shared the COVID Symptom Study¹⁹ 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.

Business as usual for the Staff@86



Staff from the 4th Floor at Mark Masons' Hall have returned to working from home but all departments and teams are available via email and telephone to help and support as usual.



¹⁹<https://covid.iainzoe.com/>

Mark Masons' Hall is pleased to be

