



## Freemasonry@86 News - 5 March 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.

**Please share this content with your members by forwarding this email or let them know that it's available on the MMH website.**

**If you don't currently receive this email directly but would like to subscribe please email [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup><mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

## The Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund Annual Review 2020



### [A Message from The Grand Sovereign](#)

Worthy Knights, I am delighted to be able to present this Annual Review of the Grand Sovereign's Care For Children Fund for 2020 in an extended and informative way.

Inevitably during the Covid restrictions on meetings it has not been possible to continue to receive contributions from Conclaves and Divisions at the same level and this has depleted our funds. However, it has always been my view that monies held should be used for its intended purpose and not kept sitting in our bank account.

There are still funds available and requests for donations can be made to the Charities Department at Mark Masons' Hall in the usual way.

It has been especially pleasing to make donations to help smaller organisations who have been particularly badly affected by the Covid restrictions and I am sure they will continue to need help to recover their full range of activities.

Worthy Knights, please keep yourselves and your families and friends safe as we progress through the vaccination programme and I look forward to the time I can be with you again at our meetings.

Yours in Faith Unity and Zeal

M.III.Kt. Graham Leslie Flight, G.C.C., Grand Sovereign



## Introduction

The Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund was formed at the turn of the Millennium with the express intention and principle of using its assets for the relief and assistance of Children. Since then, it has donated over £344,000 to 150 worthwhile causes and charities that directly impact upon and improve the social, educational and personal well-being of Children throughout the world.

The Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund is expressly funded with donations from members of the Grand Imperial Conclave of the Masonic Order of The Red Cross of Constantine.

## The Covid-19 Pandemic and the Fund

By April 2020, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic was being felt across every aspect of our communities not least by children and those responsible for their care and welfare.

The Grand Sovereign, M.II.Kt. Graham Leslie Flight, G.C.C., was keen that the Order provided whatever support it could to community-based initiatives providing a safe environment for children that had been particularly badly affected. These included day units, hospices, residential homes and temporary care facilities for the children of front line key workers.

Intendants-General were asked to identify opportunities within their Divisions where the Fund may be able to provide grants to alleviate hardship arising from the impact of Covid-19 and assist with the continuation of the kind of care facilities outlined above.



## Awards of £2,500 were made to these Charities





### Awards of £2,500 were made to these Charities



In aid of **donna louise**  
Hospice care for children & young people



### Awards of £2,500 were made to these Charities



Division of Devon and Cornwall

Division of Northumberland



**embrace**  
Child Victims Of Crime

Division of West Yorkshire



St Dunstan Conclave No.519





**Awards of £2,500 were made to these Charities**



Supporting  
**Bluebell Wood**  
CHILDREN'S HOSPICE  
Division of West  
Yorkshire



**WINSTON'S WISH**  
WW



Grief support  
for children  
and young people  
in Oxfordshire



**DAME VERA LYNN**  
Children's Charity  
Discover together  
Incorporated 1987



**tŷ hafan**  
The hospice for children in Wales  
and Monmouthshire

Division of South  
Wales and  
Monmouthshire



**£500**



**£2,000**

Division of East Anglia



**Cambridge Acorn Project**  
supporting young people and families  
facing mental health challenges

**£2,500**



**£2,500**



**Pied Piper Appeal**  
Making a difference to sick and  
disabled children in Gloucestershire



# Annual Review 2020



Issued by  
The Grand Sovereign's  
Care for Children Fund  
The Charities Office  
Mark Masons' Hall  
86 St James's Street  
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[d.coleman@mmh.org.uk](mailto:d.coleman@mmh.org.uk)  
020 7747 1187

## Cryptic in the Caribbean

Due to the suspension of Masonic activity the Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of the South and East Caribbean was held as a Virtual Business Meeting on Saturday, 26 February 2021.



The District Grand Master, R.III.Comp. Gaspar Llewellyn Gill, SLMM, declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.



After the regular business of the District was completed, the District Grand Master announced that he was re-appointing Ill.Comp. Keith Williams as Deputy District Grand Master; and Ill.Comp. Ralph M Craig as Principal Conductor of the Work. The District Grand Master asked the District Grand Recorder to read the names of the Companions appointed to and promoted in District Grand Rank.



The District Grand Master then individually welcomed all the guests and visitors and addressed District Grand Council. He thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.

*Article and photos by Chris Eley, Assistant District Grand Recorder, Surrey*

## Hello from Hong Kong



Because of rapidly increasing number of new cases of Covid-19 here it was necessary to again suspend all Masonic Activities in the District of Hong Kong from 30 November 2020 onwards.

Following a significant reduction in new cases since the Chinese New Year holiday we are very pleased to be able to report that Masonic Activities here finally resumed with effect from 1 March 2021, subject of course to continuing social distancing restrictions and precautions.

Just three days after the resumption, Ararat Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No. 264 installed W.Bro. Tim Thane as their new Worshipful Commander Noah on Wednesday, 3 March 2021.

The resumption of Activities in the District is very timely, since over the next three weeks our four Mark Lodges should now all be able to hold their Installation meetings.

*Andrew Ritchie, Dist.R.A.M.G.R., District Grand Secretary*

## Internet Units are all the rage

AMD Internet Council



Are you a keen Mark and Chapter Mason in England and Wales?

Would you like to expand your Masonic knowledge?

Would you like to join something a little different?

Would you enjoy five different degrees?

Would you like to travel to different parts of England and Wales for your Masonry?

Then the Allied Masonic Degrees and this new Council may be the one for you.

It would meet four times a year at different venues throughout England and Wales.

It would admit candidates and work all the five degrees as required.

The beauty of this particular Order is that once you have taken the first Degree, that of St. Lawrence the Martyr, you can take the other degrees in any Council under the jurisdiction of The Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas.

So your progress in the Council would not be hampered by your ability to attend all of our meetings, although we would hope that you could.

We already have a number of members interested in forming this Council but we have room for more Founders and we will need candidates in the future.

**This could be you!**



Please email me at [recorder209@gmail.com](mailto:recorder209@gmail.com)<sup>2</sup> with your name, area where you live and whether you would like to be a Founder or Candidate. *(Candidates have to be a member of Mark and Chapter)*

Also your rank and any Office in the Council you might be interested in would be helpful.

Fraternal regards

Mike Whelan

[Scarlet Cord Internet Consistory](#)



### **A New Consistory in the Making**

Have you ever thought of being a founder member of a Scarlet Cord Consistory?

Well now is your chance. We are looking for any companions of Scarlet Cord who want to join on this exciting new venture to help start a very unique Consistory. It will be peripatetic travelling the Country meeting at different Masonic Halls and the opportunity to meet lots of new friends in the Order.

The Ribble Valley Consistory "The Internet" will be the name and it will be based on an idea that stemmed from an OSM Conclave,

Supera Moras No. 49 "The Internet" where this very old conclave which is in its Centenary year added the words "The Internet" back in the early 2001. Since then, the Conclave has grown from strength to strength and visited many locations for meeting, including even holding a meeting inside Roslyn Chapel.

They have drawn a membership from many Provinces across the Country, they all keep in contact via the internet between meetings and boast a website [www.superamorasno49.co.uk](http://www.superamorasno49.co.uk)<sup>3</sup>

We are hope to consecrated this Consistory the 4th Saturday of January 2022 in East Lancashire followed by a meeting April (held at a location of choice of the years President) and October, both held on Saturday's to allow for travel.

We already have a website and you will see more content added as things progress [Click Here](#)<sup>4</sup> to visit us.

If you would like to be a part of this venture, then please email me, Paul Joynson, at [eastlancsprovrecorder@gmail.com](mailto:eastlancsprovrecorder@gmail.com)<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup><mailto:recorder209@gmail.com>

<sup>3</sup><http://www.superamorasno49.co.uk>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.ribblevalleyscarletcord.co.uk/>



## Staying with the Scarlet Cord

Due to the suspension of Masonic activity the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Kent was held as a Virtual Business Meeting using the Zoom video conferencing tool. Attending the meeting was the Grand Summus, M. Dist. Comp. Ian Stanley Currans; Deputy Grand Summus, R. Dist. Comp. Francis Charles Spencer; and the Grand Recorder, R. Dist. Comp. Ryan A Williams.



The meeting was attended by many members of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Kent, and Provincial Grand Summi and Companions from a number of other Provinces. The Provincial Grand Summus was pleased to welcome all the guests and visitors from Grand Senatus, Provincial Grand Senatus and from other Orders within the Province.

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<sup>5</sup><mailto:eastlancsprovrecorder@gmail.com>



The Provincial Grand Summus proposed donations of £150.00 to the Chatham Masonic Hall in lieu of today's meeting, £200.00 to the East Kent 2025 MCF Festival and £200.00 to the West Kent 2026 MCF Festival. These were approved by the Companions.

The Provincial Grand Summus asked the Provincial Grand Recorder to read the names of the Companions appointed to and promoted in Provincial Grand Rank. The Provincial Grand Summus congratulated those who have received appointment or promotion in the Provincial Grand Senatus of Kent. The Provincial Grand Summus then addressed Provincial Grand Senatus.



The Provincial Grand Summus invited the Grand Summus, M. Dist. Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, to address the meeting.



The Provincial Grand Summus then thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.

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

## West Yorkshire commissions a beautiful Sesquicentenary Jewel



In 1871 six Mark Lodges in West Yorkshire were constituted into a Province, and on 2nd August that year, under the Banner of Fearnley Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 58, W.Bro. Thomas Perkinson was installed as its first Provincial Grand Master “according to ancient usage and custom” by R.W.Bro. William Romaine Callender, Provincial Grand Master for Lancashire.

In 2021 West Yorkshire celebrates its 150th year and to mark the occasion has commissioned a special and very beautiful Sesquicentenary jewel, which has been warmly endorsed by Mark Grand Lodge. The

Jewel is currently on sale from the West Yorkshire Provincial Website at [CLICK HERE](#)<sup>6</sup> with proceeds to the 2023 Mark Benevolent Fund Festival.

Today West Yorkshire hosts 44 Mark Lodges and all its members are entitled to wear the Jewel. It is also available for purchase outside the Province should anyone wish to own one or add it to their collection. Proceeds from the sale of the Jewel will go to a very worthy cause which is close to all our hearts, the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The Province hopes to celebrate its Sesquicentenary at a special Provincial Meeting later this year.

## Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire's "The Risings" - Latest edition out now



[Click Here](#)<sup>7</sup> to read the full issue

## Essex dip into the Flood



On Friday, 26 February, the Province of Essex hosted its third highly successful Zoom Talk.

This one was titled "A brief history of the Ancient and Honourable Degree of Royal Ark Mariners and matters relating to the flood"

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<sup>6</sup><https://westyorksmark.org.uk/sesquicentenary-jewel/>

<sup>7</sup><https://mailchi.mp/a98e968f06d3/northants-hunts-mark-masonry-newsletter?e=6af1cd4231>

70 Royal Ark Mariners members from the Province of Essex, and indeed around the world, with guest visitors from and including California, Europe, South Africa and the Philippines.

The Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. Terence D Sheern welcomed those attending and introduced Brian Vickers, described by some attendees as a “walking Masonic encyclopaedia” who then presented his extremely interesting talk. The presentation began with historical details recorded about the Ark and went through more recently discovered details of the Ark and of its location. Archaeological evidence has been found to confirm that the Flood did take place and it showed that the area of flood was proved to be more than 4000 square miles!

Brian brought the meeting right up to date with an explanation of how the RAM degree had evolved from early times. He explained the current structure and protocol.

With questions from many of the members present, Brian continued to entertain the meeting. An excellent talk which was described as “thought provoking” and extremely entertaining. The Provincial Grand Master thanked Brian for joining us and for presenting such an interesting discussion.

Comments included:

“Brian thanks for a brilliant presentation, not only informative but captivating as well”

“Well done Brian for the lecture, and the Province for organising these lectures”

“Thank you Brian for a very interesting talk. It has opened my eyes regarding the Great Flood as well as the history of RAM”.

Don't miss our next event, details below.

*Dave Todd, Essex Mark Media Manager*



**Provincial Grand Lodge of  
Mark Master Masons  
ESSEX**

**Presenting the third in a series of Zoom lectures to  
interest and inform.**

**Starting at 7.30pm on the 9th April 2021 - with an  
interesting and amusing talk from  
ANTIQUES ROADSHOW presenter, military museum  
curator and specialist in military medals,**



**MARK SMITH entitled:**

**The Roadshow  
- An Adventure**

**This presentation is open to all and is limited to  
a maximum of 100 attendees. Invitations will be  
issued on a first come, first served basis.**

**To book your place on this presentation, email to  
EssexMarkComms@gmail.com**

## The MBF's good work continues



The MBF was pleased to make a grant of £62,890 for a new mezzanine floor level at Maryport Inshore Rescue, Cumbria.

The Prov.G.M., R.W.Bro.Keith Hodgson and Mike Messenger the Operations Manager/Director of Maryport Inshore Rescue are pictured and also with members of the crew with W.Bro. Ken Archer,Prov.G.Alm.

No sooner was this photograph taken, there was a callout to which the crew responded immediately to rescue a vessel in the Solway Firth which had engine failure. Although conditions were calm, the sea fog had rendered visibility down to 50yds.



### A lovely message of thanks



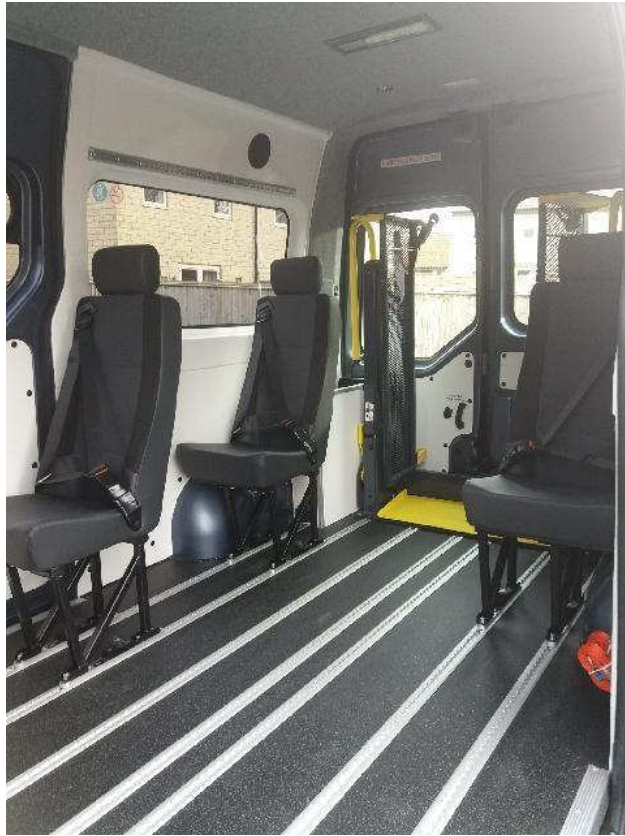
A massive thank you to the Mark Benevolent Fund, the official charity of the Mark Masons' Hall who have very generously funded Martin House's brand new, bespoke adapted minibus!

This incredible donation of £39,957 will help our care team facilitate trips out for our children and young people during their respite stays, once restrictions begin to ease.



These day trips are part of the fun of staying at Martin House, giving our service users a chance to explore!





## Across Social Media

On Facebook - 20,000 jobs and counting by Midland Freewheelers Blood Bikes

Embed://<iframe

```
src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FMarkMasonsHall%2Fposts%2F788326932033799&width=500&show_text=true&height=791&appId" width="500" height="791" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>
```

And, Cheshire gear up for 2024

Embed://<iframe

```
src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FMarkMasonsHall%2Fposts%2F788775515322274&width=500&show_text=true&height=747&appId" width="500" height="747" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>
```

On Twitter - Working together in Northumberland

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1367104976284250116>

And, those daredevil Knights continue completing Challenges to raise money for the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1367485892261199879>

Plus, there's just time to book for Saturday's Guild of St John Eye Hospital event - with the extremely informative and entertaining Hospitaller, David Verity

The Guild of St John Eye Hospital and The St John Ophthalmic Association invite you to an Online Talk by

HOSPITALLER  
DAVID VERITY

**SIGHT FOR GAZA  
AND THE ROLE OF  
HOSPITALLER**

Proceeds from this event will support Theatre Nursing Staff Salaries and Medical Training at the Hospital in Gaza

**Saturday 6 March, 2021 at 5pm**

£25. £15 FOR STUDENTS  
PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION IN LIEU OF ATTENDANCE  
FOR TICKETS GO TO  
WWW.TINYURL.COM/DVERITY  
CHARITY NUMBER: 1139527  
WWW.GUILDSTJOHN.COM

Click here<sup>8</sup> to buy your ticket

## Not seeing your news? Join us on Social Media

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

We can be found at:

Facebook - Mark Secretariat<sup>9</sup> - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page<sup>10</sup>

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall<sup>11</sup>

Or you can email us at [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>8</sup><http://www.billetto.co.uk/e/david-verity-on-his-role-as-st-john-hospitaller-tickets-509523>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

<sup>10</sup><https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

<sup>11</sup><https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

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

[Click Here<sup>13</sup>](#) 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.uk](mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk)<sup>14</sup>



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<sup>12</sup><mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

<sup>13</sup><https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>

<sup>14</sup><mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk>

## The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now raised over £46,000 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 Here<sup>15</sup> 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.***



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 Clergy Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 020 3146 3252. Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1184703; Company No. 09751836

60 Great Queen Street | London | WC2B 5AZ | [www.mcf.org.uk](http://www.mcf.org.uk)

<sup>15</sup><https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Appeal-KT2042020>

## 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 Here<sup>16</sup> to download a 2022 Surrey Stewardship Jewel Form

Click Here<sup>17</sup> to download a 2023 West Yorkshire Stewardship Jewel Form

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<sup>16</sup>[http://download.mmh.org.uk/2022\\_Surrey\\_MBF\\_Festival\\_Stewardship\\_Form\\_.pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/2022_Surrey_MBF_Festival_Stewardship_Form_.pdf)

<sup>17</sup>[http://download.mmh.org.uk/2023\\_West\\_Yorkshire\\_MBF\\_Festival\\_Stewardship\\_Form\\_.pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/2023_West_Yorkshire_MBF_Festival_Stewardship_Form_.pdf)

## 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.com](mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com)<sup>18</sup> By telephone: 07766731307

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

**East Lancs Calendars. 47 St Leonards Way, Woore, Crewe. CW3 9SS**

**Or contact them for electronic payment details**

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

Click Here<sup>19</sup> for the Stewardship and Festival Badge Form

Click Here<sup>20</sup> for the updated complete Festival pack

And you can visit the Province of East Lancashire's website Here<sup>21</sup>

## Helping to Combat Covid



At the start of Lockdown the Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Ryan A. Williams, P.G.J.W., shared the COVID Symptom Study<sup>22</sup> 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.

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<sup>18</sup><mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com>

<sup>19</sup>[https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news\\_articles/2020/2021\\_MBF\\_Stewardship\\_Badge\\_Form.pdf](https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Stewardship_Badge_Form.pdf)

<sup>20</sup>[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)

<sup>21</sup><http://www.wordpress.eastlancsmark.org/?p=11465>

<sup>22</sup><https://covid.iainzoe.com/>

## 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.



Mark Masons' Hall is pleased to be

