



Freemasonry@86 News - 7 May 2021



As a mark of respect following the sad death of The Duke of Edinburgh on Friday, 9 April 2021, Brethren are requested to wear a plain black tie when attending Virtual Business Meetings from now until Sunday, 16 May 2021 inclusive.

With fraternal regards and best wishes. R.W.Bro. Ryan A Williams, P.G.J.W., Grand Secretary



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.uk¹

Provincial Priory of Durham explore an 1851 K.T. Ritual

This fascinating presentation from E.Kt. Stewart K Bell, of Prince Bishops Preceptory No. 589, takes us on a journey through this unusual booklet.

¹<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>



<https://youtu.be/V0wN2EFhp1E>

A new Mark Lodge for Provincial Grand Wardens



Warwickshire Province of Mark Master Masons to Consecrate a New Lodge.

A new Lodge is being formed within the Province, The Provincial Grand Wardens Lodge of MMM. The Lodge will be open to all those who have held the office of either Senior or Junior Warden within any District or Province under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas.

Two on-line meetings of the Founders have already taken place, and decisions made. The Founding Master will be a character well known to us all, W.Bro. J. Barniv, Ratcliffe, Secretary, W. Bro Chris Denley, Treasurer, W. Bro Robert Owens (Cheshire).

Applications to be a Founder close on 28th May 2021. (contact wardens@warwickmark.co.uk for further details)

The Lodge will meet twice a year, the installation meeting will always be in Warwickshire on the 1st Saturday of February, the second meeting will be in the Province of the Worthyful Master or the MBE festival Province, the date is flexible September/October to fit the diary of the host Province.

Why the MBE festival Province? One of the aims of the Lodge is to support the MBE by regularly hosting the Portal lecture, and when possible supporting the festival dinner.

If all goes to plan the Consecration will be on Saturday 26th February 2022 at Rugby Masonic Hall. The Consecration team will be headed by R. W. Bro Philip Willis Prox G.M.

W. Bro Paul Rowlands, Prov. G.S.O. (Warks), Prov. G.J.D. (Worcs) shares these details of a new Mark Lodge for Brethren who have held the active office of Provincial Grand Warden in any Province/District, or Brethren who have been active Grand Wardens.

"We currently have approx 40 proposed Founders from 14 Provinces (and one from Spain who is also a Past Warden of Warwickshire) so the Consecration will be going ahead, hopefully on 26 February 2022 at Rugby Masonic Hall.

The deadline for applications to be a Founder is 28 May. The Founders fee has been set at £30 and the annual subs at £25 as it will be a Past Masters Lodge.

Full details can be found in the Provincial newsletter, Warwickshire Mark Here ²

²http://download.mmh.org.uk/Mark_mag_5.pdf

The perfect addition to any Knight Templar's garden



Knight Robyn Murdo-Smith, Second Constable at Lullingstone Preceptory No. 155 in the Province of Kent, has modelled a concrete garden ornament in the design of a Templar Knight. The Knight, wearing robes and a helmet, is resting his chin on his hands atop the pommel of his vertical sword and his shield leaning on his left leg.

Robyn personally sponsored the production costs of the first 25 ornaments which were exchanged with Knights for a donation of £20 each. £500 has already been sent to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group.


Further ornaments are available for £26 with at least £20 going to the Eye Hospital which covers production costs.

You can contact the Province through their website [Here](#)³

London Mark Awareness Evening

London Mark is holding another Awareness Evening on 19 May at 7.30pm, full details below.

³<http://www.kenttemplars.org.uk/news-0019.html>



Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark
Master Masons of London
presents...

An Introduction to the Mark Degree

- Learn about the Order, the Officers and Lodge lay-out
- Why the Mark is known as the “friendly degree”
- And how you can experience for yourself the “magic of the Mark”

19 May, 2021 via Zoom
7.30pm
Book via chrisjames2849@gmail.com

South Wales and Monmouthshire O.S.M. & S.C. double event



1 - Keith Berwick Ferguson, Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler & Provincial Grand Summus

The Provincial Grand Conclave of South Wales and Monmouthshire was held as a Virtual Business Meeting on Saturday, 1 May.

The meeting was attended by many members of the Provincial Grand Conclave of South Wales and Monmouthshire, and Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers and Brethren from a number of other Provinces.

R.Wy.Bro. Keith Berwick Ferguson, Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler of South Wales and Monmouthshire, declared the meeting open welcomed all the guests and visitors from Grand Conclave, Provincial Grand

Conclave and from other Orders within the Province saying how much he was looking forward to when normal meetings can be resumed.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler then asked the Provincial Grand Recorder to read the names of the Brethren appointed to and promoted in Provincial Grand Rank; following which, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler congratulated those who have received appointment or promotion in Provincial Grand Conclave. The Provincial Grand Supreme Rule then addressed Provincial Grand Conclave.

He welcomed his new team of Officers saying how much he was looking forward to working with them in the exciting times ahead. He said that the help and assistance from Mark Masons' Hall had been fantastic, thanking them for their financial package.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler invited the Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler, R.Wy.Bro. James Robert Hodge, to address the meeting. The Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler said how much he had enjoyed the meeting and what a good idea it was to have the Provincial Grand Conclave and Provincial Grand Senatus meetings on the same day. He congratulated all those appointed or promoted in Provincial Grand Conclave and extended his good wishes for the future to the Province.

The Grand Recorder, R.Wy.Bro. Ryan Williams, said what a great attendance it was and how glad he was to see the end of the last twelve months. It has been a tough year, although it has taught us some good lessons. Virtual Business Meetings have continued through the year and the financial package put together by MMH designed to help our Brethren as well as give something back to the membership. He is looking forward to the Grand Conclave meeting on Thursday, 10 November 2021. The Grand Recorder ended with thanks for all the support he has received from the Provinces over the past difficult year.

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



2 - R.Wy.Bro. James Robert Hodge, Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler



3 - R. Wy. Bro. Ryan A. Williams, Grand Recorder



The same day, the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Senatus of South Wales and Monmouthshire was also held and similarly, the meeting was attended by many members of the Provincial Grand Senatus of South Wales and Monmouthshire, and Provincial Grand Summi and Companions from a number of other Provinces.

R. Dist. Companion Keith Berwick Ferguson, V, Provincial Grand Summus, declared the meeting open welcomed all the guests and visitors from Grand Senatus, Provincial Grand Senatus and from other Orders within the Province who had travelled far from their breakfast tables to go onto their computers.

The Provincial Grand Recorder read the names of the Companions appointed to and promoted in Provincial Grand Rank. Following the usual congratulations, the Provincial Grand Summus then addressed Provincial Grand Senatus.

He said how delighted he was that all Consistories had met their usual meeting dates by Virtual Business Meetings and thanks to all at MMH for their hard work over this difficult time. He thanked all his Officers who have remained in office and congratulated all those honoured in Grand Senatus.

The Provincial Grand Summus invited the Grand Summus, M. Dist. Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, to address the meeting. He said how much he had enjoyed the meeting and how happy he was to be with everyone on the 1st May, not only as it was his birthday but also that soon Scarlet Cord face to face meetings can recommence. Most importantly he was looking forward to the Grand Senatus meeting on the 2nd September.

The Grand Recorder, R.Dist.Comp. Ryan Williams, said how glad he was to be back home and updated the Companions on the work being undertaken at Mark Masons' Hall to plan for the resumption of Masonic activities. He is looking forward to the future and the return to face to face meetings, when everyone feels it is right to do so. The Virtual Business Meetings have been very successful and will continue in some form for administration and committee meetings. He ended by thanking the Provincial Grand Summus and his team for all their support for Mark Masons' Hall.

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



4 - M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, Grand Summus



Backing the Blood Bikes in Surrey



Most blood bike charities come under the umbrella of the Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes (itself a registered charity) which acts as a representative body for blood bike groups throughout the UK. Their aim is to assist in the promotion of public health through voluntary support of hospital services.

Our local charity is SERV Surrey & London, made up entirely from volunteers providing a professional, efficient service to our community, at no cost to the NHS. They mainly consist of motorbike riders, car drivers, controllers, fundraisers and the team represents a variety of people from many walks of life. They transport blood products, urgent samples and medical supplies, along with donated breast milk to hospitals and milk banks across Surrey & London. They also carry out a daily delivery of blood to Air Ambulance Kent, Surrey & Sussex.

They also support the regular delivery rounds that the NHSBT have in place, however unlike this option, SERV S&L also operate throughout the night. On weekends and Bank Holidays, they provide a 24 hour service to the NHS. They provide this service free of charge, which releases more money for patient care.

At the heart of SERV S&L are the motorbikes. They enable the riders to move effectively through the worst of London traffic, in a safe and progressive manner. Each bike is fitted with a specially designed blood box plate that can securely carry up to two boxes of blood product. Each bike also has panniers that can be used to carry samples, documents or medical equipment that the client hospitals might need in an emergency.

Whilst SERV S&L started out as a motorbike charity, nowadays cars are just as important to what they do. In the face of ever increasing demands on their services, cars are essential to transport orders of three boxes or over. Not only that, but during adverse weather, their two wheeled fleet is grounded as they have a duty of care to ensure that their riders and their precious cargo are safe on the road.

The Mark Benevolent Fund became aware of the role of blood bike charities in January 2016 when an application was received from Northumbria Blood Bikes. Subsequent applications then followed as word spread about the work of the M.B.F. In May 2017 the Mark Benevolent Fund Charity Walk took place encompassing all Royal Parks in central London along the seven-mile route of The Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Walk. The event was embraced by hundreds of Masons, their friends and families, and

raised an astounding £437,934. The Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund wanted to give something back to the Brethren in the Provinces who had given so generously and decided to invite all blood bike charities in England and Wales to apply for funding for a new vehicle. Mark Provinces covering the majority of England and Wales are serviced by these charities and all that applied received a new vehicle.

In August 2018, to coincide with the Blood Bikes Awareness Day, the national handover took place at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham. Mark Mason, known within the charity as 'Mason' was donated by the Mark Master Masons as part of a nationwide contribution to NABB members who were successful in their applications to The Mark Benevolent Fund.

SERV Surrey & London is funded entirely by generous donations from the public. The unprecedented circumstances last year have meant that they have been mostly unable to raise money through their regular channels. At the last Annual Meeting the Provincial Grand Senatus of Surrey approved a donation of £500 to SERV Surrey & London.

In April 2021 our Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Arnold Long, was delighted to present a cheque for £500 to Chris Butler, Vice Chair of SERV Surrey & London. Also present was Dist.Comp. Nigel Thomson. Deputy Provincial Grand Summus, Em.Comp. Chris Eley, Provincial Grand Recorder, and Hugh Terry of SERV Surrey & London.

In accepting the cheque Chris Butler said that this could not have come at a better time. Fundraising has been affected by the Covid 19 restrictions while the work they have been undertaking during the pandemic has increased.

To find out more about SERV Surrey & London visit their web site <https://servsl.org.uk/>

Article and photos by Chris Eley





5 - The MBF Blood Bike Presentation event and the Surrey Mark team.



6 - Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Arnold Long, was delighted to present a cheque for £500 to Chris Butler, Vice Chair of SERV Surrey & London. Also present were Dist.Comp. Nigel Thomson, Deputy Provincial Grand Summus, Em.Comp. Chris Eley, Provincial Grand Recorder, and Hugh Terry of SERV Surrey & London.



Across Social Media

[On Facebook - The day that would have been the Annual Convocation of Grand Senatus](#)

Embed://<iframe

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[East Lancashire Mark Brethren prepare to get walking](#)

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[St John Eye Hospital Fundraising Guild get ready for wine & cheese](#)

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[On Twitter - Looking back to the MBF walk](#)

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1390204873308782596>

[And, Berkshire Mark are planning a new Lodge](#)

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1389880155586318336>

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 Secretariat⁴ - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons¹ Hall Facebook Page⁵

⁴<https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

⁵<https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall⁶

Or you can email us at communications@mmh.org.uk⁷

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

[Click Here⁸](#) 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.uk⁹



⁶<https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

⁷<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

⁸<https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>

⁹<mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk>

The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now raised over £47,000 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 Here¹⁰ 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 Charity Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 022 3146 3352. Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1184703; Company No. 09751836

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

MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels

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

2022 Surrey¹¹

¹⁰<https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Appeal-KT2042020>

¹¹<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2022-surrey-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

2023 West Yorkshire¹²

2024 Cheshire¹³

2025 Oxfordshire¹⁴

2026 Hampshire & IOW¹⁵

2027 Warwickshire¹⁶

2028 Somerset¹⁷

2030 Essex¹⁸

2022 and 2023 Jewels are currently available for purchase while others will be made available in due course.

¹²<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2023-west-yorkshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form/viewdocument>

¹³<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2024-cheshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁴<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2025-oxfordshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁵<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2026-hants-iow-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁶<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2027-warwickshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁷<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2028-somerset-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁸<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2030-essex-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

















We reported recently that the new style MBF Festival Stewardship is aimed principally, but not exclusively, at members of each host Festival Province.

In return for a qualifying donation of £100, each Steward will be entitled to:

- A distinctive Stewards' breast jewel, year bar and pocket jewel holder.
- Inclusion of their name in the Festival Stewards' Roll of Honour in the Festival booklet

- And for individuals making their first donation under the scheme, qualification as a Life Governor of the Mark Benevolent Fund – the first step on the ladder of honorifics.

Monies raised by the take-up of Festival Stewardships will, of course, be included in each respective Festival total.

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 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



¹⁹<https://covid.joinzoe.com/>

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

