



Freemasonry@86 News - 11 June 2021



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

This bulletin is emailed to all Rulers in the Provinces, Districts & Divisions and their Secretariats, as well as subscribers.

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

¹<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

Mark Grand Rank Appointments 2021



On Tuesday, 8 June Mark Brethren from around the world would normally have been gathered in the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall to celebrate the investiture of this years active Grand Officers and the First Appointments to Grand Rank.

For a second consecutive year, due to Covid-19, this wasn't possible.

However, we do want to offer our congratulations to all our Mark Brethren who were able to assume their new Active, or First Appointment to, Grand Rank.

You can find the full list of recipients in the Paper of Business Here²

A great shame we were not be able to celebrate this at FMH but we look forward to being there in September.

The New Hertfordshire Mark Emergency Blood Car Has Arrived

Great excitement as the new SERV Herts and Beds Emergency Blood Car, donated by the members of the Mark Province of Hertfordshire, arrives for the official handover.

The setting was Harpenden Fire Station, one of the bases for the new car and the existing Blood Bikes. All four SERV Herts and Beds Blood Bikes were also at the ceremony, the first time that they have all been in the same place at the same time in their history, along with their riders: Dave Wilson, Ian Beswetherick, Steve Groves and John McCombe, all highly experienced and exceptionally hard-working volunteers who each complete over 100 life-saving runs every year.

²http://bit.ly/Mark_PoB_June2021



The Provincial Grand Master of the Hertfordshire Mark, R.W.Bro. Richard Walker, officially handed over the vehicle keys to a delighted Ian Hunt, President of the SERV Herts and Beds Blood Bike Group.

The Provincial Grand Master commented: "In the past, the Mark Province of Hertfordshire has proudly supported the SERV Herts and Beds Blood Bike Group in a variety of ways. However, today, on behalf of all the members of the Hertfordshire Mark, I am delighted to formally hand over the keys for this superb vehicle which is such a significant addition to the SERV Herts and Beds fleet. I am so proud that the generosity of our Hertfordshire Mark Brethren has enabled us to continue to support SERV and the Human Milk Foundation in their ongoing life-saving work in such a significant manner."



On display for all to admire, proudly bearing the insignia of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Hertfordshire, the Hertfordshire Mark Emergency Blood Car.



Ian Hunt, Chairman of the SERV Herts and Beds Group confirmed that this important new addition to the fleet has already enabled their volunteers to expand their vital service by providing a significant increase in capacity and flexibility. A prime example being urgent consignments of neo-natal donor milk, which would usually require numerous Blood Bikes and riders to fulfil but can be accomplished by a single car journey. The car's ability to operate at temperatures too low for bikes to carry blood, and the benefit of a liveried car in negotiating London traffic, were also cited by Mr Hunt. To read a further report from Ian to the members of the Hertfordshire Mark please [Click Here](#)³



A grateful Dr Natalie Shenker, co-founder and the driving force of the Human Milk Foundation commented:

"The Hearts Milk Bank has grown from a start-up to one of the largest human milk banks in the country over the last 4 years, and there is no doubt that our charity could not have succeeded without the constant support of SERV Herts and Beds. It is wonderful that our charities are growing together, and the arrival of this car will mean much larger volumes of precious donor milk can be collected and delivered across our region and beyond.

Thank you so much again – all the hospitals and families that Hearts is able to support will truly benefit from the generosity of the Hertfordshire Mark Freemasons."

³http://newsletterlink.homestead.com/Blood_Car_Presentation_Hunt.html

To learn more about the vital neo-natal service provided by Dr Natalie Schenker and her team at the Human Milk Foundation please [Click Here](#)⁴



For more photographs of this special occasion please [Click Here](#)⁵

With thanks to W.Bro. Clive Goodrum

Feature on a well-known Brother



⁴<https://humanmilkfoundation.org/about-us/>

⁵http://newsletterlink.homestead.com/Blood_Car_Presentation.html

Staying with Hertfordshire, V.W.Bro. Norwell Roberts, *QPM*, P.G.J.O., and Provincial Grand Almoner for the Mark in Herts, has made the cover of the latest edition of Freemasonry today.

Inside you can read a fascinating interview with him, highlighting his career in the Metropolitan Police, where he hit the beat as London's first black police constable in 1967 and culminating in being awarded the Queen's Police Medal (presented by Prince Charles) in 1996.

His love of Freemasonry and his devotion to the role of Almoner, both in Craft and Mark, also shines through.

Norwell, who is also the current Grand Sword Bearer in the Royal and Select Masters, is a regular contributor to the police and other organisations looking for commentary around Black History Month [Click Here](#)⁶ and last year, as well as the Met Police and London transport, he gave a Zoom talk to a school in Bromley Kent and another to a large group of Met Police Solicitors.

Norwell also told us of occasions when he performed as Father Christmas at a Day Nursery for 50 Disadvantaged Children aged 0-5 years old for 35 years.

"I raised money to enable them to go to Lapland. I also hired a bus so that they could meet Santa at Blackbushe Airport when he arrived from the North Pole on an Aircraft flown by the Pop Star Gary Numan. That was the best of my surprises for the kids.

Additionally, I played Santa at many places/schools and Police functions. I really enjoyed being Santa as I really made the children happy.

On one occasion when the Children were taken to see another Father Christmas at Harrods one 3 year old remarked to him that he was not a real Father Christmas. The staff were taken aback when he asked "Why not" ..fearing that the child would say "Because you are not black" However the reply was "Because you do not come to our nursery"The moral of the story is for children colour was not an issue."

Norwell has kindly shared these further pictures with us from his personal collection.



⁶<https://www.met.police.uk/police-forces/metropolitan-police/areas/campaigns/2020/black-history-month/officer-stories/detective-sergeant-norwell-roberts/>







1 - And sometimes, even Santa gets to meet Santa.

There is a very interesting podcast featuring Norwell, from the BBC World Service on YouTube



<https://youtu.be/1Giq1bhwI4c>

For further information, you can read the full article in the online edition of FMT Here⁷

Read an interview with the Herts Craft Province Here⁸

Listen to Norwell on BBC Radio London's Robert Elms show Here⁹

And there's news of a short film project on Facebook Here¹⁰

⁷<https://www.freemasonrytoday.com/magazine>

⁸<https://pglherts.org/2020/11/mind-the-gap-an-interview-with-w-bro-norwell-roberts-qpm/>

⁹<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p066g8g0>

¹⁰<https://www.facebook.com/IAMNORWELLROBERTS/>

A bit of a change from St James's



Many visitors to Mark Masons' Hall will know Brother Paul Walsh, one of our Hall Stewards.

Here, Paul tells us of his recent expedition to raise funds for a friend in need:

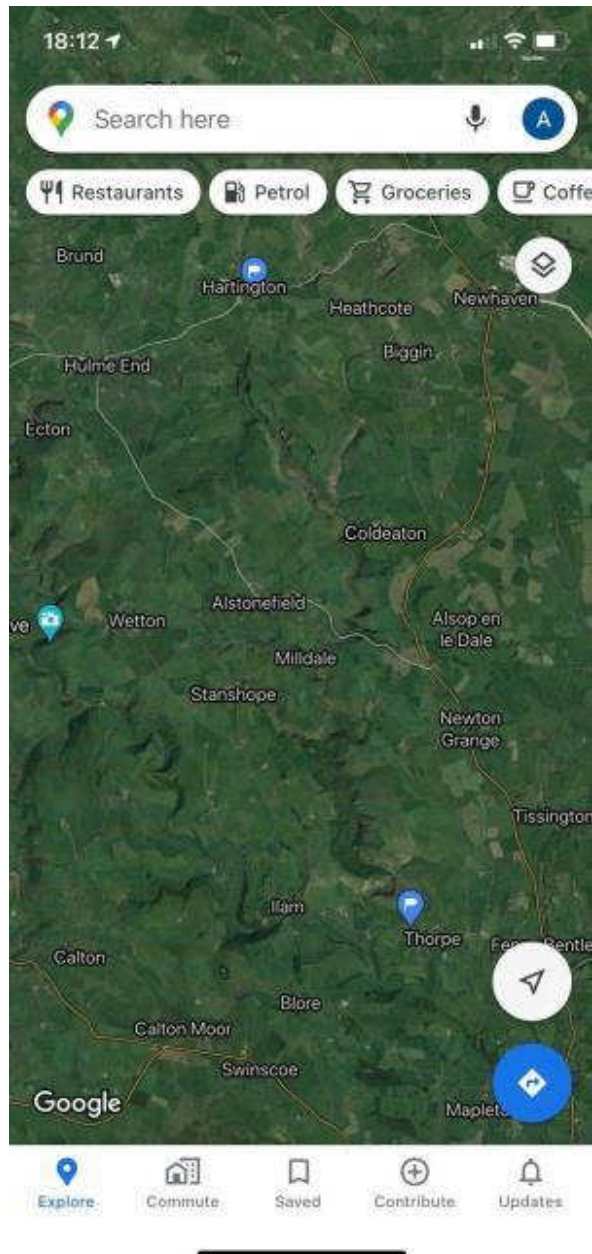
"Around December 2019 our dear friend, Paulie Barter was sadly diagnosed with Acute disseminated encephalomyelitis (ADEM), a very rare brain condition. This was extremely sudden and has been such a strain on his wonderful family. After the Covid outbreak Paulie was unable to get the treatment required for his long road to recovery, so his family have taken it upon themselves to try and raise funds to help him get back to where he was.

What with Paulie being the provider for his family, this has hit home like a ton of bricks but with the help of his wife, his family and some very close friends we decided that we were going to do as many charity events as possible until we get the funds needed to get him back into rehabilitation.

This was kick-started by our good friend Terry Knotts who raised a few thousand pounds on a charity bike ride from London to Brighton. He did brilliantly and really helped get the fund off to a great start.

With charity being at the heart of Freemasonry it was clear to me that I also had to get involved and, with a few good friends, brothers Anthony and Steven Condon, Anthony Evans and Keith Ng we decided that our event will be a hike through the Peak District.

12 miles roughly from point to point each with a 50kg rucksack, fully loaded with our tents sleeping bags, stoves and food, I can honestly say this was one of the hardest things I've ever had to do and I'm sure the boys would agree."



"We had fun in caves on our travels, met plenty of friendly locals and may have even stopped off for the odd pint or two.

This is the first of a few events that will be done for Paulie, a parachute jump is also planned later in the year.

Our goal is to not just raise money but to also raise awareness for this terrible illness and hopefully we will do exactly that.

If you would like to read more on Paulie's story and possibly donate you can do so by clicking the link provided."

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kayleigh-brooks>













R.S.M. District Meeting of North & East Yorkshire

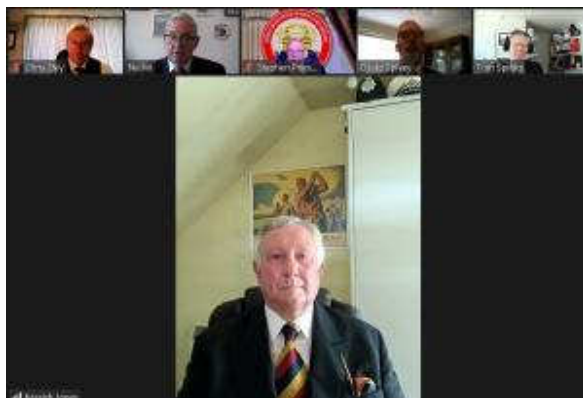
The Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of North and East Yorkshire was held as a Virtual Business Meeting on Saturday 5th June 2021. Attending was the Grand Master, M.III.Comp. Kessick John Jones, and Companions from many other Districts.



The District Grand Master for the District of North and East Yorkshire, R.III.Comp. Neil Woodward, declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.

After the regular business of the District was completed, the District Grand Council Officers for the ensuing year were appointed.

The Grand Master, M.III.Comp. Kessick Jones, briefly addressed the meeting. He expressed his thanks for the invitation to the meeting and spoke about how, despite the pandemic changing all our lives, we showed the resilience and fortitude to keep everything going. He congratulated those District Officers appointed today, as well as those he would have invested in person at Grand Council in April.



The District Grand Master addressed District Grand Council, the first Annual Meeting since 2019. He congratulated those Companions who received appointments or promotion in Grand Council in April' as well as those he had appointed today thanking them for their support. He also thanked those at Mark Masons' Hall for their assistance and guidance throughout the pandemic.



The District has eight Candidates in the wings to be to Chosen once the suspension on meetings in the District is lifted on the 21st June, subject to Government guidelines.

He then thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed. Afterwards the guests all said how much they had enjoyed the meeting and wished the District of North and East Yorkshire every success in the future.

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

Three Ways to support the Surrey Mark 2022 MBF Festival with their Summer Super Sports Raffle featuring great sporting event prizes.



#1 Test Match Cricket

Two tickets for day 3 of the **England-India 4th Test** at the **Oval** on Saturday 4th September worth over £260.

Seats are in Lock balcony and will include a meal hamper.

Prize donated by Arnold Long.

#2 Woking Football Club Hospitality

Tickets for 4 people to a Vanarama National League match at **Woking Football Club** with wonderful behind the scenes hospitality, 3 course lunch, half time refreshments and premium seating in the LGS Stand.

#3 Four Ball Golf at Chobham

Enjoy a round of golf for four players at the fabulous **Chobham Golf Club**. *Valid until 31 July 2022.*

£5.00 per raffle ticket

All proceeds will go to the Mark Benevolent Fund which provides grants to local and national charities such as £1.4m to hospices and other worthy causes.

Tickets are just £5. Use the QR code or go to www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/2022SSSR

Payment online by debit card.



The raffle will be drawn on 20th July 2021

Promoter: Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Surrey 28 Burns Close, Carshalton Surrey, SM5 4PY.

The "Foggy Bra Dash"



Ok, so not the formal name of the event but it wasn't the clearest day on the Isle of Man for the first of a series of events in support of breast cancer awareness week.

R.W.Bro. Martin Blackburn, Mark Prov.G.M. for Isle of Man, was on duty with the MBF ambulance and, though pleased to be supporting the event, he and his colleague avoided the temptation to paint the vehicle pink.

Aurelius Mark Lodge No. 814 and the Sailship Charity



On Friday, 4 June 2021, the Worshipful Master of Aurelius Mark Lodge No. 814, W.Bro. Ken Headworth, who has recently achieved 50 years in the Mark Degree, attended 'the Sailship Training and Learning for Life' charity, accompanied by Elizabeth Barritt, their CEO, for the presentation of a Table Saw purchased for the charity by the Essex Mark Benevolent Fund.

One of the members of the Aurelius Mark Lodge is a volunteer at the charity and there was a clear need for an efficient Table Saw, thereby enabling the trainees to construct wooden products such as planters and bird boxes. The new equipment would not only give those in need access to additional skills but also assist in raising funds for the charity.

The volunteer contacted the Aurelius Lodge Almoner in the form of W.Bro. L. Thurston who then proposed the idea to the Essex Mark Benevolent Fund who subsequently granted the money in order to purchase the equipment.

Pictured is W.Bro. Ken Headworth presenting the newly purchased Table Saw to Elizabeth Barritt with a virtual handshake.

Elizabeth said "We are very grateful to the Mark Masons of Essex and the Benevolent Fund for the invaluable presentation of this equipment".

The objectives of the Sailship Training and Learning for Life charity are to 'champion work and life skills training for people of all ages, living with a learning disability. We offer support for improved mental health and well-being to people who may be recovering from injury or illness, through therapeutic programmes, counselling and the offer of pathways back into employment'.

If you would like to know more about the Sailship charity and all of their on- going work, the link to their website is Here¹¹

With thanks to Bro. David Todd

Keystone David Panmure Lodge Of Mark Master Masons No. 423 Installs a New Master



On Saturday, 5 June 2021 Keystone David Panmure Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 423, meeting in East London, South Africa (Eastern Division) held its Installation meeting, where W.Bro. Riaan Boshoff, Dist.G.Alm., was installed into the Chair for the first time.

The meeting was well attended by Lodge members, with a few apologies from Brethren either engaged in work-related matters, or other Masonic Business. The District Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Richard Poole, accompanied by the Deputy District Grand Master W.Bro. Robbie Palmer, attended the meeting. R.W.Bro. Poole congratulated the Worshipful Master on finally attaining the Chair, as

¹¹<https://www.sailship.org.uk/>

his installation has been delayed due to COVID-19. He congratulated the outgoing Master W.Bro. William Davis, Dist.G.D.C., on the very capable manner in which he installed his successor. Congratulations were also afforded to the Officers appointed on the day.

R.W.Bro. Poole expressed his joy that the Lodge was finally able to meet, noting that Keystone David Panmure Lodge was the first Mark Lodge in the District to have a meeting since lockdown in South Africa commenced in March 2020. The Lodge is supporting the District's Annual Charity Fundraiser, the Mbabala Hunt, which has to date raised over R100 000 for the Old Age Home in Tarkastad. The 2021 charity event is a smaller one due to Covid-19 restrictions, but will nonetheless be a successful one.

Three other Mark Lodges are due to meet in the next 6 weeks, where Installations are planned.

Panmure Goodfellowship Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No. 423 met on the same day and elected two joining members and 4 candidates for Elevation. Planning for these Elevations is underway, and bodes well for Royal Ark Masonry in the Eastern Part of the District.

Sphinx Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No. 576 will install a new Worshipful Commander in July 2021.

All of this is extremely exciting for a small District that is well on the way to recovery after possibly one of the most bizarre times in living memory.

East Anglia's Mark Grand Recipients congratulated on Zoom



On Tuesday, 8 June, Brethren from the Mark Province of East Anglia gathered on Zoom so that the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. David Boswell, could congratulate those receiving appointment to, or promotion in, Grand Rank.

Although technology conspired against the Prov.G.M. and he was unable to join the call, it was hosted very successfully by the Dep.Prov.G.M., W.Bro. Gary Allen, Dep.G.D.C., supported by the A.Prov.G.M., W.Bro. Richard Styles, P.G.J.D.; the Prov.G.Sec., Mike Staff, P.A.G.D.C.; and the immediate past, Dep.Prov.G.M., R.W.Bro. Ray Clarke, P.G.J.W.

The informal gathering was enjoyed by all on the call and led to the usual exchange of friendly leg-pulling and happy conversation which Brethren can usually experience when meeting face-to-face in more normal times.



Across Social Media

[On Facebook - The 2021 Mark Inter-Provincial Cricket Festival](#)

Embed://<iframe

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src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FMarkMasonsHall%2Fposts%2F843913479808477&show_text=true&width=500" width="500" height="563" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>
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[And, you can give the gift of gin to aid our friends at the St John Eye Hospital](#)

Embed://<iframe

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src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fguildstjohn%2Fposts%2F3131677960387797&show_text=true&width=500" width="500" height="652" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>
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[On Twitter - Walking the walk with the Grand Summus](#)

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1401890741908090882>

[The MBF Funded Sensory Minibus is out and about with Ruby's Fund](#)

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1402895034794577920>

[And, Kent's Mark Brethren keep the focus on mental wellbeing](#)

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1401890741908090882>

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 Secretariat¹² - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page¹³

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall¹⁴

Or you can email us at communications@mmh.org.uk¹⁵

Dates for the diary

In the hope that the Government may soon announce the lifting of restrictions, we have started making plans for the Autumn.

Dates to note are:

 <p>Annual Convocation of Grand Lodges Thursday 2 September (Moved from May 2021)</p>	 <p>Annual Meeting of Grand Council Tuesday 26 October</p>
 <p>Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge Tuesday 7 September</p>	 <p>Annual Convocation of Grand Council Thursday 11 November</p>
 <p>Annual Meeting of Board Priory Thursday 9 September</p>	 <p>Annual Chapter of Grand Council of Malta Tuesday 16 November</p>
 <p>Annual Assembly of Grand Masters/ Council Tuesday 12 October (Moved from July 2021)</p>	 <p>Annual Assembly of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Art-Masons Tuesday 14 December</p>

The Shop@86 is now open for customers from 2 p.m. on weekdays, as well as for online orders via the website

[Click Here¹⁶](#) to visit the Shop@86 website

Please note: During the current Government Covid-19 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.uk¹⁷

¹²<https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

¹³<https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

¹⁴<https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

¹⁵<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

¹⁶<https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>

¹⁷<mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk>



The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now raised over £48,000 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](#)¹⁸ or use the Text Donate facility below.

¹⁸<https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Appeal-KT2042020>

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 Priory Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 020 3146 3352. Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1184703, Company No. 09751636

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 Surrey¹⁹

2023 West Yorkshire²⁰

2024 Cheshire²¹

2025 Oxfordshire²²

2026 Hampshire & IOW²³

2027 Warwickshire²⁴

2028 Somerset²⁵

¹⁹<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2022-surrey-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

²⁰<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2023-west-yorkshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form/viewdocument>

²¹<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2024-cheshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

²²<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2025-oxfordshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

²³<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2026-hants-iow-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

²⁴<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2027-warwickshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

²⁵<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2028-somerset-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

2030 Essex²⁶

We are still awaiting stock of 2025 and 2030 Jewels but this week we had 100 of the 2026 Jewels arrive at MMH which have now been posted out and we are waiting on further stock to arrive.

2022/2023/2024/2027/2028 are all ready and we have been posting these out.

We have added the bank account name to all the forms so please use the latest form and details as found in the links above.



²⁶<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 Study²⁷ 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.

²⁷<https://covid.joinzoe.com/>

Normal service resuming @86



Mark Masons' Hall reopened its doors to Brethren on Monday, 17 May and staff have returned to working on the fourth floor on a 'hybrid' rota basis. Whether in the office or working from home, all departments and teams are available via email and telephone to help and support as usual.

Mark Masons' Hall is pleased to be

