



Freemasonry@86 News - 30 July 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>

Grand Lodge Diary



It's been a long time but, at last, we're pleased to look forward to three events over the coming few days for the Grand Lodge teams in their respective Orders.

Saturday, 31 July - Mark Confirmation in Office of R.W.Bro. Christopher C. Adkin as Prov.G.M. for Nottinghamshire

Saturday, 31 July - O.S.M. Confirmation in Office of R.Wy.Bro. Phillip C. Ellenor as Prov.G.S.R. for North and East Yorkshire

Monday, 2 August - Scarlet Cord Consecration of Stretton Hills Consistory No. 137 in the Province of the Midland Counties

We will be posting dates of more events for the remainder of the year in the weeks to come.

You can find the calendar of the regular annual meetings of our Orders further down this newsletter.

The milk of Masonic kindness



What has this famous quote from one of our country's greatest statesman got to do with Hertfordshire Mark Masons? Well, quite a lot actually as this article will explain.

Through the Hertfordshire Mark's increasing association with the SERV Herts and Beds Blood Bike Group, we have become aware of the vital role carried out by the Human Milk Foundation to provide lifesaving and life-changing neonatal milk to babies whose own mothers are unable to provide this essential support.

The wonderful people at the Human Milk Foundation rely on the transport capabilities and infrastructure of the SERV Herts and Beds Blood Bike Group to deliver their milk whenever and wherever it is required. The recent addition to the fleet of the Herts Mark Blood Car has boosted this capability tremendously.

The work of the Human Milk Foundation can best be summarised in their own words:

"Much like donated blood, donor human milk can be life-saving for premature babies. Tiny babies are very vulnerable due to their immature immune systems. A condition called necrotising enterocolitis (NEC) kills more babies each year than childhood leukaemia. Human milk helps prevent babies from developing NEC, so if mum's own milk is not available, donor milk acts like a medicine to protect the baby. Currently, not all babies have access to donor milk due to lack of funding to milk banks. Our aim is to scale up as quickly as funds will allow us, to onboard more milk donors and pasteurise more donor milk so that every baby who could benefit can have access to it".

The Herts Mark Executive and the Herts Mark Benevolent Fund trustees have recently approved an initial contribution which resulted in a £1,000 donation to this worthy cause and a further £2,000 contribution was proposed, seconded and approved at the Herts Mark Provincial Grand Lodge virtual business meeting on 13 July.



The co-founder and driving force behind the Human Milk Foundation, Dr Natalie Shenker, has produced a brief, but truly heart-wrenching, video that explains the need and purpose of this essential service.

To watch the Neonatal milk from the Human Milk Foundation video Click here²

Another new reason for Hertfordshire Mark Masons to be proud and humbled that we are able to make a real difference to lives - in this case very young and tiny lives who cannot help themselves.

With thanks to W.Bro. Clive Goodrum, Prov.Dep.G.Sec., Hertfordshire.

²<https://humanmilkfoundation.org/get-involved/championsforchildren/>

Essex Mark present their first donations from the MBF Major Capital Grant scheme



On Wednesday, 21 July The Province of Essex made its first presentation under the MBF Major Capital Grant scheme with a cheque of £5000 to Farleigh Hospice at Chelmsford.

The donation is part of a sum of £1.3m being distributed among over 250 hospices in England, Wales, Channel Islands, and Isle of Man. The scheme recognises the contribution made by HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh to the service of the Crown and the life of the nation.

Pictured are: Dudley Holmes, Lodge almoner Dunmow Lodge of M.M.M.; Debbie de Boltz, Fundraising Manager - Farleigh Hospice; John Finlay, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; Roy Kaye, Provincial Almoner.

Thursday 22 July saw Essex present two further cheques, one for £4000 to Havens Hospice and one for £7000 to Little Havens Children's Hospice at Southend on Sea. These were very well received and we were treated to tea and cakes outside in glorious sunshine after the presentation.

Pictured are Steve Smith - CEO Havens Hospices; Geoff Newman, Lodge Almoner, Crowstone Lodge of M.M.M.; Roy Kaye, Provincial Almoner; Richard Goodwin, Assistant Provincial Grand Master.





July's update from the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group

We're pleased to be able to share with you the latest update from the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group, the long-established chosen charity of the Knights Templar.



**St John of Jerusalem
Eye Hospital Group**

Memorial Palace
The City of Jerusalem, 10150, IL
Dulles Way
St. John's Eye Hospital, 10150, IL
Hospital
Tel: 011 972 6211 1000

Knights Templar

St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital: July 2021 update

Dear Brother Knights,

With the global coronavirus pandemic in its second year and effective vaccine programmes being rolled out worldwide, St John's Eye Hospital Group continues to meet those most in need as operations resume as normal. The generosity shown by Knights Templar at this much needed time is truly inspiring and has helped us to navigate the current situation as effectively as we can.

COVID-19 update

- More than 5.5 million people have been vaccinated in Israel and almost all restrictions have been lifted (including wearing masks and so on)
- Travel restrictions remain in place for non-Israeli citizens visiting Israel, but this is expected to change in the next few weeks
- At least half a million Palestinians have been vaccinated and the pandemic remains largely under control. Most restrictions have now been lifted
- There are approximately 300 positive cases a day and 3-4 fatalities in Palestinian controlled areas

Staff Vaccinations

- All staff (excluding one currently abroad) have received both of their vaccinations

The St John's Eye Hospital Group

- Between January to the end of May this year we treated 48,956 outpatients and performed 2,582 major surgeries
- There has been close to a 30% increase in the number of outpatients, compared to the same period a year ago
- There was a 25% increase in major surgeries performed at the Group compared to the same time a year ago
- Emergency surgery was up by 35% compared to the same period a year ago

ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM
EYE HOSPITAL GROUP
Serving Sight
Empowering Vision

100% Charitable Trust
Charity No. 10150
10150, IL 10150
info@stjohnseyehospital.org

Ministry of Health
Israel
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St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group

Memorial Palace
The City Centre, 1015, 11
Chelmsford
St. Andrew's, 1015, 11
Buckingham
St. Andrew's, 1015, 11

Jerusalem Eye Hospital

- Dr. Islam has completed his one-year Glaucoma Fellowship and has returned to work at the hospital.
- We have successfully negotiated another contract with the Israeli Red Cross which will increase patient related income by more than 30% this year.

Ankash Centre

- Between January to the end of May, outpatient activities increased by 26% compared to the same period a year ago.

Gaza Hospital

- After the end of the conflict in May, the Rafi Hermon crossing has remained closed meaning patients were prevented from reaching the West Bank and Jerusalem to receive treatment.
- The continued closure of the Rafi Hermon crossing has prevented medical devices and supplies from entering Gaza.
- Despite the recent escalation of violence in Gaza there was a 5% increase in outpatient clinical activities, compared to the same period in 2020.
- The level of surgical activities remained consistent in 2021 compared with 2020.
- Clinical support for the Gaza Hospital has ceased after the war, as access to Gaza has been forbidden by the Israeli Authorities.

Hebron Hospital

- There was a 50% increase in outpatient activities, compared to the same period in 2020.
- Cataract surgery was up by almost 100% resulting in us receiving the DCHA UN grant for cataract surgery.

Upcoming Events

Autumn Reception: Tuesday 5th August 6:00pm-9:30pm

St John Eye Hospital Group warmly invite you to our Autumn Reception on Tuesday 5th October.

Join us from 6:00pm-9:30pm for an evening of drinks and canapés. We have talks from special guests and a raffle where you can win very exciting prizes.

Get your tickets now!

<https://www.stjohnsofjerusalem.org/autumn-reception/>



St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group

Memorial Palace
The City Centre, 1015, 11
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Buckingham
St. Andrew's, 1015, 11

Royal Parks Half Marathon: Sunday 10th October



Would you like to help raise money for St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group by taking part in the Royal Parks Half Marathon?

The route will take you through the beautiful settings of London's Royal Parks: Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St James's Park and Green Park. In return, we will provide you with guide and guidance for fundraising and training, as well as your very own running vest.

Royal Parks Race Day: Sunday 10th October

Minimum fundraising target: £150

Registration fee: £20

Deadline to apply: Late August

Book your place now: <https://www.stjohnsofjerusalem.org/royal-parks-half-marathon/>

Thank you

In closing, the Knights Templar have forged a deep and lasting connection with our eye hospital and now helped us to keep our doors open to all patients who require our urgent assistance. We are deeply grateful for your support and will continue to keep you informed on our work.

We wish all members good health and safety.

Kind regards,

Trishna Datta
Fundraising Officer
St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital



Click Here³ to download a copy

Annual Meeting of the O.S.M. Provincial Grand Conclave of Surrey

The Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Conclave of Surrey was held at the Surbiton Masonic Centre on Friday, 23 July. This was the first regular meeting of an O.S.M. Province since the resumption of Masonic activity.

The Brethren of Surrey and their guests started arriving from 9 a.m. where coffee and bacon sandwiches were being served in one of the dining rooms.



The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler's Arch of Steel was busy rehearsing their duties in the small Temple.



While our Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and his Deputy were relaxing before the meeting.

³http://download.mmh.org.uk/KT_update_July.pdf



Provincial Grand Conclave was opened by the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Right Worthy Brother Colin M. Beerling, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, Wy.Bro. Ian Bloodworth.

After the In Memoriam to departed Brethren, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler welcomed all the honoured guests of the Province hoping that they will enjoy the meeting and festive board. The minutes were taken, the Roll of Provincial Officers was called, as well as the Roll of Conclaves. There was a really good turnout by members of the Province.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler welcomed those Brethren who have been inducted since our last meeting in May 2019. He welcomed them into the Order and presented them with a lapel pin.



Here we have our newest member, Bro. Clifford Beale, who was the first to be inducted into the Order since lockdown. He is pictured with the Supreme Ruler of Warlingham Conclave, Wy.Bro. Chris Eley, and the Secretary, Wy.Bro. Bob Tuthill.

Wy.Bro. Paul D Fitzgerald was re-appointed as Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and saluted with five. The Provincial Officers for the year 2021/2022 were re-appointed.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler then re-appointed the Commander, Bro. Martin Baker, the Deputy Commander, Bro. Jim Turner, and members of his Arch of Steel

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler spoke about the good work that our Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies had been doing to support the Surrey Mark 2022 MBF Festival by riding 2022 miles to raise funds for the Festival. In appreciation of this he invited Wy.Bro. Simon McCarthy to

present a donation of £2,000 to Wy.Bro. Ian N Clark, Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province of Surrey.



Donations were also made of £500 to the Princess Alice Hospice in Esher and £500 to the Surrey branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

During his address to Provincial Grand Conclave, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler thanked all members of the Province for their continued support and requested them to continue to seek out from their Craft Lodges suitable members for this wonderful Order.

After the meeting, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler greeted all our honoured guests on their way out of the Temple. Here we have our Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler with the Grand Summus of the Order of the Scarlet Cord, M.Dist.Comp. Ian S. Currans, and the Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Arnold Long



At the conclusion of the meeting members of the Province, their visitors and guests sat down to a most enjoyable luncheon in the Elizabethan Suite at Surbiton Masonic Hall.

During his Toast to the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, our Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler presented R.Wy.Bro. Colin with a pair of horns of oil to be used during the Commissioning Ceremony. A lovely way to end a most enjoyable day.



Article by Chris Eley and photos by Bob Tuthill and Chris Eley

From the Rose Croix to Brethren of all Orders



I remember fondly that day in 2018 when a team of cyclists called the "Wild West Masons" came cycling into Aberaeron en route for Aberystwyth to raise funds for the Dr John Benjamin Lloyd trust. Such a noble cause and brave hearted Masons who pedalled around the Province inspiring us all.

You may have noticed that Stage 4 of the Tour of Britain is starting at Aberaeron on 8th September 2021, which will surely put Aberaeron on the map... However I write to encourage participation in a Masonic venture which I have been working on for some months now and we hope will be a similar success.

Our local Rose Croix chapter at Aberaeron is named Sarn Helen (Chapter no 926), after the Celtic/Roman road which spans between South Wales (Abertawe) and North Wales (Aberconwy). I have mapped out 10 x 20 mile sections of roads close to the route of the Sarn Helen and have proposed to our current Most Wise Sovereign (Adrian Thomas) that two relay teams could depart from North & South at 6am on Sunday 22nd May 2022 (St Elen's day) and converge on the Masonic Lodge Aberaeron 7208. (It is expected that most participants will only complete one or maybe two stages, although we have some keen cyclists engaged who are hoping to cover five stages!!)

The team from the North will relay an 18° Knight of the Pelican & Eagle Collar. The team from the South will relay an 18° Knight of the Pelican & Eagle, Prince Rose Croix Jewel. When the lead rider of both teams arrive in Aberaeron at Sarn Helen Chapter the Jewel will be ceremoniously united with the Collar. The beneficiary of any funds raised will be The Wales Air Ambulance (we hope to raise at least £1800 via "JustGiving" direct to WAA)

Needless to say we shall also need support teams and marshals on the day, and I have also engaged with St John Ambulance Cymru for "Standby" support. (If the event is a success next year, a subsequent re-run could raise funds for St John Ambulance Cymru.)

Plans are quite well advanced and I have created and delivered a PowerPoint presentation via zoom to some of our local members of Sarn Helen, which has received approval. It is planned that this will be presented to a broader audience of Rose Croix and other Masons in September. The event is entitled the "**Pelican Peloton**". (#PelicanPeloton)

Details in the Public Domain can be seen Here⁴ on the event's Facebook page: which I would encourage West Wales Masons, and others, to "Like" & "Share"

Nick Sawyer 30°, Treasurer, Sarn Helen Chapter Rose Croix No. 926, Aberaeron

Across Social Media

On Facebook - The Mark Province of Kent reported their first face-to-face meeting since the pandemic struck

Embed://<iframe

src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FKentMarkMasterMasons%2Fposts%2F2965041303764629&show_text=true&width=500" width="500" height="417" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>

As did Warwickshire

Embed://<iframe

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On Twitter - the MBF funded Mobile Sensory Pink Bus celebrates it's first birthday
<http://twitter.com/statuses/1421002269689106433>

And, they're no mugs at the A.M.D. in London, but they have some for sale
<http://twitter.com/statuses/1420027152452497423>

⁴<https://www.facebook.com/PelicanPeloton/>

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 Secretariat⁵ - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page⁶

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall⁷

Or you can email us at communications@mmh.org.uk⁸

Calendar of Annual Meetings

 Annual Convocation of Grand Lodges Thursday, 3 September (Moved from May 2021)	 Annual Meeting of Grand Council Tuesday, 26 October
 Quarterly Communication of Mark's Grand Lodge Tuesday, 3 September	 Annual Convocation of Grand Council Thursday, 13 November
 Annual Meeting of Grand Lodge Thursday, 3 September	 Annual Chapter of Grand Lodge of Mark Tuesday, 16 November
 Annual Assembly of Grand Imperial Council Tuesday, 12 October (Moved from July 2021)	 Annual Assembly of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Art Masons Tuesday, 7 December

Timings can be found Here⁹

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

Click Here¹⁰ 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.uk¹¹

⁵<https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

⁶<https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

⁷<https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

⁸<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

⁹<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mmh-downloads/grand-meetings-calendar-2021/viewdocument>

¹⁰<https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>

¹¹<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 Here¹²](#) or use the Text Donate facility below.

¹²<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.



MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels

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

2022 Surrey¹³

2023 West Yorkshire¹⁴

2024 Cheshire¹⁵

2025 Oxfordshire¹⁶

2026 Hampshire & IOW¹⁷

2027 Warwickshire¹⁸

2028 Somerset¹⁹

2030 Essex²⁰

¹³<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2022-surrey-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁴<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2023-west-yorkshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form/viewdocument>

¹⁵<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2024-cheshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁶<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2025-oxfordshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁷<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2026-hants-iow-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁸<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2027-warwickshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

¹⁹<https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2028-somerset-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

We are still awaiting stock of 2028 Somerset Jewels.

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.



²⁰<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 Study²¹ 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.

²¹<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

