

# Freemasonry@86 News - 27 May 2022



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.

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**No Newsletter next Friday**



Due to the three day week with the additional Bank Holidays and the Platinum Jubilee, there will be no Newsletter next Friday.

We send our very best wishes to Her Majesty and hope she has a happy and joyous weekend of celebrations.



## Progressive Orders Diary



**Below are some upcoming dates of events for our Grand teams in their respective Orders.**

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

**Saturday, 28 May - K.T.** Confirmation in Office of R.E.Kt. Richard Francis Micklefield as Provincial Prior for Dorset and Wiltshire

**Saturday, 28 May - A.M.D.** Installation of W.Bro. Brian Butterfield, P.G.St.B., as District Grand Prefect for Yorkshire

**Monday, 30 May - Mark** Anglebury Lodge of M.M.M. No. 763 Centenary, Province of Dorset

**Tuesday, 31 May - Mark** Installation of W.Bro. Brian Percival Gargett, P.G.J.D., as Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire and Herefordshire

**Tuesday, 7 June - Mark** Annual Investiture Meeting, Freemasons' Hall, London

**Tuesday, 14 June - Mark** Dover & Cinque Ports Lodge of M.M.M. Centenary, Province of Kent

**Wednesday 15th June – O.S.M.** Installation of Wy.Bro. William Anthony Stringer, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Cheshire & North Wales

**Thursday, 16 June - Mark** Installation of W.Bro. Stephen Lee, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire

**Monday, 20 June - Mark** Stony Gate Lodge of M.M.M. No. 751 Centenary, Province of Leicestershire and Rutland

**Thursday, 23 June - Mark** Installation of W.Bro. Keith David Bristow, P.G.S.D., as Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire

**Saturday, 2 July - Mark** M.B.F. Festival hosted by the Mark Province of Surrey at Brighton

**Tuesday, 5 July - R.C.C.** Annual Assembly of Grand Imperial Conclave, Freemasons' Hall London

## Annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of West Yorkshire



Saturday, 23 April 2022 and an excellent turnout by the Brethren and Guests saw the first Annual Provincial Meeting since 2019. After the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, Worshipful Brother Andrew Brown inculcated a few parish notices viz, turn off your mobile phone, proceedings begun firstly, with the receiving of the Distinguished Guests from a goodly number of fellow Provinces.

Past Rulers of the Province of West Yorkshire then gained admittance led by Past Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Jim Truswell, accompanied by Past Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, Very Worshipful Brethren Bob Corfield and Richard Puttrell and Past Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, Very Worshipful Brethren Dr. Rod Taylor and Trevor Bolton. Finally, the Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother James Steggles, accompanied by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Very Worshipful Brother Alan Oldfield and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Very Worshipful Brother John Vause together with an Escort of the Provincial Grand Lodge Officers.

R.W.Bro. Jim then welcomed all present, particularly the distinguished visiting Brethren and advised that our past Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Brian Batty recently had surgery but is recovering and sends his good wishes to all, he was missed. Equally so was the Assistant Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Stephen Davison, a regular visitor to the Province and Honorary Member of two Lodges. Very sadly he had passed away earlier in the week and will most certainly be missed by all who knew him, most admired and respected, one who manifestly espoused and showed the precepts of the Order in his daily life and actions, a tragedy.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened, and the next item of business was to receive a Deputation consisting of all the Royal Ark Mariner Lodges in the Province to the tune of 'A Life on the Ocean waves' very appropriate. V.W.Bro. John Vause, A.Prov.G.M. then paid tribute to thirty-three departed Brethren, including R.W.Bro. Stephen and Very Worshipful Brother Robbie Scorer. The

Brethren stood to order in respect to departed merit. The Roll of all the Mark Lodges was then read, and apologies noted. Whereupon the Minutes of the last meeting, a virtual gathering, were approved.

In the absence due to illness of Very Worshipful Brother John Morgan, Provincial Grand Registrar, his report was delivered by the Provincial Grand Secretary, Worshipful Brother Gary Parker. The Mark Degree and Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners have endured a trying period in the year to September 2021 due to the impact of the covid pandemic with one thousand and forty-eight members and six hundred and forty-two members respectively at the end of August last. However, things have definitely turned the corner and a significant improvement will be seen at the end of August 2022. The Treasurer, Worshipful Brother Alan Hines then presented his report showing, as expected, reduced revenues but also reduced expenditure giving rise to a surplus of one thousand nine hundred and forty-four pounds. The next item on the agenda was the appointment of the Treasurer where W.Bro. Alan was duly confirmed for a further year as was Worshipful Brother John Mitchell as Provincial Auditor.

The newly Appointed Provincial Grand Lodge Officers were then Invested with Worshipful Brother Richard Brown as Senior Warden, unfortunately absent due to illness, and Worshipful Brother John Madigan as Junior Warden, upon completion they received appropriate Salutations.

At the end of his address, the Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Yorkshire West Riding, Right Worshipful Brother James Newman stepped forward and presented a further cheque for twenty-five thousand pounds in respect of the West Yorkshire Mark Benevolent Fund Festival, making a total of one hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds. As R.W.Bro. Jim commented further evidence of the excellent relationship which exists between the Masonic Orders in the Province. The final item was a thank you to all those who had made the day possible, particularly the 'Host' Lodges. This was in the hands of the Dep.Prov.G.M., V.W.Bro. Alan who confirmed that we meet again on the 15 April 2023. Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

Over two hundred Brethren sat down in what has affectionately become known as 'Hogwarts' to dine and enjoy each other's company. A remarkably busy, noisy, and enjoyable atmosphere as Brethren chatted away between bouts of taking turns to serve each other.

Toasts to The Queen and then The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent G.C.V.O. were given by R.W.Bro. Jim.

It was then the turn of W.Bro. John the Junior Warden to give the toast to R.W.Bro. Jim. He did a fabulous job with only a small amount of notice given just days before. This was the first such toast in 3 years and he firstly wished a speedy recovery to W.Bro. Richard the Senior Warden. He thanked R.W.Bro. Jim on behalf of all the promoted and acting officers appointed today and hoped they could live up to the dynamic inspirational leadership shown by him. He said that he had led the way using such technology as zoom to keep us all afloat and in touch. Although he did remark that his microphone did not support such technology as he did occasional bouts of Norman Collier! And although many of us had a bit of Luddite running through their veins, we had all moved on and embraced things such as T@3 and Facebook during these covid times. The achievement of all Mark Lodges achieving Diamond award was remarkable and he was looking forward to all the forthcoming planned events.

He was glad both R.W.Bro. Jim and his wife Joan had managed to finally get to Tenerife this year for some sun and relaxation but said that since their departure the sun had been lacking. Finishing by

thanking him for all the challenging work, tremendous enthusiasm, and dedication he extended to our Province.

In his response R.W.Bro. Jim thanked W.Bro. John for his kind toast and wished W.Bro. Richard a speedy recovery and knew they would support each other along the way. He congratulated all on their appointments and said it would be a busy year ahead. But to make the most of it. Enjoy it because it would go extremely fast. He thanked our distinguished guests for their support as they had certainly enhanced our proceedings and hoped they would come again. He particularly thanked West riding Masonic Charities Ltd and Right Worshipful Brother James Newman for his support and the excellent relationship he shared with this Province. He also thanked all members of the Province for their support and asked for a final push for the Festival to make us all proud in 2023. He announced all the lucky winners of the 250 club and gave a final reminder of the MC2 cycle challenge and assorted items for sale on the website such as the hard back book charting the history of the Province. Closing by saying he hoped everyone had enjoyed a wonderful day out and wished all a safe journey home.

What a most enjoyable day and in the words of the late R.W.Bro. Stephen, more evidence of the 'Magic of the Mark.'

*With thanks to W. Bro. Andrew Johnson P.Prov.G.S.W., Communications Manager, and V.W.Bro. Duncan Smith P.G.J.O.*





## A new Prov.G.M. for the Mark Province of Isle of Man



A team of Grand Officers were made to feel very welcome at the Installation of Installation of the new Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province of Isle of Man, R.W. Bro. Michael Kelly (pictured right, with new Dep. Prov. G.M. Martyn Killey).

This was a slightly unusual ceremony as the Installation was carried out R.W. Bro. Francis C. Spencer, P. Prov. G.M. (Worcestershire), Grand Director of Ceremonies, leaving other members of the Mark Executive available to attend the funeral of R.W. Bro. Stephen Davison, Assistant Grand Master. R.W. Bro. Frank was ably assisted by his acting G.D.C., Jonathan Roberts, Dep. G.D.C.

The Province was only formed in 2017, previous to which it had been an Inspectorate and in succeeding R.W. Bro. K. Martin Blackburn, R.W. Bro. Kelly has become only the second Provincial Grand Master. Continuing this theme, the meeting was opened by a past Grand Inspector for Isle of Man, R.W. Bro. David Downie, P.G.J.W., as Presiding Officer.

If you haven't had a chance to visit, this wonderful Temple in Douglas is well worth a look having been recently saved, at some considerable expense, from damage caused by a collapsing roof.

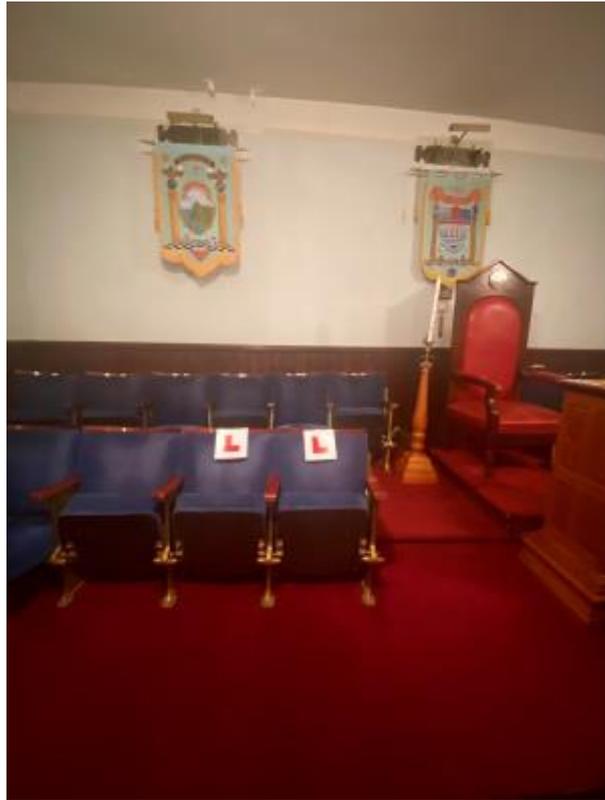
After appointing his Deputy, the provincial Grand Master appointed the rest of the Officers of the province before we all retired to the dining room to enjoy a meal, wine takings, toasts and speeches.

Congratulations to Michael, Martyn, and the other Officers of the Province on their appointments.

*With thanks to W. Bro. Colin Lias, P.A.G.D.C., Prov. G.D.C.*



W.Bro. Robert Kelly, P.G.St.B., tells us it wasn't long before the Prov.G.M. and Dep.Prov.G.M. were out making visits in their new roles and on their visit to The Carrick Lodge of M.M.M. No. 1558 in Castletown, two seats had been specially reserved for the new leadership duo.



## Happy 50 Years R.W.Bro. F. John Gillo



We're very pleased to send our congratulations to R.W.Bro. Frederick John Gillo, Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, who was delighted to receive a 50 Year Certificate in token of this landmark as a Mark Master Mason.



### Some new faces in Cheshire



On 18 May 2022, 69 Mark Masons attended Rivacre Mark Lodge at which the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Gary Raymond Horstman, appointed and invested:

- Worshipful Brother John David Miller as Assistant Provincial Grand Master
- Worshipful Brother Barry Worthing Travers as Provincial Grand Registrar
- Worshipful Brother Michael Anthony Jones as Provincial Grand Secretary







## A new Mark Lodge in Buenos Aires - Pilar Lodge of M.M.M. No. 2040



Pilar is a town in the geographical Province of Buenos Aires, 50km north of the Downtown area. Four years ago, a small group of Mark Master Masons residing in the area had a dream; to have a Mark Lodge in the city. Not only to shorten the distance required to attend meetings, but also to serve as a point of reference for Master Masons from nearby towns, even further away from our headquarters in Buenos Aires. After more than six months of constant work, with the permanent support of our District of River Plate, we have now seen that dream come true.

We have manufactured our own working tools, with love and commitment. After a successful and enjoyable Consecration, it is time to use them. Today we start to Mark Well.

*With thanks to W.Bro. Carlos Stefanizzi, District Grand Secretary. District of River Plate.*

## Surrey Mark charity golf day



The Surrey Mark Charity Golf day held at the Woldingham Golf Club on Monday the 16th July was another great success.

The weather was kind - no rain and a glint of sunshine in the afternoon.



It was a good turnout with 76 golfers playing very well and, more importantly, enjoying what turned out to be a lovely day with a splendid meal in the afternoon.



Our Provincial Grand Master lead from the front teeing off first on the first hole so as to set the pace and there were some high scores with a single winning score of 45 points and a best team score of 132 points. R.W.Bro. Ian also took responsibility for the weather and received a 10 out of 10 for ensuring we all stayed dry. Same again next year Sir!



For the 3rd year running, the winners trophies were donated by W Bro Mark Guzam, thank you again Mark.....truly appreciated.



An excellent raffle as well as some beautiful auction items which were very generously donated will ensure that an estimated £5,000 has been raised.



Next year we will be playing again at Woldingham Golf Club on the 15th of May 2023, please put this date in your diary and come and join us.

*With thanks to Chris Eley.*



## Provincial Priory of Northumberland's Church Service



Saturday saw the much anticipated return of the Northumberland Provincial Priory Church Service after a two year hiatus.

Knights, in full regalia, along with their wives and partners, from around the Province gathered at Hexham Abbey, as part of the Annual Meeting, to join in celebration. In addition it was the first time that those Knights who received Great Priory honours could get together, in an official capacity, to show off their finery.

Hexham Abbey is one of the earliest seats of Christianity in England. Since its beginning, it has witnessed periods of immense turmoil and change, across the region and within the English Church itself, many of which are reflected in the very fabric of the building today.

There has been a church on the site of the Abbey for more than 1,300 years, since Queen Etheldreda made a grant of lands to Wilfrid, Bishop of York c.674. Of Wilfrid's Benedictine Abbey, the Saxon crypt and apse still remain.

There have been additions made every century since Hexham Abbey was first founded. The oldest part is the Saxon crypt from 674 and the east end was rebuilt in 1860 to a John Dobson design, and the nave, whose walls incorporate some of the earlier church, was rebuilt in 1908.

During 2014, building work was completed on the £3m restoration of the medieval monastery complex at the Abbey to create a major visitor exhibition, function rooms and community meeting spaces. This is one of the most significant events in the Abbey's life, and it reunites all the buildings on site for the first time since the Reformation, when the monastic complex was removed by Henry VIII.



Since the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1537 the Abbey has been the parish church of Hexham and today is a centre for worship and witness to the Christian faith. The oldest of the 10 bells was cast in 1742. The youngest two were installed for the Millennium.

After the service all present then attended Hexham Masonic Hall to avail themselves of a buffet luncheon and it was agreed that a very enjoyable day was had by all.

*With thanks to Nicholas M Deakin, Provincial Grand Communications Officer*





At the R.S.M. District Meeting of East Midlands



On Saturday the 21st of May 2022 a delegation from Surrey drove up the M1 to Northampton to attend the Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of the East Midlands.

Also attending the meeting was The Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, His Hon. Ian Douglas Gavin Alexander, QC.

We all met up in the bar for coffee and a chat before getting ready for the meeting.



The meeting was very well supported by other Districts with 11 District Grand Masters attending, along with their Companions, plus four Heads of Other Orders.

The meeting was opened by the District Grand Master and The Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, His Hon. Ian Douglas Gavin Alexander, QC., escorted by Ill.Comp. Andrew Jennings, Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, entered and was warmly welcomed by the District Grand Master.



The Deputy Grand Master addressed District Grand Council saying how good it was to be in Northampton again. He congratulated those who had received Grand Rank at the Grand Council meeting in April.

After the regular business of District Grand Council had been concluded, the District Grand Master had much pleasure in re-appointing as Deputy District Grand Master, Ill.Comp. Ian Knox and re-appointing as District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work Ill.Comp. Norman Pope. There were 31 appointments and promotions in District Grand Rank.

After the District Grand Master had invested his Officers the District Grand Master had much pleasure in presenting 13 Silver Trowel Certificates to Companions of the District.



The District Grand Master then addressed District Grand Council. He gave a warm welcome to all attending today and said how pleased he was to see so many Companions present. He thanked everyone for attending and supporting the District Grand Council of the East Midlands, especially the Deputy Grand Master. He congratulated those he had appointed and invested today saying he was looking forward to the future. He thanked the District Grand Recorder and the District Grand Director of Ceremonies and their teams for all they had done to make the meeting such a success. The Deputy Grand Master then retired from District Grand Council. District Grand Council was closed and the District Grand Master, attended by the Deputy District Grand Master, the District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, and distinguished guests, retired in procession.

After the meal the District Grand Master proposed the Toast to the Deputy Grand Master. The Deputy Grand Master thanked the District Grand Master and the Companions for their kind hospitality and wished the District well for the future.

The Deputy Grand Master and the District Grand Master then retired from the festive board.

*With thanks to Chris Eley*



























## An alliance of A.M.D. Councils



Two A.M.D. Councils came together on Monday when Shuttleworth Council No. 50 (a Council repurposed to appeal to District Grand Secretaries and Past District Grand Secretaries) held its meeting in the home District of its Worshipful Master, R.W.Bro. Thomas Frederick Auber.

As well as being the Past District Grand Prefect for East Anglia (and Past District Grand Secretary), R.W.Bro. Tom is the Secretary of Icknield Council No. 209 which meets at Newmarket. So the two meetings were held back to back, with Brethren of each Council being made to feel very welcome as visitors to the other.

In attendance were the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Thomas Firth Jackson, an honorary member of Shuttleworth Council, and the District Grand Prefects for both East Anglia, R.W.Bro. Geoffrey Keer; and East Lancashire, R.W.Bro. Mervyn Wilson, representing the home District of Shuttleworth Council. Plus R.W.Bro. Joe McCollum, Dist.G.Pref. for West Midlands (and A.D.C. of Shuttleworth) and R.W.Bro. Stewart Middleton, Grand Senior Warden.

W.Bro. Dan Heath, P.G.S.D., A.G.Sec., the Director of Ceremonies of Icknield Council, had been approached by Tom Auber as W.M. of Shuttleworth, to give a talk about how District Grand Secretaries can assist Mark Masons' Hall with a smooth flow of admin related matters. This was well received by the fifty-plus Brethren in attendance and was a good way to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Council.

After Shuttleworth Council had closed, Officers were swapped and Icknield Council opened so that the W.M., W.Bro. John Jones, could admit two new Brethren into the Order, Brothers Bryan John Randall and John Rowell.

After the second meeting had closed, Brethren retired to dine and R.W.Bro. Tom A. presented M.W.Bro. Tom J. with a token of thanks for making the visit.



## A new Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Channel Islands



The Grand Supreme Ruler, M.Wy.Bro. Andrew Christopher Sweeney, was welcomed warmly to Guernsey last weekend when he arrived to Install the new Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Channel Islands, R.Wy.Bro. Michael Bryan Le Conte.

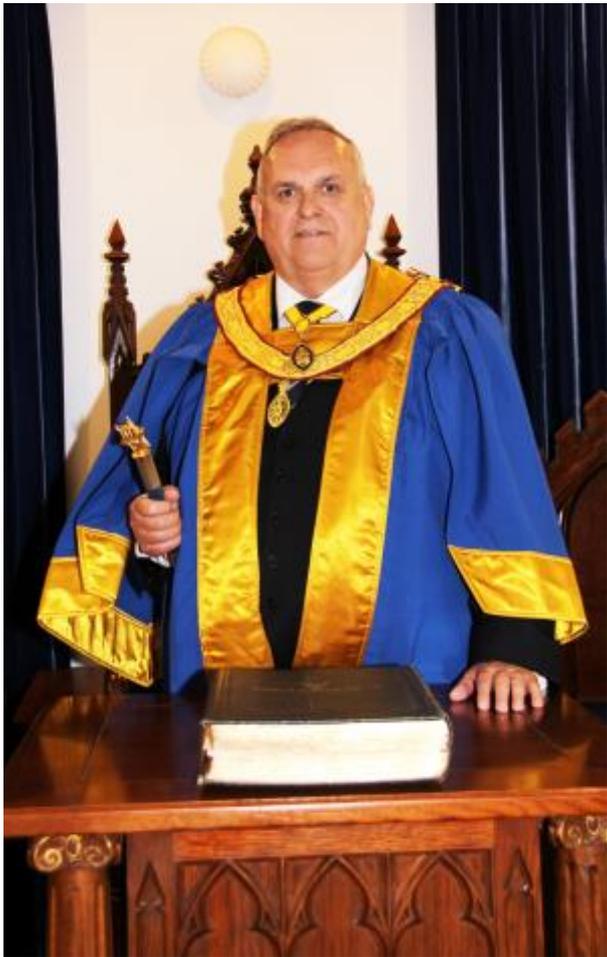
R.Wy.Bro. Michael was pleased to appoint Wy.Bro. Gareth Callan as Dep.Prov.G.S.R. at the meeting, followed by the appointment of the other Provincial Grand Officers of the year.

The Province has three Conclaves, one on Guernsey and two on Jersey. With the new Ruler and Deputy being based on Guernsey and Jersey respectively, they have the Province well covered and will no doubt enjoy visiting each others Islands as they settle into their new roles.

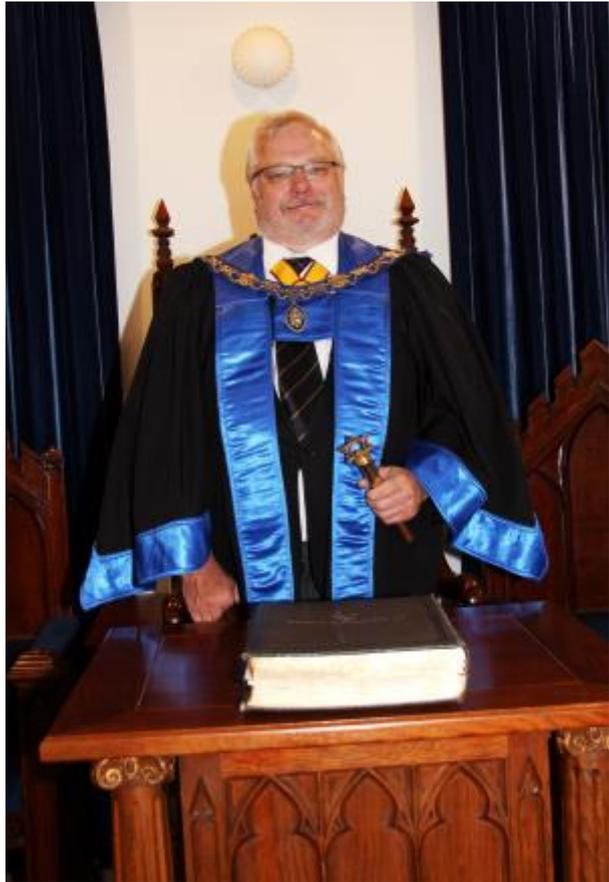


1 - R.Wy.Bro. Mike Le Conte; M.Wy.Bro. Andrew Sweeney; Wy.Bro. Gareth Callan













## O.S.M. £1,000 donation to Durham Children's Charity



Support for a County Durham based children's charity was shown again today, Friday 20 May 2022, when the Order of the Secret Monitor presented a cheque for £1,000 to Henry Dancer Days on behalf of the members of Arbeia Conclave No. 296, which surrendered its Warrant in May 2021.

Commenting on the presentation, Wy. Bro. Robin Knight, Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for the Province of Durham and Supreme Ruler of Arbeia Conclave at the time of its closure said:

"In Spring of 2021 I watched a local news article on Henry Dancer Days and was deeply moved by Henry's story and the inspiring work that his mum Jane has been doing through the charity she set up. In my capacity as Intendant General for the Division of Durham in the Red Cross of Constantine I made an application to the Grand Sovereigns Care for Children Fund, who promptly made a very generous grant of £2,500.

As we were at that time in the depths of Covid it was not possible to meet with Jane and make a formal presentation. The important thing was that the funds would do a great deal to assist in those challenging times.

A year on, mindful that recovery from Covid in the masonic world has been a slow-burn I felt charities might be experiencing a similar issue with funding levels. The Arbeia members had resolved that any remaining funds be used for charitable purposes and generously agreed to donate £1,000; and so, it is a delight to finally meet Jane today and make this further donation face to face."

Jane Nattrass, Henry's Mum and Charity Director said:

"As a small charity we couldn't continue to help the people we serve without support such as this. We are extremely grateful to the Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund and the Arbeia members.

Putting a smile on the faces of children with cancer and their families is at the heart of what we do. The funds we've been given will result in many."

Pictured above: an example of the work of the Charity. 'Henry Dancer Days' Storyteller Shelley in the Great North Children's Hospital".

And below: the presentation with (left to right), Steven Duffy, (Fundraising and Income Support Officer), Jane Nattrass, (Henry's Mum and Charity Director), Robin Knight (Dep.Prov.G.S.R. for Durham and Intendant General for Durham), Peter Ray, (Provincial Treasurer for Durham)

Further information regarding Henry Dancer Days can be found at the charity's website [Here](#)



## 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](#) - This is the contact account for the [Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page](#)

Twitter - [@MarkMasonsHall](#)

Or you can email us at [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)

## Calendar of Annual Meetings

**Grand Meetings Calendar 2022 - All Orders**

Please note all timings are approximate. Refer to the Summaries for confirmation.

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Admission Fee	Meeting Time	Meeting Venue	Open Book	Appt. Time
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 March 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 April 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 May 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 June 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 July 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 August 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 September 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 October 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 November 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00
MAAN	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 26 December 2022	MMH, GreatNorthGreat Hall, London, WC2N 6JZ	£10.00	7.00 PM	7.00 PM	£10.00	£10.00

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start times.



At the meeting of Mark Grand Lodge at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the Pro Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond John Smith, announced that the Mark Benevolent Fund would be donating £25,000 to the Mark Inspectorate of Romania who have been working proactively in many ways to provide support and relief to their neighbours in Ukraine.

This tremendous endeavour has touched Freemasons across the Constitution and many of our Brethren are keen to add their own support by making a donation.

We have set up a Relief Chest with the M.C.F. under the name of the **Mark Emergency Relief Fund** and you can now make donations in a variety of ways.

**We know that there is enormous support for this already. To make the administration of donations as smooth as possible, enabling funds to be transferred efficiently to where they are needed most, we ask that you note the following advice regarding donations:**

**For individual donations of less than £100** - please make arrangements with your Mark Lodge for these to be collected centrally and then for the Lodge to make one consolidated donation into the Fund. These consolidated donations will count toward the Lodge's M.B.F. honorifics, rather than each individuals.

**Donations of £100 or more may be made by individuals directly into the fund** and will count towards the Brother's M.B.F. Honorifics

In all correspondence please ensure you are donating to:

**Mark Emergency Relief Fund**

Relief Chest No.: **MMM185622**

The quickest and easiest way to donate is by scanning the QR code below or following this [Link](#).



For a Credit Card Donation Form [Click Here](#) - remembering to use your **Craft Lodge name and number**, not your Mark Lodge.

For a Single Donation Form [Click Here](#) - remembering to use your **Craft Lodge name and number**, not your Mark Lodge.

If you would like more information about the ways in which you can donate using the digital options above, you can read the Digital Donations Guide by [Clicking Here](#)

And if you, or your Lodge, already hold a Relief Chest from which you would like to donate funds, there is a further, specific guide available by [Clicking Here](#) and a simple transfer guide available by [Clicking Here](#)

V.W.Bro. Cristian Mihutoiu, Grand Inspector for Romania has sent us details of the humanitarian activities he and his Brethren are developing for the Ukrainian refugees.

### **1) ACCOMMODATION**

For both refugees coming from the North by car and on foot, and those coming from the South by ferry, there are requirements for short term accommodation places for at least 3-4 days, after which some of them are travelling to other European countries while others are being hosted by Romanian families. For this purpose we are cooperating with the Government to supply the following facilities:

- special tents for more than 20 people

- electrical heating devices
- beds and blankets
- personal hygiene products

On the other hand, there are many small hotel owners which offer their facilities for the refugees asking in return for the payment for the utilities (gas, water, electricity).

## **2) MEDICAL SUPPLIES**

- emergency kits
- small surgery kits
- antibiotics and other different medicines
- disinfecting solvents
- cleaning sets
- medical face masks

## **3) FOOD AND WATER SUPPLIES**

- sandwiches
- warm food freshly prepared
- still water
- disposable plates and cups

## **4) TRANSPORTATION FROM THE BORDER TO DIFFERENT CITIES AND AIRPORT**

Many Ukrainian refugees are leaving Romania after 3-4 days spent at the border, through the major airports, especially Bucharest. So they need free transportation.

## **5) SPECIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE FOR CHILDREN AND MOTHERS**

Small children and mothers are very shocked and need specialised psychological assistance to recover.

## **6) CLOTHES SUPPLIES**

Collecting and storing clothes for adults and children and distributing to the refugees as well as specialised articles for children.

Additionally we face the problem with those refugees who are asking to stay in Romania and need integration, long term accommodation and integration in our society. Many of them speak only Ukrainian or Russian.

Please also note that in the first wave of refugees arriving in the past 10 days, most of them have some financial resources. But the second wave, starting next week, will be those with very poor resources and who will require better care and support.

As of Wednesday, more than 250,000 refugees crossed the Romanian border and we are expecting up to 1 million in the next 30 days or less.

We are developing different support programs including in cooperation with other important organisations such as our National Craft Grand Lodge and international charity organisations such as LIONS Romania.

This is a brief presentation of our activities in support of the Ukrainian refugees who are facing a dramatic situation at the Romanian borders.

We are living in difficult times which require us, more than ever, and out of compassion and unity, to help those in difficult situations. Brotherhood and friendship must prevail.

Fraternal regards,

Cristian.

## The Shop@86

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

**Please note:** As a result of the current pandemic and supply issues, there may be delays to the despatch of orders. For enquiries about your order please email [Regalia@mmh.org.uk](mailto:Regalia@mmh.org.uk)





## **MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels**

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

[2022 Surrey](#)

[2023 West Yorkshire](#)

[2024 Cheshire](#)

[2025 Oxfordshire](#)

[2026 Hampshire & IOW](#)

[2027 Warwickshire](#)

[2028 Somerset](#)

[2030 Essex](#)

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.

















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 Study](#) 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.

## Admin Departments @86



We're pleased to have now fully re-opened Mark Masons' Hall, with the Admin teams, Catering staff and Bar facilities operating business as usual.

All departments and teams are available via email and telephone to help and support members and visitors.

Most communication for Masonic Administration should go via the Provincial Secretary or equivalent and they will know who to contact here at M.M.H. if they are unable to answer the query themselves.

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