

Freemasonry@86 News - 8 July 2022



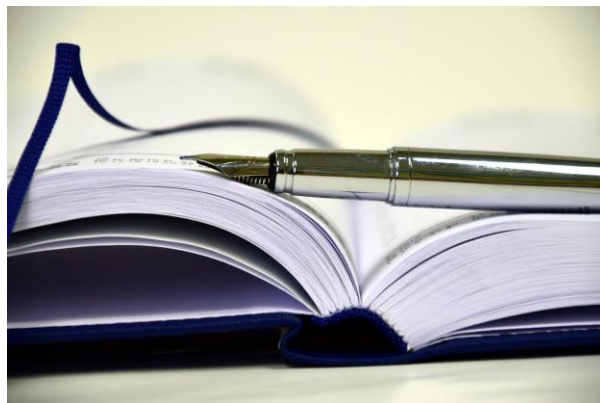
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Progressive Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

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

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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, 9 July - O.S.M. Installation of Wy.Bro. Julian Alan Nicholas Frost, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Somerset

Tuesday, 12 July - Mark Installation of W.Bro. James Dominic Harrison as Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire

Saturday, 16 July - S.C. Installation of V.Dist.Comp. Jonathan Peter Wallis, P.G.Reg., as Provincial Grand Summus for Middlesex

Saturday, 30 July - O.S.M. Supera Moras Conclave No. 49 Centenary, Province of East Lancashire

The One Hundred and Fifty-fourth MBF Festival - Surrey 2022



After a difficult few months for the Province of Surrey having lost their original venue to a higher authority commandeering the rooms available, it was a great pleasure to be back in Brighton, venue of the 2019 Sussex MBF Festival, to celebrate this, the Province of Surrey's 2022 Mark Benevolent Fund Festival.

On arrival at the venue, guests were welcomed by the team of Provincial Stewards and other meeters and greeters who did a tremendous job of signing people in and handing out the welcome packs.

For many, there was time to enjoy the sights that Brighton Seafront has to offer on a gloriously sunny afternoon. Morris Men were in full dance, ice-creams were melting faster than you could eat them, and the fearless seaside gulls were making the most of the walking buffet selection offered up by promenaders not paying close enough attention to their fish and chips.

After a quick change in to dinner suits for Gentlemen and a stunning array of gowns for the Ladies, the drinks reception opened and teams led by the Rulers of the Mark and the Province of Surrey made their way around the guests welcoming them to the event and wishing them an enjoyable evening.

A fine meal was enjoyed in the splendid dining hall before the toast and speeches. Among the speakers were R.W.Bro. Ian N. Clark, Provincial Grand Master for Surrey and 2022 Festival President, V.W.Bro. John Bell, P.G.M.O., President of the MBF, and R.W.Bro. Ryan Williams, P.G.J.W., Grand Secretary.

Tributes were paid to the enormous efforts made by the Festivals fund-raising and support teams, not just limited to Mark Brethren but also their souses, partners and families who often get involved in the fund raising events and help out behind the scenes in the procurement and supply of festival related goodies.

Thanks were also extended to the many other Masonic Orders which donated money towards the Festival, all of whom have been listed in the Festival Booklet which can be downloaded at the foot of this article.

There were also tributes paid to the MBF Trustees who assess petitions for aid, and the Charity and Finance staff at Mark Masons' Hall who collate all the payments and attribute donations to calculate the various honorifics.

The Grand Secretary then went through the figures and the total on screen gradually increased until it reached a sum just short of the million pound mark. However, some late calculations had found some monies previously unaccounted for and with these additions, the marvellous total of £1,002,022.00 was announced as the final total.

This magnificent sum was greeted with great applause and the Provincial Grand Master was evidently quite taken aback when he addressed the audience and thank the many fundraisers and supporters for their efforts and, of course, those many, many, Masonic Brethren and their friends and families, who donated to the Festival.

With a celebratory mood in the air, the Jersey Boys took to the stage and entertained everyone until late into the night before many head out for some cool sea air before retiring to bed.

Next year's Festival takes place in Harrogate, hosted by the Mark Province of West Yorkshire. But before we look ahead, here are some snaps of a fantastic night for Surrey.

To download a copy of the Festival Booklet [Click Here](#)



A Snapshot of the Mark Benevolent Fund – 1868 to 2022

<p>1868 The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons Fund of Benevolence is established by Revd George Raymond Portal.</p> <p>1869 The first festival is held at the Miter Hotel in Hampton Court Road, and raises the sum of £97.</p> <p>1869 The first grant of £5 is made to Brother George Morris, a Ship's Steward of White-hapel in East London, having lost virtually all his possessions in a shipwreck earlier that year.</p> <p>1879 The first festival sponsored by a Province is hosted by Wessex and raises £537.</p> <p>1888 13 boys and 13 girls are beneficiaries of the Education Fund. The Ammanit Fund is supporting four people.</p> <p>1918 The first time a five figure sum is raised at a festival: £16,000 in the Province of East Angles.</p> <p>1927 The first use of the term 'Mark Benevolent Fund'.</p>	<p>1968 Centenary By May 1967 a total of £745,736 has been disbursed.</p> <p>To mark the centenary of the Fund, £200,000 is granted to Lord Harris Court, a residential care home run by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Care Company.</p> <p>1971 £200,000 donated to the Royal Masonic Hospital Modernisation Fund.</p> <p>1994 £1.5 million is donated to the Hospice Movement.</p> <p>2009 £1.6 million is donated to the RNLI in Wales for a new Tamar-class lifeboat named 'The Mark Mason'.</p> <p>2017 Teams from the Province took part in the M.F.F. Charity Walk, raising £437,254. For Blood Bikes groups across England and Wales. The official handover took place in August 2016 at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham.</p> <p>2017 In John Ambulance, receive a grant of £2.4 million for the provision of 50 new vehicles.</p>	<p>2018 Sesquicentenary Since 1868 the M.B.F. has disbursed over £7 million in grants to individual petitioners.</p> <p>Donations to charities and worthy causes total over £25 million.</p> <p>The Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund donate £2,000,000 to the Hope for Tomorrow charity, for the purchase of eight mobile chemotherapy units for the use of the NHS in rural locations throughout the UK.</p> <p>2018 £241,423 is donated to LifeLines, providing innovative, sensory, mobile and interactive technology for the use of children in their partner hospitals.</p> <p>2020 £96,213 is granted to purchase three LICAN CPW machines and video helicopters for use in helicopters and ground vehicles in and around Bristol.</p> <p>2020 £60,000 is granted to purchase three LICAN CPW machines and video helicopters for use in helicopters and ground vehicles in and around Bristol.</p>	<p>2021 £20,000 is given to Clowns in the Sky for 74 acts, trials and sensory ledgers across 43 hospitals nationally.</p> <p>2021 £62,800 is granted to Mayport Inshore Rescue in Cumbria to replace a summer boat at the lifeboat station.</p> <p>2021 £1,296,000 is granted to hospices to commemorate the significant contributions made to the Crown and the nation by H.R.H. The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.</p> <p>2022 The 1st Durdere Scouts in Surrey receive £5,102 for the replacement of boundary fences at their Scout Hall, giving much needed security to the hall and its contents.</p> <p>2022 Ukraine Appeal - to date over £125,000 has been raised to help Ukrainians in need via the Imposter of Romania.</p> <p>2022 Wessex Women Centre receive £4,527 to update ageing white goods and for the replacement of a stove in the children's area.</p> <p>2022 Cumberland & Westmorland are granted £65,900 for the Keep Doctors to fund 10 mini portable monitors to assist in the diagnosis of collapsed lungs, giving real time feedback to accident and emergency teams across via wifi.</p>
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From the 100th anniversary of the Fund the following grants have been distributed:

Grants to Individual Petitioners:	£7,200,143	TOTAL: £36,054,424
Grants to Worthy Causes:	£28,845,201	







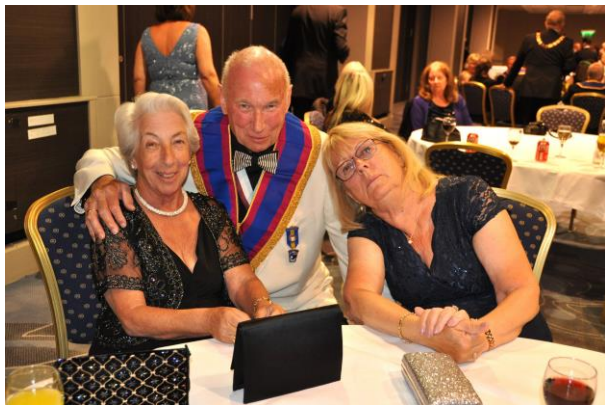
































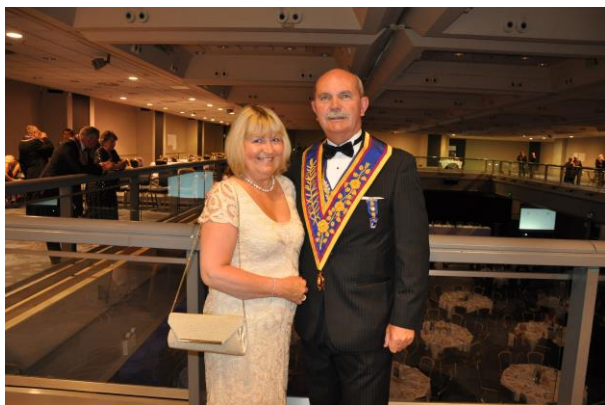














































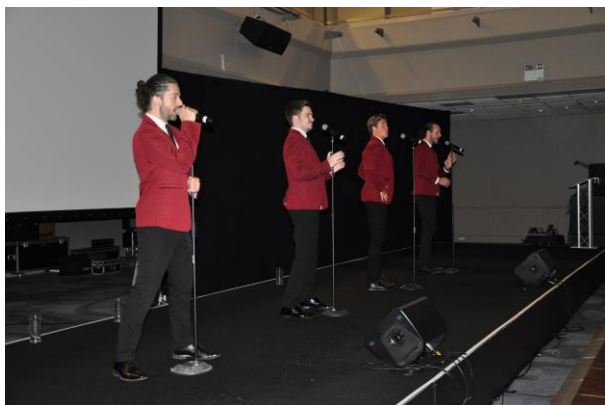
















And so to Harrogate, West Yorkshire, for the 2023 MBF Festival



A message from the President of the 155th Annual Mark Benevolent Fund Festival hosted in 2023 by West Yorkshire

Saturday, 1st July 2023

to be held at

Harrogate Convention Centre

Kings Road

Harrogate

HG1 5LA

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have the honour and pleasure to be the President of the 155th Annual Festival for the Mark Benevolent Fund. This festival will celebrate the culmination of over 7 years of fundraising for the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The Festival Dinner will commence with welcome drinks at 6:15pm followed by a three course Festival Banquet, including wine, served at 7:30pm. After the Festival result has been announced by the Grand Secretary, we shall be entertained until late.

Tickets for the entire evening including the drinks reception, Festival Banquet including wine and entertainment will be £68 per person. Bookings can only be made through our dedicated Festival Website <https://mbf2023westyorks.org/>

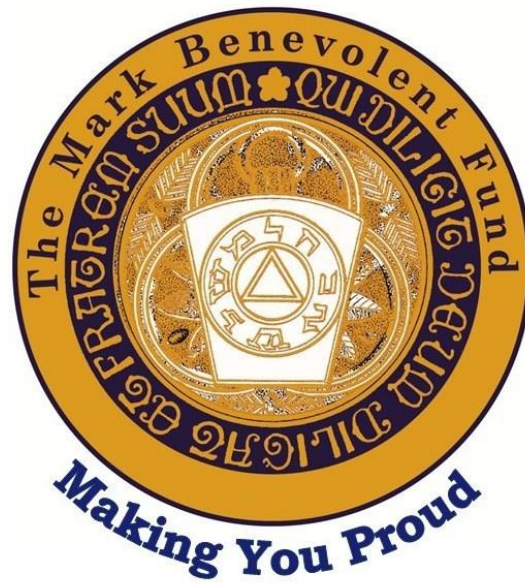
My wife Joan and I look forward to seeing you all at the 155th Annual Festival in Harrogate. You can be sure of a very warm welcome.

Yours sincerely

R.W.Bro. James Steggles, G.M.R.A.C.

Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire

President, 155th Annual Festival for the Mark Benevolent Fund



R.C.C. Grand Imperial Conclave



On Tuesday, 5 July, Worthy Knights from across the English Constitution, and a good number of visitors from foreign Constitutions, arrived at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, for this year's assembly of Grand Imperial Conclave.

Most Illustrious Knight Graham Leslie Flight, G.C.C., Grand Sovereign, opened the meeting and expressed his thanks to all those who had made the effort to attend.

After much the usual business items on the agenda had been taken care of the Deputy Grand Sovereign, R.III. & Em.Kt. Peter Hawken, *MBE*, rose to propose the re-election of the Grand Sovereign. This was greeted by acclamation.

In replying to his re-election the Grand Sovereign paid tribute to R.III. & Em.Kt. Hawken, who was standing down as Deputy Grand Sovereign at this meeting after eight years in office, preceded by nine years as Intendant-General for Devon and Cornwall.

Then came the appointment of the new Deputy Grand Sovereign, R.III.Kt. Christopher John Macdonald, a familiar face to many having been President of the Grand Sovereign's Council since 2012 and Intendant-General for Cheshire from 2006 to 2016.

R.III. & Ven.Kt. the Revd Timothy John Nicholas L'Estrange, G.C.C., was the re-appointed as Grand Eusebius.

Following which, V.III.Kt. Kessick John Jones, P.G.S.Gen., Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters, was appointed to the honour and dignity of Knight Commander of Constantine (K.C.C.).

Next came the appointment of active Grand Officers, which included the appointments of:

V.III.Kt. John H. Wickes as Grand Senior General

V.III.Kt. Dr Vivian Thomas, JP, as Grand Junior General

V.III.Kt. Robert A. H. Morrow as President of the Grand Sovereign's Council

V.III.Kt. Paul A. Norman as Grand Marshal

These were followed by the Promotions in, and first appointments to, Grand Rank.

The Grand Sovereign then addressed the meeting as follows:

Worthy Knights it is a great joy to me for us to be back together at this Grand Imperial Conclave for our first normal meeting since 2019 and I am delighted that so many of you have decided to attend for what is the highlight of our Masonic year.

Covid is of course still with us and there are still Worthy Knights who do not yet feel ready to join us at meetings and I hope that with your encouragement we will see them back with us soon but not before they are ready and comfortable to do so.

We have today seen the retirement of my Deputy Grand Sovereign, Right Illustrious and Eminent Knight Peter Hawken, G.C.C. Peter was Intendant General for Devon and Cornwall from 2004 to 2013 and received his K.C.C. in 2011 and G.C.C. in 2013. Peter was Installed as Deputy Grand sovereign in July 2013 one year before my appointment as Grand Sovereign and I well remember conducting his ceremony as Grand Marshal. Peter has given me, and the order nine years of dedicated service and I am happy to place on record my appreciation of all that he has done during his time in office.

As a result of his retirement, we have today installed a new Deputy Grand Sovereign, Right Illustrious and Eminent Knight Christopher Macdonald. Chris was Intendant General for Cheshire from 2006 to 2016 and received his K.C.C. in 2015. He has been the President of my Council since 2012 and has given sterling service in that office and has developed a thorough knowledge of the Order and its workings. He is therefore perfectly placed to take on the office of Deputy Grand Sovereign and we congratulate him and wish him well in his new role.

My congratulations to Right Illustrious Knight Kessick Jones on his appointment to the honour and dignity of a Knight Commander of Constantine for his support to me and the Order over many years. (You may of course know him as the Grand Master of the Cryptic Degrees).

Still on personnel matters we also see today the formal retirement of Right Illustrious Knight Neil Matthews as Grand Marshal. Neil took over from me in that office in 2014 when I was appointed Grand Sovereign and has worked tirelessly at home and abroad with unstinting service to me and to all matters relating to the ritual and ceremonial of our Order. He was awarded his K.C.C. in 2018 and a field appointment to Knight Grand Cross of Constantine (the first that I can remember) in 2022 in Wales as he now has mobility problems that have prevented him for carrying out his duties and attending today.

My appointment of Very Illustrious Knight Paul Norman as Grand Marshal follows his acting in that office since 2021 and he has proved himself a worthy successor to his Illustrious predecessors!

Although it is only nine months since our last Grand Conclave meeting in October last year there has been a lot of activity as part of the Covid catching up process.

We have carried out Confirmation in Office ceremonies for four Intendants General appointed by Patent during lockdown, the Golden Jubilee of Ebbsfleet Conclave, the Centenary of Wythenshawe Conclave and Sesquicentenary Conclave meetings for Naval and Military Conclave and Dykes Conclave. Also, a Sesquicentenary meeting for Hampshire Division and at that meeting a 60th year certificate of membership of our Order (a very rare achievement indeed) for Illustrious Knight Terence Bruty and a similar 50th Year certificate for Right Illustrious Knight Brian Fairhurst in West Lancashire. (That one a little stressful for me as my third grandchild was due on that day, safely arriving a week later a day with no Masonic meetings!)

Further afield visits to the Grand Conclaves of Finland and Scotland and a rather special visit to Surrey for the dedication of the Divisional Sword donated by and now engraved in the memory of Right Illustrious Knight Brian Wareham, my predecessor as Grand Marshal and a well loved and respected Knight known to many of us in many orders.

I have installed one new Intendant General for the Division of Benelux being Right Illustrious Knight Georgios Kritikos following the retirement of Right Illustrious Knight Alastair White. Georgios Would you please stand and be recognised.

The Grand Sovereign then welcomed visitors from our own Constitution overseas, from other Grand Imperial Conclaves, and heads of other Masonic Orders and past Rulers of this order, before continuing:

I congratulate all those I have appointed or promoted in Grand Rank today and I hope this will be a special day for you all to be recognised in your contribution to our Order. Please wear your new regalia with pride. I hope that the new active officers will be able to join us in the work we expect in the coming year.

My thanks as always to the members of my Grand Sepulchre Guard who accompany me on my travels and add so much to the ceremonial at our meetings.

The Grand Recorder and his team at Mark Masons Hall and the Grand Marshal and his team continue to work for the good of our Order and my thanks to them for their important contribution to the Order and to this meeting today.

*You will see the figures for my Care for Children Fund in the Order papers for today and I am most grateful for the continuing contributions received over the last two years when many meetings were cancelled. We have been able to support small organisations struggling during lockdown and we are looking to see if we can offer any assistance to children in the UK from the Ukraine. I would bring to your attention Worthy Knight Michael O'Meara who is going to jump out of a plane on the July in aid of this Fund and we wish him well (**see below**)*

Worthy Knights I hope that we can all feel that we are on the "way back" to our normal Masonic and private lives but that "normal" may not be the same as before. Continue to take care of yourselves and you families and friends and support your Craft and Royal Arch meetings as well as your Conclaves so that we can enjoy the Christian Brotherhood our Order offers for ourselves and those who will follow.

Worthy Knights I thank you and greet you all with the watchwords of our Order Faith Unity and Zeal and God Bless you all.

Following the collection of Alms, the meeting was closed and those who were staying to dine enjoyed a meal and the usual Red Cross of Constantine esprit de corps in the Grand Connaught Rooms.



Devon And Cornwall Division of The Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and St. John the Evangelist

Leaping for the Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund



Worthy Knight Michael (Gunny) O'Meara from St Brannock Conclave No.342 in Barnstaple, is going to jump out of a perfectly serviceable aircraft with a small piece of material on his back (possibly with another parachutist too) from 15,000 ft in July 2022. His aim is to raise funds in aid of the Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund.

The provisional date is Thursday 14th July 2022 at 12.00pm at Dunkerswell Airfield, Honiton, Devon

Worthy Knights, to make this a reality he needs our support and sponsorship. You can make your donations as individuals or as a Conclave via the Just Giving Page he has set up (Link below) or in person when you see him at Conclave meetings or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME

[Click Here](#) for the JustGiving page to donate

Centenary of Stony Gate Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 751



At Freemason's Hall, Leicester on Monday, 20 June 2022, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master John H. Prizeman attended an Emergency Meeting of the Stony Gate Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 751 to present the Lodge's Centenary Warrant and enjoy the celebrations in the presence of Lodge members, the Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Officers and distinguished visitors. The Lodge is the sixth oldest in the Province of Leicestershire and Rutland having been Warranted on 23 November 1921 and Consecrated on 7 March 1922 and at that time it was the first new Lodge to be formed in the Province for twenty-six years.

The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Phillip J. Mann, accompanied by a large delegation of the Provincial Grand Officers and Grand Officers having been received into Lodge with ceremony, accepted the gavel from the Worshipful Master Phillip Wood and took the Chair and addressed the brethren on the purpose of the meeting and congratulated the Lodge on achieving this very significant milestone.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, accompanied by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies W.Bro. Gary Allen, having then been received into Lodge with ceremony, accepted the gavel and took the Chair, and after delivering a touching eulogy in memory of Right Worshipful Brother Stephen Davison, Assistant Grand Master, went on to express his pleasure at being back in Leicester and called on the Provincial Grand Secretary, W.Bro. Peter Gibson-Leitch to read the original Warrant, and the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies to read the Centenary Warrant.

Having presented the Centenary Warrant to the Worshipful Master, The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master entrusted each Lodge member present with a Centenary breast jewel and a copy of the Lodge History authored by the Provincial Grand Registrar and Lodge Secretary W.Bro. Terry Weston, after which W.Bro. Terry delivered a most interesting oration on some highlights of the Lodge's first hundred years.

A presentation of a very generous cheque for £2,100 in memory of R. W. Bro. Steve was presented to his son-in-law Bro. Matt Gibbons a member of Howe Lodge of Mark Masters No. 21 towards the Rainbows Hospice for Children and Young People based in Loughborough. Thanks to the good efforts of R.W.Bro. Tom Quinn the Provincial Grand Master for London, £1,000 of this sum had been raised by personal donations from the Mark Provincial and District Grand Masters and matched with a donation by the Leicestershire & Rutland Mark Benevolent Fund, and £100 from the St. Peter's Mark Lodge No. 1078 based in Market Harborough.

The Lodge having been closed in harmony, the brethren retired to enjoy an appetising and fun-filled festive board and a memorable evening concluded with the presentation of some Leicestershire and Rutland 'goodies' to the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master and his accompanying D.C. as a token of thanks for making the journey to Leicester to enrich the special occasion, all rounded off with the Lodge presenting and a cheque for £500 in favour of the Mark Benevolent Fund.

With thanks to W.Bro. Peter Gibson-Leitch, P.A.G.D.C., Provincial Grand Secretary, Leicestershire and Rutland



District Grand Lodge of the River Plate Thanksgiving Service



A Service of Thanksgiving, organised by the Mark District Grand Lodge of the River Plate took place on 2 July 2022 at the Danish Lutheran Church in Buenos Aires. The Senior members of the District attended this Divine Service along with Masters of all Mark Lodges and Grand Officers of the Supreme Order of Royal Arch Masons of Argentina.

The District Grand Master R.W.Bro. Ernesto Marcer read out a paragraph of Matthew Chapter 21 vs. 33-46. A sermon was delivered by Bro. Mariano Salguero and the intercessory prayers were led by W.Bro. Carlos Stefanizzi, District Grand Secretary.

After the Service a light lunch was served in the church hall. The Dist.G.M. gave a speech emphasising on the importance of our degree in Freemasonry and thanking everyone for their presence at the service. The newly released video "The Magic of the Mark" was then projected.

It was a very nice moment of fellowship, enjoying everything that our Order offers us, thus marking well.







Romanian Update July 2022

Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Monmouthshire

Brethren, I am sure that you will be aware of the significant contribution that the Province of Monmouthshire in general, and The Mark Internet Lodge in particular, has made to the establishment and development of Mark masonry in Romania.

The journey which began with the advancement of five brethren from Bucharest into The Mark Internet Lodge on Saturday, 12 November 2017 at Castleton Masonic Hall will achieve its ultimate goal with the constitution of the Mark District of Romania, five years to the day, on Saturday, 12 November 2022 at the Presidential Palace in Bucharest in the presence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent.

The day before on Friday, 11 November the Prince Michael of Kent Lodge will be consecrated, a fitting tribute to the occasion. This will bring the total number of Mark Lodges in Romania to 17 and this together with some 600 advancees. This is a truly remarkable achievement which has been undertaken in the main with support and guidance from the Province of Monmouthshire.

Whilst the detailed itinerary is yet to be finalised it is envisaged that the celebration will conclude with a Gala Dinner on the evening of Saturday, 12 November. It is our sincere hope that the Brethren will support the November consecrations and festivities by actively participating in these ceremonies in Bucharest. As always, wives and partners are most welcome, emphasising the true spirit of friendship and togetherness.

In terms of travel, we always encourage brethren to do their own thing. Flights to Bucharest are readily available from Birmingham, Luton, Gatwick and Heathrow. Having secured flight reservations brethren are to contact RW Bro. Derek Thomas by email who will coordinate flight arrivals with airport transfers and hotel accommodation. A block booking has been made at the Novotel City Centre Hotel at discounted rates of 80 euro/night single and 90 euro/night double room including breakfast. Transport will also be arranged from the hotel to the lodge meetings and Gala Dinner.

I am sure that you will appreciate that this is a truly historic event, in the presence of our MW Grand Master, a fitting tribute to a memorable chapter in the development of our Order.

R.W.Bro. David R Powell, Provincial Grand Master for Monmouthshire

The 50th Anniversary meeting of the Provincial Priory of Middlesex



In July, the Provincial Priory of Middlesex celebrated its 50-year anniversary at Mark Masons' Hall. In fact, it was 52 years as, due to Covid-19, the anniversary meeting could not be held in 2020.

Present at the meeting was the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T., with a team of Great Officers.



The Provincial Prior of Middlesex, R.E.Kt. John Roberts, entered in procession accompanied by his Provincial Officers and opened Provincial Priory. He was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Marshal, E.Kt. Tom D'Souza, Dep.Gt.Mar.



The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T., entered in procession and was warmly welcomed by the Provincial Prior of Middlesex to this special meeting. The Grand Master said how glad he was to be able to join the Knights of Middlesex and celebrate with them their 50th anniversary. He was saluted with eleven under the direction of the Great Marshal, R.E.Kt. Tim Wheeler, K.C.T.



The Provincial Prior welcomed all the honoured guests and visitors and, after the regular business of Provincial Priory had been concluded, the Preceptory Banners were paraded into Provincial Priory by the Preceptory Banner Bearers attended by the Eminent Preceptors.



The Provincial Sub-Prior, V.E.Kt. Silverio Ostrowski, then gave a very interesting talk on the history of each Preceptory, and the history of the Province.



The Provincial Prior had much pleasure in re-appointing V.E.Kt. Silverio Ostrowski as Provincial Sub-Prior, and the Provincial Officers for 2022-23 were then appointed and invested.

In his Address the Provincial Prior thanked everyone for attending and looked back at what life was like in 1970 when the Provincial Priory of Middlesex was created. Since then, there have been six Provincial Priors, including himself, and he has had the privilege of serving under four of them. He was so pleased that one of them, R.E.Kt. William John Redpath, was able to attend that day to join in the celebrations. John was Provincial Prior from 1993 to 2003.



He encouraged everyone to look to the future and wished whoever is sitting in his chair in 50 years time good luck and God speed, and hoped that his term of office will be as enjoyable as his is.

After the collection of Alms the Grand Master retired from Provincial Priory.



Provincial Priory was closed in due form and the Provincial Prior, the Provincial Officers of the year, and honoured guest retired in procession.



Under an Arch of Steel.



At the meeting as part of the Malta Delegation was V.E.Kt. David Pryor, who has been a member of the Province since it was constituted 52 years ago.



There were many R.E. and V.E. Knights present, along with the Provincial Executive from the other Orders in Middlesex. Here are some of the Right Eminent Knights from other Provinces.



After some refreshments in the bar we retired to the dining room where we were treated to a splendid lunch at Mark Masons' Hall with Knights of the Provincial Priory of Middlesex and their guests from other Provinces.



Article and photographs by V.E.Kt. Chris Eley, P.Gt.Reg.

Pottering around for St John





Eminent Knight Robyn Murdo-Smith, Eminent Preceptor of Lullingstone Preceptory No. 155 has been busy creating these eye catching Knights Templar Goblets.

The Goblets are available at £25 each, all proceeds going to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group. Robyn had previously produced a Pewter Goblet but production and engraving costs meant that it was not feasible to add on any meaningful percentage for the Eye Hospital. He had approached a number of small potteries who were not interested but then a Kent Brother Knight suggested the Pottery (started by the famous Potter David Leach, *OBE*) in the grounds of Aylesford Friary

Robyn personally designed two versions so as to attract the attention of Knights beyond the Province of Kent as well as within it.

Robyn has also produced an Eminent Preceptor's baton Lapel Pin. This was a project launched in January and has already resulted in £1000 being sent to the SJEHG. The story behind the pins is that Robyn was so proud to be installed as Eminent Preceptor of Lullingstone Preceptory No. 155 that he wanted to take the Baton home with him. Of course, this was not allowed but it occurred to Robyn that the tip of the baton leant itself to a lapel pin. Each pin is available at £15 each and again all proceeds go to the SJEHG. They are for Eminent and Past Preceptors and have proved very popular with pins being sent to Eminent Knights in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Bahamas, Canada, Cyprus, Sri Lanka, and Australia.

If you would like to order any of these items, please contact Robyn at robynmurdosmith@gmail.com



Northumberland Bodyguard stand easy after a busy year



The Provincial Prior of Northumberland's Bodyguard recently marked the end of a hectic year, since the resumption of masonic activity last summer.

On duty at the Provincial Annual Meeting in September, the Provincial Malta Meeting in March and the Annual Church Service, at Hexham Abbey, in May, the Guard also officiated at three official Provincial visits to various Preceptories in addition to a dozen Installations, accompanying the representative Great Priory Officer.

As a fitting conclusion to these activities, the Guard celebrated its End of Year Dinner at Tynemouth Golf Club, at the beginning of July, hosted by the Bodyguard Commander and Mess President, E.Kt Chris Allan, P.Gt.W of R.

The guests of honour included the Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt Kevin Stannard, and the Past Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt Alan Hume, KCT, who were treated to a sumptuous meal served in the magnificent setting of the Golf Club Trophy Room.

With a two month recess to recharge their batteries, everyone is now looking forwards, with eager anticipation, to the resumption of Templar activity in September, when a new round of Bodyguard duties will recommence.

With thanks to Kt. Nick Deakin



A new District Grand Master for the R.S.M. District of North Midlands



On Saturday, 1 July, the Grand Master, M.III.Comp. Kessick John Jones, was accompanied to the District meeting of North Midlands by the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, and Grand Director of Ceremonies, to Install the new District Grand Master, R.III.Comp. Stephen John Bradford, who in turn was pleased to appoint his Deputy District Grand Master, III.Comp. Raymond Stokes, P.G.Cond.C., and District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, III.Comp. Thomas Jonathan Lish, P.G.Cond.C.

We wish this new team all the best for the future and look forward to seeing them out and about on the R.S.M. circuit in their new roles.



Cheshire and North Wales Scarlet Cord



1 - The Provincial Team 2022/2023

The Masonic season of the Scarlet Cord in Cheshire and North Wales ended in fine style, with two Consistory meetings, a team visit, one First Grade candidate, four Second Grade Candidates and five Third Grade candidates, all within the space of 10 days.

Firstly, Mercia Consistory No 72, meeting in Macclesfield, brought into the First Grade Companion Geoff Baillie, then went on to promote a further three candidates to the Second Grade - Companions Cameron Chalmers, Nick Wild and Mark Gleave. The occasion was the first Team Visit of the new Provincial Officers, along with the brand new Provincial Tzaddikim, to exhibit their skills around the Consistories of the Province.



2 - The Provincial Grand Summus, Right Distinguished Companion Chris

Welton, together with the President of Mercia Consistory, Distinguished Companion Shaun Crutchley, and the four ceremonial candidates for the evening.

Then, ten days later, off to Mostyn in North Wales for the Morlais Consistory No 49TI, for five Third Grade promotions, unfortunately not in the presence of the Provincial Grand Summus, who had succumbed to a nasty chest infection.

The five candidates this time were Derek Gaskell, Peter McCarthy and Ian Stone, all of Morlais Consistory, along with John Owens, Cheshire View Consistory 12TI and Andrew Thomas, St David Consistory 139.

A delightful evening was had by all in the beautiful Welsh evening sunshine.



3 - Members, visitors and Candidates at The Morlais Consistory No 49TI, including Distinguished Companion Eryl Wynne Davies, President and Wally Edwards, Deputy Provincial Grand Summus.

The Magic of the Mark sets sail in Portsmouth



The MBF granted £27,590 to the Disabled Sailors Association (DSA) for the purchase and fitting out of a new safety boat called 'Magic of the Mark'.

Unique in the sailing world the DSA has properly designed yachts and dinghies which allow any disabled person, irrespective of their disabilities, to use them and take part to the limit of their disability rather than the accessibility of the craft, especially wheelchair users and those with complex needs - no other organisation offers such facilities.

Their new safety boat will always be on standby should anyone get in to difficulties.

Pictured below with the DSA Chairman, Mike Wood (centre) is, from left to right, are R.W.Bro. George Deacon, Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire & Isle of Wight, W.Bro. John Burrell, Prov.G.Treas., R.W.Bro. Mike Whelan, MBF Trustee and Prov.G.M. for Dorset, W.Bro. Ian Small, A.Prov.G.M., V.W.Bro. John Bell, President of the MBF, and R.W.Bro. David Ashbolt, Deputy President of the MBF.

Find out more about the charity - <http://disabledsailing.org/>



Lifelites Revisited



Mark Masons' Hall's Charities Manager, W.Bro. Darren Coleman-Heald, paid a visit to the Lifelites charity to meet their new Chief Executive, Rob Lightfoot (pictured) and catch up with Sam Davies, Head of Fundraising and PR. Technology has moved on leaps and bounds since the Mark Benevolent Fund grant of £141,423 in 2019 to support 15 children's hospices with 'Tech Trunks' providing immersive, sensory mobile and interactive technology.

W.Bro. Darren is pictured with one of the tech trunks wearing the latest version of the interactive headset. He said, as he swam with turtles and dodged man eating sharks, 'I am completely amazed at how the quality and control of the software has improved over the last three years. It must be

wonderful for those children to experience a world that they would otherwise not be able to enjoy. It is a terrific service being provided by Lifelites – indeed a lifeline to many.'

Find out more here - <https://www.lifelites.org/>

Cheshire continue to support Ukraine



Cheshire Freemason Mike Ross and Mark A.Prov.G.M. John Miller were pleased to visit Neo Community who, hearing about the humanitarian aid planned and organised by Mike Ross, wished to assist by donating essential food and supplies for the Ukrainian orphanage that is being supported.

The Team, which sets off in a few days, were further boosted by a generous donation of £50 towards the Mark Benevolent fund, who have already donated £10,000 to buy the mini bus, by a member of the public Tom Hobbs, who was visiting Neo Community, and heard of the endeavour, and wished to support it.

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

Calendar of Annual Meetings

Grand Meetings Calendar 2022 - All Orders

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

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Refreshment Time	Meeting Starts	Meeting Finishes	Being Start	Being Finish
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 8 March 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 AM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council	Tuesday, 19 April 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:20 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
SC	Grand Senatus	Thursday, 5 May 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT	Great Priory	Wednesday, 18 May 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Investiture of the 83rd	Tuesday, 7 June 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	1:00 PM	3:30 PM	4:30 PM	6:00 PM
RCC	Grand Imperial Conclave	Tuesday, 5 July 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:45 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Investiture of the 83rd	Tuesday, 13 September 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
KBHC	Grand Priory	Thursday, 8 September 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
AMD	Grand Council	Tuesday, 25 October 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	11:30 AM	1:15 PM	2:15 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
OSM	Grand Conclave	Thursday, 10 November 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT - Mark	Great Priory of Malta	Tuesday, 15 November 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RAM	Annual Assembly	Monday, 12 December 2022	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

28/06/2022



At the meeting of Mark Grand Lodge at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Br. 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



MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels

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

[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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