Freemasonry@86 News - 28 October 2022



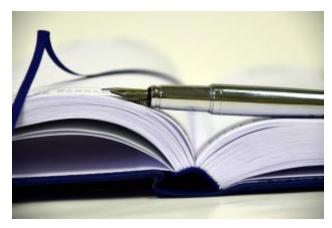
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Progressive Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

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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.

Tuesday, 8 November - Mark Joppa Lodge of M.M.M. No. 11 Sesquicentenary, Province of Cheshire

Wednesday, 9 November Mark Wike Lodge of M.M.M. No. 142 Sesquicentenary, Province of East Lancashire

Thursday, 10 November - O.S.M. Grand Conclave, Freemasons' Hall, London

Tuesday, 15 November - Malta Great priory of Malta, Freemasons' Hall, London

Wednesday, 16 November - R.C.C. Installation of III.Kt. David John Green, P.G.Chamb., as Intendant-General for Kent

Thursday, 17 November - R.A.M. Keystone Lodge of R.A.M. No. 109 Centenary, Province of Monmouthshire

Monday, 21 November - Mark Vessey Lodge of M.M.M. No. 757 Centenary, Province of Warwickshire

Wednesday, 23 November - S.C. Consecration of Monmouthshire Consistory

Monday 28, November - Mark Installation of W.Bro. David Nigel Hanson, P.G.S.D., as Provincial Grand Master for Durham

Wednesday, 30 November - Mark Steanforde Lodge of M.M.M. No. 752 Centenary, Province of Northampton, Huntingdon and Bedford

Saturday, 3 December - R.C.C. RCC Installation of III.Kt. Nicholas St. John Middleton White, P.G.St.B.(C.), as Intendant-General for Devon and Cornwall

Monday, 12 December - R.A.M. Grand Assembly, Freemasons' Hall, London

At the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees



On Tuesday, 25 October, Brethren from across the Constitution, and further afield, converged on Freemasons Hall, London, for the annual meeting of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees.

Despite the best efforts of the western mainline railway's engineering department, there was a good turn out of Brethren who had managed to find a decent route into London and the familiar fraternal conviviality of the A.M.D. was in abundance as Brethren met and mingled before the meeting commenced.

The meeting saw to key changes of active Grand Officers. First was the Grand Master's complimentary farewell to his long-serving Deputy, R.W.Bro. Clive Robert Manuel, who has served the Office since 2013.



In proposing the re-election of M.W.Bro. Thomas Firth Jackson as Grand Master, Clive described his decision to stand down as being a difficult one but, after so many years in the job, he thought it only fair that someone else should experience the tremendous enjoyment that is a privilege of the role.

That someone is R.W.Bro. Ian Anthony Bailey, P.Dist.G.Pref. for Thames Valley. Ian relinquished the Office of District Grand Prefect only recently, as was reported in last week's Freemasonry@86 and is now looking forward to this new Office and working with the Grand Master and the team of Grand Officers who were about to be appointed.



Another well-known Brother standing down from active office after many years' service was R.W.Bro. C. David Davis, P.G.J.W., who has held the Rank of Grand Director of Ceremonies since 2015.



Though never deficient in ceremonial expertise and efficiency, there was something particularly special in the way David delivered the Grand Master's Proclamation for this last time, before discreetly slipping off his chain, and on his collar, ready for his successor, V.W.Bro. Glyn Goddard, to be appointed and invested.



Glyn will be a familiar face through his many Masonic offices but not least as the Grand Recorder of the K.T.P.

Having taken up his wand, Glyn directed the rest of the proceedings, which saw the appointment and investiture of the other active Grand Officers, and recipients of promotion in, and appointment to, Grand Rank.

These were followed by the closing remarks by the Grand Master who again paid tribute to his departing Officers, including the outgoing Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens, R.W.Bro. Stewart Middleton and R.W.Bro. Keith Young.

The Grand Master was pleased to welcome representatives from the Sovereign Grand Councils of the U.S.A., France, India, and South East Asia.

Wishing all the brethren well, he then instructed those present to go to get some much needed refreshment, before presiding over the closing of Grand Council.

During the after-proceedings, one District was found to be very well represented and the Brethren of Sussex were quick to make the most of this photo opportunity, which includes, V.W.Bro. Glyn Goddard, G.D.C. (standing, 4th from right); W.Bro. Greg Shackleton, G.Stwd. (standing, centre); and seated: W.Bro. Geoff Cornwell, P.G.J.D. (middle); W.Bro. Ian Taylor, P.G.J.D. (on the left).



Not to be outdone, the Intendants-General of the Red Cross of Constantine were quick to get in on the act as well. The Grand Sovereign (4th from left), is flanked by, left to right, the Is-G of the Divisions of: Metropolitan, Essex, Thames, Durham, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, and Nottinghamshire.



And it was also good to welcome back assistance dog Rufus, who was keeping an ever watchful eye on his trusty companion, W.Bro. Mark Bajona, Dist.G.J.D. (Severn).



At dinner, wine was taken and Toast were proposed and responded to, before many made what was to be a long and circuitous journey home. Thank you to all those who were able to attend and make this another very enjoyable meeting of A.M.D. Grand Council.

<u>Click Here</u> to go to a photo gallery from the meeting.

Pictures courtesy of W.Bro. Bo Tuthill, P.G.St.B., and W.Bro. Chris Eley.





Sesquicentenary Meeting of the Mark Province of Kent



1 - The Representatives & Banners of the Three Founding Lodges of the Province

On Saturday, 22 October 2022, exactly 150 years after a joint meeting of three Lodges was held at The Royal Hotel in Ramsgate to Constitute the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge for Kent, the Province celebrated its Sesquicentenary in the presence of the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. John H. Prizeman.

The three Lodges in question were United Service Lodge No. 69, Holmesdale Lodge No. 129 & The Dover and Cinque Ports Lodge No. 152.

The history of the Province actually begins some 15 years earlier in 1857, when Grand Mark Lodge at its meeting on 11 December confirmed C. Purton Cooper Q.C. as Provincial Grand Master. At this meeting Kent, along with seven other Provinces, was constituted and the first Provincial Grand Masters were named. More details of the history and background can be found in R.W.Bro. Roland Wade's excellent book "A Brief History of the Mark Province of Kent".

The Sesquicentenary Celebration Meeting took place in the centre of the Province, at the Kent Event Centre in Detling and was attended by Brethren from virtually every one of our 59 Mark Lodges and 47 Royal Ark Mariner Lodges along with guests and visitors from far and wide including:

- M.W.Bro. John H. Prizeman, Pro Grand Master
- R.W.Bro. Francis C. Spencer, Deputy Grand Master
- R.W.Bro. Prof Denovan K. Wilson, Assistant Grand Master
- R.W.Bro. Ryan A. Williams, Grand Secretary
- V.W.Bro. Christopher M.L. Davies, Grand Director of Ceremonies

along with eight Mark Provincial Grand Masters from nearby Provinces and eleven Heads of Orders from other Masonic Degrees in the county.



2 - I to r R.W.Bro. Francis C. Spencer, R.W.Bro. Peter Williams, M.W.Bro. John H. Prizeman, R.W.Bro. Prof Denovan K. Wilson, R.W.Bro. Ryan A. Williams.

Approaching 250 attended the meeting with more than 200 of them dining afterwards.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in Due Form by R.W.Bro. Peter Williams, Provincial Grand Master. Before receiving a delegation of representatives of Royal Ark Mariners from the Province he congratulated the five members who had recently accepted Promotion to R.A.M.G.R., namely:

- W.Bro. Trevor Sharpe
- W.Bro. Neil Johnstone
- W.Bro. David Jordan
- W.Bro. Paul Hutchinson
- W.Bro. Ife Hamilton-Rollings

who will be Invested at Royal Ark Mariner Grand Lodge on Monday, 12 December.

There was then a report, which proved to be V.W.Bro. Christopher M.L. Davies, Grand Director of Ceremonies, who announced that the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. John H. Prizeman was without and demanded admission.



The Pro Grand Master and accompanying Grand Officers were received and warmly welcomed to the Lodge.

There was then a procession of Worshipful Masters of Kent Mark Lodges who were followed into the meeting by the Worshipful Masters and Banner Bearers of the three Founding Lodges of the Province, United Service Lodge No. 69, Holmesdale Lodge No. 129 & The Dover and Cinque Ports No. 152. R.W.Bro. Peter thanked them all and the foresight of their predecessors for constituting the Province, stating that "If it were not for them, we would not be here celebrating today".

W.Bro. Bob King then regaled those present with a brief yet informative and humorous presentation of the history of the Province, expressing his thanks to R.W.Bro. Roland Wade for the information gleaned from "A Brief History of the Mark Province of Kent" and "A Continuation of A Brief History of the Mark Province of Kent" and to V.W.Bro. Peter Wise for his latest addition "A Brief History of the Mark Province of Kent — A Sesquicentenary Addendum". A copy of which was given to all who attended, as well as a specially struck Kent Mark Sesquicentennial Token.



This was followed by a blessing for the future of the Province by V.W.Bro. Howard Pashley, Provincial Grand Chaplain.

The Brethren were then addressed by the Pro Grand Master, who brought greetings from The Grand Master, M.W.Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, on this momentous occasion.

He spoke glowingly of his myriad visits to the Province over the past 20 years in his various roles and how he had always been warmly received by the "Kentish Brethren and Brethren of Kent". He closed by "hoping that the Mark Province of Kent would continue to Mark Well for many years to come". M.W.Bro. Prizeman then presented R.W.Bro. Peter with the Province's Sesquicentenary Certificate and his accompanying jewel. R.W.Bro. Peter immediately affixed it to his jacket with pride and informed the Brethren that they were now permitted to display theirs, with similar delight. Have you purchased yours?



The Provincial Grand Master responded with gratitude, thanking the Pro Grand Master and his accompanying Grand Officers for their precious time and for enhancing the meeting with their presence.

The Pro Grand Master and his accompanying Grand Officers then retired from the Lodge, after which it was closed in due form with a retiring collection made on behalf of the Kent Mark Benevolent Fund.

After adjourning to the bar for a period of reminiscence, a sumptuous dinner was served where friendships and conversations continued into the evening.



A selection of Photographs from throughout the day kindly taken by Michael McBrearty can be viewed and downloaded here.

The Kent Mark 150th Token can be purchased via eBay, while stocks last.

With thanks to W.Bro. Robin Evans, P.A.G.D.C., photographs by W.Bro. Michael McBrearty, P.Prov.A.G.D.C. (Kent)

Sesquicentennial Celebrations for Hotspur with Coquetdale Lodge of Mark Master Masons



Last week Alnwick Masonic Hall witnessed a momentous occasion when one of the oldest Mark Lodges in the Province of Northumberland, Hotspur with Coquetdale Lodge No.135, were finally able to celebrate their 150th anniversary, having been delayed due to the pandemic.

The original Hotspur Lodge, was consecrated in May 1870, at the Freemasons' Hall in Alnwick, and was one of the first Mark Lodges to be consecrated after the formation of the new Mark Province of Northumberland and Durham. It merged with Coquetdale Mark Lodge in 2007 to form the Lodge as we know it today.



The evening saw the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Ray Walton, lead a full Provincial deputation, to help celebrate the milestone. In addition the Lodge received a visit from the newly appointed Assistant Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Professor Denovan Wilson, accompanied by his Director of Ceremonies, our very own W.Bro. David Armstrong, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The Assistant Grand Master occupied the Masters Chair and had the pleasing duty of presenting the sesquicentennial warrant to the Master of the Lodge, Stuart Cairns, after which the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Gareth Davies, presented an Oration, Service of Thanksgiving and a Benediction.



The celebratory evening was rounded off with a very convivial festive board.

Congratulations from everyone at Northumberland Freemasons to the members of Hotspur with Coquetdale Lodge on their magnificent achievement of 150 years. May this continue for many years to come.

With thanks to Bro. Nick Deakin, Provincial Grand Communications Officer, Northumberland Freemasons























And, the RSM District of Northumberland meet at their new home



Saturday witnessed the Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of Northumberland of the Order of Royal and Select Masters, being held in their new home of Fern Avenue Masonic Hall for the first time.

The packed-to -the-rafters building saw members of the Order travel from the far reaches of the country, including Sussex, Surrey and Kent, with 16 of the 25 Districts represented, including 11 District Grand Masters, 2 Past District Grand Masters, 9 Deputy District Grand Masters, and 6 District Grand Principal Conductor of Works. The thronging mass was particularly bolstered by large raiding parties from Cumberland and Westmorland and Durham, led by their respective District Grand Masters, R.III.Comp Douglas Sanderson and R.III.Comp Michael Graham respectively.



Numerous members of every Council in the District, including Heads of Orders from the Mark, Rose Croix, Order of the Secret Monitor, and the Allied Masonic Degrees, were in attendance to witness their peers receiving their well deserved appointments, re-appointments and promotions.



A seamless, well drilled meeting, under the direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies, III.Comp. Andrew Jennings, who just so happens to be the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, made way for a packed, convivial and very enjoyable Festive Board.

Congratulations, from everyone at Northumberland Freemasons, to all the Companions, for your various preferments.

With thanks to Comp. Nick Deakin, Provincial Grand Communications Officer, Northumberland Freemasons



Carry on Camping as MBF Funds Equipment for the Youth Adventure Trust



On a rainy day in summer (probably the only one) we sent representatives of the MBF and the local Provinces of South Wales and Dyfed to the Beacon Beacons in Wales to present a cheque for £5,450 to the Youth Adventure Trust to purchase new tents and other camping equipment.



The Wiltshire based charity works with disadvantaged young people aged between 11 and 16 living in areas of social and economic deprivation in Swindon and the surrounding areas in Wiltshire. Each year they help up to 360 young people build resilience, develop confidence and learn skills that will last a lifetime. These funds paid for 15 new tents for the volunteers, staff and children to use at the camps that take place every summer.

Pictured from left to right - W.Bro. Ray Pipe, Provincial Grand Secretary for Wiltshire; W.Bro. Alun Thomas, Assistant Provincial Grand Master for South Wales; Louise Balaam, Head of Fundraising for the Youth Adventure Trust; W.Bro. Dilwyn Littlejohns, Provincial Grand Almoner for Dyfed; and W.Bro. David Griffiths, Provincial Grand Charity Steward for Dyfed.











The Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund goes over the "Rainbows" with the East Midlands Division



R.III.Kt. John Manby, Intendant-General for the East Midlands Division of the Red Cross of Constantine, paid a visit to the Rainbows Children's Hospice in Loughborough to meet Hannah Tee, one of Rainbow's Trusts & Foundations Fundraisers, to present a cheque for £2,500. He was joined by P.Kt. Barrie Bishop and W.Kt. Tony Stockton of John Wiclif Conclave No. 304 and Mark Masons' Hall Charities Manager, Kt.

Darren Coleman-Heald. Rainbow's Children's Hospice provides care and support for children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions, and their whole family, across the East Midlands.



During 2022/23 Rainbows plan to purchase two new electric cars. A number of the hospice's vehicles need replacing due to excessive wear and deterioration and a move to electric vehicles will support the environmental strategy of the charity.

These cars will be used to support the hospice work in the community. In particular this will enable the 'Family Support Team' to continue to provide outreach and support to children, young people and their families across the East Midlands region, supporting our Vision to provide the 'Rainbows Experience Wherever You Are'.



After a tour of the facilities that the hospice has to offer Hannah said, 'It was an absolute pleasure to meet you all and I hope you were able to see the difference your support will make to the children and families that we support'.

We certainly can Hannah, it is a wonderful service that you offer!

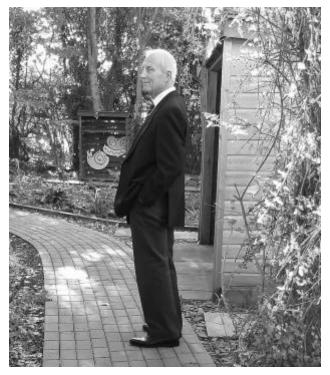
To find out more visit their website $\underline{www.rainbows.co.uk}$















A musical night in London

Our friends at the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group are putting on an evening of entertainment from the London City Brass Band on Tuesday, 2 November and all are welcome to attend. See the flyer below for further details.



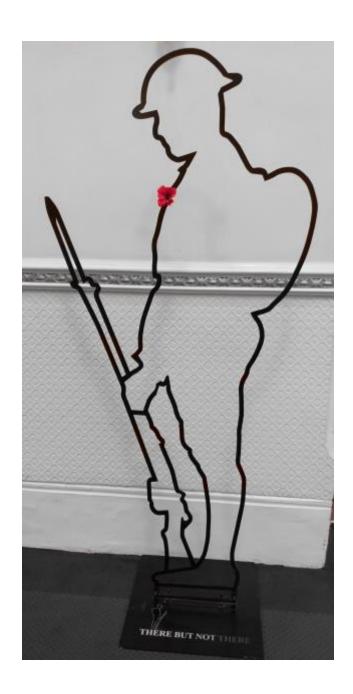
The shortening of the days

As the nights draw in and the morning sun rises later, and poppies begin to bloom on the breast of those who "will remember them", W.Bro. Darren W. Coleman-Heald, P.G.S.D., Charities Manager, snapped these atmospheric shots of Mark Masons' Hall and its surrounds. Despite the unseasonably warm weather, it does feel a lot like autumn has arrived.













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 off timings are approximate. Refer to the Summons for confirmation.

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Booking now for the West Yorkshire 2023 MBF Festival



<u>Click Here</u> to book



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 <u>Click Here</u> - remembering to use your **Craft Lodge name and number**, not your Mark Lodge.

For a Single Donation Form <u>Click Here</u> - 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 <u>Clicking Here</u>

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 <u>Clicking Here</u> and a simple transfer guide available by <u>Clicking Here</u>

The Shop@86

<u>Click Here</u> to visit the Shop@86 website





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.

And, we are delighted to announce that we are taking pre-orders for the 2029 Festival Stewardship Jewel for Durham which will be available for delivery shortly.

The form is available to download <u>Here</u>

















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.

Admin Departments @86



All departments and teams at Mark Masons' Hall 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.

Published by the Communications Team at Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1PL Find us here ///prefer.status.sharp