

Freemasonry@86 News - 2 December 2022



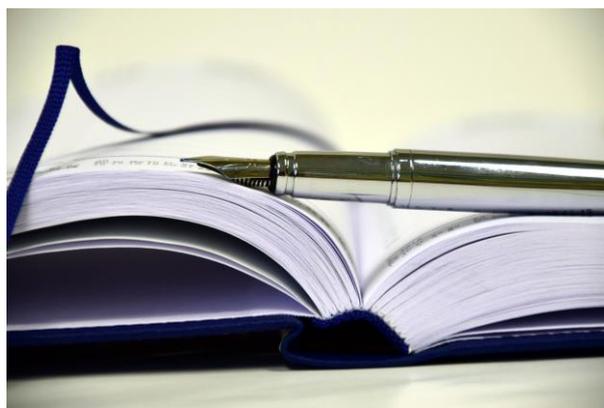
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Companion Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

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Companion 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, 3 December - R.C.C. RCC Installation of Ill.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

Monday, 19 December - Mark The Carnarvon Lodge of M.M.M. No. 119 Sesquicentenary, Province of Somerset

A new Provincial Grand Master for Durham



On Monday, 28 November a very foggy day dawned over “The FED” at Dunston for the Installation of the new Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province of Durham.

There was lots of activity from early hours to set everything up and prepare for the formalities which were to follow. This would be the culmination of many weeks of diligent preparation by Allan Gurney and his team, and also Mike Davies and the ceremonial team. The installing team from Grand Lodge assembled and progressed through practices with the officers from Durham, with the aim of a problem free ceremony.

Whilst this was going on, Brethren started arriving from all over the country and assembled for the big occasion, with an excited atmosphere building. A new Provincial Grand Master had to be installed following the recent appointment of Denny Wilson as Assistant Grand Master.

There was an air of anticipation building along with a few nerves for the big event. What would follow, was a splendid and slickly performed ceremony with all the panache and pomp to be expected of such an occasion.

To enable the meeting to proceed, Presiding Officers Frank Rankin and Danny Guy, both Past Deputy Provincial Grand Masters of the Province, opened Provincial Grand Lodge. The Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. John Prizeman, and his team from Grand Lodge were announced and entered in majestic procession. They then occupied the various offices and took over to install the new Provincial Grand Master.



The Pro Grand Master, acting as Installing Officer, addressed the meeting and thanked Frank for his service to the Province and also for acting as Presiding Officer. In a slight break with protocol, the Past Prov.G.M. was allowed to attend, much to the delight of all present, although it was pointed out with a smile, that Denny was here as the Assistant Grand Master.



The Patent of Appointment was presented to the Installing Officer. An escort was prepared comprising of members of Mark Lodges from across the Province of Durham. They then re-entered accompanying the Prov.G.M. Designate, David Nigel Hanson. The chain of office was proudly carried at the front of the procession by Gil Crossley Snr. The Patent of Appointment from the Grand Master was read to all present by the Deputy Grand Secretary, Dan Heath.

The new Provincial Grand Master was duly presented, obligated, invested and installed by the Installing Officer, John Prizeman. David was then proclaimed Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Durham by the Grand Director of Ceremonies.

With David in the chair, the job of the day however was only partly completed. David then had the pleasure to instal the new Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Trevor Lynn in similar grandiose manner. The new Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Michael Wilkinson was then installed with the same splendour.

David then thanked the Pro Grand Master and his team for making the day such a wonderful occasion for the Province of Durham. David commented on how busy the Pro Grand Master is in his new role, having just performed ceremonies in Switzerland, Italy and Romania as well as installing two new Provincial Grand Masters. He also took the opportunity to acknowledge his good

judgement of character, having appointed Prof. Denovan Wilson as Assistant Grand Master. David then made his presentation to the assembled brethren.

A full transcript of David's presentation is available [Here](#).

Following closing of Provincial Grand Lodge, the hall was readied for the banquet where everyone enjoyed a fine meal and a few drinks. It was a wonderful happy and friendly atmosphere where enjoyment was the order of the day.



In replying to his toast, the Pro Grand Master, John Prizeman stated that it had been his pleasure to install the 10th Provincial Grand Master of Durham Mark Province. However, he was no stranger to Durham, having attended the AGM as the Prov.G.M. for Hampshire & Isle of White and more recently at a number of centenary celebrations. He acknowledged that occasions such as this take much time and effort to organise and thanked the Provincial Grand Secretary, Allan Gurney for his work.

In addressing the membership, he advised that this Province can only prosper by supporting the new Provincial Grand Master. But above all, continue to enjoy yourselves. It has been a special day, the Provincial Grand Master's role is a very demanding one, but David brings a wealth of experience and knowledge, with your support he will be able to lead the Province.

It is customary for meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge to be covered by members of the St. John's Ambulance Service, this was no different. In recognition of their continued support and assistance, the Durham Mark Benevolent Fund presented a cheque towards their funds.

You can find out more about St. John's Ambulance service [Here](#)

To support the 2029 Festival Launch and book your tickets, click [Here](#)

The 2029 Festival website can be accessed [Here](#)

For more about the Durham Mark Benevolent Fund click [Here](#)



Steanforde Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 752



On Wednesday, 30 November 2022 the Brethren of the Steanforde Lodge of Mark Master Masons, based in Stamford, Lincolnshire, were honoured by the presence of the Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Francis Charles Spencer, escorted by W.Bro. Francis Hatton, A.G.D.C. This momentous occasion was to mark the presentation of the Lodge's Centenary Warrant confirming that the Lodge had met continuously since its concentration on 29 June 1922.

A large number of Provincial Grand officers accompanied the Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Province of Northampton, Huntingdon and Bedford, R.W.Bro. R.A. Stokes, and joined the members of the Lodge to witness the presentation of the Warrant by the Deputy Grand Master to the Master of the Lodge, W.Bro. A.R.M. Barnes. An oration describing the history of the Lodge, from its beginning at a local hotel to its current home in the former Stamford Blue Coat School, was delivered by W.Bro. S. Morgan. The oration emphasised the Lodge's charitable activities, an important feature of the Mark Degree.

During the Ceremony, the Lodge also received the Provincial Travelling Keystone from the Powys Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 685. As its name suggests, the Travelling Keystone will pass from Mark Lodge to Mark Lodge to emphasise their unity and encourage visiting within the recently consecrated Province which celebrated its first Birthday early in November. Each of the members of the Lodge was presented to the Deputy Grand Master, a gesture which everyone appreciated.

The Festive Board

The evening concluded with an excellent Festive Board during which the Deputy Grand Master congratulated the members of the Lodge for their commitment to Mark Masonry and presented the Worshipful Master with the newly struck token which commemorates the 40 years' service by the R.W.Bro. HRH, Prince Michael of Kent, *GCVO*, as Grand Master.

This was truly an historic and wonderful event and the Brethren of Steanforde Lodge look forward to the next 100 years of brotherhood, ritual, and charitable activities.



Marshals do it in style



The much talked about Preceptory for Great and Provincial Marshals, including Deputies, is now a reality.

On Saturday, 26 November last, Leamington Priors Preceptory No. 647, part of the Provincial Priory of Warwickshire, was taken out of Abeyance and restored to the list of active Preceptories.

Seventy five Knights, including thirty five Joining Members, from across our Great Priory of England and Wales, travelled to Knowle Masonic Rooms to restore Leamington Priors Preceptory.

In attendance was The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T. He honoured the Preceptory by conducting the Ceremony and then opening the Preceptory.



1 - The Grand Master - Great Marshal (E.P. Designate) - Provincial Prior for Warwickshire

Let me give you a flavour of the ceremony. With the Knights all assembled the Provincial Prior for Warwickshire, R.E.Kt. Roger E. Dixon, was escorted into the Preceptory by his Provincial Officers who he then placed into the corresponding Offices of the Preceptory.

The Great Marshal entered and announced that the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master was without and demanded admission. Under an Arch of Steel and escorted by two K.C.T.s, two Provincial Priors and two Very Eminent Knights, the M.E. & S. G.M. entered and accepted the Baton from the Provincial Prior. He addressed the Knights as to his reason for being in attendance and instructed the Provincial Marshal to start the proceedings.

The Provincial Prior informed the M.E. & S. G.M. that he had kept the warrant of Leamington Priors Preceptory in his safe keeping and presented it to him in the understanding he wished it to be returned to the Preceptory. The warrant was then placed on display.

Upon Abeyance the banner of the Preceptory had been passed to the parish church of St Mary the Virgin, Temple Balsall (Warwickshires Spiritual Home and the site of an original Knights Templar Encampment) to remain there, according to ancient custom, until it turned to dust. Until a new banner was commissioned the Preceptory would meet under the 'Beauceant Standard;' this was duly unfurled.

The M.E. & S. G.M. then opened the Preceptory and declared that Leamington Priors Preceptory had returned from the darkness of abeyance into to the light that would enable it to meet once more.

The M.E. & S. G.M. then handed the baton to The Provincial Prior. R.E.Kt. Roger Edward Dixon then Installed R.E.Kt. Timothy John Wheeler, K.C.T., the Great Marshal, as Eminent Preceptor.

After the new Preceptory Officers were Invested the Provincial Prior placed the Preceptory Minutes into the safe keeping of the Eminent Preceptor.

The M.E. & S. G.M. took the opportunity to present a Swift to the Provincial Priory of Warwickshire in appreciation for the donations made to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.



2 - An informal moment – 'The Boss' with Warwickshire's Sub-Prior, David Satchwell

The agenda was then followed; at this time a motion was carried to change the name of the Preceptory to reflect its new identity. Subject to the approval of the M.E. & S. G.M. at his Council meeting, the name will change to The Preceptory of Barthélemy de Quincy; he was appointed as The Great Marshal by the last Grand Master, Jacques de Molay, in 1294.

The Festive Board was no less a grand affair than you would expect. With seventy five present, mostly Marshals (known for their clear voices) was a lively and convivial affair. The M.E. & S. G.M. responded to his toast and then proposed a toast to the Preceptory in that quiet and insightful manner that we are all used to and love. Humour and acknowledgement of those responsible for the smooth running of the meeting were included, as one would expect.

The Festive Board concluded with a glass of port, provided by the Eminent Preceptor, starting a new tradition. Now named 'The Marshals' Port.'

So, I end with a competition. Free entry to the Brethren of all Orders. The best three will be acknowledged in a future edition of @86 News. The prize is a bottle of 'Marshals' Port' (Taylors Late

Vintage) to be delivered by that well known shopping site whose name relates to Brazil (no prize for guessing that.)

Suggestions – What is the collective noun for a mass gathering of Marshals?

Answers/suggestion to rogerdixon@icloud.com

Roger E Dixon Provincial Prior for Warwickshire

P.S. Qualified Marshals still welcome as Joining Members.

Pictures from Martin Grahame-Dunn



3 - Provincial Prior's Bodyguard























A busy time for the Knights of Essex



On Friday, 28 October the Annual Malta meeting of the Provincial Priory of Essex took place at Saxon Hall, Southend on Sea. With a full attendance by Knights of the Province and with several Distinguished guests.

The Knights gathered had the pleasure of watching the Malta ceremony carried out under the direction of the Provincial Sub-Prior E.Kt. Roger Smith, assisted by E.Kt. Malcolm Peter of Maplestead Preceptory, Kt. Dan Moody of St.Peter de Tany Preceptory and other Knights of the Province who gave an excellent performance for the 18 candidates taking part in the ceremony, this being the largest number of candidates to be Installed at one time in a ceremony in the Province of Essex.

The Provincial Prior addressed the Knights attending and a copy of this can be found on this web site in full [Here](#).

After the meeting 100 Knights attended and enjoyed Luncheon.

Pictured above are: R.E.Kt. Anthony John Helliar with the Provincial Sub-Prior E.Kt. Roger Smith, the Provincial Chancellor E.Kt. Clive Purdy, lead Kt. Michael West and the other 17 Candidates



Shortly after this, on 31 October, the Provincial Prior for Essex, R.E.Kt. Anthony John Helliar, and the Provincial Sub Prior, E.Kt. Roger Smith, attended the Chelmsford branch of 'Andy's Man Club' to present on behalf of the Knights of the Province of Essex a cheque for £400 as a donation towards their funds to assist them in the important work that they carry out.

At Andy's Man Club, their aim is to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental health and create a judgment-free, confidential space where men can be open about the storms in their lives. They aim to achieve this through weekly, free-to-attend peer-to-peer support groups for men aged over 18. Andy's Man Club is a National Organisation whose groups now operate throughout the country and are completely volunteer-led, with the vast majority of group facilitators having first interacted with #ANDYSMANCLUB when they came through the door as a service user. In 2021 they earned the Queens's award for voluntary service.

The club has groups in Chelmsford, Basildon and Southend all meeting on a weekly basis.

Further details are available at : www.andysmanclub.co.uk.

The Knights Templar of Essex are proud to support this charitable group.

Pictured above are: The Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. John Helliar presenting a cheque to Dan Moughton of Andy's Man Club, along with the Sub-Prior E.Kt. Roger Smith and members of the Club, Terry Cross, Colin Moore and Tom Roper.

With thanks to Chris Smith, Prov.Vice-Chan.

Knights Templar and the St John Eye Hospital updates



St John of Jerusalem
Eye Hospital Group



Knights Templar
Newsletter

Christmas 2022 | Issue #3 | St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group Newsletter- Knights Templar

Merry Christmas!



Hello! This is Naomi, your Fundraising Officer here. I'd like to wish you a very merry Christmas for all of us here at the St John Eye Hospital Group!

We are so grateful for the support you have shown to us this year – particularly those of you who have undertaken fundraising initiatives and supported us with donations.

I'm always keen to know what you are up to with your fundraising and answer any questions you may have, you can contact me on naomi.booth@steh.org.

Inside This Newsletter

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Hospital Update

Japanese Government Funds Medical Equipment in Gaza

In August this year, Mr. Hattori Takashi, Representative of Japan to Palestine, visited St. John Eye Hospital in Gaza, to celebrate the installation of medical equipment funded by the Japanese government, through the Grassroots Grant Assistance and Humanitarian Security Program (GGP).



In his speech, Mr. Takashi emphasized Japan's commitment to enhancing human security in the region and to implementing economic and social development projects. This project will significantly contribute to the ophthalmic services we can provide for our patients in Gaza, by funding equipment needed for corneal topography as well as two slit lamps and a defibrillator.

The project will majorly reduce the suffering of patients living in the Gaza Strip, who need advanced surgical intervention and will reduce waiting lists for eye surgeries at St. John Eye Hospital in Gaza.

Grand Opening of the NEW Kufor Aqab Clinic

We are proud to announce that St John Eye Hospital Group has founded a new clinic in the town of Kufor Aqab, near Jerusalem, which opened its doors in September 2022! Our Kufor Aqab Clinic will treat around 15,000 patients per year from the town of Kufor Aqab as well as Ramallah City and the surrounding areas.

The new clinic was opened by Sir Andrew Cash, who is the Chairman of the St John Eye Hospital Board of Trustees. Sir Andrew was joined by Nigel Heath, Prior of the USA and Prof. Mark Compton, Lord Prior of the Order of St John. The official opening was followed by a small reception with Palestinian Knafeh (a traditional middle eastern dessert) and coffees.

Our CEO of St John Eye Hospital Group, Dr Ahmad Ma'ali, has said that the Kufor Aqab clinic will alleviate the local people from travelling to Jerusalem and waiting for entry permits to be issued before they receive the ophthalmology services they require. This project has been funded by the US Priority and took two months to set up. The clinic has two permanent members of staff who are supported by other staff from our Jerusalem and West Bank services.



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Fundraising Corner

Pilgrimage for SJEHG

Earlier this year, in the lead up to the Great Priory Family Cathedral Service, the Knights of the Vision Beautiful Team completed a Relay Pilgrimage of more than three hundred miles from St Augustine's Cross in the Province of Kent to Wells Cathedral, Somerset.

They passed a new 'Preceptor's Baton' (supplied by Humber Regalia) from Knight to Dame to Knight as runners and cyclists took it through the boundaries of the Provincial Prisons of Kent, London, Surrey, Middlesex, Oxfordshire, Berks & Bucks, Dorset & Wiltshire, Gloucestershire & Herefordshire and, finally, to Somerset. The pilgrimage was a grueling task yet undertaken with enthusiasm, with several members having recently overcome health issues.

On completion of the Relay Pilgrimage, the Team Members joined with their Chaplain, E.Kt. Rev. Niall Johnston, Deputy Great Almoner and Provincial Prelate for London, and were granted the use of the Lady Chapel for a special Pilgrim Prayer Service followed by the blessing of the Baton, which is planned to be shared with a new Preceptor in due course. The Team Captain, Angus, and his wife, Seema, also took the opportunity to renew their marriage vows by the kind assistance of Rev. Niall and in the presence of their teammates.

A further Team Challenge is in the works for the near future, to provide an opportunity for anyone not able to participate in the Relay Pilgrimage to take part in another challenge.

If you would be interested in taking part in the Team Challenges, please feel free to contact the Captain via: Knights.of.the.Vision@gmail.com



£5,000 donation from New Lodge

At the end of November, a new masonic lodge named St John of Jerusalem Lodge was formed in Wales and the members made a very kind donation of £5,000 towards the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group. The Provincial Grand Master of South Wales, Gerald Rowbottom, presented this cheque.



Lincolnshire Knights take on White Peak Challenge

On a baking hot day on Saturday 9 July 2022, Lincolnshire Knights, Em Kt Keith Appleton and Em Kt David Bird, of the St Paul's Preceptory 466 and Sutcliffe Preceptory 190 respectively, completed the White Peak Challenge Walk in the Derbyshire Peak District, which is a 25-mile circular walk that has to be completed in less than twelve hours.

Their aim was to raise as much as possible through sponsorship for the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital. The two Knights successfully completed the walk in 10 hours 7 minutes and raised a total of £1,100. On the right, is a photo of the presentation of a cheque, taken in the Chapter House at Lincoln Cathedral at the Lincolnshire Provincial Priory on 1 October 2022, left to right: Em KT Keith Appleton, Rt Em Kt Malcolm Bilton KCT (Provincial Prior of Lincolnshire) and Em Kt David Bird.



St John Eye Hospital Autumn Brass Concert

On the 2nd November, St John Eye Hospital hosted a fundraising concert in London with London City Brass. London City Brass is a progressive, enthusiastic band, made up from various backgrounds and a wide age range. The band performed two great sets and guests enjoyed tea and coffee in the interval – it was a delightful evening and we're so grateful to everyone who supported this event!



Events and Fundraising Calendar

5th December: The Guild Gift of Sight Fair, Chelsea Old Town Hall

The annual Gift of Sight Fair, in aid of St John Eye Hospital, hosted by the Guild will take place at Chelsea Old Town Hall, London.

Expect a variety of stalls and festive cheer – the event is sure to be a great success! 11am – 8:30pm, £5 standard entry or £30 VIP ticket available (including lounge access, tote bag and refreshments).

Tickets are £5 and can be purchased on the door or online at:

<https://billetto.co.uk/e/gift-of-sight-fair-guild-of-st-john-eye-hospital-tickets-586172>



31st January 2023: Guild Bridge Event

Dr Johnson's House 17 Gough Square, EC4A 3DE

12.30pm - 5pm

Tickets are £30pp or £120 per table and include tea.

To reserve a space, please pay via bank transfer to the St John Eye Hospital Group:

Sort Code: 60-05-37 Account Number: 24097683 (REF: Bridge + Surname)

For more information, please contact Sarah-Jane, chair of the Guild committee at: SJ@tingariarts.eu



Ways to support us

If you would like to make a one-off donation or set up a direct debit, you can do so by visiting our website at:

www.stjohnseyehospital.org

On our website, you can also read articles about hospital updates and visit our online shop.

To stay in touch and keep up to date, you can subscribe to our Jerusalem Scene newsletter via our website or by calling the office on 0207 553 6963.

If you would like to fundraise for us, please get in touch! We have many fundraising resources on our website, including how-to guides and printable posters.

Merchandise

We have a variety of merchandise available to buy through our website here:

[St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group Shop \(stjohnseyehospital.org\)](http://StJohnofJerusalemEyeHospitalGroupShop(stjohnseyehospital.org))

Or send a cheque with a note of the items you'd like to purchase to our office address:

4 Charterhouse Mews, London, EC1M 6BB.

All Christmas cards are £5 for packs of 10! See below for our newest cards!



St John Eye Hospital Silk Tie
£25



'Santa's Helpers'
Inside message:
'Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year'



'Festive Robins'
Inside message:
'Season's Greetings'



'A Beacon of Hope: 140
years of eye care in the Holy
Land: 1882-2022'
Paperback £36



'Winter Village'
Inside message:
'Season's
Greetings'



'Bethlehem Evening'
Inside message:
'Wishing you a Merry
Christmas'

We're delighted to share with you two updates from our friends at the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group.

Firstly, the latest Newsletter (above), focussing on the work that has been done in conjunction with our Knights Templar, available to download by [Clicking Here](#)

And secondly, the Jerusalem Scene Christmas Issue, available [Here](#)

Both of these give us a great insight into the fantastic work being carried out, often in very challenging conditions.

At the District Grand Council of Middlesex



On Saturday, 26 November 2022 Companions from across the English Constitution attended the Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of Middlesex. The meeting was held at the Uxbridge Masonic Centre, Hillingdon.

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



We received a very warm welcome from the District Grand Master, R.III.Comp. Christopher G. Lewis. R.III.Comp.

There were many guests present...



including a good number of Right Illustrious Companions from other Districts.



and Heads of Other Orders in Middlesex.



The Right Illustrious Companions entered in procession, followed by the District Grand Officers of the year and the District Grand Master lead by the District Grand Sword Bearer and followed by the District Grand Standard Bearer.



The meeting was opened by the District Grand Master, R.III.Comp. Christopher G. Lewis, and a period of silent reflection was observed in memory of our late Queen Elizabeth II.

The District Grand Master welcomed all the honoured guests from other Districts and Heads of Middlesex Orders thanking them for their support for the District Grand Council of Middlesex. He especially welcomed III.Comp. Gareth Lewis from the District of Surrey, his son.



After the regular business of the District had been concluded the District Grand Master had much pleasure in re-appointing as Deputy District Grand Master, III.Comp. Graham Stanley Dossett, P.G.Cond.C., and as District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, III.Comp. John M. Edwards, P.G.Cond.C.



After the District Grand Master had invested his Officers, he addressed District Grand Council. He congratulated those he had appointed and invested today saying he was looking forward to working with them over the next year. He congratulated those who received Grand Rank appointments in April. Over the past year R.III.Comp. Chris said that they held two Silver Trowel Ceremonies, and thanked R.III.Comp. David Blackburn, District Grand Master for Surrey, for allowing one of his Companions, Ill.Comp. Daryl Palmer, to take his Silver Trowel Ceremony at Weald of Surrey Council in July. He then had much pleasure in presenting Ill.Comp. Tony Smith with his Silver Trowel.



He thanked Ill.Comp. Jack Flint for all the great work he is doing as Almoner, especially setting up a WhatsApp group for all the Middlesex Almoners to enable everyone to keep in touch. He thanked all the guests for supporting District Grand Council, 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; and ended by wishing everyone a Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

District Grand Council was closed in due form 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...



greeting everyone on their way out.



We then retired for pre-lunch drinks.



It was a very convivial lunch with good food and good company. The Beef Wellington was excellent and the trifle the best I have tasted anywhere. Thanks very much to the excellent caterers at the Uxbridge Masonic Centre.



After the meal the Deputy District Grand Master proposed the Toast to the District Grand Master and ended by wishing him a speedy recovery.

We then made our way home, braving the traffic on the M25.

Article and photos by Chris Eley



Royal & Select raiding party



On Wednesday, 30 November myself and Ill.Comp. David Kellet, Grand Manciple made a visit to Achesons' Haven Cryptic Council No. 376 which meets in Musselburgh, which is just outside Edinburgh, the Cryptic Degree in Scotland comes under the Royal Arch degree. I did check with Kessick to see if it was OK to attend and he said no problem and to give them his best wishes.

The Council hadn't met for over two and a half years because of Covid restrictions and there were 30 Companions in attendance which was an excellent turnout, including two Most Excellent Grand Superintendents those being for Mid & East Lothian and The Borders.

It was an Installation meeting, and the attached photo shows the Thrice Illustrious Master, Deputy Master and Principal Conductor of the Work and the Installing Officer, included are myself and Ill.Comp David Kellet, we're quite easy to spot with our regalia.

The festive board consisted of Pie and Baked Beans at a cost of £5 which included two raffle tickets at £1 each and there was ample supplies of the amber nectar with the meal, it was an excellent meeting which I really enjoyed and I'm planning to return in March to see some degrees worked.

With thanks to V.Ill.Comp. Keith Young, Pres.E.C.

A Cryptic afternoon at Mark Masons' Hall



Monday, 28 November 2022 was a busy day for Grafton Council of Anointed Kings No. 16 meeting at Mark Masons' Hall. The afternoon started with a meeting to confer the Degree of Excellent Master

on 24 Candidates, followed by a meeting to confer the Degree of Thrice Illustrious Master on 8 Candidates.

R.III.Comp. David S Rose, G.Coun., was the Right Worshipful and Excellent Master; R.III.Comp. Trevor M. Sharpe, District Grand Master for Kent, was the Senior Warden; R.III.Comp. Peter J. Wise, P.G.Lect., was the Junior Warden; and M.III.Comp. Kessick John Jones, Grand Master, was the Chaplain



R.III.Comp. David Blackburn, District Grand Master, Surrey, was the Conductor.



The Three Captains of the Veils were: R.III.Comp. Steven Warwick, Captain of the First Veil; R.III.Comp. Thomas F. Auber, Captain of the Second Veil; and R.III.Comp. Christopher Lewis, Captain of the Third Veil. The Representative Candidate was Ill.Comp. Archibald Iain Torrance, P.G.Cond.C.



It was a most interesting and enjoyable Ceremony conducted by the team in an excellent manner. Afterwards the Candidates were presented with their Certificates by the Grand Master who gave a most interesting presentation of the origin of this Ceremony in this county. Afterwards the Candidates posed for a group photograph with the Grand Master.



We then had a short break for refreshments while the Regular Meeting of Grafton Council was opened by the Thrice Illustrious Master, R.III.Comp. Thomas F. Auber, P.G.Chan., and the business of the Council transacted.



Afterwards the Temple was set out for the Degree of Thrice Illustrious Master, while the Candidates were being prepared.



A meeting of Grafton Council of Anointed Kings was opened by the Thrice Illustrious Master/King David, R.III.Comp. Peter Brindle, Dist.G.M. for Hertfordshire. The Senior Warden/Zadok the High Priest, was R.III.Comp. Trevor Sharpe, Dist.G.M. for Kent; the Junior Warden / Nathan the Prophet, was R.III.Comp. David Blackburn, Dist.G.M. for Surrey; the Chaplain was M.III.Comp. Kessick J. Jones, Grand Master: the Director of Ceremonies was V.III.Comp. Graham G. Seeman, Grand Director of Ceremonies; Assistant Director of Ceremonies was III.Comp. Andrew C. Jennings, Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies; and the Steward/Beniah, was R.III.Comp. Peter Wellings, Dist.G.M. for Warwickshire.



We were treated to a wonderful ceremony by R.III.Comp. Peter Brindle and the team. The Grand Temple at Mark Masons' Hall was an excellent venue for this very moving ceremony. After being crowned, King Solomon, III.Comp. Lewis G. Clement, P.A.G.D.C., Dep.G.Org., the Representative Candidate, and the other Candidates posed for a photo with the Grand Master and some of the members of the team.



The Surrey contingent agreed that this was a very enjoyable afternoon



as did all the Right Illustrious Companions.

Article and photos by Chris Eley



Out and about in Hong Kong



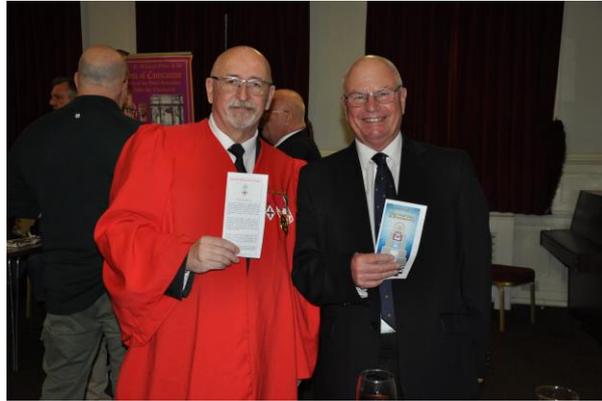
I am pleased to report that the District Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Hong Kong held its annual outing last Sunday, 27 November 2022 to Cheung Chau, an outlying island in Hong Kong.

The outing was led by the District Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Patrick Purnell-Edwards; his Deputy W.Bro. Buddy Wong; his District Grand Senior Warden, W.Bro. Clement Chow; and District Grand Junior Warden, W.Bro. Andrew Lau. The event attracted some 50 participants including friends, family

members, teenagers and a 15 month-old baby. They enjoyed a sumptuous seafood meal at a local restaurant.

With thanks to Ernest Lee, District Grand Secretary

An Orders beyond the Craft evening in Surrey



A very interesting and informative workshop entitled 'Orders beyond the Craft' was held at the Sutton Masonic Hall on the 30th of November 2022.

Many of the Orders beyond the Craft had their stands in the main dining room, where the representatives of each Order were available to answer questions. It was good to see several Heads of Surrey Orders there showing their support.



We then went up to the main Temple where Chris Hatton introduced the evening, which was arranged to give everyone a brief insight into the ceremonies and regalia of many well known Orders, as well as some lesser known Orders in Freemasonry.



Behind the scenes Simon Polkinghorne was busy getting all the regalia ready for the next team to go into out the Temple. In conclusion Chris thanked Simon for all his hard work putting the evening together, the team of 'models' Dave Harrison, Alan Hall, Ken Macintosh, Steve Rush and Chris Eley; and especially Shelley and her staff for the wonderful support and encouragement they had provided.

Afterwards we all gathered in the bar for some well-earned refreshments, continuing our conversations about the many Orders in Freemasonry.

With thanks to Chris Eley





Tour de Bristol cheque presentation at St Peter's Hospice



The Provincial Grand Master for Bristol, R.W.Bro. Stephen Rawlings, accompanied by his Deputy, W.Bro. Michael Huggins, P.G.S.D., and Provincial Grand Charity Steward, W.Bro. Brian Hamley, P.G.St.B., recently attended the St. Peter's Hospice in Brentry Bristol. The purpose was to meet Trust Officer Rosalind Fursland and Events Fund-Raising Manager Hayley Ali to present a cheque for £2,594; the total sponsorship amount raised from the Third Annual Bristol Mark sponsored cycle ride.

The ride was again led by our Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Stephen Rawlings, through the glorious Gloucestershire countryside to the small village of Oldbury on Severn, where lunch was taken in The 'Anchor' Pub. After a suitable rest, participants returned to the Gloucestershire base where tea and biscuits were available. R.W.Bro. Stephen's claim that the wind always blows into his face is a fallacy, as he always leads from position 6 of the 6-man peloton! And therefore, slipstreams the whole way.



During our visit, we were invited to inspect and try out, the 'Tip and Space' wheelchairs purchased with the surplus money arising from our contribution that had been made towards a specially adapted vehicle bought earlier this year. These chairs enable the patients to be transported to the local hospitals/home with the minimum of disturbance or discomfort as the patient can sit upright or recline nearly flat. The chairs are suitable for tall, short or heavy patients as our selection of 'test pilots' illustrates!



Our latest donation will probably be used to help start the Hospice's outreach program. This will make full use of the vehicles previously funded by Bristol Craft and Bristol Mark, as well as the Tip and Space wheelchairs bought specifically from our Mark donations.

R.W.Bro. Stephen took full advantage of the opportunity to relax into one of the new wheelchairs and could easily have 'nodded-off'.

Words by W.Bro. Brian Hamley, P.G.St.B., Provincial Grand Charity Steward for Bristol



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas



The Grand Secretary's elves have done a fantastic job putting the finishing touches to this year's festive displays here at Mark Masons' Hall. If you're in town and have time to call in for a drink in the bar, or are coming for a meeting, do have a look around the building at the decorations which help warm the heart as the colder winter weather chills the bones.









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	Dinner Start	Approx. Finish
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 8 March 2022	FHM, 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	FHM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
SC	Grand Senatus	Thursday, 5 May 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, Lambon, SW1A 3PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT	Great Priory	Wednesday, 18 May 2022	FHM, 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 Active & 1st	Tuesday, 7 June 2022	FHM, 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	FHM, 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 Grandsons	Tuesday, 13 September 2022	FHM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:30 PM
KBHC	Grand Priory	Thursday, 8 September 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, Lambon, SW1A 3PL	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
AMD	Grand Council	Tuesday, 25 October 2022	FHM, 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	FHM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT - 1st	Great Priory of Malta	Tuesday, 15 November 2022	FHM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	3:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RAM	Annual Assembly	Monday, 12 December 2022	FHM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

2022/2023

Booking now for the West Yorkshire 2023 MBF Festival



155th MBF Festival Banquet
 will be held at the
Harrogate Conference Centre
 Kings Rd
 Harrogate
 HG1 5LA
 Saturday, 1 July 2023



[Click Here](#) 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](#).

Mark Emergency Relief Fund
MMM185622

To make a donation
scan with phone camera to open
or visit URL

<https://gtap.uk/mmm185622>



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](#)

The Shop@86

[Click Here](#) 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 [Here](#)

















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

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