

Freemasonry@86 News - 14 April 2023



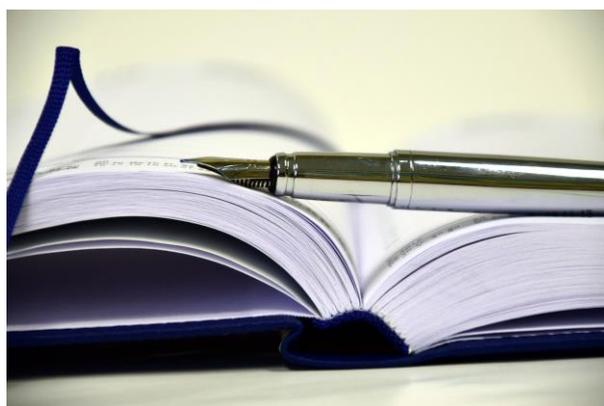
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Companion Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

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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.

Tuesday, 18 April - R.S.M. Annual Assembly of Grand Council (Business Meeting Only) Mark Masons' Hall

Saturday, 22 April - R.C.C. Installation of Ill.Kt. Simon McCarthy, P.G.Pref., as Intendant-General for Surrey

Wednesday, 26 April - Mark Tregenna Lodge No. 787 of M.M.M. Centenary, Province of Cornwall

Wednesday, 3 May - S.C. Conferral of 4th and 5th Grades, M.M.H.

Thursday, 4 May - S.C. Annual Convocation of Grand Senatus, M.M.H.

Wednesday, 17 May - K.T. Annual Chapter of Great Priory, Freemasons' Hall

Saturday, 13 May - Mark Installation of W.Bro. Peter Furness, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall

Saturday, 13 May - O.S.M. Installation of Wy.Bro. Dennis Andrew Freshwater, P.A.G.D.C., as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Warwickshire

Tuesday, 5 September - S.C. Consecration of King Arthur Consistory No. 143, Province of Somerset and Dorset

Tuesday, 3 October - R.S.M. Celebratory meeting of the Sesquicentenary of Grand Council, Freemasons' Hall

Two Consecrations in River Plate



We are thrilled to share with you the exciting news from the District of River Plate. On April 1st, the District Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Ernesto Marcer, and other District Grand Officers, traveled to Chile (1378 Km from Buenos Aires, Argentina) to Consecrate two new Lodges - St James Lodge of M.M.M. No. 2047 (the second Mark Lodge in Chile) and Corsarios del Pacifico Lodge of R.A.M. No. 2036 (the first Mariners lodge in Chile). This historic occasion was marked by brotherly love, relief, and truth.

The Consecration ceremony was a resounding success, and the Brethren in attendance were witness to a truly momentous event. The birth of these two new Lodges marks a significant milestone in the history of the District of River Plate, and we are proud to have been a part of it.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the District Grand Master, and all the distinguished officers who made this historic event possible. We would also like to congratulate the brethren of St James Mark Lodge and Corsarios del Pacifico Mariners Lodge on their Consecration and wish them every success in their future endeavours.

Marking Well!

With thanks to W.Bro. Carlos Stefanizzi, Dist.G.Sec., River Plate



Sussex by the Sea

The 2023 Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Sussex took place on Tuesday, 11 April at The Charmandean Centre in Worthing. The Province was honoured by the presence of the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. John Herbert Prizeman, seen here with his Escorting Officer, W.Bro. Adrian Cleightonhills, Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.



After a rather wet journey down to the south coast the Surrey delegation were pleased to be able to enjoy the coffee and bacon butties.



There were honoured guests from many Provinces...



...and other Masonic Orders in Sussex.



By 2.40 pm everyone was seated in the Temple.



The Brethren were called to order by W.Bro. Mark Hoare, the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies Designate...



...to receive the distinguished guests, including Right Worshipful Brethren...



...and past members of the Provincial Executive.



The meeting was called to order by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies Designate, to receive the Provincial Officers of the year.



The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Roger Richardson, led by the Provincial Grand Sword Bearer and the Keystone Bearer, and followed by the Provincial Grand Standard Bearers, entered in procession.



Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the Provincial Grand Master, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Provincial Grand Master then received a delegation of Royal Ark Mariners.



Before approving the minutes of the previous meeting, those present remembered the Brethren who had passed to the Grand Lodge above since the last annual meeting.

The Pro Grand Master entered Provincial Grand Lodge in procession and was warmly welcomed by the Provincial Grand Master.



The Pro Grand Master said how good it was to be in Sussex again and was saluted under the direction of the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies. This was followed by a rousing fanfare from the Organist. The Provincial Grand Master then individually welcomed the many representatives of other Provinces and Masonic Orders, thanking them for their support for Sussex Mark.

After the regular business of Provincial Grand Lodge had been completed, he announced the appointment of W.Bro. David Brian Dumigan, P.A.G.D.C., as Deputy Provincial Grand Master and W.Bro. Adrian Leonard Verco, P.G.J.D., as Assistant Provincial Grand Master.



The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and appointed Brethren retired in procession, re-entered Provincial Grand Lodge and introduced the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Designate.



The Provincial Grand Master called upon the Provincial Grand Secretary to read the Patent of Appointment and then addressed the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Designate on the nature of his duties and the qualifications for the office. After the Provincial Grand Chaplain had offered a prayer, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Designate took his Obligation and was invested and installed in the Chair by the Provincial Grand Master. W.Bro. David Dumigan was then proclaimed and saluted under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Then followed the Installation of the Assistant Provincial Grand Master Designate. The Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies and appointed Brethren retired in procession, re-entered Provincial Grand Lodge and introduced the Assistant Provincial Grand Master Designate.



The Provincial Grand Master called upon the Provincial Grand Secretary to read the Patent of Appointment and then addressed the Assistant Provincial Grand Master Designate on the nature of his duties and the qualifications for the office. After the Provincial Grand Chaplain had offered a prayer, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master Designate took his Obligation and was invested and installed in the Chair by the Provincial Grand Master. W.Bro. Adrian Leonard Verco was then proclaimed and saluted under the direction of the Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.



After appointing, investing or promoting the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge for the ensuing year the Provincial Grand Master addressed Provincial Grand Lodge. In his Address he said how good it was to have the support of Sussex Craft and Royal Arch for the Sussex Mark MBF Festival and invited the Provincial Grand Master of the Craft Province of Sussex, V.W.Bro. Chris Moore, P.G.M.O., to receive a donation towards his 2028 Craft Festival, saying that this was a first instalment.



R.W.Bro. Roger congratulated all those appointed or promoted today and mentioned that the Keystone Bearer initiative was a great success in encouraging visiting across the Province.



He spoke about the inter Province Cricket Match hosted by Sussex at Ardingly College on Sunday, 23 July, encouraging everyone to attend and support this family day out. He hoped that Sussex will be able to regain the Trophy this year. The proceeds will go to the Mark Benevolent Fund.

He thanked the Provincial Grand Secretary and the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and their teams for ensuring the day was such a success, and closed by reminding everyone that it was never a better time to join the Mark, encouraging everyone to promote our wonderful Order.

The Pro Grand Master then retired from Provincial Grand Lodge...



...and awaited everyone to join them in the bar.



The meeting was then called to order and closed in due form. The Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, together with members of the Past Executive, honoured guests and Provincial Officers then left the Temple in procession...



...greeting their guests on the way out.



The Brethren of the Mark Province of Sussex and their guests then retired to the bar.





After refreshments the Brethren of the Province of Sussex and their guests sat down to a most convivial meal at the Charmandean Centre.





In proposing the toast to the Pro Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Master thanked him for attending the meeting to support the Mark Province of Sussex.



The Pro Grand Master thanked the Provincial Grand Master for the invitation to join his meeting and wished the Province well. There was obviously a lot of friendly rapport between M.W.Bro. John and R.W.Bro. Roger.



The Pro Grand Master was presented with a bottle of Sussex Gin in token of appreciation...



...which was very much appreciated.



After the most enjoyable meal the Pro Grand Master retired from the dining room along with the other guests of the Province.



We all agreed that it was a most enjoyable day at Sussex by the Sea.

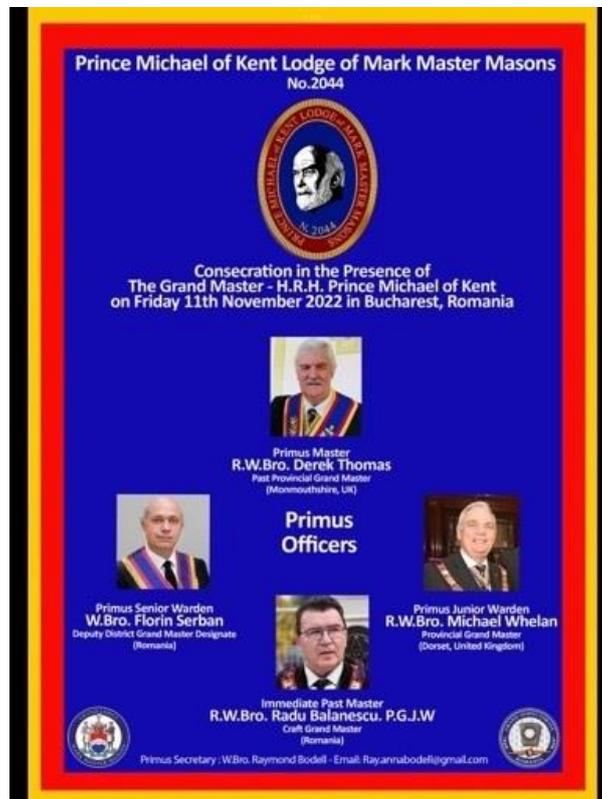
Article and photos by V.W.Bro. Chris Eley, P.G.J.O.



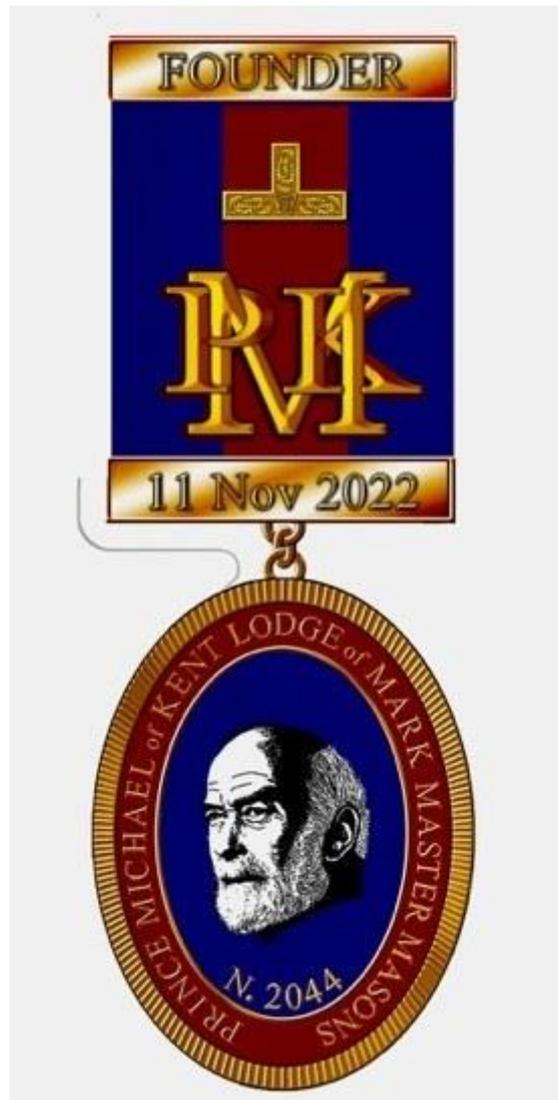
The Prince Michael of Kent Lodge

Mark Masons' Hall Saturday 13th May

The Prince Michael of Kent Lodge of Installed Mark Master Masons No. 2044 was consecrated on Friday, 11 November, the day before the constitution of the District of Romania. A special day for Romania and indeed a very special day for The Mark Internet Lodge 1975 and the Province of Monmouthshire as R.W.Bro. Derek Thomas, P.Prov.G.M. (Monmouthshire) was installed as the Primus Master. What made the occasion even more memorable was the fact that the Consecration of the Lodge and the installation of the Worshipful Master had been undertaken by the Deputy Grand Master and Pro Grand Master respectively, in the presence of M.W.Bro. HRH Prince Michael of Kent, *GCVO*, Grand Master.



The Prince Michael of Kent Lodge comprises, in the main, Brethren from Romania and the United Kingdom who had played an active part in the introduction of the Order; and is intended to further the development of Mark Masonry in Romania and strengthen the Masonic links between the countries. The Lodge meets twice a year, with the election meeting being held at Mark Masons' Hall on the second Saturday in May and the Installation meeting in Romania on the third Saturday in October. Membership is open to any suitably qualified Brother.



So, the next meeting will take place on Saturday, 13 May, commencing at 12:30 p.m. with the festive board to follow at 2 p.m. An opportunity for Brethren to attend and participate in a Mark meeting in the headquarters of the Order.

For the information of Brethren from South Wales and Monmouthshire, the majority of Brethren thus far will be travelling by train from Newport at 8:55 a.m., returning from Paddington at 7:15 p.m. All Mark Brethren, regardless of rank are able to attend and any installed Master would be most welcome to join this somewhat unique Lodge, the annual subscription of which is a modest £25.

With thanks to W.Bro. Rev. Dr Derek J. Oliver, P.Prov.G.J.W.

Flanders Lodge of Mark Master Masons



On Saturday April 1st the Flanders Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 1966, held their installation meeting in the Kasteel Reckevelde and were joined by the District Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Jean Verbist, and the District Grand Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro. Gerarld Miltenburg.

W.Bro. Phil Clare was installed as Master of the Lodge, his 51st time in a Masonic chair. The District Grand Master addressed the Lodge and congratulated W.Bro. Clare on his installation and W.Bro. Laurie Kavanagh and W.Bro. Geoffrey Kavanagh who had both been informed of their promotion to Mark Grand Rank.



The Mark and R.A.M. Lodges, as well as the R.S.M. Council, are comprised of Brothers and Companions from as far afield as the south of France, and Cornwall, some taking two days to get to the venue, and each meeting is always well supported. There are normally three meetings held on the same day, a Royal Ark Mariner meeting, followed by the Mark Master Mason meeting and, after a superb festive board, a meeting of the Council of Royal and Select Masters. For those who are members of all three orders it is a full and enjoyable day. The Royal and Select Masters meeting was also attended by the Deputy District Grand Master of Mark Master Masons in Belgium, W.Bro. Gilbert Deny.

The Castle was chosen as the regular venue after the previous one closed down (nothing to do with the Masonic activity) and has become a very popular choice by members and visitors alike. The kilometre long cobbled drive leads to the castle, which can't normally be seen from the road and has just undergone extensive renovation and refurbishment.



All three meetings are normally held on the second Saturday in February, April and September and visitors are always encouraged and welcome. This year's April meeting was moved as it coincided with the Easter Weekend.

With thanks to Bro. Mike Kavanagh



More donations for Disney



R.W.Bro. Tom Quinn, Provincial Grand Master for London, was on one of his frequent visits to Mark Masons' Hall this week when he took the opportunity to present to W.Bro. Dan Heath, Dep.G.Sec., sponsorship totalling £3000.00 for two Taxis on the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers' Children's Magical Taxi Tour to Disneyland, Paris. The money has been generously and kindly donated by London Installed Mark Masters Lodge No. 1227 and London Installed Commanders Lodge No. 1227.

As reported in our 10 March edition, Dan is currently Renter Warden of the Hackney Carriage Drivers Livery Company and this year will embark on his eleventh trip as a driver. The trip will depart Canary Wharf on Friday, 29 September.

These donations are in addition to those previously received from other Mark Lodges:

Bon Acord Lodge T.I.

Aegean Lodge No. 1978

Freemasons Without Borders Lodge No. 2031 x 2

These donations don't just sponsor a Taxi, they make an event where the whole is much greater than the sum of its parts and the generosity of the Brethren will help put some enormous smiles on the faces of some very poorly children.

Watch out for a write-up of this year's trip after the event.

[Click Here](#) to find out more at the trip's website.

Province of Durham Royal Ark Mariner Annual Assembly



The Province of Durham Royal Ark Mariner Annual Assembly took place on Friday, 31 March 2023 at Ferryhill Masonic Hall.

It was a packed Lodge room which welcomed the Provincial Grand Master, David Hanson, and distinguished guests. This was, of course, all done with the slick polished style we've come to expect from our Provincial Director of Ceremonies and his Team.

The Heads of Orders were given a traditional Durham welcome along with the special guest, R.W.Bro. Raymond Walton, Prov.G.M. for Northumberland.

Whilst there were formalities to complete, the main part of the evening was to celebrate the appointments and promotions in the Order.

The Royal Ark Mariner Provincial Team for the year can be found [HERE](#)

The recipients of Provincial Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank are:

Frederick William Lynas	Eclectic	39
Thomas Neil Hugill	Stockton-on-Tees	122
David John Anderson	Bede	605
Thomas Barr Jack	Bede	605
Alan Dargue	Hackworth	761

David Battensby	Moseley	925
Stephen Daniel McGlen	Castle Eden	930
Peter Harrison	Spennymoor	981
Ivan Jewell	Elevation	1112

Upon completion of the investiture, members of the Durham Lodge of Installed Commanders gave an explanation of the Royal Ark Mariner Tracing Board. Pictured below with the Prov.G.M. are (l to r): Don MacKenzie, Mark Gilpin and Fred Piggford.

The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. David Hanson, addressed the R.A.M. Annual Assembly and thanked everyone for being so inspirational in working so tirelessly for Lodges, the Province and Freemasonry in general. This includes the continual efforts that everyone puts into help the charities and worthy causes. The support for the Durham 2029 Festival thus far has been amazing and despite difficult times, is so inspiring.

David congratulated all those he appointed or promoted. He stated how much joy it is to carry out the investiture and that it is the high point of the year. He also thanked them for the work they had done, and are likely to do in the future, for their Lodges and the Province. He also paid credit to the outgoing team.

David enthused about recruitment and retention of members. He encouraged everyone to consider colleagues in their Mark and Craft Lodges who may wish to join but are just waiting to be asked. But that is only one part of the equation, we must retain them once they join. The best way is to communicate and if they haven't been for a little while, go talk to them, tell them how they are missed and welcome them back.

On closing, the Prov.G.M. challenged everyone to seek out those Mark Master Masons who would enjoy this colourful degree and bring them into the Order.

The evening ended with a superb meal and fellowship in a sold-out hall. Everyone was looked after by the team of stewardesses and steward. The atmosphere was certainly one of enjoyment and catching up with old friends.

With thanks to W.Bro. David Battensby, Prov.R.A.M.G.R.











St John Eye Hospital K.T. Newsletter

We are pleased to share with you the latest St John Eye Hospital K.T. Newsletter which can be downloaded by [Clicking Here](#) or viewed in the images below.



St John of Jerusalem
Eye Hospital Group



**Knights Templar
Newsletter**



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Welcome to your Easter Newsletter

We are so grateful for the support you have shown to us – 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 us on: Info@stjohnseyehospital.org

Inside This Newsletter

- Hospital Update
- Fundraising Corner
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- Merchandise

Hospital Update

In the midst of political uncertainty, the security situation in Jerusalem remains very fragile and further escalation is expected during Ramadan, which commenced on the 22nd March and runs through to the 21st April. At St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital, we are monitoring the situation closely and all staff have been informed that they should never take risks when coming to or leaving work.

Additionally, following the recent earthquake affecting both Turkey and Syria, Israel has been reevaluating its preparedness for such an incident. Consequently, our hospital buildings will be assessed regarding their resilience to withstand powerful earthquakes and evacuation training will be rolled out to all staff.

These issues make it harder for us to plan as there is more uncertainty surrounding funding that we can rely on. This means that our supporters around the world are more pivotal than ever to our work and the vital services we can offer to disadvantaged communities. We'd like to extend our thanks for your continued support.



SOA Conference at SJEHG in Jerusalem

A special conference and celebration of the fourth international symposium for St. John Ophthalmic Association was held at the St. John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem on November 4th, 2022.

The purpose of this conference is the continuous education and development of our Ophthalmologists across the SJEHG network in Jerusalem, Gaza and West Bank. In addition, this conference is a great chance to exchange experiences through connecting clinical professionals from England, Canada, Italy, and of course hospitals in the Middle East.

World Sight Day Celebrations

At St John Eye Hospital Group, we held a special celebration for World Sight Day. Our Communication Officer, Lubna Saheb, and Olivia Odeh, Assistant Director of Development and Grants, spent a wonderful time with the children at the Pediatric Clinic in Jerusalem. The children enjoyed making colourful glasses as well as colouring and crafts.



Highlights this year so far...

The number of **outpatients** we have seen in **Gaza** has **increased by 17%** compared to this time last year. We have also seen a huge **increase of 42%** in **cataract surgeries** undertaken in our Gaza hospital!



Welcoming a new trustee!

St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group are pleased to announce that we have a new trustee joining the Board. Please welcome Dr. Umayyeh Khammash, who is a Medical Doctor and Senior Public Health Specialist.

With over 40 years of experience in all aspects of primary healthcare, Dr. Khammash currently serves as the Director of Juzoor for Health and Social Development, a leading Palestinian NGO.

Throughout his career, Dr. Khammash has practiced medicine in different West Bank hospitals and managed several local and international health programs. Prior to his current post, Dr. Khammash served as the Chief of Health for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in the West Bank for over 14 years.

We are excited to have Dr. Umayyeh Khammash on board and are looking forward to working with him closely!

What can my donations to SJEHG do?

- £7.00 / US\$ 8.50 could fund an initial eye consultation.
- £25.00 / US\$ 30 could provide eye drops (which are typically the main treatment for conditions such as glaucoma).
- £70.00 / US\$ 85 could pay for diabetic-related eye treatments.
- £250.00 / US\$ 300 could pay for cataract treatment for one person.
- £250.00 / US\$ 300 could provide an operation to correct a child's squint.
- £500.00 / US\$ 600 could fund urgent eye surgery.



Fundraising Corner

Recipes Required!

Lyn Hunter, Hospitalier for Cheshire County Priory Group, is compiling a recipe book to sell in aid of St John Eye Hospital and is on the lookout for contributions. If you would like to be involved and contribute a recipe, please contact Lyn on Lyn.Hunter@sja.org.uk.



St John Gateway Fundraising



On 9th March, the St John Gateway Branch of St John Fellowship presented a cheque for £300 towards the work of St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group. The St John Gateway was created to attract younger people to the Order of St John and to raise awareness of all that it contributes to Society. This donation will fund the equivalent of a vital operation to correct a child's squint and two sets of eye drops which are typically the treatment for glaucoma. Thank you very much to St John Gateway for their generosity.

Presenting the Cheque at St John's Gate, left to right: Naomi Booth (SJEHG Fundraising Officer), Christopher McCorkell, MSJ (Joint Vice Chair of the St. John Gateway Branch) and Keith Schnaar, CSJ, (Hospitalier for The Priory Fellowship).

Representing St John Eye Hospital at the St John Ambulance Conference

On 25th March this year, Paul Herbage, MBE, KStJ, DL, Priory Hospitalier, represented St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group at the 'All St John Leadership Conference', held at the University of Warwick.

Paul Herbage spread the word about the Hospital Group and raised awareness to the St John Family about our vital work. In total, Paul raised £100 through donations and selling merchandise – well done Paul and thank you for all of your hard work! We'd also like to thank everyone who attended this event and supported St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group.



Regular Giving

Would you like to support us regularly? A monthly donation is the most effective way to support our work. Just £7 a month would fund an initial eye consultation for one person.

Regular gifts allow us to plan our work – donating this way enables us to know how much income we'll likely have in the future. It also allows you to plan your giving and every time you hear about our work, you'll know how important your contribution was.

If you are interested in finding out more, please email:

Info@stjohnseyehospital.org



Events Calendar

30th April 2023: Bishop's Waltham Garden Fair

Come and join the Bishop's Waltham Garden Fair for their 20th anniversary! The mature trees and flowering shrubs provide the perfect backdrop for this lovely family fair; featuring fashion, jewellery, and homeware stalls, as well as refreshments, gardening stalls and a Birds of Prey display from Falcon High. Over the past 20 years, the Bishop's Waltham Garden Fair has raised well over £220,000 to sponsor Houda Said, an Orthoptic Assistant at SJEHG. This event is organized by St John Hampshire.

Wintershill Hall, Durley SO32 2AL

Doors 10-4pm

Admission £5, Pre book on line £4.50

Children under 14 free

Free parking

www.bishops-waltham-garden-fair.org



2023 Challenge Events

Want to do a sponsored physical event to fundraise for us? Maybe you'd like to raise £250 to correct a child's squint but don't know how? How about joining one of our challenge events?

This year, we are putting on four challenge events for you to choose from! These events are sponsored runs and take place throughout 2023. If you would like to get involved, you can sign up via our website here: <https://www.stjohnseyehospital.org/fundraise-for-us/>

Any questions, please contact: info@stjohnseyehospital.org

June - Battersea Park 5Km/ 10Km

Entry fee: £15

Suggested Sponsorship: £100

Battersea Park is one of London's most picturesque parks and has been a favourite course for those wanting to run a PB as the course is totally flat. Starting and finishing at the Park's Bandstand, this course laps the park - making it easy to follow and great for any spectators to watch.

[Fundraise for Us - St John Eye Hospital](#)

How we'll support you:

- FREE running vest!
- Training Plan.
- Support emails and lots of running tips.
- Souvenir Certificate.



21st May – Hackney Half Marathon

Entry fee: £35

Suggested Sponsorship: £300



Get immersed in London's East end with vibrant street art and an amazing atmosphere as you run Hackney Half Marathon. This course is reasonably flat and would be great for any first-timers or seasoned pros after a personal best!

[Run For Charity - Event Registration Page](#)



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2023 Challenge Events



9th July – ASICS London 10K

Entry fee: £25

Suggested Sponsorship: £250

Join thousands of runners taking part in this atmospheric 10K fun run! You'll run past some of central London's top landmarks including, St James' Palace, Westminster Bridge and Big Ben to the sound of live bands, DJs and cheers.

This flat route is perfect for beginners as well as regular runners aiming for a PB! Whatever your ability, sign up to raise £250 which can pay for life-changing a cataract treatment for one person.

[Run For Charity - Event Registration Page](#)



8th October – Royal Parks Half Marathon

Entry fee: £35

Suggested Sponsorship: £300

Why not join us for one of the most scenic half marathons in London? The legendary Royal Parks Half Marathon takes participants on closed roads around four of the capital's Royal Parks – Hyde Park, Green Park, St James' Park and Kensington Gardens.

Sign up now to help us raise vital funds for our amazing charity!

[Run For Charity - Event Registration Page](#)



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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.

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 or emailing Info@stjohnseyehospital.org.

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



Here at St John Eye Hospital Group, we rely on donations to help support our vital work. The funds you raise help support us in a variety of ways from helping us purchase blankets for patients by carrying out sight-saving surgeries.

If you are organising a fundraiser, please do let us know as we would love to send some resources to help. Below is a list of items we have available.

Resources Available (lone basis):

- Pop up banners
- Collection boxes
- Collection buckets
- Tabards



*Please note, if you would like to borrow any resources on a lone basis, we would need at least one month's notice from the event date and we would need to receive the items back within two weeks of the event taking place.

Resources Available (to keep):

- Leaflets
- Jerusalem Scene
- Posters



Fundraising Ideas:

- Bake Sale
- Dress down day
- Sponsored activity
- Donations instead of presents for your birthday
- Quiz
- Open house/ garden
- Sponsored walk
- Golf day

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))

You can also send a cheque with a note of the items you'd like to purchase to our office address.



St John Eye Hospital Silk Tie
£25



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



SJEHG Pen
£5



Swift Tree Cards (pack of 5, blank inside)
£5



Cream Tote Bag
£3.50



'Treasures' by Tom Foakes
£50



Unisex SJEH Tshirt (White) S/M/L available
£15



Unisex SJEH Tshirt (Gold) S/M/L available
£15



Lapel Pin Badge
£5

First class - first language



Last evening Menai Preceptory had their installation meeting where E.Kt. Emyr Rhys-Jones installed his successor E.Kt. Alan Impett into the chair of the Preceptory and Priory in the presence of E.Kt. Peter Butler, Past Deputy Great Sword Bearer, the Provincial Sub-Prior of Cheshire and North Wales.

Nothing unusual in that except English is definitely the second language within the Preceptory Welsh being the predominant first language of the members. (Translations were freely given.)

A tremendous evening was had by all and the Preceptory are looking forward to their Centenary meeting in 2024.

With thanks to E.Kt. Fraser Fowlie, Dep.Gt.Mar.

Heads in Helsinki



To paraphrase the words of Fidler's Dram the 1979 hit single "didn't we have a lovely day the day we went to Helsinki" Yes, that right, we went to Helsinki for the annual meetings of the Red Cross of Constantine, followed by the annual meeting of the Knights Templar.

We arrived to a temperature of -7, and copious amounts of snow but, with a warm, friendly fraternal welcome. Saturday began at the Helsinki old Stock Exchange, now a conference venue which had a large room upstairs and a dining room below. The first gathering was of the Red Cross of Constantine, a magnificent welcome from the Grand Sovereign and his worthy knights. An address to us in Finnish, followed rapidly by an English translation, to embrace the Christian fraternal greetings of the assembled company. All to soon the familiar pattern had concluded with many in new offices and rewards given for service to the order.

We then went for a coffee, as we were there such a short time, we decamped to a cafe overlooking one of the main squares and the harbour, such was the sun's strength we managed to get a seat outside and watch the world go by. Time caught up with us and we had to return and prepare for the Great Priory meeting of the Knights Templar. This colourful spectacle was enhanced with the sword drill of the Bodyguard and the commands of the Great Marshal. I don't know what he actually said but I soon got the general idea! So, in came the Finnish Grand Master, to much ceremony. Awards were given, different to us, with each knight achieving Knight Commander or Knight Grand Cross being awarded his own coat of arms, to be worn on his mantle. A talk in Finnish was given with (thankfully) English subtitles concerning chivalric orders in Finland and Europe. The Grand Master had his address translated into English so that we too could appreciate his poignant remarks.

After the conclusion of this meeting, we all retired to the foyer for champagne and drinks before being called into dinner. This year the principal host was the Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine, as they hold a joint dinner and take it in turns to preside.

Was it different? Yes it was but, in surprising ways. In both meetings time was allowed for a singer with a piano accompanist to perform two beautiful songs. A special privilege to sit and hear world class opera singers. There was a great welcome to all the overseas guests and a huge attempt by our hosts to welcome us in our native language and to try and include us in the business. Dinner was superb, with all but one toast being given before food was consumed. I suppose I should know better but, when they poured out a small glass of aquavit to toast one another, someone said “down in one Paul”, so I did. I wish I had not! What I had not realised was there were several table toasts to come. The final and most emotional toast was to “the Veterans”, a group of 300 Finns with an average age of 97 years, heroes in the struggle with Russia over 75 years ago. This toast was preceded by the singing of two patriotic songs by another pair of talented musicians, which everyone knew and appreciated. Not a dry eye in the house - mine included.

With thanks to V.Ill.Kt. Paul Norman, P.G.H.Alm., Grand Marshal (R.C.C.)



Pork Pies in God's own county

Greenhead Masonic Hall in Huddersfield was the gathering place for the 2023 Annual Divisional Meeting of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine (West Yorkshire Division) and what a tremendous meeting it was. Nearly 90 Knights attended and were treated to a wonderful meeting, back very much to the pre-Covid levels of attendance which was superb to see.

After many hours of preparations and rehearsals, all were treated to an excellent ceremony hosted by the Centurion Conclave No. 170 (Past Sovereigns' Conclave) who set up the hall with all the necessary furnishings and seating plans for the upcoming appointments and guests, not finishing until after 22:00 on the night before - not even time for a pint of Yorkshire's finest, unfortunately that would have to wait until the following day.



On the morning of the meeting the Sepulchre Guard, under the watchful eye of the Divisional Marshal (Ill.Kt. Mike Cooper) made sure their sword drill was almost to military standards and then went through the final rehearsals for the newly appointed and promoted Knights, all under the watchful eye of our very own Right Illustrious Intendant-General, Dr Raymond Charles Johnson.



Once everything was to his satisfaction, it was time for him to extend good old Yorkshire hospitality to his distinguished guests who had travelled some distance to be there, as is customary in Red Cross masonry, with visiting and friendship being central to its core values.



Sadly, this visiting does have its downside, in that having travelled the length and breadth of the country, debate often rages between the Intendants-General of other Divisions on who has the best pork pies, Christmas cake or other delicacies and especially as to which county does the great man above favour the most.

There is nothing more pleasing to a Yorkshireman than proclaiming this as God's own county, although many of the visitors had different opinions on the matter, especially those in neighbouring counties.

All this is done in the best good humour as you can see from the customary group photo and, especially when the meeting started, the distinguished guests had their opportunity to get their own back on the Intendant-General.



With the formal proceedings complete, departed Knights honoured, officers and appointments made, everyone made their way to the bar for a well-earned gin and tonic and then to the dining hall

where everyone enjoyed an excellent festive board. Many new friendships were made, and old ones strengthened until the next time or meeting.

All the necessary wine taking was completed (just before the Divisional Marshal's voice gave up) and the Intendant-General gave one of the shortest speeches of the day simply saying a huge "Thank you" which if the room could have responded, would have been said right back at him.



And so ended another Divisional meeting of this wonderful Christian Order, where we all left with our special watch words so firmly planted in our hearts, In Faith, In Unity and In Zeal.

With thanks to Ill.Kt. Darren Unwin, P.G.Vice-Chamb.



Busking in Babylon



1 - District Grand Prefects of East and West Lancashire, their Deputies and Ceremony Team

Friday, 31 March 2023 was the Date of the Michael Edward Herbert Council (MEH) No. 160 meeting, on this occasion at Middleton Masonic Hall. The MEH Council meets under the jurisdiction of the District of East Lancashire, but, as you may be aware, this is a Council for Grand Officers from both the East and West Lancashire Districts. As an aside, this mirrors the Timothy John Lewis Council No. 190 for District Officers of both East and West Lancashire, which meets under the jurisdiction of the District of West Lancashire. I think that this arrangement demonstrates the close working relationship between the two Districts.

For those with a geographical inclination, Middleton, although now part of the Greater Manchester conurbation, is historically a Lancashire Township, its name being derived from being the centre of a number of early settlements. It was originally an ecclesiastical parish of the Salford Hundred – also known as Salfordshire. Salford being one of the sub divisions of the historic County of Lancashire.

And so, I made my way to Middleton MH, which was a first for me, having never attended any meetings at this location. Lighter evenings made the journey reasonably pleasant, if you can ever think of driving up the M6 and M62 etc. at workers going home time pleasant! No hold ups however, (but see comments below about my return journey) meant that I arrived at Middleton MH in good time. Good car parking meant that there was no driving around to look for a suitable parking spot.

The Hall is a relatively modern and attractive facility, with an upstairs Lodge Room and downstairs dining room. A very comfortable, roomy premises for a Masonic meeting and for meeting up with old and new friends.



2 - District Grand Prefects and Candidates

R.W.Bro. Mervyn Frank Wilson, Dist.G.Pref. for East Lancashire, has given an extra purpose to this particular meeting of MEH Council in the annual calendar, by arranging for Grand Officer members to perform the ceremony of Knights of the Red Cross of Babylon; and on this occasion there was the excellent number of 13 Candidates attending to receive the accolade.



3 - District Grand Prefects at rest

The W.M., Very Worshipful Brother Geoffrey Catterall, opened the Council, and then welcomed Right Worshipful Brother Wilson, and offered him the gavel. The Dist.G.Pref. thanked the W.M. for the honour, but then paused to consider the amount of work to be undertaken later in the evening, and, deciding that discretion is the better form of valour, tactfully returned the gavel to the W.M. Salutations were then given, first to the Dist.G.Pref. for East Lancashire and then to the Dist.G.Pref. for West Lancashire.

The preliminary business being concluded, the W.M. adjourned the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr, and the Candidates were asked to leave the Council for a short time. The D.C. for the evening, W.Bro. Shaun Higson, then busied himself, setting up the Council for the Red Cross of Babylon Ceremony. It is fair to say that the Candidates were well and truly invested into the Degree, the whole of the team playing its part in the ceremony, but it is worth recording that W.Bro Fraser McCord, as Thrice Illustrious Sovereign, gave an excellent and very animated performance in the Persian Court, in a true lilting Scottish accent (pity the Candidates couldn't understand his brogue – I jest Fraser!!!!). However, the Candidates fully understood his next gesture when, on completion of the ceremony, he offered each of them a miniature bottle of the Highlands' finest, each miniature being edged with a purple ribbon. What a wonderful gesture from an excellent Mason.

The W.M. then resumed the Council in the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr. Important items of business remained to be conducted, including to elect a W.M. and Treasurer for the ensuing year. Unfortunately, the current Senior Warden, W.Bro. Trevor Jewitt, is unwell and unable to be Installed as Master at the next meeting; but cometh the hour and cometh the man, as English cricketer Cliff Gladwin once uttered, and R.W.Bro. Mervyn stepped up to the crease and agreed to be nominated. There being no other nominations (would anyone dare?) he was declared Master for the ensuing year to great acclamation. W.Bro. Jeff Huddart was then nominated and subsequently declared Treasurer, again to acclamation.



4 - From Labour to Refreshment

The Council being closed, the W.M. and both Dist.G.Pref.s retired, and Brethren made their way to the dining hall to enjoy a social drink and dinner. A goodly crowd of Mason's delighted in exchanging pleasantries and honouring the formal toasts. It is true to say that Mervyn should be proud of the efforts of his team in ensuring that the Candidates were well and truly invested on this occasion, and we look forward to a similar occasion next year when the Brethren of MEH can again strut their stuff.



5 - District Grand Prefect, from Refreshment to Labour

To close, I said earlier in the piece that I had a pleasant journey to Middleton MH, but the same cannot be said of my return home. Unfortunately, a large section of the M6 had been closed at 9pm and this caused me to get home somewhat later than intended. The upside is that I visited many areas of Greater Manchester and its surrounds that I hadn't seen for some time – always look on the bright side of life I say!

PS, one of the Brethren present at the meeting played in a professional rugby league match in the 1980's between Wigan and Huddersfield, which entered into folk lore as 'The Battle of Fartown'. No kidding, and you can view it on YouTube if you're interested (other social media outlets available etc. etc.). You need to be warned of scenes of violence if you are of a sensitive disposition, and you might need subtitles to understand the Lancashire and Yorkshire dialects. The Brother concerned acted as a Persian Guard on the occasion of the aforementioned ceremony, and you can be sure he had no problem with his prisoner!!!

Words by Wigan Warrior - Photographs by the Rochdale Hornet

The Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord continues to grow in Cheshire and North Wales

Four candidates from Cheshire and North Wales were admitted to the Third Grade on Monday, 27 March 2023, by Red Castle Consistory No. 48 TI, at Maesgwyn Masonic Hall, Wrexham.



On Thursday, 30 March 2023. Our newest Brother was inducted into the Order, becoming a member of The Morlais Consistory No. 49 TI. At Lady Augusta Masonic Hall, Rhewl, Mostyn.



The Provincial Team were out in force. To see Anthony James Lloyd to be inducted into the order. In the presence of R.Dist.Comp. J. Christopher Welton, V, Provincial Grand Summus, and Dist.Comp. Robert Jordan, TD, III, Assistant Provincial Grand Summus.



Pictured here with R.Dist.Comp. J. Christopher Welton, V, Provincial Grand Summus, and Dist.Comp. Robert Jordan, TD, III, Assistant. Provincial Grand Summus, and the presiding officers, congratulating Companion Anthony James Lloyd who is the Director of Ceremonies of the Order of the Secret Monitor in the Province for Cheshire and North Wales.



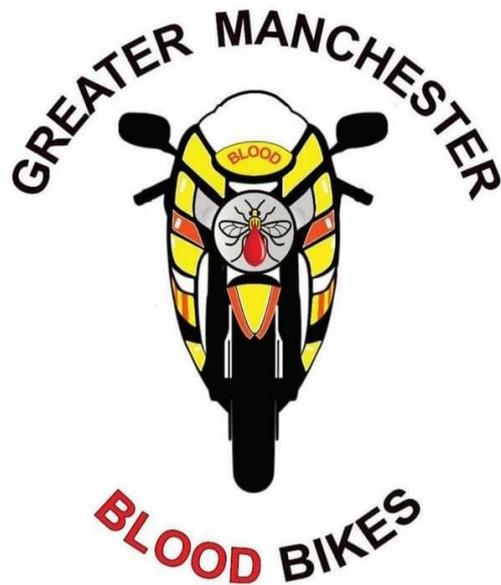
The Provincial Team out in force to see Anthony James Lloyd being inducted into the order. In the presence of R.Dist.Comp. J. Christopher Welton, V, Provincial Grand Summus for Cheshire and North Wales and Distinguished Companion Tony Stringer

Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor for the Province for Cheshire and North Wales. Aided by, and in the presence of, the Provincial Team and the Provincial Tzaddikim, led by Dist.Comp. Geoff Glover, Deputy Grand Episcopus.

Blood Bikes Groups join forces for Epic Mission

Russ Harrison, Trustee and founder of the Greater Manchester Blood Bikes sent us this report of a recent mission undertaken on their new blood bike.

Russ says, 'Bike 6 was involved in a Blood Sample relay with Midlands Blood Bikes (MBB) last night. After meeting Tony of MBB at Knutsford Services, myself and Bike 6 made our way to Hallamshire Hospital in Sheffield. This is where Bike 6 came into her own, the adaptive headlight worked well on the dark roads of the Peak District and the heated seat/grips kept me nice and toastie throughout a rather chilly journey! Heading back, it was motorway all the way. The cruise control and high screen also worked well making the 170 mile journey effortless. Please pass on my thanks to the Mark Benevolent Fund and the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons who donated the bike, it is truly appreciated.







Join us on Social Media

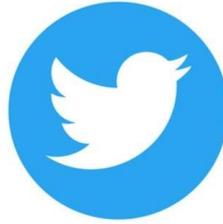
Social Media is becoming an increasingly important platform for how we get to hear about what is going on further afield in all of our Orders, and how we share the most up-to-date information with members. If your Province/District/Division has a Facebook Page/Group or Twitter Feed, or if you represent 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 2023 - All Orders

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

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Rehearsal Time	Meeting Starts	Meeting Ends	Dinner Starts	Approx. Ends
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 7 March 2023	F.M.I., Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 AM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council - Limited Capacity	Tuesday, 18 April 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
SC	Grand Semaius	Thursday, 4 May 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	5:15 PM
KT	Great Priory	Wednesday, 17 May 2023	F.M.I., 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 Activities List	Tuesday, 23 June 2023	F.M.I., Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	1:00 PM	3:15 PM	4:15 PM	5:45 PM
RCC	Grand Imperial Conclave	Tuesday, 4 July 2023	F.M.I., 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 Functions	Tuesday, 12 September 2023	F.M.I., 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, 14 September 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council - 150 Celebrations	Tuesday, 3 October 2023	F.M.I., Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	5:00 PM
AMD	Grand Council	Tuesday, 24 October 2023	F.M.I., Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:15 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
OSM	Grand Conclave	Thursday, 9 November 2023	F.M.I., Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT - India	Great Priory of Malta	Tuesday, 21 November 2023	F.M.I., 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, 11 December 2023	F.M.I., Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	5:00 PM

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

26/3/2023

[Click Here](#) to download a PDF copy of the Calendar

Booking now for the West Yorkshire 2023 MBF Festival

155th MBF Festival Banquet
Harrogate Conference Centre
Kings Road
Harrogate
HG1 5LA
Saturday, 1 July 2023

BOOK HERE
CLOSING DATE
30 APRIL 2023

[Click Here](#) to book

Additional support for earthquake rescue efforts



Further to last week's announcement that the MBF had made an emergency grant of £50,000 to help with the Türkiye/Syria earthquakes rescue efforts, we have been inundated with requests to make it possible for Brethren, Lodges and Provinces to make donations to directly support the work of our trusted partners at the ShelterBox charity.

It has been agreed that we will accept donations in to our MCF Relief Chest.

The donations will be channelled through our trusted partners at the ShelterBox charity reg no. 1096479 and will also count towards MBF honorifics.

Donations for Türkiye (formerly Turkey) and Northern Syria should be sent using the following details:

MARK EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

MMM 185622

For Individual donations - Please add your **Surname** and the reference **Türkiye**

For Lodge donations – use the **Order** with **Lodge number** and the reference **Türkiye**

For Provincial donations – use the **Order** with **Province** and the reference **Türkiye**

To make a donation you can

- **use the QR Code below**
- [Click Here](#) to go to the donation page
- [Click Here](#) to download a Credit/Debit Card donation Form
- [Click Here](#) to download a Cheque/Chirty Voucher donation form

Mark Emergency Relief Fund
MMM185622

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

<https://gtap.uk/mmm185622>



Please share with your Brethren and if you have any queries or concerns please contact the Charities Department at Mark Masons' Hall.

We thank you all for your generosity.

You can find out more by [Clicking Here](#) to read the latest ShelterBox update and there is additional info in the images below.

You can visit ShelterBox on their various media outlets:

<https://shelterbox.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ShelterBox>

[ShelterBox](#)



£50,000 donated to ShelterBox

On Monday, 6 February 2023 a series of powerful earthquakes devastated southern Türkiye (formerly Turkey) and northern Syria. The Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund were quick to act and by the close of business on Tuesday 7, had approved an emergency grant of £50,000 to help with the rescue efforts in association with our trusted partners at the ShelterBox charity. The charity is sending an emergency response team to carry out crucial assessments and establish how best their help can be deployed. Their international assessment team will arrive in Türkiye in a few days and will be liaising with contacts on the ground to establish how best to proceed.

The humanitarian need in Türkiye and Syria is immense and growing – it is the most devastating earthquake to hit the region in 100 years and could become the worst. The death toll is likely to rise significantly, and thousands of buildings have been destroyed in both countries leaving people homeless, with nowhere to sleep, in the middle of a bitter winter.

ShelterBox provides different combinations of emergency shelter aid and essential household items during its responses depending on what is needed. This could be sending tents and shelter kits, stoves, thermal blankets and clothing to keep people warm through the freezing winter nights. It could be cash to help people buy what they need to survive. Or it could solar lights that help people when there is no electricity. Getting aid into countries and on to where it's needed after a disaster of this scale presents huge challenges especially with damage to infrastructure and supply routes. That's why ShelterBox strategically pre-positions aid around the world, including in Syria.

This donation of £50,000 from the Mark Benevolent Fund will allow ShelterBox to act quickly, adapting how they work to best support people affected by the earthquakes and allowing them to tailor aid packages to what is needed. There are currently no plans to set up a central fund from Mark Masons' Hall.

This is what the grant will be used for by the ShelterBox charity (information taken from the ShelterBox website):

SHELTERBOX TENT - £350

When disaster strikes, families need shelter to feel safe again. When they can't start rebuilding their homes immediately, durable tents can make them feel safe and protected.

Depending on the weather and the place, the shelter needs of families differ. That's why we're committed to providing families with the best possible solutions that suit their needs.

From padded tents that can safely accommodate a stove, to medium-sized tents that fit in small spaces and ones that can last years if needed, families can feel at home again.



SHELTER KITS - £60

We provide shelter kits which include a selection of hardwearing tools and materials that are customised to suit the needs of each community.

The tools and materials we send provide the essentials families need to start rebuilding homes straight away, ranging from tough tarpaulin and timber to corrugated sheeting and even room dividers.

The versatile tools we provide help with everything from clearing rubble to building shelters and even tending crops. Our tools can also be used to build furniture, cut firewood and make repairs.



BLANKETS - £7

Blankets, groundsheets and mattresses not only provide vital warmth, but comfort too when families are recovering from disaster. These simple items can be used in a variety of ways, from bedding to room dividers, and help turn a shelter into a home.



SOLAR LIGHTS - £11

Our solar lights can last up to 24 hours on just one charge on the lowest setting. They are lightweight and waterproof, making them easy to carry in any situation. Because they are so safe, cheap and easy to use, families use solar lights in different ways – for work, education, family activities, or simply moving around at night. They are more than just light – they can provide comfort and allow families to regain their livelihoods.



Find out more about the work of ShelterBox



<https://shelterbox.org/>



<https://www.facebook.com/ShelterBox>



@ShelterBox



Mark Emergency Relief Fund

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](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](#)

Swift pins still available



For those who may not have been able to get their hands on one of the K.T. £20 for 2020 Appeal Swift Pins, there are still some available.

Provinces can order in bulk, or individuals can purchase single pins, by contacting Linda Read, Charities Finance Manager at M.M.H. at L.Read@mmh.org.uk

Pins are £20 each and funds raised will go to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.

The 2023 Mark Charity Dinner Dance, Cha Di Da

Saturday. 28 October 2023 at the Reigate Manor Hotel, Reigate Hill, Surrey RH2 9PF.

Arrival is at 6:30 for 7:00 pm

Carriages at 12 midnight

Entertainment: Jason Allen (Michael Buble Tribute) followed by Jahson Nembhard (formerly of the Drifters)



Menu

Starter

- Wild mushroom soup (ve)
- Chicken liver pate, toasted brioche, chutney
- Prawn cocktail, Mary Rose sauce, lemon wedge and brown bread (v)

Main Course

- Coq au vin, crushed new potatoes, seasonal vegetables
- Roast sirloin of beef, roasted potatoes, seasonal vegetables, red wine jus
- Baked salmon fillet, white wine cream sauce, new potatoes, fine green beans
- Mushroom risotto, rocket salad (ve) (v)

Dessert

- Seasonal fruit trifle
- Citrus cheesecake, berry compote Eton mess
- Cheese and biscuits
- Tea, coffee and chocolate mints to finish

Tickets for the event are £60 per person and include a three course meal. Bed & Breakfast at the Reigate Manor Hotel - double room £120.

[Click here](#) to download the pdf booking form.

Contact: W.Bro. Alan Brockwell: T: 01737 557997 | M: 07868 657276 | E: Brockers01@icloud.com

Social Media Guidelines



With our relatively new Pro Grand Masters in both the Craft and the Mark, we are continuing our close working relationship with our Brethren at Freemasons' Hall.

While we enjoy and encourage our members' enthusiasm for our Orders, it's important that we are mindful where and how we share our passion for Freemasonry.

Please ensure that any posts on social media about the Companion Orders are either restricted to groups, pages and websites that are open to all Orders or, if destined for Craft specific areas, are posted via a moderator to ensure they are a welcome additions to the news feed.

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](#)

[2029 Durham](#)

[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.

The 2029 Festival Stewardship Jewel for Durham is now in stock and available for delivery.

















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](http://prefer.status.sharp)