

Freemasonry@86 News 13 October 2023



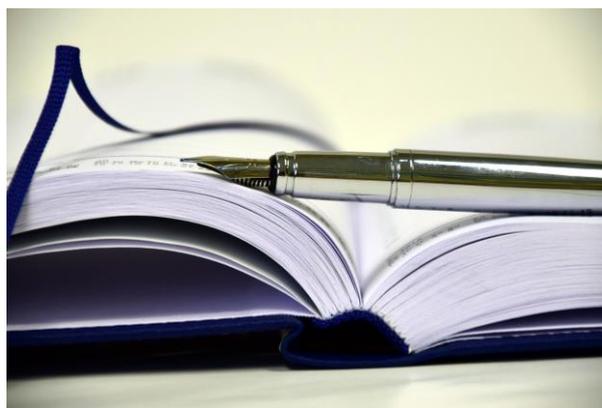
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Companion Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

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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.

Monday, 16 October - O.S.M./S.C. Consecrations of Sagittarii Britanniae Conclave No. 634 & Invictus Consistory No. 149 Province of Staffordshire & Shropshire/Midland Counties

Friday, 20 & Saturday, 21 October - S.C. Consecrations of Bene Dic Consistory No. 147, Lugdunum Consistory No. 148, Burdigala Consistory No. 150, and Jerusalem Consistory No. 151 in the Inspectorate of France

Tuesday, 24 October - A.M.D. Annual Meeting of Grand Council, Freemasons' Hall, London [Click Here](#) for more details

Saturday, 28 October - Mark Installation of V.W.Bro. John Trevor Bolton, P.G.J.O., as Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire

Thursday, 9 November - O.S.M. Annual Convocation of Grand Conclave, Freemasons' Hall, London [Click Here](#) for more details

Thursday, 16 November - S.C. Installation of Dist.Comp. Terence Douglas Sheern, Prov.G.Reg., as Prov.G.S. for Essex

Saturday, 18 November - A.M.D. Installation of W.Bro. Lawrence James Hinde, P.G.S.D., as District Grand Prefect for Cumberland and Westmorland

Tuesday, 21 November - K.T. Chapter of Great Priory of Malta, Freemasons' Hall, London [Click Here](#) for more details

Monday, 4 December - K.B.H.C. Consecration of Verulamium Lodge of S.M.S.A. No. 22, Prefecture of Anglo-Saxon

Monday, 11 December - R.A.M. Annual Assembly, Freemasons' Hall, London [Click Here](#) for more details

Wednesday, 13 December - R.S.M. Consecration of Lancashire Council of Anointed Kings No. 344, District of Lancashire

The Grand President of the Mark Benevolent Fund, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, visits Addenbrookes Hospital



In his capacity as Grand President of the Mark Benevolent Fund, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, *GCVO*, paid a visit to Addenbrookes Hospital, [@actcharity](#), to formally dedicate their new Surgical Robot. The Mark Benevolent Fund made a significant grant of £100,000 towards the £1.5m project to purchase a new upgraded Da Vinci XI surgical robot to assist in cancer surgery at the world leading

complex in Cambridge. Prince Michael had the opportunity to use a demonstration model of the surgical robot and after a short period of tuition he began very adept with the equipment.

Tom Gull, Head of Trusts at the Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust charity said, *'We were delighted that you could visit. It is really important that we mark these significant milestones, and I know that the team were grateful for the opportunity to thank you all for your role in the new surgical robot. We are also really pleased that HRH Prince Michael of Kent enjoyed the day – it was fantastic that you could all have a play on the robot.'*

We will keep you updated on the ongoing impact of the robot, as well as the broader progress at Addenbrooke's. The Mark Benevolent Fund have made such generous contributions to the development of the hospital over the years and so I hope you feel a part of the incredible things that happen on the Biomedical Campus.'

I am sure that all Mark Master Masons can feel proud of the work taking place at this most important hospital.

During our visit were able to learn more about the equipment, projects and future development from senior members of the charity and the hospital from

- Shelly Thake – CEO, Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust
- Mike More – Chair, Cambridge University Hospitals
- Sylvana Windsor, Countess of St Andrews – Patron, Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust

Later in the visit, we met members of the surgical team:

- Grant Stewart - Professor of Surgical Oncology
- Michael Powar – Consultant Colorectal Surgeon
- Claire Holmes – Operations Manager for Cancer

From the Mark Benevolent Fund His Royal Highness was joined by the Honorary Secretary of the MBF, R.W.Bro. Ryan Williams, *OStJ*, P.G.J.W., the President of the MBF, R.W.Bro. Archie Torrance, P.Prov.G.M., (Kent), and W.Bro. Darren Coleman-Heald, P.G.S.D., Charities Manager at Mark Masons' Hall.

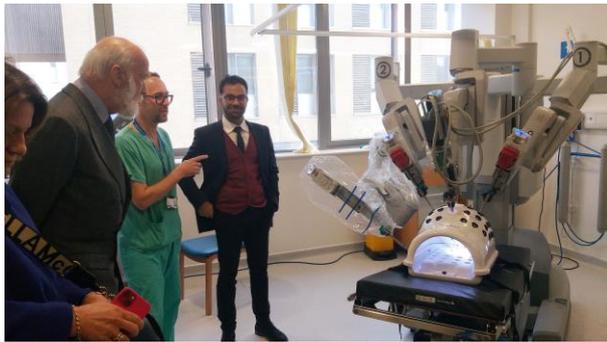
Please look out for further updates as we receive them.

Article and pictures by W.Bro. Darren Coleman-Heald, P.G.S.D., Charities Manager at Mark Masons' Hall

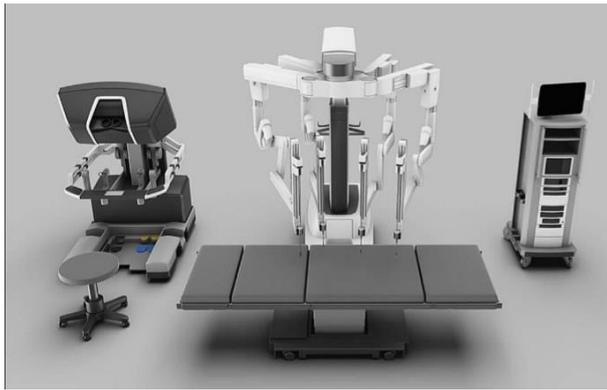


















Mark Benevolent Fund



ADDENBROOKE'S CHARITABLE TRUST

Supporting the new **£100,000** £1.5m Surgical Robot

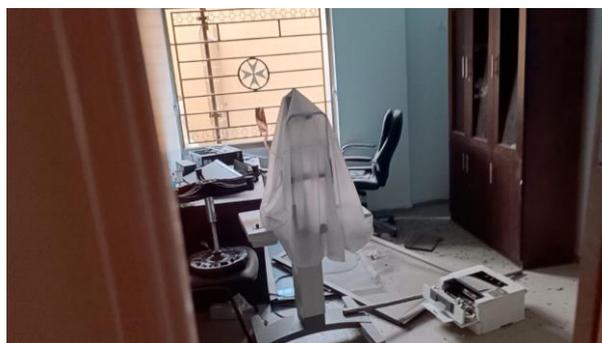


Ryan A. Williams
Ryan A. Williams
Honorary Secretary

@ACTcharity
@MarkMasonsHall
#Freemasonry



An update from Dr Ahmad Ma'ali, CEO St John Eye Hospital Group in the Holy Land



Holy Land Crisis Update

The last two nights witnessed yet another heightening in the level of air strikes on Gaza. The whole neighborhood where our hospital is, has been demolished including major parts of the university opposite the hospital. On our street, we are the only building that remains standing! However, as a result there has been some considerable damage to the interior of the hospital in the form of collateral damage. The Hospital was not directly hit but all the surrounding buildings were hit using what seems to be massive airpower! The attached pictures give some indication of the level of damage our hospital has sustained. We are not able to carry out a proper assessment, but the obvious damage needs a lot of renovation work etc.

Of course, the Gaza Hospital has been closed since the start of the escalation/crisis and our staff (those we were able to reach) are safe. One of the nurses sadly lost her brother from an airstrike near where they live.

It is obvious that even when the war is over, we will not be able to resume work quickly as the roads are closed with the rubble of the buildings around us. I suspect some good number of weeks will be needed before patients and staff can safely access the Hospital.

As for Jerusalem- we have only skeleton staff on duty because there is a drastic reduction in the number of patients reaching the Hospital. I think the decline may reach even 95% of the usual level of work we have in Jerusalem.

As for the West Bank centers and hospital, there is an almost 80% decline in clinical activities. This drop in the number of patients seen and operated on is due to very strict movement restrictions that have been imposed on all cities and major roads in the West Bank and it is obvious that people are terrified of travelling.

To date, more than 2000 people have lost their lives from both sides.

It is likely that the coming few days/weeks will witness yet more escalation in the level of military actions in Gaza.

We pray for an end to this crisis.

Thank you for all your kind and continued care.



Ahmad Ma'ali
CEO of SJEHG

11th October 2023



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Tel: +972 (0) 2 5828225
Fax: +972 (0) 2 5828227

www.stjohnseyehospitals.org
Registered Amara No. 580060398



The update above has been circulated by our friend Dr Ahmad Ma'ali, CEO at the St John Eye Hospital Group following the recent news of the difficulties faced in the region.

Our thoughts are with the staff as those at the Jerusalem and West Bank hospitals try to continue to care for their patients and carry out their much needed work in such extreme circumstances.



A big day day for River Plate



On 7 October 2023, in the Grand Temple of Argentina, a ceremony took place, in which the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Argentina, Most Worshipful Brother Pablo Lázzaro, the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree for the Republic of Argentina, Powerful and Illustrious Brother Norberto Rosini, and the Three Grand Principals of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Argentina, Most Excellent Companions Esteban Nerguizian, Jorge Riccio, and Fernando Vallejos, were advanced in the Patrons Saints Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 746, in a ceremony presided over by the District Grand Master for River Plate, R.W.Bro. Ernesto Alberto Marcer, accompanied by District Grand Officers.

This is a demonstration of the Brotherhood that exists among the regular Orders working in Argentina. Following this, the meeting of the District Grand Lodge took place, where District Officers were invested, with the presence of our newly advanced Brothers.

Marking Well in the District of River Plate.

With thanks to W.Bro. Carlos Stefanizzi, P.G.St.B., Dist.G.Sec.





Unity Lodge of M.M.M. No. 783 celebrates its Centenary



A wonderful centenary meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Crediton on Thursday, 5 October 2023 to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Unity Lodge of Mark Master Masons 783, with more than 80 brethren attending

After the lodge was opened in due form, our Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother David Charles Purdie, along with his executive and a number of Active Officers took their places within the temple. The Worshipful Master, Worshipful Brother David White handed the gavel to the PGM who then took the chair of Adoniram.

The Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Francis Charles Spencer was then welcomed into the temple to rapturous acclamation, and he subsequently took the chair of Adoniram for the ceremony.

The reading of the ancient warrant was eloquently undertaken by the Provincial Grand Secretary, Worshipful Brother Christopher Elliot, followed by a short narration of the history of the Unity Lodge, ably undertaken by Worshipful Brother Ian Lanyon, the Lodge Secretary. The centenary warrant was read by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, Worshipful Brother Adrian Cleightonhills.

The Deputy Grand Master then presented the Worshipful Master with the Centenary Warrant, and two new ashlar were then dedicated for use within the Unity Mark Lodge. The Deputy Grand Master took the opportunity, before completing the ceremony, to invite each member of Unity Lodge to the pedestal, and congratulate them individually on this special evening. A wonderful moment for all of the brethren.

The birthday ceremony being ended, before he retired, the Deputy Grand Master then undertook two surprise presentations. These were in the form of collarettes being presented in recognition of the donations being made to the Mark Benevolent Fund.

Worshipful Brother David White, the W.M. of Unity Lodge 783, received the Collarette of a Grand Patron, and Worshipful Brother Brett Varker, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, received the Diamond Collarette. A remarkable achievement by both Brethren, and for the recognition of their contributions to charitable causes.

The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren retired to the St Boniface centre for an excellent Festive board.

Congratulations to W.Bro. Ian Lanyon, and W.Bro John Musty, The Lodge Director of Ceremonies, along with all the other Brethren involved in organising this wonderful evening.

With thanks to W.Bro. Jon Webber, Prov.A.G.Sec. designate













Essex gains its 41st Royal Ark Mariner Lodge



The Province of Essex continues to go from strength to strength with the consecration of its 41st Royal Ark Mariner Lodge. The Ceremony was carried out by R.W.Bro. Terence D. Sheern Prov.G.M assisted by his Provincial Officers in fine form.

The meeting was honoured with a visit by R.W.Bro. Jean Verbist District Grand Master for Belgium.

You can read the full article [Here](#)

Pictured, R.W.Bro. Terence D. Sheern, Prov.G.M.; W.Bro. Gordon MacLean, Primus Commander; and R.W.Bro Jean Verbist.

With thanks to W.Bro. Dave Todd, P.Prov.G.Stwd.

An invitation from Cyprus



Dear Sir and Brother,

I have much pleasure, on behalf of the District Grand Master designate, W.Bro. Andrew Theocharous, in extending a cordial invitation to you, to attend the Annual Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Cyprus, at which the Installation of the District Grand Master designate will take place.

The Annual Communication will be held on Saturday, 18 November 2023 at the Ajax Hotel, Limassol, commencing at 5.30 p.m. It will be followed by a White Table Dinner at the same Hotel commencing at 8 p.m.

For more details, please [Click Here](#)

I would kindly ask that attendance booking form is returned to me at the above email address by no later than 7 November 2023.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

W.Bro. Angelos Kyriacoudes, Dist.G.Sec., District Grand Secretary

Email: dgsec@markmasonscyprus.email

Successful Installations at Silhill Lodges



Last week the Silhill Lodges of M.M.M. and R.A.M. installed a new Master and Commander, now W.Bro. Hardip S Ubhi.

The outgoing Master, W.Bro. John Hallett, was ably assisted by the Dep.Prov.G.M., W.Bro. Andrew Armbrister, and Lodge Secretary, W.Bro. Mark Thomas, making a wonderful ceremony enjoyed by some 30+ Brethren in attendance.

No less than four Right Worshipful Brethren were in support, including our own Prov.G.M., Phil Wills, and Kevin Spencer from nearby Staffs & Shrops making his first of two incursions into Warwickshire.

W.Bro. Hardip has been a star of our Provincial LOI Festivals for several years so who better to rule the two units? A couple of days later Hardip was installed as Commander of Silhill R.A.M. in an exemplary manner by outgoing Commander, W.Bro. Andy Creese, much admired by virtually the same audiences as the Mark Installation. Once again a bevy of Right Worshipful Brethren and the entire Warwickshire 'Chain Gang' were in attendance.

With thanks to W.Bro. Martin Grahame-Dunn, P.A.G.D.C.



1 - Hardip with the Warwickshire chains



2 - With Prov.G.M. Phil Wills



3 - With Mark Thomas



4 - With Andrew Armbrister



5 - With Andy Creese



6 - With John Hallett





7 - With Kevin Spencer



8 - With Phil Wills



9 - With Phil and Andrew



10 - Silhill R.A.M. Lodge

Charities round up



It's a Dogs Life in the O.S.M. Province of West Yorkshire



On Thursday, 28 September 2023 a donation was made from the West Yorkshire O.S.M. Benevolent fund to the Support Dogs UK charity based in Sheffield. This donation received Match Funding from the central O.S.M. Benevolent fund at Mark Masons' Hall so enabling a total donation of £1,000 to be made.

The cheque was presented by the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for West Yorkshire, R.Wy.Bro. David Staniforth, together with Bro. Darren Coleman-Heald, Charities Manager at Mark Masons' Hall, to volunteer Gill Wilkinson and support dogs Derek (left) and Nikki.

Support Dogs (Sheffield) is a small charity providing support to people affected by autism, epilepsy, and physical disability in order that they can enjoy a greater level of independence.

They aim to do this by giving training and support to individuals by the provision of a registered support dog. They do not charge for their services, nor do they receive any government or NHS funding and rely entirely on voluntary donations.

The branch currently has just over 200 volunteers and is currently working with 117 families and supporting the training of 52 dogs. Last year the charity provided over 600,000 hours of care for children and adults affected by autism, epilepsy, and disability.

Dany Anderson – the Charities Fundraising Manager commented:

“Providing a support dog to an individual has certain cost requirements amounting to £70 per dog, in order that they can work safely with their charges Your donation will help us to fully equip 14 dogs. This is tremendous support for which we are very grateful”.

Find out more about Support Dogs UK [Here](#)

Thanks to R.Wy.Bro. Dave Staniforth, P.G.S.R. for West Yorkshire for the article













OSM Benevolent Fund
Match Funding Program



WEST YORKSHIRE

SUPPORT DOGS UK (Sheffield)

Helping dog
families with
training kit,
food and
bedding

£1,000



Ryan A. Williams
Ryan A. Williams, OStJ
Grand Recorder
@supportdogssuk
@MarkMasonsHall
#Freemasonry



Join us on Social Media

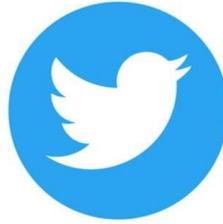
Social Media is becoming an increasingly important platform for how we get to hear about what is going on further afield in all of our Orders, and how we share the most up-to-date information with members. If your Province/District/Division has a Facebook Page/Group or Twitter Feed, or if you represent 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	FMI, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 AM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council - Imperial Conclave	Tuesday, 18 April 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM	3:00 PM
SC	Grand Semaius	Thursday, 4 May 2023	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM	3:00 PM
KT	Great Priory	Wednesday, 17 May 2023	FMI, 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 & List	Tuesday, 23 June 2023	FMI, 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	FMI, 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 Principles	Tuesday, 12 September 2023	FMI, 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 Grand Priory	Tuesday, 3 October 2023	FMI, 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	FMI, 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	FMI, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT - Maha	Great Priory of Malta	Tuesday, 21 November 2023	FMI, 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	FMI, 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

06/09/2023

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

MBF Festival Cheshire 2024



The image displays two heraldic crests. The top crest is a shield with a blue and gold border, featuring a central gold shield with a red cross and a crown above it. The text 'MARK BENEVOLENT FUND' is at the top and 'CHESHIRE 2024' is at the bottom. The bottom crest is a shield with a blue and gold border, featuring a central gold shield with a red cross and a crown above it. The text 'STEWARDSHIP' is at the top, 'MARK BENEVOLENT FUND' is in a banner across the middle, '2024' is below the banner, and 'CHESHIRE' is at the bottom.

156th MBF Festival Banquet
will be held at the
Concorde Conference Centre
Wilmslow Old Rd, Altrincham
WA15 8XQ
Saturday, 6 July 2024

BOOK HERE



Stewardship Jewels

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

[2024 Cheshire](#)

[2025 Oxfordshire](#)

[2026 Hampshire & IOW](#)

[2027 Warwickshire](#)

[2028 Somerset](#)

[2029 Durham](#)

[2030 Essex](#)

[2031 Northumberland](#)

We have added the bank account name to all the forms so please use the latest form and details as found in the links above.















We reported recently that the new style MBF Festival Stewardship is aimed principally, but not exclusively, at members of each host Festival Province.

In return for a qualifying donation of £100, each Steward will be entitled to:

- A distinctive Stewards' breast jewel, year bar and pocket jewel holder.
- Inclusion of their name in the Festival Stewards' Roll of Honour in the Festival booklet
- And for individuals making their first donation under the scheme, qualification as a Life Governor of the Mark Benevolent Fund – the first step on the ladder of honorifics.

Monies raised by the take-up of Festival Stewardships will, of course, be included in each respective Festival total.



The Mark Emergency Relief Fund allows you to make donations in a variety of ways to the Ukraine Fund and the Türkiye / Syria earthquake and the recent Morocco earthquake (via our partners ShelterBox).

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](#)

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, M.M.H. Charities Finance Manager at L.Read@mmh.org.uk and Finance Assistant, Millie Pilson, M.Pilson@mmh.org.uk

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

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





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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