

Freemasonry@86 News - 16 October 2020



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

This bulletin is emailed to all 'leaders' in the Provinces, Districts & Divisions and their Secretariats.

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A New District Grand Master for the Mark in Hong Kong



Andrew Ritchie, District Grand Secretary, tells us:

On the morning of Saturday, 10 October R.W.Bro. Patrick Purnell-Edwards was installed as District Grand Master for Hong Kong, and installed W.Bro. Buddy Wong as his Deputy.

¹<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

The installation meeting was followed by a lunchtime banquet. In compliance with Hong Kong's current Covid-19 restrictions, seating was limited to 4 per table, with distancing between tables, and masks were permitted to be removed while eating and drinking.



Left to right - W.Bro. Buddy Wong, Dep.Dist.G.M.; R.W.Bro. Patrick Purnell-Edwards, Dist.G.M.; and R.W.Bro. Herbert Tsoi, P.Dist.G.M., Installing Officer.



Left to right - R.W.Bro. Kenneth Tan, P.Dist.G.M.; W.Bro. Buddy Wong, Dep.Dist.G.M.; R.W.Bro. Patrick Purnell-Edwards, Dist.G.M.; and R.W.Bro. Herbert Tsoi, P.Dist.G.M.



Red Cross of Constantine Division of Sussex keep up the good work



On Friday 2nd October 2020, R.III.Kt. Paul Rose, Intendant-General for Sussex was back in action, attending the Dame Vera Lynn Children's charity HQ in Cuckfield, East Sussex and presented a cheque in the sum of £2,500 from the Grand Sovereign's Care For Children Fund on behalf of his Division.

Paul was met by Carole Whorwood, the Charities Community Innovation Fundraiser, who accepted the cheque on behalf of the charity.

The Charity helps children under the age of 5 years with cerebral palsy and other motor learning impairments make the best possible start in life and give families the support and skills to continue their development at home.

They provide an early intervention service based on the methodology of Conductive Education. This involves parents and children working together in a supportive environment, focusing on improving

a child's physical, social and emotional skills. Sessions are hand-on structured and one-to-one or small groups as required. No formal diagnosis or referral is necessary to access these services which are offered to families free of charge.

Their Transdisciplinary team includes a Conductor, Session Lead and an Outreach Support Worker.

Specific services include small group Conductive Education sessions, music therapy, swimming, sensory sessions and messy play, portage home play and parent support. Each child has learning goals which focus on: fine motor skills, gross motor skills, communication, social skills, emotional well-being, self-care skills, support at home and Resources.

Paul said he was extremely pleased to make the presentation of the cheque for £2,500 from the Grand Sovereigns care for children fund, as it will be well used and will benefit those using the facilities. He added that, during his visit, he had been reminded that although we all know of these charities, we do not really appreciate the huge amount of work that they undertake. Clearly, there is a great need for the early intervention services that the Charity provides and the skills learnt will enable children to develop their skills and learn how to become as independent as they can be.

While in Dorset and Wiltshire...



On Saturday, 10 October at 10:30 a.m. the Division of Dorset and Wiltshire held a Divisional Virtual Business Meeting in lieu of the Annual Meeting which would normally have been held on that day.

37 Knights of the Division including representatives from the executive of the Divisions of Durham, Hertfordshire, Kent and Nottinghamshire were present.

All necessary business of the Division was carried out including a very interesting address on The Parable of the Wedding Banquet, (Matthew ch 22 vs 1 – 14) given by the Divisional High Prelate Harry Barnes.

Members of the Division continue to meet regularly each month using video conferencing.

Grand Master of The Royal and Select Masters, M.III.Comp. Kessick Jones, sends his blessings and best wishes to Companions of the Order, along with a message from the Grand Chaplain

A Thought of Hope

I am sure that most of us are familiar with the Biblical story of the Exodus, when the Children of Israel were able to escape from their Egyptian bondage, led by that wonderfully heroic character, Moses. It must have taken an enormous amount of faith in that one man, coupled with the deep-felt

hope that indeed they were going to be led to new and better future, to enable them simply to forego everything around them and set off on their perilous journey.

I am equally sure that there is not one of us who has not been affected in some way or another during the very difficult times that we have endured these past months. And, just as we thought that the tidal wave of infection was receding, so we have witnessed a resurgence that once again threatens our freedom and well-being.

But Moses did not succumb to the threats of the Pharaoh. The destructive effects of the pestilence and plague passed over the Israelites, and, we are told, forty years later they were able to enjoy their promised reward. Whether they were still following the same Moses, is, of course, a matter of considerable doubt, but that must be another story. The essence of the drama and the untold difficulties they encountered resulted in their eventual arrival at the Promised land.

We have no desire to struggle for 40 years and there is every expectation that we shall be able, with both care and fortitude, to overcome our present affliction. Sadly, we shall, invariably, lose some of our loved ones on our unpredictable journey, and we shall remember them always in our thoughts and prayers. But, although we know that on that journey, we do walk on the ashes of those who have gone before us, there still lies ahead that glimmering ray of hope that “these things shall be, a loftier race than e’er the world hath known shall rise”.

Let us not lose sight of that hope, that, in due time and in due place, we shall indeed meet again.

V.III.Comp. Dr Vivian Thomas, *JP*, Grand Chaplain.

Busy in Barbados



Star of the West Preceptory of Knights Templar No. 77 had its Election meeting this month.

Eminent Preceptor Gregory P.B. Nicholls was elected to be the Preceptor for a second year. There were ten Knights present and the Preceptory is putting plans in place to have a meeting next month to admit a Candidate.

Also earlier this month, Millennium Conclave No. 455 O.S.M. held their election meeting. In attendance was the District Grand Supreme Ruler R.Wy.Bro. Ian C.G. Foster and sixteen Brethren.



News from the A.M.D. District of Spain



For the first time the District of Spain held a District Assembly as an on-line Virtual Business Meeting. It was fantastic to see so many members in attendance on Saturday, 19 September, with it attracting over half of the District's membership, with every Council represented, from the length and breadth and the Islands of Spain, which this exceptionally large District covers.

The District now has 9 Councils working and another one in the Barcelona area, in the planning stage. The District enjoys a 50-50 split in Spanish speaking to English Speaking Councils, and in some of these, we have Brethren who are working in harmony across the language barrier.

The District Grand Prefect, R.W. Bro. Barrie Roy Mansell, was pleased to appoint a number of brethren to new offices, showing that he has no intention of letting this District 'Standstill' during this period of great uncertainty.

Amongst those being promoted was Ian Michael Crawford, moving to Deputy District Grand Prefect. Ian had previously been the District Grand Junior Warden and before that the District Grand Secretary. The District Grand Prefect also appointed 2 new, but very experienced brethren to the Warden Offices, W. Bro. Rodney Hales as Dist.G.S.W. and W. Bro. Vicente Climente-Valero as Dist.G.J.W.

The Zoom meeting was a great chance for the members of the District to catch-up with old and new friends, before and after the 'Official Business' was conducted, even having a 'Break-Out Room' to cater for those who were predominantly Spanish speaking.

The general consensus was that this on-line meeting was a GREAT SUCCESS, especially as it was conducted in both the English and Spanish language.

During the District Grand Prefect's address, congratulations were also given to 3 of our brethren who are to receive Grand Honours they are, W.Bro's Michael Banks, Neville Jarrett & Ashwin Sumaria, all receiving 1st time appointments, to Past Grand Inner Guard.

In conclusion, they say 'Every cloud has a silver lining' well that is as may be!!, we certainly have had our fair share of cloud in 2020, but looking at the positives, we certainly found those in abundance with this fantastic coming together of Allied Masonic Masons, this harmonious gathering really did our District proud and was a credit to our members.

Two Knights Templar Newsletters of interest

This week we have received the following newsletters of interest, particularly to those involved in the Knights Templar. Knightly Topics, the newsletter of the Provincial Priory of London; and Jerusalem Scene, the newsletter of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital - in which our Order gets a feature.

KnightlyTopics

Issue 38
Provincial Priory of London



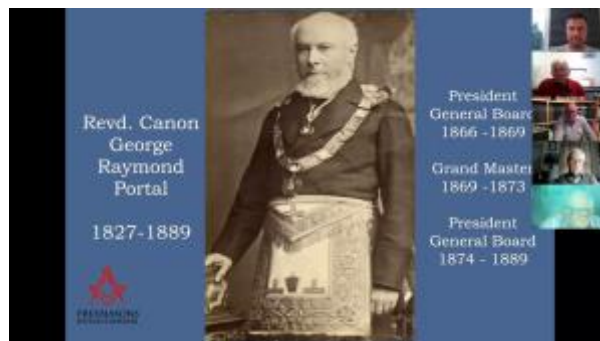
Click Here to download the full copy of Knightly Topics²

²<https://londonknights Templar.com/wp-content/uploads/Knightly-Topics-38-October-2020.pdf>



Click Here to download the full copy of Jerusalem Scene³

R.W.Bro. Richard Gan joins Freemasons Without Borders to give a talk on the two Mark Masons' Halls and the two that never were



<https://youtu.be/oXAGedfBOKg>

³[http://download.mmh.org.uk/Jerusalem_Scene_2020\(1\).pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/Jerusalem_Scene_2020(1).pdf)

Across Social Media

On the Podcasts - We have curated the full collection of Brother. Beyond the Craft Podcasts for you to share with anyone interested in our Orders.

[Click Here To Launch⁴](#)



brother.
beyond the craft.

On Facebook - Freemasons Without Borders get ready to learn more about our friends and Brethren in the Operatives

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:

⁴<https://sway.office.com/n6FO1p3BFcI9rBaU?ref=Link>

Facebook - Mark Secretariat⁵ - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page⁶

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall⁷

Or you can email us at communications@mmh.org.uk⁸

The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now exceeded £35,000.00



You can support the Eye Hospital by making a £20 donation. Just [Click Here](#)⁹ or use the Text Donate facility below.

100 per cent of donations will be given to St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group to support their vital work. To recognise your generosity and support, The Great Priory of Knights Templar is sending a limited-edition Swift tie/lapel pin to every donor.

The Swift pins are now being posted out but please bear with us as we are only in the office one day per week to carry out this task so some deliveries will take longer than others. Thank you for your patience.



**The Knights Templar
20 for 2020 Appeal**



Text KT2042020 to 70500 to donate £20

All monies donated to this text number go towards the **The Knights Templar 20 for 2020 Appeal**

For a text donation, you will be charged for one standard text message plus your donation of £20. Always get the bill payer's permission. The Relief Chest will receive 100% of your donation. If you do not want to be contacted by text in the future, add the words NO INFC when texting your donation. All donations are administered by the Relief Chest Scheme (Grand Charity Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 020 3146 3362. Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1164703, Company No. 00751836

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⁵<https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

⁶<https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

⁷<https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

⁸<mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

⁹<http://everydayhero.co.uk/event/KT2042020>

MBF Festival 2021



East Lancashire Province, hosts of the **153rd Mark Benevolent Fund Annual Festival in 2021**, have produced a unique **Souvenir Festival Calendar** for the year **2021** and copies are now available.

These large, wall hanging calendars feature twelve contrasting prints of iconic sights in East Lancashire, commencing with the beauty of Pendle Hill in January and ending with Manchester's colourful Christmas Market in December. The 12 original watercolours were painted by Annette Young over the past four years specially for this calendar without cost to the Province. Calendars are priced at £10 each and all proceeds will go to the MBF.

So, let us brighten your kitchen or office wall and at the same time provide much needed support for our Mark Benevolent Fund. Why not purchase several more copies to send to friends and family at Christmas?

Thank you very much for your support.



The calendar measures: 318mm x 228mm folded – 318mm x 456mm open

To order:

By email: eastlancscalendars@gmail.com¹⁰ By telephone: 07766731307

Payment by **cheque to East Lancs Mark 2021 Festival** – post to:

¹⁰<mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com>

East Lancs Calendars. 47 St Leonards Way, Woore, Crewe. CW39SS

Or contact them for electronic payment details

And don't forget, Stewardship, Badge and Festival orders can be places as well.

Click Here¹¹ for the Stewardship and Festival Badge Form

Click Here¹² for the complete Festival pack

And you can visit the Province of East Lancashire's website Here¹³

The Shop@86 is now open



As well as being able to accept online orders, we are pleased to announce the Shop@86 is now open to visitors, initially from 1p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday.

For those who have received appointment to, or promotion in, Grand Rank - you may still place your order using the methods outlined in the form provided with your offer letter.

Please note: orders will be dispatched as soon as possible but may be subject to delays caused by Covid-19 restrictions.

Visit the Shop@86 website Here¹⁴

¹¹https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Stewardship_Badge_Form.pdf

¹²https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Festival_Complete_Forms_Pack.pdf

¹³<http://www.wordpress.eastlancsmark.org/?p=11465>

¹⁴<https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>



Business as usual for the Staff@86

The 4th Floor at Mark Masons' Hall may be quieter than usual while travel is somewhat restricted but, whether working from home or in the office, all departments and teams are available on email to help and support as usual.

