



## Freemasonry@86 News - 18 December 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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<sup>1</sup><mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>



## The Grand Master's Special Award

At a specially convened Zoom meeting held on Tuesday, 15 December, the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Raymond John Smith, was delighted to confer promotion in, or first appointment to, Mark Grand Rank upon the following recipients of the Grand Master's Special Award in recognition of their outstanding community service during Covid-19. Our hearty congratulations to all these Brethren.

### **Past Grand Senior Deacon**

Anthony Francis John Ball - Warwickshire

Ian Michael Crawford - Spain

Thomas Hodgson - Cumberland & Westmorland

Adrian Carl Hutt - Worcestershire

Fraser McPherson - West Yorkshire

Michael John Pescod - Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire

Clive Stephen Weston - Leicestershire & Rutland

### **Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies**

Frans Cornelius Alwyn Roodt - Natal

Graham Peter Dearing - Buckinghamshire

### **Past Grand Standard Bearer**

Patrick Donald Burrige - Hampshire & Isle of Wight

David Arthur Day - The Transvaal

David John Dixon - Somerset

Keri John Evans - South Wales

David Charles Greenway - Derbyshire

Brian Peter Hamley - Bristol

Paul Jones - Devonshire

Stephen Jones - Derbyshire

Trevor John Edward Quartermaine - Somerset



## Kent MBF Festival 2020

A fantastic total for the Province of Kent 2020 MBF Festival - £2,050,879.

This, the 152nd MBF Festival, was due to be celebrated at a gala dinner in July, which has now been postponed until the Province can gather in September 2021.

Here are two videos, produced by W.Bro. David King, Dep.G.Insp.Wks., which show many ways in which the money was raised, and the worthy causes it has been used to support.

Congratulations to everyone who aided the Province in reaching this total.





<https://youtu.be/II9z-7PjDYY>



<https://youtu.be/ihwqRc7wHFU>

## **£4,000 Grant awarded by the M.B.F. to Fund Leicestershire & Rutland's Mark Keystone Festive Hampers**



With the success of the Keystone Box Scheme run earlier this year by the Mark Masons of Leicestershire and Rutland thanks to a generous funding grant from the M.B.F., at its conclusion it was hoped that the worst of the lockdown and the impacts of the pandemic had passed. Sadly, the impacts of the pandemic are well entrenched and for what could well turn out to be until well into the new year, and the situation for so many this Christmas is shaping up to be pretty bleak.

To make a difference in the lives of our most vulnerable Mark Masons and our widows spread across the Province, having put together a proposal for funding support, Provincial Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Phillip Mann is delighted that the Mark Benevolent Fund's Worthy Causes Committee awarded our Province a grant of £4,000 to fund a one-off distribution on Sunday 20th December of Keystone Festive Hampers filled with a range of seasonal goodies.

Grateful thanks go to the Charities Manager at Mark Masons' Hall, W. Bro. Darren Coleman-Heald and the Committee for their prompt response and award, and as earlier in the year, the Provincial

Grand Charity Steward W. Bro. Clive Weston and Provincial Grand Secretary W. Bro. Peter Gibson-Leitch who together set up and managed the original scheme are bringing their expertise to bear to do the same again, and have been able to call on the kindness and the 'Spirit of the Mark' to raise a team of well over fifty volunteers and delivery drivers drawn from our membership to pack and sort the hampers and deliver them to the doorsteps in time for Christmas.

## Helping out in Hong Kong



On Friday, 18 December, R.W.Bro. Patrick Purnell-Edwards, District Grand Master for Hong Kong, visited the Duchess of Kent Children's Hospital to present a cheque from the District for the purchase of an Otoacoustic Emission System (to be used in the audiology department), and also to deliver soft toys donated by members of P C Woo Lodge No. 721 at their recent installation. Because of Covid-19 the traditional visit by the Royal Ark Mariner brethren to present the toys to the patients in the wards was not possible. Indeed, the toys will be quarantined for 7 days, so will barely reach the children in time for Christmas Day.

Pictured with the District Grand Master are Magdalena Cheung (Society for the Relief of Disabled Children) and Isadora Wong (GM of the hospital group).

The Assistant Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Steve Davison, visited the same hospital in June 2019, and afterwards very generously proposed a donation by the Mark Benevolent Fund for the purchase of a Metatherapy Treatment System, which is now in use.

## The R.C.C. Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund match funded £500 raised by the Surrey Division



Jane Hunnoble Head of Fundraising and Marketing for Cherry Trees said “You know it’s Christmas when a supporter calls in to tell you they are donating not just one cheque for £500 but with the promise of an additional one to follow.

The support of The Masonic Order and Military Order of The Red Cross of Constantine is greatly welcomed in the lead up to Christmas and our sincere thanks to all of their members for making a donation to Cherry Trees. There are many charities out there, but when we are chosen to receive a donation it makes a big difference to all our hard work and efforts to keep on supporting our families. It has been a huge year for us, remaining open every day to date during COVID-19, welcoming new families and reaching our 40th year.

All possible thanks to the consistent, caring and generous support of people like yourselves. Big thank you on behalf of us all and best wishes for the New Year to come.”

## And staying in Surrey, The A.M.D. District Meeting was enjoyed via Zoom



You can read a full report on the District website [Here](#)<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup><http://www.alliedmasonicdegrees.co.uk/news-0110.html>



## The O.S.M. Province of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire launches its new website



On Thursday, 17 December at 8.30pm R.Wy.Bro. Howard Markham, Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for the O.S.M. Province of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, hosted a festive celebration on Zoom for the entire province which included a launch of their new provincial website.

The evening started with an introduction by R.Wy.Bro. Howard Markham followed by computer graphics leading to a countdown and then the website was launched.

A tour was given of the website followed by communal festive singing. The festive toast was given by the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Wy.Bro. John Wickes and then an address by the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler. The evening concluded with a general chat and was enjoyed by all.

To view the website please follow this link <http://www.osmbch.org.uk>

## Keeping busy in Barbados

E.Kt. Richard Mayers, O.G.R., tells us "We had a great meeting at Star of the West Preceptory No.77 on Friday night. The Eminent Preceptor, Gregory P.B. Nicholls, had the support of twelve Officers and one Scottish Knight in the person of Fr. Major Alfred Taylor of Scotia Preceptory No.93".

"The new Kt., Matthew Clarke, is pictured (left) with me. "



"I did some Masonic Duties this morning at the Barbados Defence Force Clock Tower with a donation of \$1200.00 / £475.00 in what we call healthy food; ripe and cooking bananas, pumpkins and two types of sweet potatoes, to the Barbados Heart and Stroke Foundation food hampers drive for the needy, promoting healthy eating. This is the second time this year."

"There are also donations every week since March, to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church and the Psychiatric Hospital food bank. Some weeks the donation is over \$1600.00 / £600.00."







## Newsletter activity from around the Country

Two Newsletter this week, from Staffordshire and Shropshire. [Click Here<sup>3</sup>](#) to view the full issue.

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<sup>3</sup>[http://download.mmh.org.uk/Making\\_Our\\_Mark.pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/Making_Our_Mark.pdf)



## MAKING OUR MARK

The Newsletter of Staffordshire & Shropshire Mark Master Masons



*Dear Brethren All,*

Christmas is traditionally a time of peace and joy when we welcome the birth of Jesus in humble circumstances in Bethlehem. Yet no one could have imagined last year how our lives could be changed so dramatically by the onset of a virus now spread across most of the Earth.

Yet many including Mark Masons have risen to the challenge presented to us with selfless acts of kindness and support, whether it be in the community or to our own brethren. To all of you I say thank you.


Let us hope that the vaccines now being rolled out prove to be effective against this pernicious disease, and it will not be too long before we can resume our activities again.

As we have been unable to hold our Children's Party this year, it has been decided to arrange a Mark Christmas Social on Monday, 21st December at 7.00 p.m. via Zoom. You and your families are welcome to join us and we will be raising a glass to all Mark Masons wherever they may be. Details are enclosed.

Vivien and I wish you and your families a happy and joyful Christmas and let us all hope for better things in the year ahead.

Mark Well Brethren. May you and your families keep safe and well.

*Fraternal regards,*

*Nike Heenan* 

Provincial Grand Master



And also from Buckinghamshire. [Click Here<sup>4</sup>](#) to view the full issue.

<sup>4</sup>[http://download.mmh.org.uk/MARK\\_TIME\\_issueNo10.pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/MARK_TIME_issueNo10.pdf)



And the Red Cross of Constantine Division of Devon and Cornwall has two issues available.

Click Here<sup>5</sup> for Issue 1 and Click Here<sup>6</sup> for issue 2.

<sup>5</sup><http://download.mmh.org.uk/Times1.pdf>

<sup>6</sup><http://download.mmh.org.uk/Times2.pdf>



Division of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre

Division of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre

## The Constantine Times

R.Ht. Richard Lucas, Intendant  
General's Welcome..



Some and other online systems and of course, the good old telephone. I have become a person that only at 10:00 AM like to read a paper.

When our Deputy, Nic, suggested doing a quarterly newsletter I thought it was a great idea, asking as he does it!

Earlier we have the web page, but not all members have access to it. We are hoping to bring you news of events and what our Division has done and what we are doing. I would love to hear your stories, your interests, what you have been up to over the last six months! Please let your Deputy Intendant General know so that

we can include you in future publications. I asked Nic to put on my picture with those of my Grandchildren, Nephews, Nieces, and Sisters, in most of you know my wife Marilyn had a car accident in the end of May, this picture was taken at the end of June.

Marilyn had a triple heart bypass and long time and it had not gone so well, while the support from my family friends and most especially the members of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, I was my Daughter, Rachel and I would like to say that we are going through the most difficult time in my life.



Volume 1, Issue 1

October 2020



This picture is very special to me, perhaps you can see why.

In the History of Christianity, could this possibly be the biggest threat ever posed to us? It is truly important that each and every one of us do our best to keep going. Hopefully by this time next year it will be a distant memory and we will all be getting on with our lives.

Look forward to meeting each and everyone of you in the next to distant future.

Meanwhile, follow the Government's guidelines, stay safe, be kind, and be good.

Richard

### Retention, Recruitment and maintaining enthusiasm for our Degree

There is no doubt that when every term of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, we are always the atmosphere of time and harmony, not just for our fellow members but also the staff and work of the degree. There is nothing better than a constant balance with sincerity to perform a few minutes in the Order. Some of the

Rank works to our members. We are encouraged to be a part of our community. And the people who are interested in our degree are particularly important. We have a lot of people who are interested in our degree and we are happy to keep our efforts at attracting new members to the Order. We are also happy to see our members' activity in the Order. However, we also continue to see our members' activity in the Order.

Information with interest always to bring our members to our community. During this period, I have many of you have been keeping in touch by phone, email and the occasional Zoom meeting. We have brought in many of you to our community and we are happy to see our members' activity in the Order. We are also happy to see our members' activity in the Order.

If you have any ideas for the future we can discuss and how we can grow our community then please let me know.





## Across Social Media

On Facebook - Freemasons Without Borders gear up to mark Christmas with a very special guest



### Please Note:

Freemasons Without Borders is honoured and privileged to announce that our final guest speaker for 2020 will be none other than our Pro Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Raymond J. Smith.

Here The Pro Grand Master will be conducting a very special talk on the celebration of The Mark Province of London's 30th anniversary and more. This Brethren, is not one to be missed! The Q&A session will be managed slightly differently on this occasion.

If you would like to ask The Pro Grand Master a question, please submit your questions to us either via email or private messenger before 17:00hrs (UK) on Sunday 20th December. The talk will commence at 18:00hrs (UK), the meeting room will open at 17:15hrs with entry to the talk closing at 17:50hrs, after which time the meeting room will be locked.

As you can imagine, we are expecting a large turnout for this talk, so to avoid any disappointment please ensure you log on before 17:50hrs and that you log on using the name you have registered with either on our Facebook group or mailing list.

To gain access to the talk please join our private Facebook group (Freemasons Without Borders) or register your details to our secure mailchimp mailing list, link below:

<http://eepurl.com/g6Crc1><sup>7</sup>

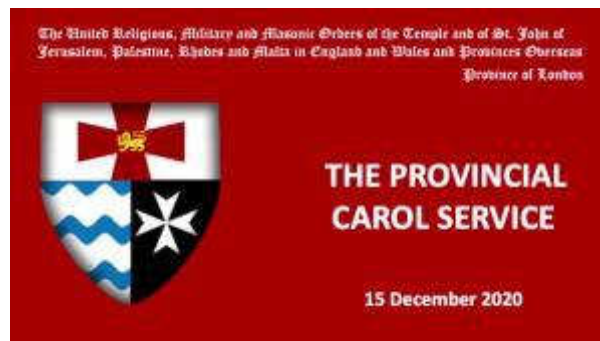
On Twitter - Brother. The Masonic Podcast tease us with the build up for series three

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1339848403040264200>

And, the Mark Province of Wiltshire assist Victim Support

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1338838960227938304>

On YouTube - The Knights Templar Province of London release their video Carol Service



<https://youtu.be/CeSi098vEWw>

And, did you spot any Mark Brethren in the Corsham Craft Lodge video?

They were:

V.W.Bro. Francis Wakem, *MBE, QPM, P.G.S.O.*, (Past Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire Craft) playing the Organ.

V.W.Bro. Frank Fletcher, *P.G.J.O.*, with his Vintage car. (Past Provincial Grand Secretary Wiltshire Mark)

W.Bro. Ivan Carey, *P.Prov.G.Insp.Wks.*, wearing light coloured Beret and saluting.

Bro. Bryan Elliott, the Mark Man sitting beside the tree.

Bro. Ian Harris, the Santa outfit.

All Members of Lansdowne Lodge MMM No. 1035.



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<sup>7</sup>[http://eepurl.com/g6Crc1?fbclid=IwAR1f33WQ5rC83MG4\\_-7YWzpHalHtU0RIVvpkdqPihgKcqPJdNe1Pn-x-A7s](http://eepurl.com/g6Crc1?fbclid=IwAR1f33WQ5rC83MG4_-7YWzpHalHtU0RIVvpkdqPihgKcqPJdNe1Pn-x-A7s)

<https://youtu.be/L-XqcWDpxh4>

## Not seeing your news? Join us on Social Media

Social Media is becoming an increasingly important platform for how we get to hear about what is going on further afield in all of our Orders. If your Province/District/Division has a Facebook Page/Group or Twitter Feed, or if you represent a Masonic Club or Society linked to our Orders, please send us an invite to join or follow you.

We can be found at:

Facebook - Mark Secretariat<sup>8</sup> - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page<sup>9</sup>

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall<sup>10</sup>

Or you can email us at [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)<sup>11</sup>

## The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now passed £43,000 and continues to raise money



**Please note that the MCF, who are handling donations to this appeal, have moved their payment collection site from the Everyday Hero platform to that of Just Giving. This doesn't impact how you make your donation but unfortunately it isn't possible for us to set the amount of your donation automatically to £20. The default set by the website is £30 and you will need to adjust it down.**

You can support the Eye Hospital by making a £20 donation. Just Click Here<sup>12</sup> or use the Text Donate facility below.

100% of donations will be given to the 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.***

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<sup>8</sup><https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

<sup>10</sup><https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

<sup>11</sup><mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

<sup>12</sup><https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Appeal-KT2042020>



**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 INFO when texting your donation. All conditions are administered by the Relief Chest Scheme (Grand Charity Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 020 3146 3352. Mazonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1164703, Company No. 09751836

60 Great Queen Street | London | WC2B 5AZ | [www.mcf.org.uk](http://www.mcf.org.uk)

## The Gift of Sight Fair raised £55,000



**St John of Jerusalem  
Eye Hospital Group**



**As the Gift of Sight 2020 comes to  
an end, we are thrilled to announce  
that we have raised**

**£55,000**  
**for the Mobile Outreach Programme.**

**We couldn't have done it without your  
generous donations, bids and prizes.**

**Please accept a  
MASSIVE THANK YOU FROM THE GUILD!**





## The Shop@86 is temporarily closed



Due to the new Government Lockdown restrictions for England the Shop@86 will be temporarily closed from Thursday, 5 November but will re-open as soon a circumstances improve.

If you have any urgent enquiries about orders already placed please email [ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk](mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk)<sup>13</sup>



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<sup>13</sup><mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk>

## 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.com](mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com)<sup>14</sup> By telephone: 07766731307

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

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<sup>14</sup> <mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com>

**East Lancs Calendars. 47 St Leonards Way, Woore, Crewe. CW3 9SS**

**Or contact them for electronic payment details**

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

Click Here<sup>15</sup> for the Stewardship and Festival Badge Form

Click Here<sup>16</sup> for the complete Festival pack

And you can visit the Province of East Lancashire's website Here<sup>17</sup>

## Helping to Combat Covid



At the start of Lockdown the Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Ryan A. Williams, P.G.J.W., shared the COVID Symptom Study<sup>18</sup> app.

As local lockdowns and UK cases increase, with over 4 million users, this app is a useful source of information regarding the situation in your area, as well as being a portal through which people of all ages and backgrounds are joining together to fight COVID, support the NHS, help scientific research and help get us out of lockdown safely.

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<sup>15</sup>[https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news\\_articles/2020/2021\\_MBF\\_Stewardship\\_Badge\\_Form.pdf](https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Stewardship_Badge_Form.pdf)

<sup>16</sup>[https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news\\_articles/2020/2021\\_MBF\\_Festival\\_Complete\\_Forms\\_Pack.pdf](https://www.markmasonshall.org/images/news_articles/2020/2021_MBF_Festival_Complete_Forms_Pack.pdf)

<sup>17</sup><http://www.wordpress.eastlancsmark.org/?p=11465>

<sup>18</sup><https://covid.joinzoe.com/>

Business as usual for the Staff@86



Staff from the 4th Floor at Mark Masons' Hall are mixing time in the office with working from home but wherever they are, all departments and teams are available via email and telephone to help and support as usual.

Mark Masons' Hall is pleased to be

