

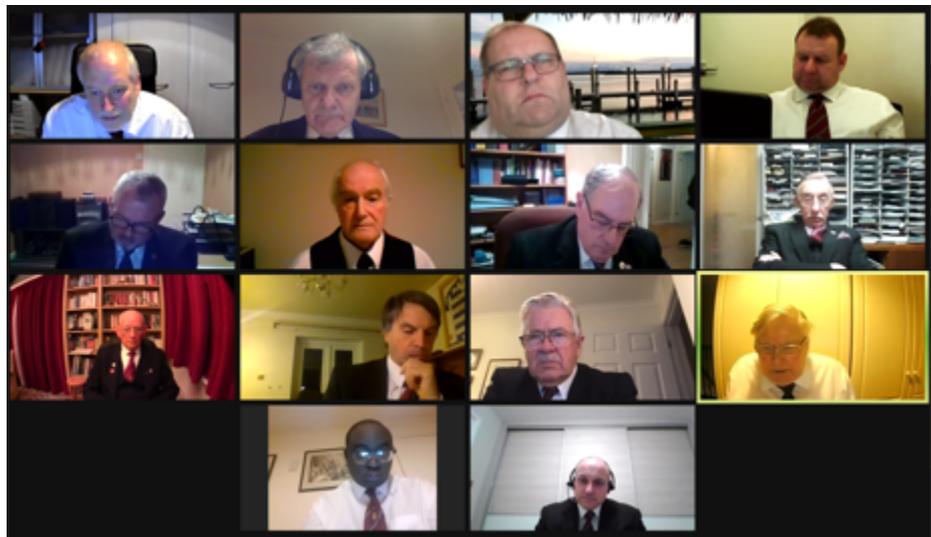


## Message from WM

We have had a memorable year for the wrong reasons but we have spent more time working from home, seeing the family and doing less travelling. . It has caused disruption and difficulties but we have coped – we are resilient. Remember Captain Tom, he said “It is always better tomorrow”. Luckily, none of our members have been ill with Covid-19.

Sadly, we lost two brethren this year W.Bros. Ken Harvey on 25 January and Peter Lloyd on 7 September. They will be greatly missed. Their ‘In Memorium’ can be found on the Provincial website at <https://berksmark.org.uk/in-memorium/>.

All our lodge meetings were either suspended or abandoned because of the pandemic. However, we managed to get vital business done and held the very first Mark virtual business meeting in the Province on 26 Aug and another on 28 Nov. The screen shot for the latter meeting is shown. Note the attendance of the PGM and his team. He is very concerned about members’ welfare and visits lodges virtually because of the pandemic. Thank you Sir.



We know that some members do not like virtual meetings, but why don't you give it a go? You are most welcome and encouraged to attend. I have set up a **virtual meeting on 7 January** (details below) so we can get together, chat and discuss any issues that you want to raise. Please join us, it will be good to see you and we value your attendance.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4601040761?pwd=TVNWUWl3aWJjSTB2Q2xPUmZ0c1lrUT09>

Meeting ID: 460 104 0761

Passcode: 4MaKeA

We have been busy - the Lodge intends to relocate to the Wokingham Masonic Centre which will be helpful for many and it is close to the railway station. Hopefully this will help us to reduce costs and keep the subscription affordable. To help with attendance, we have applied to change the dates of our meetings.

We all want to meet again Safely, the Covid-19 vaccine offers us hope. We must accept that restrictions are necessary and Silverio will keep us informed. Wishing you a happy and safe Christmas and a New Year.

Best Regards

*Steve*

## Members News

### James Alexander

He and his family are well and staying safe. He has had a very busy year at work. He wishes everyone a very happy Christmas,

### Geoff Baker

I'm very well, thank you, as are my family - I trust that you are too. Please pass on my best wishes to the Brethren for a merry Christmas and, hopefully, a better New Year!

### Roger Coles

He is a great grand-dad – congratulations! He has been busy working and rarely been able 'curate' at the Sindlesham Masonic Museum & Library. He has a few aches and will have a cataract operation on 31 Dec at the Windsor hospital. They are planning a quiet safe Christmas. He sends best wishes for Christmas.

### Patrick Clews

He is in good spirits and generally healthy. He is on new treatment at the Royal Marsden Hospital. Still on Chemo which leaves him feeling poorly for 2 months and depressed and he has now bounced back. He loves living in the Cotswolds but it is too quiet. He is thinking of moving back to Berkshire. He is getting out and about. He has a grocery delivery service. He is expecting a round of radiotherapy. He sends his kindest regards.

### Tony Hardiman

He and Angie are well though Angie has to have injections (unpleasant) for her eyesight. Tony's treatment for bladder cancer continues but it looks as if the prognosis is now excellent. They plan to visit their son in Ludgershall over Xmas but this depends on the Covid-19 restrictions. They are prepared if they have to stay at home. He sends his regards and wishes everyone well for Xmas.

### Kwame Kwesie

I am well. I have been working from home since March and stopped all non-essential travel, which has been a bonus. Normally I like to travel over Xmas but I can't do that this year so will spend it with my flat mate. Hopefully we will be allowed to go out and socialise. I wish all the Brethren a happy and safe Xmas.

### Douglas Marlow

We kept alive through the WhatsApp antics of our 15 month grandson Noah. Nov & Dec were difficult as we had a leak in the kitchen and the floor lifted and cabinets removed to allow drying. Then Carole suddenly went into hospital for a few days – she is now much better. Our daughter and family will visit on Boxing Day. Looking forward to sunshine. Wishing you all well for Christmas and the New Year.

### Steve May

In between cuddling his grandson and dog sitting for their daughter they are well and looking forward to Christmas.

### Stan Millard

He and Helen are well. They had central heating problems which have now been fixed. He likes going out shopping. He keeps in touch with family by phone and reads Lodge emails but he does not like Zoom. Looking forward to a quiet Christmas. He sends his warmest greetings to the brethren.

### Jim Owens

We are all doing very well and I hope the Brethren and their families are well. No specific plans here really for the Festive Period, just extremely glad to have the time to rest and recharge the batteries.

Please extend my best wishes to all of the Brethren and I am looking forward very much to better times, when we can all meet up properly in person again. Hope you all have a good Xmas and a safe New Year.

### Silverio Ostrowski

Silverio and Katherine are well and coping. They wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year.

### Ian Wharton

We are well and will stay at home and visit no one this year, please pass on my best wishes to all the brethren.

### Paul Yates

He has recently moved location and is busy working on the new flat to make it to his preferences/desires.

## Provincial Zoom Meeting

Province has held a weekly Zoom meeting since the start of Lockdown which any Mark Mason can attend. It is informal and people are encouraged to “drop in” as needed. It gives attendees an informal update on Lockdown aspects and progress towards resumption of normal business. It is recognised that many will be cautious about returning to Lodge and some may be prevented because of health problems. The PGM is constantly asking about the welfare of the members.

Mark Provincial weekly get together - feel free to drop in as you wish

When Weekly from 19:30 to 20:00 on Tuesday United Kingdom Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/216631893?pwd=b1U0ekJ4NlBCQzBIM2Q3Umx0ckdPQT09>

Meeting ID: 216 631 893

Password: 001746



**You are important!**

Please keep in touch.

We look forward to having a drink with you when time and circumstance permit