



## Freemasonry@86 News - 12 March 2021



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

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

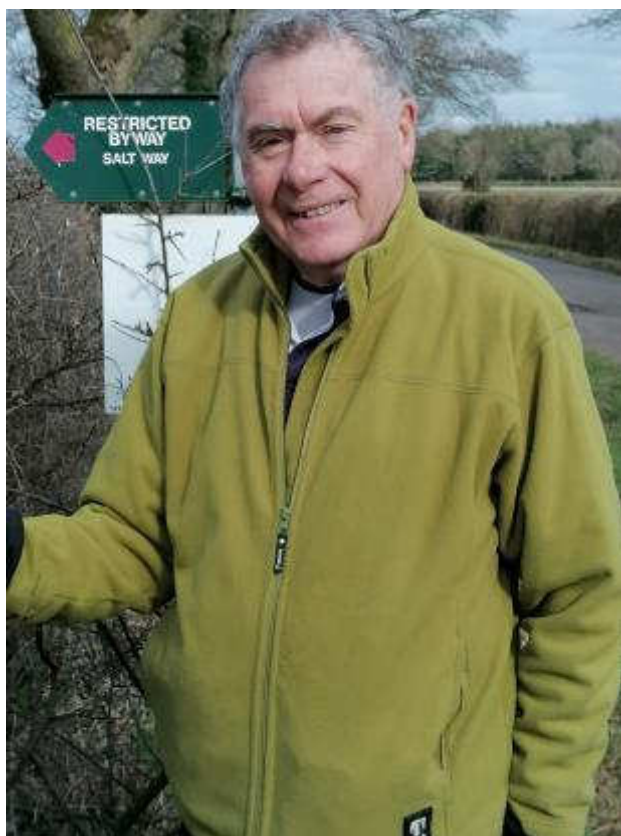
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<sup>1</sup><mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

## Ron Bridger on the march to raise awareness of Prostate Cancer



Prostate Cancer kills 11,000 men every year – that's one every 45 minutes. Most of us know someone who has died from, or is suffering from, this dreadful disease. If it is caught in time, it is almost always treatable, but the disease does not occupy a high profile in the scale of prioritisation for research and treatment.

Prostate Cancer UK is making enormous efforts to change the perception of this disease, and to reduce the annual toll of suffering and death among men, of all ages. That is why I have signed up to March the Month, and have committed to walking an average of at least 11,000 steps **every day** in March, in a bid to raise as much money as I can for the Charity. My initial target was £1000, but the response to date has been such that the total raised is now approaching £7000. Will you help me get to £10,000 by donating on my Just Giving page:

[marchthemoth.prostatecanceruk.org/fundraising/rons-rambles](https://marchthemoth.prostatecanceruk.org/fundraising/rons-rambles)<sup>2</sup>

You can follow my progress on Facebook – please give what you can. Just Giving is not charging a levy on donations, and donations can be Gift Aided, enabling the Charity to claim an extra 25% from tax-paying donors, at no cost to them.

If anyone feels like joining me on one of my rambles (covid regulations permitting), I'll be glad of the company. 11,000 steps equates to about 5 miles – 2 hours walking.

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<sup>2</sup><https://marchthemoth.prostatecanceruk.org/fundraising/rons-rambles>

If you have already received an appeal from me, don't worry – I only want to you to donate once!

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Ron Bridger, P.G.J.O., Mark Province of Oxfordshire



## Introducing R.Dist.Comp. Kenneth Barrington (Barry) Chalkley, *M.B.E.*, the new Provincial Grand Summus for Devon & Cornwall in the Scarlet Cord



Greetings Brethren and Companions all. I am Barry Chalkley and on 9 March 2021 the Grand Summus of the Order of the Scarlet Cord, Most Distinguished Companion Ian Stanley Currans, honoured me at a virtual meeting of the Province of Devon & Cornwall, by installing me as Provincial Grand Summus.

I was born in 1945 into an RAF family that travelled with my father wherever he was posted, resulting in me attending 11 schools throughout England and in Germany and Australia. I left in 1963 with 11 'O' Levels and 4 'A' Levels and entered the RAF College Cranwell on a 3-year cadetship, graduating with a permanent commission as a Navigator. There followed flying tours on Canberras in Germany and Vulcans in Cyprus and the UK. I was lucky enough to then serve as the RAF Exchange Officer on the staff of Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. On promotion I returned to flying and supported the Vulcan missions to the Falklands. There then followed a series of ground tours in Germany and the UK until I took early retirement in 1996 to return to Cornwall to look after my ageing parents. I was appointed MBE in 1990.



In 1967 I married Gill and in the next 30 years we had 16 house moves, eventually settling in Cornwall. Our son works in the City and our daughter followed me into the RAF where she continues to serve as a Reserve Officer. While I was young and fit enough I enjoyed a range of sports: cricket, rugby, football, squash, offshore sailing, horse riding and clay pigeon shooting (I was RAF Skeet champion in 1994). I am also involved in game shooting and deer management.

My entry into Freemasonry was a little unusual. I was walking down the street in Cyprus when a passing colleague said 'I didn't know you were a Mason' 'I'm not' 'Sorry, I thought I saw your name in the Lodge minutes' 'That would be my father, he was in the Lodge 9 years ago when serving here. He visited it last month when he was on holiday with us' 'Oh, would you like to join?' 'Yes, why not?' And so, in March 1972 I was initiated into Apollo Lodge No 7886 UGLE in the District of Cyprus. I have maintained my membership ever since and try to plan our holidays to coincide with their meetings.

I left Cyprus while still a Fellow Craft and was raised by dispensation in my father's Mother Lodge, Duke of Cornwall No 1529, which I joined in 1977. Being so often on the move made advancing in Freemasonry difficult, but serving 11 of my last 14 years in the RAF in Germany proved the catalyst. First I joined the Mark, taking the chair in 1994, then the RAC (GLBFG, German Constitution), followed by the RAM. I took the chair in the Craft (GLBFG) in 1995. Settling in Cornwall in 1997 enabled me to become more involved in Freemasonry and I took the chair of a Craft Lodge under UGLE in 2006, 34 years after my initiation! I was also introduced to Progressive Orders that were not available in Germany so, in addition to taking the chair in Mark and RAM, and being appointed P.A.G.D.C. and R.A.M.G.R. respectively, I joined and progressed in OSM (P.A.G.D.C.), RSM (Dist.G.Rec., Dist.G.P.C.W. and now P.G.L.ect.), and AMD (G.I.G.). My interest in the historical and esoteric aspects of Freemasonry led me to join the Order of Athelstan (P.J.G.W.), The Operatives and SRIA (currently in the chair of both), and Pilgrim Preceptors where I am the Grand Marshal.

I joined The Derek Mortimore Conclave of the Western Counties in 2009 and was thus a Founding Member of Derek Mortimore Consistory 5TI when it was consecrated in 2010, and Kernow No 83 on its consecration in 2012, when the Province of the Western Counties was formed. We evolved into the Province of Devon & Cornwall in 2019 and since 2013 I have served as Prov.G.Rec. and Dep.Prov.G.S. I am extremely proud of having been appointed Provincial Grand Summus and am looking forward to the end of Covid restrictions when we will again be able to get together at all levels and continue our meetings in the friendly and supportive manner that characterises our Order.

Yours,

Barry Chalkley.

[And here's how it happened.](#)

Due to the suspension of Masonic activity the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Devon and Cornwall was held as a Virtual Business Meeting using the Zoom video conferencing tool. Attending the meeting on the 9th March 2021 was the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans; Deputy Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Francis Charles Spencer; Assistant Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp Howard Saul Markham; the Grand Recorder, R.Dist.Comp. Ryan A Williams; and the Assistant Grand Recorder, Dist.Comp. Dan Heath.

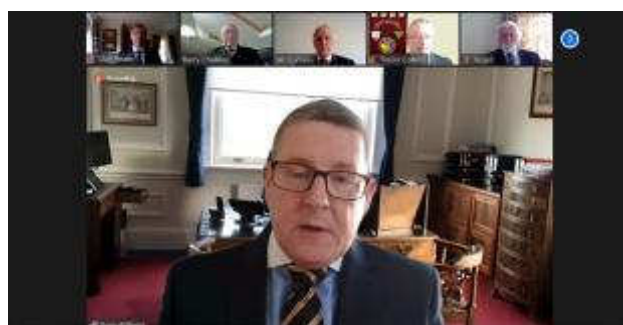


The meeting was attended by many members of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Devon and Cornwall, and Provincial and District Grand Summi and Companions from the Provinces in England and Wales and Districts overseas.

By 11.00 a.m. just over 100 Companions had joined the meeting. Dist. Companion Kenneth Barrington Chalkley, *M.B.E.*, the Provincial Grand Summus Designate, declared the meeting open and welcomed all present and the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, addressed the Companions.



The Grand Summus requested the Grand Recorder, R.Dist.Comp. Ryan A Williams, to read the Patent of Appointment.



The Grand Summus then formally confirmed R. Dist. Comp. Companion Kenneth Barrington Chalkley, *M.B.E.*, as the Provincial Grand Summus for the Provincial Grand Senatus of Devon and Cornwall. The Provincial Grand Summus formally confirmed Dist. Comp. Trevor Conroy as Deputy Provincial Grand Summus of Devon and Cornwall and V. Dist. Comp Roger Frank Guest as Assistant Provincial Grand Summus.

The Provincial Grand Summus read the names of the Companions appointed to and promoted in Provincial Grand Rank. The Provincial Grand Summus congratulated those who have received appointment or promotion in the Provincial Grand Senatus of Devon and Cornwall and then addressed Provincial Grand Senatus.



The Provincial Grand Summus thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.

*Article and photos by Chris Eley, Provincial Grand Recorder, Surrey*

## Interactive in India

Saturday, 6 March 2021 was the [Virtual Business Meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Bombay via Zoom](#).

There was wonderful representation from Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, England, Scotland, Belgium, Spain, South Africa and Australia. A very well presented and excellent Virtual Meeting. We all Marked Well





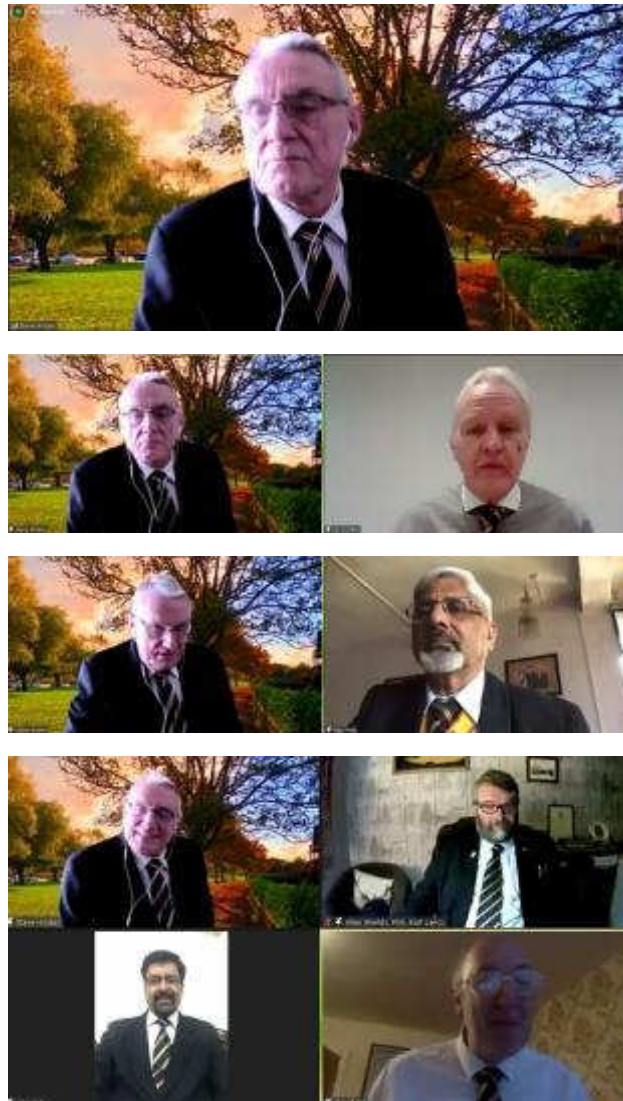


And the 14th Annual Virtual Convocation of the District Grand Senatus of Western India was held on Friday 5 March 2021 via Zoom.

In attendance were The Most Distinguished Grand Summus, Ian Stanley Currans, and the Grand Recorder, Right Distinguished Companion Ryan Williams from Grand Senatus.

Another two Provincial Grand Summi and one District Grand Summus also graced the occasion by their attendance.

Another wonderful virtual meeting and great to see the Members of the Order from all over the world.



**Province of Surrey launches their Easter Balloon Race in aid of the MBF Festival 2022**



## Surrey Mark 2022 MBF Festival



### Virtual Balloon Race

***Join the family fun in our exciting charity fundraising event to enjoy at home.***

Launching from Jerusalem Old City on Easter Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021, this eco friendly computer game uses real time weather updates to affect the course of your balloon.



Balloons are just £3 each and can be personalised and decorated by changing shape, colours and patterns. They can be customised to aid winning. Follow your balloon's progress on Google maps 24/7 over the 7 days of the race.

They make an ideal gift to send to those family and friends you may be missing at this difficult time, especially children and grandchildren who will be thrilled taking part.

Great exclusive prizes for Surrey Mark 2022 Festival supporters for furthest distance travelled at the end.

- Luxury 30cm Easter cake by our master baker Jerry Gangadeen
- £30 Amazon gift voucher
- £20 Amazon gift voucher
- 5 x £10 book tokens

Plus a chance to also win the national prizes which comprise.

- £500 cash
- Apple iPad
- 10 x £10 book tokens

Get Started

1. Click or enter the link to the race website <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1253>
2. Choose to buy a virtual balloon - you will need to register first time to pay.
3. Your purchase or activation code will be confirmed by email.
4. You are now ready to name, decorate and customise your balloon and follow its progress.

Tip – Choosing the right materials and configuration will make a difference to the flight and remember balloons can burst! It's as real as you can get.

***Get involved NOW and help raise funds to enable the Mark Benevolent Fund (Reg 207610) to continue its charitable support for so many worthy causes.***



Click Here<sup>3</sup> to go to the race website and buy your balloon

Click Here<sup>4</sup> to visit the Surrey website for further details

## Marking Well on the Isle of Man



*1 - Trent Lambert, the newly installed Worshipful Master of the Peveril Mark Lodge No. 323 stands proudly below his Lodge Banner with his Officers and Brethren as Mike Kelly, Deputy Provincial Grand Master hands over the 4 air hoods to Neil Hazell, Gerry Jones and Martin Blackburn.*

The Isle of Man has been fortunate to have had some respite from the Covid -19 pandemic thanks to the rigid border controls implemented by its Government that restricted travel to the Island to returning residents and certain key workers, all of whom had to undergo strict quarantine upon their arrival.

As a result they had two periods where all social distancing restrictions were lifted and Masonic activity was able to resume.

Sadly, they are currently experiencing community transmission of the virus which has once more resulted in the imposition of a 21 day circuit breaker lockdown in the hope that it can be eliminated again.

During the most recent resumption, the Peveril Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 323 installed their new Master, Bro Trent Lambert into the Chair of Adoniram in succession to R.W.Bro. David Downie, P.G.J.W., the Past Grand Inspector of the Isle of Man.

The Installation took place in the presence of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master W.Bro. Mike Kelly and a nearly full turnout of the Provincial Grand Lodge Officers.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Mike Kelly presented 4 sets of positive pressure air hoods to St John Ambulance Director Gerry Jones and Community First Responder Neil Hazell.

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<sup>3</sup><https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1253>

<sup>4</sup><http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk/festival-events-0024.html>



One of the hoods is being modelled by Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Martin Blackburn, who as a St John Ambulance Community First Responder himself will also be using the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which was paid for by donations of over £4,000 from Isle of Man Mark Masons.

They are vital pieces of equipment to protect the responders from exposure to infection when resuscitating casualties and have already been in action.

As part of the its Covid-19 pandemic response the Isle of Man NHS Ambulance Service has rolled out this enhanced PPE to all of its front line staff.

The St John Ambulance Community First Responders in the South of the Island are funded through the historic Rushen Emergency Ambulance charity which received some very generous donations allowing them to equip their volunteers to the same standard.

The team that the Provincial Grand Master co-ordinates in the East of the Island were still using FFP3 face masks and when one of them was sent to a cardiac arrest and started CPR before the arrival of the 999 ambulance crew, this difference in the level of protection between the St John Ambulance volunteer undertaking CPR – which is classified in Covid-19 terms as a “high risk aerosol generating procedure” - and the paid responders, was very obvious and commented on by the family. Our Brethren reacted with very generous donations.

There are 7 St John Ambulance Community First Responders covering the East of the Island. The donations received from local Brethren have enabled the purchase of 4 sets which will provide 3 for the Eastern Responders and 1 set for the Northern Responders’ fast response car.



*2 - (L to R) Martin Blackburn, Provincial Grand Master (incognito, modelling the air hood which he will be now using as a volunteer St John Ambulance Community First Responder); Mike Kelly, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; Neil Hazell, Community First Responder; and Gerry Jones, Director of St John Ambulance Operations.*

## The Lost Redemption



The Scriptorium of Staffordshire and Shropshire Provincial Priory are pleased to announce the release of the latest examination of Knights Templar history from the pen of Em. Kt. Kerrion Marsh.

**The Lost Redemption** is a revealing analysis of the last days of the crusaders in the Holy Land, the reason for the oppression of the Templar Order in 1307 and an exploration of what could have been! This book re-examines the last days of the Knights Templar and proposes that there was an alternative scenario that could have so easily have led to the establishment of a Templar Stronghold the Middle East.



This novel joins the library of Knights Templar and Knights of Malta books that includes the Travellers companion volumes tracing Templar sites across Europe, a 3 volume concise history of the Knights of St John and, of more general interest, 'The Permanent Way – Freemasonry and the Railways' tracing the relationship of these two leviathans across the world and the impact they had on each other.

For details of all of the books please contact Kerrion Marsh at [amastrabooks@gmail.com](mailto:amastrabooks@gmail.com)<sup>5</sup>.

All profits will be donated to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.



## More MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels Available

The new-look MBF Stewardship Jewels have now multiplied in number and are available for the following Festivals:

2022 Surrey<sup>6</sup>

2023 West Yorkshire<sup>7</sup>

2024 Cheshire<sup>8</sup>

2025 Oxfordshire<sup>9</sup>

2026 Hampshire & IOW<sup>10</sup>

2027 Warwickshire<sup>11</sup>

2028 Somerset<sup>12</sup>

2030 Essex<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>5</sup><mailto:amastrabooks@gmail.com>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2022-surrey-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2023-west-yorkshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form/viewdocument>

<sup>8</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2024-cheshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2025-oxfordshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>10</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2026-hants-iow-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>11</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2027-warwickshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>12</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2028-somerset-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>13</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2030-essex-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

















STEWARD



Mark Benevolent Fund  
2028



SOMERSET



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.

## Across Social Media

On Facebook - 50 Years in the Mark for East Lancashire's W.Bro. Kenneth Laidlaw, P.Prov.G.S.W.

Embed://<iframe

```
src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FMarkMasonsHall%2Fposts%2F793570761509416&width=500&show_text=true&height=648&appId" width="500" height="648" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>
```

And, more good news from Clowns in the Sky

Embed://<iframe

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src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FMarkMasonsHall%2Fposts%2F792300508303108&width=500&show_text=true&height=791&appId" width="500" height="791" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="true" allow="autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; picture-in-picture; web-share"></iframe>
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On Twitter - Has it really been a year since we were at Freemasons' Hall?

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1369568846894534659>

And, if you're looking for an OSM Conclave in Sussex...

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1369225556475191303>

## 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>14</sup> - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page<sup>15</sup>

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>14</sup><https://www.facebook.com/mmh.secretariat.3>

<sup>15</sup><https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasonsHall/>

Or you can email us at [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)<sup>17</sup>

## The Shop@86 is open for online orders via the website

[Click Here](#)<sup>18</sup> to visit the Shop@86 website

**Please note:** During the current Government Lockdown restrictions, there will be limited access to Mark Masons' Hall. As a result there will be delays to the despatch of orders, which will take place on a weekly basis, normally on a Tuesday. Customers will be notified via email once their order has been despatched. For enquiries about your order please email [ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk](mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk)<sup>19</sup>



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<sup>16</sup><https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

<sup>17</sup><mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>

<sup>18</sup><https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>

<sup>19</sup><mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk>



## The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now raised over £46,000 and continues to grow



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>20</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.***



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 donations are administered by the Relief Chest Scheme (Grand Priory Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 020 3146 3252. Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity No. 1184703; Company No. 09751836

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

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<sup>20</sup><https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Appeal-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.com](mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com)<sup>21</sup> By telephone: 07766731307

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

**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>22</sup> for the Stewardship and Festival Badge Form

Click Here<sup>23</sup> for the updated complete Festival pack

And you can visit the Province of East Lancashire's website Here<sup>24</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>25</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>21</sup><mailto:eastlancscalendars@gmail.com>

<sup>22</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>23</sup>[http://download.mmh.org.uk/Complete\\_Forms\\_Pack\\_Final\\_2021\\_-\\_Updated\\_18.01.2021\\_\(002\).pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/Complete_Forms_Pack_Final_2021_-_Updated_18.01.2021_(002).pdf)

<sup>24</sup><http://www.wordpress.eastlancsmark.org/?p=11465>

<sup>25</sup><https://covid.iainzoe.com/>

## Business as usual for the Staff@86



Staff from the 4th Floor at Mark Masons' Hall have returned to working from home but all departments and teams are available via email and telephone to help and support as usual.



Mark Masons' Hall is pleased to be

