



## Freemasonry@86 News - 2 July 2021



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

This bulletin is emailed to all Rulers in the Provinces, Districts & Divisions and their Secretariats, as well as subscribers.

**Please share this content with your members by forwarding this email or let them know that it's available on the MMH website.**

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## **R.S.M. District of London**

The Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of London was held as a Virtual Business Meeting on Thursday, 24 June 2021. Attending was the Grand Recorder, R.III.Comp. Ryan Williams, and Companions from many other Districts.



The District Grand Master for the District of London, R.III.Comp. Vincent John Driver, declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.

After the regular business of the District was completed, the District Grand Council Officers for the ensuing year were appointed.

The District Grand Master then addressed District Grand Council. He congratulated those Companions who received appointments or promotion in Grand Council in April as well as those he had appointed that day, thanking them for their support.



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

He also thanked those attending the meeting, a total of 16 District Grand Masters and representatives from a number of Districts. He said that he plans to hold a dinner for Active Officers later in the year.

The Grand Recorder, R.III.Comp. Ryan Williams, was invited to address the meeting. He thanked the District for his invitation and reflected on the challenges we have faced over the past year; and how we have addressed these. Communication has been critical during this period. Looking forward we should be encouraging our existing membership to return to meetings when they feel ready and over the next few months move from retention to recruitment.



The District Grand Master then thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed. Afterwards the guests all said how much they had enjoyed the meeting and wished the District of London every success in the future.

*Article and photos by Chris Eley, District Assistant Grand Recorder, Surrey.*

## Latest update from the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group

We were pleased to receive the latest monthly update from our friends at the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital, which includes reference to the Royal Parks Half Marathon.

The link to register has just opened and can be viewed [Here](#)<sup>2</sup>

The date the registration form is open until 18 Aug 2021. The date of the race itself is Sunday, 10 October. Those interested in the event must apply for a charity place if they haven't already purchased a place themselves in the ballot.

Charity places have a £350 fundraising target, but this doesn't apply to ballot runners. The St John Group do encourage ballot runners to raise at least £50 for their charity.

You can read the full update below or [Click Here](#)<sup>3</sup> to download a copy.

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.stjohnseyehospital.org/events/royal-parks-half-marathon/>

<sup>3</sup>[http://download.mmh.org.uk/KT\\_update\\_June\\_2021.pdf](http://download.mmh.org.uk/KT_update_June_2021.pdf)



St John of Jerusalem  
Eye Hospital Group

Memorial Patient  
The Lord Valley AG/VS St  
Duke von  
St. Andrew-Carl (St. Carl)  
Hospital  
St. David der St. (St.)

## Knights Templar

St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital June 2021 update

Dear Brother Knights,

As we continue to navigate through the aftermath of the conflict and ongoing pandemic, your support has given us certainty and hope at this much needed time. St John Eye Hospital Group continues to treat thousands in need of sight saving treatment, against a backdrop of unique challenges.

### Staff update

Following Rebecca van der Weijden's departure, Charles O'Donoghue has now been appointed Interim Financial Manager.

### COVID-19 update

In Israel and the Palestinian Authority controlled areas, the majority of restrictions have now been lifted including the wearing of masks indoors. There are very low risk positive cases in Israel and less than a hundred a day in the Palestinian Authority controlled areas.

### Staff Vaccinations

All staff (270) except one have received their vaccination and 220 of West Bank Staff's relatives have also been vaccinated.

### The St John Eye Hospital Group

The Hospital has resumed all its clinical activities including the mobile outreach clinics/units.

• In May there has been an almost 80% increase in outpatient clinical activities as compared to the same period in 2020.

• This upward trend in outpatient clinical activities is seen in all parts of the Group including Gaza (despite the recent escalation in violence).

• Surgical activities are almost 80% more in May 2021 as compared to the same month in 2020.

• There was a slight drop in number of surgeries performed in Gaza as a result of the 11-day war during which staff were unable to report the Hospital most of the time.

### Gaza update

• The recent conflict in Gaza has left Palestinian facing a humanitarian crisis with thousands of people being displaced and livelihoods lost.

ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM  
EYE HOSPITAL GROUP  
Building Sight  
Changing Lives

St John of Jerusalem  
Eye Hospital Group  
London, EC2M 1LH  
020 7311 1144  
info@stjohnofjerusalem.org



Registered with  
the Financial Conduct  
Authority  
REGULATOR

Registered Charity No.  
1134613  
Registered Company No.  
7255419


**St John of Jerusalem  
Eye Hospital Group**

Ministerial Patron  
Rt Hon Lord Vaux of **St John**, MP  
Chairman  
Sir Andrew Carlisle, CBE, FRCO

Hospital  
St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital  
100 Canal Street, London W1D 4HS

We are immensely relieved that our staff and their families were unharmed, our commitment is to support the people in Gaza who require urgent and ongoing eye treatment.

We are hopeful that the current ceasefire which remains, but we are under no illusion that we will need a significant deployment of our financial resources to meet the increasing demand for eye care. We are seeking more patients who are unable to contribute to the already heavily subsidized treatment fees.

The Hospital has resumed its clinical activities to the full capacity and the outreach team have resumed their clinical work as well.

**Upcoming events**



**Royal Parks  
Half**

Would you like to help raise money for St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group by taking part in the Royal Parks Half Marathon?

The route will take you through the beautiful settings of London's Royal Parks: Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St James's Park and Green Park. In return, we will provide you with tools and guidance for fundraising and training, as well as your very own running vest.

Royal Parks Race Day: Sunday 10th October  
Minimum fundraising target: £300  
Registration fee: £20  
Deadline to apply: Early August (our website form will launch very soon)

**Thank you**

In closing, we are incredibly grateful to have the Knights Templar as our long-term supporters. Thank you for helping us to keep our vital sight saving services running and continue our goal of ending preventable blindness in the holy land.

As one of our most valued supporters, we will continue to provide you with updates on our work.

Wishing you good health and safety

Kind regards,



Trishna Datta  
Fundraising Officer  
St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital

**ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM  
EYE HOSPITAL GROUP**  
Saving Sight,  
Changing Lives

100 Canal Street, London, EC1A 4HS  
Tel: 020 7303 2380  
info@stjohnofjerusalem.co.uk

   Incorporated with  
Charitable  
REGULATOR

Registered Charity No.  
1054427  
Registered Company No.  
1356432

## Returning to work at Woodgrange

Woodgrange Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners and Woodgrange Lodge of Mark Master Masons held their first meeting since the suspension of Masonic activities at Croydon on Monday, 28 June.

The afternoon started with the meeting of the Woodgrange Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No 1111. The Lodge was honoured by the presence of the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Richard Knox, the Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Chris Eley, and a number of Provincial Officers, keeping the numbers in line with the Croydon Masonic Halls Covid-19 accreditation.

The Assistant Provincial Grand Master and other guests were welcomed by the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. John Engall.



The Mark Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Alistair Douglas, who welcomed the Assistant Provincial Grand Master.



At both meetings, the Lodges separately voted to approve a donation of £100 to sponsor W.Bro. Nigel Feltham on his four day walk to raise funds for the 2022 MBF Festival.

*Article and photos by Chris Eley, G.J.O.*







## First new knights installed in the Red Cross of Constantine in Kent in 2021

Having lifted the suspension on meetings of the Red Cross in Kent with effect from Monday, 28 June, the Intendant-General attended a meeting of the Ancient College Gateway Conclave No. 259 which was held on Tuesday, 29 June at the Tovil Masonic Centre, which was one of the few centres that had re-opened in Kent.

The Conclave was due to hold its Golden Jubilee last September and Companions Roger Moye and Tony Allard, having been waiting for over a year, were finally installed in the Order by the Most Puissant Sovereign, Arthur Baker, in front of the Intendant-General, Nick Alder, and a number of visitors. All guidelines were followed, but this did not detract from an excellent ceremony and evening with the highlight being a wonderful Oration by Ill. Kt. Colin Barnes.

Last September the Conclave had met to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its consecration, but was the period that only 6 Knights could meet, so this was the first occasion since March 2020 that a post-meeting meal could be enjoyed. Assuming that all restrictions are lifted in a few weeks, the Conclave will be meeting on Tuesday, 21 September to commemorate and celebrate their Golden Jubilee when the Grand Sovereign hopes to be present.

The photograph shows R.III.Kt. Nick Alder, Intendant-General for Kent (holding the baton), the two new knights, W.Kt. Roger Moye, W.Kt. Tony Allard and the M.P.S. Arthur Baker, with all of the other Knights in attendance.



### Dinner time in the Scarlet Cord



As many of you will be aware, Right Distinguished Companion Howard Stephen Nuttall, V, P.Prov.G.S., recently stepped down as our Provincial Grand Summus after many years of dedicated service dating back to 2006 when the ancient Order was revived and worked hard to make East Lancashire a province in its own right.



Prior to that you will remember all the sterling work he did for the Order of the Secret Monitor, where he held the position of Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler again fulfilling the role to its upmost.

He is also a prominent figure in Mark Masonry where he was invested as a Grand Steward in 2016 before being Promoted to Past Grand Junior Deacon in 2020. Howard is also a very active member of the Allied Masonic Degrees where he has attained the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer.

In recognition to the splendid contributions Howard has made to these progressive degrees of Masonry the Companions of the Scarlet Cord would like to invite you all to a special meal in recognition of his dedicated loyal service.

The meal will be held at Rochdale Masonic Hall, 2 Richard Street, Rochdale at 7pm on Saturday, 14 August 2021 and is an open invite to you and your partners.

The menu will be A la Carte and will be forwarded in full when available.

The dress code for the evening is lounge suit and tie of your preferred Order.

Tickets and reservations are available from myself at either the above address (please include a self-addressed envelope for postage of tickets) or electronically at [eastlancsprovrecorder@gmail.com](mailto:eastlancsprovrecorder@gmail.com)<sup>4</sup>

The cost of this event is £22 per head and payment can be made to Pomona Consistory 106 if paid by cheque or preferably via BACS at the following;

Pomona Consistory 106, account number 21447152 sort code 010197

Hopefully you will be able to attend the event and I look forward to seeing you there.

Yours in the Friendship of the Order

Paul

Comp P.A.Joynson, III, Provincial Grand Recorder, East Lancashire

## And, the Scarlet Cord steps off in Surrey

The first face to face meeting of a Scarlet Cord Consistory in Surrey after the lifting of the suspension of Masonic activity took place on Tuesday, 29 June at Nutfield Masonic Centre, Redhill.

This was the first full meeting of the Consistory since its Consecration in October 2019 by the Grand Summus and his team. It was therefore very special that the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian S. Currans, and R.Dist.Comp. Trevor D. Currans, both Honorary Members, were able to attend.

Also present were the Provincial Grand Summus, Arnold Long, the Director of Ceremonies of the Consistory, and two Past Provincial Grand Summi, R.Dist.Comp. Michael Barnes, President of the Consistory, and R.Dist.Comp. Louis Keats.

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<sup>4</sup><http://eastlancsprovrecorder@gmail.com/>



In addition, there were six Heads of Surrey Orders. This was the first time they had met up together in over a year and the first time that R.Dist.Comp. Arnold Long and R.Wy. Bro. Colin Beerling, Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler in the Order of the Secret Monitor for Surrey, had been together since their investitures.



A busy agenda included the Installation of Em.Comp. Chris Eley, Provincial Grand Recorder, as President. This was done in a very sincere manner by R.Dist.Comp. Michael Barnes.

Em.Comp. Simon McCarthy was invested as Primus of Lectorus and Em.Comp. Bob Tuthill was Invested as Primus of Ostiarii. The Address to the President was given by R.Dist.Comp. Arnold Long in an excellent manner.



After the appointment and investiture of the remaining officers and the regular business of the Consistory had been completed the Consistory was closed and everyone went outside for a socially distanced photograph.

What a splendid start to the resumption of Masonic activity.

*Article and photographs by Chris Eley, Provincial Grand Recorder*



## Across Social Media

Spotted on TV and Facebook - The M.B.F./Sussex Mark Sponsored St John Ambulance Mobile Treatment Centre



Thanks to W.Bro. Robin Evans, P.A.G.D.C., for sending these in

On Facebook- [The latest edition of Kent Keystone goes live](https://www.facebook.com/MarkMasterMasons/posts/2943961272539299)

Embed:<iframe

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src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FKentMarkMasterMasons%2Fposts%2F2943961272539299&show_text=true&width=500" width="500" height="390" 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 - Essex doing serious business with 'Clowns In The Sky'  
<http://twitter.com/statuses/1409556722260250624>

## 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>5</sup> - This is the contact account for the Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page<sup>6</sup>

Twitter - @MarkMasonsHall<sup>7</sup>

Or you can email us at [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)<sup>8</sup>

## Dates for the diary

In the hope that the Government may soon announce the lifting of restrictions, we have started making plans for the Autumn.

Dates to note are:

 Annual Convocation of Grand Senatus Thursday, 2 September (moved from May 2021)	 Annual Meeting of Grand Council Tuesday, 26 October
 Quarterly Communication of Mark Great Lodge Tuesday, 7 September	 Annual Convocation of Grand Council Thursday, 12 November
 Annual Meeting of Grand Priory Thursday, 9 September	 Annual Chapter of Grand Priory of Malta Tuesday, 16 November
 Annual Assembly of Grand Imperial Council Tuesday, 12 October (moved from July 2021)	 Annual Assembly of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners Tuesday, 18 December

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

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

<sup>7</sup><https://twitter.com/MarkMasonsHall>

<sup>8</sup><mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk>



**The Shop@86 is now open for customers from 2 p.m. on weekdays, as well as for online orders via the website**

[Click Here<sup>9</sup>](#) to visit the Shop@86 website

**Please note:** During the current Government Covid-19 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>10</sup>



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<sup>9</sup><https://www.shopat86.co.uk/>

<sup>10</sup><mailto:ordersinfo@mmh.org.uk>

## The KT 20 for 2020 Appeal has now raised over £48,000 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>11</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.***



**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 bit 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 Charity Registered Charity No. 281942). Text donation helpline: 020 3146 3352. 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)

## MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels

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

2022 Surrey<sup>12</sup>

2023 West Yorkshire<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup><https://fundraising.mcf.org.uk/Appeal-KT2042020>

<sup>12</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2022-surrey-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

2024 Cheshire<sup>14</sup>

2025 Oxfordshire<sup>15</sup>

2026 Hampshire & IOW<sup>16</sup>

2027 Warwickshire<sup>17</sup>

2028 Somerset<sup>18</sup>

2030 Essex<sup>19</sup>

This week, the Charities team, Linda Read and Millie Pilson, began sending out the 2030 Essex Jewels.

We are still awaiting stock of 2028 Somerset Jewels.

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.

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<sup>13</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2023-west-yorkshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form/viewdocument>

<sup>14</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2024-cheshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>15</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2025-oxfordshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>16</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2026-hants-iow-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>17</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2027-warwickshire-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>18</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2028-somerset-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>

<sup>19</sup><https://www.markmasonshall.org/mbf-download/2030-essex-mbf-festival-stewardship-form-2/viewdocument>





















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.

## 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>20</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>20</sup><https://covid.joinzoe.com/>

Normal service resuming @86



Mark Masons' Hall reopened its doors to Brethren on Monday, 17 May and staff have returned to working on the fourth floor on a 'hybrid' rota basis. Whether in the office or working from home, all departments and teams are available via email and telephone to help and support as usual.

Mark Masons' Hall is pleased to be

