

# Freemasonry@86 News - 7 October 2022



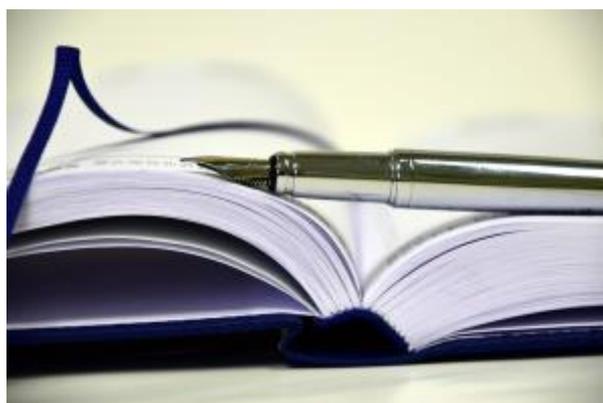
Welcome to your news and information update for the 'Progressive Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

This bulletin is emailed only to those who use the free subscription service.

**Please share this content with your fellow Brethren by forwarding this email or let them know that it's available on the [MMH website](#).**

**If you don't currently receive this email directly but would like to subscribe please email [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)**

## Progressive Orders Diary



**Below are some upcoming dates of events for our Grand teams in their respective Orders.**

You can find the calendar of the regular annual meetings of our Orders further down this newsletter.

**Wednesday, 12 October - Mark** Rose and Thistle Lodge No. 158 Sesquicentenary, Province of West Lancashire

**Wednesday, 12 October - S.C.** Installation of Dist.Comp. Graham Holden, V, P.G.Swd.B., as Provincial Grand Summus for Midland Counties

**Saturday, 15 October - AMD** Installation of W.Bro. Sqn. Ldr. Robert William Chevin, P.G.J.D., as District Grand Prefect for Thames Valley

**Saturday, 15 October - S.C.** Installation of Dist.Comp. Drs Andries Johannes Van Der Burgh, IV, P.G.Her., as Provincial Grand Summus for Sussex

**Tuesday, 18 October - Mark** The Skelmersdale Lodge No. 141 Sesquicentenary, Province of East Lancashire

**Wednesday, 19 October - Mark** Hotspur with Coquetdale No. 135 Sesquicentenary, Province of Northumberland

**Wednesday, 19 October - Mark** Shornccliffe and Hythe Lodge No. 767 Centenary, Province of Kent

**Wednesday, 19 October - Mark** The Wyre Lodge No. 754 Centenary, Province of West Lancashire

**Thursday, 20 October - Mark** Installation of W.Bro. Kevin Spencer, P.G.J.D., as Prov.G.M. for Staffordshire and Shropshire

**Saturday, 22 October - Mark** Province of Kent Sesquicentenary

## Mark in the Garden of England



The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Kent took place on Saturday, 24 September 2022 at the Clive Emson Suite, Kent Showground, Detling.

We received a very warm welcome on our arrival with tea/coffee and biscuits.



There were honoured guests from many Provinces, and other Masonic Orders in Kent.



By 10.45 everyone was seated in the Temple. It was good to see so many newly Advanced Brethren present...



...including the son of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, V.W.Bro. Ivor Spencer, who was a very proud dad. This was Ivor's last meeting as the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies after many years of service to the Province.



Just to remind the other Provinces who won the Inter-Province Cricket Match this year the Bill Balderston memorial Cup and the Norman Todd Cup were proudly displayed on the Secretary's table.



Brethren were called to order to receive the distinguished guests, including Right Worshipful Brethren...



... and past members of the Provincial Executive. Right Worshipful Brothers, Roland Wade, Roger Croucher, and Archibald Torrance.



The meeting was called to order by V.W.Bro. Ivor Spencer, the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, to receive the Provincial Officers of the year accompanying the Assistant Provincial Grand Masters; the Deputy Provincial Grand Master; and the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Peter David Williams, led by the Provincial Grand Sword Bearer and followed by the Provincial Grand Standard Bearers.



Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the Provincial Grand Master and the Brethren stood in silence as a mark of respect for the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Provincial Grand Master was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.



Those present remembered the Brethren who had passed to the Grand Lodge above since the last annual meeting. The Provincial Grand Master then individually welcomed the many representatives of other Provinces and Masonic Orders, thanking them for their support for Kent Mark.

After the regular business before Provincial Grand Lodge had been concluded the Provincial Grand Master welcomed many newly Advanced Brethren thanking them for their support for Provincial Grand Lodge and wishing them many happy years to enjoy their Mark Masonry.



The Provincial Grand Master had much pleasure in re-appointing W.Bro. Martyn Summers, P.G.S.D., as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and W.Bros. David Stiff, P.G.S.D., and Trevor Sharpe, P.A.G.D.C., as Assistant Provincial Grand Masters; seen here with the newly appointed Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro. Christopher Metherell, P.Prov.G.J.W.



The Provincial Grand Master addressed Provincial Grand Lodge. In his Address he presented W.Bro. Perri Ahmet with a Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master's collaret and jewel thanking him for all he has done for the Province over many years.



He also had much pleasure in presenting W.Bro. Terry Hall with a Royal Ark Mariner Silver Pin of Excellence.



The Provincial Grand Master closed by congratulating those Brethren who received appointment or promotion in Grand Lodge in June and September; as well as all those he appointed or promoted that day. The meeting was then called to order and closed in due form.



The Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, together with members of the Past Executive, honoured guests and Provincial Officers then left the Temple in procession.



The Brethren of the Mark Province of Kent and their guests then retired to the bar.



After refreshments the Brethren of the Province of Kent and their guests dined together in peace and harmony, where the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.





In the reply to his toast the Provincial Grand Master thanked W.Bro. Ivor for the many years he has served the Province and had much pleasure in presenting him with a small token of his appreciation.



We all agreed that it was a most enjoyable day in the Garden of England.

With thanks to V.W.Bro. Chris Eley, P.G.J.O.



## A fabulous one fifty at Furness



Furness Mark Lodge No 36 welcomed Prov.G.M. Keith Beardmore and Deputy Grand Secretary Daniel Heath, (pictured above, right and left of the Worshipful Master with some of the Lodge members who have not yet ascended the chair) together with a host of Grand and acting Provincial Grand Officers, to a special meeting called to celebrate the 150th year of the oldest Lodge in the Province.

At the meeting in Barrow Masonic Hall, Lodge stalwart Brian Davey (below, right) was called upon to give a brief history of the Lodge. That was not an easy job as unfortunately most of the Lodge records have proved untraceable. However, Brian, with his 50 years membership of the Lodge, was able to deliver an entertaining insight into some of its early history and several of the characters who helped shape Furness Mark.

The original incarnation of the Lodge had been in 1870 when it was granted a warrant under the auspices of the Scottish Supreme Grand Chapter, when it bore the number 24. In 1872 it became a member of the English constitution and the number was changed to its present 36.



The Dep.G.Sec. read out the Sesquicentenary Warrant, signed by the Grand Master, prior to Keith presenting it to W.M. Graham Benson. One of the highlights of the evening was the Prov.G.M. requesting long time Lodge member Harry Moore (above, left) to be placed before him. There was rapturous applause when the Prov.G.M. gave Harry a field promotion to the rank of Past Provincial

Grand Junior Warden. An honour well deserved for a gentleman who has always been ready to deliver ritual or stand in for absentees at short notice.

The Lodge is obviously named after the peninsula wherein it sits. The Furness peninsula extends from the estuary of the River Leven, along the west shore of Lake Windermere up to Brathay and then across via Wrynose Pass to the River Duddon and its estuary.

But why is it called Furness? Many think it is something to do with the fiery furnaces of the now long-gone iron and steel mills of the area. But in fact it pre-dates that by several centuries. It derives from the Old Norse Futhernessa which translates as the headland by the rump shaped island. That island could be Piel Island where the remains of the castle, built by the monks of Furness Abbey, still stand. Or, alternatively, it may have been the Isle of Walney prior to changes in its features due to centuries of coastal erosion.

Before retiring from the Lodge, some of those lodge members with gold braid joined in the photo opportunity, see below.

The meal following was enjoyed by over 70 diners with two out of the three candidates awaiting advancement amongst those at the tables. Hopefully some of the junior members will be able to enjoy the lodge hitting the double century mark in fifty years time.

*With thanks to W.Bro. Dave Sear, P.Prov.G.J.W., for the words and pictures*





## Persevere Lodge of Mark Master Masons make it to a Century



Persevere Mark Lodge celebrated their Centenary at a meeting at the Brighton Masonic Centre on Friday, 30 September 2022. It was attended by members and visitors including a Provincial team headed by our own Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Roger Francis Richardson.

The Lodge was presented with a Centenary Warrant by the Prov.G.M., who relayed some of the Lodge's history. Although the Lodge was formed in 1921, records only go back as far as 1948.

The Lodge Banner has been refurbished and was re-dedicated by the Prov.G.M. It was then paraded round the Lodge and W.Bro. Norman Grant, Provincial Grand Chaplain, had researched the coat of arms on the banner and gave a suitable explanation of its origin.

After the Lodge was closed everyone retired to the bar and then to the Festive Board which was a fine feast of Roast Beef.

A good time was had by all.

*With thanks to W.Bro. Ray Hackett*



## The 2022 Knights Templar Family Service



On Saturday, 24 September, Knights from across the Constitution arrived at Wells Cathedral in Somerset to enjoy the spectacle, colour, and pageantry of the 2022 Knights Templar Family Service.

The move from Lincoln had been necessary and Wells had been the ideal venue as it would neatly fit in with the annual meeting of the Province of Somerset. The Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Barry Burridge, had been at the head of negotiations with the Cathedral and played an huge part in getting arrangements moving between our organisation and them. It was with tremendous sadness that we learned, early in the morning of the service, that Barry had passed away. We are so grateful for everything he had done to lay the foundations for this service. As the Ceremonial team and members of the Province arrived at the Cathedral, there was a great sense of wanting to make the day that extra bit special in his memory.

And special is certainly was. The local Clergy had soon teamed up with their counterparts in our Order and were sharing stories and experiences while putting the finishing touches to their parts in the service.

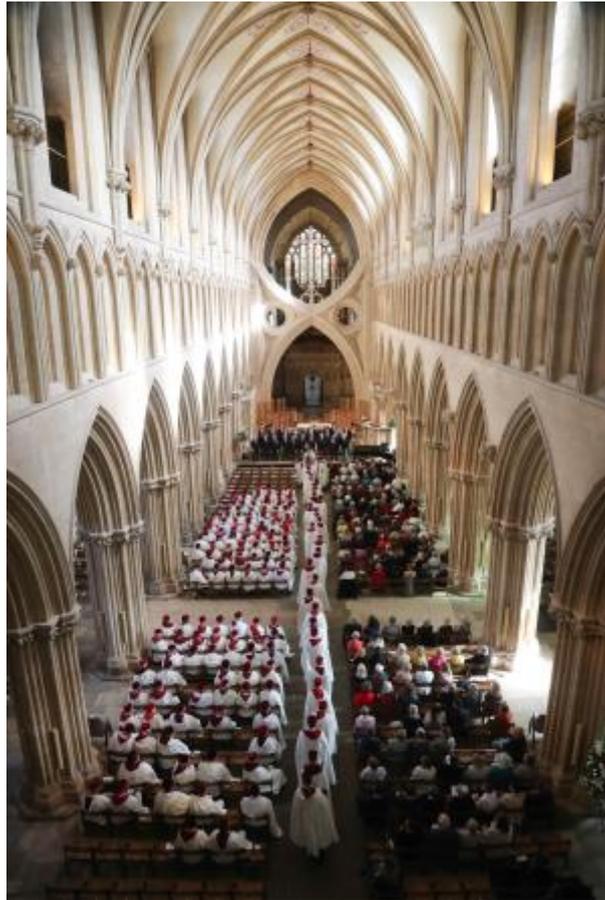


The fabulous Choir were rehearsing for what would prove to be an outstanding performance.



And Knights and their families began to arrive to fill the Cathedral.





Before the service began, the congregation were treated to a series of songs by the [Avon and Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir](#)





Readings were given by The M.E. & S. Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T.; the V.H. and R.E. Great Seneschal, Andrew Rainbow, G.C.T.; and the Great Vice-Chancellor, R.E.Kt.Ryan Williams, K.C.T.





While our spiritual wellbeing was looked after by Great Prelate, R.E.Kt. Rev. Malcolm Lane, K.C.T.; the Great Almoner, E.Kt. Rev. Dr Simon Thorn; and the Deputy Great Almoner, E.Kt. Rev. Niall Johnston.



There were many members of the public among the congregation, and several on the green outside enjoying the display of our regalia, banners and standards, attracting many complimentary comments as processions made their way in and out of the Cathedral.



Thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special and memorable. And to all the Knights and their families who made the journey to support the event and fill the Cathedral. We hope you enjoyed the day.

You can view the full gallery of photographs [Here](#)



Knights of the Vision Beautiful Relay Pilgrimage 2022 for St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital

In the lead up to the Great Priory Family Cathedral Service, the Knights of the Vision Beautiful completed a Relay Pilgrimage of more than three hundred miles from St Augustine's Cross in the Province of Kent to Wells Cathedral, Somerset. They passed a new Preceptor's Baton (supplied by Humber Regalia) from Knight (& Dame!) to Knight as runners and cyclists took it through the boundaries of the Provincial Priorities of Kent, London, Surrey, Middlesex, Oxfordshire, Berks & Bucks, Dorset & Wiltshire, Gloucestershire & Herefordshire and, finally, to Somerset.



The Provincial Prior of Kent, R.E.Kt. David Jordan, pictured here holding the Team Baton with the new Provincial Prior of Somerset, R.E.Kt. Paul Davies, together with two of the Knights of the Vision Beautiful.

All of this was in support of the excellent sight-saving work of our friends at the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital. A number of members of the Team have overcome very serious personal illnesses (more details below), yet undertook this marathon task and each member acquitted themselves heroically. Additional points of note were:

- the elder member of the 2022 Team is E.Kt. John Campbell who solo cycled approximately fifty miles at the age of seventy;
- the Legge family (Antony & Julie) filled in for a Knight that had an emergency and they completed a far greater distance as a result (it should be noted that Antony had one of the early and severe cases of coronavirus in 2020, but managed to recover and take part in our challenges in 2021&2);
- the Team Captain was in a bicycle accident in training for this (a week before) so completed his initial thirty miles on foot with a broken rib and several other injuries (that is in addition to recovering from blood clots, heart and lung failure prior to commencing the series of challenges in the first place);
- Seema Rhodes completed her cycling leg through the undulating country roads in Kent solo due to the above crash (and supported the Captain to be able to do anything this time);
- Peter Doust, who completed the penultimate leg from Gloucestershire to Somerset, following charitably donating one of his kidneys to enable a complete stranger to live, experienced a heart episode last year. His partner conducted immediate CPR and brought him back. He has trained back and has completed challenges for the Team this year and last;

- the final two Knights, Scott and Simon, managed to go on in spite of a broken chain on Scott's bike about half-way between Bathampton and Wells. Simon fixed it and they carried on to complete the challenge for the Team. Scott was in a helicopter crash a few years ago, leading to a broken back and loss of his dog. Simon survived multiple serious injuries from a near fatal car crash in 2019 in which he lost his partner of twenty years (see his page for more details). Both trained their way back from horrendous injuries and have performed amazingly in these and other challenges.

On completion of the Relay Pilgrimage, the Team Members joined with their Chaplain, E.Kt. Rev. Niall Johnston, Deputy Great Almoner and Provincial Prelate for London, and were granted the use of the Lady Chapel for a special Pilgrim Prayer Service followed by the blessing of the Baton, which is planned to be shared with a new Preceptory in due course. The Team Captain and his lovely wife also took the opportunity to renew their marriage vows by the kind assistance of Rev. Niall and in the presence of their Teammates.





The Team Challenge may be complete for now, but the fundraising and their individual challenges go on. Should you wish to support the Eye Hospital via their fundraising appeal, the individual members that undertook the 2022 challenge are listed below together with their JustGiving pages.

## 2022 Relay Pilgrimage Roll of Honour & JustGiving pages for the Eye Hospital:

Angus and Seema Rhodes (various Provinces!) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Angus-Rhodes>

John Campbell (Kent) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/johnanguspage>

Ian Drury (London) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/UnknownKnight>

Fergus De Burgo-Naughton (Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine and soon KT in London) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Fergus-de-Burgo-Naughton>

Graham McGlashen (Surrey) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Graham-McGlashen>

Nik Blackmore (Middlesex) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Nicholas-Blackmore>

Antony and Jules Legge (London – Antony is Provincial Sub-Prior) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sub-Prior-London>

Peter Doust (Gloucestershire & Herefordshire and Somerset) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/PeterDoustKT>

Simon Clark (Gloucestershire & Herefordshire) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/simon-h-clark>

Scott ("s"Can)dlish (Dorset & Wiltshire) <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/scottie-kt>

A further Team Challenge is being worked on for 2022 to enable those Knights not able to participate in the Relay Pilgrimage an opportunity to take part and the appeal remains open.

If you would be interested in taking part in the Team challenges or to have guidance and encouragement in undertaking personal challenges as part of the Team please feel free to contact the Captain via: [Knights.of.the.Vision@gmail.com](mailto:Knights.of.the.Vision@gmail.com)

You can follow them on Twitter: @KnightsVision,

Instagram: @KnightsoftheVision

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Knights-of-the-Vision-Beautiful](https://www.facebook.com/Knights-of-the-Vision-Beautiful)

The overall Team JustGiving Page can also be found at: <https://www.justgiving.com/team/Vision-Beautiful> To date they have raised nearly £27,500 including Gift Aid.



















## The Provincial Priory of London Annual Meeting



The Provincial Priory of London Annual Meeting was held on the 29th of September at Mark Masons' Hall under the Banner of Mount Calvery Preceptory 'D' with R.E.Kt. David James Thompson, Provincial Prior, presiding.

Present at the meeting were many honoured guests from London and other Provinces.



As well as the Great Marshal, R.E.Kt. Tim Wheeler, K.C.T.



The Brother Knights were called to order to receive the visiting Provincial Priors and Knights Commander of the Temple



The Provincial Prior for London, R.E.Kt David Thompson entered in procession through an Arch of Steel accompanied by his Provincial Officers.





A Chapter of Provincial Priory was opened, and the Provincial Prior was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Marshal, E.Kt. Keith Florence.

A period of reflection for Her Late Majesty the Queen was observed, following which the memory of Knights who had passed to the Holy City was honoured.

The visiting Knights were warmly welcomed by the Provincial Prior and saluted under the direction of the Provincial Marshal. After the Muster Roll of Provincial Officers was called the Preceptory Banners were paraded and the Roll of Preceptories was called.



The Provincial Prior appointed and invested his Officers and then received the members of his Bodyguard, before addressing the assembled Knights.

E.Kt. Angus Rhodes was then presented with a Vote of Thanks from the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem by E.Kt. Jamie Ingham Clark, Trustee of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group. This very special award was presented to E.Kt. Angus for all his hard work in raising funds for the Eye Hospital.



A Chapter of Provincial Priory was closed and the Provincial Prior, Provincial Sub Prior, and distinguished visitors retired from Provincial Priory.



After some refreshments in the bar.....





..... we retired to the dining room where were treated to a splendid lunch at Mark Masons' Hall with Knights of the Provincial Priory of London and their guests from other Provinces.

*With thanks to V.E.Kt. Chris Eley, P.Gt.Reg.*



## A venerable Northumbrian Preceptory returns to the Active Roll of Great Priory



On Saturday, 1 October, Brandling Preceptory No. 239 returned to the Active Roll of Great Priory after its Warrant had been placed in abeyance during the pandemic.

One of the oldest Preceptories in Northumberland, it was consecrated on 25 August 1929 by the then Provincial Prior, Col. Charles Warren Napier Clavering, G.C.T.

Col. Napier Clavering was one of the greatest Freemasons of the early part of the twentieth century, serving as Provincial Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of Northumberland for over two decades from 1909; the Provincial Grand Master for Northumberland and Durham in the Mark; Intendant General in the Red Cross; Inspector General in the Rose Croix; and Grand High Priest in the Knight Templar Priests. In our own Order, he was Provincial Prior for Northumberland and Durham from 1911, Very High and Right Eminent Great Seneschal from 1913 and Knight Grand Cross of the United Orders from 1915, until he was called to Higher Service by the Great Captain of our Salvation in 1931.

Originally meeting in Gosforth, the Preceptory relocated following the closure of the masonic hall to the eastern side of our Province but, sadly, suffered declining support and, when the pandemic struck, the few remaining Knights felt the Preceptory had become unviable.

The M.E. and S. Grand Master authorised the Warrant to be held in abeyance in the hope of its revival at a later date.

The current Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Kevin Stannard, assisted by several of the Provincial Officers, decided to repurpose it as a "Preceptory of Improvement", relocating it more centrally within the Province and changing its meetings to a Saturday morning, three times a year, to demonstrate the ceremonies of Installation of a Knight Templar; Installation of a Knight of Malta and the Installations of a new Preceptor and Prior.

With R.E.Kt. Kevin acting as Preceptor, all the other offices were filled by Acting and Past Provincial Officers, and they were delighted to admit a candidate, Comp. Darren Bolton, from John Page Chapter in Cramlington, in an excellent ceremony witnessed by many Knights from other Preceptories in the Province as well as several Knights who had been original members of Brandling before the pandemic.

So successful was the day, that Brandling now has over 15 joining members and the likelihood of new Knights wanting to join from the Chapters meeting in the Cramlington building. There is renewed confidence that Brandling Preceptory will now go from strength to strength, looking forwards to a bright future as it proceeds onwards towards its Centenary.

*With thanks to Knight Nick Deakin*



## Le Cordon Écarlate en France





At the end of last week 22 Companions of the Scarlet Cord from England arrived in Toulouse for a feast of French fraternisation. The team comprised all three rulers of the Order, Rulers of two other Orders, and Grand Officers present and past, all with roles to play, and mostly travelling at their own expense.



*1 - Three Rulers. Andrew Sweeney, Grand Supreme Ruler O.S.M., the Grand Summus, and Kessick Jones, Grand Master R.S.M.*

The schedule was hectic and there was a lot to do, but this was made so much easier with the fantastic efforts our French hosts had gone to, to ensure things went smoothly. The warmth of the welcome could not have been any greater and the team were looked after with tremendous kindness and generosity from the moment they arrived.

Originally, three Conclaves began working the Scarlet Cord in the late noughties under the English O.S.M. before moving to French Control as Scarlet Cord Consistories. But the Order was short lived in France and the Consistories fell into Abeyance.

But feeling has remained strong for a decade that the Order should be revived.

When a group of French Companions met the English team when both headed out to Arlington, U.S.A., earlier this year, plans was set in motion for a revival. But no-one could have foreseen just how quickly the French team would act and pull together many of the original members of the Conclaves, to bring about the need for this trip.

And so it was that on Friday, 30 September, Provence Consistory No. 68 and Occitania Consistory No. 67 were Re-Constituted, Re-Dedicated and Re-Consecrated in a specially formulated ceremony, written by the Grand Summus especially for this unique situation.



*2 - Provence Consistory No. 68*



*3 - Occitania Consistory No. 67*

The following day the English team worked the Preparation ceremony, then Gallia Consistory No. 66 was Re-Constituted, Re-Dedicated and Re-Consecrated.



*4 - Gallia Consistory No. 66*

As a finale, in the afternoon the Inspectorate of France was Constituted and Dist.Comp. Jean-Philippe Dakhil was Obligated, Invested and Installed as Very Distinguished Grand Inspector for the Inspectorate of France (below).



He then appointed his two Inspectorate Officers, Dist.Comp. Pierre Meste as Inspectorate Recorder (below, right), and V.Dist.Comp. Christian Amine, P.G.Lect., as Inspectorate D.C. (below, left).





*5 - Joined by the President of Gallia Consistory No. 66*



In recognition of the work that had gone into reviving the Order, the team were made not only Honorary Members of each Consistory, but also of the Inspectorate. And on the Friday evening, each member was also highly honoured by being given an Honorary Provincial Rank in the Craft Provincial Grand Lodge of Occitania.



*6 - The Grand Summus receives his Honorary Rank and collarette from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master*

It was also a pleasure to see the meetings so well supported by other Order Rulers from France, including the Mark, Red Cross of Constantine, A.M.D., and O.S.M..

We cannot thank our hosts enough for the time they took to ensure everyone was well looked after. As if they hadn't already done enough, this flying visit was rounded off by an excursion to see the beautiful walled city of Carcassonne.

After five ceremonies in two days, it's no wonder the Grand Summus needed a lie down before taking in the sights.



But he was soon back on his feet, refreshed, revitalised and ready for the next chapter in the Order's history as more and more of the globe is shaded Scarlet.



## Cumberland and Westmorland Mark bring joy to the community



R.W.Bro. Barry Kirkbride presented a cheque for £87,528 to The Rock Youth Project, Currock and Upperby, Carlisle, on Monday 3rd October 2022, to build their New Club House. The cheque was presented to R.W.Bro. Barry Kirkbride at his investiture as the New Mark Prov.G.M. of the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland on Thursday, 22nd September at the Racecourse Carlisle, by M.W.Bro. John Herbert Prizeman, Pro Grand Master, on behalf of the Mark Benevolent fund.

Pictured left to right are:

Julie Wannop, Trustee; Hannah Gill, Project Manager; Barry Kirkbride



The Rock Youth Project is situated on Scalegate Road in Currock, Carlisle. After one visit Julie Wannop was devastated to see first hand the desperate need for such facilities in this deprived area of Carlisle. Having been brought up and lived in the Carlisle area she became saddened at how naive and ignorant she have been to think that the issues this area has didn't exist in Carlisle. The project got under her skin and when asked to join the Board she jumped at the chance.

The Rock Youth Project is a registered charity and limited company (not for profit) there is no charge for service users ensuring there is no financial barrier to anyone wishing to attend. This is The Rock Youth Project's unique selling point as they are the largest and only free provider in the city.

What is the Rock Youth project?

The Rock runs youth clubs in the heart of the most deprived residential areas of Carlisle for junior and secondary school children in Currock, Upperby and Harraby.

In Currock there is a distinct lack of pitches and play area facilities for children to access.

Crime statistics in these areas.

85%. Of people in Currock are in the bottom third in terms of multiple Deprivation in England.

Last year 1114 cases of sexual or violent crimes were reported in the Currock, Upperby and Harraby area including :

473 anti-social behaviour cases

345 criminal damage cases

So it's no surprise that the children in these areas get caught up with alcohol & drug abuse and crimes such as drug running, and under age sex groups.

What do they provide?

- A safe place for children to go to after school and in the evenings, in the heart of their own community
- Give support and someone to talk to for those who need it most
- Food and a warm environment
- And when they can, they take them on trips, outdoor adventures and activities
- All this is provided free of charge to ensure they have fun, help and support when required

What are our targets?

- To take troublesome children off the streets at nights
- To entertain local children, many of whom don't have the support from their parents to access facilities in other parts of the city. This very often being due to their parents having medical disabilities or addiction problems.
- To provide a safe environment where they can actually be children
- To assist in educating them with gardening clubs, cookery clubs, craft & art clubs, sport and to take them on trips they would otherwise never get to visit or experience

- Most importantly, to raise their ASPIRATION for their future

## The Future

The existing facilities are almost derelict and the team work in extremely difficult conditions to deliver a fantastic service to these children.

They are desperately in need of financial support so that we can replace the dilapidated vermin infested wooden huts that we operate from in order to keep young and vulnerable children off the streets and out of trouble at night.

Their original plan was to build a club room out of shipping containers which would be vandal and arson resistant, but due to covid our fundraising plans were put on hold for 18 months and the price of shipping containers seems to have gone through the roof. They are not proud, just desperate, so they are now looking into second hand cabins. So, all the money they can raise will go towards the purchase of whatever portable structure we can afford.

The name "The Rock" could not be more appropriate since this club really is a place of sanctuary and safety in the stormy lives of these children.

With a plea for help like this, how could the MBF Trustees refuse. They are sure the money will make a huge difference to this very worthy cause. The lovely thank-you e-mail sent on behalf of the Trustees of the Rock Youth Project said it all...

7th October 2022

Dear Ken

You may have gathered that I was in a complete state of emotional shock on Monday!

I actually thought you were popping in for a site visit to meet the team and see what we were currently working with. The incredible generosity of the Mark Masons is quite simply extraordinary, and I cannot begin to thank the association enough.

Working with the Masons has always been a great pleasure for me and the staff at Eden, but now it has become a great honour. The incredible work you all do so modestly is incomparable to any other organisation I have come across and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Your generosity will give the young people of Currock something to look forward to and hopefully create in them an aspiration to achieve their full potential in life despite the early difficulties that have been faced by so many of them.

Please pass on our sincere gratitude to all at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Cumberland and Westmorland.

Best wishes

Julie Wannop



7 - Outside view of their Present buildings



## St Peter's Hospice patient vehicle report

Rosalind Fursland, Trust and Philanthropy Officer for St Peter's Hospice, Bristol, writes:

Following on from the very generous grants totalling £13,750 we received from The Mark Master Masons of Bristol towards a brand-new Response Vehicle for St Peter's Hospice, I enclose a report providing you with an update on the purchase of the vehicle and the success of the project, as well as a request to spend the remaining funds on two new Tilt in Space wheelchairs to help with transporting patients.

After the many financial challenges of the pandemic, including shop closures and event cancellations, this has been a year of reviving our events calendar and reopening our shops. All shops are now fully up and running and most of our big fundraising events such as 'Tour De Bristol' and 'Midnight Walk' have gone ahead successfully.

Our 'When It Matters Most' campaign generated over £500,000 for St Peter's Hospice through donations from generous individual supporters and trusts. Thanks to the amazing support for our campaign and our careful management of finances, we are now able to continue investing in our services, supporting our communities where the need is greatest.

In the wake of the pandemic and with the rising cost of living, we know that many local communities are in need of our help. For everyone that has died during the pandemic there are many more who have been bereaved, and our therapy teams are urgently needed to support those experiencing grief.

Our focus in the coming years will identify the areas of need within our local community, such as the increased need for Bereavement Support, and recognise where gaps have opened up due to the pandemic. We will enhance funding for our community-based services to ensure we are reaching the areas where they are needed most.

With the rising costs of patient care and reopening our Inpatient Unit to full capacity with 5 nurse-led beds, we must ensure our services continue to receive funding from our generous supporters to meet the needs of our local community during their most challenging moments.

Thanks to the very generous support received from The Mark Master Masons, enabling us to purchase a new Response Vehicle, we have been able to continue supporting patients and families through their most difficult moments.

We will be including an article on the new Response Vehicle in our forthcoming newsletter and have included a thank you to the Mark Master Masons of Bristol, with your logo printed on the vehicle itself. Your generosity makes an enormous difference across our services, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.

Yours Sincerely,

### **New Response Vehicle**

Owing to your generosity, we now have our brand-new Response Vehicle at the Hospice and it has been put to work straight away.

Response Vehicles are specially adapted to transport patients in a wheelchair, as well as patients with limited mobility. The vehicle is used for bringing patients to the Hospice and enabling families to visit, supporting patient admissions and discharges to our Inpatient Unit, transporting patients to hospital appointments, collecting medical equipment and vital PPE.



**Marc Willetts, Hospice Volunteer**

The vehicle is one of two Response Vehicles the Hospice owns and provides a more flexible option for Hospice patients and their families to travel to appointments than booking an ambulance. These vehicles are extremely important to the Hospice in our commitment to equality, ensuring that all patients have access to our services irrespective of their mobility. The vehicle can fit a driver and passenger in the front and has seating for three in the rear. There is a Perspex screen behind the driver, which is now an essential Covid safety measure.

Marc Willetts, Hospice Volunteer Manager says: "From the Hospice's perspective, it gives us flexibility. Transport is difficult for a lot of patients, as is parking. A mobility car is a very helpful thing to provide, and patients know that we're looking after them with same high standard and ethos of care that the Hospice provides. It doesn't matter if the person arrives at an appointment and has to stay for longer. Feedback is always very positive as this service removes an element of stress."



**Aylwyn, Volunteer**

Aylwyn will be one of the drivers using the new car. He has been a volunteer driver for the Hospice for the past ten years, and he explains:

“I drive the mobility car, taking patients from their homes to appointments. I’ve taken a lady for an x-ray today, accompanying her from the car to the department, and driven a man to his therapy session. I also do the weekly Long Ashton run, deliver items to the shops, travel to Southmead, pick up the pharmacy boxes, and collect PPE from Barnstaple and deliver it to the Hospice.

The mobility cars are fitted with restraints for a wheelchair and have a tailgate and ramp. Our drivers are trained to operate all the equipment as we need to be able to help patients in and out of the vehicle when we take them to appointments.”

Hospice Feedback 2022 “Every member of staff, particularly the nursing team (and Harry in particular) have, without exception been empathetic and have provided outstanding care. They have made a traumatic and difficult time significantly more bearable.”

“The care my son experienced was very good indeed. If you had provided a box labelled outstanding, I would have ticked that or any other superlative. There is nothing I can think of what I witnessed at St. Peter's Hospice that was nothing short of superb, compassionate, and so wonderfully caring that it amounted to an act of beauty.”

We were delighted to secure an excellent price for the purchase of the Response Vehicle, meaning that the total spend for the Response Vehicle itself came in under budget at £27k. We have £4,894 remaining from our Response Vehicle budget.

We were hoping that since you were so generous in providing funding for our Response Vehicle, you might permit us to redirect the remaining funds towards purchasing two new Tilt in Space Wheelchairs to help with transporting patients to and from the Hospice, as well as within the Inpatient Unit.



The wheelchairs help to move patients up the ramp and into the vehicle with ease and fit into the exact allocated space in the back of the vehicle. There is also still space to seat family members within the vehicle.

The Tilt in Space Wheelchairs will be used to assist with patient admissions to the Inpatient Unit, help with collecting patients from home so they can attend Day Services at the Hospice or be transported to the hospital for medical appointments.

These wheelchairs are ergonomically designed to be tilted, reclined and adjusted for comfort and will enable patients with limited mobility to have full access to our services. They have a multi-adjustable backrest designed to accommodate different body types and provide good back support.

They are fitted with an adjustable padded headrest and armrests, while the elevating leg rests provide support and pressure relief. The wheelchair has hub brakes to ensure there is no chance of movement within the vehicle and will be secured with straps which are pre-fitted in the response vehicle.

St Peter's Hospice currently has one working Tilt in Space Wheelchair, and we have been extremely impressed by the design and comfort levels for patients. If we were able to purchase two more, it would allow us to provide the highest level of comfort for more patients, transporting patients from home to the Hospice, as well as within the Inpatient Unit itself.

Each Comfort Tilt in Space wheelchair costs around £2,000 and we would be enormously grateful if we could re-direct the remaining grant from The Mark Master Masons towards these purchases.

With two Response Vehicles running at the Hospice, fuel costs are currently budgeted at £1,500 per vehicle, per year, so it would be hugely appreciated if we were able to spend any other remaining funds on fuel costs for the Response Vehicles. We completely understand, however, if these requests are not possible.

Thank you again for your enormous generosity in supporting us and we look forward to hearing your response.

## Update from Romania



NEWSLETTER No. 07/16.09.2022



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

5<sup>th</sup> of September was the beginning of the New School Year in Romania. Along with Romanians, Ukrainian children have the chance to participate in this year's classes. In different parts of the country measures have been taken for a good integration of the newcomers among the locals.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

Mark Master Masons from Romania supported the refugee children with Romanian language lessons, school supplies and necessary arrangements to integrate them in Romanian educational system.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

"Today we went to school on the first day. Thank you for giving us this opportunity. And many thanks for providing us with food, clothes and shoes and accommodation at the Refugee Center! God bless!"

Evdochia - war refugee mother from the Mihăileşeni Refugee Center, Botosani County.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

The language courses continue for all ages.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

MMM Lodge Thomas Dunderley organized an ophthalmological medical check in the localities where the Mihăilești and Mihaleni Refugee Centers are located. In addition to the refugees, the locals also benefited from this medical program. We believe that we have once again brought joy to the people in need.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

A trip was organized to Bucharest International Air Show 2022.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

As summer is the vacation season, various recreational activities were organized for Ukrainian refugees, especially for children.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

"Casa Lidia" Foundation was established in 1996. Its permanent goal was to help abandoned or orphaned children. The children are assisted 24/7 by supervisors, teachers, educators and social workers. Although the Foundation was not created to support cases like the war in Ukraine, the people there thought in their duty to get involved. The gates were opened for Ukrainian, Azerbaijani, Korean, Afghan children, accompanied by their mothers, young refugees whose parents stayed behind to defend their country, but also helpless old people. None of the refugees wanted to stay long-term, but their stay was accompanied by all the empathy and support of our countrymen without demanding any kind of payment.

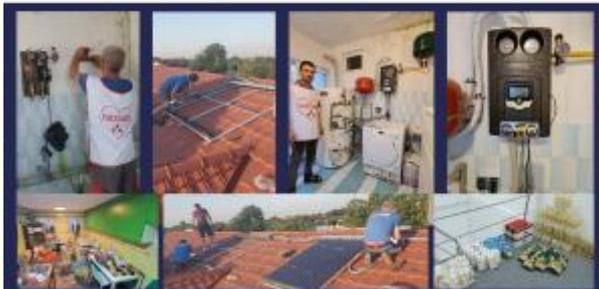
Unfortunately, for the heating and domestic hot water, an oversized natural gas power plant was used. To reduce gas consumption, solar panels were installed and the existing water pipes were redesigned and replaced. A group of Brothers from MMM Lodge Sanctuarium No. 2033 coordinated by W Bro Anatoile Gorea together with other Brothers from Mark Order were involved in this project. From the total of 48,386,53 lei spent on the project, the Mark Order contributed with 30,000 lei. The brothers also contributed with food worth 14,000 lei. The involvement of MMM Lodge Sanctuarium Nr.2033 will continue supporting "Casa Lidia" Foundation.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania



## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERS FROM THE GRAND INSPECTORATE OF MARK MASTER MASONS IN ROMANIA

**Charitable Activities**

Letter of gratitude from Casa Lidia Foundation to Mark Master Masons Order of Romania.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania

## SELECTED IMAGES FROM CHARITY ACTIVITIES

Our Order continued to support refugee families across the country. Food, hygiene and cleaning products were continuously delivered.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania

## SELECTED IMAGES FROM CHARITY ACTIVITIES

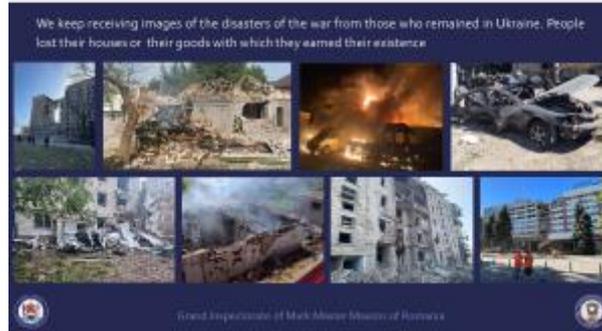
For those who left their homes because of the war, we are the only hope for a decent living and a better future.



Grand Inspectorate of Mark Master Masons of Romania

---

## SELECTED IMAGES FROM OUR FRIENDS



## North & East Yorkshire R.C.C. and the Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund



A cheque for the sum of £2,500 from the Grand Sovereign's Care for Children Fund was presented by R.III.Kt. David Roach, Intendant General for the Red Cross Division of North & East Yorkshire, to Zoe' Place, Middlesbrough, for the purchase of Sleep Monitoring Sensors and equipment, Zoe's Place is an Hospice providing palliative and end of life care for Children.

Pictured above are, left to right: P.Kt. Clive Copley (Divisional Junior General), R.III.Kt. David Roach (Intendant General), V.III.Kt. Geoff Nicholson (Divisional Recorder), and Em.Kt. Geoff Mankin (Divisional Asst Recorder).

## O.S.M. Channel Islands



Wy. Bro. Gareth Callan, Dep. Prov. G.S.R. of Channel Islands was pleased on Friday morning to meet in Jersey with Amanda, of Relate Jersey and make the 2021/2 OSM charity donation.

The members, along with matched funding, donated £1,000 to be split equally between Relate in Jersey and Guernsey. Amanda greeted us warmly and told us their £500 was being put immediately to use aiding the purchase of a much needed new laptop.

Gareth was accompanied by Wy. Bro. Mike Yates, P.A.G.D.C.

## Essex Mark prepare for a very special trip

THE MBF FESTIVAL ESSEX 2030 COMMITTEE  
BRINGS YOU



**A 3 Day 2 Night guided tour of the SOMME**  
by Mark Smith  
The BBC's Antiques Roadshow Military Expert

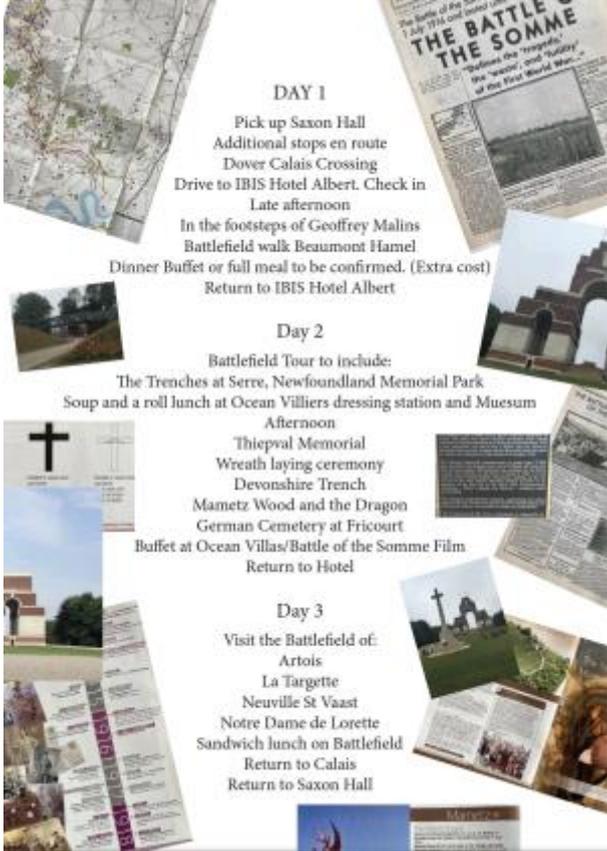
**FRI 14TH APRIL 2023**  
to  
**SUN 16TH APRIL 2023**

**£695pp**

**IN AID OF THE MBF FESTIVAL 2030**



Contact Michael Howarth | 07917 323 025 | conqueror@sky.com



**DAY 1**  
Pick up Saxon Hall  
Additional stops en route  
Dover Calais Crossing  
Drive to IBIS Hotel Albert. Check in  
Late afternoon  
In the footsteps of Geoffrey Malins  
Battlefield walk Beaumont Hamel  
Dinner Buffet or full meal to be confirmed. (Extra cost)  
Return to IBIS Hotel Albert

**Day 2**  
Battlefield Tour to include:  
The Trenches at Serre, Newfoundland Memorial Park  
Soup and a roll lunch at Ocean Villiers dressing station and Muesum  
Afternoon  
Thiepval Memorial  
Wreath laying ceremony  
Devonshire Trench  
Mametz Wood and the Dragon  
German Cemetery at Fricourt  
Buffet at Ocean Villas/Battle of the Somme Film  
Return to Hotel

**Day 3**  
Visit the Battlefield of:  
Artois  
La Targette  
Neuville St Vaast  
Notre Dame de Lorette  
Sandwich lunch on Battlefield  
Return to Calais  
Return to Saxon Hall

## 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](#) - This is the contact account for the [Mark Masons' Hall Facebook Page](#)

Twitter - [@MarkMasonsHall](#)

Or you can email us at [communications@mmh.org.uk](mailto:communications@mmh.org.uk)

## Calendar of Annual Meetings

### Grand Meetings Calendar 2022 - All Orders

Please note all timings are approximate. Refer to the Summons for confirmation.

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Admission Free	Refreshments	Meeting Fee/Rate	2022 Fee	Meeting Fee
MARK	Grand Lodge	Sunday, 16 March 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
WMM	Grand Council	Sunday, 20 April 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£2.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
SC	Grand Secretariat	Thursday, 5 May 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
KT	Grand Priory	Wednesday, 18 May 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
MARK	Grand Lodge	Sunday, 7 June 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
RCC	Grand Imperial Conference	Sunday, 1 July 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
MARK	Grand Lodge	Sunday, 11 September 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
MMAC	Grand Priory	Thursday, 19 September 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
MMI	Grand Council	Sunday, 25 October 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
MMI	Grand Council	Thursday, 28 November 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
KT	Grand Priory	Sunday, 11 December 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
MMI	Annual Assembly	Monday, 12 December 2022	Mark's Great Queen Street, London, WC2R 0JF	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

MMH

## Booking now for the West Yorkshire 2023 MBF Festival



**155<sup>th</sup> MBF Festival Banquet**  
will be held at the  
**Harrogate Conference Centre**  
Kings Rd  
Harrogate  
HG1 5LA  
Saturday, 1 July 2023



[Click Here](#) to book



**Mark Emergency Relief Fund**

At the meeting of Mark Grand Lodge at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Raymond John Smith, announced that the Mark Benevolent Fund would be donating £25,000 to the Mark Inspectorate of Romania who have been working proactively in many ways to provide support and relief to their neighbours in Ukraine.

This tremendous endeavour has touched Freemasons across the Constitution and many of our Brethren are keen to add their own support by making a donation.

We have set up a Relief Chest with the M.C.F. under the name of the **Mark Emergency Relief Fund** and you can now make donations in a variety of ways.

**We know that there is enormous support for this already. To make the administration of donations as smooth as possible, enabling funds to be transferred efficiently to where they are needed most, we ask that you note the following advice regarding donations:**

**For individual donations of less than £100** - please make arrangements with your Mark Lodge for these to be collected centrally and then for the Lodge to make one consolidated donation into the Fund. These consolidated donations will count toward the Lodge's M.B.F. honorifics, rather than each individuals.

**Donations of £100 or more may be made by individuals directly into the fund** and will count towards the Brother's M.B.F. Honorifics

In all correspondence please ensure you are donating to:

**Mark Emergency Relief Fund**

Relief Chest No.: **MMM185622**

The quickest and easiest way to donate is by scanning the QR code below or following this [Link](#).



For a Credit Card Donation Form [Click Here](#) - remembering to use your **Craft Lodge name and number**, not your Mark Lodge.

For a Single Donation Form [Click Here](#) - remembering to use your **Craft Lodge name and number**, not your Mark Lodge.

If you would like more information about the ways in which you can donate using the digital options above, you can read the Digital Donations Guide by [Clicking Here](#)

And if you, or your Lodge, already hold a Relief Chest from which you would like to donate funds, there is a further, specific guide available by [Clicking Here](#) and a simple transfer guide available by [Clicking Here](#)

## The Shop@86

[Click Here](#) to visit the Shop@86 website

**Please note:** The Shop@86 is closed for the summer recess and will re-open on Monday, 22 August.



## **MBF Festival Stewardship Jewels**

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

[2023 West Yorkshire](#)

[2024 Cheshire](#)

[2025 Oxfordshire](#)

[2026 Hampshire & IOW](#)

[2027 Warwickshire](#)

[2028 Somerset](#)

[2030 Essex](#)

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.















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.

## Admin Departments @86



All departments and teams at Mark Masons' Hall are available via email and telephone to help and support members and visitors.

Most communication for Masonic Administration should go via the Provincial Secretary, or equivalent, and they will know who to contact here at M.M.H. if they are unable to answer the query themselves.

Published by the Communications Team at Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1PL

Find us here [///prefer.status.sharp](http://prefer.status.sharp)