

Freemasonry@86 News - 11 November 2022



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

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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.

Tuesday, 15 November - Malta Great priory of Malta, Freemasons' Hall, London

Wednesday, 16 November - R.C.C. Installation of Ill.Kt. David John Green, P.G.Chamb., as Intendant-General for Kent

Thursday, 17 November - R.A.M. Keystone Lodge of R.A.M. No. 109 Centenary, Province of Monmouthshire

Monday, 21 November - Mark Vessey Lodge of M.M.M. No. 757 Centenary, Province of Warwickshire

Wednesday, 23 November - S.C. Consecration of Monmouthshire Consistory

Monday 28, November - Mark Installation of W.Bro. David Nigel Hanson, P.G.S.D., as Provincial Grand Master for Durham

Wednesday, 30 November - Mark Steanforde Lodge of M.M.M. No. 752 Centenary, Province of Northampton, Huntingdon and Bedford

Saturday, 3 December - R.C.C. RCC Installation of Ill.Kt. Nicholas St. John Middleton White, P.G.St.B.(C.), as Intendant-General for Devon and Cornwall

Monday, 12 December - R.A.M. Grand Assembly, Freemasons' Hall, London

Annual Convocation of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor



Despite the revised rail timetables due to the cancelled rail strikes the day before, and a separate rail strike on the London Underground network, a good number of Brethren managed to find ways of getting to Freemasons' Hall on Thursday to make the most of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor.



The Grand Supreme Ruler, M.Wy.Bro. Andrew Christopher Sweeney, was joined on the dais by R.Wy.Bro. G. Llewellyn Gill, A.G.S.R., and M.Wy.Bro. Paul Raymond Clement, acting as Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler, as the travel disruption had prevented R.Wy.Bro. James Robert Hodge, Dep.G.S.R., from attending.

Following the general business on the Agenda, M.Wy.Bro. Clement was afforded the honour and pleasure of proposing the re-election of the Grand Supreme Ruler, which was seconded by the President of the Executive Committee, R.W.Bro. Charles Aspinell, and received with acclamation by the Brethren.

It was then time to Install a new Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler and the Grand Director of Ceremonies presented R.Wy.Bro. Keith Berwick Ferguson to the Grand Supreme Ruler, who paid tribute to Keith's well know Masonic background, particularly as Prov.G.S.R. and Prov.G.S. for South Wales and

Monmouthshire, O.S.M. and Scarlet Cord respectively, before proceeding to Obligate, Invest and Install him.



R. Wy. Bro. G. Llewellyn Gill was then re-appointed as Assistant Grand Supreme Ruler. This was followed by the investiture of Active Grand Officers, and those receiving first appointment to, and promotion in, Grand Rank.

The Grand Supreme Ruler then addressed the Brethren, thanking them for the effort they had made to overcome transport difficulties to support the meeting.

He spoke of the special nature of our Order, and how important this was to highlight this when talking to those who aren't yet members. The fraternal friendship that exists between Brethren of our Order is quite different to that which exists elsewhere in Freemasonry and has long been the thread which binds us so tightly to the Order.

There was then a brief resumé of the activities of the past 12 months before the G.S.R. welcomed the Heads of other Masonic Orders, visitors from overseas, and Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers Installed in the past year.

M. Wy. Bro. Sweeney then reminded Brethren of the importance of the Match Funding scheme of the O.S.M. Fund of Benevolence, which reviews applications to match funding by Provinces/Districts and Conclaves up to £1,000 per Province/District per year, and encouraged Brethren to make use of the scheme, as well as to carry on supporting it with donations. You can read more about how this fund distributed money in 2021-22 in the report below.

He then spoke of the retirement of R. Wy. Bro. James Robert Hodge as Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler and his service to the Order, first as Assistant Grand Supreme Ruler from 2015-2019, and since 2019 as Deputy.

There was another high-profile retirement at the meeting as the Grand Director of Ceremonies, R. Wy. Bro. Chris Davies, was standing down following his appointment to the same Rank in the Mark, and the Grand Supreme Ruler thanked Chris for his usual meticulous preparation and management of the meeting. V. Wy. Bro. Ray Ellis will be taking up the G.D.C.'s wand after he has recovered from some recent treatment which prevented his attendance, and the Grand Supreme Ruler wished him well in his recovery.

The Grand Supreme Ruler then began to speak of the importance of the link between the O.S.M. and the Scarlet Cord and turned his attention to the Grand Summus of that Order, Ian Stanley Currans, and took him completely by surprise by asking the G.D.C. to present Ian to him so he could appoint him to the honour and dignity of Grand Chancellor of the O.S.M.



Once invested, there was an opportunity for R.Wy.Bro. Currans to respond, which he did, only to say that those who knew him seldom found him lost for words but, on this occasion, he was speechless.

This was a fitting and happy end to what had been a very enjoyable meeting and, following the closing of Grand Conclave and the singing of the National Anthem, the Brethren retired from the Grand Temple, many going next door to enjoy the after proceedings and that warm and familiar friendship so special to this Order.

Thank you to all those who made the extra-special effort to attend and make this such a memorable and pleasant day.

You can find a photo gallery of the meeting by [Clicking Here](#)

Photo's by Wy.Bro. Chris Eley



O.S.M. Fund of Benevolence Annual Match Funding Report



**Order of the
Secret Monitor
Fund of Benevolence**

**2021-22
Annual Match
Funding Report**

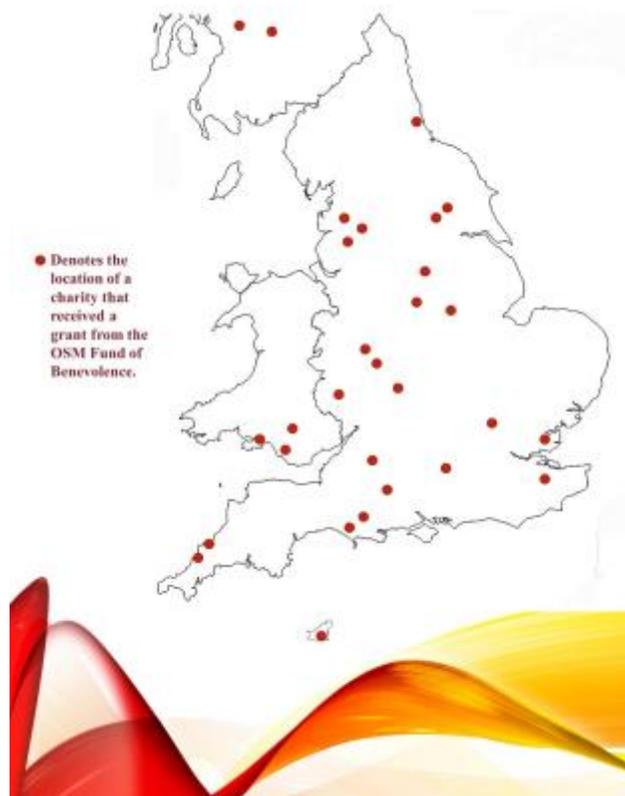


The OSM Fund of Benevolence was founded at the close of the 19th Century, and in December 1899 it was formally opened with a credit balance of seventeen guineas. The Fund annually distributes thousands of pounds to Secret Monitor Petitioners and local charities through its Match Funding Program.



During the 2021-22 Match Funding Program, the OSM Fund of Benevolence awarded **£15,890** to Provinces throughout England, Wales, Scotland and the Channel Islands. The charities that were to benefit from the generosity of the Brethren up and down the UK are wide and varied but all had one thing in common – they were all raising funds for capital items.





£1,000



Three Pillars Feeding the Homeless

feeds and supports the homeless and most vulnerable in St Neots, Huntingdon and Peterborough. The Province is supporting emergency accommodation and the provision of tents and sleeping bags to those who have no recourse to public funds.

£500



The Guernsey Cheshire Home has one aim: to provide care and opportunity for people with serious physical disabilities in as close to a family atmosphere as possible. Funding is for furniture, fittings, an industrial spin dryer and new seating.



£1,000

These 2 foodbanks cover the north of Cornwall where 1 in 5 families are below the poverty line. Funds are to support those most in need.





£500

**Bridport Conclave No.608
The Burrough Harmony Centre**

A friendly, welcoming, informal service offering peer support, information, signposting and a variety of enjoyable activities to local people who are living with a mental health problem. They are raising funds to provide new equipment for their day centre including items of furniture and IT equipment.



£250



Supporting General children

Forum Conclave No.692

Mosaic also provides Residential Weekends, Activity Days and Social events which help young people feel less isolated and alone. The charity is raising funds to support these weekends with much needed arts and crafts materials.

£125

White Horse Conclave No.364

Singing together in a supportive, friendly group is uplifting, enjoyable and hugely therapeutic for people living with dementia and family carers alike. Funds will help supply all types of playing and recording devices for the sessions.



£125



**White Horse Conclave No.364
Crosspoint - Westbury**

The charity is setting up its new foodbank and funds are needed to provide equipment as necessary such as shelving, bins and copiers etc.



£500



The charity is committed to the transport and care of cancer patients. They run a free service to take the worry and stress of attending hospital appointments. The charity is raising funds for new wheelchairs to be used during transport.



£1,000

The hospice needed a specialist hospital bed costing £2,000. The match funding allowed them to purchase it.



£500

Funding to provide safety equipment and hardware needed for the bikes.





£500

Funding to provide updated safety equipment and hardware needed for the bikes.



£500

Upminster Conclave No.263

Money has been donated to the stroke ward at Southend Hospital to help with the refurbishment of the staff areas.



£1,000

Melanoma UK are fundraising to provide mole mapping scanners to hospitals. Each unit costs in the region of £45K - 50K and Melanoma UK have so far supplied two.



£1,000



Kent Association for the Blind

The charity has recently launched its new mobile site vehicle that travels to three sight centres in Maidstone, Canterbury and Bromley supporting almost 13,000 blind or visually impaired residents. The funds would pay for a demonstration model of new smart glasses by Oxisight are designed specifically for central vision loss and are proven to help with macular conditions.

£250



Enhancing children's quality of life through mentoring

Stonebow Conclave No.301

The charity currently has 68 volunteers carrying out the mentoring support with an additional 18 being trained to manage the increase in emotional support now required. Additional financial support is therefore required to cover this training plan.



£500

Stonebow Conclave No.301

The charity is raising funds for a forest trail and activity area at the Snowball Plantation Activity Centre, which is set in 17 acres of mature woodland near York.





£500



Funding is going towards brand new air conditioning units for patients at the charity's Oxford Centre.



£400

Funds will be used specifically at the Mumbles Lifeboat station to improve crew facilities. Mumbles is a headland sited on the western edge of Swansea Bay on the southern coast of Wales.



£250

The charity provides a meeting place and support facilities for deaf and the hard of hearing in the Swansea area. Funds are being raised for repairs to the building which is being damaged by water and damp.



£500

Shakespeare Conclave No.438

The Conclave has been supporting this charity and wanted to make a more significant award. Funds are to be used to provide families with special multi-sensory toy packs. They cost £100 each and provide stimulation, interaction and fun for the child.



£500

Based in Northfield, Birmingham, this is a specialist college for people aged between 19 & 25 with multiple learning difficulties and complex health care needs. Funding is to be used for extra curricular activities such as zip wiring, theatre trips and sports days. It will also give them the opportunity to develop their garden area.





£500

Friendship Conclave No.322

Funds are to go towards the purchase of a second bike for the charity in memory of a member of the Friendship Conclave No.322 sadly killed in a motorbike accident.



£500

The Preston & Chorley branch of TLC provides much needed comfort for children visiting A&E helping to reduce the shock and distress of the experience. Funds are ringfenced for hospitals the local area.



**Province of
West Scotland**



£500

The charity works with groups including children and young people and children/adults with additional support needs. They are looking secure funding towards compost/ soil for the beds, gardening tools/gloves for all ages, and a polytunnel.



£500

The Loch Lomond Rescue Boat is an independent volunteer lifeboat serving Loch Lomond and the surrounding shores. The rescue boat attends around 100 callouts per year with some particularly busy days having as many as 7 or 8 callouts in a single day! Funds will be used to assist in building a new boat house for their Rigid lifeboat which cannot be permanently kept in the water.





£500

Hafan Cymru support people who find themselves in situations that mean they can't or don't know how to live safely. They have developed the Men's Sheds Cymru project which are social groups set up in local communities for the benefit of men. Funds are to be used for the development of new Men's Sheds, helping existing sheds to remain engaged and open, and promoting the concept of Men's Sheds as a positive tool to tackle loneliness and isolation in Wales.

£990



The Cadets have recently they have started to teach music and are working towards forming a marching band to perform at local charity events as well as Sea Cadet activities. Many of the instruments and equipment has been secured by gifts/fund raising however they require three Bell Lyres to make the band complete. The total cost of these is £1980.



£500

This self-funding charity based in Halesowen for adults with learning disabilities provides day trips and regular activities as well as meeting every week for discos, games and other activities.



Behind the Smile
Continuing Zac's Story;

£500

Behind the Smile is a charity founded by the parents of Zac who ended his life after many years of mental health problems. Their two main aims are to support and help others overcome the stigma associated with mental health issues by offering practical face to face support and to support and help those bereaved by suicide.





Order of the Secret Monitor Fund of Benevolence

Issued by
Order of the Secret Monitor
Fund of Benevolence
Registered Charity No. 207781
The Charities Office
Mark Masons' Hall
86 St James's Street
LONDON
SW 1A 1PL
www.markmasons.org
d.colman@mmh.org.uk
020 7747 1187



Orpington Lodges commence their next chapter in style

Having celebrated their 75th anniversary at their previous meeting in July, Orpington Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 1083, and its anchored Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, commenced the next chapter in their history in style.

On Wednesday, 2 November, the Royal Ark Mariner Lodge began the day by Elevating Bro. David Noon in a tremendous ceremony carried out by the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Jody Townsend.



1 - Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Jody Townsend congratulates Bro. David Noon

The succeeding Mark Lodge's Installation Meeting saw an official visit from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Martyn Summers, together with a sizeable delegation of Provincial Officers, all of whom were made very welcome and added very much to the atmosphere of the afternoon. W.Bro. Paul Goff proceeded to Install W.Bro Graham Elms into the Master's Chair in an excellent manner. The entire ceremony was enjoyed by all.



2 - The Brethren of Orpington Mark Lodge with The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Delegation

A very special moment then followed. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master announced that he had a certificate to present to W.Bro. Charles Marchant to acknowledge his 50 years in Mark Masonry, which came as a complete and pleasant surprise to Charles. A well-researched history of his life and Masonic journey then followed, together with interesting reminders from history. The Provincial Grand Secretary, W.Bro. Steve Hyland, read the citation and W.Bro. Charles replied with his customary humility and good humour.



3 - W.Bro. Charles Marchant receiving his 50 Year Certificate from W.Bro. Martyn Summers, Dep.Prov.G.M.

A vibrant and happy Festive Board rounded the day off nicely. A real example of how Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Masonry should be practiced.

With thanks to W.Bro. Robin Evans, P.A.G.D.C.,

150 years of Joppa Lodge of M.M.M. No. 11 TI



On Tuesday, 8 November, Joppa Mark Lodge No. 11 TI, who meet at Clifton Road, Birkenhead, celebrated their sesquicentenary, in the presence of the Past Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. H. Keith Emmerson, and Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire, R.W.Bro. Gary Raymond Horstman, accompanied by a fine contingent of Leaders, Grand Officers, Acting Provincial Officers and guests, with close on 80 including Lodge members in attendance.

To mark the occasion, our Provincial Grand Master was pleased to Promote W.Bro. Phil Davies to the rank of P.Prov.G.S.W., which was well received by his Brethren and those present.

The Worshipful Master, Robert Julian Owen, was pleased to donate, on behalf of the Lodge, the sum of £1100.00 towards the 2024 Festival, and then proceeded to bestow Honorary Membership to both R.W.Bro. Keith Emmerson, and R.W.Bro. Gary Horstman, before closing the Lodge, to enjoy a spectacular Festive Board, delivered in Joppa Mark's own inimitable style.



Surrey Mark Cha Di Da 2022



The Surrey Mark Annual Charity Dinner Dance, Cha Di Da, was held at the Reigate Manor Hotel on Saturday, 29 October 2022.

This year's Dinner Dance, which was once again organised by Alan and Wendy Brockwell, was a sell out months ago. The event included a lovely three course meal with Prosecco, entertainment by Craig Jefferson as Elvis, and dancing after the meal to Jahson Nembhard, formally of the Drifters.



There were over 160 guests consisting of Surrey Mark Masons, their families and friends, and Heads of the other Orders in Surrey. From 6.00 pm the guests started gathering for a few drinks in the bar before moving into the dining room.



During the meal we were entertained by Craig Jefferson as Elvis.





And then the party started. Alan and Wendy distributed party poppers and balloons to all the tables which were soon being blown up and let off.



Next was the Grand Raffle with a table full of prizes.



After dinner we were entertained by Jahson Nembhard, formally of the Drifters.



We had a competition to see who was the best air guitarist.





Our Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Ian Clark, thanked everyone for coming along to support our annual Cha Di Da, and gave special thanks to Alan and Wendy Brockwell for their organisation of this Dinner Dance Party.



As well as having a most enjoyable evening together the Dinner Dance raised over £2,000 towards worthy causes.

Like Harry, we are now looking forward to the O.S.M. Christmas Party at the same venue on Saturday, 10 December where we will be entertained by Always Whitney + Mowtown & Soul, two fantastic shows in one night from Tashara Forrest.

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



150 years of St Bernard Preceptory No. 123



After a troublesome journey to the meeting for the Provincial Vice-Chancellor, E.Kt. Gordon Turner, and myself, it was a pleasure to finally arrive and find the bar of Bury Masonic Hall a very busy place and being used as a robing area. It was not a half as busy as the Temple on the third floor with the Bodyguard practice; the Provincial Team being tutored by the Provincial Marshal E.Kt. Mike Whittaker; and casual spectators just sitting around taking everything in.

Eventually the Preceptory doors were closed and the Eminent Preceptor E.Kt. Christopher (Chris) Mills and the Preceptory members opened the Preceptory. Once opened the Provincial Team, led by the Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. David Harry Gallear, K.C.T., entered a well-filled Temple under an arch of steel. The Preceptory Baton was offered –and taken – by the Prov.Prior who introduced his team and then immediately passed back the baton and the Preceptory resumed under the control of the Eminent Preceptor, who then presented a cheque for the princely sum of £1500 – amounts to £10 for each year of history – in favour of the St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital – the biggest cheque ever donated by a Preceptory in the writers K.T. History. The Festive Board Raffle raised £305; Alms at the ceremony were £183; £12 'rounding up' was donated by the Preceptory making an 'extra' £500 and a staggering £2,000 in total on the night to the Eye Hospital. As a comparison figure the donation from the Province last year was the same figure £2000.

The meeting was a very special one being the Sesquicentenary (150th) year celebration. A short history of the Preceptory had been painstakingly and thoroughly put together and presented sequentially by a team of three – the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Christopher Mills; The Preceptory Treasurer, E.Kt. Peter Kay; and, what a really nice touch, the latest recruit to the Preceptory, Sir Kt. Ian Dugdale. One can only imagine the midnight oil burning and soul searching that must have gone on to finally whittle down 150 years of history into a half hour of well-presented reading put together by E.Kt. Mark Rowe, the Immediate Past Preceptor. A 28 page beautifully bound book itemising all the significant events of the 150 years, and entitled 'The History of St. Bernard Preceptory 123 – A celebration of 150 years' was given to each attendee on the evening. The transcript of the presentation on the evening is as follows:



4 - The Presenters on the evening; E.Kt. Peter Kay; the E.P., E.Kt. Christopher Mills; the Provincial Prior R.E.Kt. David Harry Gallear; Sir Kt. Ian Dugdale

St Bernard's history

From the Preceptor: Welcome brother knights on this special occasion we hope you will have an enjoyable meeting with us to celebrate this momentous occasion. As we celebrate our 150-year history which, as you will see, has had highs and lows. Many Eminent Knights have graced our numbers, as we weave through the mists of time this evening. It is worth noting that in 1872, sitting in this chair, you would have greeted me as the Eminent Commander, and this would have been an Encampment not a Preceptory.

Knight 1 (Eminent Preceptor)

First 50 years

Our warrant was granted in November 1872 following a petition by Sir Kts Horace Alpass and Thomas Berry of the Jack de Molay Encampment, along with five Knights from William de la More, and one from Prince of Peace Encampment. Authorising an assembly at Earl Grey Ripon Masonic Rooms, Toxteth Park – not Saxteth Park. With the Consecration on 4 December 1872. Horace Alpass, the first Eminent Commander, must have been a highly respected Mason as his obituary in the Chemist and Druggist paper of 1884 stated he died aged 69 with 500 Masons present at his funeral.

Moses Mawson, another founder, in 1872 lived in the heart of Liverpool, and John Thomas Parker Parkinson actually married in 1874 being described as a bachelor and merchant.

The first known minutes are written on a small sheet of paper dated 1889. During this period 1872 to 1889 the Encampment ignored the ruling to call itself a Preceptory.

1894 was the year the Preceptory agreed to hold a Priory of the Knights of Malta.

Due to low attendance in the years that followed a number of proposals were made to merge Jacques De Molay with Alpass Preceptory, but this was rejected as there was no desire to lose the name Alpass from the Masonic register.

Knight 2 (E.Kt. Peter Kay)

At the turn of the century (1901) the idea was to change the Preceptory name to Beauceant Preceptory, however this proved difficult as a Preceptory of that name already existed.

By 1902 it was resolved to call the Preceptory St Bernard's, the warrant being endorsed on 25 February 1903. The life and times of St Bernard is reflected in your celebratory book along with a very interesting letter from H Buxton Browne.

In 1913, Jacques De Molay members were still having a major influence over the Preceptory as joining members. At this time the Preceptory moved from the Adelphi Hotel to the Exchange Hotel Liverpool.

The fee was set at a staggering 105 guineas, however Jacques De Molay subscribing members had a bit of a discount as their fee was 5 old shillings.

Between 1929 and 1932 there appears to be an attempt to move the Preceptory from basically a social and dining lodge to a working lodge. Firstly, by amending the joining fees to a reasonable sum, then proposing a move after 62 years from Liverpool to Bury where it resides to this day.

And so, on to 20 March 1934, when the dispensation indicates a meeting was held at the Derby Hotel Bury, with the MP, Alfred Joseph Law, installed as Eminent Preceptor.

For Rugby League fans it's worth noting that Law donated a trophy originally called the Infirmary Cup, later to be called the Laws Cup, which is still contested today between Oldham and Rochdale Hornets as a friendly match. It was at this Installation that our tradition of toasting the Knights of Jacques De Molay Preceptory began, as they had done so much in keeping the Preceptory alive.

Knight 3 (Sir Kt. Ian Dugdale)

In the war years, the Preceptory continued to work well and the Cannon Francis Paton-Williams was Preceptor in 1946; at that time he was also conferred as Great Prelate. It is worth noting he was also listed in the London Gazette of 3 January 1950 as Chaplain to The Grand Priory of the British Realm of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem by the then King, which traces its origins back to the Knights Hospitaller.

In 1965 the Preceptory hosted the Provincial Priory at the Derby Hotel – shortly after that event St Bernard's moved to the Knowsley Hotel. So by the end of its first 100 years the Preceptory had been through many changes, was host to many prominent Masons and Knights, and its numbers had fluctuated from as low as four to as many as 30.

In 1977 St Bernard's moved to its present home but 1975 was a prominent year as our portrait of St Bernard was presented to the Eminent Preceptor E.Kt. GF Nuttall by V.E.Kt. Arnold Moreton, the Provincial Prior. In 1976 V.E.Kt. J Eastwood gave the banner depicting St Bernard.

Preceptor

Brother Knights we are nearly there. The Preceptory has been blessed over the years with many notable Masons and a number of Provincial Priors were members, a fact that can be seen in our history book. Our numbers stand at 25, and even after the Covid restrictions we have been able to recruit new members. We number in our ranks some prominent – and dare I say it – modest Masons and Knights, which, in the Preceptory's opinion, is a notable part of our history.

So, we celebrate our 150-year history from small beginnings in Liverpool where our minutes were produced on a scrap of paper, to our digital age and to our present home in Bury. We hope you have enjoyed this short journey through our history and your presence will be noted in our minute book, for Knights in another 150 to look back on, probably via Zoom.

There was a Templar Certificate to present to Sir Kt. Ian Dugdale which was done by the Prov. Prior, R.E.Kt. David Harry Gallear, K.C.T., in his time honoured inimitable style. Excellently explained in every detail and immensely pleasurable and entertaining to witness.



5 - Sir Kt. Ian Dugdale with the Provincial Prior

Following this, the Preceptory was closed, pictures taken, and all repaired to the bar prior to partaking of a very nice Festive Board.

Then, out into the night after a pleasant and memorable meeting and a trip home that took less than a third of of the time of the outward run.

With thanks to Provincial Webmaster V.E.Kt. Jeffrey Taylor, P.Gt.Reg.



6 - The attendant Bodyguard on the evening



7 - The placemat provided at the Festive Board for the special meeting. This, the name cards and the raffle tickets were produced by E.Kt. Alan Ashworth P.Prov. 1st. Constable in his 96th year but still contributing to the Preceptory administration

Durham Red Cross of Constantine meeting at Gateshead



So what order is that ?

The recent annual meeting of the Durham Division of the The Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist, which met on Saturday in Gateshead, was very well attended and included amongst those present W. Bro. John Watts, A.Prov.G.M. for the Craft Province of Durham, who had just completed one of his regular Parkruns; promoting healthy activity and exercise amongst Durham Freemasons. It was also graced by the attendance of Em.Kt. Morgan McDonald from the Division of Forth and Tay Valley.

To the casual observer it certainly appeared that both were trying to recognise the regalia that the other one was wearing and wondering "So what order is that?".

With thanks to V.III.Kt. Gary Taylor, P.G.H.Alm., Dep.Int.-Gen.

With a little help from their friends



In November I was invited by E.Comp. Mik Barnes, Past Provincial Grand Summus, Past Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Province of Surrey, to assist at the Installation Convocation of Earl of Zetland Chapter held at Freemasons Hall. I acted as M.E.Z. as E.Comp. Louis Keats, Past Provincial Grand Summus in the Scarlet Cord Province of Surrey, was unable to attend due to a family commitment in Darlington.

As well as Mik Barnes, Second Principal, there were many Heads of Surrey's Companion Orders present. There were David Blackburn, District Grand Master for the Royal and Select Masters, as Third Principal; Ian Clark, Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province, as Director of Ceremonies; and among the guests were Nigel Thomson, Deputy Provincial Grand Summus, and Simon McCarthy, Assistant Provincial Grand Summus in the Order of the Scarlet Cord in the Provincial Grand Senatus of Surrey.

After opening the Chapter and the regular business was concluded, E.Comp. Mik Barnes was presented by E.Comp. Ian Clark, following which he was inducted into the First Principal's Chair. Mik then inducted David Blackburn into the Second Principal's Chair, and David, who had all the work to do, installed Companion Jeffrey Sandat into the Third Principal's Chair in an excellent manner. The Officers were then appointed and invested.

The Chapter was closed, and we retired over the road to The Hercules Pillars for refreshments and a most convivial Festive Board.

In the Toast to the Principals, I said that It was a very special meeting for me as I have known Mik for many years, so therefore it was a pleasure and a privilege to induct him into the First Principal's Chair of his Chapter.

With thanks to Chris Eley



O.S.M. Benevolent Fund and the Province of Suffolk donation to EACH



The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Suffolk, R.Wy.Bro. Dr John Elmore, paid a visit to East Anglian Children's Hospices Treehouse venue to present the cheque to Alison Lansdowne, the EACH Community Fundraiser.

With the support of the O.S.M. Benevolent Fund Match Funding Programme the members of the O.S.M. Province of Suffolk were very pleased to be able to donate £700 towards the purchase of sensory equipment to be installed in the garden of the EACH Treehouse Hospice in Ipswich.

EACH supports families living with or bereaved of, a child with a life-threatening or life-limiting condition and complex healthcare needs across Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Essex. The EACH Treehouse Hospice covers Suffolk and Essex and offers facilities such as counselling, day and overnight care, dealing with symptoms and wellbeing support along with many other services. Their hospices are large, homely and staffed with highly qualified professionals that don't need to wear uniforms. Activities offered include Specialist play, Sensory rooms, Music therapy and Hydrotherapy.

Find out more about the charity by [Clicking Here](#)

Also attending the event was Wy. Bro. Peter Pryke, P.G.Swd.B., Provincial Grand Treasurer and Wy. Bro. Kelvin Larcombe, Provincial Grand Almoner.



**OSM Benevolent Fund
Match Funding Program**



PROVINCE OF SUFFOLK

EAST ANGLIA'S CHILDREN'S HOSPICES

**Funding for the
new sensory
equipment in the
garden at the
Treehouse site**

£700



Ryan A. Williams
Ryan A. Williams
Grand Recorder

@EACH_hospices
@MarkMasonsHall
#Freemasonry





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

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	Advanced Time	Meeting Start	Meeting Finish	Meeting Start	Meeting Finish
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 8 March 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	12:30 AM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
BSM	Grand Council	Tuesday, 15 April 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
SC	Grand Senate	Thursday, 3 May 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 0PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:45 PM	4:15 PM
RT	Grand Priory	Wednesday, 26 May 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - International G.L.	Tuesday, 7 June 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	10:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:00 PM	6:30 PM
RCC	Grand Chapter Conclave	Tuesday, 5 July 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	3:45 PM	3:45 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - International Grand Council	Tuesday, 13 September 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:30 PM
MBHC	Grand Priory	Thursday, 4 September 2022	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 0PL	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
AND	Grand Council	Tuesday, 10 October 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	11:00 AM	2:15 PM	2:15 PM	3:45 PM	4:00 PM
OSM	Grand Council	Thursday, 20 November 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
RT	Grand Priory of State	Tuesday, 13 November 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RAN	Annual Assembly	Monday, 12 December 2022	MM, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AQ	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

MMH

Booking now for the West Yorkshire 2023 MBF Festival



[Click Here](#) to book



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



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.

And, we are delighted to announce that we are taking pre-orders for the 2029 Festival Stewardship Jewel for Durham which will be available for delivery shortly.

The form is available to download [Here](#)

















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

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