

Provincial News

The newsletter for Hertfordshire Freemasons



No. 50 Spring 2017



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update**

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UGLE Tercentenary Celebrations



Welcome to this latest edition of Provincial News.

Celebrations for the Tercentenary Anniversary of the UGLE are now in full swing and there are a huge number of opportunities to celebrate that milestone with your family and friends, not least in Hertfordshire, by attending the 'Party in the Park' which we are holding jointly with our colleagues in Middlesex.

Details appear below, together with

the enclosed brochure. I urge you to join in the fun! I am sure anyone who attended last year's very successful event will be certain to be at Rickmansworth again this year.

In January we consecrated The Lodge of True Aim, a very happy and (I am told) successful event. The second meeting of the lodge took place recently and there are already a number of joining members as well as candidates for initiation. Likewise, our University Scheme Lodge, Salisbury Union No 767, is attracting very good numbers of initiates from the University of Hertfordshire. I attended a triple third degree ceremony in March and the enthusiasm of both the candidates and the many experienced masons involved is extremely encouraging. If you would like to assist in the ceremonies there are ample opportunities to do so and you should contact the Lodge Secretary.

Lastly, I am very pleased with the progress being made to achieve the target set for the 2019 Festival in aid of the RMTGB. Again, I am sure reference to progress will be made elsewhere, but I want to personally express my most sincere thanks for the generous support given throughout the Province, especially, to borrow the title of Bro Keith Jackson's excellent book, 'Beyond the Craft'.



OLD TYME MUSIC HALL EVENING

More than 100 people attended a musical event aimed at raising awareness of the Tercentenary of Grand Lodge.

Members of Park Street Lodge No 8556 benefitted from a charity Old Tyme Music Hall evening staged by the Kimpton Players.

A Lodge spokesman said: "We used the event to celebrate the Tercentenary and make both Masons and non-Masons alike aware of the 300 years of Freemasonry in England.

"The evening was a sell out with 102 Masons, partners and friends, attending including the Provincial Grand Master Paul Gower and his good lady Barbara, APGM Dick Knifton and his lady Gill, all enjoying good old fashioned entertainment.

"Residue monies from the event were donated to local and national charities.

"Congratulations to Mike Eames' party from the Green Man pub in Sandridge which won the best dressed table award."

FAMILY FUN DAY



There is an extra special reason to pop along to this year's Grand Family Fun Day - the 'Party in the Park'.

The event will also help mark the United Grand Lodge Tercentenary celebrations. The day is being staged jointly by the Provincial Grand Lodges of Hertfordshire and Middlesex.

It takes place on Saturday, July 22, at The Royal Masonic School for Girls in Rickmansworth, from noon until 7.30pm. The family day follows on from last year's hugely successful gathering and promises even more to enjoy.

So please make a date in your diary to support this important joint venture. There will be something for everyone to enjoy from stalls, demonstrations and food of all kinds, to live music and a beer tent.

TUG OF WAR

DO YOU HAVE THE GRUNT?

The provinces of Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Middlesex are joining together for an interprovincial TOW competition.

Each province has been tasked to find from its member's, who would be prepared to take the strain. All volunteers should be novices, in good health and with a good level of fitness.

22 JULY 2017
Royal Masonic School for Girls' Fete, Rickmansworth

Please contact your provincial rep to register your interest

Middlesex - Clive Parson-Smith - clive@supuk.com
Buckinghamshire - Jeff Sirrell - jeff.sirrell@gmail.com
Hertfordshire - Jim Harrison - sportingchallenge@pgherts.org
Berkshire - Rob Hawkins - robertdhawkins@mtlworld.com
Oxfordshire - Paul Buck - paulgbuck10@gmail.com

30 SUCCESSFUL CHARITIES TO RECEIVE THE PGM'S £300 AWARD AS PART OF THE TERCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

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Royston • Heartbeats • Aston
End Scout Group • Hearing Dogs
For Deaf People • The Skillman
Trust • Chicken Shed Theatre
Trust • Rape Crisis South West
Hertfordshire • Muscular Society
• The Open Door Charity • Stand
By Me • The Hertfordshire Society
For the Blind • The Friends of
St Mary's Church Ashwell • The
Oli Mills Foundation • ASCEND
• Hummingbird Cancer Support
Group • Friends in Need • Track
Autism • Midshires Search and
Rescue • Cheshunt Age Concern
• Teens Unite • Crossroads
Care Hertfordshire • Mudlarks
Community Garden • Road
Victims Trust • SSNAP • Help 4
Homeless Veterans • Add-vance
• Viewpoint • Box Cleve •
Ataxia- telangiectasia Society

THE PROVINCIAL TRICENTENARY BANNER PROJECT

Brian Tierney, Museum Curator, Librarian and Archivist



Many of you will be aware that over the past two to three years we have been researching and preparing a Provincial Banner Project to meet the request of the UGLE Museum to have a suitable Heritage Project to celebrate the Tercentenary of Grand Lodge. It was decided that this project should cover all orders and degrees. We are delighted that we can now confirm that this is ready for all members of all orders to view and study.

The information has been transferred to a most attractive stand-alone website and will be so for two years before either being extended in scope or being added to the current Provincial website. It has proved, beyond doubt, that Hertfordshire is extremely fortunate to have so many fine banners, each with an individual interesting history. Do please have a look, especially at those units of which you are a member.

We feel sure that many will also look at banners of all Lodges, Chapters and other Orders. The site can be found at www.hertsmasonicbanners.uk

We have used many sources to gain the information, not least the Provincial Archive files and the units themselves for which we thank the Secretaries, Scribes, Recorders, etc, for their valuable help. However, we do appreciate that there may be the need for some additions or corrections. These can be entered if you let us know by email to archivist@pghlerts.org.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES!

The Tercentenary Update for Events in Hertfordshire. Lots of events are taking place around the country – here are some special ones for you to put in your diary. Further details can be found on the Provincial website: www.pghlerts.org

- 29.4.17 Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge : Fly Fishing Match at Rib Valley, Ware, SG12 0ES
- 12.5.17 Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge : Bowls Match at City and County Bowls Club, Oxford, OX2 7EE
- 14.5.17 Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge : Canal Fishing Match at Manor Fields , Bletchley
- 21.5.17 Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge : Classic 300 Car Rally
- 8.6.17 Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge : Golf Match at Lambourne Golf Club, Burnham, SL1 8NF
- 11.6.17 Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge : Fun Run and Open Day at The Cloisters, Letchworth, SG6 3TH
- 18.6.17 Service of Thanksgiving at the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Albans
- 24.6.17 Official Tercentenary of Grand Lodge
- 24.6.17 Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge : London to Brighton Cycle Race
- 25.6.17 Open Day at Masonic Hall, Radlett, WD7 7JS
- 9.7.17 Open Day at Ashwell House, St Albans, AL3 4DW
- 21.7.17 Gala Dinner at Royal Masonic School for Girls, Rickmansworth, WD3 4HF
- 22.7.17 'Party in the Park' Summer Fete, RSMG, Rickmansworth, WD3 4HF
- 31.10.17 Official UGLE Tercentenary Celebration – Royal Albert Hall
- 3.11.17 Tercentenary Banquet, Metropolitan Police Sports Club, Bushey, WD23 2TR



OPERA LUNCHEON

It was a sell-out at a lunch with a difference recently. Hertfordshire's Board of Provincial Grand Stewards brought the house down at Hertingfordbury Masonic Centre with their Cameo Opera Luncheon. Staged in March, it was the Province's first planned Tercentenary celebration event to be held.

Organiser Mick Chalkley told Provincial News, "it was a sell-out with 84 in attendance, including an excellent Executive representation, including the Provincial Grand Master".

Every Masonic Centre in the Province was represented. It is thought about £1,000 would be donated to the 2019 Festival in support of the RMTGB. Mick hopes to repeat the event next year.



A HIDDEN JEWEL IN RADLETT

In a small private road leading off Watling Street in Radlett there is a little-known building which has been hosting events on an almost daily basis for over 60 years.

At number 3, The Rosewalk is the Masonic Hall. It owes its existence to villager Harold Hunter Ward, born in the latter part of the 19th century. An active Freemason, he joined Elstree Lodge, becoming its Master in 1911 and again in 1926. It was his foresight in procuring the building at number 3 which led to its use as a Masonic meeting place. In 1903, the Furniture Trades Provident and Benevolent Association planned to build an extensive Cottage Village Hospital and Orphanage on the site which is now The Rosewalk. In 1905 houses 1 and 2 were converted from four small cottages and in 1918 Number 3 was completed. At about that time the association decided to relocate to an existing building in Highgate and the development was abandoned.

Harold Ward bought all three houses, and number 3 (much smaller than) was used to house a number of Lodges. The houses were sold sometime in the 1930s to Don Forrester, another enthusiastic Mason. In 1959 he accepted an offer from Lodges meeting at the Hall for 50 per cent of the value, and a limited company was formed to buy the property. There have been a number of extensions and other improvements to the building over the years and it now serves more than 50 different Lodges and Masonic groups. Restaurant quality meals are produced six nights a week, catering for up to 70 people. To mark the 300th anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England the Hall is opening its doors to the general public on Sunday, June 25, from 10:30am until 4pm. Visitors will have a chance to see inside and outside the hall in order to find out more about the activities of the Freemasons and their contribution to the community.

East Barnet Lodge Ladies Festival



■ Peter Lambert, the Secretary, centre right with the big black hair. WM Dave Baldwin, front right with the blue glasses. Treasurer Steve Martin, far right as The Fonz. PM John Marriot, and second from right in the back row with the waistcoat. Willie Lowrie the IG and Charity Steward.

The Force was obviously with members and guests at East Barnet Lodge's annual Ladies Festival evening in March. It was an out of this world event, at Fanham Hall near Ware, which attracted 82 guests. The theme was the 70s and guests dressed to impress with a range of costumes from Star Wars' Darth Vader to Kermit the Frog and The Fonz. A spokesman told Provincial News: "Best of

all, this enthusiastic lodge of just 18 subscribing members raised the magnificent sum of £2,468 from this event, which will be donated to Princess Alexandra Hospital to help get the relaxation beds they need. "This is in addition to their magnificent support of the 2019 Festival. "This lodge truly embodies the spirit of Freemasonry; working and playing hard, raising money for charity and having fun."

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Banner dedication

Back in 1938 four golfers at Welwyn Garden City Golf Club decided that the latest Garden City was sufficiently established to warrant the formation of its own Lodge. On October 28 that year this idea became a reality when Welwyn Garden City Lodge No 5748 was consecrated at Ashwell House, St Albans.

There were 15 founder members whose aim was that the idea of Freemasonry should be prominent among the social amenities to be incorporated into the development of the new town.

The original banner was consecrated in December 1960 and cost the princely sum of £66. But, after 50 years, it was beginning to show its age.

So members decided to bring it back to its former glory. APGM and Lodge member Neil Connolly told Provincial News: "The badge on the banner is the same as that originally used by Welwyn Garden City Limited and depicts a township in rural surroundings high above the sea to symbolise the healthy Garden City environment.

"More than 80 guests and members attended the rededication of the fully refurbished banner at Welwyn Garden City Lodge's current meeting place in Hertingfordbury's Mayflower Place in March.

"The dedicating team, led by Jay Patel (APGM) and under the ever watchful eye of Provincial DC Keith Dunnett, executed an excellent ceremony which was enjoyed by all who were in attendance.

"The Lodge would like to extend its thanks to members of the Provincial team who not only attended the evening but also held an LOI for the benefit of Lodge members who took part in the ceremony."

Fair Green Lodge



■ Bill in his wheelchair flanked by VW Bro. James Young and Fair Green Lodge's Worshipful Master Jason Roberts.

W.Bro Bill Daly of Fair Green Lodge No. 9410 had a pretty rough year, health-wise, in 2016.

And whilst he was delighted to be awarded promotion to PPSGW he was too ill on September 28 to get to the annual Provincial meeting to receive it from RW Bro. Paul Gower, but in December VW Bro. James Young,

Past Deputy PGM, attended a meeting of the Lodge where a happily recovered Brother Bill was congratulated as he would have been in September.

W.Bro Maurice Clark

W.Bro Maurice Clark PPJGW was initiated into Doric Lodge 7686, by his father the late W.Bro Joe Clark, on November 2, 1966. He was Worshipful Master in 1976 and became Director of Ceremonies in 1982, receiving Provincial Grand Honours in 1983 (ADC) and after various promotions was made Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden in 2012. Maurice Joined Knebworth Lodge in 2003 and was Worshipful Master in 2009. After a dear friend W.Bro Mike Levey died suddenly, Maurice took the office of Secretary, an office he still holds.



■ W. Bro Jay Patel PGSD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, presenting the certificate to W. Bro Maurice Clark.



W.Bro Cliff Dix

The second name on the list of members of Dacre Lodge 2086 is W.Bro Cliff Dix PPDepGChap, PPSGD (Beds). And in March his stalwart support was rewarded with the presentation to him of a 50-year certificate from Assistant Provincial Grand Master W.Bro James Harrison. W.Bro Dix was initiated into Dacre on March

17, 1967. He was installed as Master in October 1981. He was a founding member of Airports Lodge No. 9552 in the Province of Bedfordshire.

W.Bro John Faulkner

A 50-year Certificate of Service to Freemasonry was presented to W.Bro John Faulkner PPJGW, at a recent meeting of Icení Lodge 5975 by W.Bro Dick Knifton.

W.Bro John was initiated into Caledonian Lodge 204, on Wednesday, January 11, 1967, following his father and uncle as a Lewis. John became Master in 1979 and again in 2006 holding offices of DC and Treasurer during that time. In 1988 he was appointed Provincial Steward and joined the Stewards Lodge 8404 in that year. In 1990 he received the active rank of PSGD and was then promoted to PPDepGSwB. In Royal Arch he was exalted into Monton Chapter 6361 in 1983. He joined Provincial Grand Stewards Chapter 8516 in 1996. John joined Trillion Chapter 204, holding every office and becoming MEZ in 1999 and 2003 each time for two years. He has now become an honorary member. In 2015 John joined Icení Lodge and remains a keen and active member.



Long Service Certificates

Oct 2016 to Mar 2017

2016 70 year certificates

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|---------------------|------|
| Nov 2016 | Douglas Hawes | High Barnet Masters | 8746 |
|----------|---------------|---------------------|------|

2016 60 year certificates

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------|---------------------|------|
| Nov 2016 | John Harrison | Edmonton Latymer | 5026 |
| Dec 2016 | John Elliott | Leavesden | 6642 |
| Feb 2017 | Leslie Sharp | Burning Bush | 9608 |
| Feb 2017 | Michael Brazier | Ludgrove | 7766 |
| Mar 2017 | Alan Massing | Hartsbourne | 9680 |
| Mar 2017 | Geoffrey Hawthorn | Wilson-Iles | 2054 |
| Mar 2017 | Sidney Tuck | High Barnet Masters | 8746 |

2016 50 year certificates

| | | | |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------|------|
| Oct 2016 | Roger Nicholls | Herts Imp Yeomanry | 3192 |
| Oct 2016 | Philip Mainwaring | Watford | 404 |
| Oct 2016 | Donald Beets | Icknield | 4670 |
| Oct 2016 | Martin Townsend | Ashwell | 7903 |
| Oct 2016 | Terence Boulton | Ashwell | 7903 |
| Oct 2016 | Dennis Vine | Medburn | 8841 |
| Nov 2016 | Peter Hartman | Samson | 1668 |
| Nov 2016 | David Brin | Dyrham Park | 8906 |
| Nov 2016 | David Chapman | Tring | 5001 |
| Nov 2016 | Ronald Fitall | Cheshunt St. Mary's | 6808 |
| Nov 2016 | Ian Ferres | Isambard Brunel | 8908 |
| Dec 2016 | Maurice Clark | Knebworth | 6941 |
| Dec 2016 | Robert Wheeler | Eastgate | 6694 |
| Jan 2017 | Colin Childs | Mimram | 4818 |
| Jan 2017 | Leonard Diggins | Cheshunt St. Mary's | 6808 |
| Jan 2017 | John Faulkner | Icení | 5975 |
| Jan 2017 | Terence Laver | St Nicholas | 6658 |
| Feb 2017 | Charles Penny | Salisbury Union | 767 |
| Mar 2017 | James (Bill) Hamilton | Grand Design | 7567 |
| Mar 2017 | John Jeapes | Old Elizabethans | 7987 |
| Mar 2017 | Clifford Dix | Dacre | 2086 |
| Mar 2017 | Geoffrey (Alan) Carmel | Hartsbourne | 9680 |

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■ Private Kerr was awarded his Victoria Cross for most conspicuous bravery near Courcelette in France on September 16, 1916, towards the end of the Battle of the Somme. His citation reads: "During a bombing attack he was acting as bayonet man, and, knowing that bombs were running short, he ran along the parapets under heavy fire until he was in close contact with the enemy, when he opened fire on them at point-blank range, and inflicted heavy loss. "The enemy, thinking they were surrounded, surrendered. Sixty-two prisoners were taken and 250 yards of enemy trench captured. "Before carrying out this very plucky act one of Private Kerr's fingers had been blown off by a bomb. Later, with two other men, he escorted back the prisoners under fire, and then returned to report himself for duty before having his wound dressed."

Freemason and holder of Victoria Cross to be honoured

Sixty-three Freemasons awarded the Victoria Cross (VC) during The Great War (WW1) were due, at the time of going to press, to be honoured in April. Special commemorative paving stones bearing their names have been laid outside the iconic Freemasons' Hall building in Covent Garden, London. One of those being commemorated, John Chipman Kerr, was a Hertfordshire Freemason. A Canadian soldier, he was initiated into the Elstree Lodge No. 3092 in September 1917, while convalescing in a London hospital. The Perkins Bull Convalescent Hospital for Canadian Officers was opened by William Perkins Bull, a Past Master of Elstree Lodge which now meets at the Masonic Hall, The Rose Walk, Radlett. Lodge records show a number of Canadian servicemen had joined the Lodge

during this time. John Chipman Kerr was born in Fox River, Nova Scotia, on 11 January 1887. He worked as a lumberjack and farmer before war broke out. Kerr served with the 49th Infantry Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the First World War. Kerr returned to Canada where he worked as a forest ranger. He later served in World War Two. In 1951, Mount Kerr in the Jasper National Park, Alberta, was named after him. He died in 1963 in Port Moody, British Columbia, where a park is dedicated to his memory. Current Master of the Elstree Lodge, Vincent Barber, was invited to the unveiling ceremony. The commemoration is not only part of the celebrations to mark this year's 300th anniversary of The United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE), but also looks ahead to

the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 in 2018. HRH The Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, was due to head-up the ceremony. Brigadier Willie Shackell, Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, said: "To be awarded the Victoria Cross is the highest honour for bravery and we are immensely proud and inspired to remember our 63 brethren who exemplify the best in men. "It is also appropriate that this event is taking place during our Tercentenary year when much of the activity is about highlighting the values of Freemasonry that we all hold dear – fraternity, charity and integrity. Camaraderie, new friendships and support are some of the main reasons people join Freemasonry, and numerous servicemen have been Masons since our founding 300 years ago."



St Albans Museum

Freemasons in Hertfordshire are backing an historic project in the Cathedral city of St Albans.

A fundraising event hosted by councillor Annie Brewster was attended by the Provincial Grand Secretary Hugh Oram. It was held at Gorehambury House, the home of the Earl of Verulam, on behalf of the St Albans Museum and Galleries Trust.

Its aim was to raise money and awareness for a new St Albans Museum development.

A spokesman for the Province said: "Hertfordshire Freemasonry has historically been a generous supporter of public causes in the county, St Albans Cathedral being a particular recipient of our attention.

"It was therefore perhaps not surprising that a representative of the Province was asked to attend the fundraising event hosted by councillor Brewster.

"The purpose of the evening was to seek sponsorship for the new St Albans Museum development at The Old Town Hall, St Peter's Street.

"It was attended by Hugh Oram, who subsequently delivered a report to the Provincial Executive, which agreed an application to the Provincial Benevolent Awards Committee. "At a recent meeting trustees agreed to register the Province as a 'Gold' sponsor by granting a donation towards the costs of construction."

Building work has since commenced and those passing the site will see the Hertfordshire Provincial logo displayed on the site hoarding.

As Hugh explained, apart from the opportunity to help sponsor a long-term worthy venture, "it assists in our endeavours to be seen to be more 'open' about our activities with the general public".



Prince Hamlet Lodge



The Grand Master of Danish Craft Masonry, RW.Bro John Harbo, and an escort of active Danish Grand Officers visited Prince Hamlet Lodge No. 9864 in February. The meeting, at The Cloisters, Letchworth,

was attended by 100 masons including 40 Danes. Not since the Consecration of the Prince Hamlet Lodge had there been so many at one of its meetings.

The Provincial Deputy Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies W.Bro Daniel Harding entered the Lodge and announced that the Provincial Grand Master RW.Bro Paul Gower was in attendance and demanded admission.

Admission was granted and a procession was formed to receive the Provincial Grand Master.

He was welcomed by the WM who informed the PGM that he had been elected an Honorary Member of the Lodge.

The PGM thanked the WM and the members of the Lodge for the honour conferred.



The WM then informed RW.Bro John Harbo that he had also been elected an Honorary Member of the Lodge and that VW.Bro Borge Holm had been elected a joining member of the Lodge. Both Brethren then recited their declaration of allegiance to the United Grand Lodge of England.

The degree ceremony on the day was that of Passing and W.Bro Malcolm Bage was invited to take the Chair to pass his Grandson Shaw Bland. An explanation of the Second Degree Tracing Board was given by W.Bro Svend Jensen.

During the Risings RW.Bro. Paul Gower presented a copy of the 'Happy Hertfordshire' book to RW.Bro Paul Harbo.

In his reply to the Visitors Toast at the Festive Board, RW.Bro. John Harbo thanked the Province of Hertfordshire for its help and co-operation and presented an engraved firing glass to RW.Bro Paul Gower and a pair of cufflinks to the WM John Wright and to W. Bro Svend Jensen.



The Hertfordshire Regiment Lodge – No. 4537

Appeal for Lodge accoutrements

The Hertfordshire Regiment Lodge is looking to replace its Lodge accoutrements which, after nearly 100 years, are beginning to look a little tired.

A Lodge spokesman told Provincial News:

"We are offering a good home to any items that are seeking a new life in a caring environment.

"We are particularly looking for wands and wand stands, ashlar, tracing boards, columns, and associated items."

If your Lodge is holding any unwanted items, possibly from amalgamations, and wish to dispose of them please contact W.Bro Chris Butts on 07813 704476 or email chris.butts@hotmail.co.uk

Provincial Almoner's report Simon Cooper PAGDC



It has been one year since the Grand Charities merged to become the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

As a result the combined charity is now more streamlined and efficient. I have reminded readers in the past that you, as the Masonic membership, can contact the charity directly using the confidential helpline 0800 035 60 90 or its email help@mcf.org.uk.

There is a sympathetic and helpful person at the other end who is more than qualified to deal with any concerns you may have regarding financial, health or family issues. I would urge you all to be pro-active in keeping in contact with your widows and senior members who may have retired and relocated some distance away and may need some support. It is important to maintain this pastoral role. I am hoping to set up some Almoner workshops later this year at some of the Provincial Masonic Centres to help Almoners in developing their roles. These will be open to new and existing Almoners who may require an update now that the charities have merged and what support is available to the membership. Please continue to support the RMTGB 2019 Festival. I process RMTGB cases and I have witnessed firsthand, on a weekly basis, the support that comes back into our Province for our children and grandchildren with the money you raise.

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Charity update

W.Bro Chris Noble, Provincial Grand Charity Steward



As we pass the half way stage of the **2019 Herts Festival** I have to thank the wonderful generosity of the Happy Herts Masons who have donated an incredible £2.067m or 69% toward our £3m target. Twenty-two Lodges have reached **Vice Patron** status (80%) , 14 have achieved **Patron** (100%) and eight have already donated in excess of 120% of their target and gained **Grand Patron**.

A new level is being introduced for even higher achievers so watch out for details.

The list of Lodges and Chapters using **gift aid envelopes** continues to grow. Thirty-nine Chapters and 144 Lodges have collected an amazing £264,000 claiming back over £64,000 in Tax.



Festival Honorifics: 1,900 members have supported the Festival, The Province and their Lodges by qualifying as Festival Stewards. Fifty-one members have donated a massive £186k by qualifying as Festival Grand Patrons. One hundred and sixty-four have qualified as Patrons, donating nearly £223k and 170 Vice Patrons have together donated £146k. **Chapter:** Ex. Comp Howard Collins continues to encourage his members to support the Festival and he has 48 Chapters who have donated nearly £70,000. We thank the members most sincerely.

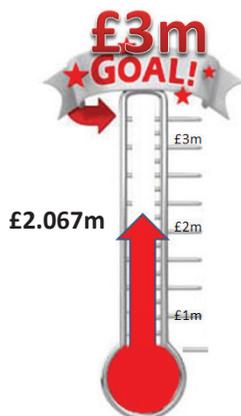
Perhaps it is timely to remind members to, **"donate to charity not save for charity"**. Banks and building societies continue to pay derisory rates of interest. The RMTGB needs our money now. In return it will award a good rate of



interest on your donations toward your Lodge and personal honorifics. So far we have gained **£67,450 interest**, the equivalent of four or five extra Lodges.

Festival Steward: It is not too late to qualify. Just £15 a month, until the end of June 2019, will immediately qualify you and we look forward to presenting your jewel in open Lodge. Download the RPP form now.

Lodge of True Aim L9930: The new 'shooting Lodge' aims high and expects to hit its Festival target with half the Festival remaining. Members have already reached **Vice Patron status** with the certificate presented by myself, as Provincial Grand Charity Steward (L9930 Charity Steward), to the L9930 IPM W.Bro Dick Knifton (Festival Chairman) at its March meeting. Several jewels were presented to members from neighbouring Provinces – Bedfordshire, Northants, Essex and Bucks - who have set high standards in qualifying to help the Lodge reach the target.



Message from the Festival Chairman W.Bro Dick Knifton

My message is a very clear one, the Brethren of Hertfordshire have started brilliantly towards hitting the target of £3million, so far raising £2.067m. But there is still much more to do in the remaining time.

The generosity so far shown has been fantastic. The PGM, myself and the Festival Team are all so appreciative of what has been raised so far and thank you for what you have done and what you are doing as we progress towards the end of the Appeal.



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It's a family affair

Cousins Bro Nick Tessier and W.Bro Paul Kelly had been unaware each were Freemasons until bumping into each other at the Hertfordshire Provincial Grand Lodge meeting in 2015.

Both subsequently became members of the Fleet House Light Blues Club.

They were joined by fellow FHLBC members at a very family affair one Saturday in March, at Mimram Lodge 4818, when Paul's son, Bro Alex Kelly, was passed to the Second Degree.

As well as his father giving the explanation of the tracing board, Bro Nick Tessier also delivered the working tools, creating "a fantastic and enjoyable fraternal occasion".



Festival Refresher Forums

A series of forums hosted by Masonic centres across the Province proved a huge success. Almost 600 members, partners, friends and family attended the seven events which ran from January to March. Halls at Letchworth, Cheshunt, St Albans, Watford, Radlett, Hertingfordbury and Royston took part. Provincial Charity Steward Chris Noble said: "Our thanks to the centres for the warm and friendly support they gave to both Province and our guests and to our Festival team for organising the events. "The idea was to generally update brethren regarding the Festival along with charity and benevolence matters, hence the title 'Refresher Forums'. More than 75 per cent of Lodges were represented. A quarter of those attending were partners, ladies and non-Masons. A guest charity was invited to attend each gathering. They were Garden City Hospice, Noah's Ark children's hospice, Hospice of St Francis, Peace Hospice, Dyspraxia Foundation, Pepper Children's Hospice, Isabel Hospice and Jumbulance. Chris said: "Eight guest charities made presentations informing us all about the wonderful help and support they provide across our Province. "The Provincial Grand Master attended every forum presenting certificates of donations to all eight charities from Grand Charity awards. "W.Bro Dick Knifton Festival Chairman thanked one and all for the excellent support of the Festival thus far." The forums were held on Sundays and included a buffet lunch. The Grand Charity awards were: £2,718 to Garden House Hospice, £3,004 to St Francis, £2,718 to Isabel Hospice, £500 to Noah's Arch, £2,718 to Peace Hospice, £500 to Pepper Foundation, £5,000 to the Dyslexia Foundation and £4,000 to Jumbulance.



Iceland Challenge

Serial fundraiser Matt Dennis of East Hertfordshire Lodge managed to take on two marathons in two days in Iceland last year, with the added bonus of a further three miles for finishing early on the final day. The marathons were run across the famous Laugavegurinn trail with varied terrain, along with snow, rain and even some sunshine. Matt told Provincial News: "We encountered mountains of every colour, spectacular glaciers, roaring hot springs and river crossings

which really tested our stamina and ability. "A great sense of achievement was felt after we crossed the finishing line and more importantly I managed to raise £1,000 for the Royal Masonic Trust for Boys & Girls with the help of members of East Hertfordshire Lodge 3748, family and friends. Full credit to Action Challenge and its team. Bring on the next challenge."



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Lodge brewery visit

Bro Stuart Peck, one of the younger members of Harpenden Lodge No 4314, proved he really could organise a booze-up in a brewery when he took 18 Lodge members and fellow Masons to the new Farr Brewery near Wheathampstead.

Stuart had risen to the challenge to help increase the number of Lodge social events. Earlier, members had toured the Vauxhall van plant in Luton which had been organised by a senior brother who works there. This picture from W.Bro Barry Johnson shows the brewery party enjoying a beer after an interesting tour. Members of the lodge are being asked for their ideas for extending the social scene.

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ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REGISTERED

A double celebration for Probatus Lodge

It was the 50th anniversary year of Probatus Lodge 8126 and 21-year-old Bro Joseph Donnelly was initiated in to Freemasonry. Bro Joseph is the son of the Lodge Secretary and joined his eldest brother David as a member.

Following the ceremony, members were presented with an engraved firing glass in commemoration of the golden anniversary.

After the ceremony, a short introduction to Freemasonry was given within the Temple to guests by W.Bro Mike Donnelly. Guests included ladies, which made it a festive, family White Table event. A lodge spokesman told Provincial News: "Everyone tucked in to a traditional, hearty Christmas dinner which was enjoyed by all." Following the meal, carols and a vigorous rendition of the 12 Days of Christmas were sung. The carol-singing was led by Jon and Jackie Meredith who sang in a very professional manner. Everyone enjoyed the friendship of a good sing along.

"The Probatus White Table has become a tradition with the members of the Lodge, marking the start of the Christmas festivities."

A total of £500 was raised for charity.



Freemasonry afloat

When two Hertfordshire Masons decided to help stage an unusual fundraiser they were hardly all at sea.

For while on a cruise to the Caribbean aboard P&O's MV Arcadia, a number of Brethren including W.Bro David Waring of Hooks Cross Lodge No.8705 and W.Bro Bob Cordery of The Grove Park Lodge No.2732, arranged an informal cocktail party and raffle to raise money for charity.

W.Bro Cordery said: "I acted as DC and we were very lucky to have the Past Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, Right Worshipful Brother Denis Phipps, as president. "Attendees included wives and partners, a number of non-Masonic guests, two Masonic widows, and several senior members of the ship's crew."

The event raised more than £730 from the sale of tickets and the raffle.

Captain of MV Arcadia, Ashley Cook, received the proceeds on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Support.

W.Bro Cordery added: "If any Hertfordshire Freemasons are going on a cruise, I strongly recommend they look out for these sorts of get-togethers. Not only do they present us with the opportunity to make new friends within the Craft, they also enable us to raise money for worthy charities."



Consecration of the Lodge of True Aim

In 2014, Hertfordshire ran the first of a series of Clay Pigeon shoots in support of its 2019 Festival for the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys.

The event was so successful that the idea of a shooting Lodge in Hertfordshire, for shooters of all disciplines, was suggested and very well received. The Provincial Grand Master expressed his support and 29 Brethren came forward wishing to become Founders. The majority were from Hertfordshire, but several were from across the borders and beyond. Word has steadily spread as plans progressed, and at the Consecration, seven joining members were proposed, as well as two candidates for initiation, with a further two in the wings.

The Consecration team was headed by the Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Paul Gower, who Consecrated the Lodge of True Aim No. 9930 in fine style, in front a gathering of almost 200 Brethren.

A spokesman told Provincial News: "Hymns were sung with resounding gusto and the various addresses were delivered with dignity and sincerity. The Warrant for the Lodge of True Aim 9930 was read aloud by the Provincial Grand Secretary W.Bro Hugh Oram, PAGDC. "The Oration was delivered by W.Bro Anthony Wright, PAGDC, ProvGChap and included an explanation regarding the origins of the splendid Hertfordshire Consecration vessels, which were presented to the Province by a former Provincial Grand Master (April 1874 to May 1924,) RW.Bro Sir Thomas Frederick Halsey Bart. PC. MP. DepGMaster.

"At the Festive Board, the Lodge's first Worshipful Master, W.Bro Stuart Hutchison PProvSGW, together with the Provincial team, all the Founders and their many guests enjoyed a very appropriate meal of venison stew.

"The Lodge of True Aim No. 9930 has now taken its place as a healthy and strong Lodge alongside its peers in Happy Hertfordshire, and looks forward to welcoming visiting Brethren from near and far at future meetings, many of which will include a clay pigeon shoot as part of the days' proceedings."



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Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire

At the Annual Investiture on April 26 the following Brethren will be honoured by the Grand Master with promotion in or appointment to Grand Rank:

Through Hertfordshire First Appointments:

| Name | Rank |
|-------------------|-------|
| Neil CONNOLLY | PJGD |
| Daniel HARDING | PAGDC |
| Anthony HARRIS | PAGDC |
| Anthony HUTCHISON | PAGDC |
| Ali OSMAN | PAGDC |
| Peter WALTERS | PAGDC |



Promotions:

| Name | From | To |
|----------------|------------|--------|
| David FERRIS | PSGD | PGSwdB |
| Peter BOUGHTON | PGStB | PAGDC |
| Malcolm WILSON | PAGSuptWks | PAGDC |

Through London Metropolitan or other Provinces First Appointments:

| Name | Rank |
|------------------|--------|
| David HARWOOD | PAGDC |
| Peter HERN | PGStB |
| Gavin O'SULLIVAN | PAGStB |



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Kudu family affair

Kudu Lodge celebrated the Initiation of its current Master's Son, Mr Mihir Vyas in February. This is not an uncommon occurrence in Freemasonry and is always an enjoyable Ceremony, but on this occasion it was a real family affair with all the major offices being taken by the Vyas family.

The family interest in Freemasonry began when Mihir's grandfather, Harshad Ray Vyas, was Initiated into Light of Africa Lodge No. 4945 in Kampala, Uganda in the 1950s. The political situation in Uganda, which brought the family to the UK, saw the Lodge being erased in 1975. A new Lodge of the same name was Consecrated in 1983.

For the Kudu Lodge Ceremony the WM vacated the Chair in favour of his brother Ajay, of Lodge of Three Kindred Lights. Brothers Hemant of Grecia Lodge, acted as SW. Bakul, of Polaris Lodge, JW. Rajiv, of University of London Lodge, JD and Kiran, also of Grecia Lodge, IG.

APGM W.Bro Jay Patel, who attended as a family friend, knew their late father.

A Lodge spokesman told Provincial News: "The Ceremony was conducted in an excellent manner with great warmth and feeling generated from a family working together.

"It was much appreciated by Lodge members and numerous guests alike, which flowed over into a most enjoyable Festive Board.

"A great start to a new Mason's Masonic life."



■ Front Row from Left to Right: W. Bro Hemant Vyas PPrSGD (Middx) SLGR, W. Bro Ajay Vyas SLGR, Bro. Mihir Vyas, WBro Bharat Vyas (Worshipful Master), W.Bro Bakul Vyas PAGDC and W. Bro Kiran Vyas.



Aiming High!

It was a 'double' barrel of laughs in March when the newest Lodge in the Province of Hertfordshire held its first meeting.

A total of 198 brethren had attended the Consecration of the aptly-named Lodge of True Aim 9930 in January, and witnessed "a fantastic ceremony" carried out by members of the Executive. (See our report on page 11.)

Before the first regular meeting at Mayflower Place, Hertingfordbury, 35 shooters met in the morning at the nearby Lea Valley Shooting Grounds Hertford.

Dean Hurry gained the Top Gun prize.

There were fifty present at the meeting itself including the Provincial Grand Master RW.Bro Paul Gower, and the Deputy Provincial Grand Masters of both Hertfordshire and Essex.

Seven joining members were welcomed into the Lodge, and Bro Pip Hughes became the Lodge's first initiate. The Lodge will meet in March, June and September (Installation.)



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■ The Masonic Fishing Charity Hertfordshire Team

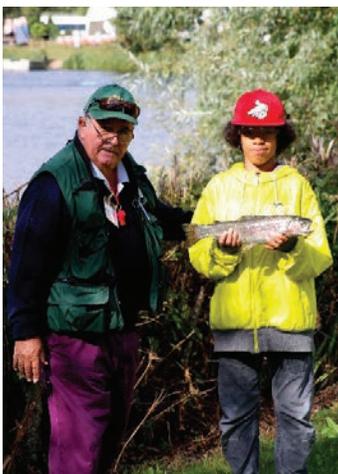
Hertfordshire Masonic Fishing Charity

In October last year the Hertfordshire Masonic Fishing Charity held its final event for 2016 at the beautiful Rib Valley Fishing Lakes.

Supporters were joined by the charity's patron, MW.Bro Peter Lowndes, who spent the day chatting to youngsters, fishermen and volunteers as well as presenting some well-earned certificates and medals. During the year more than 115 youngsters had enjoyed special days fishing one-to-one with expert volunteer fishermen. Most of the participants were from Special Needs Schools and as well as an interactive fishing experience, enjoyed a healthy cooked lunch organised by W.Bro Mike Eames and his catering team.

John Clark of the Hertfordshire team said: "It has been another great year for the Hertfordshire branch and Freemasonry in the community, working with the amazing volunteers and fully engaging with Special Needs Schools. "We are all looking forward to 2017.

"Our thanks go to the Province, Lodges, Chapters and the wonderful people who support us."



■ Truly "Happy Hertfordshire" with smiles all round. One of the many examples of Masons out and about, working in the in the community

2017 HERTFORDSHIRE MASONIC FISHING CHARITY DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

All events are 8am to 3pm.

17th May (Riverside – St. Albans): Coarse.

14th June (Riverside – St. Albans): Coarse.

13th September (Tolmers - Cuffley): Coarse.

4th October (Rib Valley - Ware): Fly and coarse.

Contact:

Nathan Clarke, Caster Manager on 07815 808 938 or Nathan.Clark@mtsfc.org.uk or John Clark, Chairman on 07801 884439 or john.clark@mtsfc.org.uk

Venues:

Rib Valley Fishing Lakes, Westmill Farm, Ware, SG12 0ES.

Tolmers Scout Camp and Activity Centre, Tolmers Road, Cuffley, Potters Bar, EN6 4JS.

Riverside Fishery, Riverside Road, St. Albans, AL1 1SF.

Cloisters Lodge at Henlow Dogs

It was a fundraising event with a difference for members of Cloisters Lodge 7100 on behalf of the 2019 Festival.

Back in November members spent an evening at Henlow Dogs.

They sponsored two races and enjoyed a fish & chip supper while raising funds for the Festival.

Our picture shows the WM, W.Bro Scullion, accompanied by W.Bro Robert Bewell and W.Bro Daryl Hayler meeting the winning dog and its owners of the aptly named race Cloisters Lodge Past Masters Stakes.

More than £200 was raised for the 2019 Festival.

Provincial News understands, "good times were had by all".



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Planning ahead for peace of mind

Provincial Curator's Report

By Museum curator Brian Tierney

We certainly have been busy during the last six months.

The collection of certificates has greatly increased, as has the general archive. But as always we do need more archive material to place in the files. Such material is vital for research, especially for those preparing Jubilee and Centenary histories. Research enquiries have also increased, especially from abroad. A Freemason in New Zealand is researching the Masonic and Naval life of Admiral Sir Lionel Halsey. This brought to light a long-lost close connection between a Lodge in Wellington, New Zealand, with one meeting at Cheshunt. We have acquired two unusual Master Mason's aprons. One is from Bulgaria and the other from Ireland, the latter being a dress version. A block of coal, mined from below two thousand feet and carved as a memorial to a late brother in the form of a VSL, and square and compasses on a cushion have been donated by the PGM. Our already large Masonic philately collection has grown even more with a fine collection of American first day covers. Any Masonic philatelists are most welcome to come and study the albums and covers.

Although we do look at Ebay at least twice a day, seven days a week, it is always of concern when we see Hertfordshire items being auctioned by professional sellers at very high prices. Items such as jewels are then lost for ever and are often melted down for the metal value. When awarding jewels to Lodge or Chapter members a simple note with these items asking for them to be returned to the Lodge/Chapter or failing that to the Provincial Office would greatly assist. You will have seen elsewhere in Provincial News that the Tercentenary Heritage Banner Project is now complete and



on line for all to look at. Do please go to the site and appreciate the fine collection of banners of all Orders that this Province has. The site can be found at www.hertsmasonicbanners.uk One source of information that has recently changed and enlarged is the UGLE Museum Resources website. This can easily be accessed by entering the UGLE main site, then to Library and Museum. Scroll down and click on the link to the website of the Library Museum. From there click on Explore where you will find a drop-down menu. Any of these give a wealth of information, especially resources.

A rather unusual silver Past Master's collar jewel from Birchwood Lodge 5178 is now on display. First issued in 1945 it has a second smaller hinged square recording its second issue in 1954. A novel method of retaining the original name and date.

I must repeat what I have said in every issue of Provincial News. Do not throw anything Masonic away without letting us see it. Do not let things lie in the back or bottom of the Lodge or Chapter locker or box. Such things get damaged or lost. Items may include old collection boxes and plates, goblets, china, GL Certificates, or brassware. Recently I had to specially clean a set of three Lodge's silver wine goblets where the wine had been left in and not washed out. Many Lodges have such goblets and it is essential they are washed out after use every time. Wine will damage the surface.

We welcome certificates of all orders and all Provinces. If you have any unwanted certificates of deceased or resigned members please pass them to the Museum. They are so useful in replying to research enquiries.

I am regularly asked why our Museum collections have so many items from other Provinces and Constitutions. But the vast Collection of the late John Gandy bequeathed to the Province covered almost the whole world and cannot be broken up or sold. To this will be added items specifically donated to the Hertfordshire Collection due to a connection. For instance, if a widow of a Hertfordshire Mason who was also a member of a London Lodge donates his full Masonic collection, certificates and jewels, they should be kept together.

Finally, as always, I stress that the Provincial Museum, Library and Archive cover all Orders, Degrees and Constitutions. Come and visit, you might well be surprised what is here. It is always best to phone first to check availability if you are coming a distance.



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Class of '99 Annual Reunion

In 1999 W.Bro Jack Hall succeeded W.Bro Colin Harris as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. To prepare for the Annual Provincial meeting of that year W.Bro Jack invited his team of Deputy Directors of Ceremonies, Paul Gower, Edward Miller and James Young, along with their wives to join him and his wife Muriel at the Manor House, Happisburgh, Norfolk, where an enjoyable social day could be enjoyed and his ceremonial team could go through the choreography for the approaching meeting.

These visits continued throughout W.Bro Jack's tenure of office and such was the popularity of the day that, with the exception of the year in which sadly Muriel passed away, they have continued ever since. They have now become known as 'Muriel Day' and have now been supplemented with the company of RW. Bro. Colin Harris and Jack's great friend RW. Bro. John Rushmer, PProvGM for Norfolk and his wife Judith.

W.Bro James Young tells Provincial News: "The unspecified annual date, mutually agreed by all parties, follows an established format beginning with Champagne followed by a convivial lunch round Jack's magnificent dining table. "When replete the entire party embarks on a walk around Happisburgh but always starting with a visit to Muriel's grave, situated immediately behind the Manor House in



the grounds of the outstanding Norman Church, St Mary's. "This year's visit to the church coincided with access to the tower being available and the hundred or so

steps were negotiated with varying degrees of discomfort, manfully led by our Provincial Grand Master.

"We then traditionally walk to witness the latest incursion of erosion caused by the North Sea which affects the lovely coastline in that part of the world. We then follow the coast for some distance, either north or south, returning for a sumptuous tea of homemade scones and cake.

"Now in his 92nd year, his birthday falling on Boxing Day, Jack continues to be the most generous of hosts and whilst no longer able to travel to his Hertfordshire Lodge, St. Michaels No.2136, continually requests that his very best and fraternal wishes be passed on to all his friends in the Province."

The attached photograph shows the party enjoying the wonderful hospitality in Jack's beautiful garden.

Bissei Lodge

The WM, Treasurer and ADC of Bissei Lodge were among those who attended the Remembrance Service at West Watford War Memorial and laid a wreath. The service was conducted by the Vicar of St Mary's Church, Watford.

It was organised by the Croxley Green Branch of the Royal British Legion, whose standard was present. Watford Borough Council's chairman, members of the Royal Naval Association and Fleet Air Arm Association and members of the public attended. The wreath-laying was led by the Chairman of Watford Borough Council. The service has been held on November 11 for the last 20 years and members of the Lodge have attended for the past five.

Are you a match angler?

If not do you know one? If the answer is yes to either, your province needs you.

As part of the Tricentenary celebrations the Province is looking to make up a team of 10 anglers to fish an inter-province canal match between Herts, Bucks, Middx, Oxon & Berks.



It is on May 14 at Manor Fields stretch of Grand Union Canal in Milton Keynes. The draw is from 8am to 8.30am. Fishing takes place from 10am to 3pm. The cost £10 a head. Anyone willing to help should contact

Coarse Match Organiser Steve Parker on 01992 425411.

Would-be participants can also email stephen.parker4@ntlworld.com, or send a letter to S Parker (300 Coarse), 72 Rowlands Close, Cheshunt, EN8 9NR.

In the event of over subscription, there might be a qualifying match organised to decide the final team plus two reserves.

Non-mason participants must have a masonic link, e.g. friend, relative or be involved with the Masonic Fishing Charity.

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■ PGM RW.Bro Paul Gower, WM W.Bro Gordon McClean and guest, W.Bro John Gledhill at the installation meeting.

Salisbury Union Lodge Tours Province

It has been a busy year for Salisbury Union Lodge 767. This Lodge is unique in the Province as it is a member of the UGLE Universities Scheme, allowing it to perform multiple ceremonies. Young Masons in Scheme Lodges are part of a national scheme which helps them visit other lodges with student Masons, and to join other lodges when work takes them elsewhere. The Installation meeting was in October, there were six Initiations in Hertingfordbury in November, followed by a triple Initiation in February and a triple Raising in March in St Albans. Members have also gone 'on tour' to share its work with other Lodges, with a triple Passing at Latimer Lodge 4705 in Radlett in February and a double Passing at Guy Marsden Halsey Lodge 9369 in Mayflower Place later in the month. Anyone wanting more information should contact the DC Peter Lucas (peterlucas27@hotmail.com). Friends and guests are welcome at its LOI's and meetings.



■ APGM W.Bro Neil Connolly at two of the other meetings.



Knights Templar

Provincial Information Officer

Denis Gibney Tel: 01923 490314
email denis.gibney@yahoo.co.uk

Date for your diary

Sunday, May 7

The Annual KT Service at Waltham Abbey.

Wednesday, May 17

Great Priory at Freemasons Hall.

Thursday, June 22

Provincial Priory at Bushey Police Club.

Saturday, September 16

Great Priory Church Service at Lincoln Cathedral.

Tuesday, November 21

Great Priory of Malta at Freemasons Hall.

All Knights of the Province are eligible to attend. Full details are available through your Registrar and on The Provincial Website – www.ktherts.com

New Grand Master

REKt. Paul Raymond Clement, GCT. has been elected the new Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master. He will be Installed at the meeting of Great Priory at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, May 17. This will be a most prestigious occasion in the KT calendar. All Knights eligible to attend Great Priory are encouraged to attend and be part of this spectacular day. Many visitors from all over the world will be in attendance.

St John Of Jerusalem Eye Hospital

Knights Templar in the UK and throughout the world support the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital, which does such wonderful work. To support funding for the hospital, fundraising events are held throughout the year. Full details of these are circulated to all Preceptories, but here is the next:

The Bluebell Railway luncheon, Sunday, June 18.

An exclusive 1920s-themed luncheon on the Bluebell Railway, East Sussex, from noon.

Hertfordshire Pilgrims



The Hertfordshire Pilgrims group was formed about two years ago. The intention is for Knights to visit other Preceptories in the Province and increase the camaraderie that is so important amongst Knights Templar. All Knights of the Province of any rank are invited to join this. It has already proved

to be very successful and has forged many new friendships. These Knights can be identified when in attendance by the distinguished shell lapel badge, which is awarded to participating Knights. Full details are on the KT Website.



St George's Dinner

At the time of going to press members were looking forward to Sunday, April 23, at Halsey Hall Cheshunt for this annual event. A fine lunch is supplied as we applaud in the 'Sir Loin' for the approval of The Provincial Prior. The meal is always accompanied with great enthusiasm by well-known and inspiring national music for our traditionally dressed audience.

Great Priory

We will be pleased to support and congratulate Hertfordshire Knights who will be honoured with Great Priory Ranks at Great Priory on May 17 in Freemasons Hall. Promotions: Past Great Registrar, Eric Misselke; Past Great Registrar, David Sharman; Past Great Herald, John Wickes. First Appointment: Past Great Warden of Regalia, Peter Beresford.

The Right Eminent Provincial Prior is sure all Knights of the Province would like to join with him in congratulating these Knights on their honours.

Great Priory Of Malta

November 2016 at Freemasons' Hall.

This was a marvelous occasion for our Malta Knights who received honours and promotions, including Sidney Tuck, promoted to Past Great First Lieutenant, E.Kt Colin Hellyer to Past Great Second Lieutenant and E.Kt Derek Watson appointed to Past Great Turcopolier.



Provincial Priory

June 22, Bushey Police Club.

Provincial Prior, Tony Lapsley, invites all Knights of The Province to join him for the culmination of our annual Hertfordshire celebration of the Provincial year and to congratulate all those Knights who will receive their Honours and Promotions.

Knights Of Malta

Three times a year in this Province, the full ceremony of the Order of Knights of Malta is held in three of our Preceptories. The KT ceremony is a fascinating and awesome ritual. Once a Knight has been installed into a KT Preceptory, he becomes eligible to progress to the Malta Degree. This year, in February, seven Knights were installed as Knights of Malta in the Stuart Priory No 28, at Halsey Hall in Watford. An impressive and elegant ceremony was completed in the presence of The Provincial Prior, Tony Lapsley, and a very large compliment of Knights from The Province. The full Malta ceremony is also held at The Melita Priory and The Crossed Swords Priory. The dates of these meetings are listed on the KT Website.



Hertfordshire Knights Templar

Provincial Prior
Right Eminent Knight - Tony Lapsley

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District Information Officer

Em.Kt. Philip J. Hoy P.Div Junior General Tel: 01279 817792
Email: philip.hoy@uwclub.net

INSTALLATION OF NEW INTENDANT GENERAL

Saturday, February 25, marked a major milestone in the life of the Hertfordshire Division of the Red Cross of Constantine. Members of this very interesting and sincere degree had the pleasure and honour of watching M.III.Kt. Graham L Flight, GCC Grand Sovereign install our new Intendant General R.III. Kt. Simon Pine. This followed the retirement of R.III.Kt Brian Muir.

The meeting was split into two parts, with the morning session covering the installation of the new Intendant-General, by the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, Graham Leslie Flight, together with the assistance of Grand Imperial Conclave and Divisional officers, plus the Grand Sepulchre Guard in their accustomed, supporting role. It was indeed a splendid and colourful ceremony and one that was much enjoyed by all concerned.



■ Installation team from Grand Imperial Conclave

The Officers of Grand Imperial Conclave that attended were as follows:

M.III.Kt. Graham L Flight, GCC Grand Sovereign
R.III. & Em.Kt. Peter Hawken, GCC Deputy Grand Sovereign
R.III. & Ven.Kt. Rev Tim L'Estrange Grand Eusebius
V.III.Kt. Andrew Sweeney Grand Senior General
V.III.Kt. H. Keith Emmerson Grand Junior General
III.Kt. Revd Justin Parker as Grand High Prelate
III.Kt. Jonathan Roberts as Grand Recorder
V.III.Kt. Neil Matthews Grand Marshal
III.Kt. Charles Aspinell Grand Sword Bearer
III.Kt. Liam Bird Deputy Grand Marshal
III.Kt. Michael Bailey Grand Standard Bearer (C)
III.Kt. Michael Cooper Grand Standard Bearer (L)
R.III.Kt. David Adams KCC Grand Organist
III.Kt. Roderick Barker Grand Herald
W.Kt. Leslie Nash as Grand Sentinel

In like manner, the above teams and Divisional officers then assisted with installing our newly appointed Deputy Intendant-General, III. Kt. Terence Deakin, a duty which gave our Intendant General particular pleasure in performing. We then adjourned for a splendid lunch where a number of presentations were made to the Grand Sovereign M.III.Kt. Graham L Flight, GCC, including a special book on St. Albans Cathedral with an inscription by The Very Reverend Dr Jeffrey John, Dean of St. Albans, which was presented by the Div. Junior General P.Kt. George Laverick.

After luncheon, we were able to complete the day by undertaking our Divisional meeting, the main feature of which was the appointment of this year's Divisional Officers as follows:
Divisional Eusebius/Viceroy III.Kt. David Boore
Div. Senior General Em.Kt. Tony Lapsley
Div. Junior General P.Kt. George Laverick
Div. High Prelate P.Kt. Anthony Wright
Div. Registrar W.Kt. Chris De La Sel
Div. Treasurer M.P.Kt. John Hicks
Div. Recorder W.Kt. Peter Thompson
Div. Almoner P.Kt. Alan Yeowell
Div. Marshal III.Kt. Geoff Cheshire
Div. Sword Bearer Em.Kt. Mark Pedroz
Div. Deputy Marshal Em.Kt. Graeme McCormack
Div. Chamberlain P.Kt. Michael Odumosu
Div. Sub-Prelate P.Kt. Dennis Adams
Div. St.B. (C) M.P.Kt. John Roberts
Div. St.B. (L) Em.Kt. Robbie Biggs
Div. Prefect W.Kt. Mark Russell
Div. W.of R. W.Kt. John Ellis
Div. Assistant Recorder III.Kt. Albert Waite
Div. Organist III.Kt. Bill Rumford
Div. Herald (1) W.Kt. Alan Oakley
Div. Herald (2) W.Kt. Mark Trembling
Div. Steward W.Kt. Bill Wilkinson
Div. Steward W.Kt. Paul Ellis
Div. Sentinel III.Kt. Peter Clark



■ Our new Intendant General and Deputy Intendant General



■ Presentation to Grand Sovereign by P.Kt. George Laverick

Additional Appointments/Promotions to Past Divisional Ranks:
Past Divisional Senior General III.Kt. Albert Waite
Past Divisional Junior General III.Kt. Robert Chilvers
Past Divisional Junior General P.Kt. Alan Yeowell
Past Divisional Prefect P.Kt. Graham Long

RCC WEBSITE FOR HERTS MASONS.

In conjunction with a number of other degrees and Orders in Hertfordshire, we have set up our own website at www.hertsmasons.co.uk. Please feel free to visit this site to see our webpages and those of other degrees. If you have anything you would like to see online, please send it to me as Information Officer for the RCC.

The Red Cross of Constantine is a particularly good order for Masons who are interested in knowing more about Masonry and the foundation of early Christianity. The regalia of the order is simple and inexpensive consisting of a sash and two jewels although a sword will be required later on as you move up the ranks.

Any member will be pleased to discuss the order should you be interested in finding out more information or considering joining.

There are Conclaves in Radlett, Royston, Cheshunt, Watford and St. Albans.

Anybody wishing to know more about this Christian Order please contact Peter Thompson, Divisional Recorder p.thompson15@ntlworld.com for membership details.



The Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom

District Information Officer

Information Officer V.Em.Kt.Pt. Philip Hoy Dep Dist Rec
email: philip.hoy@uwclub.net

SUNDAY LUNCH

Sixty seven people sat down to probably the best Sunday lunch event in the Province in October last year which was particularly gratifying as this was the first time we had held one at this venue. Our Grand Superintendent, RE Kt.P Barry Searle, hosted the event at Great Hadham Golf and Country Club. We were pleased to be joined by members of the Fleet House Light Blues Club led by Bro. Dan O'Connell. This gave the members of the FHLBC an opportunity to meet socially with senior masons in the Province. The event was organised by Philip and Shirley Hoy, Gavin O'Sullivan and his partner Pam Young.



■ Gavin O'Sullivan, Pam Young, Sue Searle, Barry Searle, Shirley Hoy and Philip Hoy.



■ The celebration cake with the crest of the order.

The meal was a carvery which everyone agreed was superb with a wide choice of starters and sweets. After the meal, Barry thanked everyone for coming and the organisers for arranging the event. We then had a free raffle with all prizes being donated by Pam Young. There were so many prizes that almost everyone won something. Ladies present also received an individual gift. We were all very grateful to Pam for her generosity.

The afternoon finished with the celebration fruit cake being cut and distributed to all present.

DISTRICT MEETING

The John Owen Place Tabernacle hosted the District Meeting at Halsey Hall, Cheshunt, in October. Grand Superintendent R Em Kt Pt Barry Searle welcomed R Em Kt Pt Eddie Goodwin, G.Supt of District 4, London and past and present senior members of other Orders.

The District Recorder, V Ill Kt Pt Eric Mitchell gave his report highlighting membership and then the Grand Superintendent addressed the meeting and stressed that it was important to enjoy our meetings and to encourage new members to share the depth and meaning of our ritual.

In common with all Masonic orders, membership is a cause for concern. The Grand Superintendent urged all Kt Pts to spread the word in their Preceptories and encourage the idea that KTP is a natural progression from Knights Templar. The Grand Superintendent also encouraged members to support the Pillar Fund.

Highlight of the afternoon was the demonstration of Knight of the White Cross of Torphichen, one of the Appendent Degrees, illustrating the close links between the Knights of Malta and our Order. The Degree was worked in an excellent manner with the admission of a new Knight by the Team of 12 Kt Pts led by R Em Kt Pt Les Butler.



■ The Demonstration Team

PILLAR FUND

At February's Executive Committee meeting it was reported that the Pillar Fund had now reached £200,000. It was the unanimous view of the committee that the Order was now in a position to commence a serious search in the York area for suitable premises which would be within a short taxi ride of York Station to make it easy for any delegate attending committee meetings to reach. To this end, the property sub-committee will be approaching two agents in the area to research and find suitable properties.

The Order is grateful for the support so far, but would ask that backing is continued to enable us to purchase a property relatively debt free (or with a small loan) and to provide a contingency fund for any future maintenance issues.

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

To be considered for membership you must be a subscribing member of the following Masonic bodies:

A subscribing Master Mason of three years standing.

A subscribing Royal Arch Mason.

A subscribing Knight Templar.

And profess the Trinitarian Christian Faith.

TABERNACLES IN THE DISTRICT

Hertfordshire Tabernacle No 29 meeting at Radlett.

Halsey Tabernacle No 177 meeting at Cheshunt.

Crux Roysia Tabernacle No 192 meeting at Royston.

John Owen Place No 200 meeting at Watford.

Southgate Tabernacle No 216 meeting at Southgate.

James William Turner Tabernacle No 222 meeting at Watford.

If you are interested in joining, please contact the District Recorder, Very Illustrious Knight Priest Eric Mitchell CHW, PGVIIP, 45 Coppice Farm Road, Tylers Green, Bucks, HP10 8AN. Tel: 01494 814098. Email: eric.mitchell1@tesco.net



Mark Masons

Provincial Information Officer

W.Bro Jack Franks Tel: 01279 865526
Email: jackfranks@ntlworld.com

Future engagements

The Mark Provincial Meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 11, at the Masonic School for Girls, Rickmansworth. All Mark Masons should receive notification from their Lodge Secretary.

Hello Brethren and welcome to our Mark and RAM pages and welcome also to those brethren who are not yet in the Mark Degree. I say not yet as I am sure that once you find out about us you will want to know more. Please contact me. Mark covers the Hertfordshire area and is in all Masonic centres.

Once again brethren if your Lodge has a special occasion in the future please keep me informed.



■ W.Bro Mike Donnelly

The first was a Bullnose Morris Oxford Tourer which was manufactured in 1926 and the latest a Jaguar F-PACE in 2016. There was one car for each year of Her Majesty's life. The vehicles were inspected on behalf of HM The Queen by HRH Prince Michael of Kent.

Mike Donnelly, pictured, from St Neots represented 1969 in his Triumph TR6. W.Bro Mike Donnelly is a member of Cheshunt Mark Lodge and Stanstead Abbots Mark and RAM Lodge.

MARK INSTALLED MASTERS LODGE 1121

The annual Installation meeting took place in November at the Police Sports Club, Bushey. As usual there was a large attendance gathered to watch W.Bro John Dye install his successor W.Bro Paul Gower who is the Craft Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire.



■ PGM Chris Radmore, Paul Gower, PGM Craft new master installed masters, John Dye outgoing master

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

The All-Party Parliamentary Motor Group and The All-Party Parliamentary Historic Vehicles Group continued their support of The Queen's 90th birthday back in October.

Ninety British vehicles, representing the cream of the British Motor

Industry, lined up on the forecourt of Buckingham Palace.

The first was a Bullnose Morris Oxford Tourer which was manufactured in 1926 and the latest a Jaguar F-PACE in 2016. There was one car for each year of Her Majesty's life. The vehicles were inspected on behalf of HM The Queen by HRH Prince Michael of Kent.

Mike Donnelly, pictured, from St Neots represented 1969 in his Triumph TR6. W.Bro Mike Donnelly is a member of Cheshunt Mark Lodge and Stanstead Abbots Mark and RAM Lodge.

John provided an excellent ceremony and we moved on to the investing of officers. Among officers invested were; SW W.Bro Ted Long, JW RW Bro Keith Emerson, Past Deputy Grand Master, MO W.Bro Neil Philips Past Assistant Grand Master.



■ PGM presents awards to W.Bro Brian and Mrs Pamela Meager

With such an impressive cast of officers the year looks to be in great hands. The PGM Chris Radmore, his Deputy Richard Walker and Jordan Giddings APGM were all present. It was a very good ceremony and followed by an enjoyable festive board.

Also in November, at Ashwell House, St Albans, The Berkhamstead Lodge of MMM & RAM, hosted the PGM W.Bro Chris Radmore who had come for a special occasion. This was to present a Mark Benevolent Fund Grand Patron's Collar to W.Bro Brian Meager. Mrs Pamela Meager was also presented with a Grand Patron's Brooch. They were congratulated on a great achievement. After the meeting there was a white table. A very enjoyable day to honour two very nice people.

FUNDRAISING LUNCH

A fundraising Sunday lunch at the end of January proved a big hit. After "a lot of planning and worry" members of the organising committee, June and Ken Moore, Jeanette and Trevor Clarke and Sandra and Jack Franks, were joined by 114 guests at the Hunters Meet Hotel. Our thanks to the hotel for its support.

Entertainment was supplied by Evan Grant, one of the founder members of a group called the Foundations way back in the 60s. A big thank you to him also.

The lunch went very well and we had a bumper raffle. This was the second function in aid of Hope For Tomorrow staged by Stanstead Abbots Lodge MMM and Cheshunt Lodge MMM.

A magnificent £1,800 was raised helped by a great donation from Sawbridgeworth Craft Lodge.



■ Jeannette Clarke and Sandra Franks prepare the raffle and June Moore joins in with Evan Grant

PROVINCIAL DEMONSTRATION TEAM

Members of the Provincial demonstration team were at Debenham Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 636 in February. Under the leadership of the Provincial DC they had a rather complicated ceremony to perform, to Elevate three Brethren. Much practise was required in order that the ceremony was carried out to perfection.

The Provincial procession entered the Lodge under the PGM. He was offered the Chair and on this occasion accepted. The PGM then went on to place the Provincial Officers in position in the Lodge as follows, W.Bro Chris Slater as WM, W.Bro Tom Hedderson, SW & W.Bro Maurice Smith, JW. All other Officers took their place.

W.Bro Chris Slater went on to perform a perfect ceremony delivered with much feeling it was appreciated by all present.



■ The PGM with the three elevated Brethren

With three candidates this was a mammoth task. Everything was excellently overseen by PGDC Roy Moth. The signs of the Degree were demonstrated and delivered by W.Bro Jon Lydon PGRG assisted by the DPGM and the APGM.

Everyone had a part to play. The working tools, another part of this ceremony, were delivered by W.Bro Ken Gooding DPGSec. Brethren, if you get a chance please come to one of the demonstrations. You will not be disappointed. The three candidates were Bro Aaron Keeler, Bro Dan O'Connell and Bro Richard Phillip. I am sure we all offer them a hearty welcome to Hertfordshire Mark Masonry. After the ceremony the Lodge was passed back into the hands of its own Officers and the WM, W.Bro R Crozier thanked the PGM and the demonstration team for their work. The festive board was enjoyed by all as was the reply from the newly advanced Brethren. "Brethren of the Debenham Lodge I believe that in those three Brethren you have done well and we all look forward to their progress."

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

Was a sad day for Hertfordshire Mark Masonry VV. Bro Limbury Michael Poulton Roff PGJO who was PPGM as well as PPGSec passed to the Grand Lodge above. The funeral was held at the Harwood Park Crematorium. This was very well attended.



■ Broxbourne Lodge MMM Banner dedication and below the WM and Members of Broxbourne Lodge.

BANNER DEDICATION CEREMONY

In early March the Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Chris Radmore and his Officers gathered at Halsey Masonic Hall, Watford to perform a banner dedication ceremony for Broxbourne Lodge of MMM and RAM.

The Provincial team were at the centre by nine in the morning to start rehearsals with members of the Lodge.

A lot of planning and organising goes into these ceremonies and, as usual, the PGDC Roy Moth was there early to direct his troops.



Rehearsals went very well and at 10.45 the Lodge was opened and called off and ladies and non-Masonic guests were invited into the Lodge.

As this ceremony is open to all, many wives and friends of members and Provincial Officers attended. The dedication ceremony is great to see and all present can join in with the robust hymn singing.

The banners were formerly presented to the PGM RW.Bro Chris Radmore by the WM W.Bro Robert Anderson.

They were then dedicated and presented to the banner bearers, W.Bro Ian Crossley for the Mark Lodge and W.Bro Graham Embers for the RAM Lodge.

The banners were paraded around the Lodge. All Lodge members took part in the procession, while everybody joined in the hymns.

These ceremonies are not only a celebration for the Lodge but are a showcase for the Mark Degree. Much interest is aroused among those guests attending and many Lodges benefit from these occasions.

If you have never seen one of these ceremonies look out in the calendar section of our website for information.

After the ceremony an excellent lunch was had by all, at which many acquaintanceships were formed. The usual toasts were given and a great morning enjoyed by all.



■ W.Bro Maurice Smith

AN ARTICLE FROM THE PGJW W.BRO MAURICE SMITH

He has taken on the role of Preceptor and been working alongside the PGDC.

W.Bro Smith said: "Brethren, please take the time to look at this and the website as I believe it will be most helpful and will bring into line some of our workings.

"If any brother has a relevant query, I am sure that Maurice will be happy to help

"The website for the Provincial Grand Master's Lodge of

Instruction is now online and available for your use. "It is designed to support members of the PGMs LOI in a number of ways.

"On the Preceptor's page, for practice and rehearsal purposes, practice notes for the Senior Deacons' role in the Ceremony of Advancement can be accessed. It should be emphasised, however, that the printable aide memoire notes are intended for your private use and for use at the LOI. They should not be employed within formal Lodge proceedings.

"The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies has produced a very useful and informative virtual guidebook which contains a wealth of information in respect of ritual, rubric and ceremonial matters, plus all the Addresses and Working Tools, in a handy printable form.

"The guidebook can be accessed via the ProvGDC's page.

"The calendar page provides the LOI dates throughout the year.

"The programme page details the content of forthcoming meetings and is updated on a monthly basis.

"The address for the website is: <http://www.hertsmmmpgmlui.org.uk/>

"On clicking on to enter you will be asked for the password which is: markwell2008

"Brethren, this site is for your use. If you have any ideas or suggestions you feel could be incorporated into the site please let me know.

"In the coming weeks we shall release more content, including RAM Elevation practise diagrams and notes, and in the ProvGDC section a Virtual Guide book specific to the RAM degree."



Royal Arch Masons

Provincial Information Officer

E Comp Tony Reffold Tel: 01923 240617

Email: tonyreff@yahoo.com

Please don't hesitate to contact Tony with news from any Chapter.

New 3rd Provincial Grand Principal



At the Annual Convocation last November the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent James Sharpley invested E. Comp Philip Masters as the 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, taking over from E Comp Paul Blakemore who was promoted to 2nd Provincial Grand Principal.

Phil was exalted into the Earl of Clarendon Chapter in 1988, became MEZ in 1996 and 2001, appointed Prov Grand Registrar in 2000, PPGSN in 2007 and

became Prov Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies in 2009. He was promoted to Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in Supreme Grand Chapter in 2013, an active rank.

Phil is currently a member of two craft lodges, six chapters, three Mark and two Royal Ark Mariners Lodges, one Rose Croix Chapter and recently joined a Knights Templar Preceptory "to broaden his experience of Freemasonry!" He is also a keen member of the Camping and Caravanning Club.

He is hoping to visit as many Royal Arch Chapters in Hertfordshire as possible as well as supporting the Province with visits to neighbouring Provinces and Supreme Grand Chapter.

Grand Rank Appointments and Promotions

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E Comp James Sharpley is pleased to announce that the following Companions have been appointed to or promoted in Grand Rank:

Alick Walter Burge, PAGDC.

Peter Ross Cox, PAGDC.

Colin Taylor, PAGDC.

The following Companions are to be promoted from PAGDC to PGStB:

Roderick Ivor Kent through Hertfordshire.

Stanley Davison Anderson through MetGC.

Christopher Foxcroft through MetGC.

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent sends his personal congratulations and best wishes to the Companions and (at the time of going to press) "looks forward to seeing them receive their honours at the meeting of Supreme Grand Chapter on Thursday, April 27".

Cloisters Chapter 7100

RW.Bro John Harbo, Grand Master of Danish Craft Freemasonry, accompanied by an escort of 38 Danish Freemasons, had travelled from Denmark to visit Cloisters Chapter No. 7100 in Letchworth in February, to witness the exaltation into Royal Arch of three Danish Masons. They were W.Bros Steen Jakobsen-Hansen, Arne Kristoffersen and Orla Jorgensen.

One of the candidates, Orla Jorgensen, 81, had a lifelong wish to be Exalted but thought it would never happen due to the masonic circumstances in Denmark. He was proposed and seconded by his two sons-in-law who are both members of Cloisters Chapter.

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E.Comp James Sharpley, the Deputy Grand Superintendent, E.Comp David Hampton, the 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, E.Comp Phillip Masters and 15 other members of the Executive and Provincial team were in attendance for this special occasion. Danish MEZ Flemming Iversen invited another Dane, E.Comp Ib Ravn-Aagaard PProvGStwd, Bucks, to take his place for the Ceremony of Exaltation, which was carried out flawlessly. Chapter Director of Ceremonies, E Comp Steve Bailey said it was one of the best ceremonies he had ever seen.

Another reason for this visit was to celebrate the many years of close relationships that have developed between English and Danish Freemasons. The event helped strengthen the already close relationship between the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire and the Danish Grand Lodge of Craft Masonry.



During the Convocation, E.Comp James Sharpley, promoted E.Comp Flemming Iversen (MEZ) to Past Provincial Grand Steward in recognition of his work in the Chapter but also for his efforts in building the relationship between the Province of Hertfordshire and Denmark. This 'Field Promotion' was obviously of great surprise to E.Comp Flemming Iversen, who was warmly applauded by all Companions present in recognition of his preference. Another surprise was the presentation by E.Comp Ib Ravn-Aagaard and E.Comp. Svend Jensen of a set of Sceptres for the Chapter in Esbjerg. They were delivered in a magnificent presentation case specially manufactured by E.Comp Malcom Bage. On behalf of Danish members of the Chapter E.Comp Flemming Iversen presented engraved Tercentenary Jewels to John Harbo, Borge Holm, VW.President of the Board of General Purposes and Steen Jacobsen-Hansen, W.Grand Secretary of Danish Craft Masonry, in recognition of the work and progress they have made for the introduction of the Royal Arch into Denmark. The luncheon following the Convocation had a Danish twist to it, with a traditional prawn cocktail, Akvavit and roast pork with sweet red cabbage. The tables were decorated with Union Jacks and Danish flags. To commemorate the occasion, a new lapel pin had been produced as a symbol of the positive co-operation between Denmark and the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire.

Chantry Bodina Chapter 9121

At the Annual Convocation in November 2016 E. Companion Derrick Lyons was awarded the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent's Certificate of Service to Royal Arch Masonry, "in recognition for the hard work and years of devotion to the Holy Royal Arch".

The Chapter has three other members who have received the same honour - E. Comps. Len Collins, Howard Freeman and John Cooper.



At the February 2017 Convocation, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward presented a 2019 Festival Jewel to Comp Rabbi Gideon Schulman who joined the Chapter in 2016. Whilst

many Hertfordshire Freemasons have signed the regular payment promise to become Stewards of the Festival, very few receive the jewel through their Chapters. What is even more significant is that Companion Gideon has his roots in a London Lodge and a London Chapter.

Stanstead Abbotts Chapter 9085



At Mayflower Place, Hertingfordbury, Bro Graeme Rawlings was Exalted into the Holy Royal Arch by the Principals and Officers of the Stanstead Abbotts Chapter in a "truly 'excellent' manner. A spokesman said:

"The meeting in the

Temple was followed by a splendid Festive Board with good food and conversation, enjoyed by all who attended."

Our photo shows the Chapter's 2nd Principal, E.Comp Martin Walker, PPGSN, newly Exalted Companion Graeme Rawlings, E.Comp David Kirby, 1st Principle, E.Comp Mike Claxton, Principle Sojourner, LGCR and E.Comp Paul Clark, 3rd Principal.

Golf day 2017

The Royal Arch Golf Day will once again take place at Redbourn Golf Club, Kinsbourne Green Lane, Redbourn, St. Albans. AL3 7QA on Friday, June 30.

There will be a two-tee start from the first and 10th holes from 12.30pm.

An event spokesman told Provincial News: "This is a prestigious and very popular event and is open to any Royal Arch Masons who are members of a Hertfordshire Royal Arch Chapter and any member of a Hertfordshire Lodge, as well as Royal Arch guests from other Provinces."

Entry costs £55 per person which includes coffee and a bacon roll served from 11am, 18 holes of golf and a three course presentation dinner in the evening, where the ME Grand Superintendent James Sharpley will be on hand to present the prizes.

Hertfordshire Royal Arch Golf Shirts should be worn if you have one.

"Wives, partners and any non-golfing masons and their partners are most welcome and indeed encouraged to join us at the evening festivities at a cost of £27 per person," said the spokesman.

There will be a 6.30pm reception for a 7pm meal. Dress code for gentlemen is jacket and tie.

A raffle and auction will be held. Proceeds plus any surplus on the sale of golfing entries will be donated to the RMTGB 2019 Festival.

More details are available on the website, www.Herts-Chapter.org.uk

It's never too late

W.Bro Trevor Tye was recently exalted into Edmonton Latymer Chapter No. 5026.

This in itself wasn't particularly remarkable, but for the fact that W.Bro Trevor had not joined any other order since he was initiated into Waltham Cross Lodge in 1959. He joined the Royal Arch in a joint ceremony with his cousin, W.Bro Vernon Tye.

Companion Trevor has taken to his new order with great passion and has started to study the connection between the order and the scriptures. May he continue to enjoy his Freemasonry and make a daily advancement in his knowledge of the Holy Royal Arch.

Festival support



At the Annual Convocation back in November the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent James Sharpley presented the Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Paul Gower, with a

cheque for £4,000 to support the 2019 Festival in aid of the charity formerly known as the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys.

Many Hertfordshire Chapters are also supporting this most worthy of causes and this donation from Hertfordshire Royal Arch helps illustrate the closeness of these two orders.

At the time of going to press, donations from other Hertfordshire Royal Arch Chapters were in excess of £87,000.



■ Grand Superintendent James Sharpley presents the award to E.Comp Robert Wray. PPGSN.

Gresham Chapter

E.Comp Robert Wray PPGSN Gresham Chapter 869 was presented with the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent's Certificate of Service to Royal Arch Freemasonry by the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent E.Comp James Sharpley in February.

A few kind words were also added at the presentation by escorting ProvGDC, E.Comp Bob Wale, who reminded Companions of the good times

he and E.Comp Robert shared in the London Fire Brigade. It is also worth mentioning the superb Exaltation ceremony that was presented and demonstrated by the MEZ, E.Comp Robert Mackenzie, ProvGStwd, and the rest of the Companions of Gresham Chapter. It was a truly impressive performance.

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