

# Provincial News

The newsletter for Hertfordshire Freemasons

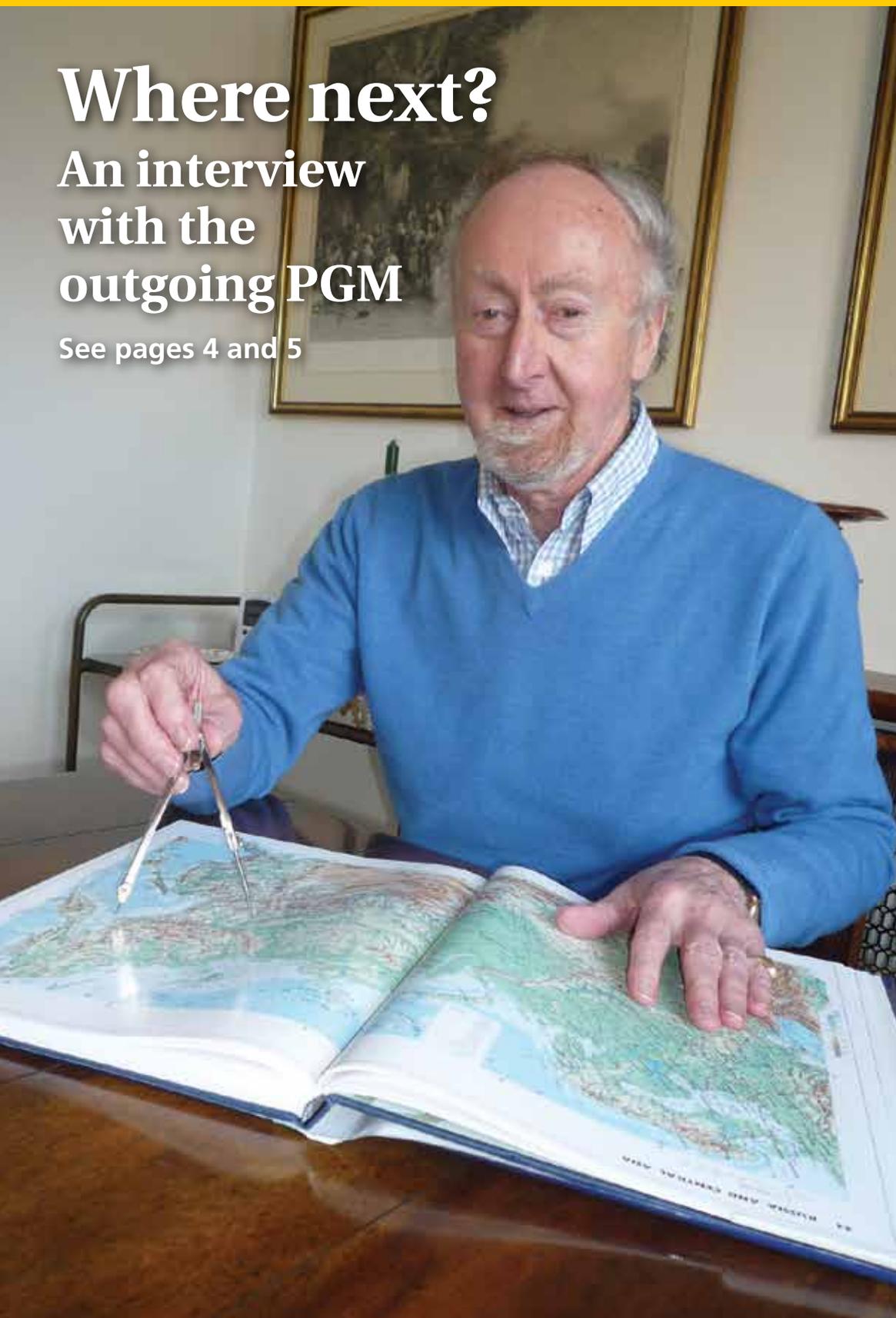


No. 42 Spring 2013

## Where next?

An interview  
with the  
outgoing PGM

See pages 4 and 5



**02**

Six bottles of  
Champagne



**06**

Golf competitions,  
results & coming events



**09**

Starting from page 9  
catch up on all the latest  
fund raising activities

# News from Prince Michael of Kent Court

## A new domain for PMKC

For those of you who have been trying in vain to access the Association of Friends website, we are pleased to be able to tell you that on January 18 our new website went live. The previous domain expired and thanks to our new Bedfordshire representative, Ralph Woolhead, and his two sons, Andrew and James, we now have a new website that is easier to navigate. The format is very different from the old one and the bonus is that we own the copyright. The new address is:

[www.pmkcfriends.co.uk](http://www.pmkcfriends.co.uk)

It is still very much "work in progress" and over the coming months we intend to expand the site with news of events we have planned and pictures. If you have any suggestions about information you would like to see, please email the webmanager, Ralph Woolhead, or myself at our email addresses shown on the Contact Us page.

With the lead-up to Christmas, the Friends were busy arranging the Christmas Fayre, quiz and fish and chip supper with the Middlesex Masonic Choir, who entertained residents with carols and recitations. Unfortunately



we were unable to take residents to Rickmansworth Girls' School, but had a very warm welcome from Christ Church, Waltham Cross and then tea and mince pies at Halsey Hall in Cheshunt, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

At the beginning of February two London Lodges, the Lodge of Tranquility and Playgoers Lodge, sponsored a high tea at the home. It is something we have been trying to encourage for some time whereby Lodges provide the funding for an afternoon's food and entertainment. The afternoon started with an excellent singer and her pianist entertaining residents with songs from popular musicals. The Friends dressed as waiters and waitresses and served refreshments before more singing which residents

were happy to sing-a-long to. The afternoon was a resounding success and we have been asked to arrange another high tea on similar lines for next year.

If you have any suggestions for similar events your Lodge and/or Chapter would like to sponsor, please let us know. We would welcome any members of funding Lodges to attend with their wives/partners to work with us on the day.

The annual Almoners/Charity Stewards open day will take place on Sunday, May 19, between 10am and 4pm. Wives/partners are welcome as well as other Lodge members who may wish to see the home. Tours are included to give everyone a chance to see around the home and chat to some of the residents and the home manager and her staff. Please contact me for further information about the Friends and the work we do for residents.

**Malcolm P. Andrews. Chairman.**

**Tel: 01494 433 851**

**Mobile: 07966 297 880**

**E.mail: [chairman@pmkcfriends.co.uk](mailto:chairman@pmkcfriends.co.uk)**

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## Could you design a new Provincial tie and win six bottles of Champagne?

A competition is being organised for the design of a new Provincial tie in support of the 2019 Festival for the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys.

Ideally the chosen design will be suitable for wear at both Craft and Royal Arch meetings as well as on non-masonic occasions. All entries to be submitted to the Provincial Office by 31st July 2013.

The winning entry will be announced at Provincial Grand Lodge on 25th September 2013.



*Photograph for illustrative purposes only*



My recent appeal for disused charity columns and boxes has produced quite an impressive collection. There is space for a few more, especially unusual ones or those named to a specific Lodge or Chapter. However the response to my appeal for Royal Arch Chapter Founder's Jewels has not been so good. If you have one to spare, do please consider loaning or donating it.

To coincide with the forthcoming bicentenary celebration of the Royal Arch, I will be arranging a special display of our unusual jewels. Currently there is a display of 18th Degree Rose Croix jewels.

An attractive pair of silver cream jug and sugar bowl with the badge of Welwyn Lodge No. 3227 has been donated. It is assumed they were Ladies Festival gifts. If you know different, let me know. Sadly, Ravenscroft Lodge 2331 founded in 1889, has recently closed. But the museum now has on display many objects that they have kindly donated. This Lodge is unusual in that we have always had a full set of Jewels, Founders, Consecrating Officers, Past

Masters and Centenary. There are now many other items including the banner, memorial collars and jewels, carved boxes, goblets and more.

The museum is currently engaged in a Banner Project, simply to catalogue, photograph and record the history of the banners and their emblems of all orders throughout the Province. This will assist researchers writing jubilee and centenary history books in years to come. It is a very large project and could take up to two years to complete. With regard to Lodge and Chapter Official Records, there have been two recent items. Certified archive paper which must be used for the official records, has recently fallen in price quite dramatically. What cost over £30 a packet just two years ago now can be bought well under £10 and



sometimes even less than £5. The paper is identified by the archive sign of a figure eight lying on its side and an ISO number. The second item is that following a question raised with the Grand Secretary's department, loose leaf minutes and signature sheets are not permitted. This is confirmed by the current issue of the Guidance Notes which state that each sheet must be 'irremovably affixed' to the minute book. If any help or advice is needed,

please contact me.

As always, members and their family are most welcome to visit. It is always best to phone first to check as the main museum room also serves as an occasional meeting room. Lodge groups are encouraged to visit which, by arrangement, can be out of normal hours.

We have a large box of spare parts for jewels, rings, pins, clips, ribbons, etc. Between the museum and the regalia department, we can carry out most repairs to broken jewels and can also clean them. We can also have engraving carried out.

Archive information requests regarding former members are increasing greatly. But to research and give accurate replies, we do need more filed information. Please do not dispose

of anything Masonic before contacting us. What may appear something quite ordinary might well have a vital connection. Not only jewels, regalia and artefacts but also certificates, books, brochures and photographs are

welcome. A large old box of papers may produce just a few useful items, but these can link up with others. Finally, we have a large number of spare Quatuor Coronati Transaction Books. They are on the table upstairs at Fleet House simply for the taking. Return is not needed. But we do have a number missing from our complete set pre 1962. Any such copies would be most welcome.

At the Annual Investiture on April 24 the following brethren were honoured by the Grand Master with promotion in, or appointment to, Grand Rank:

## Through Hertfordshire

### First Appointments:

Name	Rank
Hugh Oram	PAGDC
Peter Thompson	PAGDC
Richard Knifton	PAGSuptWks
Anthony Nutley	PAGSuptWks
George Laverick	PGStB

### Promotions:

Name	From	To
Alan Tyler	PAGDC	PJGD

## Through London Metropolitan or other Provinces

### First Appointments:

Name	Rank
Robert Curson	GStB
Peter Hayes	PGStB

### Promotions:

Name	From	To
Anthony Southwood	PAGDC	PJGD

### Reappointment:

Name	Rank
Rev Andrew Davey	GChap

## New Provincial Grand Master

The identity of the new Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire has been revealed, just as Provincial News was going to press.

It will be the current Deputy Grand Master Paul Gower. In a brief statement, released following his address to April's meeting of Hertfordshire Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge No 8984, RW Bro Colin

Harris said: "I am very pleased to pass on the news that the Most Worshipful the Grand Master has appointed the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Paul Gower, to be the next Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire. "All of us will, I am sure, give him the great support that you have given me, thereby ensuring the continuing success of Happy Hertfordshire."

■ The PGM studies some of his pile of travel brochures as holidays beckon



## More travel, more bridge – and more masonry!

By Michael Imeson

**When R W Bro Colin Harris relinquishes his role as Provincial Grand Master – at precisely 23.59 on August 31 - he will feel comfortable that many of his plans formulated a decade ago have indeed come to happy fruition.**

In a wide-ranging interview for Provincial News he said he hoped he had helped to, “get lodges and the brethren to feel good about themselves.”

Certainly the 5,900 masons in 198 Hertfordshire lodges have had many opportunities to get to know him: he has made 330 official visits to lodges, that’s every lodge once and half of them more than once.

Every initiate has had a personal letter of welcome and a second note after receiving their Grand Lodge certificate. He said: “In my letter I told them to come and say hello, and the good thing is that many have done so. I have also chosen to sit with some of the younger brethren at many festive boards. I certainly didn’t want to be on the top table every time.”

In addition, as part of his deliberate plan to grow good relationships with other orders “and to make them all feel wanted and valued”, he has attended meetings of the orders of which he is a member, or the festive board of those which he is not.

The PGM has an interesting take on the many other, smaller orders: they can provide, he says, an extra means for brethren to develop their talents and move forward more quickly than in a craft lodge.

Many of the things R W Bro Colin has achieved in his 10 years at the top have evolved slowly. Classic was his early decision to stop the practice of the “official” visitor at a lodge’s installation meeting leaving immediately after the toast to the PGM. He said: “That

*He has made 330 official visits to lodges, that’s every lodge once and half of them more than once*

always smacked to me of the official visitor saying, ‘I can’t wait to get out of here.’ The evening virtually ended at that point, and it should not do so. In addition I wanted these visits to be seen as my chance to meet members of the lodge, and not for them to think they were under inspection.”

The PGM also introduced a system whereby the active provincial officers were indeed active. Hence the Provincial Swordbearer and Provincial Stewards

have joined the Provincial DC in accompanying him or his deputies on official visits. “I believe lodges like to see Provincial officers actually taking part,” he said.

What he would still like to see is some “pace” to the festive board and to the ceremonies in lodge as well.

“It’s no bad thing that the speeches at the festive board have got shorter (and that includes mine!). I think my decision to simplify the toast list has also helped to keep things moving along.”

While sometimes candidates may have been encouraged to join masonry when they had doubts, R W Bro Colin feels their proposer and seconder should take their own roles in the process very seriously, and make sure the candidate really knows what he is about to commit to.

R W Bro Colin said: “This can be as simple as reminding their candidate he is expected to attend lodge meetings that start at five o’clock or sometimes before that, (will his work pattern allow that?) and that he will later be expected to take part in the life of the lodge by attending Lol frequently (will his wife object?).

“If the candidate isn’t sure, then perhaps he won’t make a good mason until later in life. Better a volunteer than someone who feels they can’t say no to a friend.

"People join for many reasons; the camaraderie, the ritual, the social life. Together these form a pretty good basis for freemasonry!

"I use the three letters ARC as a guideline: A is for amity, friendship, R for ritual which can be a brilliant method of men gaining confidence and realising their potential and C for the challenge of speaking in public, talking to those with different backgrounds and slowly moving outside their comfort zone."

The PGM is proud of his success in moving the Provincial office out of rented accommodation and into our own new Fleet House in Porters Wood, St Albans.

He said: "My predecessor and his predecessor both wanted to break out, but each time a festival got in the way, so nothing happened. This time we also had a festival in the middle of my tenure, but I decided we would go ahead anyway.

"In the end we raised a brilliant £3.13

million for the 2009 Festival in aid of the Grand Charity and we raised the £450,000 to buy (and quickly to pay off a mortgage) and equip Fleet House.

"I defy any Province to beat the efficiency of Fleet House – or to beat the commitment and dedication of the team who man it.

"And it is not just the mechanics of the operation, but also the museum and archive that W Bro Brian Tierney has made his own, as well as the regalia operation which is helping keep our provincial dues to the same level again next year."

As he steps aside R W Bro Colin is confident about the future of masonry in Hertfordshire, and is encouraged by the way the internet has brought in some keen young initiates.

Facebook is also being seen as a valuable recruiting tool ("though the intricacies of Facebook are a bit beyond me")

He is encouraged, too, by the signs that our province is getting its own university

lodge in the Salisbury Lodge of Union which is expected to generate a good intake of graduates over the coming years.

The PGM's "to do" list in 2003 was like this:

- Buy a headquarters building.
- Put myself about and become known in the province.
- Promote freemasonry and let people know what we do.
- Set up the machinery for dealing with the everyday running of the Province, and to deal with appointments and promotions, the annual meeting, the Abbey service and so on.

And around the Province the word will go up: "He did it".

So he can go off to do more travelling, play more bridge, go to the theatre and to concerts – and to pursue his masonic career (for it is not finished yet!) in the capital.

## Colin presides over his last annual dinner

**As the Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Colin Harris presided over his last annual dinner following his final annual meeting as PGM in October, his deputy, W Bro Paul Gower, used the occasion for an enlightening review of Bro Colin's tenure since his appointment in 2003.**

The Deputy PGM recalled that in his first address as PGM, Bro Colin said: "The contributions we all make from now on will be a test of whether we deserve the ranks we have been given. If you all pledge yourselves, brethren, as I do, to work as effectively for our Masonic association as we can, then this our Province of Happy Hertfordshire, can with confidence continue to look the 21st century in the face".

Three years later, in 2006, the PGM, pursuing his Shakespearian theme of a five-act play, and now being in the middle of Act II, reported the successful acquisition of the new Provincial headquarters building in St Albans. Many wished it to be named after the Provincial Grand Master, but Bro Colin was adamant that "Arris Ouse" did not quite carry the level of respectability that were seeking and so the new Fleet House came into being.

2007 saw the beginning of Act III with the establishment of the Hodge Room Museum and Library which was accomplished largely thanks to a most generous donation of £100,000 from Hertfordshire Masters Lodge.

By the middle of Act III in 2008,

Bro Colin was able to report on the establishment of the regalia sales operation out of Fleet House which now produces a very positive contribution to Provincial funds. The highlight of the start of Act IV was the banquet to celebrate the culmination of the 2009 Festival which raised in excess of £3m for the Freemasons Grand Charity.

The beginning of Act V saw the appointment of the first Provincial Grand Mentor and the establishment of the Provincial team of orators, of which the Provincial Grand Master is one.

At the 2011 meeting, Bro Colin reflected on the drawing to a close of his term as Provincial Grand Master with the words: "I embark on the last act of this Masonic drama. If this were indeed one of Shakespeare's plays, Act V could face a variety of possible endings. In a Tragedy, the intrinsic flaws of the main character prove his undoing; in a History, one ruler makes way, or is made away with, and another takes his place; in a Comedy the worthy can look forward to a happy outcome and a good time is had by all."

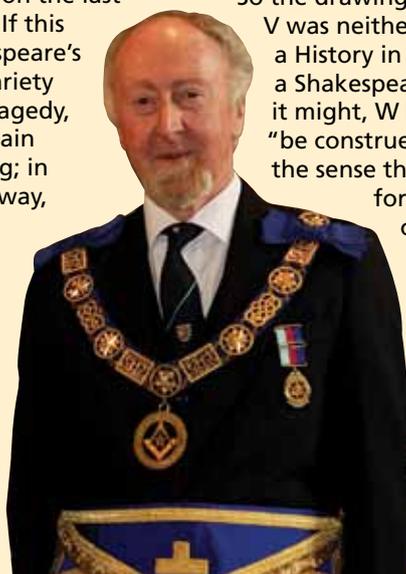
During the past year, continuing the tradition of support for various projects at St Albans Abbey, the pulpit there was re-dedicated

following its refurbishment, the cost of which was underwritten by a number of Hertfordshire lodges and other Masonic orders.

The Deputy PGM referred to the words used by former Prime Minister John Major summing up the Queen's reign: "Purpose, resolve and wisdom in an ever changing world".

"In a like manner you, sir, came to your role with a clear sense of purpose, you resolved to strengthen and improve Hertfordshire in every way possible and your wisdom and wise counsel in an ever changing environment have clearly been demonstrated as you leave behind you a Province that is stronger, happier and more confident of itself than when you took office."

So the drawing to a close of Act V was neither a Tragedy nor a History in the manner of a Shakespearean play but it might, W Bro Gower said, "be construed as a Comedy in the sense that we can all look forward to a happy outcome and a good time being had by all with you remaining firmly in our midst for many years yet to come."



# Playing the game of golf

Last season, the Golf section again suffered with a lack of good weather and support from members of the Craft in the inter lodge knock out competitions.

We played the 2012 Underhill Cup Competition on 17th July at Chesfield Downs Golf and Country Club with a dinner afterwards, which was enjoyed by the golfers.

The winners for the fourth year running were W Bro Roger Chapman and Bro Mark Lemon of the Welwyn Garden City Lodge No 5748. They scored 42 points

betterball stableford. Runners up with 40 points were W Bro Les Butler and Bro Jake Shropshire of the Wayfarer's Lodge No 1926.

The Halsey Cup was played at Nazeing Golf Club on the 9th October. The winner was Bro Jake Shropshire of the Wayfarer's Lodge No 1926 with 38 points and the Bro Stuart Adams of the Tudor Lodge No 7280 36 points as runner up. Afterwards the brethren enjoyed a dinner.

The Craft Golf Day was played on the 26th September at Chesfield

Golf and Country Club.

The weather was a nice sunny day and the golfer enjoyed the good condition. After the golf a dinner was held at which the Provincial Grand Master W Bro Colin Harris presented the trophies and prizes.

This competition is open to masons, non masons, guests and ladies.

If you do not wish to play golf why not join us for the presentation dinner and support the golfers.

Details of these competitions have been sent to all Lodge secretaries.

For further details contact Les Butler on 01920 464101 or e-mail [ljbutler@btconnect.com](mailto:ljbutler@btconnect.com)



■ The Provincial Grand Master Colin Harris and W Bro Les Butler the Sports Secretary presenting the prizes



■ The PGM presenting the cup to the overall winner Bro Peter Kean



■ And presenting cups to the pairs winners

## The winners of the competitions were:

### Singles

<b>Overall Winner</b>	Peter Kean	Watling Lodge No 8090	44 points
<b>Handicaps 1 to 18 (Best back 9)</b>			
2nd	Martin Seaholme	High Stone Lodge No 4498	39 points
3rd	Jake Shropshire	Wayfarer's Lodge No 1926	38 points
4th	Jay Patel	Hemel Hemstead Lodge No 7923	38 points

### Handicaps 19 to 28 (best back 9)

2nd	Simon Smith	Stability in Hertfordshire No 9102	37 points
3rd	Les Butler	Wayfarer's Lodge No 1926	37 points
4th	Tony Southwood	Stability in Hertfordshire No 9102	36 points

### Pairs (best back 9)

1st	Simon Smith & Danny Peck	Stability in Hertfordshire No 9102	77 points
2nd	Les Butler & Jake Shropshire	Wayfarer's Lodge No 1926	75 points
3rd	Tim Huckle & John Campbell	Hertfordshire Masters Lodge No 4090	75 points

**Nearest the Pin 9th hole** Mike Claridge    **Longest Drive** Jake Shropshire

## This year's Competitions

Underhill Cup will be played on Tuesday 4th June at Chesfield Downs Golf and Country Club Tee off from 1pm

Halsey Cup will be played on Wednesday 17th July at Chesfield Golf and Country Club Tee off from 1pm

The Craft golf day will be played on Tuesday 9th October. Tee off from 12am



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■ Members at the final meeting

## Abbey Lodge

It was a sad occasion for members of a lodge consecrated way back in 1909.

For after 11 decades Abbey Lodge 3341 met for the final time.

At the meeting the Lodge Warrant was handed over to W Bro David Ferris who in turn handed it to W Bro. Hugh Oram the Provincial Grand Secretary.

W Bro Harry Hindle PPGSD from the lodge said: "We had a great time at the meeting, though a sad meeting, but

the Provincial representative David Ferris made the meeting just go fine. He was great.

"Sad times, but we had no choice with dwindling numbers.

"The remaining members of the Abbey Lodge are trying to stay together and move en-block to another Lodge, just to keep the Lodge name going through life."

The Lodge was consecrated on March 29, 1909.

# Wayfarers' Lodge - Part two

By Michael Imeson  
CONTINUED FROM THE LAST ISSUE

While the Deputy District Grand Master reported that the Secretary should be congratulated for keeping the lodge together, a note from the DGM read: "It is well past high time that this lodge took a careful and sensible look at its future before it is too late."

The membership was now 27 resident members and 82 paid up non-residents.

Hertfordshire

mason W Bro George Duke was on holiday in Malta and attended the lodge and found out that it was lacking members and could close.

On returning

to England and speaking to W Bro Terry Bates and W Bro John Slater of what he had discovered about the lodge, they decided to try to bring the Lodge to Hertfordshire. They contacted the Grand Inspector of Malta and made representation to him.

A Notice of Motion was given to change the meeting place to the Shire Hall, Hertford, from January 1985.

In the early 1980s Freemasonry on the island of Malta had become very difficult as the armed forces had left and the government ordered that freemasonry should be banned. There were, at the time, four lodges with some chapters. One lodge had already handed in its warrant.

The move to Hertfordshire was beset with problems. When the move was put to members, the proposer and seconder voted against the move. The District Grand Master on hearing this and discovering that the warrant had not been displayed at the meeting, ruled that the

meeting was null and void and that any votes taken would have to be taken again. The Master who had proposed the move was reprimanded by the DGM. However, the move to Hertfordshire was passed at an emergency meeting shortly afterwards.

Five Hertfordshire masons W Bros John Slater, Terry Bates, Jim Reynolds, Selwyn Langley and Bro David Finnermore all became joining members at that meeting, and W Bro

John Slater was elected as the Worshipful Master for the year 1985/86 and W Bro Jim Reynolds as the Treasurer with W Bro Len Laming as the Tyler.

The Secretary reported he had the

joining registration forms for a further eight English brethren.

Sadly there were 45 resignations reported mainly resident and overseas members.

A note recorded by the Secretary about the weather on the day and night of the last meeting on the island, said that there was some of the worst weather for many years with strong winds and heavy rain and very high tides which resulted in severe flooding in Valletta. The brethren had to make many detours to reach the masonic temple and when they went to leave most of the cars in the car park were flooded or floating about.

The lodge met at the Salisbury Arms Hotel, Hertford, for the first time in March 1985 - the 892nd meeting of Wayfarers Lodge! It was finally transferred to Province of Hertfordshire on January 2, 1987.

And the rest, as they say, is history! And it's all in the minutes book.

*Freemasonry on the island of Malta had become very difficult as the armed forces had left and the government ordered that freemasonry should be banned*

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# The Joseph Moffett Lodge

**Due to a declining membership members of The Joseph Moffett Lodge 8086 have handed in their warrant.**

The Lodge was formed in April 1966, mainly from Past Masters of our mother Lodge WGC.

It first met at the Cranbourne Rooms, part of the Red Lion Pub in Hatfield. It later moved to The Mayflower Place in Hertfordbury until finally settling at Ashwell House, St Albans.

The Lodge was named after the Rev. Joseph Moffett who was a Past Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire.

One of the founders is still active in Norfolk; he is W. Bro. Len Baker, but due to his age he normally only attends, with his nurse, once a year.

Lodge Secretary John Kimm said: "The

lodge has to my memory had up to 50 members, but over the past few years, through deaths and a decline in candidates, we finished with 10.

"With the prospect of no candidates and the fall in membership, the Lodge committee decided, in December, to hand in the warrant to UGLE.

"This was accepted by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master W. Bro. David Ferris with as much dignity but sadness as possible.

"As you can see from the photograph, one of the traditions of the festive board was for the Lodge choir to sing the Parting Song after the Tyler's Toast which, for this meeting, was given by W. Bro. Ted Richardson as the oldest member of the Lodge."



■ From left to right, W. Bro. Dennis Clarke, Bro. Cyril Dennemont, W. Bro. Tony Morrison, W. Bro. John Kimm, W. Bro. Arthur Seales, W. Bro. Ted Richardson and W. Bro. Tom Morrison; 'The Joseph Moffett Choir' singing the Parting Song.

## Final Meeting of Birchwood Lodge

**April, saw the end of an era for Birchwood Lodge No 5178.**

WM Mark Sewell was due to surrender the Warrant of the Lodge to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master VW Bro Paul Gower PGSwdB, representing the Province at the end of the 359th meeting, on Saturday, April 6 (after Provincial News went to press) at Ashwell House. Secretary Richard King said: "The lodge, consecrated on July 3, 1930, had reluctantly concluded it had ceased to be viable after 82 years, and with great sadness decided it had no viable option but to take this action."

Twenty-five members and guests were due to attend the final meeting of this "small but happy lodge" which was to include a short history of the lodge and a presentation on "Rogues and Rascals in Masonry, followed by "superb hospitality" at the festive board.

## Minibus for Rickmansworth ATC



Last year, the Province awarded a donation of £1,000 to 1280 Rickmansworth Sqn ATC, as a contribution towards the purchase of a minibus. This vehicle was sorely needed to help with the transportation of the cadet squadron, to events and training exercises throughout the county.

The donation was part of a larger sum given by Hertfordshire Freemasons. The vehicle was handed over in December 2012, and bears the logos of various contributors who funded its purchase. Officer Commanding, Flt Lt Dylan Foster-Edwards said the vehicle had made an enormous difference to the mobility of the cadet squadron, and thanked the Freemasons of Hertfordshire for their invaluable support.

Due to restrictions on space in this issue of Provincial News, the Provincial Charity Steward's report will be on the website: [www.pglherts.org](http://www.pglherts.org)



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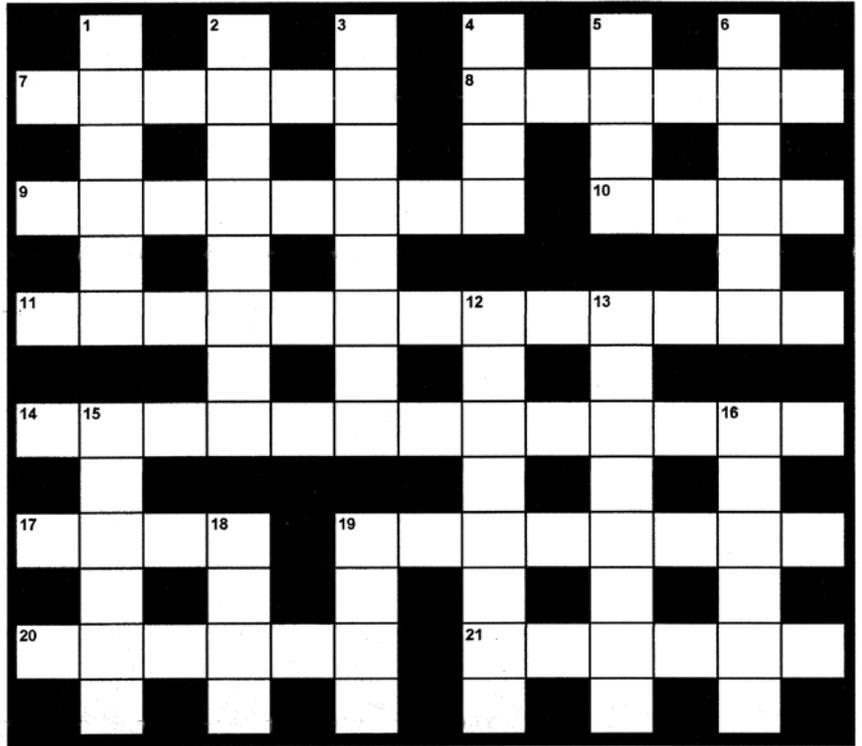
# Cryptic Crossword

## Across

7. Generous women slanging in Norfolk water ways. (6)
8. Bardic Brownie leader leaves no bore unsettled. (6)
9. Duchy restores all crown confusion. (8)
10. Law possession points to statistics. (4)
11. Meal of Biblical finality. (3, 4, 6)
14. Beverage of the moment. (7, 6)
17. Fragment of an idea for opera. (4)
19. Honoured person re-invents lute area. (8)
20. Inventor dies on shattered lighthouse. (6)
21. Correspond to adequate contents. (6)

## Down

1. Clasp ornament within brood-pouch. (6)
2. Thrown down in dispute at gluten upset. (8)
3. Killer clue. (8)
4. Possible result of horseplay. (4)
5. Rowan role for inept seed. (4)
6. Scottish beauty is Clyde companion. (6)
12. Awkwardly led Duces to isolation. (8)
13. Arrogant air inflation. (6, 2)
15. An aid's deformed nymphs. (6)
16. Fourth rank for media. (6)
18. Church end in middle of lapsed recess. (4)
19. Bland extremity for terra firma. (4)



FOR THE ANSWERS TURN TO THE BACK PAGE

# General Knowledge Crossword

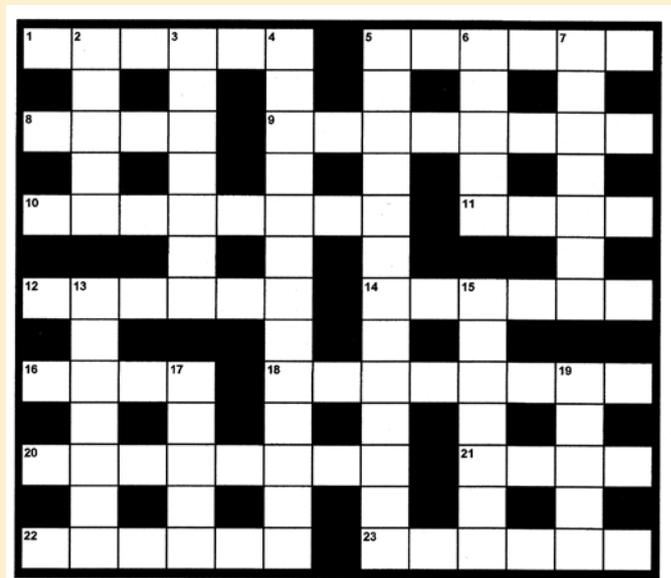
## Across

1. An uproar or noisy quarrel. (6)
5. Alexandrian geometrician who lived c. 300 BC. (6)
8. A protuberance or a small group of wildfowl. (4)
9. Not safe. (2, 6)
10. A drink taken as an appetiser. (8)
11. A solemn appeal to a deity. (4)
12. Dick \_\_\_\_\_. Special agent and post-war radio hero. (6)
14. Old Testament prophet and one of the so called 'minor' prophetic books. (6)
16. Soft, powdered mineral often found in bathrooms. (4)
18. Not still. (2, 6)
20. Corrosive, yet atmospheric water. (4, 4)
21. To reword, correct and improve. (4)
22. An evergreen shrub with a liking for warmth. The oil from its purple-black berries was formerly used as an antiseptic. (6)
23. Edmond \_\_\_\_ (1656 – 1742) After an astronomical career his name is now associated with a returning celestial body. (6)

## Down

2. Move quickly for a delivery e.g. cricket. (3, 2)
3. Entertainment for diners or drinkers, and the title of a 1972 musical film based on stories by Christopher Isherwood. (7)
4. 'Just like his dad/mum.' Or, satirical TV puppet-show from 1984 to 1996. (8, 5)

5. Roughly 4-week pay-day. (3, 2, 3, 5)
6. West African region and home of the bonobo. Also a 1995 action film loosely based on a Michael Crichton novel. (5)
7. Resistance to a change of movement. (7)
13. Great distance or a very different matter. (1, 3, 3)
15. Overcome illness. (3, 4)
17. A person undergoing training in the armed forces or police. (5)
19. Popeye's love interest or a Mediterranean tree. (5)



## Old Hertfordian Lodge



**Members of the Old Hertfordian Lodge raised £500 for Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia (HSP) Support Group.**

HSP is a rare neurological condition affecting around one in 30,000.

In many cases walking is severely affected often resulting in the sufferer having to use a wheelchair, scooter or other walking aids.

The support group helps with grants towards these needs as well as offering support.

Our picture shows the current Master of the Old Hertfordian Lodge W. Bro. Roy Williams presenting the cheque to Mrs Della Brookman, area co-ordinator of the support group, assisted by Lodge Charity Steward, W. Bro Jeremy Wilson.

## Lynsey Ivison Trust

**A quiz night, attended by 120 people, raised money for The Lynsey Ivison Trust, a local charity which provides holidays for terminally ill children and their families.**

The venue was the scout hut, Bowling Green Lane, Buntingford.

The evening, along with a raffle, raised £1,300, with 19 teams taking part and enjoying a ploughmans supper during the interval.

After the prize-giving and raffle draw further donations were presented to Ian Ivison, Lynsey's father; £1,300 from golfers who had organised a golf day and a cheque for £1,000 presented by Richard White, the Master of Layston Lodge 6699, on behalf of the local Masonic Lodge.



## Herts Air Ambulance

Members from Eastgate Lodge, 6694, visited the Herts Air Ambulance base at North Weald over the winter to mark a donation of £4,300, the culmination of fundraising for W Bro Jim Revell's year as Master of the lodge.

## The Prince's Trust

**At a demonstration day just before Christmas James Young, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, presented a cheque for £5,000 to representatives of the Prince's Trust, which was Hertfordshire's part of a £250,000 grant made to all Provincial and Metropolitan Grand Lodges from the Grand Charity.**

The money will fund work related activities for young people.

The grant will help run the Trust's 'Get into programme' which gives unemployed young people skills in industries such as construction and catering. All the young people shown performed a series of 'playlets' during the morning which underlined problems faced by the youth of today and the way they, as a result

of the Prince's Trust work, are able to surmount them. Speaking about the donation James Young said: "Too many young people in Hertfordshire are being forced to put their ambitions on hold due to youth unemployment. "This is an area of concern for all and one Freemasons



are keen to help tackle. "The Prince's Trust has a long history of helping unemployed young people into jobs, so we are excited to be working with them to support vulnerable youngsters across the country."



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## Willow presentation



Under the guidance of W Bro Rob Crawford members of Latimer Lodge have been busily raising money for a variety of local worthy causes.

And one of the charities chosen by W Bro Ron, the Lodge's 87th Master, was Old-Hatfield based The Willow Foundation and he asked the new editor of Provincial News, Terry Mitchinson, on behalf of the charity to receive a cheque for £500 ahead of

one of their recent meetings.

Terry is a co-founder and former trustee of the charity. The Willow Foundation is now a national charity. It was founded by Arsenal legend Bob Wilson and his wife Megs, in memory of their daughter Anna, who lost her fight with cancer aged just 31.

The Willow Foundation aims to support seriously ill 16 to 40-year-olds, through the provision of Special Day Experiences.

Other charities being supported by W Bro Rob and members of Latimer Lodge during his year of mastership are, Cancer Research UK, the local St John Ambulance, the Lodge's widows, Prince Michael of Kent Court and the Lodge's Benevolent Fund.

## Provincial gift matched by non mason

The Masonic Fishing Charity (Herts) had budgeted for five events in 2012, but were then given the chance to put on the "BIGGY".

"This event was for 51 children instead of our usual 20 participants per event," said a spokesman.

"It was a financial nightmare for our treasurer having budgeted for 100 now it was 130.

"All monies for our charity is funded by donations from lodges, mark lodges and chapters.

"The Province had heard of our plight and immediately donated a handsome cheque for £2,500.

"Our big event went ahead at Westmill Fisheries in the Rib Valley and was a roaring success attended by the Pro Grand Master, our Provincial Grand Master, three Assistant Provincial Grand Masters and numerous members of Provincial Grand Lodge.

"After the fishing was over and the site made good it was time to pay.

"Our treasurer tracked down the owner of the fisheries, Mike Clarke, to settle the bill and to his surprise Mike said: 'Have the day on us. I didn't realize what good work that



■ Masonic Fishing Charity members Stewart Willett, Chris Noble and Les Parker presenting Mike Clarke with his certificate of sponsorship.

masons carry out'.

"Mike has three lakes at the fishery dedicated to the different types of angling and the fly lake he stocked up with trout so our participants would not be disappointed.

"It was a wonderful gesture in support of our masonic charity as he had actually given us his whole business for the day."

By receiving this "freebie" it enabled the charity to put on two more events last year, holding seven events and benefiting 171 disabled and disadvantaged children.

The spokesman added: "A big thanks to all who have donated and especially Mike Clarke from Westmill Fisheries and the Province of Hertfordshire for donating another £2,500 for 2013."

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## Tring Lodge donation

Members of Tring Masonic Lodge have given a major boost to the bowel cancer appeal at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Last July, the outgoing Master and now Charity Steward of Tring Lodge No. 5001, Bro. Ivan Boemer, presented a cheque for £1,000 to Dr Ravi Sekhar, consultant gastroenterologist at the hospital.

The money will be added to funds already raised towards a target of £80,000 for a Scope Guide to improve colonoscopy procedures in the fight against bowel cancer.



■ Left to right: Sue Kenny, sister and unit manager, Roy Collis, chairman of the Friends of Stoke Mandeville Hospital and Bro. Ivan Boemer

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## Parachuting for hospice

When W Bro Ben Cropper was offered the chance to help his local hospice he jumped at the chance. And he had good reason. For his wife Sue had been scheduled to be admitted to the Hospice of St Francis at Berkhamstead, but sadly died on the day planned for her admission. That was back in November 2009. But in late summer last year W. Bro. Cropper, WM of Abbots Langley Lodge 4645, was asked to take part in a sponsored tandem skydive to raise funds for the hospice. He said: "Even though my wife never even visited there, since her death the staff of the hospice have been most supportive to me, offering me support and counselling, inviting me to their open days and



periodically checking up on my welfare by phoning and writing to me. "They offered me a chance of raising funds for them by inviting me to take part in a sponsored tandem skydive, which will take place in September 2012. "[So far] I have raised about £1,000, but there is still some to come in. "I understand the group of us who took part, about 30, have raised nearly £28,000.00 to date."

## Turbo-charged success



A very well-respected freemason and member of the Baldock Lodge of Harmony for over 35 years, has been almoner for more years than he cares to remember. However, W. Bro. Ken Stevens, PPDepGReg, now an honorary member has been a long-time sufferer of heart disease, cancer and mobility issues. But he had a long overdue surprise recently. The local authority in Stevenage where he lives installed and funded a stair lift, ground floor toilet and

first floor wet room. But Ken continued to experience increased mobility problems, and was in dire need of a mobility scooter. So, in view of his very substantial contribution to the lodge, its members and families over many years, the Baldock Lodge Master and membership funded and provided a black, top-of-the-range and 'very racy' scooter. Ken said: "I was so touched by such a wonderful gesture. My wife Frances and I are delighted with my new scooter. I can now get to the shops and my local with ease". Bro John Powell, PPGStB, senior steward within the Baldock Lodge arranged for the acquisition and delivery of the scooter at Ken's home. Ken is pictured, seated on his 'mean machine', with his wife Frances, Gwyn Howard the Lodge Almoner, left and John Powell.

## Chair for disabled girl

Members of Phocas Lodge 9295, which meets at Halsey Hall, Cheshunt, have lent a helping hand to a seriously ill five-year-old.

Ellie Phillips suffers from a rare disease Pseudohypoparathyroidism, which means her body is growing at a much faster rate than her mental capacity. As the little girl is a neighbour of the lodge WM, members decided they wanted to do something to help her. She urgently needed a medical chair (not a wheelchair) which could be bought at Mothercare for about £300. Lodge Secretary Peter Goodall said: "She only had, at that time, a pushchair which was too small for her needs. "Apparently Mothercare could supply a medical chair which would cope

with her problem for some considerable time. "The GP committee immediately approved the donation of the chair and within days it had been purchased and given to her parents, Ben and Samantha Phillips, by the WM W. Bro. Michael Surtees."



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## Royal Arch Masons

### Provincial Information Officer

Martin Crago Tel: 01923 234574

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

### Forthcoming events

**Friday, June 28 2013:** Royal Arch Golf Day. Redbourn Golf Club, Redbourn, St. Albans. Details from: Phil Lever (telephone 01707 324647, email phil@plever.co.uk).

Closing date for entries is May 19.

**Sunday, July 7:** Lunch for MEZs and Scribes E, and current and next year's Provincial Officers at Letchworth.

**Saturday, October 5:** Royal Arch 2013 Bicentenary Appeal Banquet. A black tie occasion at the Metropolitan Police Club, Bushey. Details from: Jon Lydon (telephone 01923 235524, email jonlydon@btinternet.com).

**Monday, November 4:** Annual Convocation of Provincial Grand Chapter. Freemason's Hall, London.

## New executive appointments

At the March Convocation of Hertfordshire First Principals Chapter, the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent announced the changes that would be made to the Provincial Executive at the next Annual Convocation of Provincial Grand Chapter on Monday 4th November 2013.

E Comp David Hampton will be appointed 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, succeeding E Comp Roger Pells. E Comp Tim Coles will be appointed 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, succeeding E Comp Gerry Greenland. David Hampton's role as Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies will be taken by E Comp Alan Withey.

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## E Comp Sir Maurice Drake



■ Sir Maurice in the regalia of Past Grand Scribe Nehemiah

E Comp Sir Maurice Drake celebrated his 90th birthday in February, shortly after being presented with a certificate from the Provincial Grand Superintendent commemorating his 60 year's membership of Harpenden Chapter No 4314.

Sir Maurice was initiated into Craft Masonry in 1948, shortly after his return from active service in the RAF. He had enlisted in the RAF soon after

his 18th birthday. He trained as a navigator (radar) on night-fighters and flew operationally in heavily-armed Bristol Beaufighters. He and his pilot were responsible for shooting down a number of enemy aircraft for which he was awarded the DFC. He also received the Air Crew Europe Star, the Africa Star, and the Italy Star.

Following demobilisation, Sir Maurice read law at Exeter College, Oxford, was called to the Bar by Lincolns Inn and joined a practice where Quintin Hogg (later Lord Hailsham) was Head of Chambers. He progressed rapidly in his legal career, took silk, succeeded Quintin Hogg as Head of Chambers, accepted appointment as a High Court Judge and was knighted in 1978.

Sir Maurice's father and grandfather were initiated into Justinian Lodge No 2694 in what may well have been a unique joint ceremony. Sir Maurice was initiated into the Craft on Justinian Lodge's 50th Anniversary and attended the Centenary.

Sir Maurice joined Malmesbury Lodge where he initiated two of his sons and two of his sons-in-law. On the occasion of Malmesbury's centenary, as 'Father of the Lodge' he was invited to go back into the chair for a second time and installed at an impressive ceremony conducted by the Pro Grand Master, The Marquis of Northampton. Sir Maurice is currently Past Senior Grand Warden.

His legal expertise has proved invaluable to Freemasonry, serving as president of the Masonic Court of Appeal and an appointment chairing the high-level committee reporting on the future of the Royal Masonic Hospital. Sir Maurice was awarded the Grand Master's Order of Service to Freemasonry, a rare honour limited to only 12 recipients at any one time. For a fuller history to this wonderful Royal Arch Mason, and further photographs, please visit the website.



■ In his judge's robes with service medals

# Memoirs of a Provincial Third Grand Principal

**Gerry Greenland shares his thoughts on his time as a member of the Provincial Executive.**

Looking back over the last 16 months since I had the privilege of being invested as 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, there have been many memorable occasions as well as some that might be better forgotten! Having spent the previous eight years as Provincial Deputy GDC and GDC, I already had the opportunity of visiting all the Chapters in the Province and experiencing the warmth of hospitality which exists in all of them.

The new job was, therefore, no change in this respect although the actual purpose of my visit changed. Gone were the frustrating days as a DC when having memorised the names and ranks of the accompanying Provincial officers to find that on arrival there was an absentee and an unexpected addition. Although I have to sing for my supper these days, I can at least arrive in a much more relaxed frame of mind than before! In addition, I can now leave it to the DC to point out on those very few occasions when something was not going right on the night. However, on reflection, I seem to remember when as a DC I was escorting certain other past DCs (no names, but both are now numbers 1 and 2 in the Province) I had to be very quick with interjections if they were not to get in before me! In my time in office I have been

fortunate to be involved in both robe and banner dedication ceremonies. These are infrequent events and were made all the more enjoyable by the fact that wives and other non-masons were invited to attend.

One area which has been a new experience for me has been the attendance at other Provincial Convocations. We now have reciprocal



arrangements with 14 other Provinces and my intention is to visit all of them over two years. The companionship which is in evidence at these meetings merely serves to confirm the happy relationship which exists in the Royal Arch. I may be prejudiced, but seeing other Provinces in action persuades me that in Hertfordshire we produce a ritual second to none at our annual convocation. Anyone who has not seen

our ceremony in the Grand Temple at Freemasons Hall is missing a treat! One thing that was not explained to me before I took the job was the death-defying journeys I would be obliged to take in the Deputy Grand Superintendent's car. How many times have I experienced the Grand Superintendent hanging on to his front seat with a look of terror on his face and me cringing in the rear seat both wondering if we would make it home! An attempt to see off the Grand Superintendent with a Bendy Bus, a demolition of part of the Grand Superintendent's wall and a road rage incident with a cowering pizza delivery boy come to mind. On the other hand, I am grateful to Ian and other Companions for the lifts they willingly gave me when I was unable to drive for a year (nothing to do with alcohol!)

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as 3rd PGP as I also did my time as a DC. When I am put out to grass in November I shall undoubtedly miss all the camaraderie and friendship I have experienced throughout the Province over the last 11 years in this wonderful order. I am always grateful for the opportunities to visit so many Chapters throughout the Province and experience the warm friendship which so typifies this Happy Hertfordshire Province. Good luck to my eventual successor. I hope you enjoy your time as much as I did.

## Penmans Green Race Night

**Stimulated by an inspiration to raise more funds towards the 2013 Royal Arch Bi-Centenary Festival, Jim Cutler offered his family's services to run a race night at Abbots Langley. When this proposal was launched at the Penmans Green Chapter, it rapidly gained the support of Companions and after a short campaign tickets sold very quickly.**

There were no 'de-focused films' at these events, it is all done by strenuous efforts by the assembled participants winding in the wobbly wooden horses! So, great fun for all the family; there was an age range from two to 90!

The event was enthusiastically supported by 80 people, and a lively contingent of the Provincial Executive. Participants were able to sponsor a race, a jockey and to purchase and name several horses of their own, all adding to the fun and riotous mayhem that ensued with each race. It was certain from the first race that the evening was going to be a great success, and so it was.

Contributions flew across the tellers' table as punters gained in enthusiasm. During the evening guests were provided with a fish and chip supper, which was greatly appreciated by all.

During the course of the evening, Scribe E, Denis Gibney, gave a brief explanation about the purpose of the event and spoke about the ground-breaking surgical research

activities of two of the young surgeons we are supporting and the work of the RCS.

The evening was admirably directed by maestro – Jim Cutler, who in turn was supported by a large team from his family. We congratulate them and thank Jim and his wonderful family for an excellent evening.

Jim said he was "thrilled to report a superb sum of over £1,200 was raised". This will go towards the Royal College of Surgeons and the target of £2M.

For more photographs of this event, go to the Provincial web site.



■ They're off and running



## Mark Masons

### Provincial Information Officer

W.Bro. Harry Parsons Tel: 07803 835871  
Email: harryparsons2marksec@gmail.com

### Dates for the diary

#### Tuesday, June 4

Royal Ark Mariners Provincial Assembly at the Police Sports Club, Aldenham Road, Watford. Details with Lodge Scribes.

#### Tuesday, July 9

Annual meeting of Mark Provincial Grand Lodge, at the Masonic Girls School, Chorleywood Road, Rickmansworth. Details with Lodge Secretaries.

#### Thursday, December 12

The annual Varsity match between Oxford and Cambridge at Twickenham.

## Introducing...

**I am the new Provincial Information Officer for both the Mark and R.A.M. Degrees in Hertfordshire.**

I am responsible for the submission of items of interest for inclusion in the Mark Section of the Provincial News, which is published twice yearly. To assist me to put as much information into the Provincial News as possible, it would be helpful if any brother who has such any item of interest, they submit it to me as soon as possible.

The article can be about a brother within their Lodge or about the Lodge in general. For instance, this could be to commemorate a notable anniversary or event, such as one for raising donations to a particular charity. In general any such item should be submitted through the Lodge Secretary or Master. My details are: - W.Bro. Harry Parsons, Provincial Information Officer, email harryparsons2marksec@gmail.com , mobile number 07803835871.

## Chris Rainbow



Further to the article in the Autumn issue of the Provincial News, concerning the Tolmers Scout Park, it was mentioned the park warden, Chris Rainbow had been advanced into Latimer Lodge MMM 962 in January 2012.

On January 23 this year last, Chris Rainbow was elevated into Latimer Lodge RAM 962. To support the Lodge the Prov. Grand Master Chris Radmore attended the meeting which was held at Ashwell House, St Albans.

## Banner dedication

**The Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. Chris Radmore and members of his Provincial team carried out a banner dedication at the beginning of March at a meeting of John Burr Lodge No 1824.**

John Burr Lodge was consecrated in May 2002, in memory of W. Bro. John Burr who was a prominent Freemason in the Province.

He attained the rank of Deputy Provincial Grand Master in the craft from 1992 to 1999. In the Mark degree he was Prov. SGW in 1991.

A lodge spokesman said: "The meeting was well organised and attended by both members of the Lodge and also by those holding Provincial Grand Rank. "Also in attendance was Mrs Barbara Burr, the widow of John, together with their two sons and daughter-in-law.

"Following the meeting a 'white table lunch' was enjoyed by everyone."



■ The PGM RW Bro Chris Radmore and the WM, W. Bro. Tony Pomfret

## Oxford v Cambridge

**For many members of the Mark Degree the annual Varsity match between Oxford and Cambridge at Twickenham is a date not to be missed.**

And last December's battle was no exception! Once again the trip proved to be hugely successful and popular.

Harry Parsons, Mark Provincial Information Officer, said: "This is an all

day event where we meet at the Twickenham Masonic Centre for lunch, attend the match and then return to the centre for an excellent three course meal.

"In all 42 attended which was an increase from the previous year and is proving to be a very popular event.

"For anyone interested in attending this year's event, details will be sent to Lodge Secretaries in due course."

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# Addenbrookes

**Back in November 2011 when Reggie Taylor-Harding was installed in the Chair as W. Commander of Lea Valley Royal Ark Mariner Lodge No.909, he was unsure what charity to support.**

He sought advice from Brian Gerbaldi, PPGJO, ProvRAMGR, Provincial Grand Registrar of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Hertfordshire. As a long-time supporter, he suggested Addenbrookes Charitable Trust with a proviso that the money go to either the children's wards or the Rosie Maternity Hospital on campus.

Addenbrookes covers part of North Hertfordshire as a General Hospital and is the major trauma centre and centre of excellence

for several major areas of treatment such as cancer, respiratory problems and head trauma.

Many lodge members and their families have been patients, some were even born in the 'Rosie'.

Brian said: "Reggie announced at the festive board that this would be his charity and stated that he would raise £500, even making up any shortfall himself.

"As it turned out, the Lodge reached his target.

"Neil Phillips, the Provincial Grand Senior Warden and Assistant PGM elect was at that meeting and pledged that the Province would match the figure raised.

"At the Installation meeting in November 2012, Neil was

again the official visitor from the Province. I was presented with two cheques, each for £500 made out to Addenbrookes Charitable Trust, from the Lodge and the Province respectively." Brian contacted Addenbrookes with a request that the money should go to Wards C3 and C4, these being children's wards treating babies to

youngsters about five years old.

He said: "I attended these wards and was advised by the head 'play nurse' that the money would enable them to buy urgently needed sensory play equipment for both wards. Due to the age and seriousness of many of the children's illnesses, this equipment plays a major part in their treatment."

## Instalation meeting

**November marked the Installation Meeting of the Hertfordshire Installed Mark Masters Lodge No 1121.**

It took place at Ashwell House, St. Albans and was a double celebration as W. Bro. Sidney Tuck, the Past Grand Superintendent of the Hertfordshire Royal Arch was installed as the new Master of the Lodge.

The meeting was attended by many distinguished guests and members, including the Assistant Grand Master of the Mark Degree, RW. Bro. Keith Emmerson and the Provincial Grand

Master, RW. Bro. Chris Radmore.

When RW. Bro. Keith Emmerson entered the Lodge he was offered the courtesy of accepting the Master's gavel.

Normally the offer is refused, but on this occasion he accepted the gavel and duly took the Master's chair.

The Assistant Grand Master then proceeded to read a citation about a member who, he explained, was present at the meeting and had

*It is right to say that W. Bro. John is not often speechless, but he was on this occasion*

completed 60 years' membership as a Mark Master Mason. It quickly became clear to all that he was referring to W. Bro. John Dye of Adastral Lodge MMM No 1686., who had joined the Degree when he was working in India.

The Assistant Grand Master presented W. Bro. John with his citation on behalf of the Mark Grand Lodge.

Following this the Provincial Grand Master then presented W. Bro. Dye with a citation on behalf of the Province of Hertfordshire.

The meeting was full of surprises as the Assistant Grand Master then asked W. Bro. Dye to remove his regalia whereupon he was then given a 'field promotion' of PAGDC, which is a Grand Rank.

He was then presented with his regalia for his new rank.

It is right to say that W. Bro. John is not often speechless, but he was on this occasion.



■ The presentation shows a big cheque, signed by Hertfordshire Mark Masons' as representative of both cheques totalling £1,000

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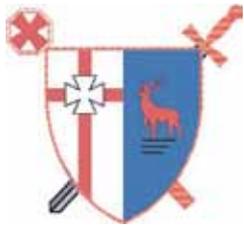
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If you have any information requirements or you have information that you may want circulated, please drop the Provincial Information Officer, **Roger D'Elia**, a line on **07771 771949** or email [rogerdelia2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rogerdelia2002@yahoo.co.uk)

## Provincial Officers 2013-2014

### Active Officers

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Chancellor.....	Linley J
1st Constable .....	Cutler G
2nd Constable.....	Boughton P
Treasurer .....	Misselke E
Registrar.....	Wickes J
Vice-Chancellor.....	Hoy PJ
Marshal .....	Beaty M
Deputy Marshall.....	Offord J
Almoner .....	Butler L
Herald .....	Roberts J
Herald .....	Lewis A
Standard Bearer (B).....	Wills C
Standard Bearer (VB) .....	McGeever M
Banner Bearer.....	Goodwin E
Sword Bearer .....	Ellis J
Aide-de-Comp .....	Gamblin K
Aide-de-Comp .....	Reeves A
Aide-de-Comp .....	Long G
Aide-de-Comp .....	Cox P
Warden of Regalia .....	Beaty M
Captain of Guards .....	Sodey D
Organist .....	Hockley T
Guard .....	Glenham G

### First Appointments to Past Rank

Past Standard Bearer (B).....	Pine S
Past Standard Bearer (VB).....	Fagg P
Past Aide-de-Comp.....	Brock R
Past Chamberlain .....	Belmont R

### Promotions

Past 1st Constable .....	Hollinghurst R
Past 1st Constable .....	Newell D
Past 2nd Constable.....	Ward G
Past Standard Bearer (VB).....	Wise P

### Bodyguard

Bodyguard Commander.....	Brackenborough K
Bodyguard Deputy Commander ..	White A

## Stuart Priory No.28



■ The snap shows the Provincial Prior of Hertfordshire R.E.Knight Tony Lapsley sitting in front on the right (as you look at it) and the E.Knight Jim Innes the Prior of Stuart Preceptory. The knights standing assembled behind are the Knights who were installed as Knights of Malta at that meeting.

**Report and Photo By E.Kt. Malcolm McCaw PProvBaillie**  
**A Priory of Malta meeting was held at the Halsey Masonic Hall, Rickmansworth Road, Watford on Monday 25th February 2013.**

In attendance was the Provincial Prior Tony Lapsley who was accompanied by the Provincial Chancellor E.Kt. John Linley PGtSwdB, E.Kt. Mike Beaty PGtTur Provincial Mareschal and E.Kt Malcolm McCaw PProvBaillie. The Prior E.Kt. Jim Innes welcomed the Provincial Prior Tony Lapsley and over 45 Knights present and opened the Priory of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta after the confirmation of the last Priory minutes the Prior E.Kt Jim Innes vacated the chair in favour of E.Kt John Lydon ProvSwdB.

The acting Prior J.Lydon asked E.Kt Gavin O'Sullivan PGtAdmIm, the Mareschal, to escort E.Kt D.L.H. Newell PProvChan Chaplain and E.Kt P.Mitchell PGtBaillie to the Guard Room where the Representative Candidate Kt R.Davis of Stuart Preceptory

No 28 and Knights S.Gediking Stuart Preceptory No 28, Kt C.Bagshaw St Alban Preceptory No266, Kt D.Drury Charles Herbert Perram Preceptory No 409, Kt C.Lowes Temple Dinsley Preceptory No 283, Kt I.M. Ogunbiyi Hatfield Preceptory No 424, Kt C.Shorter Royston Preceptory No 416, and Kt M.Wallace of Joseph Moffett Preceptory No 383 were given the Mediterranean Pass and Installed as Knights of St Paul by E.Kt P.Mitchell PGtBaillie. E.Kts Gavin O'Sullivan, D.L.H.Newell, and P.Mitchell re-entered the Priory and the candidates were admitted and made Knights of Malta by the acting Prior E.Kt J.Lydon ably assisted by E.Kts Gavin O'Sullivan PGtAdml and E.Kt Geoff Cheshire PProvBaillie. The New Knights were presented with their breast jewels and welcomed in to the Order by the Prior E.Kt Jim Innes. E.Kt J.Lydon vacated the chair to E.Kt J.Innes who closed the Priory of Malta and all the Knights then retired for an excellent Festive board.

## Great Priory Promotions

V.E.Kt John Paternoster  
**P.Gt.Reg**  
*Via Great Priory*  
 E.Kt John Linley **P.Gt.Her**  
 E.Kt Michael Roff **P.Gt.Her**  
 E.Kt Michael Stanforth  
**P.Gt.Stb.B(B)**  
 E.Kt Philip Hoy **P.Dep.**  
**Gt.Swd.B**

E.Kt Robert Chilvers  
**P.Gt.A-de-C**  
*Via Waller Rodwell Wright Preceptory No.640*  
 E.Kt Christopher Sharwood-Smith **P.Gt.WoR**  
 E.Kt David Booth  
**P.Gt.Chamb**

# Brian Blanchard tribute

A personal tribute by E.Kt. Philip Hoy Provincial Vice-Chancellor

On Monday 7th January the Province lost one of the most respected men and Freemasons it has ever been my privilege to know.

R.E.Kt. Brian Blanchard passed away at 1pm in the company of his wife and his 2 daughters after a short stay at Mount Vernon Hospital.

He had been diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer last November and had been suffering with severe pains for about 2 months prior to that diagnosis. Brian's cancer came upon him suddenly and was particularly aggressive but Brian remained cheerful and philosophical to the end even when he knew there was no chance of beating it.



■ Right Eminent Knight Brian Blanchard. 12 September 1938 – 7th January 2013

After attending Ealing Grammar School he went to Aberystwyth University and took a degree in Geology. His father was a Master Butcher a trade which Brian eventually followed. He married Vera on the 12th August 1961 which marked the beginning of a long and happy marriage. They were blessed with two daughters Rhian and Maria who in time got married and gave Brian and Vera four beautiful Grand Children Eleanor and Gareth both born in Australia to Rhian and Malcolm and Samantha

and Stephanie born to Maria and Nick.

A major part of Brian's life was freemasonry, Brian was initiated into Boundary Lodge on the 1st July 1966 and became WM on 1st October 1975. He was also a member and has been Master of various other Lodges. He attained the rank of Past Junior Grand Deacon on the 29th April 2009

He was exalted into the Caishowe Boundary Royal Arch Chapter on the 16th February 1977 and became the MEZ on the 17th November 1982 he was also a member of various other Chapters and had been through the chairs of most. He attained the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer on the 25th April 2002

He was Advanced in the Lea Valley Lodge of Mark Master Masons on the 24th. February 1970 and Elevated into the Eleanor Cross Lodge of Royal Arch Mariners on the 20th May 1981. He eventually attained the ranks of Past Grand Junior Deacon on the 8th July 2004 and Royal Arch Mariner Grand Rank on the 13th December 1994.

He was installed as a Knight in the Charles Herbert Perram Preceptory on the 13th May 1980 and became a Knight of Malta 24th June 1981. He became Eminent Preceptor on the 11th February 1986. He was appointed Sub Prior of the Province of Hertfordshire on the 24th June 1998 and became our Provincial Prior on the 5th. June 2004 a position he held until his resignation on the 29th February 2012.

He was also a member of many other Orders and achieved senior rank in most. Two of note are the Operatives where he was 2nd Grand Master Mason and Royal and Select Masters where he was Deputy District Grand Master.

Brian's philosophical approach and acceptance of his situation showed what great courage and fortitude he had. His wisdom, friendship and ability to inspire loyalty will be missed by all who knew him but we will all be the richer for having known him.

*"A loss so important as that of this exceptional man could not fail of being generally and severely felt....."*

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### District Information Officer

W.Kt. Philip J. Hoy DivStdB(L) Tel: 07767 834426  
Email: philip.hoy@uwclub.net

## Divisional Conclave

On Saturday, February 23, the Division of Hertfordshire held its Annual Divisional Conclave at Ashwell House, St. Albans.

Our Intendent General, R.III.Kt Brian Muir opened a packed Conclave and welcomed everyone present.



The Conclave was greatly honoured by the visit of The Grand Eusebius Right III and Ven. Kt Dr the Rev Peter Blackwell-Smyth. The business of the Divisional Conclave then took place including the appointment of our new Deputy Intendent-General III.Kt Gavin O'Sullivan PGChamb. All other Divisional Officers were then appointed and the

rest of the business carried out.

A cheque for £500 was presented to the Grand Eusebius Right III. and Ven.Kt. Dr. The Rev Peter Blackwell-Smyth, GCC who had travelled from Cornwall to be at the meeting, for the Grand Sovereign's Care for the Children Fund and he was also presented with an etching of St. Albans Abbey as a memento of his visit. At the festive board, we were honoured to have RW.Bro. Colin Harris Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire as Guest of the Division as well as some 20 visitors from other divisions across the country. The intendent General was delighted that over 50 per cent of Hertfordshire Knights were also present. The whole day was a very splendid and colourful affair and enjoyed by all present.



## New Deputy Intendent-General

III.Kt Gavin O'Sullivan PGChamb was educated in York, but upon leaving school, left for London to join the Midland Bank, now HSBC, and remained with them for 42 years until retirement.

During his career with the bank, he worked in their internal audit department, retail management and finally within their Global Custody Division, which involved overseas travel visiting Custodian Banks in North Africa.

His partner is Pam, who is known to many Masons through regular attendance at the various Masonic socials events that are organised throughout the year. She herself is a member of the Order of Women's Freemasons, and they attend Ladies Festivals, and Gentleman's Evenings

organised by the OWF. Apart from his Freemasonry, which is quite extensive, Gavin has a number of other interests. He likes to travel and tries to have as many overseas holidays as time will permit. To date he has visited 25 American states and it is his intention to complete the full house. He is an avid record collector, concentrating on Blues and Jazz, and attends many musical concerts, either in the UK or on overseas trips, with New Orleans and Nashville being favourites. Railways have also always been a part of his life ever since he was a train spotter in York. His enthusiasm for steam engines has not faded with the passing of time in token of which, he has a model railway housed in one of his bedrooms.

## Grand Imperial Conclave

The appointments/promotions for Grand Imperial Conclave in July 2013 that involve RCC members in Hertfordshire are:

### Active Ranks:

Grand Junior General: John Paternoster (promotion from PGStB(L).  
Grand Orator: H. Keith Emmerson (first appointment to Grand Rank - through MMH).  
Grand Herald Terry Deakin (first appointment to Grand Rank - through Sep. Gd.).

### Promotions:

Past Grand Standard Bearer (Labarum) Peter Clark.  
Past Grand Standard Bearer (Labarum) E. Peter Whitehead.

### First Appointment:

Past Grand Herald Reginald F. Luckman.

We offer our congratulations to all of those honoured.

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. 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, Letchworth, Cheshunt, Watford and St. Albans.

Anybody wishing to know more about this Christian Order please contact Albert Waite, Divisional Recorder, (albert.waite@virgin.net) for membership details.

## 50 Years of Service



■ Colin Harris and Rowland Mecklenburgh

The Provincial Grand Master Colin Harris attended the January meeting of Rickmansworth Lodge to present a 50 Year Service to Masonry certificate to Rowland Mecklenburgh.

Rowland, a Past Assistant PGM of the Province, is the second longest ever serving member of Rickmansworth Lodge.

At the January meeting of Verulam Lodge 6131, W. Bro. Mervyn Lewis PPJGW, received a certificate to celebrate 50 years as a Freemason, from W. Bro. James Young.

Lodge secretary, W Bro Malcolm Desborough PPGReg, said: "W Bro Lewis was initiated into Blakeney Lodge in Norfolk in 1963, and became WM in September 1973.

"He moved to St Albans where he joined Halsey Lodge 1479.

"He was also a member of Halsey Chapter, Hertfordshire First Principals, Hertfordshire Masters, High Barnet First Principals, Joseph Moffett Lodge, Chapter of Rectitude and a Founder of Verulam Chapter.



■ James Young and Mervyn Lewis

"He is a first class ritualist and is well known for his dry sense of humour and highly respected in the Province."

## Cenotaph march past

It was a day to remember for one Hertfordshire mason on Remembrance Sunday.

For he led a contingent of the Russian Convoy Veterans at the Cenotaph march past. Bro. Alan Flavell, of Tring Lodge, is an associate member of the Russian Convoys Association. He was asked by commander Ed Grenfell to lead the Remembrance Day Parade on November 11 as one of the more able bodied members of the "diminishing group of surviving Russian Convey Veterans from the Second World War".

Bro. Alan had joined the association in memory of his late brother-in-law,

Bill Poultney, who served in frigates and destroyers performing Naval escort duties on several Russian convoys to Murmansk. He said he considered it a great honour to perform this important duty. His being a Member of the Toastmasters Guild and having a strong voice was a factor in his being asked! This was the last time the veterans would be marching past the Cenotaph due to diminishing numbers (three in wheelchairs and 11 walking, supported by carers) and declining health. The escort flotilla lost 145 vessel and more than 300 men during the 1939-45 conflict.

## 25th anniversary

Queen's Oak Lodge No. 9262 celebrated its 25th anniversary in February.

The lodge invited past and present founding members to fill the officers' roles and open the lodge, some of whom travelled a considerable distance. The very first master from 1988, W. Bro. Eric Self, PGStB, acted as Worshipful Master and opened the lodge with his usual flamboyance, and was invited to sign the minutes.

The Worshipful Master, W. Bro Alan Lafferty, and his officers then took their rightful places, and conducted a double raising ceremony in a superb manner, assisted by W. Bro. John Collinge, (hon organist) who completed the ceremony with the Traditional History.

W. Bro. James Young, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, was present along with honorary members W.

Bro John Tapster and W. Bro. Andrew Manzie.

About 60 brethren attended a very happy festive board where a superb 25th anniversary cake was presented.



■ W. Bro. Alan Lafferty and W. Bro. James Young cutting the anniversary cake.

## British Empire Medal

A member of Crossbrook Lodge, No 6443, has been given an award to mark his outstanding work for charity.

W. Bro. Ernie Havis, LGR, 83, was presented with the British Empire Medal (BEM) at a ceremony at County Hall, Hertford in October. Ernie, of Turners Hill, Cheshunt, was a joining member of the lodge in December, 2006.

A guard of honour was formed by sea cadets and members of the Royal Naval Association. The Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, The Countess of Verulam, presented the medal. Ernie, a grandfather, was honoured for raising money for various charities, and also for spearheading a campaign for a memorial to the crew of a Second World War bomber which crashed just outside Cheshunt.

He told his local paper The Herts Mercury: "I am extremely proud. "When you get an award you

have to be honest – part of it belongs to my wife, Audrey. "If I had the power I would cut the medal in half and give half to her."

The couple have raised thousands of pounds for Cheshunt Carnival, Lee Valley Arthritis Care and the Royal Naval Association.

W Bro Havis was a teenage firefighter in August 1944 when a B-24 Liberator packed with bombs collided with another plane in the sky over Cheshunt.

The 10 American crew members stayed with the plane and steered it away from the town, attempting to land it in nearby fields. The plane exploded on impact, and W Bro Havis said the actions of the crewmen saved hundreds of lives. He campaigned tirelessly to raise funds for a memorial which is in Lieutenant Ellis Way in Cheshunt.

A number of Crossbrook Lodge members attended the unveiling ceremony.

# International Ceremony for Tring 5001

Tring Lodge has had a relationship with Kurpfalz Lodge No. 976 of Mannheim Germany for about 15 years, with brethren from each lodge visiting the other in alternate years.

In 2012, Kurpfalz celebrated its 25th anniversary, where Tring members presented them with an inscribed Gavel to mark the occasion.

Late last year, they were asked if they would perform the Third Degree ceremony on one of Kurpfalz's members, Bro. Awes Khan. This was readily agreed on the basis that it would be conducted in English under the English constitution.

Approval was required to perform what is called 'a Degree by Request'. This entailed Kurpfalz making a formal application via the German Grand Lodge to UGLE, onto the Provincial office and then to Tring. Formal approval arrived in good time for the meeting on March 26.

Tring Lodge has, for many years, traditionally used its March meeting as a 'Past Master's meeting' where current officers give way to PMs, "hopefully to learn how to perform the ritual properly"!

At the appropriate point in the meeting, the Master, W. Bro. Brian Miles, handed over the gavel to W. Bro. Ivan Boemer and with the exception of the Inner Guard, Past Masters took the remainder of the primary offices.

Despite some trepidation at the LOIs leading up to the meeting, it was a complete success.

Secretary Roger Turney said: "I think this was the first time in its 85 year history that Tring Lodge has carried out such a ceremony and the WM of Kurpfalz confirmed that it was definitely a first for them.

"W. Bro. Dermot Doherty assisted by performing the first part of the Exhortation



and W. Bro. John Edmunds took the important office of Senior Deacon. All visiting Kurpfalz brethren stood round Bro. Khan while W. Bros Graham Gilbert and Ivan Boemer presented the Traditional History. We even closed in each of the three degrees which Kurpfalz members had not seen before.

"This excellent example

of international Masonic brotherhood was additionally demonstrated by the fact that the candidate, Bro. Awes Khan, is a Muslim who used the Koran to take the oath; W. Bro. Ivan Boemer is a German Jew and the ceremony was conducted in English. "It was a truly memorable evening."

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## W. Bro. Derrick Flowers

A large number of Hertfordshire masons – led by three Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, and other past holders of high provincial office – attended the funeral service in Abbots Langley for W. Bro. Derrick Flowers, Past Assistant Grand Master, who died on March 1 aged 81.

W. Bro. Derrick had a long and illustrious masonic career, and his nine years as Provincial Grand Secretary, from 1995 until 2004 were rewarded when he was made an APMG, a position he held until he retired in 2008.

Derrick was initiated into his father's lodge, Abbots Langley Lodge No 4645 in March 1967. He was master twice, in 1973 and 1998. His two sons remain members. He held subscribing memberships of seven lodges, including three of which he was a founder - Kudu No 8662, Herts

Provincial Grand Stewards No 8984 and Michael Batham Jones No 9675 and was an honorary member of many more,

–He was a Provincial Grand Steward in 1980, Past Provincial Grand Registrar in 1982, Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden in 1992 and PPSGW in 1997. He held rank of Past Senior Grand Deacon.

Outside of masonry Derrick, who began working in his father's garage and later went on to work with Rolls Royce, will best be remembered in Abbots Langley for his fanatical support of the cricket team, and for his tremendous knowledge of all things cricket.

And the fact we are reading about him today is down to the fact that it was his idea to begin a Provincial News to keep members throughout the province up to date with events.

# Almoner's report

George Taylor, Provincial Grand Almoner

Since my last column there have been a number of changes to our charities and the paperwork.

The new joint application form has been reviewed and reissued, reducing the number of pages and clarifying some features.

As you will appreciate our major charities all have different criteria and requirements with respect to applicant's details. We are getting closer and with our charities working closely together it makes our life a bit easier. Please note that when completing the new forms it will be accompanied by a check sheet and also advice on

data protection. You must read and understand.

Please remember we must have ALL pages of ALL state benefits and pensions statements for the applicant AND partner

The latest and long overdue initiative from the Samaritan Fund which has been trailed and now set up nationwide, is the Counselling Service.

This is available for confidential advice or just discussion where an applicant may have financial or medical problems and wish to talk to a counsellor.

The way the system works is that the applicant in question telephones the Samaritan Fund direct (no need for a Lodge Almoner's involvement) and raises the problem with our office staff. If it is felt we can assist the applicant they will be given a confidential telephone number to call and a reference number to quote. Any discussions, either via telephone or face-to-face meetings, thereafter are confidential between the applicant and the professional councillor. There is no feedback whatsoever, other than the bills to the MSF or myself and Almoners. Freemasonry Cares initiative is still proving to be a worthwhile tool for widows or brethren who have lost touch to obtain assistance. Call the freephone number

0800 0356090 and the receptionist will direct the call to the appropriate department.

As a general statement we, as Almoners, are receiving a considerable increase in requests for assistance. Some we cannot help with, but the overall number of applicants assisted is rising as the recession and job situation worsens. Our charities are continuing to monitor the situation. We don't have a bottomless pit of money and criterias are being more rigorously applied. Our charities as you know work on the basis of once a Freemason always a Freemason, but partly due to some unreasonable applications the criteria is being looked at and I suspect it won't be too long before qualifying times will be introduced as already done by the Mark degree and the RMBI for admissions into our care homes.

The Almoner's job, as we know, is more important these days and it is essential we appoint the right person who is able and willing to keep close contact with members in distress and perhaps more importantly with those who, for one reason or another, don't or can't attend Lodge and widows who can very easily drop off the radar. I will be reporting detailed figures for all charities in my report for the Provincial Meeting in September, but in the last 12 months the MSF has approved 53 applications in Hertfordshire at a cost of £145,882.

Last year there were 22 approvals totalling £94,631. A prospective applicant should not be deterred by the worry of confidentiality with lodge Almoners who are sworn to confidentiality. They can always come direct to me in the first instance and if necessary the contact is kept confidential.

Please always remember we offer a hand up not a hand out and our charities are there for applicants who need, not want, our assistance.

# Cloisters Christmas party



Popular Masonic venue The Cloisters, in Barrington Road, Letchworth, held its first Christmas Fayre in December, writes. Jeff Bullock.

There were 40 stalls and about 500 people attended, enjoying the facilities of this Grade II listed building. Janet Bailey, the event organiser, said: "It's been fantastic. "I've been blown away by the number of people who came along.

"Children enjoyed having their faces painted as well as meeting Father Christmas.

"It's been so successful we have already set a date for next year [this year] Sunday, December 8."

The Lawrence Cloisters Trust chairman Mr Peter Blacker said: "A fantastic day has been had by all those attending this festive event.

"We are looking to hold other events during the coming year, including an open day and wedding fayre."

He added: "While The Cloisters is the masonic home of many lodges in Letchworth and surrounding areas, it is also a venue that is available to the people of north Hertfordshire to use and enjoy."

Details are available on the website, [www.thecloisters.org.uk](http://www.thecloisters.org.uk)

## 125th anniversary of Rickmansworth Lodge

More than 100 brethren packed a meeting to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Rickmansworth Lodge.



■ Rickmansworth Lodge Master, W. Bro. Richard Morgan, welcomes VV. Bro. Paul Gower



■ The Three Pillars of Rickmansworth Lodge: W. Bro. Rowland Mecklenburgh, PSGD, PAPGM, Peter Prior MA, PPSGW and VV. Bro. John Illott, PGSwdB, PPJGW, who have between them more than 140 years' services to Rickmansworth Lodge, with VV. Bro. Paul Gower

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## General Knowledge Crossword



## Cryptic Crossword



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