

# Provincial News



The newsletter for Hertfordshire Freemasons

No. 47 Autumn 2015



**Fantastic turnout  
for the Service of  
Thanksgiving**

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# Can You Help the Association of Friends at PMKC?

**It was in 2002 when my wife Lorna and I joined the Association of Friends. Over the years there have been many changes to the membership of the events sub-committee, which is responsible for planning, organising and running the 14 or so events the Friends hold each year.**

Time marches on and we are now down to a minimum complement to run these events. All members of the sub-committee have passed the anniversary of their '2nd Coming of Age'; ie we're all officially OAPs. Where has that time gone? For the Association of Friends to be able to continue raising funds and bringing enjoyment to the residents of PMKC, we need an influx of, dare I say, younger people to become volunteers

and hopefully for a few to then move up to join the sub-committee which meets four times a year.

Do you live within a reasonable drive of Watford, perhaps within half an hour? Can you spare some time, energy and enthusiasm to join us? The commitment is not huge (few people can make every event), but the rewards are.

The residents are all Freemasons or dependants of Freemasons. As many residents are very elderly and cannot get out much, most activities take place at the home and are thoroughly entertaining.

Since the home first opened in 1994, Mimosa of Radlett Lodge has held four quiz nights a year. The Association of Friends took over running them when Dave Sheppard stood down as quiz question setter and quiz master three years ago. We've been lucky so far in having two people who have set questions for us, but we are now down to one person who sends us two sets a year.

I now urgently need someone else to provide me with the other two sets of questions and answers. All I need is

for someone to email them to me and I can do the rest. Do you set questions for a quiz? Can you send me two sets a year? In return I can send copies of our own questions, which may help you out.

We have eight rounds of 10 questions plus a long picture round. Quiz sessions are always well attended and enjoyed by everyone, especially residents who join in and enjoy the fish and chip supper half way through the evening. All proceeds are put towards the upkeep of one of the gardens at the home.

This is not just a plea for Freemasons, but their wives and families as well. An extra pair of hands to give out tea, coffee and cake is always very welcome.

So, if you think you may be able to help in any way, please contact me. I am available most evenings and weekends.

Many thanks and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

**Malcolm Andrews**  
Tel: 01494 – 433 851.  
Email: [chairman@pmkcfriends.co.uk](mailto:chairman@pmkcfriends.co.uk)

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## Air ambulance

Among the many worthy causes supported by Herts Freemasons, the Herts and Essex Air Ambulance is proving extremely popular.



V.W.Bro James Young, DeputyPGM, and W.Bro Chris Noble, ProvGChStwd, took a tour of the air ambulance hanger when they presented staff a cheque on behalf of Herts brethren.

V.W.Bro Young is a former commercial fixed wing pilot and told the Provincial Magazine that while he was fascinated to examine the controls, he would not swap his many years flying a Boeing for a

helicopter. The Square & Compasses logo can be clearly seen proudly featured on the under belly of both aircraft in recognition of "the wonderful support received from local Masonic Lodges". W.Bro Noble said: "It was wonderful to meet the dedicated air ambulance staff and it is our intention

to arrange a presentation evening late summer at a local Herts Masonic Centre to receive an update on their future plans and expectations.



# W.Bro John Reeve



W. Bro John Reeve of Berkhamstead 504, received his 50-year certificate from W.Bro. James Harrison APGM at the Lodge meeting at The Gables, Linslade.

A nice feature of the afternoon was the reading of a poem, written by lodge member W.Bro Frank O'Keeffe.

50 years. 50 years. 50 years and more,  
Has this stalwart of the Brotherhood trod the chequered floor.

*Mystic signs and symbols,  
he's known Brothers rich and poor,  
and himself been an upright Mason now, for 50 years and more.*

*50 years. 50 years – a century that's halved,  
Since he took his Obligation and started down the path,  
To search for that which had been lost, like those who went before,  
From ancient times, continued on, for 50 years and more.*

*50 years. 50 years. A lifetime on the Square;  
L of Is and Festive Boards, and Brethren he's met there.  
Just, upright, free he's been, for 10 years and two score,  
Brethren, I'll do the maths for you – that's 50 years. And more.*

*50 years. 50 years. And now we're met today,  
To honour this, our Brother, who's shown us all the way,  
To live a life in Masonry that's faithful to the cause.  
So please – be upstanding Brethren, with warm and generous applause.*

# W. Bro Derek Nicholls



At the Corinthian Lodge No 7625 meeting in June, W.Bro Derek Nicholls was presented with his 50 years' of service to Freemasonry certificate by W.Bro David Ferris.

W.Bro David gave an interesting presentation, with facts relating directly to Derek and also what was happening in the world back in April 1965.

Derek was initiated into Corinthian Lodge on April 14, 1965.

He was master in 1973. He has served as Chaplain for 18 years and is now Almoner.

He has Provincial rank in Mark.

Lodge Secretary Paul Leadley said: "Derek is the Father figure of the Lodge. He brings three or four guests to most meetings. In his role as almoner he keeps in very regular touch with all the brethren, young, old, new, sick or well. "He gives extensive reports on everyone who's in the 'wars', together with keeping in touch with all the widows." W.Bro Derek, who now lives in Broadstairs but still attends regularly, was presented with a number of gifts from the Lodge to mark the occasion.

# Long Service Certificates

Jan to Sept 2015

The following Brethren of the Province of Hertfordshire qualified for Long Service Certificates during the year to September 30, 2015, having completed 50 years or more in Craft Freemasonry. Whenever possible, these certificates are presented to the recipient in open Lodge, by a member of the Provincial Executive

## 2015 70 year certificates

Feb 2015	Alex McBain	Fairlands Valley	8522
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## 2015 60 year certificates

Feb 2015	Harry Beard	Amwell	6459
Mar 2015	Harold Beck	St Nicholas	6658
Apr 2015	Geoffrey Harris	Herts Masters	4090
May 2015	Tony Waterman	Verulam	6131

## 2015 50 year certificates

Jan 2015	Guy Warwick	Cecil	449
Jan 2015	Colin Fraser	Opportunity	9777
Jan 2015	Ron Worthy	Aldenham	8253
Jan 2015	Trevor Luck	Adastral	9220
Feb 2015	Patrick Compton	Romanum	8758
Mar 2015	Colin Gibbens	Old Elizabethan	7987
Mar 2015	Robert Weatherly	St Nicholas	6658
Mar 2015	Walter Arnold	Hartsbourne	9680
Mar 2015	Charles Teacher	Hartsbourne	9680
Apr 2015	Edward Gosling	Dacorum	8631
Apr 2015	Norman Benson	Waltham Cross	5359
Apr 2015	Wilfrid (Bill) Reed	Herts Masters	4090
May 2015	Colin Berkovitch	Burning Bush	9608
May 2015	Christopher Perry	Stortford	409
May 2015	Leslie Hopcraft	Garston	5644
May 2015	Duncan MacDonald	Romeland	7080
May 2015	John Meeson	Romeland	7080
May 2015	Peter Goodall	Phocas	9295
May 2015	John Reeve	Berkhamstead	504
May 2015	Henry (Tom) Duffield	Rosewood	8793
June 2015	John Lunness	Ashwell	7903
June 2015	Derek Nicholls	Corinthian	7625
June 2015	James (Jim) Martin	St Stephen's	8468
July 2015	Stan Uzzell	Sprig of Acacia	3318
Sept 2015	Robert Hudson	Kingswood	2278
Sept 2015	Lionel Freedman	Hartsbourne	9680
Sept 2015	David Campbell	Hartsbourne	9680
Sept 2015	Michael Thurman	Letchworth GC	5109
Sept 2015	Len Bacon	South Hertfordshire	6044

# Provincial Meeting 2015

## Happy to Meet Again

On 23rd September, around 1,000 Hertfordshire Freemasons gathered in the magnificent Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall for the annual Communication of Provincial Grand Lodge, joined by distinguished visitors from other Provinces, and Orders, including a deputation from the United Grand Lodge of Bulgaria. The reason we are known as 'Happy Hertfordshire' was plain to see as recipients of appointment and promotion were congratulated, old friends encountered and new friends made.

The PGM announced that W.Bro Keith Gilbert would be retiring as an Assistant Provincial Grand Master to take up



a new post at Grand Lodge, and thanked him for his many years of service on the Provincial Executive. After presenting him with a Past APGM's collarette, the PGM then obligated, invested and installed W.Bro Michael Cooper

PProvJGW, as Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

In his address, the Provincial Grand Master was delighted to announce that actual donations to the 2019 Festival had already reached £1,000,000. He encouraged all Lodges to use Gift Aid envelopes for their charity collections, in order to maximize the potential return from HM Government. He also announced that a Gala Banquet would be held at Guildhall



at the conclusion of the Festival on 6th July 2019. He then announced a donation of £10,000 to the Library and Museum of Freemasonry towards the cost of an audioguide system, being installed as part of the celebrations of

the UGLE Tercentenary. Accepting the cheque on behalf of the Library, the Past Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Colin Harris thanked the PGM and the Province for their generosity, saying that he was pleased to announce that, thanks to match funding from UGLE, the system was now funded and could move ahead.

During the Collection, the Provincial Singers, under the direction of W. Bro. Ken Burgess, sang his arrangement of the hymn 'Great Architect of Heaven and Earth', to the great enjoyment of all present.

After congratulating all those Brethren he had just appointed and promoted; thanking the UGLE staff, the Provincial Secretary, the Provincial DC and their teams for all their hard work in making the day such a success, the Provincial Grand Master closed by saying "Enjoy your Freemasonry, Brethren, have fun and demonstrate to the wider world just how very worthwhile it is to be a mason. May God bless you all."

## W Bro Michael Cooper New Assistant Provincial Grand Master



of Catuvelauni Lodge No. 9435, serving as WM in 1995 and 2007, and Prince Hamlet Lodge No. 9864, serving as WM in 2012. In the Province, Mike was appointed as an active Provincial AGDC in 1998, promoted to PPSGD in 2001 and PPGSwdB in 2008. In 2013 he was promoted again, this time to the active rank of Provincial Junior Grand Warden.

He was exalted into Hooks Cross Chapter in 1987, and was MEZ in 1998. He was also a founder member of Cloisters Chapter.

In Provincial Grand Chapter 2002 he was appointed as ProvGStB and most recently promoted to PPGSN in 2013.

In other Orders, he joined Cloisters Rose Croix in 1998 and became MWS in 2014; he was also a founding ADC of the Court of St. Ambrose in the Athelstan Order.

He was a member of the council at the Cloisters Masonic Centre for five years, and then served as a director for eight years. Besides Masonry, he enjoys a leisurely walk round a golf course.



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# Certificates

There are a number of different Certificates that you may see presented or referred to during a Lodge meeting, and we thought a brief explanation might be in order.

Every Freemason is entitled to receive a Certificate from the United Grand Lodge of England, after completing his third degree, which confirms that his name and details have been registered with Grand Lodge. Most of those reading will have received one of these certificates, and many will have seen them presented in open Lodge.

Suffice to say that design of the present certificate dates back to 1819, and it can be seen as a sort of masonic passport; vouching for the owner's credentials should he be visiting a Lodge where he is not known. For this reason we are told to keep it safely with our masonic regalia, in case we are asked to present it.

The second Certificate that may from time to time be presented to a Brother (usually in his mother Lodge) is a Certificate marking 50 years or more in the Craft. The Certificate, which is signed by the Provincial Grand Master and presented, whenever possible, by the PGM, his Deputy, or one of the Assistant Grand Masters, congratulates the recipient on the completion of 50 years (or more) service to the Craft. These Certificates are also presented following the completion of 60 and 70 years service; a list of all those Brethren qualifying since the last issue of Provincial News is printed on page 3.

Finally, (and not to be confused with the former), there is the Provincial Grand Master's Certificate of Service to Freemasonry. This is awarded personally by the PGM to a small number of Brethren every year in recognition of particularly meritorious service to Freemasonry in Hertfordshire, and is presented by him at the Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge. As well as a Certificate, recipients receive a gold tiepin in the shape of a hart, as a mark of the PGM's esteem. It is a significant honour, and in recognition of that, it is customary for holders to be invited to join a retiring procession from a Lodge immediately after Grand Officers, and before any other Provincial Officers.

All of these Certificates are precious to the recipients, and their presentation should be occasions of pride and celebration for us all. W.Bro Jim Harrison



## Broxbourne Lodge

It was just over 125 years ago that Broxbourne Lodge was consecrated, on April 22, 1890.

Members celebrated the occasion at their regular lodge meeting on April 18 and at a Broxbourne barbecue held in May. The lodge recently moved from its former London venue to Halsey Hall, Cheshunt, restoring it to a Hertfordshire venue and close to its former roots.

A lodge spokesman told Provincial Magazine: "A super meeting, attended by W. Bro Jay Patel APGM,

followed by an entertaining festive board, was enjoyed by all."

The barbecue was held at North Mymms. Professional caterers prepared a typically Cypriot menu of lamb, pork and chicken with all the usual accompanying dishes of humus, halloumi cheese and so on.

Children made great use of the bouncy castle and other children's play facilities while adults were entertained by Deborah, a professional singer who recently had her latest EP at No2 in the UK Soul Charts.



## Beauty with a Purpose



Herts charity supremo Chris Noble steals a kiss from Fran Johnson, Herts Charity Queen. He was presenting two cheques, one for £200 from Park Street Lodge No 8556 where he is Charity

Steward and one for £300, from UAR 3817 a London Lodge where he is Secretary.

Both cheques were for the Beauty with a Purpose charity, which deals with children with facial problems worldwide. Fran is the step daughter of Dave James, a member of both Lodges.

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# Fleet House Light Blues Club



The Fleet House Light Blues Club welcomes all Freemasons in Hertfordshire who are non- Provincial Grand Officers. The primary role of the club is to provide events for like-minded Freemasons to meet socially, discuss masonic issues and enjoy each other's company. The clubs events range from dining with guest speakers, to informal social gatherings

and masonic trips. The Fleet House Light Blues Club allows Freemasons to grow in confidence while helping them further enjoy masonry. Their aim is to connect Freemasons across Hertfordshire from different lodges and orders to continue the good work in our Province. Visit the website for more information and to sign up [www.fhlbc.co.uk](http://www.fhlbc.co.uk)

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## Christmas fun for youngsters of all ages

Nearly 50 masonic children and grandchildren attended a Christmas party organised by brethren and friends of the King Henry VIIIth Lodge at Ashwell House, St Albans, on the Saturday before Christmas.

Brethren laid on entertainment including a Punch & Judy show, face-painting, a disco, party games and food.

All received a personal present from Father Christmas, alias Brother Steve Day.

The event raised £500 for the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys.

Lodge Almoner, W.Bro Rob Gurney, told Provincial News: "The party was a fitting opportunity for us to give something back to our families in recognition of the time we give to Freemasonry. I would especially like to thank all of the many generous benefactors and volunteers who made the party possible"

W.Bro Gary Norman, of King Henry Chapter, helped run the event and added: "The kids had a great time and raising money for the RMTGB was a real bonus making the event doubly worthwhile."



## Golden ticket

Lodges in the Province have been invited to take part in an unusual competition; and you may strike gold!

The PGM is giving lodges the chance to have the Provincial Executive

Team come along and perform a ceremony during 2016.

Lodges can buy a Golden Ticket, or more than one, for £250. Tickets will then be placed in a draw. The winner will be able to choose either an initiation, passing or raising ceremony. Members of the executive will meet their own dining expences.

Closing date is Monday, November 30. The draw will take place week commencing Monday, December 7 and the winner will be notified immediately afterwards.

2019 Golden Ticket



Lodge Name : .....

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Return completed tickets to ProvGCS Fleet House, 10 Parkway, Porters Wood, St Albans AL3 6PA



## Keech cheque from Lea Valley

The Province continues to show strong support for community charities, especially hospices. Dave Caspel, of Lea Valley Lodge, recently presented

a £500 cheque on behalf of Province to Steve Albon, regional fundraiser at Keech Care, the children's hospice in Luton which serves families in Hertfordshire.

## Tandem skydive

Intrepid Neil Mottershead did a tandem skydive recently in aid of Peace Hospice Care.

Neil, 27, a member of Leavesden Lodge, jumped from 13,000ft.

The event took place at the Hinton Skydiving Centre. Neil said: "I raised a total of £670 with £500 of that being donated by my lodge.

"I did the jump because I think it is a great local charity which deserves the help."

Neil, who was initiated into Leavesden Lodge four years ago, is currently Junior Deacon.



## Cyclist in the States

After 51 days and 2,970 miles riding through seven states of the USA, W.Bro Graham Ellis BEM. MRICS, of Stuart Lodge No. 8578, finally completed a mammoth cycle challenge riding from West to East across the USA arriving in St Augustine Florida.

Forty-four riders started the trip in San Diego on March 7 and 28 made it to the end.

W.Bro Graham was the only rider from the UK riders not to suffer from an amazing array of injuries including a broken collar bone, dislocated shoulder, a heart attack, broken arm and someone lost an eye.



The support vehicle turned over in a ditch and there were several near misses with logging trucks in Louisiana.

But Graham managed to finish relatively unscathed. He said: "We all had our reasons to do this trip, sense of achievement, tick off the bucket list, etc, etc, but my objective was to raise as much money as I could for Alzheimer's, which is a charity very close to my family's heart. "Alzheimer's disease reduced my father in 18 months from a loving

and generous man weighing 200 pounds, to someone who couldn't even recognise members of his own family and weighed only 100 pounds when he passed away."

"Many thanks if you chose to support my ride."

W.Bro Graham became Master Elect of Stuart Lodge in his absence having previously been in the chair exactly 25 years ago.

He had been preceptor and DC for more than 20 years until standing down this year.

He kept in contact with family, friends and members while in the USA.

One message read: "Hi everyone, 2,531 miles down just 419 to go! Been through California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and now Florida.

"Very tired, but pleased to have got this far."

Anyone wishing to support his efforts can still do so. Visit his website [www.justgiving.com/Graham-Ellis5](http://www.justgiving.com/Graham-Ellis5) for an update on his charity fundraising so far.



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# Grand Lodge investitures

Nine Hertfordshire masons, including our Deputy PGM and three APGMs, were at Grand Lodge in April to be honoured at the annual investiture by the Pro Grand Master MW Bro Peter Lowndes.

In this picture taken in the robing room are (l to r) Michael Imeson, Simon Cooper, Anthony Wright, James Young, Dick Knifton, Jayendra Patel, Keith Dunnett and Neil Phillips. W. Bros Simon, Keith, Neil and Tony became Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, V W Bro

James Young, our Deputy PGM, was promoted to Past Grand Sword Bearer, W. Bros Richard and Jay to Past Senior Grand Deacon, and Michael to PAGDC. Not in the picture is APGM James Harrison who was promoted to Senior Grand Deacon, and as an active officer prepared for the investiture elsewhere. The recipients of honours and their guests later enjoyed Champagne before they dined with the Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro Paul Gower, in a private suite in the Kingsway Hall Hotel.



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■ Temple Bar Lodge 1728 – High Gun Team winners.

## Festival Shoot



■ With the PGM, High Gun Individual Winner: John Perrin, 89, Dominic Luscombe, second 87, Bruce Tyler, 87, and Roger Deards, 86.

A Festival Shoot attracted 38 keen marksmen at the prestigious Markyate shooting grounds of Atkins Grant and Lang. Lovely sunshine greeted the competitors. Temple Bar Lodge No.5962 took High Gun Team of the day with John Perrin taking the individual High Gun of the day holding off Dom Luscombe, Bruce Tyler and Roger Deards by just two and three points. The PGM RW.Bro Paul Gower

awarded the Clay Pigeon Preservation Award to APGM W.Bro James Harrison, with a bottle of wine and a shooting lesson voucher. Breakfast and lunch was enjoyed by all. A total of £550 was raised for the RMTGB.



■ Philip Quelch, Dean Hurry, Steve Mayne, Robin Turner and Stuart Goddard with the PGM.

# East Herts Lodge celebrates its 100th birthday

On May 19, 2015 East Hertfordshire Lodge commemorated its first century by celebrating in style at its spiritual home of Mayflower Place in Hertingfordbury.

Records show that in early 1914, "Several prominent Freemasons residing or having interest in the Province of Hertfordshire, considered the time had come when it was desirable that a new Lodge should be formed in the Province which would be conducted strictly in accordance with the highest traditions of Freemasonry and kept exclusively for men of good position and who take a sincere interest in Freemasonry."



■ PGM & W.Bro Tom Day

A preliminary meeting was called on March 19, 1914, and it was resolved that a Petition be presented to the Grand Master, praying for a Warrant of Constitution.

This Petition, having been granted, the Lodge was consecrated by RW Bro the Rt. Hon. T.F. Halsey, Deputy Grand Master, Provincial Grand Master of



■ W Bros Mike Cooper & Ron Barlow

Hertfordshire, assisted by W.Bro Charles Edward Keyser PGW, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, on Wednesday, May 19, 1915 in the Temple of Frascati's Restaurant, Oxford Street, London. Thus East Hertfordshire Lodge was formed and 100 years later to the day it was presented with a Centenary Warrant by the Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Paul Gower in what proved to be a most impressive ceremony.



■ The Festive Board

As well as the Provincial Grand Master's usual team of Sword and Standard Bearers and Stewards, he was supported by three Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, W.Bros David Ferris, James Harrison and Jay Patel and attended by the Provincial Grand Wardens, W.Bros Stuart Hutchinson and Peter Walters. He was further accompanied by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W.Bro Anthony Wright, the Provincial Grand Secretary W.Bro Hugh Oram, Provincial

Grand Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro Keith Dunnett and Provincial Grand Organist, W.Bro Nicholas Murdoch all of whom took an active part in the formal proceedings.

An interesting and poignant reminder of the Great War was made by the Provincial Grand Chaplain in his Oration, drawing on the fact that The East Hertfordshire Lodge was formed at a time when the world was in great turmoil.

The Warrant was received on behalf of the Lodge by its 101st Master, W.Bro Thomas Day who had been initiated into the Lodge in 2010 by his father, W.Bro Philip Day, who also happened to have been the Lodge's 100th Master, thereby enjoying the privilege of installing his son as Master in March this year.

The celebrations culminated in a superb Festive Board which will remain in the memory of those present for many years to come.

In all, almost 100 members and guests enjoyed the festivities, each being presented with an engraved whiskey tasting tumbler as a memento of the occasion.

The evening was rounded off by "100 Years of Song" performed by the Provincial Singers and led by W.Bro Ken Burgess.

It will be another five years until the next centenary is celebrated in the Province and that will be Herts Masters Lodge No. 4090.



■ The Top Table

## Another Lewis for Verulam

For many years Verulam Lodge has been known for being a family Lodge.

At its April meeting this was further endorsed when the Worshipful Master, W.Bro Dean Hankins initiated his son Coby into Freemasonry.

Lodge secretary Malcolm Desborough said: "This was a very special day as Coby is just 18 and the Provincial Grand Master kindly issued a dispensation for the ceremony

to take place.

"A family day it most certainly was, as Coby's step-grandfather, Bro Andy Hunt, is the Senior Warden. His uncle, Bro Greame Hunt, who is Senior Deacon, delivered the ancient charge. "Another uncle, Bro Garry Holmes, also a member of the Lodge, presented the first degree working tools."

Bro Coby became the 14th Lewis in the history of Verulam Lodge.



# Double Honour at Fairlands Valley Lodge

The Provincial Grand Master paid a surprise visit to Fairlands Valley Lodge No 8522 in order to honour two of its members, W. Bro Stephen Croft and W. Bro Alex McBain.

Having entered the Lodge the first surprise was that he accepted the gavel from the Worshipful Master, Graeme Hulström, and proceeded to occupy the Chair.



He reminded Brethren that we have many rules and regulations in Freemasonry which protect our Order and that any Provincial Grand Master would challenge these at his peril. Never the less, he underlined that we are enjoined "to drop a tear of sympathy over the failings of a Brother, and to pour the healing balm of consolation into the bosom of the afflicted" and that we should indeed do that for a Brother who has serious health difficulties.

He reminded Brethren that the usual

path to honours in Hertfordshire is that consideration is given to a Brother seven years after his installation into the Chair. He then went on to explain that W. Bro Stephen Croft would be a definite candidate for appointment at the appropriate time. Stephen, however, has a serious medical condition with which he has been battling with great fortitude and courage and the outlook for him is serious. In view of this it was the PGM's opinion it would be right to sweep away all the normal rules. He requested that Stephen be conducted to the pedestal, where, in recognition of his service of distinction to the Lodge, had great pleasure in immediately appointing him Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and invested him with the regalia of his rank after which he was saluted by the Brethren who then broke into spontaneous applause.

The Provincial Grand Master then turned his attention to W. Bro Alex McBain who had recently celebrated his 88th birthday and 70 years as a Mason. W. Bro Alex had been initiated at the age of 18 in Lodge Saint George No 190, Aberdeen.

His father, a Mason, bought Alex life membership of that Lodge at a cost of 26 guineas equating to 40p per annum over 70 years.

After completing his 3rd degree Alex was called up for National Service in the RAF and served in India.

On demob he studied at Leith Nautical College Edinburgh and then joined Marconi as a radio operator sailing with P&O to and from Australia.

Marriage to Betty, who sadly died in 2012, and raising a family caused him to seek shore-based employment. He joined deHavilland working on the Blue Streak Project and latterly as a quality inspector at BAe Stevenage.

He became a founder member of Fairlands Valley Lodge and served as Master in 1978 subsequently serving as Almoner, Charity Steward and Secretary. He was elected an honorary member in 2005.



In the Province he was appointed Prov JGD in 1986, promoted to PPGReg in 1994 and to PPJGW in 2004.

The Provincial Grand Master congratulated W. Bro Alex on completing 70 years as a Mason, on behalf of all the members of the Province and the members of Fairlands Valley Lodge, and had much pleasure in presenting him with a certificate to mark the magnificent achievement. He also presented him with a similar certificate on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The Brethren showed their delight with long and loud applause.

## Burning Bush Lodge

It was a case of standing room only at the Rose Walk Masonic Centre Radlett witnessing a full agenda at the Burning Bush Lodge meeting.

The ceremony included Bro Craig Silver's Initiation, Bro Alan Shorrick receiving a Grand Lodge Certificate, W.Bro Leslie Sutton, a 91-year-old D Day veterans becoming a joining member, W.Bro Colin Berkovitch receiving a 50-year certificate, and W.Bro Martin Royce getting a 55-year certificate.

Both long service certificates were presented by APGM W.Bro Keith Gilbert.

The RMTGB 2019 Festival was boosted by £2,000 from various collections and donations.



■ WM Daniel Austin: Keith Gilbert, Mark Scanes, and SD, Bension Morris



■ WM Daniel Austin and Initiate Bro. Craig Silver

# W Bro Tony Waterman 60 Years in Freemasonry

**W.Bro Tony Waterman  
PPJGD (PPJGW Surrey)  
celebrated an important  
masonic milestone.**  
The Verulam Lodge 6131  
member has achieved 60  
years in Freemasonry.

He was Worshipful Master  
in 2003 and Treasurer from  
2005 until 2014.  
Our picture shows him  
receiving his 60 years'  
certificate from W. Bro Jay  
Patel.



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## Welwyn Festival

**Getting the word out to a wider audience was the name of the game for three willing volunteers.**

For in late June Bro's Colin Ellis, Neil Mottershead and Justin Tepper attended the Welwyn Festival Family Fun Day to represent the Province.

Their appearance was part of efforts to "get out and about" around Hertfordshire to "dispel myths and let the community know who we are and what we do".

The trio told the Provincial Magazine: "We had a

great day chatting to local residents, some of whom were shocked to see Freemasons there.

"They soon discovered we are not a secret society and even learned a bit about the charity work we do.

"We did, as always, bump into many local brethren who stopped by the stand to say hi!"

They have plans to attend more shows next year in different parts of the Province, so if you see them at your show/festival/event, stop by for a chat.



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# St Albans Lodge Charity

Members of St Albans Lodge have been busy supporting not only the RMTGB 2019 Festival, but also several of their own chosen worthy causes.

Lodge charity steward Paul Loveday said by doing so its members were "endorsing the Provincial Grand Charity Steward's message".

W.Bro Loveday presented a £500 cheque to John Keoth of DEMAND and a further £500 cheque to Trevor Hall of 17th, St Albans Scout Group. A third cheque for £500 went

to Mission Motor Sport. He said the Lodge had also achieved 68 per cent donated and 98 per cent donated/promised, against its 2019 Festival target.

ProvGChStwd Chris Noble told Provincial Magazine: "Paul has attended two Charity Steward workshops and has asked for our help and support in his wonderful charitable work for his Lodge. This is a great example of someone who wants to learn even though he is doing really well."



## Service dog presentation

A charity which provides a range of services received a welcome boost from Provincial Grand Lodge. A cheque for £250 was handed over to Kay Lythaby of the 'LetsGo' children's charity by Peter Swatton of Broadhurst Lodge.

The money will go towards providing a 'service dog', called Thomas. Thomas detects mood and health swings and alerts carers accordingly. The 'LetsGo' charity helps youngsters with sensory problems and autism.



## Radlett Chapter Celebrates 50 years

Radlett Chapter celebrated its 150th meeting, since it was founded 50 years ago in February.

A celebration was attended by 24 members and 49 guests, including 14 members of the Provincial Executive and two past Grand Superintendents – E Comp Sydney Tuck and E Comp John Ilott.

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent James Sharpley took the First Principal's chair and sceptre and welcomed members and guests. He then thanked the Chapter for allowing the Province to take part in the celebrations. The Third Grand Principal, E Comp Tim Coles, gave an oration about the history of the town of Radlett and the surrounding area, after which the Provincial Scribe E read the Charter of the Chapter. The chair having been restored to the Chapter Principals, the MEZ gave a short history of Radlett Chapter and then the Principals for the following year were installed in the traditional manner.

Companions subsequently enjoyed a four course banquet. The Scribe E, E Comp Norwell Roberts, QPM, had worked exceptionally hard to ensure the contents of the meeting befitting such a special occasion and that as many Companions as possible could enjoy this anniversary meeting.



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# Old Stortfordian Lodge

Members of the Old Stortfordian Lodge No. 5721 travelled from far and wide to attend the installation meeting earlier this year.

The new master W. Bro Thomas Whieldon is an 'old boy' of the school.

His father W. Bro Ross Whieldon, himself a past pupil of the college, and his wife Doriana, own and run the Hotel Britannia Excelsior on the banks of the beautiful Lake Como at Cadenabia.

The hotel plays host each November to members of the Lodge, wives, family and friends, for a long weekend away.

W. Bro Tom is married to Pia and they have a son, Leonardo, who one day hopefully will also be Installed as Master.

Keeping matters in the family, W. Bro Tom was clothed in his late grandfather's Master's apron. The address was delivered by W. Bro Albert Finney who had done likewise to the Master's father many years before. W. Bro Roy Claridge remembered the Master's grandfather and the meeting proved to be one of emotion and reflection.

The event was attended by 11 visiting Brethren from Helvetia Lodge based in Lugano Switzerland, only a "stones throw" away from Cadenabia.

Proceedings were overseen by W. Bro Michael Cooper PProvJGW and his escort W. Bro Mark Scanes ProvADC.

## Charity update

### Brethren of Happy Hertfordshire

have good reason to smile. And the Provincial Grand Charity Steward Chris Noble has been quick to praise their efforts on behalf of the 2019 Festival. He told



Provincial News: "Happy Hertfordshire Brethren have donated an impressive £1,079,027 to the 2019

Festival to the end of August.

"And our sincere thanks to Herts RA Companions who at the end of August had donated a fantastic £28,345

to the Festival. He added that one "small" initiative had been very successful. He said: "It goes to show that small efforts can result in large rewards.

"A total of 113 Herts Lodges using Gift Aid envelopes gained £24,564 Gift Aid on their collections. "Is your Lodge missing out?"

## Choir appeal

Are you someone who enjoys exercising your vocal cords? If so the Hertfordshire Provincial Singers would like to hear from you.

The Provincial choir is on the hunt for more members.

A spokesman told Provincial News: "Now's the chance to expose your voice outside the bathroom. There is no need to worry about

reading music. We have all sorts of members ranging from experienced singers to novices."

Rehearsals are arranged on different evenings to suit members' commitments.

For further details email [kenburgess@hertsprovsingers.org](mailto:kenburgess@hertsprovsingers.org) or call 07701 061494/01582 842733.

# A Scott becomes a Lewis

It was smiles all round at the June meeting of King Henry VIIIth Lodge at Ashwell House when Christopher Scott became a Lewis.

Worshipful Brother Brian Scott was beaming with pride as he took the Worshipful Master's chair to initiate his son Christopher into masonry. Chris was a schoolboy when his father was initiated into the same

Lodge and says he always hoped he would one day follow in his father's footsteps.

Lodge Almoner W.Bro Rob Gurney said: "It was a truly wonderful ceremony that few masons have the honour or opportunity to perform.

"We were all delighted to witness Christopher's initiation as a mason who now forms part of the next generation of our Lodge."



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**John Goddard**

On behalf of Character Windows and Doors 2005 Ltd

# 15th Annual Festival of the Federation of Police Lodges

Trust and Fear Not Lodge No. 9698 hosted the 15th Annual Festival of the Federation of Police Lodges in June.

The weekend began with a two hour visit by Federation representatives and their wives to the St Albans Theatre/Museum where they were entertained with organ music. This was followed by dinner at the Garden House Carvery, St Albans. Entertainment was provided by a St Albans ukulele band.

On Saturday guests met at Ashwell House, St Albans where Federation representatives held a business meeting. The Lodge was then opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Rob



Gurney.  
The Provincial  
Grand Master,  
RWBro Paul  
Gower was  
received. He  
closed the  
Lodge and  
ladies were  
admitted to  
witness the  
newly-elected  
Federation  
President,  
W.Bro. Roger  
Norris PAGDC

being presented with the President's collar by the PGM. The Lodge was reopened and a ceremony of Passing took place. A total of 92 attended the Festive Board and the evening concluded with the Hertfordshire Provincial Singers performing songs with police connections, including The Laughing Policemen and The Conscientious Bobby.

£500 was raised for the RMTGB.

The 2016 Festival will be held at Gillingham.



## Mobility assistance

When W.Bro Stan Uzzell needed mobility assistance High Barnet Masters Lodge No. 8746 supported him with the purchase of a new £5,000 mobility scooter.

However, when the same company recently offered Stan just £250, with barely 15 miles on the clock, he knew what to do. Provincial Grand Charity Steward Chris Noble said:

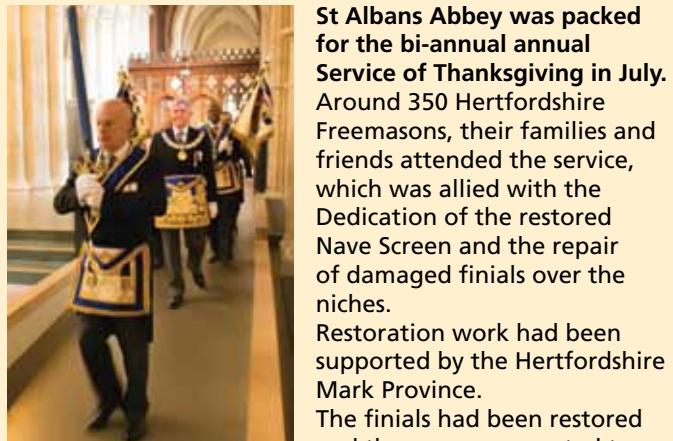
"Fortunately he was able to sell it to another needy Mason and kindly decided to donate the £800 to the 2019 Festival."

"A win win situation!"

"Is there a lesson to be learnt here?

"Why not place an advert in the Provincial Magazine or ask your Lodge Almoner to contact the Provincial Almoner to see if a seller and buyer can be connected?"

## Service of Thanksgiving



St Albans Abbey was packed for the bi-annual annual Service of Thanksgiving in July. Around 350 Hertfordshire Freemasons, their families and friends attended the service, which was allied with the Dedication of the restored Nave Screen and the repair of damaged finials over the niches.

Restoration work had been supported by the Hertfordshire Mark Province.

The finials had been restored and the screen renovated to

receive statues of seven Christian martyrs completed by sculptor Rory Young. They depict Oscar Romero. Alban Roe, Amphibalus, Alban, George Tankerfield, Elizabeth Romanova and Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Also celebrated were donations given by the Craft brethren and Royal Arch companions of the Province towards the refurbishment of the staircase leading to the organ loft and the completion of the Pulpitum Project. The service was led by the Dean of St Albans, the Very Reverend Doctor Jeffrey John and the Provincial Chaplain, Anthony Wright. Readings were made by the Provincial Grand Masters of the Craft and Mark, Paul Gower and Chris Radmore respectively.

At the completion of the service surprise presentations were made by the Dean to the two Provincial Grand Masters and the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, James Sharpley. These consisted of three stone cubes hewn from the same quarry at Totternhoe, Bedfordshire and used to supply stone for the work on the restoration and upkeep of the Abbey.

The Dean and the brethren then recessed to the North Transept where refreshments were served, following a successful and happy occasion for the Province and the Abbey.

The event again celebrated the close links shared between the Freemasons of Hertfordshire and our Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban.

The Service was supported by members of the Executive, and the hard working efforts of the Provincial Stewards Lodge and the DC's department of the Province.

Information officer Darren Bending said: "It was a glorious spectacle of pageantry for the Freemasons of Hertfordshire and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended and participated."



# Museum curator's autumn report

In the last Provincial

News I said there

had not been

anything

new in the

museum of

great note.

This time it

is totally the

opposite. It has

been a very busy six

months with some incredible additions.

I will mention just a few, but as always

the best thing is to come and see the

collections. Do phone first to make sure

that I am here and that the boardroom

is not being used for a meeting. Even

as I write this, two large boxes of items

have arrived.

A silver and gold Past Senior Grand

Warden's collar jewel arrived with some

regalia from a late Watford member.

The date of the hallmark and the

rare rank would indicate that

it could have very likely been

worn by Lord Hemingford

whose 4090 presentation cup is

on display and was the subject

of a previous newsletter article.

An incredible leather bound

booklet of hand painted tracing

boards dated 1837 includes

two former Royal Arch boards in

addition to the Craft.

A large Masonic pottery dish from

Romania has been donated and is now

on display. The Knights Templar have

retired their existing Provincial Sword

and loaned it to the museum. It is a fine

and famous Pillin sword and scabbard



and now proudly stands in the Hodge Room.

Cranbourne Lodge has kindly loaned its fine collection of circular silver officers jewels that were declared obsolete in the late 1800s. These have

been added to the similar

Stewards jewels already in the collection. One of the Cranbourne jewels has a connection and story with the famous W.Bro. James Terry. To learn about the story, you will have to visit and ask me!

So much else has been added and I could take up far more space than I am allowed.



We have managed to dispose of many duplicate books to members of Veritatem Sequare Provincial Research Lodge. This has allowed a consolidation and released two lower shelves in the Hodge Room to display additional items.

I make no apology for repeating that if you have anything to dispose of, let me see it first. It could just be something we need. If there is anything doing nothing in your Lodge or Chapter locker, you can loan it for display and safety.

I must also repeat that I am still concerned many Lodges and Chapters are still keeping official records in loose-leaf files or acidic plastic sleeves. A document was issued a few years



ago to every Secretary and Scribe E on the requirements for preservation and conservation of records. If you would like an updated copy, send me an email. The Provincial Banner Project progresses well and has been noted as the Provincial 2017 Heritage Project. Our thanks to all who have responded where we have requested information.

Many visitors are surprised by the size and extent of the Provincial Archive held at Fleet House for all Lodges, Chapters and other Orders as well as over 100 files dealing with general Masonic subjects. But more is needed. Do not throw anything away without first asking if we need it.

Finally, do remember that the museum, library and archive covers all Orders, not just the Craft. Pay us a visit. You may be surprised at what we have.

## Provincial Almoner's report

Firstly I must apologise as unfortunately my column did not get printed in the Spring issue of the Provincial News as there had been a kerfuffle with the editorial team. [Sorry – Editor].

So I will now bring you up to speed. Over the summer months, I have been meeting with my counterparts from six other Provinces in Great Queen Street to work with the charities to set up a pilot scheme to train visiting volunteers. The concept of the pilot scheme is to professionally train our volunteers to undertake the completion of the application forms which removes the responsibility from the Lodge Almoner, therefore making the procedure more efficient and speeds up the application process for the benefit of Hertfordshire Masons and their dependants.

The newly appointed volunteers should have been trained by the middle of October. Therefore before Christmas or definitely by the New Year the trained volunteers will be ready to start.

If the Charity or myself are approached by Lodge Almoners or by the applicant directly we will arrange for a visiting volunteer to meet the applicant; this can either be alone or accompanied by the Lodge Almoner or member of the Lodge to provide moral support whilst the volunteer completes the paperwork. If this scheme is successful it will then be rolled out across the whole country. I would urge all Lodge Almoners to become pro-active for the betterment



of their membership and for their widows. Hopefully this scheme will bring more support from the Charity into Hertfordshire for our membership. As some of you may know from April

1, 2016, the four main charities merge to become one charity and will be called The Masonic Charitable Foundation.

Finally I would like to report on the passing to the Grand Lodge above W.Bro Fred Farrell of The Priory Lodge 5152. Fred was not only an excellent Lodge Almoner but he also acted as a Case

Almoner and Visiting Brother over the years, firstly for George Taylor, my predecessor and latterly for myself. He was an inspiration to us all in supporting Freemasons and their dependents in a time of need and will be greatly missed.

# Fishing events

Twenty-five youngsters, with a variety of disabilities, from four special needs schools, took part in a fishing event at Riverside Fishery, St. Albans. It was organised by the Hertfordshire team of the Masonic Fishing Charity. The day was sponsored by Cecil Lodge and attended by the Provincial Grand Master Paul Gower.



Earlier in the year members of The Herts MTSFC held a fun fishing competition as a thank you to their fishing volunteers who give their time allowing children with special needs to enjoy a day in the countryside away from the classroom.

Herts team chairman, John Clark, told Provincial News: "What a good day. There was a really good atmosphere of fun and enjoying being together.

"Special thanks to Mike Eames and Dave for a very tasty breakfast and a great lunch.

"Thanks also to Steve Parker and Ken Major for acting as

stewards, weighing in the fish caught. "The one that got away did not count." Best Rainbow Trout winner was Malcolm Shaw with his catch of 5lbs 14ozs.

Best coarse fish winner was Ian Edwards, for his 4lb 2oz bream.

John Clark said: "But the best catch of the day was securing four potential new Herts Casters for the MTSFC."



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## MTSFC Herts Scouts

Herts masons are always looking to lend a hand and members of the Herts fishing club have done just that. Youngsters from the St Albans Scout Group received two marquees from the Herts MTSFC which had been replaced with new ones.

Scout leader Dave Williams said: "We are extremely thankful to the fishing charity for thinking of us and the two marquees will be put to good use".

John Clark, Herts MTSFC chairman, said: "I am really pleased the old marquees have gone to a good home."



# Red Cross of Constantine

The Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St. John the Evangelist.

## District Information Officer

W.Kt. Philip J. Hoy Div.Chamberlain Tel: 01279 817792  
Email: philip.hoy@uwclub.net

## GRAND SOVEREIGN'S COUNCIL

On Tuesday, June 30, R.III. Kt. B.F. Muir, Intendant-General had the honour of being appointed to serve on the Grand Sovereign's Council. We offer him our congratulations.

## APPENDANT ORDERS

The next Appendant Orders ceremonies are planned to be held as part of the normal meeting of The Rose Walk Conclave No. 389 at Radlett on Saturday, November 7. All members are invited to attend.

## NEW CONCLAVE IN BISHOPS STORTFORD

We are still looking for founders of a possible new conclave to be formed in Bishops Stortford. If you are a member of the Order, whether in the Hertfordshire Division or elsewhere, and are interested in becoming a Founder, please contact either III Kt Gavin O'Sullivan (gavinosullivan@btinternet.com) or the co-ordinator, Em. Kt John Campbell (john.campbell40@btopenworld.com)

## RCC WEBSITE FOR HERTS MASON

In conjunction with a number of other degrees and Orders in Hertfordshire, we have set up our own website at [www.hertsmasons.co.uk](http://www.hertsmasons.co.uk). Please visit this site to see our web pages and those of other degrees. If you have anything that you would like to see online, please send it to me as Information Officer for the RCC.

## THE HISTORY OF THE DEGREE

Constantine, a Roman, was destined for the college of Emperors, but following the death of his father, he was hailed by the Legions in York as Augustus and became the Governor of Britain and Gaul. After several successful battles across the Alps and Italy he eventually established himself as the lawful Emperor of both the East and West and transferred the capital of the empire from Rome to Byzantium, later to be named after him.

He was the first Roman Emperor to openly encourage Christianity. His conversion began one evening after a long day's march with his army when, in what he believed was a sign from heaven, he and his army saw in the sky, and by the rays of the setting sun, a pillar of light in the form of a special cross. To sanctify the minds of his pagan army, he had made a standard bearing a Cross like that seen and ordered it to be carried before him in the wars. Several Christians in his army came forward and avowed their faith following which

Constantine directed that they should wear on their armour a red cross.

Having been successful in battle it is said that Constantine with the help of his chief bishop, Eusebius, opened a Conclave of the Knights of the Order whose members became the bodyguard of their Sovereign.

## THE CEREMONIES

The Christian Order is in two parts. The first ceremony consists of the candidate's admission, obligation, and then the installation as a Knight-Companion of the Red Cross of Constantine, in which the historical basis of the Order is also detailed.

In separate ceremonies the Knight-Companion builds on what he has already been taught. And in the ceremony of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre and St. John the Evangelist, this knowledge is further expanded and the ultimate aims of Freemasonry are revealed. These, together with the two Installation ceremonies leading to the principal Chairs in the Red Cross of Constantine, are undoubtedly among the most impressive ceremonies in the whole of Masonry

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 2 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 Albert Waite Divisional Recorder (albert.waite@virgin.net) for membership details.



# Mark Masons

## Provincial Information Officer

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

### Dates for the diary

**Sunday, October 18:** Winter lunch at Chelsfield Down Golf & Country Club, details to follow.

**Sunday, November 1:** Mark lunch in aid of Hope for Tomorrow, at the Boxmore Lodge Hotel, Hemel Hempstead. Contact W.Bro Paul Oxtoby paul\_oxtoby@hotmail.co.uk .

**Tuesday, November 18:** Annual trip to Twickenham. Contact Bro Dave Firshman, david.firshman@gmail.com 2016.

**Friday, May 27:** Mark golf day. Redbourn Golf Club. Contact W.Bro Ian Clift, at ian@ianclift.org.uk. Mark Grand Lodge Investitures: Details to follow.

**Wednesday, June 15:** Note new date. Annual Assembly of Royal Ark Mariners. Held under the Banner of the Hertfordshire Installed Commanders Lodge No 1121. Metropolitan Police Sports Club, Bushey, at 4pm.

**Tuesday, July 12:** Provincial Meeting at Rickmansworth Masonic School, starting at 4pm.

The Provincial Team were once more called into action in June when the Elstree & Radlett Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners had its new banner to dedicate. Before this the MMM Lodge was opened and the PGM was present to bestow W.Bro John Parsons and W.Bro Ronnie Sans with Grand Patrons Collars of the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The Royal Ark Mariner Lodge was then opened and called off. The ceremony of dedication was then proceeded with under the direction of Roy Moth the PGDC. It is a very pleasing banner well appreciated by all. This was a white table event so ladies and non masons again came into the Lodge and witnessed and enjoyed the ceremony.



■ Ceremony at opening G.Lodge

The Provincial Annual Assembly of Royal Ark Mariners took place at the Metropolitan Police Club, Bushey, in June, under the banner of the Installed Commanders Lodge No 1121. It was attended by a large number of brethren, with W.Bro Collin Hellyer at

the helm. The W.Commander handed over to RW Bro Chris Radmore, the PGM, who then opened Provincial Grand Lodge. Brethren who had been honoured with PRAMGR were then invested. They were Graham Long, Derek Watson, Christopher Albrow, William Price, John Vincent, David Williams, Gary Cobden, Maurice Smith, Graham Kolthammer, Paul Price, Anthony Potton and Christopher Whiteside. The PGM addressed the Assembly, the meeting was closed.

**The Installed Mark Masters Lodge No 1121 was opened and normal proceeding took place after all business was completed, including a ballot for the next W.M. which proved in favour of W.Bro John Dye. New Provincial Charity Steward W.Bro Tony Smith was invested. Tony takes over after the sad death of Harry Parsons. A eulogy was given in the Lodge after opening.**

The PGM R.W.Bro Chris Radmore then made two presentations. The first was to W.Bro Graeme McCormack PGJW. This was the collaret as Grand Patron of the Mark Benevolent Fund. A collar pin, as patron, was presented to Bro Alick Burge.

The Lodge was closed and Professor Chris Booth was invited in. He is the founder of a charity named CHAPS, which aims to increase awareness of men's health issues and support the development of health services targeted at the needs of men. He gave an interesting talk with graphics. It was food for thought for all. At the later festive board a cheque for £200 was presented to Prof. Booth for the charity.

July saw the Provincial Demonstration Team give a demonstration of the Ceremony of Elevation in RAM at Bishops Stortford Lodge 1236. Before this the Lodge had a show to put on and had a double Advancement in the Degree of M.M.M. Brethren, impressive was not the word. All officers, from the W.M. David Boore down, knew their work. There was not a book in sight. Very well done everyone, especially David Wavell and Graeme McCormack for their hard work in their Lodge of Instruction. The two Brethren who were Advanced were Bros Gary Johnson and Peter Watson. The Royal Ark Mariner Lodge was then opened and the demonstration team entered followed by the PGM, who was welcomed by the Brethren enthusiastically. The W.Commander, W.Bro Robert Johnson, then handed the sceptre to the PGM who in turn set up his Lodge. Next it was the turn of the Provincial Team who put on a great show under the guidance of W.Bro Richard Harvey as Commander. The brother who was Elevated was the same Bro Gary Johnson who had been Advanced in the previous degree. If you have never been to one of the Provincial Demonstrations I advise you to look out for the next date, it is well worth going.

At the end of June Stanstead Abbotts Lodge MMM & RAM together with the Cheshunt Lodge MMM jointly organised a boat trip on the River Lee. To raise funds for Hope for Tomorrow, tickets were sold out very quickly. Captain Jack Franks and First Mate Trevor Clarke, ably assisted by their wives, Ratings Sandra and Jeanette, set sail from Ware. All on board said they had a great time. The weather was perfect and at the end of the evening cheques were presented to RW ProvGM Chris Radmore. Stanstead Abbotts M.M.M received £1,000. This included money raised from the sale of the late and well respected Maurice Lilley's regalia. Our thanks to his family for donating this. Cheshunt Lodge M.M.M received £500 and a cheque from Norwell Roberts QPM for £200.



■ Trevor Clarke and wife Jeanette and Sandra Franks wife of Jack



■ Members of SA Lodge David Davies, Colin Wills and Ken Moore

## Annual meeting



■ Norwell Roberts, QPM, new Almoner

The big day in Hertfordshire Mark Masonry is the annual Provincial Meeting. We all think of this as just happening well it doesn't. Behind the scenes the Provincial Grand Secretary Trevor Clarke his Deputy Ken Gooding and Assistant Jon Lydon are busy months before sorting 'half a rainforest' of paperwork.

Planning the Ceremony is the responsibility of PGDC Roy Moth and his Prov GDC team.

The man at the front is the RWPGM Chris Radmore who knows and controls all that is going on.

The day was, as usual, a great success with

28 Lodges being honoured with Grand Patron Collars of the MBF. Two Brethren were presented with the Provincial Grand Master's Silver Token for service to Masonry and the Mark Degree. They were W.Bro Maurice Freedman who is 90 and W.Bro Dennis Greystone who is 92. Both of these young men are members of Ravenscroft Lodge.

Certificates went to David Walker of Debenham Lodge and Alick Burge of Hemel Hempstead Lodge, for attaining Patronage of the Hertfordshire Mark Benevolent Fund.

Congratulations to all the Brethren receiving for the first time, or getting a promotion, of Provincial Grand Rank.

At this meeting W.Bro Jim Innes retired as Provincial Grand Almoner after nine years' excellent service. He will be missed. So will W.Bro Brian Gerbaldi who retired as Provincial Grand Registrar for family reasons.

New Provincial Officers: W.Bro Jon Lydon moves from Assistant Secretary to Provincial Grand Registrar. W.Bro Norwell Roberts QPM takes over as Prov Grand Almoner. Norwell is a retired Detective Sergeant in the police force who was awarded The Queens Police Medal. W.Bro Anthony Smith is the new Prov Grand Charity Steward. His new Assistant Grand Charity Steward is W.Bro Dennis Brown. W.Bro. Colin Dixon is the new Prov Assistant Secretary.

The Meeting was a great success and the Masonic School for Girls a very beautiful setting.



On a Saturday morning in May at 9am assembled members and the full Provincial team were once again called into action, when the St Albans Lodge of Mark Master Masons 1108 dedicated its new banner in a ceremony orchestrated by the Prov GDC Roy Moth and presided over by the PGM RW Bro Chris Radmore. The secretary had worked hard producing the program and the new banner looked splendid. Again the ceremony was watched by wives and non-masons. This was followed by a luncheon enjoyed by all.

A warm spring day in April and the Royal Masonic School for Girls was the setting, for the Chevalier Lodge 1505 RAM to have its installation meeting. A fine ceremony conducted by the Worshipful Commander G. Curran, installing Bro. John Bedford Linley, who then invested his officers.

Guests of the Lodge, including ladies and non-masons, were treated to a tour of the school and grounds.

There was then a dedication of a banner for the RAM Lodge. Ladies and guests were invited into the Lodge and the number in the great hall totalled about 150.

The Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Chris Radmore GMRA entered in procession with the Provincial team. The ceremony was conducted without a problem, thanks to the rehearsal by the Prov GDC Roy Moth and the leadership of the PGM. The new banner was displayed and everybody in the great hall could not fail to be impressed by its splendour.

The afternoon and evening was concluded by a white table enjoyed by all.

### Harry Parsons July 8, 1941 to April 8, 2015

A very sad day for Hertfordshire Mark Masonry saw a large assembly of over 100 people at the West Herts Crematorium for the funeral of Harry Parsons on April 22nd. He passed away on April 8 after a brave and long fight with illness. Harry was the Provincial Grand Charity Steward and had performed his duty with much zeal and an impish grin. He had thrown himself whole-heartedly into Hertfordshire Marks' special charity, Hope for Tomorrow, and he will be remembered by his friends and Herts Mark men for many years to come. RIP Harry.



# Knights Templar

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Full information of The Knights Templar in Hertfordshire is on the Provincial website. [www.ktherts.com](http://www.ktherts.com)



## Provincial Grand Master Installed as a Knight of The Order

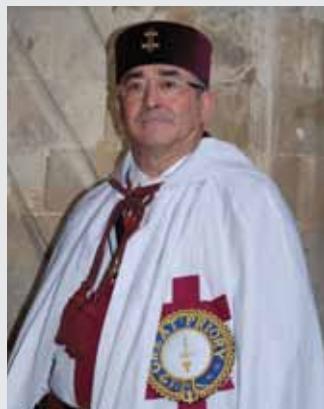
The Provincial Grand Master – RW Bro. Paul Gower, was installed as a Knight of The Order on Tuesday, September 15, at The Metropolitan Police Club in Bushey, under the Banner of The Charles Herbert Perram Preceptory No. 409.

## A New Provincial Vice Chancellor

At The Provincial Meeting in June, The Provincial Vice Chancellor, Philip Hoy, completed his term of office. Philip stepped in at very short notice when the intended officer suffered a heart attack. Philip took over the reins with his typical energy and enthusiasm. He was roundly congratulated and thanked for all the work that he has done in making such a success of his term. Philip is succeeded by our new Vice Chancellor – Alastair White. Alastair is already a very familiar face around the Province having headed up the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard for a number of years. Alastair has already made his mark on the Office and will be actively supporting all the Preceptory Registrars in The Province. We wish him well and hope he will enjoy many years of active service.



■ E Kt Alastair White



■ E Kt Philip Hoy



## The Annual Service of Praise at Waltham Abbey



■ The banners are paraded into the abbey

The Annual Service of Praise was held for a third year at Waltham Abbey, on May 10. The ancient abbey, which dates back to medieval times, is a marvellous example of Norman and Romanesque architecture. The abbey was again packed with Hertfordshire Knights and their families. The service is always a very memorable event in our calendar, and it was good to see it supported again so well. The service was followed by an excellent afternoon tea in the tea rooms, where the Dean was presented with a cheque for £500 towards the upkeep of the abbey.

## Stuart Preceptory No. 28 – 175 Years

On Monday, June 8, The Stuart Preceptory celebrated the 175th anniversary since the founding of The Preceptory, which was originally Consecrated as The Watford Encampment in 1840. More than 100 Knights assembled for the meeting at which a new Banner was also Dedicated. The Preceptory also presented a new Provincial Sword to the Provincial Prior, as well as a cheque for £1,750.



■ The cheque for £1,750 is presented to the Provincial Prior



■ The New Provincial Sword is tested

## An 'Away Weekend' in April/May 2016

Following the success of this year's Away Weekend to Warwick, next year's event is already planned. We will be going to the beautiful city of York. York is one of the most ancient and finest cities in England, and has a huge amount for all to see and experience. We hope we will attract at least as many members and their friends for this coming event. Full details are available from Mike Stanforth (01692 404383), who is organising.

## The Melita Preceptory No. 37 celebrates 200 Years

In the presence of their honoured guest, Timothy John Lewis, The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, the Knights of the Preceptory along with a massed assembly of visiting Knights celebrated 200 years since its Consecration. E.Kt. Bob Chilvers read a fascinating summary of the history of The Preceptory, of which every Knight present received a full bound copy. The Knights then assembled around the Sepulchre to be presented with The Bi-Centenary Warrant from The Supreme Grand Master.



## Preceptory of St. Alban

At the recent installation of the Preceptory of St.Alban which meets at Ashwell House, new Preceptor E.Kt. Robert Gurney, took over the reins. Also pictured, at the front, is E.Kt Charles Stancer who, after 40 years as an active Officer with the Province and the Preceptory, has decided to "stand back".



## 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY KT BANK HOLIDAY AWAY WEEKEND

Luxury Hotel & Banquet  
In a Fascinating Historic City

The Provincial Prior R.E.Kt Tony Lapsley would be delighted for you, your family & friends to attend the Herts KT 'Away Weekend' at the Mercure York, Fairfield Manor Hotel from Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016 - Bank Holiday Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016

Final bookings must be made by 28th February 2016.  
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An advertisement for the Hertfordshire Knights Templar. It features a knight in armor holding a shield with a red cross. The text reads: "Hertfordshire Knights Templar Provincial Prior Right Eminent Knight - Tony Lapsley". Below the knight, it says: "As a Christian Royal Arch Mason we welcome you to take your next step in Freemasonry and join The United Religious Military & Masonic Order of Knights Templar in Hertfordshire". At the bottom, it says: "Please contact E Kt. David Greenland, PGtHer For full information and your nearest Preceptory".

01582 516680 • 07889 904826  
david.c.greenland@ntlworld.com



## 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.

## Installation surprises



**At the Installation Convocation of Dacre Chapter No 2086 at The Cloisters, Letchworth, MEZ, E Comp Richard Varley installed his successor, E Comp Ben Clift.**

Having Obligated E Comp Ben he then invited Ben's father, E Comp Ian Clift, the immediate past Deputy Grand Superintendent, to occupy the First Principal's chair to complete the ceremony.

This was a great surprise to E Comp Ben.

E Comp Ian had one final surprise when he informed the new First Principal that in order to complete the ceremony he had to, "give his dad a hug".

This was greeted with spontaneous applause.

E Comp Ben was given another surprise when he attended the Installation Convocation of Stevenage Chapter No 7748.

The new First Principal, E Comp Eddie Rawlings, presented E Comp Ben with the Past First Principal Jewel given to his father, E Comp George Rawlings, when he came out of the chair of Dacre Chapter in 1973. This presentation was made on the condition that E Comp Ben wore it with pride when he left the chair next year and that it is passed on to all IPZs of Dacre Chapter in future.

E Comp Ben thanked E Comp Eddie and said he would ensure the condition was adhered to.



## Midsummer Lunch Party

An annual Midsummer party attracted 150 Companions, wives, partners and friends who sat down to a most enjoyable Sunday lunch among friends at the Metropolitan Police Sports Club, Bushey, on Sunday, June 21.

Games and a raffle raised over £1,100 for the 2019 Festival. Dancing followed the meal and a good time was had by all.



## Annual Convocation

The Annual Convocation of Herts RA takes place on Monday, November 2, when 34 Companions will receive promotions or reappointments to active rank and 64 Companions will receive promotions or appointments to past rank.

The Provincial Grand Scribe E, E Comp Paul Blakemore is putting down his pen after eight years (four as assistant Scribe E) and is to be promoted to 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, replacing E Comp Tim Coles, who will be the new Provincial Mentor.

E Comp Paul will be replaced by E Comp John Linley, who will be promoted from Provincial Assistant Grand Scribe E. E Comp Tim Huckle will take up the duties of Provincial Grand Treasurer from E Comp David Enock, who has served the Province extremely well for more than 13 years (five as de facto treasurer).

E Comp John Burnapp will be promoted to Provincial Grand Almoner and E Comp Tim Mitchell will be the Provincial Grand Organist.

Whether the promotion or appointment is to a Past or an Active rank, the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent sends his heartfelt thanks to all the Companions for supporting Royal Arch Freemasonry in general and of this Province of Happy Hertfordshire in particular.

## E Comp Keith Townsend

**Herts Freemason, E Comp Keith Townsend of Ravenscroft Chapter 2331 said a special thank-you to the hospital which helped save his life.**

He presented a cheque for £1,300 to Luton & Dunstable Hospital Trust as a token of his thanks for their dedication in restoring him to health after two heart attacks.

Since his second heart attack in 2014 Keith has been attending its cardiac rehabilitation unit, which works to build heart strength following cardiac arrest and raise awareness about heart health.

A staff member asked him to buy some raffle tickets saying the proceeds were to raise money to buy equipment such as heart rate monitors and models of hearts.

So Keith decided to raise money through various Masonic charity funds.

The Hertfordshire Provincial Royal Arch, Mark & Knights Templar and Icknield & Ravenscroft Chapters all contributed, and Keith himself donated a new music centre.

Sister Amanda Rankin, pictured left, said she was delighted with the donation as it "would make a real difference to those who attended the unit".

The cardiac department has grown significantly over the last 30 years, from one consultant in 1985 to six today.

The number of patients requiring its services has increased enormously as lifestyles and poor diet has led to more incidents of heart disease.



## Kingswood Chapter 100 and still going strong

**In May Kingswood Chapter, 2278, celebrated its centenary at The Cloisters, Letchworth.**

The Chapter was founded in April 1915 at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London with the Rt Hon Thomas Halsey, the then Grand Superintendent of Hertfordshire, heading the consecration team. So it was fitting that the current Grand Superintendent, E Comp James Sharpley, headed the Provincial team visiting Kingswood Chapter to celebrate 100 glorious years along with 72 members and guests, which included two Past Grand Superintendents – Sydney Tuck and John Ilott – and the past Deputy Grand Superintendent, Ian Clift.

The meeting included a thorough presentation of the history of the chapter, which contained details of how the name was chosen and a copy of the first year's accounts which included the cost of providing cigars and live music.

The Third Provincial Grand Principal, E Comp Tim Coles, then delivered an excellent oration on Royal Arch Masonry and the mentoring programme which is being rolled out over the next few months.

The festive board was a magnificent occasion, with a four course meal being enjoyed by all present.

## Chapter golf team

**Hertfordshire had two teams entered into an Inter-Provisional Golf Day in Peterborough in August.**

The Herts Team One came third in the competition with a total score of 73 points.

E Comp Philip Lever also won the singles competition with an impressive score of 43.

The two teams represented were Team One, David Hampton, Ian Clift and Philip Lever and Team Two, Sidney Tuck, John Bond and Jayendra Patel.

David Hampton said; "A good day's golf was had by all and concluded with a sumptuous carvery meal and the presentations."



■ Ian Clift, Phil Lever and David Hampton with E Comp Wayne Williamson, MEGS of Northants and Huntingdonshire

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