

Provincial News

The newsletter for Hertfordshire Freemasons



No. 48 Spring 2016



UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND

02

The Tercentenary
in Hertfordshire



05

Long Service Certificates



06

Provincial Curator's
Report



15

Charity donations



**Behind the scenes
at Herts Provincial
Regalia Service**

Page 04

LADIES NIGHT GIFTS

Call now and speak to our Gift Advisors
on 01279 726100 or 07714 292 930



- Large selection of Gifts
- Suits any budget
- A personal service
- Beautifully gift wrapped
- Stress-free shopping
- Delivery available

Come and visit the
One Stop Gift Shop

The Green Room
29 Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth
Hertfordshire. CM21 9AR

01279 726100
07714 292930
ktayalingtonvp@gmail.com
www.greenroomshop.co.uk



UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND

The Tercentenary in Hertfordshire

**James Harrison outlines plans for
celebration in our Province**

As well as the main events being organised in London and around the country, we will be celebrating 300 years of Grand Lodge in our own Province. A number of events are already being planned in Hertfordshire during the course of 2017. Further details will be made available via the Provincial website and in our next issue, but here is just a taster of what is being planned.

Service at the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Albans on Sunday, June 18, 2017.

This will follow the format of the very popular bi-annual services where members of the Province, with their friends and families, can join the Provincial Grand Master, his Executive, and the Dean of Saint Albans in a Service of Thanksgiving for the preservation of our wonderful Institution.

Grand Family Fete and Fun Day at the Royal Masonic School for Girls, Rickmansworth on Saturday, July 22, 2017.

Following the inaugural Family Fun Day being held this year, we are joining with the Province of Middlesex in 2017 to stage an even larger event, featuring a wide variety of stalls and attractions, with live music and fireworks later in the evening. To be held in the beautiful surroundings of the Royal Masonic School for Girls at Rickmansworth, this will be a wonderful day out for the whole family.

Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge.

Hertfordshire has been invited to participate in an Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge, together with Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire. Individuals or teams will compete in a number of different events, namely: Golf, Quiz, Bowls, Motorcycle run, Cycling, Running, Shooting, Fishing, Car rally, Boxing, Tug-of-War

Anyone interested in participating should email sportingchallenge@pgherts.org and their details will be passed on to the appropriate Provincial Representative.

Open days

Masonic centres in Hertfordshire are being invited to host open days, inviting members of the public to visit the building and have a guided tour of the Temple, with a short explanation of Freemasonry, and its aims and activities. This should give us a wonderful opportunity to better connect with the local community.

Celebratory banquet

To conclude the festivities in Hertfordshire, the Provincial Grand Master will preside over a Celebratory Banquet which will be held shortly after October 31, 2017. During the evening, edited highlights of the UGLE event at the Royal Albert Hall will be broadcast, enabling those who were not present to witness this very special and historic occasion.



PEPPER & PHILLIPS

HODDESDON'S ONLY INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

FUNERALS OF DISTINCTION

24 HOUR PERSONAL SERVICE

RAINBOW CHAPEL OF REST

FUNERAL PRE-PAYMENT PLAN

FUNERALS ARRANGED IN ALL AREAS

MONUMENTAL CONSULTANTS

FOR HELP & ADVICE
QUOTE REF: MM AND CONTACT MR. IAN PHILLIPS

01992 447171

64 HIGH STREET,
HODDESDON, HERTS





Co-ordinating the Tercentenary for UGLE: Keith Gilbert gives an update on planning for the celebrations

When the members of four London Lodges met on St John's Day in 1717, they could not have imagined the impact that meeting would have on the world of Freemasonry. These Lodges, which formed the first Grand Lodge in the world, met at the Goose and Gridiron Tavern in St Paul's Churchyard and had been in existence for many years. (Some of the members of our Province will remember W.Bro Geoff Goodman, who was instrumental in having a plaque placed close to the place where the tavern formally stood). Three of these Lodges still meet in Freemasons' Hall, London, and they are known today as the Time Immemorial Lodges. A chance meeting at the Annual Investiture Dinner in April 2015 resulted in me being given the opportunity to become the co-ordinator for the planning for UGLE events, together with responsibility for organising the brochure for the Tercentenary, versions of tie, jewel and other memorabilia

and liaising with Provinces and Districts. Based in London for several days each week, my work commitments have, in some respects, moved from Hertfordshire to London. Although the Tercentenary falls on June 24, 2017, it was agreed within UGLE to hold the major celebration on October 31 of that year, thereby giving a window of 16 months (from the start of our 300th year) for UGLE, Provinces and Districts to host events. Every Province and several Districts have already outlined their plans. Totalling over 80 events, the most popular are Services of Thanksgiving; many in the great Cathedrals across England and Wales including St Albans, as well as fetes and fun days, dinners and balls. UGLE-organised events include organ concerts in association with Supreme Grand Chapter, the opening of a garden at the National Arboretum, classic vehicle rallies across England, and a Grand Ball in Freemasons' Hall. On the steps of Freemasons' Hall, paving stones will be laid to recognise the sacrifices of those awarded the Victoria Cross. Sixty Freemasons who were awarded the Victoria Cross in the First World War will be named in the

engravings. This follows a national initiative and will take place on the anniversary of five Freemasons winning the VC on the same day in the month of April. The design of the Tercentenary Jewel has been agreed and will be exhibited in the June edition of Freemasonry Today with availability from June 24, 2016. It is probable Brethren may choose from versions in 18ct and 9ct gold, silver gilt and gilt metal. Perhaps surprisingly, Brethren who have heard of the gold versions seem particularly keen to acquire one as a collector's item. The introduction of a tie very different from the present Craft tie, could be perceived by the Brethren as being an imposition, so soon after the introduction of the present version. By having the existing Craft tie replicated with the only change being the replacement of the square and compasses with the new logo, there is a seamless move to the adoption of the

new logo. The present Craft tie will no longer be made and stocks will be run down. It is anticipated that the new tie will be worn by our Rulers at the June Quarterly Communication and then worn more widely from that date. The new version of the tie from a distance will look very similar to the present Craft tie. Hence, for the future both would be acceptable for wearing in Grand Lodge and elsewhere. It was announced at the Quarterly Communication in March that as part of the Tercentenary celebrations the Masonic Charitable Foundation will be asking Provinces to nominate national charities to receive substantial sums of money to support their future work. Preparations for the celebrations in the Royal Albert Hall and the associated theatrical extravaganza are well under way. Invitations have been sent to Grand Lodges recognised by UGLE. With around 4,200 places available, it is likely that Provinces will receive invitations on a 1/70 ratio with its membership. A streaming of the event will

The design of the Tercentenary Jewel has been agreed and will be exhibited in the June edition of Freemasonry Today with availability from June 24, 2016

be available, with a rough-cut version ready for that evening and a professionally edited copy on-line by the end of the week. The banquet following the event at the Royal Albert Hall will be

held at Battersea Evolution and those who are lucky enough to get one of the 2,000 places will be taken by coach and after dinner returned to transport hubs for onward movement to home. The special meal with Champagne and wines will be a fitting finale to what will be a special day. As we move in to the fourth century of Grand Lodge it will be fitting if we have memories and mementos of this very special time in our history.

Herts Provincial Regalia Service

by Keith Fothergill

Among the hundreds of Herts masons there will be many who are unaware of a bustling operation at our HQ in Fleet House. On the upstairs floor there is a veritable treasure trove of aprons, sashes, jewels, banners, furniture and even leisure wear. While some of the items are bought-in, others are actually manufactured on-site; and are of a very superior nature. Provincial Magazine editor Terry Mitchinson asked Keith to explain more: The idea to supply used regalia to the Freemasons of Hertfordshire was born in the



second half of 2007 amongst a mist of "it will never work", "there's no call for this kind of service" and "anyway where would the regalia come from".

I must admit the start was a bit slow. Our first month's gross takings were less than £20. But with the help and support of the executive, sales began to improve. After three months we started to get a steady flow of all sorts of usable stock and by the end of the year we were thinking, after many

enquiries, about starting to supply new regalia. It was decided to seek a reliable manufacturer and I dispatched myself to Pakistan and tied up a deal with a firm in Sialkot city.



Since our humble begins over eight years ago we have tried to improve the service we offer our members. We keep full stocks of regalia for Craft, Royal Arch, Mark, Royal Ark Mariner, Rose Croix, Royal and Select and many more. At the beginning of 2014 we decided to manufacture our own craft jewels and with the considerable help of my colleague John Humphrey, our resident engineer, we started on a year-long journey. In January 2015 we produced our first batch of jewels.



You might ask why didn't we stick with Toye Kenning. The reason is that with our jewels there is no waste, as we apply the rank to the jewel only when it is sold, unlike T/K, were we were buying stock from them that may never be sold. Our repair service has gained momentum and with our new machinery we offer a comprehensive service for aprons and ribbon replacements for breast jewels and apron badge attachments. We also offer a banner

service from the art work, through to Grand Lodge approval and finally to manufacture. We are also starting to produce complete P.M. breast jewels together with the lodge crest with no set-up charges. This year we are able to offer signature, minute, declaration and clearance books with your Lodge name, number and square and compasses printed, in gold, on the front, at no extra charge. Since the inception of the service we have made many changes to the way we operate. This year we started using a UK-based supplier. The quality is in keeping with any retail supplier in this country and to that end we will price and quality-match, or better, anything on the market.

We now have a comprehensive dispatch system which allows us, in most cases, to dispatch goods on a same-day basis. Our leisure wear service for polo and sweat shirts with the Hertfordshire crest or your own Lodge number or motif is available to order in time for the many Masonic events on offer this year. In conclusion the Fleet House Regalia Service and all our staff would like to thank the members of Hertfordshire for their continued support, without which we would not exist.

FMS RECOVERY

WE SPECIALISE IN THE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING OF ALL FERROUS AND NON-FERROUS METALS.

AUTOMOTIVE RECYCLING

FACTORY AND SITE CLEARANCE

WE PAY TOP PRICES FOR ALL FERROUS AND NON FERROUS METALS I.E. COPPER, BRASS, LEAD, ALUMINIUM, STAINLESS STEEL, CABLES, IRON AND STEEL.

40 YARD RORO BINS FOR FREE COLLECTION

We can provide an efficient collection service to our recycling centre near Watford.

The Yard, Oakridge Lane, High Cross, Watford. WD25 8BT

Either way just call Chris today on 07850 767253

We will be delighted to help.

www.fmsrecovery.co.uk

AUTHORISED DVLA ATF SITE

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REGISTERED

W.Bro George MacPherson



■ W.Bro Gilbert presenting the certificate to W.Bro MacPherson.

In Mimmine Lodge 4932 a 50-year Certificate of Service to Freemasonry was presented to W.Bro George MacPherson, PPJGW, by PProvGM Keith Gilbert. W.Bro MacPherson was Initiated into Mimmine Lodge on October 14, 1965 and received his certificate 50 years later to the very day.

He has been a stalwart of the Lodge and its LOI all through his years of membership, becoming its WM in 1978. He has occupied virtually all the different Lodge offices at various times and, in respect to his long service, was voted an honorary member of the Lodge in 2009.

One of his other great interests has been in choral singing and, with his baritone voice, has frequently given renditions of the Master's Song. W.Bro Gilbert and W.Bro MacPherson have been friends for many years and, in his own words, the PProvGM "jumped at the chance" of presenting the certificate.

At the Festive Board, W.Bro Gilbert was 'Dined Out' and occupied the same chair he had done as an Initiate 50 years earlier.

W.Bro Dr John Aupers



■ W.Bro. James Young presenting W.Bro. John Aupers, right, with the PGMs' certificate.

W.Bro Dr John Aupers was initiated by his father and raised by him, into Theobalds Lodge No. 4726 in the Province of Hertfordshire in 1966 – and 50 years on he celebrates his golden anniversary.

He was installed as Master in 1976, by his father.

He went on to serve as Charity Steward from 1978 until 1990,

and in 1990 again became WM. In 1983 he was appointed ProvGStwd and in 1985 received the office of PProvGReg. He became a member of the Hertfordshire Provincial Grand Stewards' Lodge in 1984 and became the Master in 2010. In 1994, W.Bro Aupers was one of the few to be exalted into the Hertfordshire Provincial Grand Stewards' Chapter and became MEZ in 2002.

On moving to Cheshire, in 2003, he joined St. John Lodge No. 104 and promptly became treasurer, an office he still holds. He was appointed PPSGW in the Cheshire Province.

In March W.Bro Aupers received from VW.Bro. James Young, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, a 50-year certificate from the PGM recording this achievement.

Long Service Certificates

Oct 2015 to Mar 2016

The following Brethren of the Province of Hertfordshire qualified for Long Service Certificates during the year to March, 2016, 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.

2015/16 60 year certificates

Oct 2015	Ronald Lyon	Kingswood	2278
Nov 2015	Frederick (Ted) Allard	Grand Design	7567
Jan 2016	Walter Instrall	Tudor	7280
Feb 2016	Ronald Williams	Arkley and Finchley	7720
Mar 2016	Jerome Joseph	Hartsbourne	9680

2015/16 50 year certificates

Oct 2015	John Landon	Old Fullarian	4698
Oct 2015	Robert Hudson	Kingswood	2278
Oct 2015	George MacPherson	Mimmine	4932
Oct 2015	Keith Johnstone	Old Elizabethans	7987
Oct 2015	Allan Robertson	Boundary	7695
Oct 2015	Anders Peter Tage	Prince Hamlet	9864
Nov 2015	Joshua (Jeffrey) Frankel	Dyrham Park	8906
Nov 2015	Terence Bentley	Old Verulamians	7988
Dec 2015	Geoffrey Masters	Latimer	4705
Feb 2016	Peter Leeman	Charles Ed Keyser	2518
Mar 2016	John Aupers	Theobalds	4726
Mar 2016	Robert Brassington	Cecil	449
Mar 2016	Arthur Gardner	Rickmansworth	2218
Mar 2016	John Paternoster	Old Elizabethans	7987
Mar 2016	Gilbert Altbach	Samson	1668
Mar 2016	Geoffrey Gough	North Watford	6918
Mar 2016	Leslie Sinclair	Hartsbourne	9680

W.Bro Jeffrey Frankel



Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro Dick Knifton, was at Dyrham Park Lodge No 8906 to present a 50 year certificate to W.Bro Jeffrey Frankel PPSGD, LGR. Lodge WM Ronnie Gold PPJGW is also pictured, right.

W.Bro Frankel became a Freemason in 1965 and has been a regular attendee and stalwart of the Lodge since its early days joining

shortly after its consecration in 1979.

It was announced at the festive board that the Masters List this year had raised in excess of £4,000 towards the RMTGB 2019 Festival.

Provincial Curator's Report

The collections and archive continue to grow with generous gifts from Lodges, Chapters and individuals. The jewel collection alone over the past few months has greatly benefitted from some 300 additional items. However, more is welcome, especially for the Lodge and Chapter archive files. Another item that we are short of is Masonic china and pottery. I continue to stress that the museum, library and archives deal with all orders and many are still surprised to find there is an individual archive file for every unit of every Order in the Province. I make no apology for repeating yet again; please do not dispose of anything without asking me first or by bringing it in to Fleet House. Naturally we have been extremely busy on finalising the 2017 Provincial Heritage Project, that being the recording and photographing

of every banner and standard in the Province. We are now making the last few additions and carrying out the huge task of transferring the data to an attractive website and checking the accuracy. We will be shortly contacting all units to allow them to view their entry and to make any comments they wish. Visits by members and their ladies to the museum have increased and are very welcome. It is always advisable to phone first if making a journey to ensure I am here and the rooms are not being used for meetings. For some time I have wanted a 'Masonic Ball' watch fob or ladies necklace. One was donated only last week and is now displayed. Also displayed is a gold ladies pendant with the square and compasses over an open VSL, which we assume to have been a Ladies Night gift of 1980. A rather gruesome item



donated is a Mark members breast jewel with an engraving in the centre of a severed human head pierced on to a hand held sword. We are hoping to get this identified at the forthcoming meeting of the Masonic Museum Curators. Still with the Mark another recent item is a beautiful miniature Past Master's jewel of Watford Lodge 241 with nine amethysts set in the square. The Provincial Grand Master has been presented with a copy of the famous painting of Ruspini leading a column of children in the former Grand Lodge by the RMTGB, in gratitude for the efforts made by the Province in supporting the 2019 Festival. This now hangs in Fleet House. One item needed rather urgently for the next Grand Lodge temporary exhibition on the Royal Masonic Hospital is a photo or picture of Colonel Sir Charles Henry

Brabazon Heaton-Ellis CBE, of Wyddial Hall, 1864-1945, the first Master of Royston Lodge and the prime mover in getting the Hospital built. Naturally we have searched and looked at the Internet. Connections are Herts county councillor, JP, Deputy Lieutenant, Malmesbury Lodge 3156 and Governor of Haileybury College. If anyone can locate a picture, please let me know right away. Regarding the requirement of the Book of Constitutions for every Lodge to keep a detailed Membership Register of both past and present members mentioned in the last newsletter report, the Fleet House regalia service can now supply these gold blocked with the Lodge or Chapter name in about seven to 10 days. Finally as always, if you have not yet visited Fleet House, do come and see us. After all, museums everywhere thrive on its visitors.





Character Windows and Doors 2005 Ltd

Tel ~ 01992 623640 Mob ~ 07958 368492

Call for Free Quotation and Colour Brochure

- Excellent quality at realistic prices
- Amazing choice of styles and colours
- Full 10 year Fensa backed guarantee
- Delivery and Installation within 14 days
- New slim line profile
- Fensa registration No 28294

John Goddard

On behalf of Character Windows and Doors 2005 Ltd

Latest news from PMKC

Malcolm Andrews

Tel: 01494 433 851 • E-mail: chairman@pmkcfriends.co.uk

Thank you to all those who responded to my request in the last issue for another quiz setter. Gavin Dare, of Walnut Tree Lodge No. 5192, has agreed to cover this job for us. Many thanks Gavin. We look forward to working with you on the quarterly quiz nights.

Many may be unaware that, at the end of October, Elizabeth Corbett left the home, having been promoted to a new post of Regional Manager M25 Central Area. In January Beverley Roberts was promoted to home manager and Nina Stephens (who has been at PMKC since it opened in 1994 and has covered most roles over the years) became deputy. I'm sure you will all join me in congratulating them and wishing them well in their new roles.

Before Elizabeth was promoted we were discussing the idea of transforming the enclosed garden that serves Jersey Wing (the dementia unit) into a street scene. Beverley and Nina are keen to progress this project. The basic idea is that it should be a high street scene with mock shop fronts, a bus stop, pedestrian crossing, an old style red telephone box, a police box (who remembers them?) and maybe even an old car. Other suggestions would be most welcome. Does anyone know where we can source the things I have listed and who can manufacture mock shop fronts?

The Friends have already bought the lamp columns and provisional quotes for the clearing of the area and laying of a new safety surface have been obtained. We also have an offer from a qualified electrician for laying cables for the street lights and any other electrical works.

As this is a major project we will be looking to the Masonic community for help and that includes any Order in Freemasonry, not only the Craft. Perhaps your Lodge, Chapter, etc., either on your own or with one or more others, could sponsor one part of the project? Further information will be circulated in due course, but if you have any suggestions or questions, my contact details are below.

And one last request: Is there anyone out there who has a wood-turning lathe and can help out Jean Craddock (some will know her husband, Arthur). She needs somebody to make candlesticks for sale at the craft fair we will be holding in November. Please contact me and I'll pass the message on. Many thanks to you all for your continued support of the Association of Friends and thus Prince Michael of Kent Court. I can assure you it is fully appreciated by everyone at the home.

Calling all photographers

Do you enjoy photography and are you willing to give a little time helping your Province?

A picture speaks a thousand words and helps get more events into the Provincial News.

To help cover these we are looking for volunteers who will be willing to attend Masonic events around Hertfordshire, take suitable photos, and then pass them on to the Provincial Communications

Officer W.Bro Darren Bending.

He said: "The only remuneration we can offer is our thanks, the chance to have your photos seen across the Province – and the gratifying testament of a job well done."

Anyone interested should email your name, details of which Masonic orders you are in, and where you live to W.Bro Darren Bending, at dazza@bending27.wanadoo.co.uk

Golden Ticket winner

Winner of the Golden Ticket draw was Herts Scots.

A full Executive Team has been confirmed and will perform a ceremony at the lodge meeting on Friday, June 24.

The winning ticket was drawn by the Provincial Grand Master at last year's 4090 meeting.

Grand Lodge meeting



It's good to see Lodge members living up to the Happy Hertfordshire image.

Mark Page sent us in this picture of W.Bro Richard John, Worshipful Master

of Park Street Lodge 8556 surrounded by other Lodge members in the Grand Connaught Rooms following the annual Provincial Grand Lodge meeting.

FENCING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

Lewis Tyler & Sons provide for all fencing needs – Agriculture, Domestic and Industrial



- All Close Board
- Gates/Trellis
- Sheds/Panels
- Special Styles and Sizes
- Local Delivery
- Pressure Treatment Service

**FOR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE-
CALL FOR A FREE QUOTATION**

Lewis Tyler & Sons Fencing Ltd

Estate Saw Mill
Mill Green
(A414 between
Hatfield & Hertford)
www.lewistylers.com



tel: 01707 268523 Fax: 01707 275472
Email: lewistylers@btconnect.com

W.Bro Ron celebrates 60 years in the Craft



It was a proud moment as members of Arkley and Finchley Lodge No. 7720 watched on while W. Bro Ron Williams was presented with a certificate to mark his 60 years in Freemasonry by APMG James Harrison, who is also a member of the Lodge. W. Bro Ron was initiated in 1956

by his father, into the Finchley Lodge No. 5031, which amalgamated with Arkley Lodge in 2008. APMG Michael Cooper was also on hand to offer his congratulations. Our picture shows them with newly installed Master, W. Bro Philip Hanabuss.

100th Birthday celebration



Members of the Tree of Life Lodge celebrated a very special occasion at their September meeting.

For they said a very happy forthcoming 100th birthday to W. Bro Leon de Swarte, whose centenary was the following month.

During the meeting a letter from the PGM Paul Gower was read out.

He congratulated W. Bro de Swarte on "a notable anniversary" and apologised for not being there in person, having to attend the Quarterly Communication at the United Grand Lodge of England.

The letter was then presented to the 'birthday boy'.

Lodge secretary W. Bro Philip Mitchell told Provincial News: "We also gave him a birthday card and a cake at

the Festive Board.

"A retrospect of Leon's life with a Powerpoint presentation was given by his son, W. Bro Tony de Swarte which was fascinating.

"W. Bro Leon then gave a short speech at the Festive Board which was presented with gusto and enjoyed by everyone present.

"We can learn a lot from our senior brethren."



Banner dedication and support for the 2019 Festival



Priory Lodge No. 5152 dedicated its new Banner at Ashwell House, St. Albans.

The ceremony was performed by an Executive Team lead by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro. David Ferris PSGD, RW Bro Roger Croome PSGD,

Provincial Senior Grand Warden and W. Bro John Norris, Provincial Junior Grand Warden.

W. Bro Anthony Wright PAGDC, Provincial Grand Chaplain, also attended and gave "a most interesting address to the Brethren".

W. Bro Keith Dunnett PADGC, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, directed, assisted by W. Bro Barrie House, Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.

W. Bro Nicholas Murdoch, Provincial Grand Organist, provided the music.

Other Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge at the meeting were W. Bro Bill Sharpley, Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, W. Bro Michael Ling, Provincial Grand Standard Bearer and W. Bros Robin Crozier and Gary Sereno, Provincial Grand Stewards.

Priory Lodge was consecrated in 1930 and its original banner was dedicated soon afterwards.

This now retired banner, has been mounted and framed and will hang in the robing room at Ashwell House.

Brethren raised the money to buy a new Banner and their generosity was amplified when they were able to make a substantial contribution to the 2019 Festival Appeal.

At the Festive Board the Worshipful Master of Priory Lodge, W. Bro Terry Hannocks thanked the APMG and his Executive Team for their "magnificent ceremony and contribution to proceedings in the Temple".

He then presented a cheque, on behalf of Priory Lodge, for £1,000 to the APMG towards the 2019 Festival Appeal. When combined with other money donated at the meeting, the total came to £1,340.

The APMG thanked the Worshipful Master and Brethren of Priory Lodge for their generosity and hospitality saying it had been a pleasure as he and his team had thoroughly enjoyed participating. He recalled that he attended Priory Lodge's Banner Re-Dedication in 2005 in his, then, capacity as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Tree of Life Lodge

Members of the Tree of Life Lodge No 9324 at their December meeting staged a double third, sharing the ceremony with Past Masters.

The Festive Board table collection raised enough money to buy 71 chickens for Borehamwood needy families for Xmas via the BES Hardship Fund.

Provincial Almoner's report

Simon Cooper PAGDC

Back in autumn 2015, Visiting Volunteers were trained to go out into the Masonic communities within our Province to help support

Lodge Almoners in completing the charities applications for the support of our membership and their dependants.

This pilot scheme is now up and running. If a lodge member is in need of support you do not necessarily need to go through your Lodge Almoner if there are sensitive issues you may wish to keep confidential. You can come directly to me hertsprovgalmoner@gmail.com or contact Freemasonry direct on 0800 035 60 90 or email help@freemasonrycares.org which is completely confidential and they are on the end of the

phone to help and guide you to the person who is qualified to listen to your concerns and offer advice.

From April 1, 2016 the charities will have merged and become known as the Masonic Charitable Foundation. This will not affect you as members, but will make our charities more efficient in serving



us along with monies that are distributed outside of the Masonic community.

I am pleased to see that the RMTGB 2019 Festival is being supported by the Brethren of Hertfordshire. I, as the Provincial Grand Almoner, see on a weekly basis the fantastic support that the charity provides to our children and grandchildren. Please continue to support this worthy cause.

Hero crew remembered



The 10-man crew of an American Liberator bomber that crashed on August 12, 1944, killing all on board has again been honoured in a Service of Remembrance.

It was attended by Provincial Grand Master Paul Gower, Deputy Provincial Grand Master James Young and Assistant Provincial Grand Masters David Ferris, Jim Harrison, Jay Patel and Michael Cooper.

Organised by the Hertfordshire Lodge of the Legion the service took place in October at The Liberator Memorial, Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt.

The United States Air Force bomber which was flying over Cheshunt on route to a mission in Northern France got into difficulties and it is thought the crew steered the bomb-laden aircraft clear of the town to avoid a catastrophic disaster that would have cost many local citizens their lives.

As well as many Masons and members of the public, others at the service included the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Robert Gordon, the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire Jonathan Trower, the Mayor of Broxbourne Cllr Martin Greensmyth, Major Jeffrey Beard of the USAF and an Honour Guard and Firing Party from the USAF based at RAF Mildenhall.

A 27-minute video of the service, produced by Dave Hewitt, can be found on YouTube <https://youtu.be/xgsV3vmuZ4E> Details of this year's service will also be on the Provincial website.

Appointments and Promotions 2016

By the time this spring edition of Provincial News reaches you, Brethren who are to be appointed to or promoted in Provincial rank at September's Annual Meeting, will have received their offer letters. Hence it is timely to remind Brethren that as additional ranks were introduced last year (highlighted in the table below), an advancement, say, of two ranks up the promotion ladder in 2016 is unlikely to result in an offer of the same rank as it might have in 2014 or earlier. Comparisons therefore are not straightforward.

PAST RANKS AS NOW AWARDED

- 1 Senior Warden
- 2 Junior Warden
- 3 Registrar
- 4 Sword Bearer
- 5 Superintendent of Works
- 6 Deputy Registrar
- 7 Deputy Superintendent of Works
- 8 Senior Deacon
- 9 Junior Deacon
- 10 Assistant Registrar
- 11 Assistant GDC
- 12 Assistant Sword Bearer
- 13 Assistant Superintendent of Works
- 14 Standard Bearer
- 15 Pursuivant

This change was made for a number of reasons:

- Time from Initiation to the Master's chair has reduced over recent years
- As a consequence Brethren can receive a first appointment in their mid-30s
- Such a Brother may be eligible for five promotions by their 70th birthday
- Grand Lodge restricts the number of Past Junior and Senior Grand Wardens each year

All, or some, of the above have resulted in a considerable number of Brethren achieving a comparatively high Provincial Rank at an age where they may potentially have two or three more promotions in their Masonic career. Accordingly the Provincial Executive took the decision to stretch the list of ranks offered to Brethren in an attempt to alleviate the problem and to ensure that Brethren continue to be recognised for their contributions. It should also be remembered that all appointments to and promotions in Provincial Grand Rank are wholly at the discretion of the Provincial Grand Master.



HERONGATE HEATING & PLUMBING CONTRACTORS

31 HERONGATE ROAD,
CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE EN8 0TU

Telephone: 01992 466 450
Email: herongateheat@hotmail.com

Ashwell House 500 Club Special Draw Winner



Organisers of the Ashwell House 500 club are urging more Masons to support the cause. Recently Ashwell House directors gathered as board chairman W. Bro Geoff Bedford presented a cheque to the winner of the 500

Club's Christmas Draw, W. Bro Alick Jarvis.

Over the years members who have taken out shares in the club have helped with many improvements at the centre.

Among projects the 500 Club has funded has been the refurbishment of seating in the bar, 20 officers collars, kneeling stools, Warden's columns, replacement chairs and candles in the Temple, Royal Arch robes and surplices, along with providing various pictures for the building.

W. Bro Jack Willekens, Secretary of the Ashwell 500 Club, said there were still ongoing needs to be addressed and urged all those who enjoyed the facilities of Ashwell House to "show their support by taking out shares in the Ashwell House 500 Club".

One share is £13 a year and two shares £25. Half the proceeds are returned in prize money in monthly draws and the other half to the fund to provide improvements to the facilities at Ashwell House Masonic Centre. Application forms are available in the bar or from the Secretary of Ashwell House.

Grand ranks

At the Annual Investiture on April 27 the following Brethren will be honoured by the Grand Master with promotion in or appointment to Grand Rank:

THROUGH LONDON METROPOLITAN OR OTHER PROVINCES

First Appointments:
Mark Greenburgh: PAGReg
Michael Plunkett: PGStB

THROUGH HERTFORDSHIRE

First Appointments:
Michael Cooper: PJGD
David Hampton: PAGDC
John Humphrey: PAGDC
Christopher Noble: PAGDC

Promotions:
Colin Hellyer: From PGStB to PAGDC

Promotions:
Stephen Fenton: From PGSwdB to PJGW
John Vincent: From PJGD to PGSwdB
Jack Joseph: From PAGDC to PJGD
Grahame Lovett: From PAGDC to PJGD.

Sky dive



Dacorum Lodge Junior Warden Martin Stannard is a 'chuteing' star!

For when his daughter Sam decided to do a second skydive he jumped at the chance to join her.

Martin, 55, who lives in Stevenage,

is married with two grown up children and a grandson. He works as head of quality & compliance for a clothing company

importing underwear and nightwear.

He told Provincial News: "I spend a good deal of my time out of the country in places like India and China, so being in a plane is not unusual for me. Although I am normally dreaming of a seat in Row 1 as opposed to jumping out of the back door!"

"My daughter Sam did a

skydive last year for her charity, and when she said she was doing it again with two of her friends I jumped at the chance to join her. "We were very lucky to have excellent weather with clear skies, and although a little

nervous just as I was about to be pushed out of the plane, it was an amazing and exhilarating experience that I would definitely repeat again.

"I can thoroughly

recommend it to anyone seeking an adrenalin buzz." Martin has raised about £640 for the RMTGB towards the 2019 Festival.

He added: "I would like to thank all at Dacorum Lodge 8631 for their support, and am pleased that I may appear in the next Charity Steward's report and not that of the Almoner!"



Evolution
Tree Works
Ltd

The tried and
tested tree
company

At Evolution Tree Works we provide a high quality tree surgery service, including crown reductions, pruning to BS3998, and stump removals.

Established in 1993, our experienced and qualified arborists have gained a reputation for reliability, honesty and excellence.

Our tree works service includes:

- Specialists in large and ornamental trees
- Fully insured
- Pruning to BS 3998
- Recycling 95% of tree waste
- Free no obligation quote
- Local authority approved
- Qualified tree surgeons
- Crown reductions
- Tree removal
- Stump removal
- Private homes and public spaces

Suppliers of processed Firewood & Mulch

T: 01462 637357 • M: 0796 805 7010



Light Blues Club



The Fleet House Light Blues Club of Hertfordshire held its inaugural meeting at Mayflower Place in Hertingfordbury. It proved a great success.

Brethren arrived early for bar reception and networking; then it was into the dining hall for a superb meal, high spirits and social interaction.

Once everybody had finished their food, club chairman W.Bro Darren Bending PPAGDC, introduced himself, the club, its purpose and the rest of the committee.

Secretary, Bro Neil Mottershead,

gave a short history about how the club came into existence. It was then the turn of the guest speakers.

W.Bro Brian Tierney PGSD, PProvGM gave a potted history of the Province.

E. Comp Tim Coles PAGDC, PProv3rdGPrin, gave a thought-provoking update on the future of Mentoring for the Royal Arch in Hertfordshire.

Highlight of the evening was the appearance of Fleet House Light Blues Club Joint Presidents, the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Paul Gower and the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E Companion James Sharpley.

Both gave short talks on their respective Masonic journeys, focusing especially on the early years.

W.Bro Bending told Provincial News: "Both talks were honest, sincere and heartfelt, with a little bit of light-hearted humour, which gave a meaningful insight to all the Brethren as to how they could make the most of their Masonry in Happy Hertfordshire.

"A few of the more senior Brethren remarked how lucky the audience were to be treated to such a unique insight into the respective Masonic careers of the PGM and MEGS. It was a unique treat."

Following coffee, cheese and biscuits, W. Bro Bending thanked all those who had helped and attended before Brethren retired to the bar.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

May 7 – Visit and tour of Freemasons' Hall and Museum, Gt Queen Street, London, WC2. Members, guests, family and friends

July 9 – Royston Caves, Royston, Herts. Members, guests, family and friends

August 6 - St Albans Abbey, St Albans, Herts. Members, guests, family and friends

October 29 – FHLBC AGM, Radlett, Herts - Members and Masonic guests only

Visit the Fleet House Light Blues Club website for more information: www.fhlbc.co.uk



Tring supports the Pepper Foundation and Herts Air Ambulance



During his year as Master, W.Bro Geoff Ransley selected the Pepper Foundation and Herts Air Ambulance as his chosen charities. A

very successful Ladies Night enabled the total of £1,500 to be shared equally between them.

The Pepper Foundation is a hospice-at-home service providing palliative care to children with life-threatening or life-limiting illnesses throughout Herts and Bucks.

Herts Air Ambulance works in tandem with its sister operation in Essex running a free life-saving helicopter emergency medical service throughout the two counties.



W.Bro Geoff is shown presenting the cheques to both charities, with Bro Derek Beard, Senior Warden, accompanying the Pepper presentation.

Masonic Organists day



Attendees at the Organists Day at Freemasons' Hall

Thirty-seven Metropolitan/Provincial Craft and Chapter Grand Organists came together at Freemasons' Hall, London, in February for an UGLE-sponsored specialist "organ day", concentrating on the refurbished Willis organ in the Grand Temple.

Responding to an invitation from the Grand Organist, W. Bro Paul Bowen, attendees

were given a detailed practical lecture-demonstration from W. Bro Dr. Simon Lindley, PGOrg, which not only displayed the versatility of the instrument, but also gave tips on how best to accompany masonic meetings in the Grand Temple.

After lunch, those who wished to "have a go", were given time to play the instrument.

Attendees were also given the opportunity of finding out how best to use the new single manual organs which are in other Temples at Freemasons' Hall. Brethren very much appreciated the opportunity to play this fine instrument and had an excellent time.

Lodges and Chapters in the Province are being urged to support this year's Family Fun Day. They are invited to take a fundraising stall. Ideas include tombola, smash the plates, darts competitions, and fund raising challenges. There is a £40 booking deposit refundable in full on attendance.

Hertford Lodge

The use of Gift Aid envelopes at meetings can really boost our donations.

Provincial Charity Steward Chris Noble said: "Hertford

Lodge 403 uses Gift Aid envelopes and has raised an amazing £696.25 for the RMTGB, plus £174.06 in Gift Aid."



90 Years Of Halsey Hall Lodge

Brethren of Halsey Hall Lodge have been celebrating their 90th anniversary.

Members started the year with a jubilee dinner dance at Halsey Hall, Cheshunt, where they were joined by their ladies and friends.

The PGM and his lady also joined the evening's festivities. All money raised will be donated to the 2019 Festival for the RMTGB.

At the Lodge's installation meeting in November, long-standing Secretary W.Bro John Crown swapped the admin desk for the Master's Chair.

Members were joined by ProvSGW RW.Bro Roger Croome, PProProvGM (Middx) and his escort W.Bro Barrie House. Following the installation, the ProvSGW was presented with a cheque for £1,000 towards the 2019 Festival on behalf of the Lodge by Charity Steward W.Bro Allan Lean.

The newly installed Master said he was looking forward to his year, but is also looking forward to sitting in the IPM's chair, a duty he gave up 23 years ago to take over as Secretary.

Temple Bar White Table

Back in February about 50 masons, non-masons, partners, families and friends met for a white table meeting of Temple Bar Lodge. The Lodge met briefly and was closed before W.Bro Robert Asser, Lodge DC, gave an interesting presentation on the tenets of freemasonry with particular focus on our charitable activities, both Masonic and civil. This was received with acclamation from those present.

All sat down to a fine dinner during which a presentation was made by cancer patient and PM, W.Bro Michael Howarth, on behalf of the Lodge, to Nurse Kim Jaggs for £4,200 in favour of the Chase Farm Colo-Rectal Cancer Unit. Nurse Jaggs replied thanking the brethren for the generous donation which would go to help so many patients at the unit.

After dinner and a raffle, those present were entertained by Master Elect David Short and two ladies of his theatre company with a selection of vocal favourites.

The evening was enjoyed by all. WM Mick Ciuffa said he was pleased with the success of the evening particularly the interest of two, possibly three people in becoming members of the Craft and the amount donated to "such a worthwhile local charity".



FOR ALL YOUR SECURITY NEEDS

- Domestic Alarms
- Commercial Alarms
- Audible and Monitored
- Panic Alarms
- Pet Friendly Alarms
- Locks
- Security Lights
- Access Control
- CCTV & Safes
- Maintenance Contracts
- Take over Existing Systems



www.m25security.co.uk
01923 441117

Free no obligation quotation and risk assessment

M25 SECURITY
PROTECTING YOUR PROVINCE

Order of Royal and Select Masters

The big news in the Royal and Select District of Hertfordshire is the consecration of a new Council which will meet at Sawbridgeworth.

The Council is called Sæbeorht (pronounced See-bert) 330. It is the last consecration by the Grand Master, Most Illustrious Companion J. Alan Wright, being eight days before his retirement. Its first Thrice Illustrious Master is Illustrious Companion David Boore. If you are interested in joining a



Royal and Select Masters Council meeting at Sawbridgeworth please contact the District Grand Recorder Illustrious Companion Colin Taylor at colin.taylor7@ntlworld.com.

At the last meeting of Ninth Arch Council the District Grand Master,

Right Illustrious Companion Colin Hellyer, was pleased to present Grand Council Certificates to Companions Keith Huddlestone and James Sharpley. Existing members will notice from the photograph that the certificates are of a new design. At the same meeting Companions Allan Atkinson and Hugh Oram were admitted as Select Masters and are seen in the photograph with the new Thrice Illustrious Master, Illustrious Companion Trevor Clarke, the Deputy Master, Companion Neil Phillips and

the Principal Conductor of the Work, Companion Colin Harris. Towards the end of last year we held our regular social at Cheshunt together with



the United Orders of the Temple and of Malta. This was a great success and we have already booked the date for this year's fundraiser which will be a quiz night – again to be held at Cheshunt – on Saturday, November 18.

Our summer luncheon, which always proves a sell-out, will again be held at the Ardmore House Hotel at St Albans on Sunday, June 12. This year's theme is 'The RSM in Hertfordshire celebrates the Queen's 90th year in Red, White and Blue'. The District Grand Master has licensed "free expression within that theme, so heaven knows what will result. Last year's theme was waistcoats and you can see that many colourful examples were on show! Three of the attendees went to the same website for their purchases, see the front and rear views in the photos.



Make a note of both those dates for your diaries. All are welcome at our social events.

Cryptic Masonry is growing in Hertfordshire and if you would like to join us please contact the District Grand Recorder Colin Taylor at colin.taylor7@ntlworld.com

The Liaison Grand Officer Scheme: 'We're here to lend a helping hand'

In October 2015, the Liaison Grand Officers' Scheme was started in Hertfordshire, to improve communications between individual Lodges and the Provincial organisation, and to provide assistance if needed.

The scheme has started very well, with 41 Grand Officers already assigned to 129 Lodges, which they will visit on a voluntary basis. By the end of next year, the plan is to have a Liaison Officer assigned to every Lodge.

Scheme co-ordinator, and an LGO himself, Colin Taylor, wrote the following notes about what it means to be an LGO.

'All Lodges are Private Lodges. The Executive cannot interfere with the way Lodges are run, unless it goes against the Book of Constitutions.

What LGO's are not there to do is to "spy" on the Lodge, or tell them what they are doing wrong, or to criticise them.

However, by maintaining a regular contact with the Lodge they can become a conduit between the Lodge and the Provincial Executive. For instance:

- If a Lodge requires a visit from the Provincial Almoner, Charity Steward or Mentor, the LGO can arrange it.
- If a Lodge is in need of a candidate, the LGO may be able to help.
- If the Lodge wants to amalgamate with another Lodge the LGO can assist.
- The LGO should be a friend to the Lodge and, if asked, can give advice and guidance.

The LGO will send a report to the Scheme co-ordinator following his visits, passing on any concerns or questions. In this way, better information about the Lodge can be gathered more regularly, thereby :

- Improving awareness of the progress of a Lodge and its members.
- Building a meaningful relationship between the Lodge and the Province.
- Offering an opportunity for an early intervention if required.
- Offering opportunities to witness the success of Brethren other than just at Installation.
- Allowing the Provincial Executive to form a more rounded view of the whole of the Province.

When a Liaison Officer visits your Lodge, please make him welcome, and help us to work with you to ensure the health and continued development of our Lodges, our Province and our Craft.'

plumbing & gas engineers
Page
maintenance ltd

Water Safe
QUALITY ASSURED

safe
563034

Gas Boiler & gas appliance servicing, installation and repairs cylinders etc, heating system problems inc powerflushing Dripping taps and internal plumbing issues, also solar thermal repairs. Contact Mark Page for further assistance

01582 674829

www.plumbingandgas.org.uk
mark@plumbingandgas.org.uk

9 Grovebury Close, Dunstable, LU6 3NQ

W. Bro. Frank Luff, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur

War veteran W. Bro Frank recently received his Légion d'Honneur insignia from the French government in recognition of his services during the D Day landings in 1944.

He had joined the Local Defence Volunteers, which became the Home Guard, as a youngster and was assigned to the commando unit.

As soon as he was old enough he joined the Royal Navy.

After training as a signaller he was sent to HMS Hilary, a small former cruiser that had been converted to take landing craft and to be a

headquarters/communications vessel for special operations and invasion forces.

Frank served aboard HMS Hilary during the Allied invasions of Sicily; Italy (Salerno) and, most famously, when she was headquarters, command and communications ship for Rear Admiral Vian for Juno Beach on D-Day, providing a guiding light through the minefields for the landing and remaining on



station during the first couple of weeks following the landings.

At various times Field Marshall Montgomery, Lord Louis Mountbatten and King George VI went on board.

Being such a vital yet effectively defenceless vessel (its sole 4-inch gun having buckled the deck on its one and only test firing) the crew relied upon covering fire provided by HMS Belfast, which is now moored on the Thames.

His ship survived the D-Day landings with various amounts of damage and was eventually relieved and sent back to England.

Most of the crew were allowed shore leave, but Frank had to stay on board on duty alongside the captain, Sir James Paget. Unfortunately, during the night, despite his quick thinking in using spotlights to illuminate the ship's side as a warning, HMS Hilary was rammed by a departing Allied troopship, locking the two vessels irreparably together. Frank was next transferred as a last-

minute replacement to HMS Starling which was to be deployed for the planned invasion of Japan.

While on brief shore leave prior to embarkation he proposed to and married his young lady, all within four days, although he was just 21 and Gwen was only 18 at the time.

He had requested a leave extension for a honeymoon but this was refused so he returned to his ship on the following Monday and sailed off for Japan. While en-route to Japan the Americans had dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki and Japan surrendered, so Frank's ship was ordered to return to England.

Last year Frank and Gwen celebrated their 70th (Platinum) wedding anniversary.

For 50 years he has been a member of the scout movement, the Royal Naval Association and Normandy Veterans Association.

In Masonry he has been a member of Aldenham Lodge for over 40 years, and a Past Master of the Lodge as well as Past Master of Rosewalk Lodge of MMM.

Diamond Service Certificate



It was a diamond jubilee celebration with a difference at Michael's Lodge No 2136.

Back in April, 1954, Bernard Engel was initiated into Lodge Tullibardine-in-the-East, No. 1118. This is a Malaysian Lodge, under the Scottish Constitution.

He achieved Grand Rank as

Chief Inspector of Lodges North Malaysia.

He joined St Michael's Lodge in 2004.

Secretary W. Bro Derrick Bailes told Provincial News:

"When I became aware of his service, I contacted the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and he was able to trace Bernard's record and confirm he was eligible for a Diamond Service Certificate.

"He also contacted the Lodge Secretary in Selangor, Malaysia, asking if they would cover the cost of the certificate which they did."

As W. Bro Engel is now profoundly deaf and cannot follow the ceremonies, he has been unable to attend ceremonies.

But the lodge's recent meeting was an exception.

He was presented with the Diamond Certificate by lodge Grand Officer W. Bro Don McGregor.

He also received gifts from Malaysia including the 2013 Centenary Book of the Tullibardine-in-the-East Lodge, a Lodge Centenary Jewel, the 2016 Centenary Book of the District Grand Lodge of the Middle East and the Centenary Jewel to commemorate that event.

Our picture shows W. Bro Bernard Engel on the right with W. Bro Don McGregor.



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

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 veteran 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 APMG W. Bro Keith Gilbert.

Various collections and donations boosted the RMTGB 2019 Festival by £2,000.



■ WM Daniel Austin, Initiate Bro. Craig Silver and Chris Noble



■ Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Officers and members of the newly amalgamated Lodge at the close of the ceremony prior to the Festive Board.

Amalgamation of Mimmine and Bergnet Lodges

The amalgamation of Mimmine Lodge No. 4932 with its daughter Bergnet Lodge No. 6841 took place in January.

Assistant Provincial Grand Master W.Bro. Dick Knifton, assisted by the Provincial Grand Wardens, the Provincial Grand Chaplain, the Provincial Grand Secretary, the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and other Provincial officers, carried out a most memorable ceremony.

About 75 Masons almost filled the large Temple at Ashwell House.

Although this was not the first Amalgamation ceremony in Hertfordshire, or elsewhere, it is thought to be probably the first time a mother and daughter Lodge have re-united after so many years. Mimmine was consecrated in 1927 and Bergnet in 1949. Thus the two Lodges have a combined history of over 150 years of service to Freemasonry in general and Hertfordshire in particular.

With many Lodges experiencing falling membership numbers amalgamation is considered a better alternative to closure, particularly when a mother/daughter situation produces such a harmonious "marriage".

In his opening address, W.Bro. Dick Knifton remarked that "early recognition by the Brethren of Bergnet Lodge, that their circumstances were proving difficult, prompted an approach. And in Mimmine they found an equitable fit. Thus the daughter has returned to the parent and it is our duty this afternoon to ensure this process of amalgamation is a success."

In his oration, the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W.Bro. Tony Wright, said: "Amalgamation is a courageous step, taking with you your long history and traditions. Look upon your amalgamation as a new and exciting challenge."

A lodge spokesman told Provincial News: "Brethren of the Mimmine and Bergnet Lodge No. 4932 face an exciting future as a new 'Band of Brothers', keen to carry forward their joint traditions but equally acknowledging the need for some compromise, as is the case in every successful marriage."

Cheque donation

Chris Noble PGL Herts was pleased to make a cheque donation award to Glen Shorey.

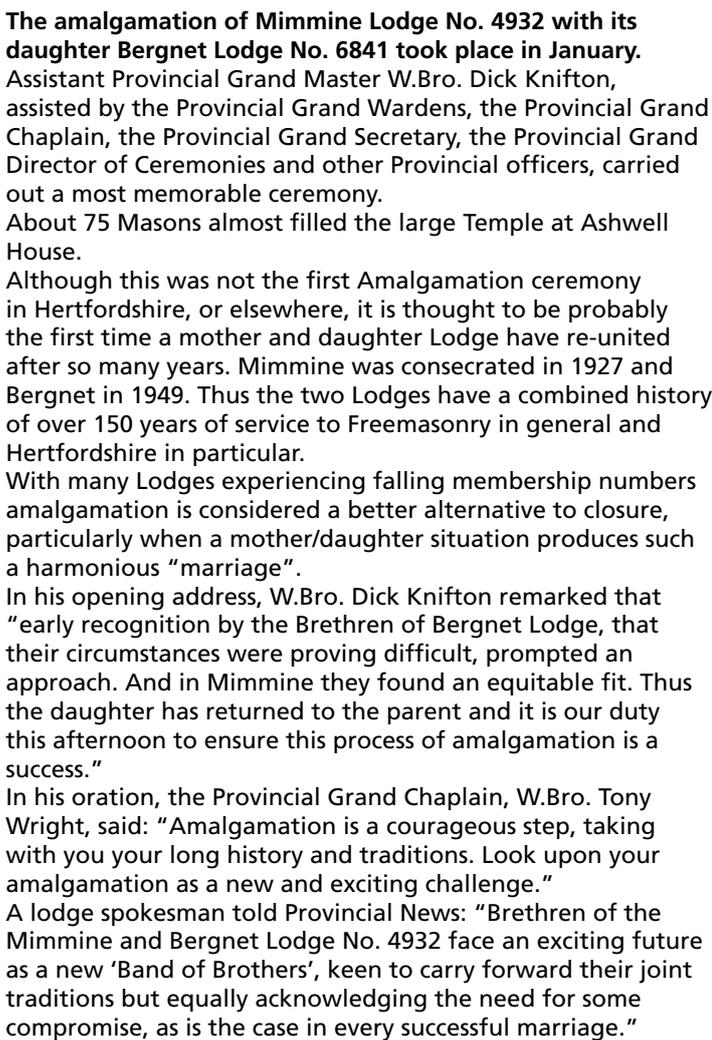
Glen suffers from Friedreich's Ataxia and was in urgent need of wheelchair modifications and updates but was particularly pleased with the major benefits gained for Glen from a relatively small donation.

"This has helped me so much as I am able to still go out in my car safely and live my life as normal" he said.

We wish Glen all the best for the future.



■ Chair now comes off the wheel base and slides into the passenger seat of an adapted car



New tools

When East Barnet Lodge's working tools went missing its Lodge of Instruction stepped in.

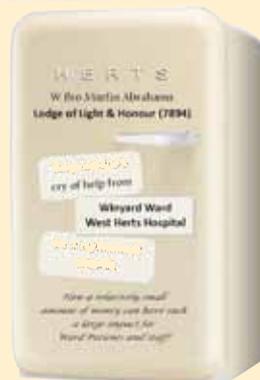
The Lol replaced them with a new drawer box containing three sets of tools for each degree, which were unveiled at the Lodge meeting in February.

Fridge donation

Congratulations to W.Bro Colin Stodel from the Lodge of Light & Honour (7894) who responded to a cry of help from Winyard Ward at West Herts Hospital for a replacement fridge.

Provincial Charity Steward Chris Noble told Provincial News: "This proved a huge impact on ward patients and staff.

"So a big thank you to him."



Hertfordshire Knights Templar

Provincial Prior
Right Eminent Knight - Tony Lapsley

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

Please contact E Kt. David Greenland, PGtHer For full information and your nearest Preceptory

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

King Harold Lodge golf day



Brethren of King Harold Lodge staged a charity golf event in memory of a member who lost his fight with bone cancer.

Brian Ponting died in May last year. The golf day was held at the Country View

Golf Course, Wheathampstead, in September.

Hawaiian shirts were worn in Brian's memory.

His friend W.Bro Tony Seery told Provincial News that Brian had been a latecomer to Freemasonry.

He said: "Brian was initiated into King Harold Lodge in April 2014. He remained as an enthusiastic and active member of the lodge until ill-health prevented him attending."

Brian is survived by his wife Lynne, son Roger, daughters Keren and Jane and eight grandchildren.

Brian's interests included wearing Hawaiian shirts, drinking beer, vintage cars, tall ships, model-making and travel. Brian and Lynne travelled together to over 50 countries.

The Lodge plans to hold the golf event annually as a charity fundraiser.

At September's match 11 members of the Lodge took part, joined by four guests. The day raised £350 which will be divided between the Hertfordshire 2019 Festival Charity and Isabel Hospice, where Brian spent the last weeks of his life.

W.Bro Seery said: "Brian will be very much missed by his family, friends and all at King Harold Lodge where his time as a member was sadly very limited.

"He lived life to the full."

Grand Charity Award

A request from Provincial Grand Charity Steward Chris Noble to lodge members in the Province to back his bid to secure a Grand Charity Award for a well-known county-wide charity proved hugely successful.

Many Herts masons responded to his online voting link.

He said: "The response from Hertfordshire Masons to my request to vote in favour of the Anthony Nolan Trust for a Grand Charity award has been fantastic.

"It was so good in fact that the trust has been awarded £92,000.

"My thanks to all who took time and effort to cast their vote."

Shyre Lodge



The 2019 Festival appeal received a £5,000 boost from Shyre Lodge No 9168.

Lodge Charity Steward W.Bro Frank Woods handed over a cheque to APGM W.Bro Dick Knifton.

Newly installed WM, W.Bro Colin Prince and Provincial Charity Steward W.Bro Chris Noble are also pictured.

The Hospice of St Francis Charity Cheque



Charity Steward of the Edward & Alexandra Lodge Bro Dave Selby presented a cheque for £3,050 on behalf of the Province to Harriet Karia, in front of

the Memory Tree at The Hospice of St Francis.

Afterwards he and Bro Antony Mason, the Lodge Secretary, were given a tour of the hospice by Lauren who is one of the hospice community fundraisers.

He told Provincial news it had been good to witness "the wonderful support the hospice offers the local community".

"We both enjoyed the opportunity given to us by the Province."

Noah's Ark cheque

W.Bro Steve Spooner, a member of the Herts 2019 Festival Team, presented a £500 cheque on behalf of Province, to Noah's Ark Children's Hospice.

It was received by Priya Singh from the hospice who hopes to take a stall at the July 2016 Herts Family Fun Day.



Peace
of mind

*for you and
your family*

The Hertfordshire
Funeral Plan is a
bespoke, pre-payment
plan exclusive to Austin's
which takes care of your
wishes and simplifies
the arrangements for
your loved ones.

01438 794420
MONDAY - FRIDAY ONLY

THE HERTFORDSHIRE
FUNERAL PLAN

www.austins.co.uk

Planning ahead for peace of mind

Gadebourne donation



Back in July Gadebourne Lodge ran a guess the mileage competition in support of a Round Britain Quadrathon charity fundraising event called 'Bonkers Brash'.

This involved cycling, canoeing, swimming and running 2,700 miles around the coastline of England, Wales and Scotland in 28 days.

Tony Denton, Lodge Master at the time, was responsible for driving the motorhome

support vehicle and making sure everyone was fed.

The mileage competition was based on the mileage completed by Tony in the motorhome and the result, 3,794 miles, was announced by the RW Provincial Grand Master at Gadebourne's Installation Meeting in September.

The winner, with a guess of 3,760, was Gadebourne's Treasurer, W.Bro Peter Elsworth.

The competition raised more than £2,500 which was split between the Pepper Foundation and the Hertfordshire 2019 Festival Appeal.

W.Bro Denton is pictured presenting a cheque for £1,320 to Mr Jonathon Tweed a Trustee of the Pepper Foundation.

3rd St Albans Scout Group

Among organisations helped by the Province are the various scout groups in the county.

Recently youngsters in 3rd St Albans Scout Group were given a double boost. Three previously-used marquees had been donated to the group by Province and have already been put to good use on a number of occasions.

And the group has also benefited from a cash donation.

The 3rd St Albans Scout Group has been operating for 100 years and currently offers Scouting to some 150 young people from the New Greens, Waverley and Townsend areas and beyond in St Albans.

The donations prompted a letter of thanks from the group scout leader Dave Williams.

He wrote to PGCS Chris Noble: "The core principles of Scouting prepare young people for the future as much now as they did all that time ago.

"The programme we

offer allows both girls and boys to make friends have fun and partake in adventurous activities. "It is still attracting young people to such an extent that we have such a large waiting list in St Albans District alone that many may not be offered a place. "Our biggest limitation remains adult support and leadership.

"Our aims do not come cheap and although all our leaders are volunteers and give their time without thought of remuneration, we need premises and equipment to pursue our goal.

"So you can imagine my delight when I received your letter informing me that you had graciously awarded the 3rd St Albans with £250.

"This will allow us to buy some gas conversions for four paraffin Trangia stoves and buy one complete new Trangia stove. These allow Scouts to cook while hiking and light-weight camping."

Lodge of Opportunity donations

Lodge of Opportunity Charity Steward W.Bro John Clark presented a cheque for £500 to Emma Taylor from the Keech Hospice for Children. The hospice is based in Luton, but serves children with life-threatening illnesses throughout Hertfordshire.

And Lodge of Opportunity Master W.Bro John Kemp is pictured presenting a cheque for £500 to Glynn Rowlands of Woolgrove Special Needs School. The lodge is connected to both worthy causes through the Masonic Fishing Charity.



King Henry Christmas Party

Father Christmas was guest on honour at a festive event staged by members of King Henry 8th Lodge and Chapter.

A spokesman said: "We hosted another fantastic day for children of the Province to meet Santa and have a super party day with their parents and grand parents." Children received a present from Father Christmas, alias Bro Steve Day and were treated to party entertainment including a festive Punch & Judy, face painting, disco, refreshments and a party bag to take home.

ME Grand Supt. James Sharpley and W.Bro Chris Noble, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, jointly accepted a £2,000 donation to the 2019 Festival.

The presentation was made by Chapter First Principal E. Comp Terence Dancer and Lodge Master W.Bro Bryan Callum. ME Grand Supt. Sharpley said: "Royal Arch is proud and pleased to support the 2019 Festival in favour of the RMTGB."

Garden House Hospice



At a recent meeting of the Willian Council, Royal & Select Masters, members were informed of the death of Ill Comp Peter Cuthbertson in September last year.

As a tribute to him, they agreed to donate £100 in his memory to the Garden House Hospice, in Letchworth, where Peter resided over the last few days of his life.

Ill Comp. David Enock, pictured, accompanied by Ill Comp. David Hampton, presented a cheque to Kathryn Hayes of Garden House Hospice.



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



After the Degree of Knights Templar, the next step is normally Knight Templar Priests. In Hertfordshire there are six Tabernacles across the Province under the control of our Grand Superintendent & High Prelate Right Eminent Knight Priest Barry S Searle.

HISTORY OF THE ORDER

In the early days it was also known as the Priestly Order and was referred to within the ceremonies of The High Knights Templar in Ireland in 1755. The Order first saw the light of day in Scotland in 1800 in Kilmarnock and then extended to Glasgow and Edinburgh. In 1807, the Early Grand Conclave of Scotland issued a warrant to Joppa Encampment of Knights Templar in Sunderland with authority to work a number of degrees including Knight Templar Priest. In 1812 members at Newcastle upon Tyne petitioned the Grand Conclave of England for a Warrant. This was granted in the name of Royal Kent Encampment. Evidence exists of it being worked in the late 18th and early 19th centuries in England, Scotland, Ireland, Corfu, France and probably the United States and Canada. The Order then became moribund in the 1890s, the last known working being in Lancashire. Prior to 1894, The Order of Knight Templar Priest traced its origins back to the Anahilt Union Band in County Down, Ireland, in 1792. Over 60 Union Bands have been traced in Ireland with only a small number being under the Irish Early Grand Encampment and even fewer being banded with one or more Lodges. During this period there was no ruling body. On Good Friday, March 23, 1894, Henry Hotham, a Yorkshireman and prominent Mason, was apparently the last known Knight Templar Priest. Being the last Installed Master or High Priest, he admitted nine Knights into the Order (under the authority of one of the Original Rules of the Order).

The revived Tabernacle being conscious of the efforts of the Council of Allied Masonic Degrees in London to found a Grand Council of Rites agreed that, with its then 24 Appendant Degrees, to become the Royal Kent Tabernacle Time Immemorial. As a consequence, the first of the modern Tabernacles, Royal Kent T.I., was formed.

After a short period of control by the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees and, by mutual consent, it separated and became The Grand College.

The development of the Order was very slow at first but it soon began to take on its now extensive international form, with the first four New Zealand Tabernacles being between 1930 and 1944 and Australia joining in 1949. Progress of the Order continued very slowly but steadily from 1951 for the next 10 years, but, in the early 1960s, under dynamic new leadership, the pace of expansion increased, and has continued to this day, with the number of Tabernacles now at 251, and on each continent of the World, including England, Scotland, Wales, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Canada, South Africa, The Bahamas, Holland, Germany, Jamaica, Singapore, Malaysia, Brazil, Spain, Togo, Bolivia and Ivory Coast. It is sad that there are none in Ireland, where the Order is considered to have originated.

The New Grand Body had its first meeting on May 15, 1924 at Newcastle upon Tyne.

THE ORDER OF HOLY WISDOM

Until recently our Order was known as The Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests or Order of Holy Wisdom. The "or" is significant as it implies an alternative name and candidates automatically became members, but not in the same way that the Intermediate Degrees are conferred. Little is known of the origins of The Order of Holy Wisdom, it was closely associated with the Royal Arch Knight Templar Priesthood and probably worked as a separate ceremony. The earliest references are in Irish Certificates. About 200 years ago the Order fell into disuse mainly due to the extreme length of the ritual and the complex paraphernalia required.

The Order of Holy Wisdom had long been of interest to M III Kt Pt Gavin Maiden and when he became Grand High Priest he took the decision to revise the Order. R Em Kt Pt Stephen Foster was asked to look at the original ritual and provide a workable version. This was accomplished with the assistance of a small sub-committee headed by R III Kt Pt Dr Donald Woodgate. The result is a much abbreviated ritual but retains most of the precepts and

characterisation of that known to have been worked in the 1790s.

The necessary changes to the Regulations of Grand College were approved at the Annual Assembly in June 2014. These make it possible for the Grand Superintendent of a District, now also known as High Prelate, to conduct the Order of Holy Wisdom at a Congregation of the Order convened to admit qualified candidates.

The first Congregation to be held in Hertfordshire was in April 2015 following the regular meeting of John Owen Place Tabernacle when Kt Pt David Errington was admitted. The Ceremony was worked by the High Prelate, R Em Kt Pt Barry Searle with a team of Kt Pts from the District in the following offices: Alan (Chub) Reeves, High Priest; Eric Mitchel, Hermeneutes; John Wickes, Guide; Bob Chilvers, Reader; Jeff Hardie, Acolyte; Les Butler, Keeper of the Door; the seven Pillars were occupied by Tony Lapsley, Geoff Cheshire, Neil Evans, Michael Phelan, Jeff Lawson, Malcolm McCaw and Richard Brown. The Ceremony was attended by 38 Kt Pts, including visitors from outside the District, most of whom were seeing the ceremony for the first time.

The next Congregation of the Order will again be held following the meeting on the John Owen Place Tabernacle on Thursday, April 28, at Watford when it is expected that 5/6 candidates will be admitted.

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

To be considered for membership of this deeply significant Order, you must be a subscribing member of the following Masonic bodies:-

- 1) A Craft Lodge
- 2) A Royal Arch Chapter
- 3) A Knights Templar Preceptory.

You must also be a Master Mason of three years standing and profess the Trinitarian Christian Faith.

TABERNACLES IN THE DISTRICT

Hertfordshire Tabernacle No 29 meeting at Radlett.

Halsey Tabernacle No 177 meeting at Cheshunt.

Crux Roysia Tabernacle No 192 meeting at Royston.

John Owen Place No 200 meeting at Watford.

Southgate Tabernacle No 216 meeting at Southgate.

James William Turner Tabernacle No 222 meeting at Watford

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



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



■ The Intendent General Rt III Knight Brian Muir, the Deputy Intendent-General III.Kt Peter Fotheringham and the Divisional Eusebius III.Kt David Boore

DIVISIONAL CONCLAVE

This year's Annual Divisional Conclave for the Division of Hertfordshire was held on Saturday, February 27, at Ashwell House, St. Albans. Our Intendent General, R.III.Kt Brian Muir opened a packed Conclave and welcomed everyone present. The Conclave was honoured by the visit of Five Intendent-Generals, Five Deputy Intendent Generals and a number of other distinguished Brethren from both outside and inside the Division including the Deputy Grand Master of the Mark Degree III.Kt Keith

Emmerson. The intendent General was also delighted that over 50 per cent of Hertfordshire Knights were present. The business of the Divisional Conclave then took place including the appointment of our new Deputy Intendent-General III.Kt Peter Fotheringham.

All other Divisional Officers were then appointed as follows and the rest of the business carried out.

- Divisional Eusebius/Viceroy
- Div. Senior General
- Div. Junior General
- Div. High Prelate
- Div. Registrar
- Div. Treasurer
- Div. Recorder
- Div. Almoner
- Div. Marshal
- Div. Sword Bearer
- Div. Deputy Marshal
- Div. Chamberlain
- Div. Sub-Prelate
- Div. Standard Bearer (C)
- Div. Standard Bearer (L)
- Div. Prefect
- Div. Warden of Regalia
- Div. Organist
- Div. Herald (1)

- III.Kt. David Boore
- P.Kt. Simon Pine
- Em.Kt. Philip Hoy
- P.Kt. Anthony Wright
- W.Kt. Peter Thompson
- Em.Kt. John Hicks
- III.Kt. Albert Waite
- P.Kt. W Len Cheshire
- III.Kt. Geoff Cheshire
- W.Kt. Chris De La Sel
- W.Kt. Graeme McCormack
- M.P.Kt. Alan Yeowell
- P.Kt. Dennis Adams
- M.P.Kt. Michael Odumosu
- P.Kt. John Campbell
- W.Kt. Mark Pedroz
- Em.Kt. Robbie Biggs
- III.Kt. Bill Rumford
- Em.Kt. John Roberts

- Div. Herald (2)
- Div. Steward
- Div. Steward
- Div. Sentinel

Promotions in Past Divisional Rank:

- Past Divisional Junior General III.Kt. Allan Atkinson
- Past Divisional Junior General III.Kt. Dennis Cope

At the festive board, we were honoured to have, E.Comp Jim Sharpley MEGS as the guest of the division as well as 29 visitors

- W.Kt. Mark Russell
- W.Kt. John Ellis
- W.Kt. Alan Oakley
- III.Kt. Peter Clark



■ Gavin O'Sullivan and Pam Young

Young and Shirley Hoy. The food was excellent and Pam Young had kindly donated a large amount of prizes for the free raffle as well as roses for all of the ladies. This year has a special meaning for members as it is our 150th anniversary. A fruit cake had been made to celebrate the occasion which was cut at the luncheon.

SUNDAY LUNCHEON

As mentioned in the last issue of Provincial News, the Hertfordshire division held a Sunday carvery luncheon at Great Hadham Golf Club in September hosted by the Intendant-General, Rt III Knight Brian Muir and his wife Anne. It was again sold out and was attended by members of the Division of Hertfordshire, together with their partners and friends. It was once again arranged by Pamela



APPENDANT ORDERS

The Appendant Orders ceremonies were held as part of the normal meeting of The Rose Walk Conclave No. 389 at Radlett on Saturday, November 7, 2015. A number of Kts took the next step in the degree.

RCC 150TH ANNIVERSARY CHURCH SERVICE

Our Intendant-General and Deputy Intendant-General represented our Division at the Grand Imperial Conclave 150th Church Service which took place in September at Lincoln Cathedral, followed by a reception and lunch at the Lincoln Showground.

RCC WEBSITE FOR HERTS MASONS

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

The Red Cross of Constantine is a particularly good order for Masons who are interested in knowing more about Masonry and the foundation of early Christianity.

The regalia of the order is simple and inexpensive consisting of a Sash and 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

Friday 15th April: Provincial Officers Demonstration of the Mark Degree, under the Banner of Watford Lodge MMM.

No241. To attend contact W.Bro Phillip Masters, 01442 395 106, email phillip.masters@btinternet.com

Friday 6th May: Mark Golf day Mill Green Golf Club, Welwyn Garden City. Details from W.Bro Ian Clift on 01462 819 095 or email ian@ianclift.org.uk

Wednesday 18th May: Provincial Officers Demonstration of the Royal Ark Mariners

Degree under the Banner of Watford Lodge of RAM No 872.

For details contact David Williams on 01438 720 331 or email davidwilliams342@googlemail.com

Tuesday 7th June: Mark Grand Investiture at Great Queen Street. All are welcome. All details circulated.

Wednesday 15th June: Royal Ark Mariners Provincial Assembly. To be held under the Banner of the Hertfordshire Installed Commanders Lodge No 1121. At the Metropolitan Police Sports Club, at a time to be advised. All Royal Ark Mariners are invited. Applications to the Scribe W.Bro Paul Ostwind, 0208 869 0562 or email sec@himm.org

Tuesday 12th July: Annual Meeting Provincial Grand Lodge MMM of Hertfordshire. At Rickmansworth Masonic School. The meeting will start at 4pm with all seated by 3.30pm. Dinner at 6.30pm.

Sunday 24th July: Craft Fun Day at the Girls School, Rickmansworth. The Mark Degree will be represented. Please come along with your family and friends

This edition sees the start of a new feature. As well as highlighting some activities over recent months, Officers of the Province have agreed to tell us what their position is and what they do in the Province. In future issues I will try to run through most of them. This I hope will help some of our newer Brethren to recognise them. Please remember these officers are very approachable and if you see them at a meeting and have a question introduce yourself and they will try to help.

My details are at the top of this page and if you have any special occasion coming up in your Mark or RAM Lodge please keep me informed and I will try to publish in this magazine or through our website or page.

NELL PHILIPS APGM AT TOLMERS:

Our first fishing event under the banner of the Mark province was held in 2014. We held the second event on September 16, 2015. Paul Gower as Craft PGM attended with me to show the strong bond between the craft and the Mark in Hertfordshire. A number of disabled children from a local school attended the day together with their teachers and enjoyed a day's fishing, supported by scouts from Tolmers and Brethren from



the Mark Province of Hertfordshire. The kids were smiling and happy. We recruited new people to join the craft and the Mark.

Paul and I gave out the prizes. This will now be an annual event every September. It shows members of the Mark working in the community.

What a great day. This will grow year on year. It not only helps children, but improves the image of Mark masonry.

MARK SAUNDERS REPORTS FROM THE INSTALLED COMMANDERS LODGE ANNUAL MEETING:

This was not just a normal meeting but also the dedication of a new standard and the Installation of a new Commander.



The meeting started and the Provincial dedication team entered the Lodge. The ceremony was conducted with perfection under the direction of the PGDC Roy Moth. The new Standard was paraded with the Commander of the Lodge taking his part in the ceremony.

The PGM R.W. Bro Chris Radmore then vacated the Commander Chair and the Commander W.Bro Collin Hellyer RAMGR took his rightful place. He then

installed W.Bro Bill Reid RAMGR in a most excellent manner. Bill then went on to invest and install his Officers. During this meeting another 14 Installed Commanders Joined.

The Festive board followed attended by a special guest. This was Miss Joy Heaven who was Domestic Bursar at the Masonic Girls School Rickmansworth from 1988 until December 2014. During this period Miss Heaven had been the liaison



between the School and the Mark province of Hertfordshire and had helped us a great deal. The PGM presented her with a pair of beautiful cut glass vases with a few well-chosen words and wished her a happy and healthy retirement. These could not be presented earlier as Miss Heaven had been unwell. She accepted them and thanked all present and the Province of Hertfordshire.

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Elstree and Radlett Mark Lodge 1315 celebrated its 50th anniversary in March and the Provincial Grand Master was there to present the Jubilee warrant. The acting Worshipful Master also had the pleasure of advancing Bro Stephen Barker into the order. Stephen is pictured between the PGM and John Walker with W Bro Mike Gerschel, Stephen's proposer to the left of the PGM.



TC REPORTS FROM RAVENSCROFT LODGE:

W.Bro Irving Stanley Childs was advanced into Ravenscroft Lodge of Mark Master Masons on February 8, 1966, so has now reached that great milestone of 50 years in the Mark Degree.

To celebrate the Provincial Grand Master R. W. Bro. Chris Radmore, supported by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master V. W. Bro. Richard Walker along with 10 active Provincial Officers, visited the Cheshunt Masonic Centre on February 15, to attend the Installation meeting in the Royal Ark Mariner degree and then the normal working Mark Lodge meeting. Following routine business the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies W. Bro. Roy Moth was admitted and announced that the PGM and his team were outside and wished to be admitted for a special occasion.

Upon entry into the Lodge, the PGM assumed the chair and explained to the brethren that he had a very special and pleasing duty to perform. He requested the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies present to him W.Bro Irving Stanley Childs. The PGM then explained that the records indicated W. Bro Irving had completed 50 years in the order and asked the Provincial Grand Secretary to read the certificate of service from Grand Lodge. The PGM then added a few words and presented the certificate to W.Bro Irving.

To complete this presentation the PGM announced he was making a field appointment and that from that moment W. Bro Irving would hold the rank of PPGJW. He was presented with his apron jewel to signify this new rank.

W. Bro Irving then thanked the PGM and his team for these great honours and stated how pleased and honoured he was to have been recognised in this manner.

He then returned to his seat to great applause from all present.

The advancement ceremony was carried out by the Lodge IPM to the IPM's father-in-law, with his father-in-law's brother-in-law acting as Senior Deacon. A truly family affair rounded off

a brilliant day for Ravenscroft Lodge.

Over 40 brethren then dined to complete a memorable day for W. Bro Irving who still attends almost every meeting even though he lives in Surrey.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PROVINCIAL GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES

My name is Roy Moth. I am the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies of Hertfordshire. This has been my role for the past four years.

My first appointment as a Provincial Grand Officer was back in 2003 as Prov.G.Swdb for one year. In 2004 I was promoted to Prov A.G.D.C for five years. In 2009 I became Dep G.D.C. for three years. In 2012 the P.G.M. at the time, driving me to a Lodge Meeting, told me I would be the next Prov G.D.C. of the Mark Province of Hertfordshire. We were just going past the Stevenage turning on the A1. I do not remembering arriving at St Albans, it was a big surprise to me.

This is an appointment I like to work hard at. Sometimes I work until 2am to ensure a meeting runs smoothly. This is just a small part of my Masonic and working life. Something that has cropped up time and time again is the need for a D.Cs Seminar, and D.Cs booklets or manuals or both. The seminar and booklets have been a long time coming, however work is in progress.

With the full backing of the P.G.M. the setting up of the D.Cs Lodge under the name of King Harold Lodge No 1109, was time-consuming but rewarding. It was set up as a training ground for D.Cs. and A.D.C.s

The number of members is growing and we are still looking for new members to join.

We have very good and able D.Cs in the Province. But we also have some new D.Cs and this is where King Harold Lodge can help. You will be with other D.Cs and A.D.Cs.



The success of any Lodge is not just down to the Lodge Secretary or members. The Lodge D.C. role is to control the proceedings, to co-ordinate the Officers and help with the smooth running of the Lodge.

The success of any Lodge is:

1. G.P. meeting before each meeting or once a year.
2. Starting times from 5.30pm.
3. Rehearsal.
4. Sharing work.
5. Succession
6. No blank agenda.

Put simply, the D.C's role is

to enable his Brethren to perform the ritual for their mutual understanding and to efficiently guide the proceedings for the benefit and enjoyment of all present.

We will have a lot of talks at King Harold including protocols if the P.G.M or D.P.G.M or A.P.G.M or Provincial Wardens are coming to the meeting. Look out for the dates of our meetings and come along.

Brethren, Lodges of course are private and there is no attempt to impose regimented procedures, However, as experienced D.Cs move on and are necessarily replaced, and as the society of which we are part evolves, it behoves us to review our practices and renew our sense of purpose, without in any way subverting our Masonic heritage.

In my private life I wear many different hats, father, grandad to name but a few. Being P.G.D.C. is a big part of my life equally important is the time I spend with my family. Through Freemasonry my wife and I have made many friends and gained a good social life. Getting my work life balance just right enables me to do both well.



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.

Dates for the diary

Friday, July 8: Royal Arch Golf Day – details on the website.

Sunday, July 10: Royal Arch Barn Dance – details to follow.

Sunday, October 2: Lunch for the active officers of the year – invites will be sent to those eligible.

Monday, November 7: Annual Convocation at Great Queen St – details on the website.

Cloisters Chapter

Members of Cloisters Chapter, which meets at 10am in the morning at the Cloisters Masonic Centre, Barrington Road, Letchworth, witnessed a double Exaltation at its January convocation.

W.Bro Mikael Hansen from Denmark and of the Folke Bernadette Lodge No.822 and Bro Henrik Moltke Rask Pedersen, also from Denmark, of the Humanitas Lodge No.830, were both Exalted in splendid fashion by the MEZ E Comp Robert Crawford, the 2nd and 3rd Principals and the rest of the Officers of the Chapter.

The Provincial Magazine was told: "A special note must be



made for the acting Principal Sojourner E Comp Michael Cave PPGSwdB who performed his role with the utmost distinction." In our picture, MEZ, E Comp Robert Crawford, hands over a cheque for £100 on

behalf of the Chapter and its Principals, to Cloisters Council representative E Comp Mark Scanes PProvAGDC.

He said this was "a splendid donation". Cloisters Centre, he told members, was embarking on a significant programme of improvements and events.

Also pictured are Deputy Grand Superintendent, E Comp David Hampton PPGSwdB, and acting 2nd Principal on the day, on the left, and acting 3rd Principal E Comp Andrew Gillard.



Bowls Club 24 hour Marathon

Back in September last year the Past Third Grand Principal, E Comp Tim Coles, took part in a 24 hour bowls marathon supporting the oncology unit at Northampton General Hospital, in memory of the wife of a friend who succumbed to cancer in 2014.

E Comp Tim was part of a group of 12 from the Bridgman Bowls Club who played bowls for 24 hours, only resting for two, two-hour breaks.

Other clubs also supported the event, with more than 100 bowlers taking part including county champions and national players.

Tim raised over £450 with sponsors including Wayne Williams, MEGS for the Province of Northamptonshire and

Huntingdonshire.

The event raised in excess of £7,500 plus Gift Aid and this was presented to members of the oncology unit at the club's annual dinner and dance in November.

In the photograph above are 11 of the bowlers who played for the 24 hours. Pictured from the left, are John Osborn, John Griggs, Bob Patrick, Norman Kitchener, Pete Edwards, Tyler Grey, Bob Milligan, Jon Dolling, Phil Birmingham, George Rowland and Tim Coles.

The missing bowler was Andy Gronkowski who stood in at the last minute and played until about 8am when he had to leave to attend to some private business. Club captain Michael Walker took his place for most of the rest of the marathon.

Supreme Grand Chapter – promotions and appointments

The First Grand Principal, H.R.H. The Duke of Kent, has been pleased to promote or appoint the following companions in Supreme Grand Chapter:

APPOINTMENTS

Stephen William Bailey, AGDC

David Charles Greenland, PAGDC

Jon Lydon, PAGDC

John Laurence Shulman, PAGDC (through London)

PROMOTIONS

Bernard Greenwold, from PGStB to PPGSwdB (through Berkshire)

Rodney Stanley Hancock, from PAGDC to PGStB

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, James Sharpley and the Provincial Executive convey their best wishes and heartiest congratulations to the companions on their preferment.

IPZ Jewel



At the recent Convocation of Caishowe Boundary Chapter No. 7695, E Comp Derrick Lyons PPGReg presented E Comp John D'eath (IPZ) with the Primus PZ Jewel.

This solid gold PZ Jewel had been presented to E Comp Robert Eastburn as the first MEZ of Caishowe Chapter, in 1960.

The Jewel had been obtained by the late E Comp Brian Blanchard PPGSN who had presented the Jewel to the

Chapter for it to be worn by the IPZ during his year. E Comp John D'eath was the third IPZ to wear it since its presentation to the Chapter.

The Jewel is a fitting reminder of the first MEZ as well as E Comp Brian Blanchard who is sadly missed.

At the same convocation E Comp Derrick Lyons also delivered his lecture 'Ritual Change of the Royal Arch'.

This was an extremely interesting piece of Royal Arch work that enlightened all the audience. Derrick also researched and wrote this paper.

Royal Arch Chapters raise £50,000 towards the Craft RMTGB Festival

In Hertfordshire we have a separate Provincial Grand Master for the Craft and a Grand Superintendent in the Royal Arch. But we are lucky to retain a very close relationship between the two orders.

During the 2013 RA Bicentenary Appeal for the Royal College of Surgeons, where Hertfordshire raised the largest amount outside of London, the Craft kindly supported us in attaining such a great result.

Now we in the Royal Arch are pleased to reciprocate by supporting the Craft 2019 Festival in favour of the RMTGB. Our Most Excellent Grand Superintendent encourages all Chapters to support this worthy cause by either making a donation from your Benevolent Fund or simply using the RMTGB envelopes available at every centre when we can accrue an extra 25 per cent in Gift Aid.

Tony Reffold said: "Companions, there are another three years left before the Craft Festival closes and I am sure we in the Royal Arch can give a lot more support."

Email the RA Provincial Grand Charity Steward, E Comp Howard Collins, at h.j.collins@outlook.com for advice if you are unsure on how to process the RMTGB envelopes, or if you have any queries regarding RA charities.

Event photography for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Oxfordshire, Northants, Bucks and surrounding area



Photographer
Paul Quince
Events - Occasions - Weddings

Your event should be one that holds memories that will last forever.

Paul Quince Photography, with almost 30 years professional experience, will ensure that your whole occasion is captured and your selected prints are available to take home with you.

A well-planned event should leave nothing to chance. We bring formality & fun together, combining both to ensure that laughter, smiles & friendship become a visual keepsake to cherish.

T: 07973 767850

E: paul@paulquince.co.uk

www.paulquince.co.uk

Masonic Regalia at Fleet House

Serving all Masons in Hertfordshire

Quality regalia made to the highest standards at competitive prices.

We can supply new and refurbished regalia to all orders including Craft, Royal Arch, Mark, Royal Ark Mariner and Rose Croix.

We offer a comprehensive repair service for aprons and ribbon replacement for breast jewels. When promotion is achieved Apron Badge attachment is provided free of charge when the badge is purchased from us.



We stock all collar jewels, Hertfordshire ties, gloves, cufflinks, ritual books and leisure wear. Faux leather and shoulder cases for Provincial and Grand Ranks.



Collect, Post & Delivery service available.
Call and speak to one of our experts:

01727 833061

Monday to Friday 9am - 3pm

CRAFT PROVINCIAL TEAM

Provincial Secretary
Hugh Oram
provgssec@pglherts.org

Treasurer
Richard Phillips
provgtreas@pglherts.org

(both of the above)
Provincial Office
10 Parkway, Porters Wood
St Albans, AL3 6PA
01727 833061

Director of Ceremonies
Keith Dunnett
01438 798880
07971 672144
rapidathome@aol.com

Almoner
Simon Cooper
01438 235518
07785 921611
hertsprovgalmoner@gmail.com

Charity Steward
Chris J. Noble
01582 769648
07795 903066
family.nobles@btinternet.com
provgs@pglherts.org

PROVINCIAL NEWS

Editor
Terry Mitchinson
07899 791242
01438 840613
The editor reserves the right to edit letters and stories for clarity or length where necessary.

Editorial Board Chairman
James Young DProvGM
01438 829055
james@teamyouth.co.uk

Information Officer
Darren Bending
01442 243942
07956 688202
pco@pglherts.org

Advertising Manager
Tony Harris
07584 282868
tonyharrisagh@btinternet.com

Printed by HDML Masonic Printers

07932 692298
hdml@outlook.co.uk

Craft Webmaster
Aaron Wood
07739 002530
aaron@slurpystudios.com

Royal Arch
Provincial Scribe E
John B Linley
07764 293154
scribe@herts-chapter.org.uk

Mark Master Masons/Royal Ark Mariners
Provincial Secretary
Trevor B Clarke
01279 651001
trevor.clarke@live.co.uk

Knights Templar
Vice-Chancellor
Philip J. Hoy
07767 834426
philip.hoy@uwclub.net

Knight Templar Priests
District Recorder
Eric Mitchell
01494 814098
eric.mitchell@tesco.net

Rose Croix (Beds & Herts)
P. Thompson
01462 456538
p.thompson15@ntlworld.com

Royal and Select Masters
Colin Taylor
01462 627801
colin.taylor7@ntlworld.com

Red Cross of Constantine
Philip J. Hoy
01279 817792
philip.hoy@uwclub.net

Societas Rosicruciana In Anglia
Provincial Secretary
(Home Counties)
Stephen Murphy
020 8386 8399
stephen_murphy@cuk.cannon.co.uk

Provincial online

Keep up-to-date with all the news, social events and history of your province at



www.pglherts.org