

Provincial News

The newsletter for Hertfordshire Freemasons



No. 49 Autumn 2016



Provincial Meeting 2016

Page 2



4-5
Long Service Certificates



10
Provincial Curator's Report



12-15
Charity Activity

Provincial Meeting 2016

Retirement of VW Bro James Young • Appointment of new Deputy PGM and APMG Surprise for the PGM!

This year's Provincial Meeting was another very well attended occasion with over 1,000 Hertfordshire Masons gathering in the splendid surroundings of the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall. Visitors and members had travelled from far and wide across the county, as well as other Provinces, including a deputation from the United Grand Lodge of Bulgaria. However, the person travelling furthest was W.Bro Boyd Purser of Aldenham Lodge. When the Provincial Grand Master congratulated him on coming from San Francisco to receive his first Appointment as PPAstGSwdB, he said that during his year as Master he had been living and working in Thailand – but still managed to get to every Lodge meeting. Earlier in the meeting, the PGM announced the retirement of VW.Bro James Young as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, after more than 20 years as an active Officer in the Province, including 13 years on the Provincial Executive. He paid tribute to VW.Bro James' hard work, support and sense of humour, describing him as the archetypal 'good egg'. The PGM then obligated,



■ VW.Bro James Young with W.Bro David Ferris

invested and installed W.Bro David Ferris as the new Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Following this, the Provincial Grand Master appointed W.Bro Neil Connolly as an Assistant Provincial Grand Master. Neil, who is currently Master of the Salisbury Union Lodge No. 767 was Provincial Junior Grand Warden in 2012. In his address, the Provincial Grand Master announced the relaunch of the Provincial website, and thanked Bro. James Davis of Royston Lodge, the new webmaster,

who had worked so hard on the new design. He also spoke about the Family Fun Day that was held in the summer, paying tribute to the very hard work of all involved, especially the organisers, Provincial Grand Charity Steward Chris Noble and W.Bro Stew Willett. After congratulating all the Brethren he had just appointed and promoted and thanking the UGLE staff, the Provincial Secretary, the Provincial DC and their teams

and the Board of Provincial Stewards for all their hard work in making the day such a success, the Provincial Grand Master thanked everyone for their attendance and support of this Province of 'Happy Hertfordshire'. But there was to be a final surprise for the Provincial Grand Master. After Provincial Grand Lodge was closed, the Provincial Grand Secretary rose to inform



■ PGM Paul Gower

the Brethren that it was the PGM's birthday, and he invited all present to join in singing 'Happy Birthday' to RW. Bro Paul, which they did with great enthusiasm. Later, 570 Brethren enjoyed a delicious Festive Board in the Grand Connaught Rooms, and the PGM was serenaded once again.

NEW ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER - W.BRO NEIL CONNOLLY

Our newest Assistant Provincial Grand Master was born in Troon on the west coast of Scotland in 1963. After training with the Laing construction group as an engineer and site manager, he spent time overseas and eventually became a director of an international consultancy, and subsequently UK developer. He now runs a practice advising foreign investors predominantly in the UK and Europe.

His father, who has recently celebrated 64 years in the Craft, introduced him to Freemasonry. He was initiated into Welwyn Garden City Lodge 5748, in 1991, becoming Master in 2001 and subsequently ADC, and Charity Steward throughout the 2009 Festival.



He was appointed as a Provincial Steward in 2008 and Provincial Junior Grand Warden in 2012.

He is a member of Salisbury Union Lodge 767 and has just completed two years as Master of this, the Hertfordshire University Lodge, and enjoys the uniqueness of their ceremonies. He is also a member of Hertfordshire Masters' Lodge 4090 and Hertfordshire Provincial Grand Stewards' Lodge 8984.

He was exalted into Welwyn Garden City Chapter in 1997 and was MEZ from 2011 to 2013, and appointed Past Provincial Grand Sojourner in 2015. He is also a member of Rose Croix St Albans Chapter 336.

He is married to Maxine and has three daughters; masonry has therefore become his "mancave".

Outside family and masonry he has interests in mountaineering, mixed gas diving, wreck research and malt whisky.



■ The new Master, James Geraghty, flanked by the PGM and Deputy PGM, and surrounded by the APGMs together with the Deputy PGM's Provincial Escort.

'A FLUSH OF CHAINS' SURPRISE THE DEPUTY PGM AT HIS LAST OFFICIAL VISIT

Deputy Provincial Grand Master VW Bro James Young was not expecting any surprises when he paid his last Official Visit before his retirement as Deputy PGM to Letchworth Garden City Lodge 5109 on September 24. But he had not bargained for the PGM, who was determined to mark this special occasion. Aided by the acting Provincial AGDC, W.Bro Joe Quinton and the Lodge DC and Tyler, the PGM, accompanied by all five Assistant Provincial Grand Masters as well as W.Bro Neil Connolly, was smuggled into The Cloisters shortly after VW Bro James had made his entrance into the Lodge.

A few minutes later, before the ceremony of Installation of new Master Bro James Geraghty began, there was a report. The Inner Guard nervously announced that a number of distinguished Brethren demanded admission; fortunately the Installing Master, W.Bro Ian Radley agreed that they should be allowed in!

The Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by the other 'Chains', entered and told the Lodge that "if anyone thought that he was going to let James Young's last Official Visit go by without a party, they had another think coming!"

A very memorable evening was had by all present. Despite the pressure that might have been felt by some, cool heads were kept all round and the work from everyone involved was exceptionally good. The evening concluded with a magnificent Festive Board.

Province online

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



www.pglherts.org

VW BRO JAMES ANNAND MACLEAN YOUNG, PGSwdB, SOME MASONIC HIGHLIGHTS

7 Chairs in 9 Lodges

1978 - Initiated Halsey Lodge 1479 (WM 1988)

1988 - Joined Hertfordshire Masters' Lodge 4090 (WM 2012)

1996 - Joined Hertfordshire Provincial Grand Stewards' Lodge 8984 (WM 2011)

1996 - Joined Per Caelum Lodge 8602 (WM 2007)

1998 - Founder Michael Batham Jones Lodge 9675 (WM 2005)

2003 - Joined City of London Installed Masters' Lodge 8220

2004 - Joined White Star Lodge 8727 (WM 2013)

2007 - Founder Hertfordshire Lodge of the Legion 9827

2009 - Founder Lodge of the Red Rampant Lyon 9843 (WM 2012)

21 Years of Active Ranks in Hertfordshire

1995 - 97 - ProvGStwd

1997 - 98 - ProvJGW

1998 - 2003 - ProvDepGDC

1999 - 2006 -

Communications Officer

2003 - 05 - ProvGDC

2005 - 14 - APGM

2014 - 16 - DepPGM



Honoured three times in Grand Lodge

2001 - PAGDC

2007 - SGD

2015 - PGSwdB



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W. Bro George Spary

It was back in March 1956 that W. Bro George Spary PGStB first became a Freemason.

And at the May meeting of Kings Weir Lodge his career and achievements were recognised.

He was presented with his 60-year certificate by Assistant Provincial Grand Master Richard Knifton.

The APMG began by listing some notable milestones from 1956, including:

- First Routemaster bus introduced
- Burgess and Maclean were outed as spies
- Double yellow lines introduced
- Premium bonds launched
- Proposed merger between France and UK rejected
- PG Tips launched the ads featuring Chimps (last of which died just recently)

He went on to tell the brethren: "Much has changed in 60 years or has it? What has not changed is our

admiration and respect for a Brother with 60 years of Masonic service."

During World War Two he served in the Fleet Air Arm in many places including Hong Kong and India.

On demob he took a job in insurance, and set up his own brokerage which he ran successfully until retirement. W. Bro Spary has two children, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

W. Bro Knifton told the Lodge: "Your family has always been a constant strength to you and have always supported you in your Masonic life."

He has been a member, founder and master of a number of Lodges.

He was awarded LGR through a London Lodge, and in 1988 Craft Grand Rank of PGStB. In Royal Arch W. Bro Spary joined Royal Naval Anti Aircraft Chapter 3790 in 1975 and is now an honorary member of that Chapter.

W. Bro Oakley-Smith



W. Bro John Oakley-Smith J.P., PJGD, PPSGD, PProvSGW (Middx), of Chorleywood Lodge, was presented with a certificate to mark his 50 years in Craft Masonry by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master W. Bro Jay Patel PSGD.

W. Bro Oakley-Smith was invited onto the floor of the Lodge and a 'This is your Life' style question and answer session took place. All those present listened with interest not only to the history of W. Bro John's Masonic career but to his family and his business history as W. Bro Jay asked the questions and W. Bro John gave the answers. Having completed John's 'Life' W. Bro Jay presented his certificate.

The presentation was also a family affair as in attendance were W. Bro Peter Oakley-Smith, John's son, also a member of Chorleywood Lodge and John's twin brother W. Bro Philip Smith.

W. Bro Ken Dunnage

W. Bro Ken Dunnage was presented with his certificate for 50 years in Masonry at his home by W. Bro Paul Chaplin, who thanked his wife Joyce for "making W. Bro Jim Barry and myself so very welcome".

Ken was due to celebrate his 90th birthday the following day so best wishes were passed on for the occasion.

W. Bro Paul said: "While we were there Ken and Joyce pointed out the photo of Ken's dad (front and centre), and his uncles during the First World War.

"His dad had lied about his age in both the Boer War and WW2, too young in the Boer and too old in WW2, but still got in, though he was caught out in WW2 and put on local defence duties.

"Ken was himself a Para, joining up in 1944."





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W.Bro Jim Sibbald



■ Bro. Mike Wellard, W.Bro. Jim Sibbald and W.Bro. Ian Sibbald

At the meeting of Churchgate Lodge in the spring W.Bro Dick Knifton, APGM presented W.Bro Jim Sibbald with a certificate to mark 50 years service to Masonry.

W.Bro Jim, PPGReg was proposed by his father and initiated in March 1966 in a double ceremony with his brother John (sadly deceased).

Jim is still an active member of the Lodge.

He was Master in 1978 and is currently Senior Deacon.

He also proposed into the Lodge his nephew, W.Bro Ian Sibbald and his son-in-law Bro. Mike Wellard, currently Inner Guard and Charity Steward.

He was also a founder member of Herts Scots Lodge and a member of Theobalds Chapter.

W.Bro Jim worked as an electrical contractor, and found time to carry out electrical maintenance at Halsey Hall, Cheshunt and Cheshunt Sporting Club.

W.Bro Brother Trevor Careford



W.Bro Trevor Careford, who recently marked his 50th anniversary, was installed in the chair of Goffs Oak Lodge in 1983, and immediately "demonstrated that Masonic ritual could be taken seriously without needing to be solemn".

Described as a good ritualist who injected a sense of fun into proceedings, he also attracted a number of good and loyal friends to Goffs Oak Lodge either as initiates or as long-standing permanently invited guests. For many years Trevor and his wife Vera were the proverbial life and soul of the party – any party. They

were involved in the organisation of a succession of popular Goffs Oak Lodge ladies' nights, mostly at the now defunct Firs Hall in Winchmore Hill, as well as the Lol ladies' nights at the village hall in Goffs Oak.

Outside Masonry the couple built up a successful property development company, Trevera, and then became publicans before retiring.

A Lodge spokesman said: "Trevor's contribution to the Goffs Oak Lodge over the last 50 years cannot be overstated. His encouragement and assistance to its members over the years, his enthusiasm and organisational abilities and his great love of life have endeared him to everyone he meets.

"Long may it continue."

Long Service Certificates

April 2016 to Sept 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.

2016 70 year certificates

June 2016	Cyril Blake	Tree of Life	9324
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2016 60 year certificates

May 2016	Harold Stern	Dyrham Park	8906
May 2016	George Spary	Kings Weir	9005
June 2016	James Morris	Kingswood	2278
Sept 2016	William Bowbrick	Welwyn	3227

2016 50 year certificates

Apr 2016	Edward Miller	Stortford	409
Apr 2016	John Oakley-Smith	Chorleywood	3247
Apr 2016	Lionel Smith	Herts Masters	4090
May 2016	James Webster	Croxley Green	8636
May 2016	Colin Andrews	Tring	5001
May 2016	James Sibbald	Churchgate	7276
May 2016	Norman Judge	Earl of Clarendon	1984
June 2016	Stuart Iredale	Jubilee and Ionic	9475
June 2016	Anthony Dewhurst	Oxhey	6864
June 2016	Michael Silver	Tree of Life	9324
June 2016	Trevor Careford	Goffs Oak	7169
June 2016	Roy Kemp	Old Berkamstedian	4903
July 2016	Harold Grant	Burning Bush	9608
July 2016	Brian Root	Eleanor Cross	7033
July 2016	Derek Root	Eleanor Cross	7033
July 2016	Donald Powrie	Veritatem Sequere	9615
July 2016	Kenneth Dunnage	Herts Regiment	4537
Sept 2016	Godfrey (Geoff) Gale	Trust and Fear Not	9698
Sept 2016	Monte Copas	Old Albanian	4999
Sept 2016	Brian Clay-Peters	Old Albanian	4999
Sept 2016	Barrington Clarke-Jones	Harpenden	4314



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Fulfilling a unique role

Did you know that Hertfordshire has a University Lodge? Salisbury Union 767 had a very successful 2015-16, initiating, passing and raising four students in unique quadruple ceremonies.

It is part of UGLE's University Scheme, which aims to bring young men into Freemasonry, develop their interest in the Craft and guide them in their future Masonic activities after they leave university.

Salisbury Union Lodge does everything you would expect a lodge to do, but is a little special. Part of its purpose is to make sure students make rapid steps in Masonry during their time at university – that's why it has multiple ceremonies – but the lodge also ensures those ceremonies are meaningful and dignified. LOI is important to the lodge, "helping young men to understand the ritual and what it means for our lives". Anyone is welcome to attend

Salisbury Union's LOIs at the Conservative Club in Hatfield on Mondays at 7.30pm.

A spokesman told Provincial News: "We are looking for assistants for our ceremonies.

"Our special link is with the University of Hertfordshire, but we are an open Lodge and if you are an alumnus of any university, this may be a Lodge for you.

"We have Friends of the Lodge as well as members, and you will be surprised by the quick learning and curiosity of the students we have already initiated."

For more about Salisbury Union Lodge 767 go to <http://salisburyunion.org.uk/home.html> or contact the Lodge preceptor, peterlucas27@hotmail.com For more information about the UGLE University Scheme log on to <http://www.universitiesscheme.com/web/index.html>

Provincial Almoner's report

Simon Cooper PAGDC



As you are aware the four main charities merged on April 1 to become the Masonic Charitable Foundation. This was done fundamentally to help streamline the application and support process to help make us more efficient when supporting our membership.

Over the last 18 months Hertfordshire, along with six other provinces, have taken part in a pilot scheme to trial professionally-trained volunteers. The trial period finished at the end of June

and as a result of its success the scheme will now be rolled out across England and Wales.

This will be formally announced at the Provincial Almoners Conference in Manchester in November.

We now have professionally trained welfare officers who are there to support Lodge Almoners in their pastoral role by completing application forms and working together to support our membership and their dependants along with Freemasons and their dependants from other Provinces who live in Hertfordshire. I would urge all Lodge Almoners and lodge members to become proactive in supporting families who they feel may need medical or financial assistance or support for children or grandchildren.

Leaflets have been distributed around the Masonic centres and you can always contact the Masonic Charitable Foundation as follows:

Freephone 0800 035 60 90, email help@mcf.org.uk or go to the website www.mcf.org.uk to see what help they can provide. Your calls and emails will be treated with the strictest of confidence. If you prefer, this can be done without the knowledge of your Lodge Almoner or other members. For the 12 months ending June 30, 2016, a total of £350,845 came back into Hertfordshire to support 79 beneficiaries (members and dependants). I feel sure there are senior members of our lodges along with widows who could still benefit from the support the charity has to offer. Please promote this when you have the opportunity. Please continue to support the 2019 Festival as I see on a weekly basis how it supports our children and grandchildren. Finally I would like to thank all Almoners, Case Almoners and my team of welfare officers who work hard for the betterment of Hertfordshire Freemasonry.



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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



■ Pictured left to right is W.Bro Mick Connolly, (Lodge Treasurer and Uncle to the WM and Initiate) W.Bro Graham Broom, (Lodge Secretary and Dad to the WM and Initiate) the WM, Simon Broom (Initiate's elder brother) and the Initiate, Brother James Broom.

A true family affair

The new Worshipful Master of the Earl of Clarendon Lodge No. 1984, W.Bro Simon Broom had a special ceremony to perform in the spring - he initiated his younger Brother James. And to keep things in the family, Simon and James' Dad, Graham Broom, the Lodge Secretary, acted as Junior Deacon for the ceremony and their uncle, Michael Connolly, the Lodge Treasurer, delivered the Ancient Charge after Initiation. At the festive board, all the

speakers made note of this unique occasion which was enjoyed by all. James said it was a memorable moment to have been part of a "family" ceremony and looked forward to the other ceremonies to come. W.Bro Simon said that being able to initiate his younger brother at his first ceremony after being installed into the chair of King Solomon was a great honour and is looking forward to being part of Jame's initial journey into Freemasonry.

Cloisters Rose Croix Chapter No. 624

Ill.Bro Tony Christie, the surviving founder of Cloisters Rose Croix Chapter No. 624, is pictured being presented with a commemorative tankard on behalf of the Chapter by the Sovereign, E&P.Bro Steve Bailey, on the left, following its 50th anniversary in the spring. He was also presented with a framed message of "congratulations and gratitude for many years of service".



Stonemasons



Stonemason brothers Simon, on the left, and Ashley Chohan, have been initiated into Hoddesdon Lodge No 5875. Lodge Secretary Geoff Bearman told Provincial News: "They were accompanied by

their proposer and seconder, Worshipful Master Nick Pringle and Junior Warden Nick Pringle, his son. "I have to say the explanation of the working tools was suitably amended to suit the occasion."

Gary Kemp meets William



It's 'True' to say our Provincial Grand Registrar Bill Hamilton-Hinds got something of a shock when his school gave him a special tribute.

For, to Cut A Long Story Short, he was greeted by school old-boy Spandau Ballet star, Gary Kemp. Bill has been connected with Dame Alice Owen's School in Potters Bar, as pupil and staff member, for more than 60 years. And to mark 50 years service the school staged a tribute assembly, with Gary Kemp as guest of honour. Bill, 72, was his maths teacher. He said: "He spoke about what it was like and how I helped him, and also the fact that there was an occasion

when I got the embryonic Spandau Ballet group to play at a party, and also at the school. "Gary was a very nice lad, a typical working class boy from Islington who was very much into music and drama. He's a very pleasant, genuine sort of guy. He spoke glowingly of me and I was very honoured." About 600 pupils and Bill's work colleagues crammed into the hall to mark his contribution to the Dugdale Hill Lane School, where he now works part-time in admin. Bill, a Grand Officer, who has lived in Little Heath for 40 years, said he was "very humbled" by the kind words from ex-pupils and colleagues, and added Dame Alice Owen's was "in his blood". Headteacher Dr. Alan Davison described him as "an amazing man", and added "every school should have a Bill Hamilton-Hinds". "Bill has been an amazing teacher and colleague at the school having been a student at the school 61 years ago, and throughout that time he has been dedicated to the success of the students. "Students over the years have really appreciated him as a person who cares, and someone they could go to if they have needs and would go the extra mile to support them."

A New Lodge for Hertfordshire!

The Master-Designate and Founders of the Lodge of True Aim are delighted to announce that the MW the Grand Master has been pleased to accept their petition for the formation of the Lodge, and it will be consecrated in January next year.

The Lodge has been formed to promote the sport of shooting in all disciplines, but particularly Clay Pigeon shooting amongst masons in Hertfordshire and beyond. Although the majority of the 29 founders come from the Province, there will be members from Essex, Bedfordshire, Middlesex and London.

The Primus Master will be W.Bro Stuart Hutchison, PPSGW, and the Wardens Designate are Bro Neil Mottershead (SW) and W.Bro Albert Bareham (JW) who hails from the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire.

The Provincial Grand Master will consecrate the Lodge, which has been assigned the number 9930, on Friday, January 20, 2017 at the Metropolitan Police Club, Bushey.

Those wishing to apply for tickets to witness this very special occasion – the first Consecration in Hertfordshire since 2011 – should email the Secretary, W.Bro Barrie House at barrie.j.house@gmail.com.

Three of the best

It was a case of three of the best at the Tree of Life Lodge's installation meeting in June.

For as well as the Installation of W.Bro Lloyd Gilmore, three long-service certificates were handed out by our PGM, RW Bro Paul Gower.

A 70-year certificate went to W.Bro Cyril Blake and 50-year certificates were presented to W.Bro Anthony Michael and W.Bro Michael Silver.

W.Bro Cyril Blake was initiated into the Strawberry Hill Lodge (Province of Middlesex) on May 8, 1946. He was Master in 1960 and was Installing Master for the Centennial Meeting in April 1961. He was W.M. again in 1967 at the 125th meeting, having been especially invited for this honour. He became a member of Strawberry Hill Chapter in September 1948. He became a Joining Member of Tree of Life in December 2002. Congratulations were given as it was his 94th birthday two days after the meeting.



■ From left to right W.Bro Michael Silver (50 years), RW Bro Paul Gower, W.Bro Anthony Michael (50 years) and W.Bro Cyril Blake (70 years)

W.Bro Anthony Michael was initiated into Camperdown Lodge 52 years ago. He was Master four times and regularly swapped the roles of

Treasurer and Secretary with W.Bro Michael Silver. He is married with two boys one of whom, Stuart, is a member of the Tree of Life Lodge albeit that he lives in Australia. The other son was a Freemason but resigned as he was a barrister and found it

difficult to combine the two roles. W.Bro Michael Silver was a member of Camperdown Lodge for 46 years until its closure in 2012. He served in most offices and was Master three times. He acted as Treasurer for about 15 years and attained Senior London Grand Rank and Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer. He joined Tree of Life in June 2012 along with a number of other members of that Lodge when Camperdown handed back its warrant. Michael has been a regular attendee ever since.

Charity update

W.Bro Chris Noble, Provincial Grand Charity Steward

It was another busy year during which I have enjoyed 120 Lodge visits, answering questions, promoting the 2019 Festival and charity in general. One thing for sure is that Happy Herts Freemasons are serious about charity.

The Tercentenary celebrations are gaining momentum. The PGM has invited each Lodge to nominate a local small charity to be considered for one of 30 x £300 donations from Province as part of our overall celebrations. Watch out for details of various events, some in partnership with our Provincial neighbours. Eight Charity Stewards' workshops gained over 100 attendees across four centres. We are arranging charity steward seminars at each centre during October and November with an open invitation for all Lodge members and their partners. Watch out for details. We are pleased to report that the use of gift aid envelopes (gae) has again increased, with 138 Craft and 31 RA units collecting an amazing £123k, gaining over £25k in gift aid back

from the Inland Revenue. The process is simple, the rewards are impressive. Thanks to our centre representatives (see the website for contact details) who continue answering day-to-day questions and providing Festival support. W.Bro Stew Willett offers a vital link and has continued his great support in all we do for the Festival. We are now half way into our Festival with £1.64m donations achieved against our £3m Festival target. An excellent result thus far, but we now need us all to follow the example of our 1,700 members who have donated or pledged £400 to qualify as Festival Steward. Just £12.50 per month will immediately qualify you. Download an RPP form today. This 'reserve' will help achieve our goal. I look forward to your support. The Festival clay pigeon shoot days and golf days are still popular and well attended, and the Golden Ticket

competition winners, Herts Scots Lodge, had a fantastic meeting with over 100 guests watching the Executive perform the 2nd Degree ceremony. The Herts Family Fun Day was a great success. Thanks to our sponsors,

advertisers, stall holders and, of course, yourselves for being there. Just over £5,000 was raised by our guest local and national charities on the day, and an amazing £11,500 was raised by Lodge stalls for the 2019 Festival in support of the RMTGB. Each Lodge will be accredited accordingly.

We enjoyed great friendship at our August Festival

Golf Day at Luton Hoo with Team Ellenbrook taking the honours. Both the April and September clay pigeon shoots were very well supported. £1,000 was donated to the 2019 Festival. My thanks to you all for your continued support and generosity.



Wayfarers speech

In June Wayfarers Lodge No 1926 initiated Bro Kevin Louis locovozzi.

At the Festive Board, in response to his toast, Bro Kevin gave the following fascinating insight as to why he had wished to become a Mason.

"Since the days of my youth, I've had a keen interest in the Freemasons. The basis of that interest was recognition that Freemasonry, born of the British Isles, was responsible for bringing true civilisation to every corner of The Great Architect's Universe. To me, my Brethren, these early Freemasons were true pioneers.

"From the prospective of one who grew up in Savannah, Georgia, I can confirm the appreciation the city has for our founding father, Surrey's own General James Oglethorpe, who landed on the high bluffs of Savannah on February 12th, 1733 to establish England's 13th colony in North America. The purpose of this colony was to: 'Receive in Georgia, England's deserving poor, where they can be provided for'. "It was recognised that the Masters and Wardens of regular lodges in England, through generous collections amongst their members, raised the bulk of the funds needed to initially finance the endeavor.

"Although he was not a Freemason, General Oglethorpe, with the approval of The Grand Lodge of England and in appreciation for the generosity of England's Freemasons, established Solomon's Lodge in Savannah in December of



1733. The lodge was established with the "Old Customs" and is still in operation and considered the "Oldest Continuously Operating English Constituted Lodge of Freemasons in the Western Hemisphere".

"Five years later in 1738, George Whitefield, a young, 25-year-old Anglican evangelist, and friend of General Oglethorpe, joined the Solomon's Lodge and subsequently founded the Bethesda Home for Boys. Whitefield's endeavor to build an orphanage in Georgia was central to his preaching.

"On March 25th 1740, construction began on the outskirts of Savannah. Whitefield wanted the orphanage to be a place of "strong Gospel influence, with a wholesome atmosphere and strong discipline". It is still in operation today.

"Fast-forward 217 years later, on October 12th 1957, an unwed mother gave birth to twin boys who spent the first nine months of their orphaned lives in the comfortable

surroundings of the Bethesda Home for boys. Graciously, standing before you tonight Brethren, and your newest Brother, is one of those twins. Happy to be cared for the first nine months of his life by an institution founded and financed by Freemasons.

"It is with such heartfelt honour and gratitude that I express my sincere appreciation to the Wayfarer's Lodge for accepting me as a member and enabling me to become a Brother among Masons."

Fair Green meeting



Fair Green Lodge No 9410 celebrated its 25th anniversary Installation meeting in style. A dispensation allowed the Lodge to move the meeting from Sawbridgeworth

to Cheshunt to accommodate the 94 members and guests. The new Master W.Bro Jason Roberts was installed by W.Bro Paul Devlin.

Having suffered two recent deaths of long-standing and much-loved members an envelope collection was organised, raising £1,295, including Gift Aid, for St Clare's Hospice in Essex.

W.Bro Chris Noble, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, said it was a fitting tribute that the collection went to St Clare's Hospice and he was particularly pleased that Gift Aid envelopes had been used gaining an extra £259.

He then presented a 2019 Festival Vice Patron Certificate to the Lodge and invited the Secretary to endorse the summons accordingly.

Earlier, Lodge Charity Steward W.Bro Jim Outridge, presented a £10,000 cheque to the Provincial Grand Master RW.Bro Paul Gower.

The PGM thanked the brethren for their "wonderful support and generosity".

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Provincial Curator's Report

By Museum curator Brian Tierney

As I said in the last Provincial News, the 2017 Provincial Heritage Project dealing with the banners is now virtually complete. Shortly after the Craft Annual Meeting we will be sending the link details to all units of all orders allowing them to comment or suggest additions before going Provincial-wide in January 1917.

We must express our thanks over the last two or three years to all who have co-operated in this project. It is hoped it will remain a legacy for future research by those writing histories. There has been a jewel in the collection for some years that has given me some difficulty locating the correct details. It is a founders jewel of Sancta Maria Lodge whose number is 2682, but the jewel is clearly made as 2668. 2668 is St. John's Lodge in Nigeria.

The Grand Lodge Museum has provided the answer in that it has the founders jewel of Sir Edward Letchworth and it is recorded as having the incorrect number. One can only wonder how it was wrongly made and why were they were not replaced. Naturally being a very low-issue founders jewel, they are quite rare.

The very large jewel collection has some fine or unusual examples. Many visitors are amazed at the beauty and variety. One advantage is that the entire collection can be easily inspected rather than many others where you can only see those currently on display. Recently donated were two Military Past Master's Cords and jewels and one Royal Arch from the Irish Constitution showing the badge of the 8th Royal Irish Hussars; also an apron and sash of the 10th degree Swedish Constitution.

The UGLE website has been updated and it is well worth a look. One of the most interesting sections containing a wealth of information is from the following string; UGLE, Library and Museum, Explore, Resources. One can spend

hours on this section alone.

The Provincial Archive continues to grow very well, but there are still a number of individual files which have little or nothing in. Every Lodge and Chapter of all Orders has an individual file. In the autumn quieter period I will try and write to those where more is needed. Such information is vital to answering research



enquiries and to writers of histories. Whenever a special brochure or history is prepared do make sure we have a copy for the file as well as any photographs taken.

I make no apology for again repeating the need for not throwing anything away without letting us see it at the museum. Also can I repeat that if the 275th Grand Lodge Anniversary Jewel on your Master's collar has lost its pair of standards, I can easily replace them.

Finally, as always, please do come and see the museum. It is best to phone first if you are making a longer journey to check the rooms are free and that I am here.



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Trip to the Somme



To mark the centenary of the Battle of the Somme the Lodge of the Legion organised a bank holiday weekend trip to the battlefields and cemeteries. "We had a total of 43 in the group, Lodge members and friends and a very interesting time was had by all," said Lodge WM Clive Bradnum. "One of the party wore a pedometer which told him that he actually walked a distance of 23 miles over the four days of the tour. "It was very intensive and very tiring, especially for some of the more senior members of the group." Among highlights of the trip were tours of the battlefields of The Somme and Arras,

guided by expert Barrie Friend . Tailored notes and maps for the tours. Visits to the Albert 1916 Museum and Wellington Tunnels at Arras. But not everything went smoothly. Plans to take a coach across the Channel had to be swiftly adapted when it was discovered Eurotunnel and ferry crossings were full. The party took to Eurostar for the trip under the Channel to France. Having sent the coach over by sea the day before, they were picked up at Eurostar terminal in Lille to continue their journey.



Provincial Visit to Bulgaria



It was a decade ago that Hiram Lodge was consecrated in the Bulgarian capital Sofia by RWBro Colin Harris and members of the Hertfordshire

Province as an English speaking Emulation Lodge. Over the past 10 years it has been enthusiastically supported by the Executive and members of the Province. This being the 10th anniversary the annual weekend visit was led by The Provincial Grand Master and The Grand Superintendent who both took part in the consecration. Brethren of Hertfordshire were taken to a Roman fortress in the suburbs in "recognition for their support over the years". They and their families were also invited to a charity lunch by brethren of Hiram. A raffle and auction raised £1,500 for underprivileged children in Sofia.



UGLE Tercentenary Celebrations

Royal Albert Hall /Battersea Evolution, October 31, 2017

Brethren will be aware there will be a limited number of tickets available for the events taking place in London on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, for the theatrical extravaganza at the Royal Albert Hall and later that day, the dinner at Battersea Evolution.

In order to give Brethren who wish to attend an opportunity to do so, tickets for both events will be allocated by ballot. Applications should be made in the following way.

- Only Master Masons (and above) will be permitted to attend either event.
- Brethren who are successful in the ballot for the dinner at Battersea Evolution will automatically be granted tickets for the Royal Albert Hall.
- To apply for tickets, Brethren must, by December 21, 2016, have either applied by letter or email (to Fleet House, 10 Parkway, Porters Wood, St Albans, Herts AL3 6PA or provgsec@

pglherts.org), stating the following; Full name, Lodge name and number, Provincial or Grand Rank (where appropriate). Whether the application is for the Royal Albert Hall only or both events.

Only email applications will be acknowledged

Note: Brethren should be aware the cost of dining is likely to be in the region of £150. The ticket ballot will take place at Fleet House early in 2017, with successful applicants being informed by the end of January 2017. A reserve list will also be drawn up.

Tercentenary update

Further to the article in the last issue of Provincial News, preparations are well under way for Hertfordshire's own celebrations of the Tercentenary of the United Grand Lodge of England.

As previously stated, there will be a Service of Thanksgiving in the Abbey at St Albans on June 18, and a Celebratory Banquet is planned for early November.

We now have dates for many of the Inter-Provincial Sporting Challenge events, which are listed below, together with the email addresses of the Hertfordshire representative:

Quiz: 31st March 2017, Witney Masonic Centre, Oxfordshire (contact Tony Reffold at tonyreff@yahoo.com)

Bowls: Early May 2017, City and County Bowls Club, Oxford (team event, contact Neville Church at nevillechurch@btinternet.com)

Boxing: May 2017 (contact Nick Roussou at nickroussou@live.co.uk)

Fishing: June 2, 2017, Riverside / Rib Valley (contact John Clark at jc@cunninghamcarter.com)

Golf: June 8, 2017, Lambourne Golf Club (team event – contact Les Butler at ljbbutler@btconnect.com)

Running: June 11, The Cloisters, Letchworth (contact Andrew Porter at andrew.porter97@ntlworld.com)

Cycle Race: June/July, 2017, loop route starting from Masonic School, Rickmansworth (contact Tony Carne at tonyc@revfilm.net)

Tug of War: July 22, 2017, Masonic School, Rickmansworth (contact sportingchallenge@pgherts.org)



Annual summer lunch



The annual summer lunch staged by Knebworth and WGC Lodges was once again hailed a great success.

This year the sun shone – and the entertainers sang!

The Sunday afternoon party was again held in the garden of Masonic stalwart Alan Tyler in Burnham Green.

As yet the

total money raised from the party has yet to be finalised, but it will be split between local charities nominated by the two Lodges.

Alan told Provincial News: "It was hugely successful and everyone who came seemed to have a great time."

Among the attractions was live music from steel band Juma, and singers Motown Sensation, - which generated plenty of dancing - food, a grand raffle, auction and the usual wide selection of cask beers and other beverages.



Festival shoot

The sun shone on the fifth Herts Festival Clay Shoot at the Atkinson Grant & Lang shooting grounds in Markyate back in April.

Provincial Grand Charity Steward Chris Noble told Provincial News: "An enjoyable fun day was had by all.

"In all 98 gathered for a super day's clay shoot in support of the 2019 Festival.

"My thanks to all concerned, especially Stew Willett and Peter Walters.

"Hearty congratulations to our two top individual guns of the day, Roger Deards from Knebworth Lodge 6941 and Richard O'Keefe, of West Watford Lodge 6492, with excellent scores of 55 (92 per cent)."

The Wellington/Prupton/Walton Team K won the Clay

Preservation Award.

"We trust they enjoy their free tuition lessons," added Chris.

Temple Bar Lodge 1728 - Philip, Matthew, Steve, Robin and Dean - took their second first place with an excellent team score of 349 points.

Park Street District Gun Club Team 3 - Alison, Kevin, Colin, David and Tony - were only just beaten into second place with 347 points.

Chris said: "The real winners are the RMTGB charity for girls & boys with just over £1,400 raised on the day.

"It was great to have shooters from other Provinces including Bucks, Beds, Northants, Essex, Middlesex, London, and East Kent.

"My sincere thanks to all our shooters for their wonderful support and company."



■ Dick Knifton presents Atkin Grant & Lang vouchers for free lessons to the Clay Pigeon Preservation winners Wellington Walton Prutton Team K



■ W.Bro Dick Knifton presents Top Gun Runners Up medals to Park Street District Gun Club Team 3 with an excellent score of 347



Family fun day

There were smiles all round at the Provincial Family Fun Day at Rickmansworth.

Hosted by the Royal Masonic School for Girls the event was hailed a huge success by organisers. Around 3,000 people attended on the day.

Twelve guest charities raised over £5,000 for their worthy causes while the stalls and Lodges raised more than £11,000 toward the 2019 Festival in support of the RMTGB.

The official opening was performed by Hertsme Mayor W.Bro Peter Rutledge and the PGM Paul Gower.

Clr Rutledge said: "What a truly memorable day with a wonderful friendly atmosphere about the whole event.

"The weather was splendid and the theme of a family day was very much evident - there was something for all ages to engage in.

"It was also good watching old friends catch up with each other.

"The amount of work put in by the small army of volunteers behind the scenes was epic.

"It goes to show that as a Masonic family there is nothing that we cannot accomplish."

The PGM Paul Gower added: "The Family Fun Day attracted an attendance of some three thousand people.

"Many of them were masons with their families and friends and especially children.

"But there were also some who attended just to see what we are like.

"I am sure they will all have been impressed by the joyful occasion they witnessed.

"In some respects the success of the event in bringing together so many masons to enjoy such a happy occasion was even more impressive than the magnificent sum raised to support the Trust appeal and other charities."

One of the highlights was when members of the Executive, including the PGM Paul Gower, took it in turns to brave getting soaked with wet sponges. Provincial charity steward Chris Noble

told Provincial News: "Barbara Gower managed to hit her husband once or twice, but made sure by emptying the bucket of cold water over him."

He went on to thank, "The Cloisters which ran the barbecue, raising an amazing amount, W.Bro Mike Eames of the Green Man, Sandridge, who ran the bar, Redbourn Lodge the vegetarian stall, and the Provincial Regalia team who enjoyed a busy day answering questions and selling Festival regalia." W.Bro Noble added: "W.Bro Stew Willett, who has been an invaluable support in the planning and execution of the event, and I are enjoying a few days R&R before the start of the new Masonic season."

Provincial Information Officer Darren Bending said: "All those involved and who attended should be proud to say that they were there.

"We are also very grateful to the Royal Masonic School for Girls and the Masonic Province of Middlesex for helping and guiding us in our first attempt at putting on such an event. "It was a truly memorable occasion."

Pretty Muddy for Cancer Research

Hertfordshire Freemasons Sponsor Bishops Stortford Ladies' Support for Cancer Research UK.

When Mrs Shirley Hoy and nine other members of her Slimming World Group took part in the 'Pretty Muddy' five-kilometre assault course challenge in aid of Cancer Research UK, Herts Lodges were only too pleased to help.

Shirley is the wife of W.Bro Philip Hoy and thanks to a lot

of coercion, begging and pleading by him at meetings, but due mainly to the generosity of Hertfordshire Freemasons, she managed to raise £1,800 for the charity.

W.Bro Hoy told Provincial News: "Her thanks go to Medburn Lodge, Priory Chapter, Stansteads Abbots Mark Lodge, Preceptory of Jacques de Molay, Crossed Swords Preceptory, Provincial Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Chapter and the Provincial Priory for their generosity."

R.W.Bro Paul Gower and the M.E.GS Jim Sharpley both said that although the main focus of attention for charity was the 2019 Festival "we should not ignore other worthwhile causes", hence their very generous support.



Cancer Research UK's vision is to bring forward the day when all cancers are cured.

W.Bro Hoy said: "Over the last 40 years, cancer survival rates in the UK have doubled. In the 1970s just a quarter of people survived. Today that figure is half.

"The charity's ambition is to accelerate progress and see three quarters of patients surviving the disease within the next 20 years.

"This requires them to set an ambitious new agenda for cancer research, substantially increasing investment, pioneering new approaches and bringing new disciplines to bear on the cancer problem."

Shirley is very well known among Herts Masons in a number of degrees for her many years of organising social events

and charitable fundraisers for Masonic charities.

"She is immensely grateful for the support from Hertfordshire Freemasons and thanks you all," said W.Bro Hoy.



Lodge of Opportunity cheque

Last year's Master of the Lodge of Opportunity, W.Bro John Kemp, presented a cheque for £2,000 to Julia Dickerson local co-ordinator of Parkinsons UK.

Our picture shows W.Bro John MacKenzie, who is a Parkinsons sufferer to her left, and W.Bro Kemp, along with charity supporters.

Julia thanked members of the Lodge of Opportunity "for their care and generosity".



Teddy bear hunt

Youngsters from a preschool in the Province had a welcome surprise – thanks to a chance meeting some time back.

It began over two years ago when W.Bro Keith Gilbert's granddaughters began attending a Highfield preschool, for rising threes to rising fives, in Harpenden.

W.Bro Gilbert takes up the tale.

He said: "On collecting them one day, the manager asked me if I would be willing to read to the older two classes. She told me all of the teachers and helpers were women and some young people 'have challenging lives'.

"It would be great to have a Grandad reading, I was told.

"Once a week since then I have taken in two/three books to read and those of you who know me, will understand that I dramatise the storyline.

"It is audience participation and the young people are asked to join in with the sounds of the lions, monkeys, parrots and to make facial expressions of grumpiness, smiles, crying and laughing."

As mid-July marked the end of term W.Bro Gilbert asked the PGM if he might have some teddy bears for a hunt.

He agreed and the event was planned with the youngest going first so they found those bears easiest to find and so on until the oldest class had a real search.



Herts Keech cheque

The Province of Hertfordshire has again supported the Keech Hospice which looks after children with life-threatening illnesses.

Our picture shows W.Bro Richard John, Master of Park Street Lodge No 8556, presenting a £500 cheque on behalf of the Province to Keech nurse Stephen Lazarus.



RDA Charity Cheques

The Province of Hertfordshire and the Freemasons' Grand Charity joined forces to give a boost to a riding for the disabled charity.

Two cheques were presented by Richard Donnelly, Three Rivers Lodge Charity Steward on their behalf.

He thanked both the Province and the Grand Charity "for helping us support a really worthwhile local charity."

The cheques were handed over to Jackie Boulter of the RDA centre at Gaddesden Place, Bridens Camp, Hemel Hempstead.

For more about the charity go to www.facebook.com/pages/Gaddesden-RDA-Riding-School/132026750204465



Redbourn care in the community

Lodges joined forces to support Redbourn Care Group.

A combination of donations from Redbourn Lodge L8484, Park Street Lodge L8556, United Arts Rifles L3817 and Grand Charity fund matching raised £900.

The cheque was handed over at Ashwell House, St Albans. Chairman of the Redbourn Care Group, Barry Welch, expressed his gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the charity saying the money would go towards buying its next minibus.

He also thanked all members in supporting the charity which is "working to enhance the lives of elderly and less able residents of the village".

Redbourn Lodge has supported this charity for many years.

2019 Herts Festival

Report by Provincial Charity Steward Chris Noble

The Province is half way into the 2019 Festival to raise £3m in support of the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls & Boys. The Masonic Charities are now under the single umbrella of the newly formed MCF (Masonic Charities Foundation) but every penny we raise will help and support children in Hertfordshire and Provinces up and down the UK.

Festival Steward: Donate or promise to donate £400 (Just £12.50 a month until July 2019). This will immediately qualify you as Festival Steward and entitle you to wear your Festival Jewel with pride.

Wearing my jewel: The Provincial Grand Master encourages us all to wear our jewels. As Freemasons we are proud to support charity. Proud to support children in need. Proud to care for those less fortunate than ourselves. We should be proud to wear our Festival Jewels both in our Craft and Chapter meetings.

How do I obtain my Jewel?: Once you have qualified a letter of thanks will be sent to you inviting you to order your jewel. The sooner you qualify the sooner you will join the 1,700 Festival Members.

Higher Honorifics : Vice Patron £750 : Patron £1,000 : Grand Patron £2,000. Thirty-three members have qualified as Grand Patrons, 38 Patrons & 132 Vice Patrons.

How do I donate?: There are a number of ways to donate and qualify in support of the 2019 Festival.

- Ask your Lodge/Chapter Charity Steward to assist you.
- Obtain and complete a form from your centre, Fleet House, or RMTGB.
- Download a form from our website.

How are we doing ?: Thanks to the generosity of the members the Province has donated £1.64m . with outstanding promises still to come. Whilst this is fantastic we really do need each and every member to qualify as Festival Steward to ensure

we reach the £3m target set by the PGM.

Lodge Qualification: Each Lodge has been asked to raise and donate a target equal to membership x £500 over the five and a half years Festival period.

Vice Patron = 80 per cent : Patron = 100 per cent : Grand Patron = 120 per cent.

Our hearty congratulations to the following Lodges:

Grand Patron : Stortford L409 : Bushey Hall L2323 :

Earl Trafford L3500 : East

Hertfordshire L3748 : Mimmine & Bergnet L4932 : Park Street L8556.

Patron : St Albans L2786 : Bishop's Hatfield L6893 : Round Table L9221.

Vice Patron : Watford L404 : Berkhamstead L504 : Halsey L1479 : Cranbourne L1580 :

Sprig of Acacia L3318 : Halsey Hall L4752 : Old Albanian L4999 :

Edmonton Latymer L5026 : Chipping Barnet L5099 : Garston L5644 : Gloriana L6334 : Bissei L6563 : Goffs Oak L7169 : Tudor L7280 : Old Verulamians L7988 : Redbourn L8484 : Dyrham Park L8906 : Isambard Brunel L8908 : Shyre L9168 : Chiltern L9394.



Masonic Fishing Charity

Supporters of the Herts' branch of the Masonic Fishing Charity were out in the community again on two days earlier in the summer.

This time the venue was the Riverside Fishery in St Albans. The day started with the traditional egg, bacon and sausage bap and a cup of tea.

Over the two days 52 young guests, mainly from special needs schools, enjoyed one-to-one fishing with an experienced angler.

The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro. Paul Gower, presented a certificate to Brian Lakin, director of Verulam Angling Club and thanked the club and its members for "all their hard work and effort".

John Clark, of the fishing club's Hertfordshire Team, said: "It was a great day with Hertfordshire Province and Verulam Angling Club working together in the community."



■ W.Bro. with young guest and teacher



■ RW.Bro. Paul Gower PGM presents a certificate of thanks to Brian Lakin, Director of Verulam Angling Club.



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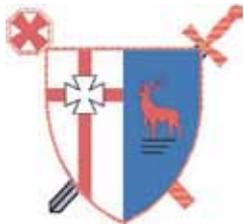
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Knights Templar

Provincial Information Officer

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

Full information of The Knights Templar in Hertfordshire is on the Provincial website. www.ktherts.com

York trip



Following the great success of the 'Away Weekend' to Warwick in 2015, the venue this year was the beautiful city of York.

And organisers have hailed it "a wonderful success". More than 100 Hertfordshire Knights made their way to York with families and friends. Fairfield Manor Hotel was their base, set a little way to the north of the city, surrounded by the spring-fresh farmland – and the venue in this former 18th century manor house,

"proved an exquisite choice".

The city of York is one of the great historical gems in the UK. The original city was enclosed in medieval stone walls to protect the inhabitants from marauding Scots and Norsemen. Denis Gibney said: "Central to the city is the magnificent York Minster Cathedral Church.

"As a visitor into this ancient monument, you are immediately aware of the immense size of the building.

"Around the main aisles of the nave, quire and apses, there are exhibitions demonstrating how the stained glass is made and conserved, (you can even design your own panel) along with various icons and decorative panels, which will intrigue not only the KT visitors, but also the Rose Croix and pilgrims.



"Across the road from the cathedral entrance there are many narrow and winding streets of the ancient city, with a considerable number of the original buildings carefully preserved, and still in use.

"There is also the National Railway Museum, which has original massive locomotives and railway memorabilia, taking you right back to the origins of steam engines and rail travel, including Stephenson's Rocket.

"On the Sunday night we all came together for the banquet and dancing, completing a very successful and enjoyable weekend whatever your interests."

A New Provincial Vice Chancellor



A large number of Knights of the Province were in attendance to support those who were being appointed, re-appointed or promoted by the Provincial Prior, RE Kt Tony Lapsley, including E Kt Michael Stanforth

PGtStB(B), who was re-appointed as Sub-Prior. The meeting was also well supported by a number of Provincial Priors and other senior representatives of Provincial Priors from all over the country, many of whom had travelled long distances in appalling weather to be there.

As always, a large contingent of the Provincial Bodyguard, under the command of E Kt David Sodey, PProvStB(B), were on hand to support the Provincial Marshal, E Kt Mike Beaty PGtStB(B), and his Deputy, E Kt John Offord, with the ceremonial duties in the Temple, which were performed to a very high standard.

During the meeting, the Provincial Prior presented the first ever Provincial Prior's Certificate of Meritorious Service to be awarded in Hertfordshire to VE Kt Les Butler, PGtReg, in recognition of his many years of long and devoted service to Knights Templar Masonry. This award, which had been kept as a closely guarded secret, was greeted with warm and prolonged applause from all present.

At the Festive Board that followed the meeting, the RE Provincial Prior presented the RW Provincial Grand Master with a cheque, on behalf of the Knights of the Province, for the sum of £1,000 towards the 2019 Festival. A second cheque for £500 was then presented by E Kt John Milner PGtA-de-C, on behalf of the members of the Standon Priory Preceptory No. 581. Both cheques were very well received, and followed the earlier announcement in the Temple of a substantial donation of £2,000 by the Province to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.



The meeting was held under the Banner of the Stuart Preceptory No. 28, whose members were also proud to display the original banner of the Watford Encampment, from which the Stuart Preceptory is descended. This banner is believed to have originated in 1840, and while it underwent extensive renovation by the seamstresses at Great Queen Street approximately 10 years ago, it still contains a substantial amount of the original material. Next year's meeting will be held under the banner of the Melita Preceptory No. 37, after the RE Provincial Prior accepted an offer of the Sub-Prior, who is also the current Eminent Preceptor of Melita, on behalf of all the members of the Preceptory.

Waltham Abbey Service



The Knights of The Province of Hertfordshire assembled for The Annual Service of Praise at Waltham Abbey in May. Members were received with a most cordial welcome from The Rector – Rev Peter Smith. Accompanied by Knights of The Temple and Knights of Malta, The Provincial Prior processed in under the assembled banners of the Hertfordshire Preceptories. "As always, this is a dramatic sight," Denis Gibney told Provincial News.

"The Abbey was again packed with Knights and their families. Fine singing was supported by the magnificent organ playing by Director of Music, Jonathan Lilley.

"We are always most grateful for the continued permissions given by the Abbey for us to hold our Annual Service in this beautiful medieval building, which never fails to provide a stunning venue.

"We were blessed with fine weather, which continued as we strolled across the grounds to the social centre for an excellent tea.

"Tony Lapsley, The Provincial Prior, was pleased once again, to present a substantial cheque to Rev Smith, which goes towards the upkeep of the Abbey.

"We look forward to being here again next year, and extend a cordial invitation to all Masons and their families, to join us in this very special event next May."



St Georges Day



More than 100 Knights and their families and friends gathered for the annual St George's Day Celebrations. This Provincial event of The Knights Templar, has been held in Hertfordshire for 10 years.

"It is always a great festival of colourful fun and camaraderie," Denis Gibney told Provincial News.

"This year was no exception. It turned out to be a superb afternoon.

"In traditional form, the

roast beef was paraded in under an Arch of Steel in the firm hands of Bob Landragin, and after circling the hall, was presented to The Provincial Prior Tony Lapsley, and was duly knighted, 'Sir Loin'.

"We were entertained by the lovely soprano, Gemma Turner, who gave us a medley of traditional English songs, leading up to the wonderful singing of the patriotic hymns, when everybody joined in with great enthusiasm.

"Many Knights by this time had shed their formal dinner suits and had donned patriotic fancy dress. It was also good to see John Paternoster in full flow, although confined to his wheelchair following his recent injury.

"It was a very happy occasion and we hope it will continue to be so for many years to come.

"Certainly, it was not an occasion to be missed."

Hertfordshire Knights Templar

Provincial Prior
Right Eminent Knight - Tony Lapsley

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of Knights Templar in Hertfordshire**

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

Burns Night

The Hertfordshire KT's annual Burns Night at Radlett was another huge success.

Headed up by "the mighty Jim Innes", the centre was packed by hearty Scots, with their families and supporters, for a most entertaining night of lively Celtic humour.

Jim gave the full address to the The Haggis, which responded 'in like style'.





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



■ R Em Kt Pt Barry Searle

HIGH HONOUR FOR OUR GRAND SUPERINTENDENT

The Grand Superintendent attended the Consecration of the Terence James Barnett Tabernacle No 277 in May at the Botley Masonic Centre. At this meeting Ill Kt Pt Jack Love was installed as Grand Superintendent of District 15, Surrey. The consecration and installation was carried out by the Grand High Priest, M Ill Kt Pt Gavin Maiden. The G Supt, R Em Kt Pt Barry Searle was awarded the honour and dignity of Knight Commander of the Priestly Orders. In the same ceremony R Em Kt Pt M Roalfe, G Supt District No 31 and R Em Kt Pt E Goodwin, G Supt District No 4, London were also honoured.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

The Annual Assembly of Grand College was held at Jurys Inn Hinkley Island, Hinkley in June. A number of Kt Pts from the District were present and afterwards dined with the Grand Superintendent. The following Kt Pts received promotion: Ill Kt Pt Peter Baikie PGVIIP, Ill Kt Pt Terry Bany PGVIIP, Ill Kt Pt Jeff Hardy PGVIIP, Ill Kt Pt Bob Chilvers PGIVP, Ill Kt Pt Alan Pilcher PGIVP, Ill Kt Pt Eric Mitchell KHW.

First Appointments: V E Kt Pt John Bond PGIIP, V E Kt Pt Bill Rumford PGIIP, V E Kt Pt John Linley PGStB, V E Kt Pt Peter Thompson PGStB, V E Kt Pt John Ellis PGBB.

The Grand High Priest was pleased to appoint R Ill Kt Pt Ian Smith, GCPO as Assistant Grand High Priest following the retirement of R Ill Kt Pt Michael Hadfield.

A number of changes to the Regulations were approved including the requirement that Cordeliers must be worn.

THE PILLAR FUND

The Order, which was founded in 1924, will soon reach its centenary and to celebrate this occasion it is intended that the procurement of our own premises would be a fitting tribute

and ensure its continuance for the years to come. In order to do this a Centenary Pillar Fund has been established, to which it is hoped that all members of the Order will contribute.

The current premises extends to only 675 sq ft, which is less than the footprint of a modern three bedroom semi. This leaves barely enough space for any storage. Suitable alternative accommodation must, therefore, be the medium-term goal of the Order.

The Pillar fund was officially launched at the Annual Assembly in June 2012. While there is no "fixed" target of funds required to house the Order, in view of the current price of property in York, a figure of £400,000 is not unrealistic.

KTP SUNDAY LUNCH

The KTP is holding its summer luncheon at Great Hadham Golf Club on October 9. This is a splendid lunch open to all masons, their families and friends. An application form can be found at the KTP page on www.hertsmasons.co.uk

DISTRICT MEETING

This years District Meeting will take place on Thursday, October 27, at Cheshunt hosted by John Owen Place Tabernacle.

This year's demonstration of the Appendant Degrees will be: Knight of the White Cross of Torphichen

All High Priests of each Tabernacle and all members especially newly admitted High Priests are expected to attend.

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



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Mark Masons

Provincial Information Officer

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Email: jackfranks@ntlworld.com

Future engagements

The Rugby at Twickenham is on Thursday, December 8. We usually have a great day. Contact David Firshman davidfirshman@gmail.com for more details.

Once again Brethren I welcome you to our Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Pages. The year progresses and although we do not seem to have as crowded a schedule as previous years it is proving to be a very interesting time, but please don't forget these are your pages if you have anything special happening in your Lodge please contact me.

FRIDAY 15TH MAY

The Provincial Demonstration Team was at work again, this time with a visit to Hertfordshire's oldest Mark Lodge, Watford Lodge No 241. The man at the helm was the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Richard Walker. The Lodge provided the usual great welcome and although the weather was not helpful with torrential rain and heavy congestion making travel difficult, all the team arrived safely and rehearsals took place from early afternoon under the direction of Provincial DC Roy Moth, for the Ceremony of Advancement. This was not to be just a practice, it had to be just perfect, with a candidate, Bro Robert Roe, ready to join Mark Masonry. After the Lodge was opened the Provincial Team entered in procession with a great welcome from Lodge members. The



members of the team took over the positions from Lodge officers and the ceremony began. Brethren I can assure you that not a single

person in the Temple was disappointed. We were treated to an excellent ceremony. Every position provided us with a treat, from Wardens to Overseers, but special mention must be given to the acting WM W. Bro Chris Slater who delivered the Degree in an excellent manner, also to W. Bro Warren Singer who explained the signs again perfectly and W. Bro Richard Harvey who explained the working tools. All three aforementioned Brethren are Provincial Stewards. That is the calibre of Provincial Officers. The SD position was occupied by W.Bro Reggie Taylor Harding

who had damaged his Achilles tendon and was wearing a very large and heavy plastic boot, as well as being in great pain. He performed his task perfectly. His voice could be heard in every part of the Temple. How he moved about I don't know, but he did and Brethren we had a treat.

The candidate was in no doubt that Reggie was in charge. After this the Festive Board was just as good and an excellent meal and wine concluded a great day.

FRIDAY 29TH APRIL

I am always interested in different articles for our pages and website. I received this from our PGM and it is indeed an interesting read.

On April 29 he was invited as a guest to a Mark Installation Meeting, not in Hertfordshire but Thames Lodge of MMM No 1183 in Henley on Thames in the Province of Oxfordshire.

The reason for his visit was that W.Bro David Cumming was being installed into the Chair. David used to be a neighbour and good friend of our PGM and they have always kept in contact and this is the reason that he had invited Chris to his Installation as his guest. However, the PGM of



Oxfordshire, Ian Alexander, heard about this and decided to attend and take over the ceremony up to and including the obligation in the inner workings. Our own PGM Installed David Cumming in the Chair and the PGM of Berkshire Richard Olliver delivered the Working Tools.

That is quite some ceremony, with three PGMs taking part in the ceremony.

But that was not all. James Hildich, PGM of Oxfordshire and PGM of the Craft in Oxfordshire, was present and presented a Mark Grand Lodge certificate. At the same meeting there were two other RW Brethren, Peter Sands PPGM of Berkshire and Richard Slade PPGM of Oxfordshire.

The photo shows the installed Master with Chris Radmore to his left and the above PGMs and PPGMs.

MARK PROVINCIAL GRAND STEWARDS LODGE

The Mark Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge was set up as a working Lodge to support the Hertfordshire Mark Province in any way required.

The Lodge was consecrated in 2006 and has grown to a Lodge of over 60 members, meeting twice a year at various Masonic centres being a "Travelling Lodge".

At the first meeting in October, the PGM Installs the new Master, at the second a meeting a formal lecture/talk is given. The conditions set for being a member are as follows:

Be Appointed a Provincial Mark Steward. Be a Craft Steward and a Royal Arch Steward as well.

To be a member of the Mark Provincial Stewards Lodge is an honour as it recognises the Brothers as future leaders in the province. As a member he is expected to volunteer to undertake physical work in setting up at the Girls School, Rickmansworth for the Annual Provincial Meeting, the day before the meeting, working as Stewards on the day itself and breaking down and putting away the following day.

He may also be expected to act as an Officer in the "Bunny Run" at the Provincial Meeting.

He could also be asked to attend Mark Lodges in the Province as requested by the Provincial Mark Steward's Lodge Secretary, to provide support and encouragement to a Lodge passing through a difficult period.

He can even be asked to take an office if a Lodge Officer is absent.

Overall the Lodge is a very happy unit, enjoying the fellowship of other Mark Stewards in other Provinces and working within the Province of Hertfordshire to ensure its continued success.

Are you interested in joining? Do you meet the joining conditions? Then please contact the Secretary Colin Taylor email colin.taylor7@ntlworld.com

A GREAT DAY WAS HAD AT THE MARK GOLF DAY ON MAY 6

The results for the Golf Day were as follows:

1. Winner of the Individual Competition and the Keith Emerson Trophy – Stuart Adams, Watford Lodge No 241 – 39 stapleford points.
2. Winning Pair – Robbie Biggs and Stuart Adams (Watford Lodge No 241). Total stapleford score – 74 points.
3. Nearest the Pin (2nd shot on the 4th) – Jon Paddon.
4. Nearest the Pin (1st shot on the 15th) – Jay Patel, White Stone Lodge No 1832.

With thanks to Tim Coles for this article.



PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT CHARITY STEWARD DENNIS BROWN

Among the Masonic Provinces, Hertfordshire currently ranks about 12th in its fundraising efforts for this important charity. Your support has been fantastic, but can we do more? The pens with the light at the end are selling well - they now cost £3 each - and the drip mats are another excellent way of promoting this charity. Supplies of these can be obtained from Dennis Brown, the Assistant Prov Charity Steward (email: watfordian@ntlworld.com).

Special thanks go to W Bros Noel McLachlan and Paul Oxtoby for their efforts in promoting the charity.

Dennis reports that he and Tony Smith (the Prov. Charity Steward) are working up some fresh merchandising ideas which they hope to promote with Lodge Charity Stewards when they get to meet them in the coming weeks.

Meanwhile if any Brother has any fund raising ideas, please get in touch with Tony or Dennis so that they may spread knowledge of good ideas as widely as possible.

FRIENDS OF THE LODGE SCHEME

May we remind all Mark Masons in Hertfordshire of the Friends of the Lodge scheme which has been running successfully for some time. We realise those keenest and most dedicated to Freemasonry are not necessarily those who are best well off financially. The Friends scheme enables Mark Masons who are in good standing with their mother Lodge to be placed on the mailing lists for other Lodges without the need to pay another subscription to Mark Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Lodge.

For more information about the scheme contact your Lodge Secretary.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Annual Assembly of the Provincial Royal Ark Marine Degree. The Annual Assembly was held at the Metropolitan Police Club, Bushey and was attended by more than 100 Brethren and I must mention W. Bro Jon Lydon for all his planning that is so meticulously done.

This meeting was held under the Banner of the Installed Commanders Lodge No 1121 and was opened by W. Bro Bill Reed the Commander. After the Lodge was opened the PGM and the Provincial Officers were received and the PGM took the chair. During the Assembly, 12 Royal Ark Mariners were appointed to Provincial Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank. Gruffyd S Evans, Rodney S Hancock, Mark Long, Jack S Boswell, Keith Townsend, John E Gibson, Richard J Harvey, David F Treleaven, Paul G Benham, Philip E Haig, Paul J. Craker, David J Perkins.

Well done to all these Brethren.

After this the PGM addressed the Assembly, this was then closed.

The Installed Masters Lodge was then opened. W. Bro Paul Gower PGM of the Craft in Hertfordshire was elected to the Chair for the forthcoming year.

We were then treated to an excellent talk on the reminiscences of Masonry within the Sub Continent by W. Bro John Dye.

Brethren if you are an Installed Master in either or both Degrees you will enjoy being a member of 1121 Lodges.

OUR NEW ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER

Jordan Giddings was born in Harpenden in 1967 and has lived there for most of his life. He attended St Nicholas Church School and Roundwood Park Comprehensive School in the town before winning an open scholarship to read Physics at Balliol College, Oxford. Graduating in 1988 he undertook a PhD in nuclear particle physics at Imperial College London working between CERN in Geneva and DESY in Hamburg before joining University College London as a Research Fellow. In 1994 Jordan joined the Civil Service, firstly as a research scientist followed by a variety of roles including advising the Government Chief Scientific Adviser on defence, aerospace and security policy. He is presently a senior Civil Servant in the Civil Service leading a large multidisciplinary team of scientists, engineers and analysts. Along the way he has been Chair of the Intellect Defence Research and Technology Council, a board member of ERTICO and Chair of its public authorities' space and a wide range of consultancy and non-executive director appointments. He also continues in his role as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow to the Imperial College Institute for Security Science and Technology. He is a chartered physicist, chartered scientist, Fellow of the Institute of Physics and Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology. Following a Guinness fuelled evening in a local pub, Jordan approached his long-term friend and local butcher, W.Bro. Peter Russell, then Master of Harpenden Lodge which led to Jordan's Initiation into Harpenden Lodge No. 4314 in 1997 and subsequently to his exaltation into Harpenden Chapter in 1999 which started to stimulate his deep interest and engagement with Freemasonry. His first Craft Chair was in Arts and Aldersgate Lodge No. 1657 (now the Grand Charities Lodge) in 2002 followed by Craft Chairs in Harpenden, St James Abercorn No. 1579 and St Nicholas 6658. Jordan was appointed Assistant Provincial Grand Chaplain in 2009 and promoted to Deputy Provincial Grand Chaplain in 2013. He is also an active member of both the Salisbury Union University Lodge No. 767 and the Veritatem Sequere Research Lodge No. 9615 in Hertfordshire. Outside of Hertfordshire Jordan is an active member of Westminster and Keystone Lodge No. 10 and Pegasus Lodge No. 2205 in London (where he holds London Grand Rank) and the Apollo University Lodge No. 357 in Oxfordshire. In the Royal Arch he is a Past First Principal

of Harpenden Chapter No. 4314 and was appointed as a Provincial Grand Steward and then Provincial Deputy Grand Registrar. He is also a member of the Past First Principals Chapters and is taking the First Principal's Chair in Old Albanians Chapter No. 4999 in 2016.

Jordan was Advanced into Camden Mark No. 418 (London) in 2005 and was Elevated into Rose and Lily RAM in 2007 where he is a past Commander. He was also a member of the Cloisters (as Past Master of William Hamilton Underhill Lodge), Provincial Grand Stewards, White Stone and Hertfordshire Installed Mark Masters Lodges. Jordan was appointed as Provincial Assistant Grand Chaplain in 2009 and promoted to Provincial Deputy Grand Chaplain in 2015. He has been an active member of the Mark Development Committee for approaching 10 years.

Jordan has deep interests and engagements in international Masonry, triggered by the work of the Herts Provincial Team during the consecration process for Hiram Lodge No. 37 under the United Grand Lodge of Bulgaria in 2006 followed by the consecration of the Lodge St John in Serbia in 2007. He is active Banner Bearer for the CBCS Priory of Ypres in the Grand Lodge of Belgium and has connections with Masonry in both Austria and France.

Outside of Mark, Craft and Royal Arch, Jordan is also active Provincial Herald for the Hertfordshire Knights Templar as well as a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, Royal and Select Masters, Royal Order of Scotland and SRIA.

Jordan still lives in Harpenden with his partner, Becky where they enjoy the simple pleasures of pubs, travelling, friends and contributing to a range of charitable causes. He is a Liveryman in the Worshipful Company of Masons in the City of London.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE ANNUAL MEETING, JULY 12

What a day! I must first start by congratulating the Provincial Grand Secretary and the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. The organisation that must have gone into the day to achieve such perfection must have taken ages. Trevor and Roy well done. Before the meeting Brethren would have noticed that just by the front door a stall was set up by W.Bro Dennis Brown, the Assistant Provincial Charity Steward, selling key lights, pens and table mats, etc. for HOPE FOR TOMMOROW. I believe Dennis did a good trade, he never misses an opportunity.

The meeting itself took the normal format. First the processions of the Officers of the year, then visiting Officers from other Degrees and Provinces, then our own PGM Chris Radmore. Visiting guests were introduced from Provincial Grand Lodges across the country by the PGM. The roll of Lodges was called and all Lodges were represented. Reports from the various officers were presented. We then had the main event to Appoint and Install the New Assistant Provincial Grand Master. The PGM obligated W.Bro Dr Jordan Giddings.

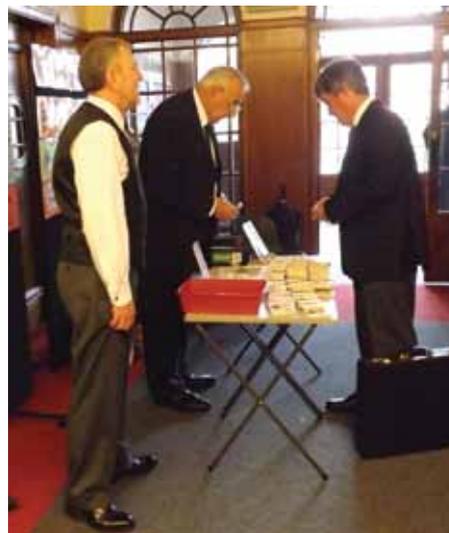
The next item on the agenda was to appoint and invest Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year. This list is



available on the website. Congratulations to all the Brethren who received Active and Past Ranks.

W.Bro Neil Philips was presented with a Past Provincial Assistant Grand Masters Collar and also two rather large boxes containing a beautiful cut glass ships decanter and six wine glasses, by the PGM in recognition of the invaluable work he has done over the last four years. Well done and thank you Neil.

The PGM's Silver token was presented to W.Bro Will Dyer PPGJW, Prov G Tyler, for the time and achievement he has put into Hertfordshire Mark Masonry over many years.



Presentations were then made of Grand Patron Gold Lodges Collars to Hertford Lodge 366, Fratres Scriptabacorum Lodge 1508 and St. Cecilia Lodge 1701 and a Patron Collar to Stanstead Abbotts Lodge 1809. For the Grand Patron Gold Award the Province now has 31 of our Mark Lodges with this award.

The RWPGM then addressed Provincial Grand Lodge. His

address is also available on the Provincial part of the website. Alms were collected and Provincial Grand Lodge closed.

In all 312 attended. A very good show.

After a few toasts and speeches, a very entertaining speech was given by the DPGM Richard Walker to the PGM and a quick reply by the PGM. A very enjoyable meal was had by all. Brethren if you have not attended a Provincial Meeting you are missing a very important part of Mark Masonry.





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.

A year in the life of Harpenden RA Chapter No 4314

The Installation of the Principals takes place in January and falls in the week of the anniversary of the birth of Robbie Burns.

Hence, for the past 14 years members have celebrated the Installations alongside a "wee Burns' Celebration". Attendance for this meeting has always been between 55 and 65 and some guests return year after year, including those who at one time might have been accompanying a member of the RA Executive.

2017 will be no exception to this now historic occasion. However, it will be an even more significant event as it will be the 75th anniversary of the Chapter and falls on January 25, the very day of the anniversary of Robbie Burns' birth. The Chapter's second meeting of the year is in April and for several years past companions have held a theme night. Celebrations have included London, Old English Night, St George, Shakespeare and Kipling.

This year Harpenden Chapter is revisiting its Kipling Night, as December 2015 was the 150th anniversary of his birth and 2016 is the 80th anniversary of his death. All members of the Chapter, and several guests assist with readings and associated songs.

For the first time in the Chapter's history it did not have a candidate for Exaltation in 2015. This year it had three, the latest Exaltation being next April. Should others present themselves we will consider a double ceremony.

A spokesman told Provincial News: "Our Chapter is proud of the support given to RA and Craft appeals. We were high on the list of the 2013 RA appeal and already have given substantially to the 2019 Craft Festival for the RMTGB.

"In January our MEZ announced he wished £225 from the Benevolent Fund to be given to the Craft 2019 Festival in aid of the RMTGB and £75 to Alzheimer's research. He also gave a cheque for £500 to the Deputy Grand Superintendent to be given to the Craft 2019 Festival in aid of the RMTGB.

"Our membership of 50 regularly attend our meetings and we have been lucky enough to recruit both Exaltees and Joining Members. We are appreciative of the support given by the Executive of the RA present and those in the past who have attended and participated in our meetings."

Royal Arch Golf Day

In July the Royal Arch Golf Day took place at Redbourn Golf Club with the sun shining.

Fifty-two Companions took part, joined by wives and partners in the evening for dinner.

The ME Grand Superintendent Jim Sharpley and ME Grand Superintendent Wayne Williams (Northants and Hunts) were also there.

Winner of the singles competition was John Campbell of Elstree Chapter 3092, who received the Alec Fuller Cup for the best score by a Hertfordshire Companion. Runner-up was Chris Hoad from Bedfordshire.

The Sydney Tuck Trophy for the doubles competition was won by John Campbell and Tim Huckle (Provincial Grand Treasurer designate). Mark Deeming and Stephen Bland, both of East Herts Chapter 3748, were runners-up.

Stuart Adams and Peter Fisher each won a sleeve of golf balls for nearest the pin on the 7th and 16th par 3s.

The event raised £541.

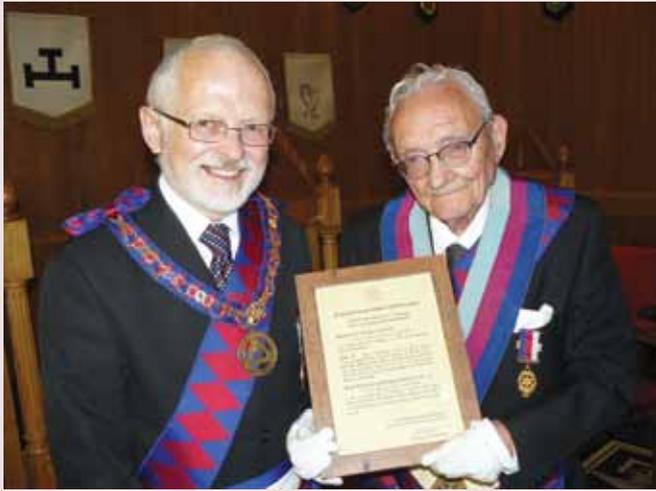


North Watford & Oxhey Chapter No. 6918 – 10 Glorious Years

Twenty-eight members of the North Watford & Oxhey Chapter, No 6918, gathered at Watford Masonic Hall to mark the 10th anniversary of the amalgamation of Oxhey Chapter with North Watford Chapter.

The Immediate Past Grand Superintendent, E Comp John Ilott, who presided at the amalgamation meeting in 2006, attended and expressed his delight at the success of the Chapter.

E Comp John Ilott was warmly welcomed by the Principals of the Chapter, E Comps Jim Reynolds, Gavin O'Sullivan and Paul Clark and the remainder of the Companions. The First Principal, E Comp Jim Reynolds - who was also present at the amalgamation meeting - and E Comp John Ilott both commented that the Chapter was in good heart 10 years on and that amalgamations can be successful when a positive attitude is displayed by the membership. The Chapter meets three times a year on a Saturday and welcomes visitors, joining members and exaltees.



50 Years of Loyal Service

On Thursday July 7th 2016, E Comp Paul Blakemore, the 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, presented a Royal Arch 50 Year Service Certificate to E Comp Vernon Elphick, PAGDC.

He was exalted into Doric Chapter No 933, in London on March 15th 1966 but this Chapter was sadly erased in 2012. He became a joining member of Phocas Chapter No 9295 in 2012 where he continues to enjoy his Royal Arch Masonry.

50 years in Royal Arch Freemasonry



E Comp Tony Matthews was initiated into Icknield Lodge 4670 in 1962, by his father.

He rose through the ranks becoming Worshipful Master in 1973.

He was exalted into the Holy Royal Arch, again by his father, in December 1965, and was installed as MEZ in 1976. His golden milestone was recognised by the Province at the chapter's regular convocation in April when he was presented with the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent's 50 Year Certificate by Deputy Grand Superintendent, E Comp David Hampton. Twenty two members and guests were present at the meeting to

congratulate Tony, who responded by saying how much he enjoys the Royal Arch and how much pleasure Freemasonry has given him over the years.

Due to work commitments he found it necessary to move to the Reading area, but rarely misses a meeting, fulfilling his role as Scribe N.

Icknield Chapter No4670 Presentation

On 6th July 2016, a cheque was presented from Icknield Chapter (plus a similar donation from the Hooks Cross Ladies Festival) to the "Friends of Lister Hospital" at the Cloisters Masonic Centre, Letchworth Garden City.

Icknield Chapter has always liked to support local charities and they recently approved a donation of £250 to the "Friends of Lister Hospital" to help with the purchase of necessary ECG machines.

Comp Ted Holmes, Charity Steward (who is also in the Chair of Hooks Cross Lodge), is also Vice-Chair of this Charity, so the Chapter was delighted to support and help with their fund raising efforts.



■ From left – right: Linda Simmons (Friends of Lister Hospital) Cathy Holmes, Martin Goodrich (Friends of Lister Hospital), Ted Holmes (Principal Sojourner of Icknield Chapter), Graham Draper (Scribe E of Icknield Chapter)

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