

Freemasonry@86 News 03 May 2024

#FridayFeeling



Welcome

Here you will find your news and information update for the 'Companion Orders of Freemasonry' administered from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street.

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Companion Orders Diary

Below are some upcoming dates of events for our Grand teams in their respective Orders. You can find the calendar of the regular annual meetings of our Orders further down this newsletter.

Saturday, 04 May 2024 - A.M.D. Installation of Graham Newton as District Grand Prefect for East Lancashire.

Thursday, 09 May 2024 - R.C.C. Installation of Timothy John Barrett as Intendant-General for East Midlands.

Thursday, 16 May 2024 - S.C. Consecration of River Thames Consistory No. 152 (Middlesex)

Saturday, 25 May 2024 - K.T. Installation of Dean Robert White as Provincial Prior for Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

Thursday, 30 May 2024 - Mark Installation of John Finlay as Provincial Grand Master for Essex.

Saturday, 15 June 2024 - K.T. Installation of David Handley as Provincial Prior for Warwickshire.

Saturday, 29 June 2024 - R.C.C. Installation of Glyn Arwyn Edwards as Intendant-General for North Wales.

Saturday, 13 July 2024 - Mark Installation of Capt. Hilton Oates as District Grand Master for the District of South Africa (Western Division).

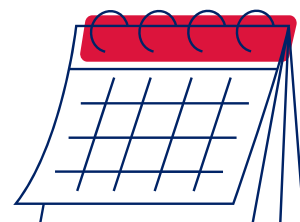
Monday, 15 July 2024 - K.T. Installation of Martin Leslie Alexander as Provincial Prior for South Africa (Cape).

Thursday, 18 July 2024 - R.S.M. Installation of Phillip Purves as District Grand Master for Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

Saturday, 20 July 2024 - R.S.M. Installation of Paul Stewart Knight as District Grand Master for South Africa.

Saturday, 12 October 2024 - O.S.M. Installation of Scott Dunn as Prov.G.S.R. for the Province of Kent.

Updated calendar





Grand Senatus 2024

The Grand Temple was filled to capacity with representatives from across the Constitution worldwide. The Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, VI, presided over the meeting, ably assisted by a full team of Grand Officers.

Following the initial items of business, the Deputy Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Francis Charles Spencer, proposed the re-election of Ian Stanley Currans as Grand Summus. The proposition was confirmed with acclamation from the Companions present and the Grand Summus was duly Proclaimed by the Grand Director of Ceremonies, Phillip Purves.

The Grand Summus then announced he would be re-appointing R.Dist.Comp. Francis Charles Spencer as Deputy Grand Summus, and R.Dist.Comp. Howard Saul Markham as Assistant Grand Summus. These re-appointments having been announced and Proclaimed, it was time to appoint and invest the other active Grand Officers of the year, followed by those receiving promotion in, or appointment to, Grand Rank. Following further items of business, the Grand Summus took the opportunity to address Grand Senatus. He welcomed everyone to Grand Senatus, which this year saw the highest ever attendance. Membership growth over the past year has been the highest ever and he reminded everyone of the importance of our Companions also continuing their activity in the Order of the Secret Monitor as our recruiting ground.

He congratulated all those he had appointed or promoted today, as well as those who received their 5th and 4th Grades yesterday. He especially welcomed R.Dist.Comp. Terry Shearn, Provincial Grand Summus for Essex, on his first meeting of Grand Senatus following his installation. He gave thanks to Dist.Comp. Ray Clare on all he has done for the Province of Essex over many years. He spoke about the many Consecrations he and his team have attended over much of the world, and there are more to come.

He went on to greet all our overseas visitors as well as Heads of the Orders. He then said he had a special appointment to make, to someone who has contributed much to the Order. He asked the Grand Director of Ceremonies to escort R.Dist.Comp. Mik Barnes, Past Provincial Grand Summus of Surrey, to him. He then had much pleasure in investing R.Dist.Comp. Mik with his Chain of Office as Grand Regent Vicarious.

Finally, there were thanks to the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his ceremonial team, and the Grand Recorder and 'Tribe of Dan' at Mark Masons' Hall for all their hard work and support.

There being no further business, Grand Senatus was closed and the Grand Summus greeted everyone on leaving the Temple. We then retired for refreshment. After three very successful meetings, the Grand Summus and his team were finally able to relax and reflect on a job well done.

You can read our Grand Summus's address [here](#).







[Click here to get a taste of what it was like at the Grand Senatus Meeting 2024 \(YouTube Video\)](#)



The Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother David C. Purdie, was joined by an armada of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers at the Installation ceremony of the Sir Francis Drake Mark Lodge No. 617. These distinguished visitors included Very Worshipful Brothers John P. Clendinning, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Peter Hawken, Past Provincial Grand Master, and the past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Very Worshipful Brother Bill Humphries.

During the meeting, Worshipful Brother Richard Thomas, P.G.J.D., who is also the Provincial Prior for Devon and Cornwall K.T., was Installed into the chair of Adoniram in fine form by Worshipful Brother Stephen Ladlow.

It was great to see that there were so many visitors representing Companion Orders at the meeting. This made the ceremony for the new Master even more special. The evening ended with the customary fun and laughter at the festive board.

Malling Abbey Lodge No. 1425 celebrates 50th year



Download photos



Malling Abbey Lodge No. 1425 of Mark Master Masons in the Mark Province of Kent celebrated their Lodge's 50th Anniversary year, on Saturday 27 April 2024. With an evening full of entertainment called 'Showstoppers', was kindly arranged by W.Bro. Norman Sams. The entertainers were a group called 'Cameo Opera'.

An Advancement by Dispensation at Claughton Mark No. 705



Download photos



On 29 April 2024, Claughton Mark No. 705, which meets at Clifton Road, Birkenhead held an additional meeting to perform an advancement for Bro. Phillip Osbourne, in a very well attended meeting with 10 Provincial Officers, accompanying our Asst.Prov.G.M., John Miller.

Bro. Phil was advanced in fine style by the Lodge team, the ladder of which is made up of entirely non-Worshipful Brothers, which given the Lodge has in a two-year period advanced 9 new members and welcomed 4 more joining members, is indicative of the recent increase in interest in Mark Masonry in Cheshire.

Our Asst.Prov.G.M. John Miller who is also a member of the Lodge, was pleased to welcome Cheshire's newest Mark Master Masons into the Lodge on behalf of the R.W. Prov.G.M., and to also present the Grand Patron Collarette to the Lodge, on achieving that significant level of support to the 2024 M.B.F. Festival.

Indeed, with a further £ 200 donated to the festival, and £185 raised in sponsorship of our Prov.G.M.'s 5 Peaks Challenge the generosity and support of the lodge was again demonstrated in fine style.

With at least 4 more candidates awaiting to be proposed/ balloted for and initiated, the future looks bright at Claughton Mark No. 705.

Centenary of Composite Lodge No. 802



Download photos



On 25 April 2024, we saw the Centenary of Composite Lodge No. 802, and marking this historic 100 year milestone was a celebratory Lodge meeting, with R.W.Bro. Francis Spencer, Deputy Grand Master, presenting the Centenary Warrant, followed by a presentation to all Composite members of commemorative Centenary Jewels.

With R.W.Bro. Tom Quinn Prov.G.M. and a large delegation in attendance, a talk by W.Bro. Duncan McGhee outlined a history of the Lodge since 1924 to commemorate the event, and the Prov.G.M. presented field promotions to 3 members of the Lodge and a Grand Lodge certificate to Bro. Kadir Balim.

The Centenary celebration was finished with an excellent reception and Festive Board, and all those in attendance received a commemorative coin provided by W.Bro. Marcus Johnson.

Team Van Van Challenge met up for Breakfast



Download photos



On 26 April 2024, the majority of the Van Van team of 6 riders and 2 support members met up at a suitably central point, for breakfast, and discuss the finer details of the challenge, now a mere 7 short weeks away.

It was also a chance to check out each other's bikes, and discuss possible modifications with the bike owned by Dave Fardoe currently sporting a go Pro Camera, USB socket, phone holder and cruise control gadget, not bad for a 125cc bike.

If you can support the team, on the last challenge of the 2024 Cheshire M.B.F. Festival, please click the link [here](#).

Cheshire Mark Masons' 5 Peaks Challenge



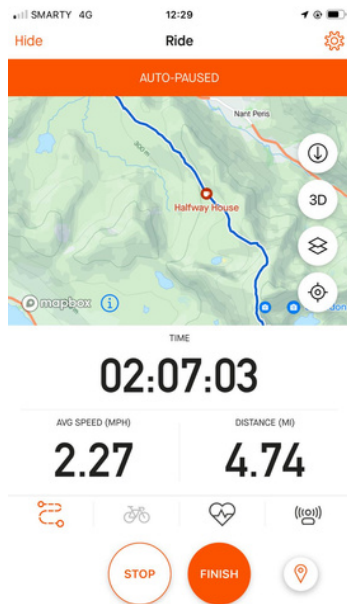
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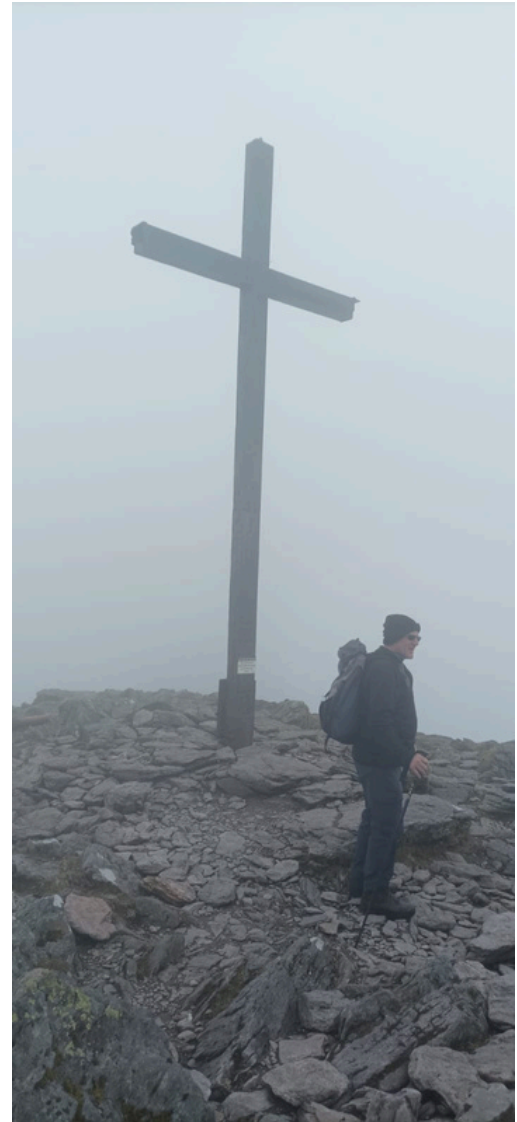
Climb every mountain? The hills are alive to the sound of Masons!

A Team of Mark Master Masons from Cheshire, led by our indefatigable and indomitable Prov.G.M., Gary Raymond Horstman are taking on the 5 highest peaks in the British Isles to raise money for the 2024 Cheshire Festival. On Wednesday, Mount Snowdon was climbed and today, Carauntoohil in Ireland is the next to feel the boots of the #markinmotion. Ben Nevis awaits on the 06 May, Scafell Pike on the 08 May and Snæfell (Isle of Man, not Iceland!) rounds the challenge off on 10 May. to donate, click [here](#).





Well, steamy, organist, inhaler.. were the words for the summit of Carrauntoohil and it looks as if they needed one! A "soft day" in Ireland, and some misty mountains to hop down.



Remember- to donate, follow the link [here](#).

Cornwall Keeps Moving To Support the Grand Master's Keystone Fund



Download photos

Toward the end of 2023, R.W.Bro. Peter J. Furness Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province of Cornwall, announced his intention to walk the 288 Miles of the Cornwall Coastal Path, to raise funds to be donated to the Grand Master's Keystone Fund. The Cornwall Coastal path runs from the rugged and windswept cliffs at Morwenstow in the far North East of the County, via Lands End to Saltash in the South East, the walk has been split into 46 sections, with each section being supported by a Mark or Royal Ark Mariner Lodge, updates on walk dates and locations will available via the [Provincial Facebook page](#). Anyone wishing to make a donation to the walk can do so by using the QR Code below, or via the web link available [here](#).

CORNWALL
PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF
MARK MASTER MASONS

**THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERS
COAST WALK**

IN AID OF THE GRAND MASTERS KEYSTONE FUND

Bude
Lanreoston
Wadebridge
Bodmin
Liskeard
Saltash
Truro
St Austell
Newquay
Redruth
Penny
Falmouth
Helston
Hayle
Carbone
St Ives
Penzance

To Donate, scan the QR code
Or visit the Walk Page
<http://bit.ly/pgmwalk>

“And They’re Off Again!”

Following on from Section 2, which saw Provincial Grand Master Peter Furness and members of the Province leaving Bude behind them and Cornwall stretching away to the West, section 3 was to take the walkers from Penhalt Cliff to Crackington Haven, the guide listed the walk as “Severe” and an estimated duration of 4hrs.

This section has many steep climbs, and deep valleys and is possibly one of the remotest stretches of the Cornwall Coast Path. With a blustery and chilly wind the walkers readied themselves with a group photo at Penhalt.



Heading out of the cliff-top car park across a field, the rugged and layered rock formations of Millook come into view below along the shoreline.

A very steep descent leads down to Millook with it's rocky beach and towering cliffs with their zig-zag folds which, apparently, are of huge geological interest around the world.



After a short stop at Millook, a short on road section before we turned back onto the off road path at Raven's Beck and the heart pumping climb to Dizzard, before heading on further to Chapmans Point.





From Dizzard the walkers headed along the ridge line to the spectacular viewpoint of Castle Point, for a brief rest to ready themselves for the steep ascent to Pencarrow Point, with the path etched into the hillside away to the West and Crackington Haven.





The stunning scenery and the improving weather made the remainder of section three as the walkers made the final descent of this part of the walk into the picturesque hamlet of Crackington Haven and a well deserved Coffee and Scone with Jam and Cream (**always Jam First in Cornwall**) 😊

A big thank you to the walkers who joined the Provincial Grand Master, Sue Bangay, Sarah Moyse, Sean Moyse, Denise Trevains, Jillian McCarthy, Sue Furness, Stephen Duke, John Tilley Simon Trevains. Steve, Belinda Pethick and Flynn the dog supported by the Members of Sir Alfred Robbins Lodge, John Mills (Asst.Prov.G.M.) Jim Creber and Peter Jones.

The next walk is planned for Sunday, 19 May 2024, starting from Crackington Haven at 10.00am, and is being supported by the members of Cornish Installed Masters Lodge No. 1332

The what three words location is for the start point at Crackington Haven is **tightest.able.unhelpful**. The day will end in Boscastle and enroute will take in more of the stunning North Cornwall anyone wishing to take part in the next section of the walk can register their interest by clicking [here](#).

30th celebration at Neston Mark



Download photos



Peter Stoddart celebrates 30 years as a Mark Mason in Neston Mark.

On Tuesday, 30 April, our Asst.Prov.G.M. W.Bro. John Miller, accompanied by 10 acting Provincial Officers attended the Neston Lodge of Mark Master Masons, which meets at Bushell Road, Neston, to help celebrate W.Bro. Peter Stoddart's 30th anniversary of being a Cheshire Mark Mason. W.Bro. Peters history was delivered in a sincere manner by our Asst.Prov.G.M., and it came as no surprise to those who know him, and his commitment to Mark Masonry, that he was again declared Master elect for the forthcoming season.

The lodge also donated the magnificent sum of £500.00 to the Van Van Challenge, one of the final events of our 2024 festival, which was further boosted by an individual sponsorship of £195.00 on behalf of 2 participants from the Lodge, W.bro. Mike Ross and Bro. Jason Holland.

We look forward to celebrating Peters 40th in ten years time.



On Saturday, 20 April 2024, during a meeting of St Osyth Preceptory No. 496 held at the Colvin Memorial Temple, Knight Peter Dawson was installed as Eminent Preceptor of the Preceptory under the direction of Eminent Knight David Branch, in a very special ceremony.

Eminent Knight Peter Dawson then appointed his officers for this year and presented his predecessor Eminent Knight Tony Piercy with a Past Preceptor's Collarette and Jewel.

Eminent Knight Peter is well known and highly respected by the Knights of the Province of Essex particularly for his work with the Essex Bodyguard of which he is now the Commander.

St Osyth Preceptory is blessed with a number of Knights from France, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Understandably some are only able to attend occasionally but several are very active and regularly come to meetings. Indeed, one member from France, Eminent Knight Pierre Pebay, made a very significant contribution to today's ceremony, at the request of the Eminent Preceptor, presenting part of the Installation Ceremony, a great achievement in his second language. Such is the connection with our European knights that our daughter Preceptory, Lorraine St Osyth No. 10, was consecrated in Paris and meets in Metz.

Superb Demonstration by King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement at Bridgend Masonic Hall



Download photos



On Tuesday, 30 April 2024, at the Bridgend Masonic Hall the King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement performed an impressive demonstration of the Knights Templar Ceremonial to the Marshals, Deputy Marshals and Officers of the Preceptories in the Province of Monmouth and South Wales in the presence of R.E.Kt. Dr Paul Calderwood (the Provincial Prior), E.Kt. Richard Phillips (the Provincial Sub-Prior) who were accompanied by R.E.Kt. Peter Burrows and E.Kt. Phillip Wightman (the Provincial Prior and Provincial Sub-Prior of the Province of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire).

The Demonstration Team consisted of:

V.E.Kt. Harry Randell P.Gt.Reg. Preceptor and Registrar,
E.Kt. Dennis Fountain P.Gt.Her. Preceptor,
E.Kt. Anthony Legge P.Gt.A-de-C. Registrar Designate and Sub-Prior for the Province of London
and E.Kt. Peter Doust P.Gt.A-de-C. Preceptor.

They were supported in their Demonstration by a number of the Active and Past Provincial Officers who filled the various other roles of the Preceptory and by Kt. Idris Thomas who acted as the Candidate. The lengthy Demonstration was a precise, methodical and detailed exposition of the Ceremony with V.E.Kt. Harry Randell acting as a Narrator and was greeted with acclamation by all present at its conclusion. R.E.Kt. Dr Paul Calderwood, on behalf of all present congratulated the Demonstration Team on their superb efforts and for travelling the huge distances involved in order to be present. The King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement will be performing a small number of Demonstrations of the Knights Templar Ceremonial during the coming 18 months and it is strongly suggested that Knights should attend if at all possible.



Star of the West Preceptory No. 77 had their meetings last night in Barbados



Download photos



Eminent Preceptor Achirri Darren Adams installed Bro. Samuel Emmanuel Mason as a Knight Templar. It was a great meeting

Pictured below are The Eminent Preceptor Achirri with Kt. Samuel to his left and the members of the Preceptory in the main picture above.





On Saturday, 27 April 2024, the Installation of the Provincial Prior for the Province of Far East was held at Zetland Hall, 1 Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Right Eminent Knight Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T., accompanied by the Great Prelate, Right Eminent Knight The Revd Malcolm Lane, JP, K.C.T., and the Great Marshal, Right Eminent Knight Timothy Wheeler G.C.T. installed R.E.Kt. Trevor Gray as the Provincial Prior for the Province of Far East.

The Right Eminent Provincial Prior then appointed E.Kt. Brendan Shu Chung Bong as the Provincial Sub-Prior and E.Kt. Anthony Hao Kei Kwong, O.S.t.J., as the Provincial Vice-Chancellor.

53 Brother Knights, including 3 overseas visitors namely E.Kt. Dr. Ronald Ng, P.Gt.Chamb., and E.Kt. Russell Stuart, Provincial Deputy Marshal from the Provincial Priory of South East Asia and E.Kt. Ian Ellston, Provincial Prelate from the Provincial Priory of Sri Lanka, joined the festive board afterwards in the dining hall at Zetland Hall on this merry occasion.







The Provincial Priory of Durham held its Annual Meeting on Saturday, 27 April 2024, in a full room at Gateshead Masonic Hall. The Provincial Marshal E.Kt. Andrew Foster announced the processions in to the Priory under an Arch of Steel provided by members of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard.

The Provincial Prior Rt.E.Kt. Richard Scott opened the Priory and gave everyone a warm welcome. Those present included representatives from other provinces including Cheshire & North Wales, Derbyshire, East Anglia, Essex, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire & Rutland, Lincolnshire, North and East Yorks, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Oxford & Berks, Staffordshire & Shropshire, Surrey, and West Yorkshire.

In attendance were representatives from other Masonic Orders including from the Craft Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham the Deputy Provincial Grand Master who is also the Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor North East Province, John Watts, along with Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Andrew Foster, from the Mark, the Assistant Grand Master, Professor Denovan Wilson, from the Rose Croix, Inspector General who is also the Deputy Grand Superintendent of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Durham, Michael Shaw, from the Allied Masonic Degrees, the District Grand Prefect, Danny Guy, from the Masonic Order of Athelstan, the Provincial Grand Master, Bill Carylton, and from St Thomas of Acon, the Right Worthy Grand Preceptor, Sir David Roach.

There then followed a requiem to those Knights who has passed to the Great Priory above during the last year. After the investiture of the officers and the Provincial Prior's bodyguard for the year the Provincial Prior gave his address; in it he thanked all the outgoing officers for their support over the past years and looked forward to the year coming with the new team.

He also gave an update on the 2025 festival reporting that a magnificent sum of £90,000 had already been donated and read out a letter received from the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master Paul Raymond Clement thanking the Knights for their efforts raising a staggering figure.

On Saturday, 19 July 2025 a service will be held in Durham Cathedral with a meal afterwards at Ramside Hall where up to 400 Knights, local dignitaries, senior members of St John Ambulance, the Eye Hospital and rulers from Great Priory, will all be in attendance. The Provincial Prior completed his address by saying that the successes in the province have made him immensely proud to be their Provincial Prior. In the 7 years that he has been in this post that the Knights' enthusiasm has not waned. That tells him that we are enjoying our membership and that means everything to him. That is what this Order is all about and he looks forward to getting out and about with his new team very soon.

The festive board followed the meeting where good food and company was enjoyed by all those present.



St Mark Conclave No. 419 hosts the Red Cross of Constantine Appendant Orders Ceremonies



Download photos



On Wednesday, 24 April 2024, at the Bridgend Masonic Hall under the banner of St. Mark Conclave No. 419, (being the Conclave of the Grand Officers of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine who are Members of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Division) the Brenhinoedd De Cymru Conclave No. 428 held the Ceremonies of the Sanctuaries of the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St. John the Evangelist.

The Conclave was opened by the Sovereign, Right Illustrious Knight Nigel Angell *JP*, the Intendant-General of the Division, who was accompanied by Ill.Kt. John Steward, the Deputy Intendant General and Ill.Kt. Brian Hithersay, the Divisional Eusebius.

The domestic business of the St. Mark Conclave No. 419 having been concluded, the Right Revd Prelate Ill.Kt. D. Geraint P.u.w. P.G.Chamb. opened the Sanctuary. A Token candidate was chosen to perambulate the Conclave during each ceremony whilst all non-representative candidates were seated in the south-east part of the Conclave. The first Ceremony token candidate was W.Kt. Wyn Griffiths, the second Ceremony W.Kt. Andrew Phippen and the third Ceremony W.Kt. David Greig. W.Kt. W. Griffiths was admitted, conducted round the sanctuary and instructed in the 3 theological virtues.

Having recited their solemn obligations, the traditional oration was delivered by the Seneschal Ill.Kt. Anthony P. Baker. The candidates were then acknowledged as a Christian Knights before retiring. A Sanctuary of the second point was then opened by the Prelate V.Ill.Kt. Dr. Viv Thomas *JP*, P.G.J.G. The Candidates were re-admitted and undertook the next part of the Ceremony before the Allegorical Sequel was delivered by the Prior Ill.Kt. Brian Hithersay. Having been entrusted with the signs and token, the candidates again retired.

The Commandery was opened by Ill.Kt. Peter Gilbert, the candidates re-entered and the Ceremony continued. The Commander then constituted each candidate as a Knight of St John the Evangelist with the accolade and with their sash and jewel. The Knight Companions installed and saluted by all of the Knights assembled. The Intendant-General congratulated all of the participants on performing Ritual of the highest quality before the Ceremony was concluded.

The very convivial Afte-proceedings were held in the Dining Room of the Bridgend Hall, where a repast of the very high standard, for which the Hall is noted, was served.

Those who are interested in joining the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine should contact the Assistant Divisional Recorder M.P.Kt. Peter Turner at peter.turner68@outlook.com



On 01 May 2024, at Beaconsfield Masonic Centre in Buckinghamshire in the District of Thames Valley, Chiltern Hundred's Council No. 142 was honoured with the presence of The Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. Ian Bailey along with the District Grand Prefect R.W.Bro. Robert Chevin and his District Team.

The meeting began with Bro. Paul Hathorn being admitted to the Degree of Grand Tilers of Solomon or Masons Elect of 27. The degree, superbly conducted by W.Bro. Alister Mason was quite unique, that 27 Brethren attended the Ceremony.

The main event of the evening was to Install Bro. David Tremaine (Past Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire in the Mark) as Master of the Council in the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr.

In an excellent ceremony conducted by the incumbent Master W.Bro. Paul Craker, the new Worshipful Master then appointed his officers for the year. The brethren then retired for an excellent Festive Board.

Last official duty of R.Wy.Bro. Kevin Johnson as P.G.S.R. for the Province of Kent, O.S.M.



Download photos



On Saturday, 27 April 2024, we was a sad day for Kent O.S.M. as R.Wy.Bro. Kevin Johnson carried out his very last official duty as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler. Accompanied by a number of Provincial Officers, R.Wy.Bro. Kevin oversaw a fantastic demonstration of the induction ceremony and the reading of a form for a joining member before giving an emotional farewell speech.

The occasion was followed by the usual photo calls with one capturing the past, present and future - R.Wy.Bro. Peter Wise as Immediate Past P.G.S.R., R.Wy.Bro. Kevin as current and Wy.Bro. Scott Dunn as P.G.S.R. Designate. R.Wy.Bro. Kevin has been a driving force behind the resurgence of Kent O.S.M. and will be greatly missed by every member of the Province. the Brethren of Kent all wish him and his wife Fiona well in their new life in Lincolnshire.



It was a busy day at Kentish Man Consistory as the P.G.S.R. of Kent, Dist.Comp. Kevin Johnson, installed the Past Deputy P.G.S.R., Em.Comp. Daniel Unthank, as President of the Consistory. Dan is the current Craft G.D.C. of West Kent.

To honour the occasion the Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Phil Clare, accompanied by his Deputy P.G.S., Dist.Comp. Scott Dunn and his Asst.P.G.S. Dist.Comp. Kevin Bampton plus the hard working Provincial Recorder, Em.Comp. Paul King, attended the meeting to offer their congratulations.

Oh, and 2 forms for candidates were read out so lots of work for the next meeting as Kent Scarlet Cord continues its record growth



Last Saturday, saw the 2 Sussex Provincial A.G.M. of the Scarlet Cord followed on by the O.S.M. A.G.M. meeting on the same day. The closeness of the 2 Orders and with Andries van der Burgh being both the P.G.S.R. in the O.S.M. and the P.G.S. in the Scarlet Cord made it Ideal to hold both events at the same time and venue, saving both time and money for the members of the Province.

Held at the East Brighton Masonic Hall in Peacehaven, we welcomed a guest list of executives from our neighbouring Provinces and Heads of Order within Sussex, culminating in a visit from R.Dist.Comp. Howard S. Markham Asst.G.S. who gave a very captivating response at the festive board after the meeting. The Provincial Grand Master of the Craft and the Provincial Prior of the Knight Templar Provinces of Sussex ensured that all Orders were represented at the meeting.

With 2 very successful back to back meetings and a superb lunch, a great day full of Masonry and Fraternal Friendship.





Cheshire View at Christleton was again our venue for the annual Provincial Grand Senatus on the morning of Saturday, 20 April 2024. The Provincial Grand Summus arrived in great form and, as you see here, he could not wait to get started. The Companions stood to order to welcome a parade of visiting dignitaries comprising no less than ten Provincial Grand Summi, some of whom had travelled considerable distances. They were closely followed by a second Parade consisting of the Officers of the year, the Assistant Provincial Grand Summus, Dist.Comp. Robert Jordan TD, III, the Deputy Provincial Grand Summus, Dist.Comp. John Thomson III, Past Grand Swd Br. and the Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. John Christopher Welton V. One of the highlights of the day was the Appointment and Investiture of our new Assistant Provincial Grand Summus, Dist.Comp. Dennis Schiff V.

Before proceeding, the Provincial Grand Summus paid tribute to the excellent work done by the retiring Assistant, Dist.Comp. Robert Jordan during his tenure, and this received acclamation from the assembly. The Ceremony of Investiture was carried out with due solemnity under the instruction of Dist.Comp. William Anthony Stringer V, P.G.Swd.B., Director of Ceremonies, ably assisted by his Deputy, Dist.Comp. Malcolm Edward Orr, and Assistant, Dist.Comp. Michael John Steggles. The solemnity of the ceremonial was in perfect contrast to the earlier fun and banter from the visiting Summi and their colleagues as they were introduced to the assembly by our P.G.S.

There were 10 visiting Provincial Grand Summi, most of them accompanied by Officers of their Province. There were also several Deputies and Assistants bringing apologies from their Summi and good wishes from their Province. In total, 78 Companions attended, 15 Provinces were represented, and every Consistory in Cheshire and North Wales was well represented. The business of the morning completed, the Companions retired for an equally enjoyable lunch and a chance to meet and greet friends old and new.





The three Leaders of the Scarlet Cord Province of Cheshire and North Wales. Left to Right: John Thomson, Chris Welton, Dennis Schiff.



The P.G.S. stops for a photo with seven of the ten visiting Summi before lunch.



The P.G.S. and his Deputy take wine with the newly appointed Assistant



The Famous Five (at the naughty end of the top-table!)



On Tuesday, 30 April 2024, our Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Arnold Long, made his last Executive Visit before he retires in July. Warlingham Conclave No. 134 at Nutfield, was full of Provincial Officers and Companions of the Province of Surrey who turned up to wish Arnold farewell, and thanks for all he has done for us over the past few years as our Provincial Grand Summus.

Dist.Comp. Bob Tuthill, President, opened the Consistory in due form and extended a warm welcome to all present. After a knock on the door, Dist.Comp. Alan Hall, P.G.Std.B. was admitted and announced that R.Dist.Comp. Arnold Long, Provincial Grand Summus, was without and demanded admission. An escort was formed and R.Dist.Comp. Arnold was received and welcomed in due form. He took the chair and expressed his pleasure at being able to conduct his last official visit at his own Consistory and was looking forward to the proceedings. The Companions were called to order and saluted him with seven. The Provincial Grand Summus, then introduced his 23 escorting Provincial Officers.

An eulogy for R.Dist.Comp. Louis Keats was delivered by Dist.Comp. Chris Eley, Provincial Recorder. The Companions stood to order in respect to departed merit. After the regular business of the Consistory had been completed Comp. Recorder read the preparation certificate for Em.Comp. David Blackburn, who was then duly obligated. Companions below the President's Chair were requested to leave for a short time while the President installed Em.Comp. David Blackburn as the new President. Companions returned to the Consistory, paraded, and acknowledged the President. The Officers were then appointed and invested. The next item was to confer the Second Grade on Companions David Thompson and James Turner. Companions David and James were very capably promoted to the Second Grade by the Acting Primus of Lectores, Dist Comp. David Blackburn. The two Candidates were then congratulated by our Provincial Grand Summus.

The Consistory was closed and after refreshments in the bar we enjoyed a most convivial meal together at the Nutfield Masonic Centre.



It was a busy week in the Scarlet Cord with the Most Distinguished Grand Summus and his team engaged in Wednesday's conferrals of the 4th and 5th Grades, followed on Thursday by the Annual Convocation of Grand Senatus, all held at Mark Masons' Hall.

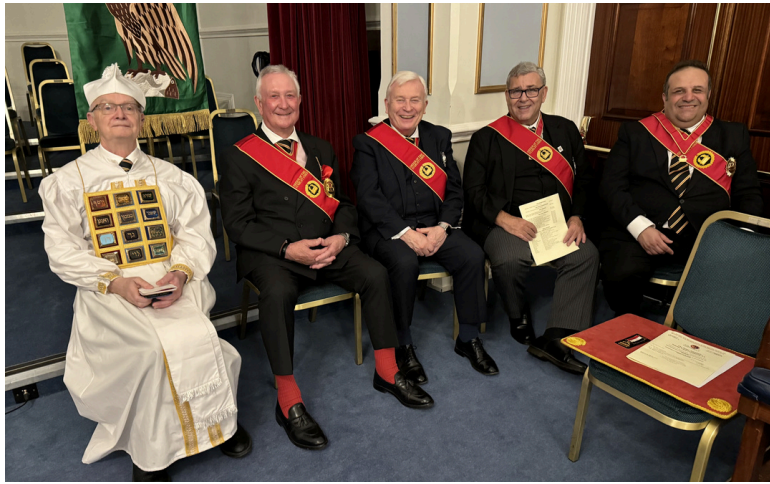
First up was the 5th Grade Conferral with many Candidates in attendance to receive the Grade in recognition of their continuing devoted service to the Order. The Representative Candidate for the 5th Grade was Dist.Comp. Morgan McDonald.

A buffet lunch was served before the Conferral team returned to the Grand Temple to receive further Candidates ready to be admitted to the 4th Grade, another award of merit for service to the Order. The Representative Candidate for the 4th Grade was Dist.Comp. Gary Smith.

It was certainly one of the most impressive ceremonies we could experience in Freemasonry. After the ceremony the Consistory was closed by the Grand Summus who retired from the Temple, greeting everyone on the way out. The Grand Summus, Deputy Grand Summus, Assistant Grand Summus and the Grand Director of Ceremonies afterwards returned for a group photograph.

With the two ceremonies successfully completed, the Grand Summus and his Officers quickly had to turn their attentions to Thursday's meeting of Grand Senatus.

We then retired for refreshment. After very successful meetings, the Grand Summus and his team were finally able to relax and reflect on a job well done.







125th Anniversary Gala Dinner celebrating the formation of the
Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Essex
1899 - 2024



BLACK TIE GALA CELEBRATION DINNER

Featuring
STAR CABARET & 8 PIECE BAND

Direct from London's West End
Award Winning Film & TV Actress and Singer

Anita Harris



Table
Magic

Former Resident Band
from The Ritz Hotel, London

Peter O'Donnell Band



BOOK
NOW!

SATURDAY 18TH MAY 2024 | ORSETT HALL, ESSEX



Drinks Reception 5.30pm with four course dinner to follow | Tickets £98.00pp | Overnight accommodation available

BOOK NOW BY CONTACTING RICHARD GOODWIN

rjgoodwin2030@outlook.com



Cygnet Preceptory No.464 Presents:

A fund raising presentation in aid of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital on Friday 14 June 2024 at Beaconsfield Masonic Centre followed by dinner

Presentation Topic - The First Crusade and the Subsequent Formation of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and the Temple of Solomon

By the renowned English historian, author, journalist and barrister, Dr Dominic Selwood FSA, FRSA, FRHistS

Venue

Beaconsfield Masonic Centre

Date

14th June 2024

Entry

Freemasons & Friends

Timings

Presentation 1830-1915

Reception/Bar 1915-2000

Dinner 2000-2130

Pricing

Talk only £5.00

Talk & dinner £25



ALL PROFITS WILL BE DONATED TO THE JERUSALEM EYE HOSPITAL

Beaconsfield Masonic Centre, Windsor End, George Green, HP9 2JW. To book a ticket e-mail gssnell@aol.com or telephone 07900220390

Five Peaks Challenge: our Prov.G.M. with a small team will be tackling the five highest peaks in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man, in support of the 2024 M.B.F. Festival.

Five Peaks Challenge

Support the Cheshire Mark Masons hiking on their epic journey in aid of the CPMBF

#scan to support

#contact us @ DavidL2024festival@outlook.com

In aid of the 2024 Festival
www.cheshiremarkmasons.co.uk
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 Mark Benevolent Fund registered charity no.207610

Provincial Grand Lodge Of Mark
 Master Masons Of Cheshire
 Keystone Province
 150th Anniversary Keystone Province
 Advancing the Magic of the Mark

2024 FESTIVAL
 THIS IS OUR LAST FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF THE 2024 CHESHIRE MBF FESTIVAL - SO IF YOU CAN SUPPORT THE TEAM, PLEASE DO SO FOLLOWING THE LINK BELOW.

MIKE ROSS ON HIS VAN VAN

THE VAN VAN CHALLENGE
 A CHESHIRE MARK MASONS TEAM EACH ON A TRUSTY SUZUKI VAN VAN,(11.4 BHP) WILL BE ATTEMPTING TO RIDE FROM LANDS END TO JOHN O'GROATS - STAYING ON A ROADS, TAKING AROUND 7 DAYS TO COMPLETE, AT AN AVERAGE SPEED OF 30-40MPH, BETWEEN THE 14TH AND 20TH OF JUNE 2024.

In aid of the 2024 Festival
www.cheshiremarkmasons.co.uk
 CheshireMarkMasterMasons CheshireMarkMasterMasons
 Mark Benevolent Fund registered charity no.207610



Click [here](#) or the news icon above, to read The Travelling Knights episode 6 - May 2024 Newsletter

Click [here](#) or the news icon above, to read The Surrey Knight Newsletter Issue 8

Checkout the [Video](#) and [Image](#)

"What's in a Name", the Council I am in is call the Paddock Wood Council No. 88, and Paddock Wood is all about Hops and Apples.



Cheshire Festival Banquet



156th Mark Benevolent Fund Festival will be held in the Province of Cheshire over the weekend of Friday, 05 July - Saturday, 06 July 2024.

The 156th M.B.F. Festival Gala Banquet will be held at the Concorde Centre on Saturday, 06 July 2024, to celebrate the finale of the 2024 M.B.F. Cheshire Festival. Transport to the venue will be available from 17:00 at the Marriott (Delta), Holiday Inn, and Premier Inn Hotels. Pre-booked transport will be available back to the hotels from 22:45. The Festival Banquet reception will commence at 18:00 with a complimentary drink on arrival. The external patio & pagoda areas are also available and you can 'plane spot' across the runways. The Festival Banquet will commence at 19:30. A full bar service will be available, please note it will close during the speeches. Following the dinner, the Grand Secretary will commence proceedings including the 'Big Reveal'. The Provincial Grand Master, Festival President, will conclude the evening with a closing speech.

Saturday Dress Code: Brethren & Gentlemen: This is a Black-Tie Event, Lodge Past Masters, Provincial Grand Lodge Officers (Past & Active), Grand Lodge Officers (Past & Active) are permitted to wear their respective Collar and Jewel. Provincial & District Leaders are permitted to wear their respective Chain of Office; Brethren: M.B.F. Collarette can be worn; Ladies: Formal Evening Dress; Ladies may wear their M.B.F. brooch if they wish.

Full details and the booking form can be located: [HERE](#)

Cheers!

Friday — Meet & Greet Party: Join us on Friday evening at the Brasserie Bar in the Marriott Hotel lobby for a warm Cheshire welcome as we gather with friends from across the country. From 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., enjoy a casual 'meet & greet' with a complimentary welcome drink and finger buffet, featuring vegan and vegetarian options, along with entertainment. For those seeking a quieter atmosphere, the patio will be available for conversation away from the music. Tickets are priced at £25 per person. Reserve your place via the booking form. Dress code for Friday is casual attire for both ladies and gentlemen, excluding jeans or shorts.

**Book
now**



Charities round up



St John of Jerusalem
Eye Hospital Group



Share your impactful charity journey with Mark Masons' Hall, & let's together brighten the world with stories of kindness & impact. Share your stories of benevolence by sending photos/videos & text to communications@mmh.org.uk or via WhatsApp at [+44 7394 638233](tel:+447394638233).

Narrate Your Charitable Journey and Inspire Change!





Kids Kabin Chief Officer, Will Benson was delighted to receive a cheque for £2,500 which will fund the supply of workshop materials in the coming year. Will, (centre) received the cheque from Trevor Fish, Intendant General, (right) and Bob Harrison Divisional Recorder (left).

Kid Cabin provide creative and practical workshops which include pottery, woodwork, cookery, arts, crafts, glasswork, fabric design, drama and bike maintenance. These run from dedicated centres in Walker, Newcastle and Grove Hill, Middlesbrough, as well as in other local neighbourhood spaces - and from a fleet of mobile trailers to help even more children and young people take part.



Donation to PSDS Charity



Download photos

The Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, along with W.Bro. Ian Clark visited PSDS Charity at Reigate in Surrey, a charity dedicated to supporting individuals with Downs Syndrome. The charity recently moved to their first ever premises and the Mark Benevolent Fund made a donation of £81,000 for refurbishment. 🌟



Donation to Mid Surrey Community Fridges Charity



Download photos

W.Bro. Ian Clark was delighted to hand over a cheque for £42,702 from the Mark Benevolent Fund to the Mid Surrey Community Fridges based in Dorking, Surrey for a refrigerated van. The charity provides food to the needy at 14 locations around Leatherhead and Dorking.



Grand Master's Keystone Fund

Our Grand Master's Keystone Fund Bursary Scheme is to commemorate over 40 years of service to Mark Masonry by our Grand Master, M.W.Bro. HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCMG.



Mark



R.A.M.



K.T.



R.C.C.



R.S.M.



O.S.M.



A.M.D.



S.C.



K.B.H.C.

Available for
all the Orders
administered
at Mark
Masons' Hall.

DONATE
NOW

Individual donation - [Click here](#)
Unit/Province donation - [Click here](#)



[Click here to see our
beautiful Grand Master's
Keystone Fund's Certificate](#)



M.B.F. Festival Cheshire 2024

The new-look MBF Stewardship Jewels have now been designed for the following Festivals



★ 2024 Cheshire



2025 Oxfordshire



2026 Hampshire & IOW



2027 Warwickshire



2028 Somerset



2029 Durham



2030 Essex



2031 Northumberland

Please click on the festival or the image above to access the Form. We have added the bank account name to all the forms so please use the latest form and details as found in the links above.

★ The star denotes the current year's festival. In order to book your place, please click [here](#). The cut off date for booking is 21 May 2024.

We reported recently that the new style MBF Festival Stewardship is aimed principally, but not, exclusively, at members of each host Festival Province. In return for a qualifying donation of £100, each Steward will be entitled to:

- A distinctive Stewards' breast jewel, year bar and pocket jewel holder.
- Inclusion of their name in the Festival Stewards' Roll of Honour in the Festival booklet
- And for individuals making their first donation under the scheme, qualification as a Life Governor of the Mark Benevolent Fund – the first step on the ladder of honorifics.
- Monies raised by the take-up of Festival Stewardships will, of course, be included in each respective Festival total.



Credit: Mohammed Zaanoun

Scaling up our response in Gaza

We will now be providing tents to thousands of people who are currently without shelter in Gaza, via aid routes in Egypt and Jordan.

A team has recently returned from Egypt and Jordan, meeting with Rotary and local organisations with an existing presence in Gaza. Families will likely need tents for at least the next year, probably longer, so the tents must be long lasting. We've provided tents in Gaza before - pictured below is our distribution in 2015. We know from that response that families stayed in them for months. Our tents are made from durable material similar to tarpaulin, and are designed to protect people from heat, cold and wind. Tents offer privacy, and help to preserve dignity. Your support makes this possible. Our typical tent package for a family of five costs £425. Please donate whatever you can today to provide more shelter in Gaza.

[Donate Here](#)

Please note that these donations directly go to ShelterBox and not M.B.F.



Mattresses, floor mats, blankets and pillows will help to improve comfort. Washing sets, water carriers, and sanitary items are vital for people who had to leave their belongings behind. Tarpaulins and rope will mean families can protect makeshift shelters from the wind and rain, and can make temporary repairs to damaged buildings. As you read this, essential items are on their way to Gaza. Mattresses, floor mats, blankets and pillows will help to improve comfort. Washing sets, water carriers, and sanitary items are vital for people who had to leave their belongings behind. Tarpaulins and rope will mean families can protect makeshift shelters from the wind and rain, and can make temporary repairs to damaged buildings.



As you read this, essential items are on their way to Gaza...

The need in Gaza is dire. Most buildings have been destroyed, leaving people entirely homeless. 1.7 million people are seeking refuge in shelters like schools, or in makeshift shelters out in the open. Rafah, where most people are seeking refuge, is dangerously overcrowded. People are at increasing risk from disease and hunger. Behind every number and statistic are individuals – women, men and children who have a name, a family, a story.



Knights Templar Swift Pins



Knights Templar
Swift Pins

£20 each

Gift aid can be applied to the donations.

Provinces can order in bulk, or individuals can purchase single pins, by contacting our charities team at charitiesfinance@mmh.org.uk

funds raised will go to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group.

Social Media Guidelines



With our relatively new Pro Grand Masters in both the Craft and the Mark, we are continuing our close working relationship with our Brethren at Freemasons' Hall.

While we enjoy and encourage our members' enthusiasm for our Orders, it's important that we are mindful where and how we share our passion for Freemasonry.

Please ensure that any posts on social media about the Companion Orders are either restricted to groups, pages and websites that are open to all Orders or, if destined for Craft specific areas, are posted via a moderator to ensure they are welcome additions to the news feed.

Calendar of Annual Meetings

Grand Meetings Calendar 2024 - All Orders

Please note *all* timings are approximate. Refer to the Summons for confirmation.

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Rehearsal Time	Meeting Starts	Meeting Finishes	Dining Start	Approx Finish
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 12 March 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 AM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3.30 PM	5:00 PM
RSM	Grand Council	Tuesday, 16 April 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:15 PM	5:00 PM
SC	Grand Senatus	Thursday, 2 May 2024	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:00 PM
KT	Great Priory	Wednesday, 15 May 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Investiture Active & 1st	Tuesday, 11 June 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	1:00 PM	3:15 PM	4:15 PM	5:45 PM
RCC	Grand Imperial Conclave	Tuesday, 2 July 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Investiture Promotions	Tuesday, 10 September 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
KBHC	Grand Priory	Thursday, 12 September 2024	Mark Masons' Hall, London, SW1A 1PL	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
AMD	Grand Council	Tuesday, 22 October 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:15 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
OSM	Grand Conclave	Thursday, 14 November 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
KT - Malta	Great Priory of Malta	Tuesday, 19 November 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
RAM	Annual Assembly	Monday, 9 December 2024	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	10:30 AM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:00 PM

Please be seated 15 minutes before published start time

08/02/2024

[Click Here to download a PDF copy of the Calendar](#)



Admin Departments @86

All departments and teams at Mark Masons' Hall are available via email and telephone to help and support members and visitors. Most communication for Masonic Administration should go via the Provincial Secretary, or equivalent, and they will know who to contact here at M.M.H. if they are unable to answer the query themselves. Published by the Communications Team at Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1PL

Find us here [///prefer.status.sharp](http://prefer.status.sharp)