



# Warwickshire Mark

November 2021

## 114th Warwickshire Mark LOI Festival

The Festival at Alderson House took place on Saturday 9th October 2021, with breakfast followed by a demonstration of the ceremony of Advancement.

The breakfast lived up to it's normal high standard and a big thank you goes to Peter and his team. It was rewarding to see a full Lodge room with 60 attending.

The ceremony was well received by those who attended with complimentary observations from the Festival President V. W. Bro. Gareth Hughes.

Two stalwarts of the team have stood down after this Festival namely W. Bro. Neil Murray, Preceptor and W. Bro. Ian Belsham and we thank them for all their hard work. They are replaced by W. Bro. Roger Cook and W. Bro. James Freakley.

Our thanks go to all those who came to support the event and of course the Festival President V. Worshipful Brother Gareth Hughes.

The next meeting of the L.O.I. will be held at Knowle Masonic Centre on Tuesday 26.10.2021, 7.54pm for 8pm please come along and join us.

The next Festival will be held at Alderson House on Saturday 5th March 2022, with the usual format of breakfast and the demonstration.



Continued:

After the event the President of the Warwickshire Lodge of Instruction Festival VW.Bro Gareth Hughes wrote to the Lodge as follows:

Dear Brethren

A huge thank you, each and every one of you, for your contribution today in making the Lodge of Instruction Festival so special. The ceremony really was exemplary, and delivered intelligently and with appropriate feeling.

Today was, I think, the 114th Warwickshire Mark LoI Festival. That means that back in 1907, Brethren started demonstrating the Warwickshire Mark ritual annually, setting the standard expected in Warwickshire Lodges. I'm not sure of the history, but since then we have passed through two World Wars, a flu pandemic, a great depression, the Cold War, the technological revolution, the huge social changes since the 1960s, and now the Covid-19 pandemic.

Back in 1907, Warwickshire had only 5 Mark and 1 RAM Lodge, and such is the enduring, central importance of the Friendly degree to freemasonry that we are now 26 Mark and 17 RAM. The central pillar for the Mark is that ceremony you conducted so well to-day which demonstrates the importance of valuing each person's contribution and finding a place for everyone.

By the very fact that you have taken the time to attend the LoI, whether physically or virtually, and to learn your parts so well, you have shown yourselves to be very important to the future of the Mark in Warwickshire. We rely on you to spread the good practice you have displayed today to all your lodges, or beyond. Others will emulate you and help to raise the standards of ritual across the province. I hope you now have the confidence to show to others the 'right way' to do ceremonies.

I was delighted to receive gifts – I wasn't expecting that. The cufflinks and badge will be very special reminders of a super day for me.

So, to all the team – preceptors, participants and admin supporters – thank you

Sincerely and fraternally

Gareth

VWBro G Hughes CM P.G.J.O., P.Asst.Prov.G.M.  
Provincial Grand Registrar  
Warwickshire Mark Province

The Brethren taking part in the ceremony (or the 'Team Sheet as Preceptor W.Bro. Tony Ball insists on calling it!) were:

W.M.	HARDIP UBHI	
W.M.	GLYN EVANS	
S.W.	PETER BARKER	
J.W.	JAMES SCOTT	
M.O.	ROGER COOK	
S.O.	CHRIS ALBION	
J.O.	ANDREW HARDIE	
S.D.	JOHN WALSH	
J.D.	PAUL MONTES	
I.G.	MIKE LANG	NEW MEMBER
TYLER	DAVID FAIR	
CHAPLAIN	JOHN ROBERTS	
REG. OF MARKS	SEBASTIAN SAMPERI	
D.C.	TONY BALL	
CANDIDATE	JOHN OWEN	NEW MEMBER
A.D.C	ANDREW LEONARD	NEW MEMBER



# Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge—Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Heart of England Conference and Events Centre, Meriden Road, Fillongley, nr Coventry CV7 8DX

A reminder to all Brethren:-

All Brethren of the Mark Province of Warwickshire are warmly invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge. There are no restrictions relating to rank or office.

Doors will open at 8.30am, when bacon baps will be on sale, together with tea and coffee. Brethren should be seated by 10.30am. Full dress regalia will be worn, together with a provincial or black tie.

A full printed summons and detailed agenda will be provided for those attending, together with a reports booklet.

Lunch, at a cost of £30 incl. wine at table, will consist of:

Smoked Salmon & Prawn Mousse / Pickled Cucumber Lime & Dill / Mayonnaise /Rocket /Bread & Butter

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Slow Cooked Blade of Beef / Dauphinoise Potato / Vichy Carrots / Fine Buttered Beans / Port & Rosemary Beef Jus

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Raspberry & White Chocolate Cheesecake / Raspberry Sauce / Vanilla bean Ice Cream

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Coffee and Mint

To reserve your place at the meeting and lunch, please click the booking link on the Provincial website, or print the return below as soon as possible but by 12th November at the very latest, together with payment confirmation, specifying any dietary requirements (substitutions on the day will not be available.)

This is a highlight of our Mark year, and it is hoped that as many Brethren as possible will attend.

## **This reply must be returned by 12th November at the latest**

Your name:.....

Your Mark Lodge No ..... Your current Mark Rank.....

I will/will not be attending the Annual Meeting (delete as appropriate)

I will/will not be attending the luncheon (delete as appropriate)

Specific dietary requirements: .....

Other specific needs e.g. relating to mobility: .....

Please tick one of these payment options:

- Link to website payment
- I enclose a cheque for £30 (payable to Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Warwickshire)
- I have paid by bank transfer to HSBC Bank; Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Warwickshire; sort code 40-11-18; account number 52652277

**N.B. Dining Fees must be paid in advance and cannot be collected on the day**

Signed: ..... Date:.....

Return to: J.R. Freakley, Forge Cottage, 1 Slade Road, Sutton Coldfield B75 5PA  
or email depgsec@warksmarkppl.co.uk.

**Grand Officers are reminded that a seat will not be reserved in Provincial Grand Lodge unless this slip is returned to W.Bro. James Freakley**

# Warwickshire Mark Donation to Warwickshire Craft Festival 2023

—Marking our support to the Craft

At the Meeting on 30th September at Kings Heath Masonic Hall of the Warwickshire (Craft) Installed Master's Lodge No.4538, our Provincial Grand Master presented the Provincial Grand Master for the Craft in Warwickshire R.W.Bro Philip L Hall, with a cheque for £2000 towards the Craft Province's 2023 Festival in aid of the Masonic Charitable Fund.



## Bits and Pieces

The next meeting of the L.O.I. will be held at Knowle Masonic Centre on Tuesday 26.10.2021, 7.54pm for 8pm please come along and join us. Secretary:  
provdepgsec@warksmarkppl.co.uk

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Although we are all keen to be getting back to face-to-face Mark Masonry there may be a little time before ceremonies start to happen again. If this is the case remember that the Provincial Deputy Grand Secretary (Email below) has assembled a number of lectures and talks that might fit into your programme planning.

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Items available at the Mark Provincial Shop include the ritual books, Warwickshire Mark Provincial Tie and the Warwickshire Mark token. If you have items of regalia that you no longer need and would like to donate for sale for brethren to purchase with proceeds going to the 2027 festival please post them to James Freakley, Midland Flooring Unit 9 The Cedars Coton Road Coleshill B46 2HH.

Any questions about the shop or products please contact

James Freakley,  
provdepgsec@warksmarkppl.co.uk

## Hospice Donations

During the summer Lodges were asked to nominate Hospices in the Province to receive a donation from the Mark Benevolent Fund to assist them in their work.

The donations made were as follows:

Marie Curie Birmingham	£1,000.00
Birmingham St Mary's Hospice	£2,000.00
St Giles Hospice	£1,000.00
Myton Hospices	£5,000.00
Acorns Childrens	£8,000.00
Shakespeare Hospice	£1,000.00
Zoe's Place Baby Hospice	£6,000.00

The Provincial Grand Master, his Deputy and Assistant delivered the cheques between them and photos of these happy occasions can be seen on the Provincial Website.

## From the Provincial Charity Steward

Brethren as you may know some banks are now charging up to 40p for each cheque drawn on an account. To assist lodges the Relief chest will now accept BACS payments to our relief chest.

The account number is 02585235 Sort Code 18 - 00 - 02 The Grand Charity of Freemasons

On you Submission you need to put the following reference MMM2112 GAE and your lodge number MMM \_\_\_\_ or RAM \_\_\_\_

The same applies to your EVS Form Enter Relief CHEST MMM2112 and add GAE

You enter Lodge number in the usual way MMM \_\_\_\_ or RAM \_\_\_\_

## **The Provincial Grand Master writes:**

### **The Shop:**

You will have seen the article in the last newsletter regarding the 'Provincial Shop' which offers used regalia at a much reduced rate, with all proceeds going to the Warwickshire Mark Benevolent Fund (WMBF). It is only very recently been made available 'on-line' but has operated for some seven or eight years 'off-line' through the commitment and dedication of W.Bro. Paul Harrison, P.Prov.G.S.O. W.Bro. Paul's efforts mean that he has been able to send several thousand pounds to the WMBF which has been very much appreciated.

I would like to extend grateful thanks to W.Bro. Paul on behalf of myself, the Province and of course the WMBF for his commitment over the years; and again extend our congratulations (see article on RSM) on his appointment to Deputy District Grand Master

### **Royal and Select Masters, District Grand Council of Warwickshire:**

Following the announcement that R.W.Bro. David Rawlins, P.Prov.G.M., is retiring as the R.III. District Grand Master; We would like to extend warm congratulations to W.Bro. Peter Wellings, P.G.J.D., on being announced as R.W.Bro.David's successor; Peter will be Installed as District Grand Master on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> November. Congratulation also go to W.Bro. Paul Harrison who will be appointed as Deputy District Grand Master, and W.Bro. Chris Rogers who will be appointed as Principal Conductor of the Work.

R.W.Bro. Philip Wills

## **Warwickshire Mark Social Committee Annual Bonfire with Fireworks**

Saturday 6th November 4:30 onwards—Park Farm, Eastcote Lane, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull B92 0AS

This is an urgent reminder to book in for the Bonfire at Park Farm. This is a spectacular event that all brethren have been eMailed about but even though the date is getting close you still have time to book in.



Picture credit: Frank Vincentz

Tickets are £16.50 Adults, Children (7-12) £6.00 and under sevens free.

This includes Beer, Wine, Soft drinks, BBQ, Pig Roast, Soup, Mulled Wine, Jacket Potatoes, Mulled Wine and much, much more—not to mention a huge bonfire and a magnificent fireworks display.

Contacts to book by cheque (made payable to WMSF):

Cedric Styles

Park Farm, Eastcote Lane, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull B92 0AS eMail: brattu@hotmail.com

Barrie Ratcliffe

168, Nunts Lane, Nunts Park, Coventry, CV6 4GH Tel:02476 682194 Mob:07971 184053  
eMail: ratcliffebarrie@gmail.com

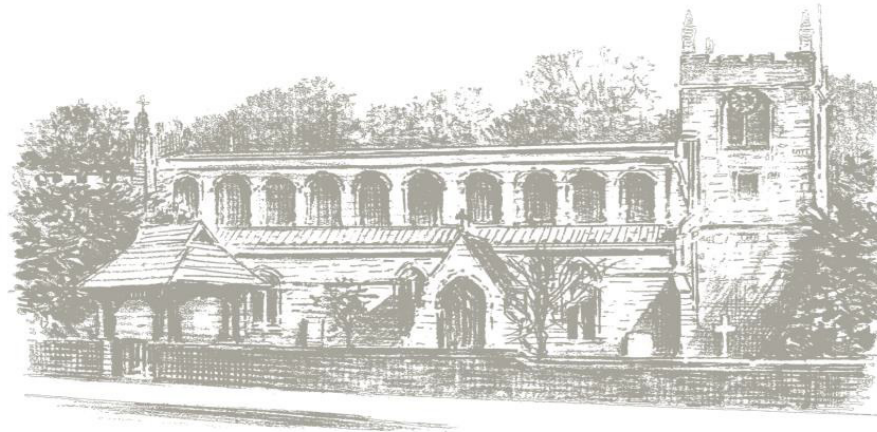
Alternately you can book and pay online on the Provincial website [warksmarkpgl.co.uk](http://warksmarkpgl.co.uk)

# Warwickshire Mark Carol Service

**Sunday, 12th December 2021**

**6.00 pm Edgbaston Old Church Church Road, Edgbaston**

The Provincial Grand Master hopes that as many Mark Masons as possible, along with family and friends, will support this most enjoyable festive event.



Light refreshments, including wine and soft drinks, will be provided in church after the Service at an inclusive cost of £6 per adult. There will be no charge for children under 14 years of age and there will be a small gift for young children. No tickets will be issued.

Permission has been obtained to use the Edgbaston Golf Club car park adjoining the church.

Post or email the form below to: Roger Millwater 257, Pound Rd, Oldbury, West Midlands. B68 8NQ.  
(r.millwater@pobroadband.co.uk) Tel:0121 552 3015. Please return this form even if transferring directly.

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I wish to attend the Warwickshire Mark Carol Service on Sunday, 12th December 2021 and my party will consist of ..... Adults and ..... Children under 14.

I enclose a cheque for £.....being £6.00 per adult, payable to "The Warwickshire Mark Social Fund" (or WMSF) or will Direct Transfer the amount to HSBC Sort code 40-11-18 Account 32835711 using my Name and Christmas as a reference. Please return this form even if transferring directly.

Name.....

Details of children attending and ages.....

# Just for fun!

Here is a wordsearch containing the names of the items on the Mark Tracing Board. Look the lecture on the Tracing Board up in your Ritual Book and see if you can find them all - Then read the lecture to see what they represent and why they are important to Mark Masons.

I	S	C	K	R	I	U	C	F	J	Q	K	D	E	L	B	O	P	B	I
E	P	O	R	T	F	B	O	Y	P	M	H	Y	A	L	H	O	W	L	L
D	D	B	V	B	J	A	M	E	G	S	R	Q	E	L	S	Y	K	E	R
B	B	P	D	Y	Z	H	P	T	N	Y	K	K	I	E	L	Y	W	U	T
Z	A	B	J	G	T	M	A	G	B	D	M	N	J	I	R	O	K	T	J
N	T	E	G	N	E	G	S	H	E	D	T	B	O	L	R	A	P	U	Y
T	W	W	X	F	L	R	S	R	O	H	C	N	A	T	X	B	U	L	P
H	E	V	O	A	L	Z	E	L	M	Y	L	D	E	B	W	O	S	Q	H
O	L	M	R	W	A	X	S	P	E	J	Y	U	L	J	O	T	N	M	S
U	G	I	E	B	M	M	M	G	H	A	Q	S	S	H	T	R	V	Q	L
R	N	N	G	N	X	J	N	B	E	C	O	J	N	P	L	U	M	B	V
G	A	C	Z	M	H	I	R	M	L	O	A	C	Q	W	T	K	L	C	Y
L	I	H	Y	C	E	P	U	K	A	B	G	R	B	P	U	K	E	H	C
A	R	F	T	E	N	L	E	M	W	S	O	Y	E	R	L	F	V	I	S
S	T	R	S	Y	O	Y	C	R	F	M	A	A	Z	D	U	R	E	S	A
S	P	R	W	V	E	Y	L	R	N	D	E	Y	M	C	D	L	L	E	C
A	R	U	O	F	Y	T	N	E	W	T	Z	G	P	D	T	A	E	L	R
U	S	U	E	L	E	E	R	B	M	W	G	X	U	D	K	G	L	B	E
X	E	E	Q	U	I	L	A	T	E	R	A	L	S	A	F	G	I	V	D
Z	L	Z	Z	C	R	Y	N	O	M	S	H	F	V	F	G	L	M	F	W

Words can go in any direction!

VOLUME,SACRED,LAW,ALL,SEEING,EYE,ANCHOR,AXE,CHISEL,SQUARE,COMPASSES,EQUILATERAL,TRIANGLE, TWENTYFOUR,INCH,GAUGE,HOURGLASS,JACOBS,LADDER,LEVEL,MALLET,PLUMB,RULE,ROPE,TROWEL

No prizes, but the solution will be in the next edition of the newsletter.

## Photos Please!

Remaining mindful of the restrictions on photography in the Lodge Room please could you send in pictures of Installations and other special events. In 100 year old minute books you can find pictures and I am certain we can do just as well today.

Send pictures to: [comms@warksmarkpgl.co.uk](mailto:comms@warksmarkpgl.co.uk)

## Editor's Final Note

Once again I have to say a great big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Warwickshire Mark. The next issue will hopefully be with you before the end of the year but that does depend upon contributions and every member of Mark and RAM is welcome to contribute.

As Mark Masonry continues to come to life, please let the editor know what you and your Lodges are doing, not just the date and time, but also what is happening—ceremonies, lectures or special events.

Please send your contributions (or any other news) to [comms@warksmarkpgl.co.uk](mailto:comms@warksmarkpgl.co.uk)