NEWSLETTER OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE & HUNTINGDONSHIRE

PASSWORD



The Challenge Is On!

AUTUMN 2024 EDITION...

PGM's Message
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MCF News
SEE PAGES 12 & 13

News From Around The Province
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www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk

From the Team

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& Communications Committee Chairman
Peter Robinson
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Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Autumn edition of 'Password' and we highlight the key message from the PGM of 'Next Step 3000' and the membership challenge is very much on!
The summer has been a busy period and we feature a number of the charity and fun events that have taken place.
We welcome Rab Reid to our team as Local Communication Officer for Corby & Oundle, with our thanks to Jack Summerfield for his many years of service.
A major development within our Social Media group is the work in support of membership and retention, which has proved very successful.
In order to fulfil this growth of activity, we are looking to recruit additional team members with digital marketing skills and some time to help. Please give me a call if you would like to find out more.

With best regards

Peter
Peter Robinson
This and previous PASSWORD editions are available at www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk



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Notable Events

Go to 'Notable Events' on the Provincial Website for further information on these and many other forthcoming events

Spelhoe Lodge 8576	Banner Rededication	Sheaf Close - 25th September 2024
Beyond The Craft	Presentation	Sheaf Close - 30th September 2024
Danetre Lodge 8594	Banner Rededication	Daventry - 7th October 2024
Three Counties Lodge 9278		Sheaf Close - 28th October 2024
NH Lodge of Installed Masters 3422		Sheaf Close - 30th October 2024
RBL Poppy Collections & Remembrance		November 2024
Provincial Carol Service		Peterborough Cathedral - Sunday 8th December 2024
Northampton Beer Festival		Sheaf Close - 1st February 2025
Provincial Gala Festival	Masked Valentines Ball	Mercure Hotel, Northampton - 15th February 2025
Provincial Grand Charity	AGM	Sheaf Close - 8th March 2025
Provincial Grand Lodge	AGM & Appointments	Sheaf Close - 15th May 2025
Three Counties	Promotions to Past Ranks	Sheaf Close - 28th May 2025
Provincial Golf Day		30th May 2025
Light Blues	Communication Update	Great Queen's Street, London - 31st May 2025
Quarterly Communications	Northampton Province Visit	Great Queen's Street, London - 11th June 2025
Provincial Fun Day		3rd August 2025

Message From The Provincial Grand Master

Brethren,

Firstly, I hope you have all enjoyed the fabulous summer and are recharged and refreshed ready for our 2004/5 season.

On reflection I think last season was one of the best ever. Not only did we have a record number of initiates, the highest for over



70 years, we also enjoyed a super year of fellowship not only in our Lodges, but also across our community spreading the word. We closed out our Festival obligations to the MCF with a spectacular total of £2.5million making our Province the 4th ever highest donations per capita, something every one of us should be extremely proud of. But it didn't end there, we had our end of season 'finale' of over 130 members attending Quarterly Communications in London in June, concluding a fantastic year on a real high note.

I have been very impressed to see that the energy of last season has continued through the summer with many garden parties, attendances at fetes and car shows to name just a small number of excellent activities members have undertaken during the closed season.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting year planned. As I write this article, we have had a memorable and very happy event at Kimbolton Castle on Saturday 31st August 2024, where the Federation of School Lodges annual meeting was hosted by The Old Kimboltonians' Lodge, with almost 140 Brethren attending. President of the Federation RW.Bro Sir David Wootton PDGM and 2nd GP (pictured right)



met me as President Elect at Peterborough Train Station on a flying visit to conduct the handover of the Presidents' Collaret and Gavel, the full story of the day appears on page 18. We will as the season really starts to get underway be busy planning for the consecration of our 98th Lodge, a special interest Cricketing Lodge. We also have Banner Re-Dedications and many other interesting meetings planned. Outside of the Lodge Rooms, we are planning a number of social events, including a Masked Valentines Ball in February 2025, which I am sure will be an excellent evening.

There is, as always, much to do to ensure our wonderful



fraternity thrives into the future so younger members and those who are yet to join, can continue to experience the fellowship and enjoyment we do. The front page of this publication sets out our 'Next Step' – to reach 3,000 members this season. We closed out last season just 38 short of this number, and whilst inevitably there is a small drop in members during the closed season making the gap a little larger, I am sure that by continuing our pro-active work of attraction under the guidance of our Provincial Membership Officer W.Bro Jonathon Hibbins and his team, and with a real focus this year on Engagement and Retention under the guidance of W.Bro Alex Thomson and his team, we will exceed this 'Next Step'.



It is important that we continue to grow each year, and I have discussed this and the reasons in previous issues. The 3000 subscribing members is an important landmark and enables us to maintain the current level of Provincial Appointments and Grand Ranks, dropping below this number for too long will mean UGLE will remind us of the table on page 34 of the Book of Constitutions, which would require us to appoint six less Acting Provincial Officers each year. We must therefore not just reach the 3000, but go beyond to ensure that as we move through the annual membership peaks and troughs, we will always sustain a solid membership of no less than 3000 members. This is therefore not a target, but a milestone on our way towards our objectives as laid out in our Membership Strategy.

I have been lucky enough to have attended a number of meetings of those Lodges who meet outside of the usual season, and engaged in Golf & Clay Pigeon Shooting, neither of which I can claim to be proficient in, however the fellowship was first class making up for my inadequacies in these sports. I am excited to commence a new season and to work with everyone, enjoying ourselves, inspiring our new and younger members and continuing to attract new candidates to join this most wonderful fraternity of ours.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon – until then, may the Great Architect of the Universe keep you and your families safe and well.

RW.Bro Mark Constant
Provincial Grand Master

August 2024

"We must therefore not just reach the 3000, but go beyond..."

UNITED GRAND LODGE

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER

Our New Executive team



Invested by The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Mark Constant at PGL in May 2024, the new Provincial Executive (right) of Deputy PGM W.Bro Tim Almond, Assistant PGMs W.Bro Dale Gilbert and W.Bro Francis Margot first duty was to attend together with retiring Provincial Grand Charity Steward W.Bro Gerry Crawford, the formal presentation to the Masonic Charitable Foundation of a cheque for £2,518,648 to mark the conclusion of our 2024 MCF Festival.
Also pictured (from left) VW.Bro Charles Bennett, VW.Bro Graham Redman, W.Bro Les Hutchinson, Chief Executive MCF, RW.Bro James Long, Chairman MCF.



**L-R: W.Bro Tim Almond, Deputy Provincial Grand Master,
W.Bros Dale Gilbert and Francis Margot, Assistant Provincial Grand Masters**

Grand Officer Appointments

We are delighted to announce the following first appointments to Grand Rank from April 2024.

First Appointments to Grand Rank

W.Bro Aaron Day, PAGDC, PPSGW, ProvGChap, LGR
W.Bro Aaron was initiated into Piscator Lodge No 7557, serving as Worshipful Master in 1997, 2004 & 2018 and was MEZ of Piscator Chapter in 1999, its founding year and again in 2017.
He has served as our Provincial Grand Chaplain since 2021 assisting the Provincial team at several Lodge consecrations, Banner rededications and other important ceremonies.
Aaron has been a leading figure in the establishment and expanding work of the 3 Pillars Feeding the Homeless & Supporting the Community charity at St James Churchrooms, Northampton where food and a wide range of other help is provided two evenings a week to those in need.

W.Bro Jonathon Hibbins, AGPurs, PProvSGW, ProvGMO
Honoured with Active Grand Rank in 2024/5, W.Bro Jonathon is also the Provincial Grand Membership Officer and a Group Officer in Peterborough.
He served as Provincial Senior Grand Warden from 2020 to 2022, as Secretary for the Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards No. 8995 for 6 years and is currently Secretary of the NH Lodge of Installed Masters No 3422.
Initiated into Fitzwilliam Lodge No 2533 in 2001, Jonathon became WM in 2010 and is also a PM of the Richard Sandbach Lodge.

W.Bro Duncan Childs, PAGStB, PPSGW
W.Bro Duncan is a Group Officer in Kettering and Chairman of the Centre's companies and Management Committee.
He has previously served as Provincial Grand Mentor and continues within the Province assisting in a number of other areas.
Initiated into the Lodge of Perseverance No 455 in 1997, Duncan served as Worshipful Master 2009 and also as WM in Rockingham Lodge No 9491 in 2015 and is their current Master. He is also a member of the NH Lodge of Installed Masters No 3422.
In the Royal Arch, he is Past MEZ in Perseverance Chapter and presently serves as Provincial Grand Treasurer.



L-R, W.Bro Aaron, W.Bro Jonathon, PGM, W.Bro Duncan

Introducing our Wardens

W.Bro Tom Webster, Provincial Senior Grand Warden
was born into a Leicestershire farming family and joined the British Army at 16 joining the Royal Engineers.
He served in many units and theatres operating as a Bomb Disposal & Combat Engineer.
Upon leaving the Army he completed his formal Mechanical Engineering qualifications and transfer his skills to Civilian Street.
He Joined The Mars Corporation as an Engineer and retired in 2023 after 35 years, finishing as an Engineering and Operations Manager.

W.Bro Tom married the love of his life, Teresa in 1988 after meeting in the North Norfolk squash leagues. Their son Daniel was born in 1996, who works as a Co-Sec in the City.

Daniel is to be married to Olivia in 2025.

To was initiated into Freemasonry in 2004 into Petriburg Lodge 8767 and became Master in 2011. He became a Past Provincial Grand Steward and member of Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards in 2013, and was promoted to Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in 2015, then served as Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies in 2017 – 2023. In 2023 he became a Group Officer for Peterborough. In 2024 he was honoured of becoming the Provincial Senior Grand Warden.

Tom is a member of Petriburg Lodge 8767, Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards 8995, St Wilfrid Lodge 4453 and Mulliner Classic Car Lodge 10019, becoming its Master in



2023. He became exalted into the Holy Royal Arch in Dr Oliver Chapter 3964 in 2006 and became First Principal in 2016 and achieving a Past Provincial rank in 2020. He is also a member of Dr Crucifix Rose Croix, joining in 2013.

Tom's passions and hobbies are playing competitive Golf and being an active member of the Goodwood Road Racing Club combining his passion for Classic Cars and Motorsport. But his biggest love is for his family and his Brothers in Freemasonry."

W.Bro Steve Storey Provincial Junior Grand Warden
was born in Park Royal Hospital on the 28th September 1962.
He moved from London to Corby in 1965 and attended Beanfield school from 4 years old until the age of 16.

W.Bro Steve joined the RAF in 1979 as an aircraft engineer airframes and enjoyed 9 wonderful years travelling to many far and distant destinations. He married his wonderful wife Tricia in 1990 and they have 3 fantastic children and 4 grandchildren with another on its way.

After leaving the RAF he somehow managed to pursue a career in roofing, eventually handed over to his son on his retirement a few years ago.

Steve was initiated into the Old Northamptonian Lodge on the 3rd February 2004, passed on the 5th October 2004, and Raised on the 1st march 2005. He reached the chair of King Solomon in 2010 only 5 years later, and was fortunate enough to be given the rank of Provincial Grand Steward the following May, joining Palmer Lodge. In May 2016 he was promoted to Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and 2024 Provincial Junior Grand Warden. W.Bro Steve is also a member of Piscator Lodge which he joined when they moved up from Clarkenwell.

In the Royal Arch he joined Kingsley Chapter and passed through the chairs reaching the chair of Z in 2019 which he held for 3 years because of COVID. He then joined the chapter of

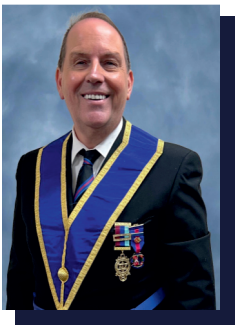


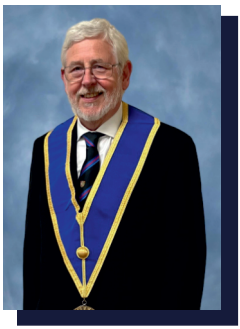
Installed First Principals. Steve was given Royal Arch Provincial honours in 2024 with the active rank of Provincial Grand Steward.

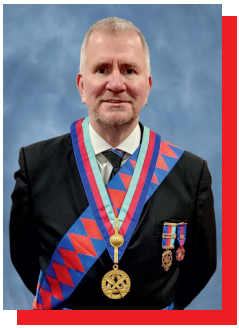
Steve feels very proud and extremely honoured with the positions he has held in both Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter and looks forward to continuing his journey in freemasonry.

Our New Provincial Secretariate

In the Provincial Office we welcome **WBro Kevin Forman, Provincial Grand Secretary,** and **WBro Ian O'Connor, Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary** (Invested at PGL in May 2024) and **E.Comp John Ford, Provincial Grand Scribe E**







Passing to the Grand Lodge above

VW.Bro Michael Herbert, OSM, PGSwdB, PPJGW (Leics & Rutland)

It is with great sadness that we confirm the passing of VWBro Michael Herbert, OSM, PGSwdB, PPJGW (Leics & Rutland) at Devonshire Court, Oadby to the Grand Lodge Above on 11th August 2024.

VWBro Michael was initiated into Freemasonry in 1961 with Gartree Lodge No 7778 in the Province of Leicestershire & Rutland, but was also a long standing member of Old Kimboltonians' Lodge No. 7204 in Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire since 1996, serving as Worshipful Master in 2016.

Michael's accolades as a Freemason include being Past Grand Sword Bearer in Craft and Past Grand Sojourner in Royal Arch, while he was Deputy Grand Master in the Mark. Above all, he was awarded in June 2023 what is considered the highest honour the Grand Master can confer, the Order of Service to Masonry, with the letters OSM preceding any other rank achieved.

The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Mark Constant paid this tribute, 'This is very sad news as many will have fond memories of a great Freemason and a lovely man. He truly lived respected and died regretted'.



Details of Brethen who have passed to the Grand Lodge Above are maintained in the 'In Memoriam' section of the Provincial Yearbook, which members can view online by clicking the 'In Memoriam' link on the Provincial Website homepage.



Your Group Officers

For reference, here is a 'who's who' of Group Officers across the Province:





A full list of all current Group Officers is available on the Provincial Website

News From Provincial Grand Lodge

Provincial Grand Charity Steward
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In my first article for Password we start by going back to the future with a message from my predecessor, W.Bro Gerry Crawford.

"In the last edition of Password I reported we had just reached our £2.024m MCF Festival target. At the end of March the Festival concluded. Despite encountering the Covid epidemic, an economic downturn and soaring interest rates along the way we managed to raise a magnificent £2,518,648, equivalent to an average of £828 per member - the fourth highest ever recorded nationally.

I would like to add my grateful thanks to those of the Provincial Grand Master, the MCF President and its Chairman, to all in the Province for your generous support making this possible. It is by our joint efforts this superb result was achieved for a most worthy cause.

At Provincial Grand Lodge in May I handed over the Provincial Grand Charity Steward baton to W.Bro Mick Warren. I know many who have been Lodge Charity Stewards have, similarly, handed over to their successor. I thank you all for your support during my 11 years in office. I wish Mick well in his new role and am sure, with your help, he will take the cause of charity in the Province from strength to strength."

I thank Gerry for his kind words and look forward to working with you all in the future.

W.Bro Mick Warren
Provincial Grand Charity Steward





MCF Grant for Northamptonshire Carers Charity

At least 450 patients with dementia admitted to the Dementia and Frailty wards at Northampton General Hospital (NGH), quite possibly many more, will receive help and support from a dedicated professional thanks to a grant from Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire Freemasons to the Northamptonshire Carers charity.

The £57,000 Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF) grant will directly support the patient with dementia and their carers, as well as other family members and ward staff, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to increase their ability to look after the person with dementia independently. Providing a wraparound service means that patients and carers have access to help at every step of the journey.

The funding will make a significant difference in the lives of people with dementia, as well as carers and families, by providing specialised assistance through a dedicated Dementia Wellbeing Activity Co-Ordinator and volunteers with lived experience of dementia, who will be primarily based on the NGH dementia wards. These practitioners will also liaise with teams in A&E to assist in targeting those most at risk to directly support on the wards and then again when discharged to help enable a smooth transition back home.

Based on a review of the refreshed Integrated Care Northamptonshire Dementia Strategy (2024-2026), it is stated that 25 per cent of acute hospital beds nationally are occupied by people living with dementia (UK Dementia Facts - Alzheimer's Society, 2023).

In Northamptonshire, it is estimated that there were 8,590 people living with dementia in 2022. At the time of reporting, 5,306 people had received a diagnosis of



dementia (61.8 per cent of the estimated total), indicating that approximately 3,284 people (38.2 per cent) remain undiagnosed and potentially not receiving the support they require. Often, when someone is admitted to a hospital, who is frail and is presenting with memory or cognitive impairments, this can trigger a diagnosis for dementia. Data also indicates 35 per cent of patients previously admitted for assessment or ward stays do not have a consistent carer. The Dementia Wellbeing Activity Co-Ordinator will receive referrals from admissions staff to particularly focus attention on these patients as well.

The grant from Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire Freemasons comes through the Masonic Charitable Foundation, which is funded by Freemasons, their families and friends, from across England and Wales. Northamptonshire Carers Chief Executive, Mark Major said: "We're very grateful to Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire Freemasons for their generous grant. Through the learning we gained from a very successful six month pilot, we're able to target this grant funded project to those in the greatest need and achieve the best possible outcomes. Over the longer term there'll be far better help for families affected by dementia in the county." Provincial Grand Charity Steward W.Bro Mick Warren , said: "I'm really pleased we've been able to help Northamptonshire Carers with this excellent project. Being admitted to Hospital for someone with dementia can be overwhelming and confusing, causing anxiety for both the patient and their carer. It's hugely important for the families and for hospital staff that this vital work is supported."

Northamptonshire Carers
Supporting Unpaid Carers

News From Provincial Grand Lodge

Provincial Grand Membership Officer
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Brethren, I trust you have all enjoyed a good summer and look forward to an exciting Masonic year ahead…. We're one year on from the introduction of the updated Members' Pathway initiative - **Plan, Attract, Engage and Retrieve** – and huge thanks to all the Lodges and Groups who have made significant contributions to redress our Membership Challenge.

By 31st May you can be proud that Provincial Membership increased by 44 including an amazing 174 Initiations in the year!

Evidence is very clear now that Groups and Lodges who take a proactive approach to Planning and Attraction are seeing their Membership figures improving and this will continue exponentially as new members join our ranks and introduce their own friends, alongside our continuing Attraction initiatives.

As we approach the new season the Provincial Membership Team are working with some highly proactive Groups putting on workshops to assist Lodges to engage with Members' Pathway processes, with additional focus this year on Planning, Engagement and Retention and continued Attraction activities – if you haven't organised your meeting contact us now.

Attraction systems are now supported through the Discover Freemasonry Events Calendar and Booking System on the Provincial Website link as below (or see graphic above), and I thank W.Bro Alex Thurlow for all his support in managing the equipment bookings.

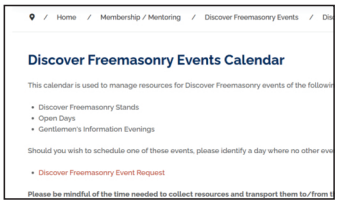
Numerous Discover Freemasonry events have been booked this summer across the Province using our branded gazebos, marketing equipment and leaflets – proving an invaluable asset in increasing public awareness and producing many highly successful enquiries. Some Groups have even purchased their own equipment at a beneficial negotiated rate to allow them to further their Attraction success.

Most Centres have booked Discover Freemasonry Open Days with public receiving warm welcomes, having an



Home / Membership / Mentoring / Discover Freemasonry Events / Discover Freemasonry Events Calendar

www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk/index.php/mentoring-ns-heading/discover-freemasonry-events-menu/discover-freemasonry-events-calendar



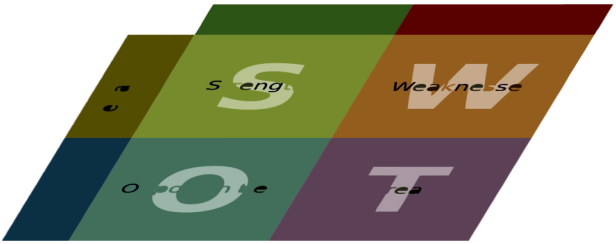
opportunity to see what goes on and what Freemasonry does within our communities – again generating plenty of enquiries whilst offering the opportunity to invite enquirers from other events.

More Gentlemen's Information Evenings are being held again this season, with support from the Provincial Team to explain a little about what Freemasonry means and does within our communities. These continue to provide a really useful finale to Attraction activities to invite those who have enquired through various means, usually with a 70+ % sign-up rate.

However, Membership increases are heavily influenced by good **Planning** in line with Members' Pathway systems – identification of strengths & weaknesses (SWOT); succession planning for all offices to map future progression for members to retain interest & enthusiasm; identifying any Brethren at risk of becoming disengaged through attendance and involvement monitoring; planning social activities to promote fellowship and family involvement; identifying attraction events with quality enquiry handling; creation of mentoring and membership strategies to ensure strong, engaged membership, enjoying their Freemasonry; and developing ongoing learning and development opportunities to create interest and enthusiasm. When a Lodge begins to look at what it does and questions how it can improve anything, this naturally encourages ideas to be considered with a **YES, IF** attitude with positive action – by default improving engagement, retention & attraction.

Thank you all for your continued support and commitment - I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming season and please do talk to me about how we can help your Group or Lodges – together we can smash the **'Next Step 3000'** target!

W.Bro Jonathon Hibbins, Provincial Grand Membership Officer





News From Provincial Grand Lodge

Provincial Grand Mentor
Alex Thomson
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Brethren, I hope you are all now reinvigorated and ready for another fantastic year of Freemasonry in our wonderful Province. I have, through various channels been emphasising the importance of continual engagement with our Brethren, in particular through the summer recess, since historically the late summer months have seen the risk of resignations increasing. I have seen and heard of many fantastic events which have taken place over the summer, from Lodge barbeques, Discover Freemasonry events, formal and informal Lodge get togethers, Masonic golf and Light Blues events.

Whilst we would hope that these events will have an immediate impact on resignations it is the case that benefit is likely to be accrued over time. That being said we are interested in numbers, this is after all how we judge our progress against the membership challenge. At the time of writing this article, year to date resignations are up from 63 in 2023 to 71 in 2024. This is clearly disappointing however, with just over one year since we relaunched The Members' Pathway I firmly believe that we have much to be positive about. Our Light Blues Club has recently welcomed its 600th member and we are seeing greater numbers of Light Blues taking part in our ceremonies and being active at the Festive Boards.

It is also encouraging to see the work of the Provincial Grand Learning & Development Officer, W.Bro Roger Allanson as well as noting that the PGM has appointed W.Bro Stephen Wood (pictured) as Provincial Retention Officer. Both of these highly experienced Brethren will contribute greatly to our work of stemming the losses. Furthermore the understanding of what the Membership Challenge is all about is increasing and the tools and techniques available in the Members' Pathway and on the Mentors' page of the Provincial Website provide Lodges with a great resource with which Lodges can start their journey.



So how can Lodges move forward effectively? Voltaire is attributed with the phrase "Perfect is the enemy of good" and Lodges should not wait for the perfect plan to implement. There are numerous examples and guidance available, in the sources I have already mentioned, for Lodges to adopt. A sub optimal approach applied consistently will always be more effective than an optimal approach inconsistently applied.

A fantastic example of this can be seen at Euston Lodge which adopted the original Members' Pathway in 2016. W.Bro Roly Edwards was appointed Mentor in 2019 and quickly realised the greatest obstacle was the lack of understanding by the Lodge about the importance of Mentoring and how it should be run, something he feels is a common issue. He explained to me: "After much trial and error we came up with an information pack which is provided to all newly initiated brethren. Also at the end of the ceremony he is given a formal introduction to his Personal Mentor, this allows the whole Lodge to know who his Personal Mentor is. Since we implemented this we have further refined our approach and, whilst we know that we are not perfect, we believe that this approach has proved useful for our Lodge as it is a happy Lodge which is retaining members." The key message in this story is "start the journey, it wont be perfect but it will bring success". I therefore encourage all Lodges to be active in Mentoring their members, not just the newer members but to also engage with all members to ensure that they are getting what they want out of their Freemasonry.

W.Bro Alex Thomson
Provincial Grand Mentor



Provincial Grand Almoner
Greg Warman
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W.Bro Kevin Mackie handed over this role in May2024 and it is fair to say that I am still finding my feet, Kevin did a wonderful job during his tenure and I thank him sincerely for the support he gave me and continues to give me when required. I inherited his Team who can be found by following the link at the bottom of the page.

I am actively seeking Masons of any rank who would like to join the Team, ideally, one based in and around the Northampton area and the other in or near Corby. Please just email if you are interested in finding out more about the role and how you could help your Province.

If either you as a Mason or holding the office of the Lodge Almoner require support please use the introduction form attached with brief details and email to me or one of my Team, again found at the bottom of the page.

In recent weeks I have encountered several instances involving Brothers and family members with dementia in various stages. It is quite hard for the individual concerned, family member, and indeed the Lodge Almoners and members to understand how best to deal with a Mason or qualifying family member with this condition.

Here are some Common issues: -

Annual Subscriptions are due and the member no longer attend Lodge.

Family member or Brother requires financial support.

Should membership be continued?

How often should you visit or contact the family?

These are just a few of the situations you could face as the Lodge Almoner.

I would highlight the financial support given by the MCF in connection with Dementia as featured on page 13 and will come back to this in future articles.

I look forward to meeting with you during my Lodge visits over the new season.

W.Bro Greg Warman
Provincial Grand Almoner

The Almoner Team:
https://www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk/index.php/document-library/almoner/2197-pga-team
Enquiry Form:
https://www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk/index.php/document-library/almoner/2199-lodge-almoner-referral-form-docx

Federation of School Lodges Annual Festival



A memorable and very happy event took place at Kimbolton Castle on Saturday 31st August 2024, when the Old Kimboltonians' Lodge No. 7204 had the honour of hosting the 76th Annual Festival of the Federation of School Lodges

In addition, The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Mark Constant was elected President of the Federation for the next 3 years during the Annual Business Meeting.

During the Business Meeting it is a tradition to announce the next School Lodge to hold the 'Travelling Gavel' at the start of the new year and based on their number of attendees, this was awarded to the Old Wellingburian Lodge No.5570 (below).



A short Emergency meeting was then held by the Old Kimboltons' Lodge under the direction of Worshipful Master Robert Turner LGR and during a period when the lodge was 'called off', a fascinating talk was given by Mr Andrew Bamford, Curator of Kimbolton School and a former Head of History, entitled 'The Last Residence of Queen Kathrine of Aragon', which was very well received.



At the Festive Board, Federation President RWBro Mark Constant and WM Robert Turner both thanked everyone for attending and helping to make the afternoon so special. In particular they thanked Mr Andrew Bamford for his wonderful talk recognising the unique history of the Castle and also Mr Sam Venn who attended on behalf of the school in support.

A great time was had by all and our photograph below shows OK's Secretary Martin Wilson (front left) with a group of Bedfordshire Masons from Old Bedford Modernians and other schools led by their PGM RWBro. Nick Edwards (front right) all celebrating a most memorable day.

On the 18th July 2024 at the Ringstead Island Fishery, the Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire Branch of the Masonic Fishing Charity (MTSFC) held their third event of the year, with local participating schools and organisations involving 13 people to fish alongside MTSFC volunteers.



The MTSFC is very much looking forward to hosting its next event due to be held at Browns Farm in Addington, Northants on 19th September 2024, with Deputy PGM WBro Tim Almond making his first official visit to the charity in that role.

Anyone interested in coming along or volunteering, please contact Chairman WBro Peter Chown via email:- peterchown85@googlemail.com

Lodges of Special Interest

Did you know that there are at least 13 Special Interest Lodges in our Province? Contact the secretary to visit one (or more than one)

Graham Milton 9796 - motorcycle lodge	Michael Walton	secretary9796@outlook.com
Grand Junction 9775 - canal boating	Weston Charlesworth	grand.junction.secretary@gmail.com
Lock Stock & Barrel 9984 - country sports	Martin Cannon	MWJCannon@aol.com
Mulliner Classic Car 10019 - classic cars	Stephen Burton	steveburton4@sky.com
Oldest Ally 9524 - twinned with Portugal	Michael Green	mjcg360@gmail.com
Pro Musica 9547 - music, singing	Mark Colin Barber	Secretary9547@outlook.com
Prudence 8946 – martial arts	Ritchie Martin Jeune	ritchie.jeune@gmail.com
Silverstone 9877 - motor racing	John Vivian Harmer	mondial7@icloud.com
Terpsichore 9874 - ballroom dancing	Clive Russell Chenery	clivechenery@btinternet.com
The Scout Lodge 9814 - Scouting	Lyle Abbott	l.abbott20@yahoo.co.uk
Lodge of United Services 10012 - persons who have served in uniform	John Ford	secretarylus@gmail.com
Webb Ellis 9740 - Rugby Union	Stephen John Miles	steve.miles1953@outlook.com
Cervisia 10032 - Beer Brewing	Graham Michael Nobbs	CervisiaSecretary@outlook.com

And look out for a new addition in the coming year!

LEATHER WILLOW LODGE
No. 10100

News From The Light Blues

NHNYMC Communications Officer
Marcus Humphriss
07811129124
e: Comms@nhnymc.co.uk



Chairman	Bro Tom Williams
Vice Chairman	Bro Gerry McCrory
Secretary	Bro Simon Dolman
Treasurer	Bro Ritchie Jeune
Events	W.Bro John Line
Membership Officer	Bro Ben Sheard

The Light Blues QC



Saturday 31st May 2025

The target audience is Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts and Master Masons who have not yet been appointed to Provincial or District Grand Rank accompanied by their Provincial/District Grand Masters and, wherever possible, relevant Provincial/District Grand Officers (Membership \Officer, Communications Officer, Mentor, Learning & Development Officer).

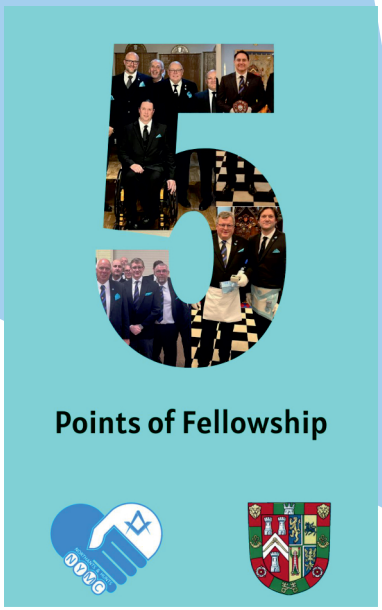
Those attending will need to be seated in the Grand Temple no later than 12.30pm where the lodge will be opened shortly afterward in the First Degree by the Officers od the Lodge Sine Nomine No 1000 with Active Grand Officers. The Pro Grand Master will be invited to occupy the Master's Chair and the business of the meeting will be a series of short presentations from light Blues Clubs and a presentation on Royal Arch Masonry.

To book a place, please go to the Provincial Website Article from 15th September 2024

Find Us On Northants & Hunts NYMC

CLUB MILESTONE REACHED!
Bro Lewis Traylen became the 600th member to join N&HNYMC







COME JOIN THE LIGHT BLUES AT THE N&HNYMC HALLOWEEN PARTY. 19TH OCTOBER 7PM, STAMFORD HALL

This is an opportunity for the Light Blues to meet across the Province and build new friendships.
Each Lodge Meeting the N&HNYMC is supporting will be at a different Masonic Centre throughout the Province. The aim over the next few years will be to travel across every Masonic Centre throughout the Province.
We have reached out to all Light Blue Club Committees for suggestions on what Lodge we should support, the final list will be confirmed in the next couple of weeks and will be added to the N&HNYMC Calendar.
However the first Lodge Meeting that the N&HNYMC are supporting is Cumton Lodge No 8869.

Coming Soon
Visit www.nhnymc.co.uk and our Facebook page for future events around our Province

Masonic Fun Day and Music Festival 2024

Our second Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire `Family Fun Day', now combined with the Silverbury Music Festival was held in Silverstone on Saturday 15th June 2024 and despite mixed weather, was a great success. The 3 Pillars Feeding the Homeless charity was well represented and is pictured below keeping everyone well fed with excellent hot food and many, many prizes on their very own 'Tombola' stall.











There was great support from across the Province, with brethren, family and friends enjoying a wonderful day out with stalls and fun activities for everyone, including a very competitive 'Tug of War' competition, with the winners celebrating (picture above right).

`It was a wonderful day ! Thank you to all who have contributed in so many ways to the success of this event. In particular, I would like to say a personal thank you the members of the Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards who assisted to set up the event on the Friday, helped with the car parking and gate on the day and again clearing up on the Sunday morning. There was great support and much enjoyment by all who attended.'

WBro Tim Almond, Deputy PGM





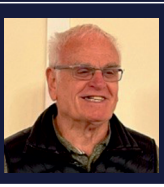


And we will see you next year -date for your diary 3rd August 2025!



Learning and Development

Provincial Grand Learning & Development Officer
Roger Allanson
07891 678820
e: rmallanson@gmail.com



Launching the 2024 Treasure Hunt

The inaugural Provincial Website Treasure Hunt commenced at 8am on **Saturday the 14th of September 2024!**





From that time, the Treasure Hunt Page on the Provincial Website will contain a link to 20-cryptic clues each leading to a picture or document on the Provincial Website.

The person who solves the most clues in the shortest time will win a full set of Provincial



The Treasure Hunt which is the brainchild of our Provincial Webmaster, W.Bro Simon Key will run for a period of 3 weeks with the winner being announced on or shortly after Monday the 7th of October 2024.

Please note that the competition is only open to members who have a Provincial Website account, so go on to the Website (see bottom of page) and login or sign up.

Note: providing your UGLE reference number will help, but it isn't obligatory.
Happy hunting and best of luck!

Roger

The Provincial Demonstration Team Needs You!
Take Part in Various Masonic Plays
Explain the History of Freemasonry through Performance



Find out more about about the Demonstration Team
Join us at Kettering Masonic Centre from 10 - 11am on
Saturday 26th October 2024
(or contact Roger Allanson ProvGL&DO on rmallanson@gmail.com)

News From Around The Province

Kettering & Thrapston

Local Communication Officer
Jason Harris
07811 517701
e: jason.harris@synergypackaging.co.uk



This summer saw the successful launch of the 'Masonic Summer School', a creative idea sparked by members of the Kettering United Lodge of Instruction wanting to continue their learning during the summer period, with WBro Mark Titterton turning the concept into a full blown success. Running from May to September, the school opened its doors to any Brother that wanted to advance their knowledge.
The sessions, hosted at Kettering and Wellingborough centres, drew over 40 enthusiastic participants throughout the summer. The spirited discussions and practices often ran past the scheduled end times, as attendees were eager to continue their practice and conversations. This enthusiasm spilled over to the local pub, where refreshments were enjoyed alongside further Masonic chat.
To cap off this enriching season, an end-of-term celebration is planned at Frank's, a local pizzeria, inviting participants along with their partners and friends for an evening of enjoyment and fellowship.
The initiative received high praise for its special blend of relaxed atmosphere, learning and fun. Attendees valued the opportunity to connect with Brothers from different lodges and centres with many local variations in ritual. The unanimous consensus was that the experience was both beneficial and entertaining, leaving everyone excited for a return next Summer!





Kettering's York Road Centre is set to impress its members and guests once again with a stunning refurbishment of its lounge area and dining hall floor. Following the successful overhaul of the lodge room last year, the new management team organised this transformative project to enhance the centre's welcoming atmosphere.
A dedicated group of contributors poured their efforts into this project, ensuring that every detail was just right and ready for the upcoming season. The community spirit was palpable as brethren came together, donating supplies and lending their skills and time to bring this vision to life.
This collaborative effort highlights the centre's commitment to providing a warm, comfortable and modern welcome to members, visitors and guests. As the centre opens its doors for the new season, it does so with renewed conviction and pride. A heartfelt "thank you" goes out to everyone who made this possible. Great effort, team!
Special thanks to: Jon Thompson, Colin Allanson, Peter Down, Tom Reed, Alex Robertson, Tim Lucy and Keith Riddle along with a whole team of volunteer builders, painters and decorators.



Full details of all of these stories can be found on the Provincial Website

Corby, Oundle

Local Communication Officer
Rab Reid
07516 118869
e:rabreid50@outlook.com



The big Tommy sleep out for homeless veterans saw W.Bro Rab Reid (Thistle & Rose Lodge) and Bro Rob Moger (Ferraria Lodge), braved the cold night and gave up our warm beds to sleep rough, and in doing so raised £1081.75 for the Royal British Legion. They



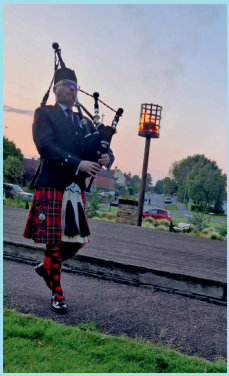
received visits from Bro Kenny Keys and Bro Hiten Patel both bringing us sustenance and fire wood. Breakfast was also generously provided by W.Bro Tom Hall. It was a cold damp and very uncomfortable night and made them both appreciate what we actually have in life. To all that donated , a massive thank you, we smashed our target.

There was a great visit from the Widows Sons Lodge No:10011 From the Province of Yorkshire North & East Ridings, to the Corby Complex in August. Our Provinical Grand Master and Provinical Charity Steward were in attendance to welcome the Lodge to our Province and a social fundraiser then completed the day over £500 was raised for a local charity, we certainly want to repeat the event.





Here's W.Bro Scott Morton, doing Corby Proud as the piper at Coronation park sensory Garden in Corby for the D Day 80th Anniversary.



Corby Highland Gathering - July 2024
It was a really early start as the young dancers were getting ready to show their talents when the team arrived, and as the Beverley & District Pipe band were pitched up next door, chances to speak had to be taken when they were in the competition ring.

It is always nice to see and chat to the senior masons who can't make it to the complex these days. They were very impressed with the Gazebo and information available. And it was nice to have the local MP for Corby & East Northants Lee Barron / Chairperson of NNC councillor Lora Lawman pop by. Plus, none other than Gary Gillespie - Coventry / Liverpool & Scotland legend, Chieftain of the gathering all calling in for a chat about Freemasonry.



Several men and women showed interested in our Fraternity. Thanks to the team W.Bro's Jim Spence, Steve Burton, David Docherty, Richie Richard, John Neal, Andy Mackie.



News From Around The Province

Huntingdon, Ramsey, St Ives, St Neots, Kimbolton

Local Communication Officer
John Napper
07970 150172
e: john.napper@btinternet.com





Cambs County Show Brethren were moved by two mother's expressions of heartfelt thanks to the Masonic movement for the TLC teddy bears which gave immense support to their daughters when receiving emergency hospital treatment.

Meridian Splendour

Meridian daytime Lodge shone brightly when that Great Luminary of the Province, RWBro Mark Constant, accompanied by nine twinkling satellites, imparted light and instruction at the Festive Board.





APGMs' First Outing The day after his appointment APGM WBro Francis Margot, accompanied by APGM Dale Gilbert, was working for his supper at Old Kimboltonians Lodge presenting a GL certificate under the watchful eye of the PGM RWBro Mark Constant



Open Bar Night

Brethren from the four Orders meeting at St Ives Masonic Hall and their guests enjoyed two Open Bar nights during the summer recess.

A Dambusters' final flight

50 years a Socrates member, Wg Cdr John Bell, last wartime aircrew of No617 Sqdn took his final flight to the Grand Lodge above in March.



Peterborough

Local Communication Officer
Craig Bunday
07771 538661
e: craigbunday@hotmail.co.uk



On Saturday 6th July tmembers of Peterborough & Stamford NYMC set up their stall at the Eye Festival. There was a fair amount of interest and W.Bro Neil Mitchell commented: It was a good day, the sun promised to shine but didn't, however we kept smiling and loved meeting the public to talk about Freemasonry!



Pictured right are W.Bro Mitchell, W.Bro Steve Wren - and W.Bro Layton Mills, ME and WM of Medeshamstede respectively



Here's some pictures of Brethren attending, manning the stand, and volunteering at Peterborough Beer Fest in August this year



Four informal Information evenings were held over the summer at Peterborough Masonic Centre. The initiative was more than just an educational tool; it was a way to foster a stronger sense of community and shared purpose among our members. By participating in these cross-lodge LOIs, brethren from different lodges had the opportunity to interact, share their insights, and learn from one another.
The information evenings also represented a proactive approach to the challenges of membership and retention. By offering engaging, educational experiences that resonate with our members, and by creating a lasting repository of Masonic knowledge, we can ensure that our lodges not only grow but thrive in the years to come. This plan, could be a significant step forward in achieving the goals set out in the UGLE's 7-year plan, and we are excited about the potential it holds for the future of Freemasonry in Peterborough and beyond.



News From Around The Province

Northampton

Local Communication Officer
Geoff Willis
07753 911067
e: geoff.willis42@gmail.com



The Barry Howard 'Magnificent Seven'

took on the Northampton Saints Wheelchair Rugby team led by Old Northamptonian Lodge No 5694 member Bro Gerry McCrory in a nail biting clash on Wednesday 4th September 2024.

Losing by a very convincing margin, the Howard 'Magnificent Seven' including PGM RW.Bro Mark Constant, were outclassed by the shear speed and agility of the Saints team.

The PGM commented, 'It was a truly inspirational evening and good fun, we are very proud to be able to support such a great initiative in our community, thanks to Gerry McCrory and all the team'.





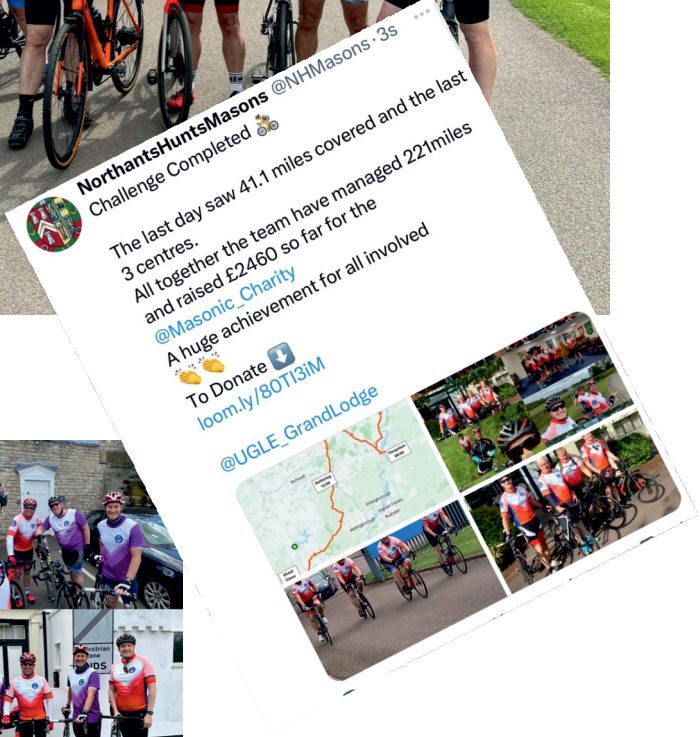
Pictured above, to mark the event a cheque was presented by Old Northamptonian Worshipful Master W.Bro G Davies for £500 to the Saints Wheelchair team.

There is an Amber Alert in place for the NHS Blood Donations following the recent London hospital cyber attack, and combined with unfilled appointments at Donor Centres in town and city centres, it has caused stocks of O type blood to drop to unprecedented low levels. The NHS urgently needs O type blood donors as O negative blood can be given to anyone.

So, they need YOUR help… there are over 12,000 appointments available over the next two weeks, and they really need to get them filled. If you are an O type blood donor, please call 0300 123 23 23 to make an appointment or follow the link → https://orlo.uk/QKNB9









Five Brethren - Mark Hunt, Robert Brame, Ronnie Webber, Darren Hitchcock and Tom Webster - on their ride around the Province in 4 days visited 23 Centres and raised the magnificent sum of £5,500 for the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

News From Around The Province

Wellingborough & Rushden

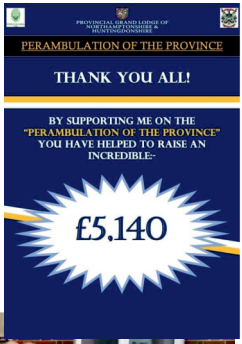
Local Communication Officer
Dan Cooke
07463 712181
e: dancooke79@gmail.com



Over 14 days in July, Bro Ian Lutter (pictured below in yellow) has been walking between each Masonic centre throughout the Province of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire, concluding at the Rushden Masonic Hall on Saturday 20th July 2024.

That's a total of nearly 200 miles to visit all 23 centres. He's done this to raise much needed funds for the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance and charities via his two Lodges, Webb Ellis and Pemberton.

So far his efforts have raised over £5000 to be split between the chosen charities as detailed above and we offer our heartfelt congratulations to him on a remarkable achievement.
Ian explained, 'It is very humbling how many brethren have given up their valuable time to welcome me to their lodges and centres. I have received wonderful encouragement and support throughout the whole Province. Thank you all.'







The Mulliner Classic Car Lodge No.10019 were well represented at the Rushden Car Show on Sunday 4th August 2024 with 17 members and an array of classic cars, together with a suitably manned 'Discover Freemasonry' gazebo.

An excellent fun day out was had by all and of course, also giving brethren the opportunity to explain to members of the public, what Freemasonry is all about!

Photo credit: Bro Colin Baines

WBro Marcus Humphriss and his wife Mel put on a charity race night at Rushden Masonic Hall in aid of their chosen charities this year. The Brain Tumour Charity. Air Ambulance. Thomas Fund. Spencer Contact. The evening saw members of the lodge, friends and family enjoy some light hearted racing, heads and tails and Pizza, although many went home losing, there was four BIG winners, the charities! With an amazing £857.00 raised to go towards the Masters list and be divided at the end of the year.



Stamford

Local Communication Officer
Richard White
07811 138758
e: rwhite1062@aol.com





Stamford Masonic Dining Club was formed in January 2024 to allow Stamford Masons to get together socially, and enjoy dining at the many excellent restaurants that Stamford (and surrounding areas) has to offer. They meet bi-monthly.



W.Bro Stuart Morgan spent most of June cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats to raise funds for the Peterborough Hospital Oncology Ward. Stuart of The Lodge of Merit said, "We have members who have recently been treated on that ward and my wife was also treated there in 2015, so I wanted to recognise the incredible work the staff are doing caring for cancer patients." Stuarts final figure is hoped to be in excess of £2000.

Stamford Lodges held an Open Day at The Stamford Masonic Centre on 22 June 24. Four of the seven Stamford Lodges was represented. All of the potential members were shown around by members and were all impressed by what they saw. There were several enquiries, including three initiates for next season.





The Lodge of Merit has been involved in conjunction with the Woods Family Fair in assisting to provide a safe and exclusive fair experience to local Stamford children and young adults with learning needs. W.Bro Ian Hall was the instigator and it is now in its eleventh year. I am sure that all the brethren involved get as much enjoyment and satisfaction as the guests themselves!

In May Burghley Lodge hosted a Charity Race Night at the Masonic Centre. Most of the Stamford lodges were represented by masons and non-masons alike. The final figure raised for Masonic Charities was a fantastic £1160.60



Chetene Lodge held an Afternoon Tea at The Masonic Centre as a change from the usual Ladies Lunch. The tea was well attended and enjoyed by all with an excellent selection of sandwiches, cakes and plenty of tea all provided by Andy Binder and his team. The event was attended by members from all seven Stamford Craft Lodges.



News From Around The Province

South West Brackley, Daventry, Towcester

Local Communication Officer
Rick Hill
07595 038473
rickhill65@mac.com

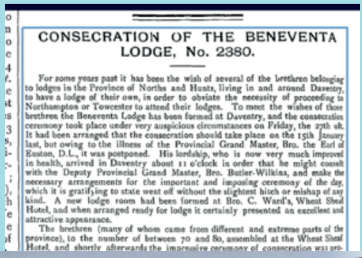


In August W.Bro Paul Edis was delighted as WM of The Towcestrian Lodge 9510 to be able to present a cheque to one of his chosen charities for the 2023-24 season for the amount of £1,000.

The Garden Buddies, is a local charity and part of the South Northants Volunteer Bureau, which is a cause that provides practical help to local elderly and disabled people who have no other means of support enabling them to maintain and enjoy their gardens, This community project aims to offer support to the most needy while also providing a positive focus for volunteers of all abilities.

The cheque was presented to Rachel Page from The Garden Buddies.





CONSECRATION OF THE BENEVENTA LODGE, No. 2380.

For some years past it has been the wish of several of the brethren belonging to lodges in the Province of Northa and Hunts, living in and around Daventry, to have a lodge of their own, in order to obviate the necessity of proceeding to Northampton or Towcester to attend their lodges. To meet the wishes of these brethren the Beneventa Lodge has been formed at Daventry, and the consecration ceremony took place under very auspicious circumstances on Friday, the 27th ult. It had been arranged that the consecration should take place on the 13th January last, but owing to the illness of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Euston, D.L., it was postponed. His lordship, who is now very much improved in health, arrived in Daventry about 11 o'clock in order that he might consult with the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Butler-Wilkins, and make the necessary arrangements for the important and imposing ceremony of the day, which it is gratifying to state went off without the slightest hitch or mishap of any kind. A new lodge room had been formed at Bro. C. Ward's, Wheat Sheaf Hotel, and when arranged ready for lodge it certainly presented an excellent and attractive appearance.

The brethren (many of whom came from different and extreme parts of the province), to the number of between 70 and 80, assembled at the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, and shortly afterwards the impressive ceremony of consecration was con-



On the 10 June 2024 W.Bro Terry Regan (Beneventa Secretary) and W.Bro Kevin Foreman (PGSec) received an email from VW.Bro Dr Richard Ebrey, PGSwdB, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Devonshire.
The email contained a link to a Past-Masters Jewel dated 1893 and presented to W.Bro F. Willoughby, which had been presented for sale on eBay.

The jewel represents some of the earliest history of the lodge, having been consecrated on 15 January 1891, with W.Bro F Billingham being installed as the first W.M. At the consecration Bro F. Willougby was appointed as S.W. and as such this Past-Masters Jewel is the second ever presented in the lodge.

It was concluded that the Jewel should be returned as a possession of Beneventa Lodge and the cost would be covered by the Past-Masters involved. Having examined photos of the Jewel, its condition and apparent authenticity were agreed. To avoid bidding against ourselves, it was agreed the W.Bro Peter Ballinger would bid in the auction, and it was won for £170.00

Having been lost to the lodge for over a century, the matter of suitable delivery was discussed, at which point the seller was found to be located in Surrey, in fact a neighbour of W.Bro Ballinger's brother.

Now safely back in the hands of the brethren it is intended that each Immediate Past Master will be presented with this jewel for the year immediately after their year in the Chair of King Soloman, before passing it on to the next worthy brother.

Roll Of Honour

Many congratulations to all the Brethren featured on our Roll of Honour.

70 YEARS

Lodge

Neil Desmond Jones

Pomfret

The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Mark Constant, attended Pomfret Lodge No 360, to present W.Bro Desmond Jones with his platinum certificate, to mark his 70 years service in the craft, on 8th May 2024. A full report appears on the Provincial Website.



60 YEARS

	Lodge
Stuart Douglas Jack	Willowbrook
Gerald Mitchley Hughes	P'Boro & Counties
Arthur March	Old Kimboltonians'

50 YEARS

	Lodge
Arnold Reginald Francklow	Lactodorum
Paul John Asbery	Wentworth
James Henry Newman	Old Wellingburian (PGM Yorkshire & WR)
Philip Michael Gilbert	Whytewell
John Richard Nicholas	Pro Musica

This is in Public Recognition of the valuable service given by the above Brethren.

Message from The Grand Superintendent

Dear Companions,

Good grief is it that time of year already! September sees the start of a new Masonic season and I trust that you have all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable Summer break, even if the weather did not live up to expectations. You can always tell the Brits on the beach, they are the last to leave even when the wind is blowing sand in their sandwiches.

Last season was a good one. We increased our member numbers, a successful recapture exercise saw past members returning, the Ambassador scheme is now embedded and is working well, Supreme Grand Chapter launched Archway (a resource centre to assist Chapters remain successful and thrive), the corporate strap line 'One Organisation – One Journey' was launched, closer and closer ties with the Craft were developed building on the successes of past years, the launch of the Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire Restructured Exaltation Ceremony, and we had fun. I thank every one for all their efforts in making all the above possible.

What can we look forward during the forthcoming season. Simply more of the same please.

It is our intention to begin talking to Chapters about Supreme Grand Chapters resource package, namely Archway. More detail to follow. There will also be a steady roll out of the restructured ritual in lines with Supreme Grand Chapters instructions for those Chapters who are interested. Several have already registered an interest and the first live, with a candidate, is planned for 19th September at Pemberton Chapter. Others will follow. A demonstration is planned for the 30th September at Perseverance Chapter.



Companions, we have another exciting year ahead, another opportunity to bring the joy of the Royal Arch to all Master Masons. Lets seize this opportunity with enthusiasm and determination.

Jim Boughton

Most Excellent Grand Superintendent (MEGS)

UNITED GRAND LODGE



SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER

Solomon Continues To Foster Curiosity And Develop Understanding

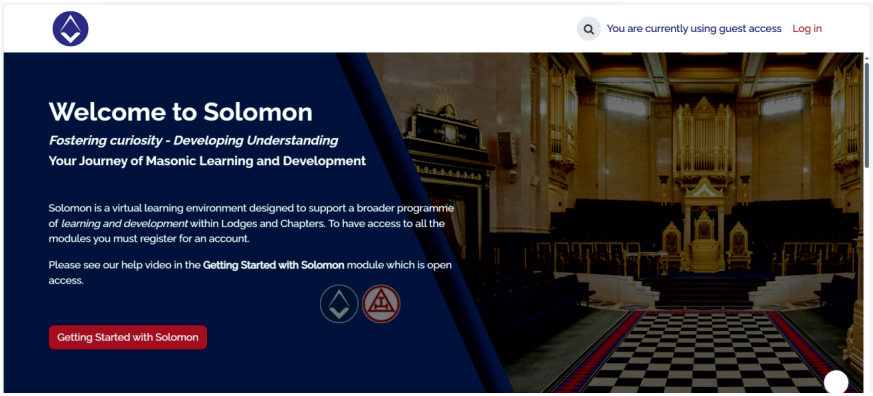
As the successes and achievements of the 2023-2024 masonic season fade from our memories we can look forward to the challenges and opportunities that await us all in 2024-2025. For many, the new season will include the completion of their masonic journey from the Craft to the delights and enlightenment of the Royal Arch. For those already in the Royal Arch we have a year ahead with challenges and opportunities in our Chapters.

The entry point of solomon.ugle.org.uk takes the user directly in to Solomon, or to the registration section for any new user to create an account to access the full and extensive array of material contained within Solomon.

Within Solomon (at solomon.ugle.org.uk) there are many links for the user to further review the various elements of their own journey through the Craft to the Royal Arch. Yet for any Solomon user who is part-way through their masonic journey, the request or suggestion is to go only into those modules (in Solomon) you have already covered in your masonic journey, so as not to 'spoil' what is yet to come!

The demonstration of the continuous link and pathway from the Craft to the Royal Arch, to form that essential and combined journey for all through Pure Ancient Freemasonry, can be readily be seen with the logo interlinking the chain of natural progression from the Craft to the Royal Arch

Dr Christopher R Clark
PProvGLDO, SLGR,
PGStB, ProvGMen,
MetAGInsp



Notable Events

Go to 'Notable Events' on the Provincial Website for further information on these and many other forthcoming events

Provincial Grand Chapter AGM Sheaf Close - - 26th June 2025

Royal Arch Communications Officer
Jason Brice
07970 722927
e: Jason.Brice@Redwood-EBS.co.uk



ROYAL ARCH AMBASSADORS

Royal Arch Ambassadors are appointed by the Grand Superintendent as part of the Province's Attraction, Retention and Recapture strategy. Their Remit is to help Master Masons and Craft Lodges with introduction to the Royal Arch, and to help Chapters with attraction of new and retention of existing members. (Lead Ambassador pictured and details in red)

Corby, Kettering
Andy Mackie
Alan Brooks
Mark Bosence
Chris Winfield
Duncan Childs



Roger Hutchinson
Tel: 07961 565613
e: roger@rogerandvicki.com

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Restucturing of the Exhaltation Ceremony

For many years aspects of our wonderful Exaltation ceremony irked me. One, the lectures, has been addressed. The other, unnecessary repetition, continued to niggle.

Having heard the Pro. First Grand Principal speak highly in support of the 'Savage Ritual' and how it delivered all the messages and enjoyment of the traditional Ritual, whilst shortening the time spent on the ceremony, I was keen to see how one might adapt the Ritual traditionally used in this Province (Domatic), without changing any of the wording, to achieve the same objective. During the Summer of 2023 I set about restructuring the Exaltation Ceremony traditionally used in our Province. In the Autumn of that year I handed a copy of my first draft to the 3rd Grand Principal and the Chairman of the Committee of General Purposes for their perusal and comment.

On receiving favourable feedback from the 3rd Grand Principal my next move was to gather together a team of interested Companions to work the first draft, suggesting improvements if felt worthy. Eight revisions later the finished article was presented to over 100 Companions of the Province at a meeting of Installed Principals in June 2024, where it was well received.

Copies were then sent to Supreme Grand Chapter for final acceptance or rejection by the Committee of General Purposes. Throughout I had received support and encouragement from both the 3rd and 2nd Grand Principals who shared my desire to make the Exaltation Ceremony even more meaningful and enjoyable than it already was.

On 16th June 2024 I received a letter from the Committee of General Purposes informing me that a Brother Exalted using my restructured ceremony would indeed be accepted by Supreme Grand Chapter as a Companion of our Order.

A process for implementation was laid down and that is now underway with the first 'live' ceremony on the 19th September at Pemberton Chapter Rushden. Chapters interested in finding out more should contact the Provincial Office for further details.

Jim Boughton

MEGS

At the Provincial Grand Chapter meeting in June, Companion John Wooding was congratulated on his retirement as Provincial Grand Janitor after 15 years in office. Companion John, was presented with two amazing retirement gifts in the form of a "Janitors Scene" organised by E.Comp Scott McNeil, and a beautifully crafted wooden 'Janitors Sword' made by E.Comp Tim Lucy to commemorate his retirement.



Beyond the Craft

An invitation to find out more

I am sure that many of you have overheard those engrossing snippets of conversation that seem to occur so frequently at the festive board of a Craft lodge where reference is made to 'the Chapter', the Mariners', the KT or 'the Cryptic'.

Enquiry is rewarded with the explanation that they are other degrees within Freemasonry, but apart from vague information gleaned from other brethren, it is very difficult to gratify the feeling of overwhelming curiosity, and generally there is little further information forthcoming.

Our Northampton Sheaf Close centre will be hosting a Beyond the Craft Open Day on Saturday, the 28th of September 2024.

For those of you who perhaps are thinking about joining another Masonic Order or just want to find out more, this is an opportunity to meet members of the companion orders and find out a little more about their history and meetings.



Lodge Enterprise at Northampton Open Day

The Order of Women Freemasons - Lodge Enterprise No 80 stood out at the recent Open Day at Sheaf Close on Saturday 13th July.
They were in prime position by the door, spoke to many Ladies and had some interest.

The Lodge meets four times a year on the 1st Sunday and 3rd Saturdays in April, June, September and December (Installation) at 10.30am or 11.00am.

If anyone is interested please contact Christine Godwin, Secretary, at 68.godwin@gmail.com



Rushden Lady Associate Members (LAMs) were delighted to welcome Provincial Grand Charity secretary Dr Kevin Williams to their Charity Coffee Morning and invited him to present their cheque for £3000 to Karen Hughes of the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance Service.

Karen gave a very informative talk on the workings of the WNAAS, highlighting the personnel who operated the service, the costs incurred and the fact that it relied on donations as no government aid is given.



Chairman Valerie Brierley said that the ladies were most grateful for the enhancement to their fund raising efforts.

The main objective of the LAMs is to arrange social activities for its members and through this raise funds towards projects that improve the Masonic Halls where they meet. A proportion of the monies raised may be donated to outside charities and deserving causes and each year the members are invited to nominate a particular charity.

The Welingborough Millies have had another successful year in supporting the upkeep of the Masonic Hall in Wellingborough. They are very proud to announce that they have included contributing to the installation of a new stairlift at the centre, upgraded and decorated the disabled toilet, and purchased the Ladies Christmas gifts at the Christmas lunch with the Widows in December.

Their monthly coffee mornings will start up again on Saturday 21st September, at 10.00am until 12 noon. meeting at the Hall. Future dates for these are as follows: October 19th, November 23rd, December 14th, January 25th (2025), February 22nd, March 22nd, April 16th, May 17th.
The cost from September will be £3, this includes refilled cups of coffee, tea or squash, and homemade cakes/biscuits. We also have a very good raffle each month.

They are a very friendly group of Ladies, and love to meet new people and welcome them to our meetings. If you would like to come along and feel a little apprehensive about coming on your own, please email ahead on: millroadmillies@hmail.com and we will be pleased to have a chat beforehand to put you at ease.
Other events are planned and they are also looking into hosting a race night in 2025.

NEXT STEP
3000

"We must therefore not just reach the 3000, but go beyond to ensure that as we move through the annual membership peaks and troughs... This is therefore not a target, but a milestone on our way towards our objectives as laid out in our Membership Strategy."

RW.Bro Mark Constant
Provincial Grand Master



Watch The PGMs Pre-season Address on YouTube
Go to Provincial Website and search in 'Craft News' for link

www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk