



Provincial Grand Lodge of the South Eastern Counties of England



The Provincial Grand Chapter and Lodge meetings of the South-Eastern Counties of England were held at Chichester on Friday 5th December 2025. In attendance were our Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Jack Love, our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Leslie Grout, and Substitute Provincial Grand Masters Bro. Ian Fraser, and Bro. Barrie Selway.



Provincial Grand Chapter was opened by the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Jack Love. There were 30 members, and 6 guests present who were welcomed by the Provincial Grand Master.

The distinguished guests included Bro. John Allan, Provincial Grand Master for Somerset, Bro. Tom Batten, Provincial Grand Master Designate for Southern Counties, Bro. George Mars, Past Substitute Provincial Grand Master from Hants & IOW, Bro Chris Hicks, Substitute Provincial Grand Master for North Thames and Bro. Mark Hoare, Substitute Provincial Grand Master for Southern Counties.

The Provincial Grand Master welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that he hoped they would enjoy the Ceremony of Advancement and Promotion for the candidate.

A Ballot for Affiliation was held for Bro. Anthony Graham Shepherd which proved in favour of the candidate.

A Ballot for Advancement and Promotion into the Order was held for Bro. Iain James MacMillan which proved in favour of the candidate. Bro. MacMillan was admitted into the Chapter and, after an explanation of the history of the degree by the Provincial Grand Master, he was Advanced to the Degree of Heredom and given the Characteristic of 'Conveyance'.





The Provincial Grand Master was assisted by the Past Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Charles Stoddart, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Leslie Grout, and Substitute Provincial Grand Masters, Bro. Ian Fraser and Bro. Barrie Selway. Bro. Charles Stoddart acted as Provincial Grand Marischal.

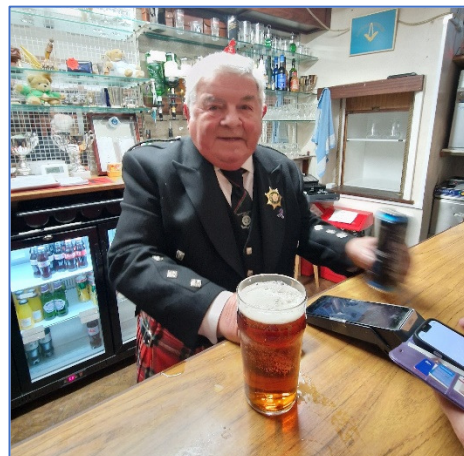
The Provincial Grand Master expressed his thanks to Bro. Charles who had stood in for the ceremony today. The other brethren who assisted with the Questions and Answers were Bros. Ian Fraser, Brian Hunter, Colin Brookman, Glen Coneley, Andrew Banks, and David Warren.

Provincial Grand Chapter was closed, and Provincial Grand Lodge was opened. Bro. MacMillan was duly admitted and Promoted to the Degree of the Rosy Cross of the Royal Order of Scotland. Bro. Charles Stoddart obligated the candidate, and the Provincial Grand Master conferred the accolade.

After the regular business of Provincial Grand Lodge had been completed the Provincial Grand Master closed Provincial Grand Lodge and the National Anthem was sung.



The Brethren then retired to the bar for some well-earned refreshments.





After refreshments in the bar, with an opportunity to catch up with everyone the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was piped into the dining room by two Pipers, Bro. Chris Harris and Bro Ralph Potter.



The Haggis was then paraded round the dining room led by the two Pipers, and the Address to the Haggis was given by Bro. Andrew Francis in his very special way.





The brethren of the Province of the South Eastern Counties and their guests sat down to a most convivial festive board.

After the meal the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Leslie Grout, proposed the Toast to the Provincial Grand Master.

The RW Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Jack Love, responded accordingly.

Thanks to Brian Hunter and Andrew Banks

The web site of Provincial Grand Lodge:

<https://www.surreycompanionorders.com/welcome-royal-order-scotland-home>



The next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at Surbiton on Wednesday the 1st of April 2026