



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 The Charmandean Centre in Worthing on Friday the 1st of December 2023.

The Brethren assembled in Worthing having experienced roadworks and traffic jams - nothing new there!

Two Brethren were joining the Order in the persons of Ian Clark and Chris Harris. The road works prevented our Provincial Junior Grand Guardian, Bro. Barrie Selway, getting to the centre on time. However, Bro. Steve Jones filled in for Barrie in a most

impressive manner, possibly pleased to escape from his duties as Surrey Provincial Grand Secretary for the day.

The characteristics for our two new members were given as "Ian Curiosity" and "Chris Piobaireachd".

Chris is a piper with the Surrey Pipe Band and Piobaireachd (*pronounced as pea-broch*) is the classical music for the bagpipes. Most pipe music is military, dance music or popular pipe tunes. It is said do not listen to Piobaireachd music if you are driving by yourself, it can be very relaxing!

Ian Clark is very well known in Surrey as the recent Provincial Grand Master in the Mark degree, as well as a member of many other Orders, and we are pleased that he has decided to join the Royal Order of Scotland. "Curiosity" reflects Ian's past occupation as well as his other interests. Welcome to you both.





The Brethren were reminded of the need to book accommodation early for the Annual Meeting in Edinburgh in July 2024 as the City is a very popular tourist city and accommodation gets booked early.

Several Brethren have already stated their intention to come to Edinburgh in the summer. Wives and partners are very welcome as we join up before or after the meetings for dinner - somewhere.



At our Festive Board, the Address to the Haggis was given by Bro. Andy Francis who was presented with the smallest haggis for a long time, I wondered what had happened to The Chieftain!



As this is the 75th anniversary of the Erection and Consecration of the South Eastern Provincial Grand Lodge, I obtained a work to be read after the toast to the King in prelude to the toast to the Memory of King Robert of Scotland.

This work is owned by the Southern Counties Lodge and was written in 1945 by the then Secretary of Southern Counties to be read at their mid-summer meeting in that year. The battle of Bannockburn was fought in mid-summer. Southern Counties try to read it once a year.





This work is read by the Provincial Grand Master, Senior and Junior Wardens and was last read at our 50th anniversary in 1998. It is entitled, " *The Immortal Memory of Robert the Bruce King of Scotland* "

The Provincial Grand Master of Southern Counties, Bro. Roy Leavers, gave us permission to read it again. It is their property, and they guard that closely, hence a copy is not in the Minutes of this Meeting. It tells of the struggles of King Robert in overcoming the English at Bannockburn. I wonder how many of our present members will be at our Centenary Meeting?



Our next Meeting will be in April at Surbiton when we will welcome some more Brethren into the South Eastern Counties of the Royal Order of Scotland.

Until then, have a very Happy Christmas and an exceptional New Year.

Article by Charles Stoddart

Around the Other Orders



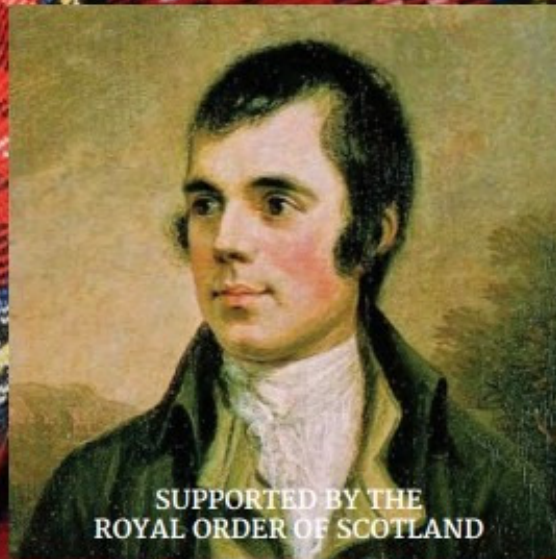
In September, at the Installation meeting of Southern Cross Council No XIII in the Allied Masonic Degrees, Bro. Colin Beerling, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler in the Order of the Secret Monitor in the Provincial Grand Conclave of Surrey was installed as Worshipful Master.

Southern Cross Council is the Executive Council in Surrey, and there were many Heads of Orders and Executive members of the Companion Orders in Surrey present to see Colin installed by W.Bro. Denis Leigh, who is the Intendant General for Middlesex in the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine. Among those present were many Brethren of the Royal Order of Scotland, South Eastern Counties.



Surrey Mark Masons' Burns Night Charity Dinner

At Guildford Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, Hitherbury Close,
Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4DR on Saturday 27th January 2024.



SUPPORTED BY THE
ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND

MENU

Haggis, Tatties and Neeps, with Whisky
Roast Beef, with the trimmings
Cranachan (Cream, oatmeal, whisky, raspberries)

Pipers, Procession and Addressing the Haggis, plus Burns Toasts

Dining: 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm.

Dress Code: Highland, Dinner Jacket or Lounge Suit.
Ladies Posh Frocks - anything in the Scottish theme appreciated.

Cost: £39 per person.

Open to the Ladies, Friends and Family, Non Masons.

BACs payments to: Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Surrey Benevolent Fund.
Sort Code: 30-93-74 Acc No. 68234860. Use "BURNS" followed by Surname as reference.

Cheques payable to: Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Surrey Benevolent Fund,
send to: John Coleman
29 Glaziers Lane,
Guildford, Surrey GU3 2DE.

Further details from: john.t.coleman@btinternet.com Tel: 07879408187

www.surreymarkmasons.com