

MBF Major Grant

In April 2021, the Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund announced a Major Capital Grant to hospices to commemorate the significant contribution made to the Crown and the nation by H.R.H., The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The Grant of £1,286,000 was distributed through Mark Lodges in England & Wales who each nominated a local hospice to receive a £1,000 donation wholly funded by the M.B.F. Of the 1,286 lodges of Mark Master Masons, 230 different charities were chosen which in turn manage the running of 273 hospices.

In Surrey, donations totalling £43,000 were made by members of our Provincial Executive to seven hospices: Sam Beare, St Raphael's, St Catherine's, Woking Hospice, Princess Alice Hospice, Shooting Star Children's Hospice, and Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice.

A donation to Shooting Star Children's Hospice.....



In November a donation of £8,000 was made to Shooting Star Hospice by the Mark Province of Surrey in memory of the late HRH Prince Philip. RW.Bro. Ian Clark presented the cheque to Jane De Lay at Shooting Star House children's hospice in Hampton.

Shooting Star House, which first opened its doors in August 2005 has ten children's bedrooms and six family flats, as well as a host of specialist facilities, Shooting Star House is a home from home for families of children with life-limiting conditions.

Facilities include: **Sensory room** - a place to relax and sooth distressed children, and for those with profound multiple learning difficulties it provides a stimulating environment supporting non-verbal communication. **Hydrotherapy pool** - as well as offering physical benefits, like aiding mobility and helping muscle tone and strength, our hydrotherapy pool offers emotional benefits, providing fun and memorable experiences for all the family to enjoy together. **Arts and crafts room** - a very popular places for children to explore their creative sides. **Garden** - As well as accessible equipment to play on, they have a specially designed sensory garden and a memory garden to take a moment to reflect.



.....and to Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice



Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care

Phyllis Tuckwell recently received a generous donation of £8,000 from the Mark Master Masons of Surrey, in recognition of the excellent care that Phyllis Tuckwell provides for local patients and their families and carers at the Hospice in Farnham, the Beacon Centre in Guildford and in the local community across West Surrey and North-East Hampshire.

Ian Clark, our Provincial Grand Master, along with John French, our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and John Coleman and David Lawrence, visited the Hospice in Farnham on Monday 25th October to present the cheque and see first-hand the important supportive and end of life care that Phyllis Tuckwell provides for local patients and families who are living with an advanced or terminal illness, such as cancer.

Every day it supports over 250 patients, relatives and carers, through medical and nursing care, therapies, counselling, social work advice and practical support. However, as the NHS/Government usually only covers about 20% of its costs, it has to raise over £25,000 a day to be able to offer all of its services, which it gives free of charge to its patients and their families.

"We would like to thank the Mark Master Masons of Surrey for this amazing donation," said Charli Quay-Barnham, Community Fundraising Manager at Phyllis Tuckwell. "It was wonderful to be able to facilitate a visit to the Hospice so that we could show them the care that their donation will help fund. £8,000 could pay for over two months' care from one of our In-Patient Unit Nurses, who each care for up to five patients, and provide important emotional support for their families too."

If you would like to find out more about the care which Phyllis Tuckwell provides, please visit www.pth.org.uk.



2021 Charity Dinner Dance

After a long wait of two years the Surrey Mark Annual Charity Dinner Dance, Cha Di Da, was held at the Reigate Manor Hotel on Saturday 30th October 2021. It was well worth the wait as the event was a huge success with everyone enjoying the party atmosphere.



There were over 160 guests consisting of Surrey Mark Masons, their friends and families, including the Provincial Grand Master of the Craft Province of Surrey, RW.Bro. Ian Chandler, and Heads of the other Orders in Surrey.

This year's Dinner Dance, once again organised by Alan and Wendy Brockwell, was a sell out months ago.

The event included a lovely three course meal with Prosecco, and dancing after the meal to Paul Hobbs, a Rod Stewart tribute singer, and Jahson Nembhard, formally of the Drifters.



From 6.00 pm the guests started gathering for a few drinks in the bar before moving into the dining room.

After the meal we were entertained by Paul Hobbs, a Rod Stewart tribute singer who got us all up dancing.....



..... and then the party started.

Alan and Wendy distributed party poppers and balloons to all the tables which were soon being blown up and let off.



Next was the Grand Raffle to support the Surrey 2022 MBF Festival. There was a table full of prizes with the top prizes being a 32" JVC television....



...a hamper of goodies...



...and a Sunday carvery meal for four at the Reigate Manor Hotel.



W, Bro. John French, our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, then held an auction for a bottle of fine brandy kindly donated by RW. Bro. Ray Hussey, our Past Provincial Grand Master.



This was won by Bro. Rowland Gbedemah of Percy Mark Lodge with a winning bid of £300.

After dinner we were entertained by Jahson Nembhard, formally of the Drifters.



We had a competition to see who was the best air guitarist.



Our Provincial Grand Master, RW. Bro. Ian Clark, thanked everyone for coming along to support our annual Cha Di Da, and gave special thanks to Alan and Wendy Brockwell for their organisation of this Dinner Dance Party.



As well as having a most enjoyable evening together the Dinner Dance raised £3,300 towards the Surrey 2022 MBF Festival.

We are all looking forward to next year's Mark Cha Di Da





News from around the Province

Northern Heights RAM Installation

The installation meeting of the Northern Heights Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No. 989 was held, by Dispensation, on Monday 18th October at the Sutton Masonic Hall.



The Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Brian Davies, and the Dispensation was read by the Scribe, W.Bro. Geoff Nickson, R.A.M.G.R. After the regular business of the Lodge had been completed the Scribe read another Dispensation to elect a Commander and Treasurer.

Bro. Ahmet Ratip was elected and presented to the Installing Commander, and yet another Dispensation was read as Bro. Ahmet had not yet been installed as Master of a Mark Lodge. Once the paperwork had been completed, Bro. Ahmet was Installed into the Chair of Northern Heights Royal Ark Mariner Lodge in a most excellent manner by W.Bro. Brian Davies, who also gave the Address to the Worshipful Commander after the Officers present had been appointed and installed.

We all congratulated W.Bro. Ahmet on his installation, as well as W.Bro. Brian on such an excellent and enjoyable ceremony. After photos and refreshments in the newly dedicated Miller Bar, six of us dined together on an excellent meal prepared by Fino's Kitchen at the Sutton Masonic Hall. Despite being low in numbers it was a most successful and enjoyable afternoon. We are now looking forward to their December meeting when W.Bro. Brian will install Bro Ahmet into the Chair of the Mark Lodge.

As they are currently quite low in numbers, I thought I would pop in and help as I know everyone so well, and have seen their Commander Elect, Ahmet Ratip, progress through the Lodge Offices since his Elevation in 2012.

When I arrived there were five members of the Lodge, plus W.Bro. Norman Jones who was acting as Warder. I immediately offered to act as the Lodge DC, a job I was especially pleased to do as in this Lodge the DC and ADC carry batons instead of wands, just as they do in Lodge ceremonies in the USA.



Frederick Wheeler Lodge of Mark Master Masons 50 Year Certificate

On Wednesday 20th October 2021 at Frederick Wheeler Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 1407 (*the Surrey Mark Executive Lodge*), the Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. Ian Nelson Clark was delighted to present a 50 year certificate to V.W.Bro. Noel Alfred Brian Grout, P.G.M.O., a Past Master of the Lodge.



V.W.Bro. Grout who has had a distinguished career in Freemasonry, including many of the Progressive Orders, was Advanced in Carnarvon Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 616 in October 1971.

V.W.Bro. Grout was pleased to be reminded of events of 1971, including the fact that as a lifetime supporter, Arsenal won both the league title and the F.A. Cup in that year, when a first-class stamp was 3d.



A Special Meeting of Comites Sigillorum Lodge

On Tuesday 2nd November 2021 Comites Sigillorum Lodge No 1352 was honoured by the presence of our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. John V C French, and several Provincial Officers of the year; as well as the Lodge's Official Visitor, W.Bro. David Wills, P.G.S.D.. What made this meeting so special was that later in the afternoon W.Bro. John would be approved as a joining member of both Lodges, along with other Brethren. This is part of an initiative to ensure that this 50-year-old Lodge continues to play an active part in the Province of Surrey for many years to come.

The RAM Lodge was opened by the Acting Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. John Johnston, Prov.R.A.M.G.R., who welcomed the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the Officers who had come along to support him.

The first item on the agenda was to ballot for W.Bros. John French and Norman Jones as Joining Members. Not surprisingly this was approved by the members and W.Bros. John and Norman were welcomed into the Lodge by W.Bro. John Johnston.

After reading the Dispensation, W.Bro. John Gregory (Snr.) was Proclaimed as Commander for the current year and the Officers were appointed. Bro. Keith Wadkin was then elected as Worshipful Commander and W.Bro. Mike Sharpling as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Notice of Motion was given that John Gregory Senior and Junior be offered Honorary Membership of Comites Sigillorum RAM Lodge in recognition of all they had done for the Lodge over many years. The RAM Lodge was then closed and after the customary photos we retired for tea while the Lodge was set up for the Mark meeting.



The Mark Lodge was opened by the Acting Worshipful Master, W.Bro. John Johnston, P.A.G.D.C., who again welcomed the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Officers and offered the Deputy Provincial Grand Master the gavel.

On taking the Chair the Deputy Provincial Grand Master said how good it was to be visiting Comites Sigillorum Lodge, and thanks for the very warm welcome he and his Officers had received. He introduced the Provincial team, spoke briefly about the 2022 MBF festival, took the minutes, and vacated the Chair.



W.Bro. John French, W.Bro. Norman Jones, and Bro. David Bull were balloted for as Joining Members. This was again approved by the members and John; Norman and David were welcomed into the Lodge by W.Bro. John Johnston.



After reading the Dispensation, W.Bro. John Gregory (Snr.) was Proclaimed as Worshipful Master for the current year and the Officers were appointed. W.Bro. John French was then elected as Worshipful Master and W.Bro. Mike Sharpling as Treasurer for the ensuing year. Notice of Motion was given that John Gregory Senior and John Gregory Junior be offered Honorary Membership of Comites Sigillorum Mark Lodge.

W.Bro. David Lawrence gave a presentation on all the 2022 MBF Festival activities taking place saying he

had brought along the Provincial suitcase and will be selling merchandise at the Festive Board, along with sponsorship forms for the Swimathon. Everyone was encouraged to sponsor our Provincial Grand Master, to stop Steve Jones appearing in his mankini.....

After the Lodge was closed, we all went to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a most convivial Festive Board at Croydon Masonic Hall where, as is the usual custom, members of the Allied Masonic Degrees wore their AMD napkins.



News from other Orders

A big thank-you to the Masonic Order of Athelstan

The first meeting of the Sword of Constantine Court No.120 in two years was held at the Croydon Masonic Hall on Tuesday 12th October 2021. Unfortunately, due to other commitments several members were unable to attend, including the Master, W.Bro. Glyn Harvey, who is recovering in hospital.



The Court was opened by the Immediate Past Master, W.Bro. Terry Carpenter, who welcomed everyone. W.Bro. Glyn Harvey was declared Worshipful Master for a third year and Proclaimed by the Marshal, W.Bro. Chris Eley, ProvGMar.



A proposition was given to donate the sum of £500 towards the Surrey Mark 2022 MBF festival. This was approved and the Worshipful Master had much pleasure in presenting a cheque to our Provincial Grand Master who thanked the Brethren of the Court for their generous donation.

The Consecration of the Grand Master's Bodyguard Preceptory

On Tuesday the 12th October 2021 at Mark Masons Hall the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T., Consecrated The Grand Master's Bodyguard Preceptory No. 715.

At 11.00 a.m. the Most Eminent & Supreme Grand Master, the Consecration Officer, entered in procession, assumed the Throne, appointed his Officers, and opened a Preceptory.

The Consecrating Officer Constituted the Preceptory and scattered corn, a Symbol of Plenty and Abundance, poured wine, a Symbol of Joy and Cheerfulness, and sprinkled oil, a symbol of Peace and Unanimity.



The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master invited the Great Seneschal, V.H. & R.E.Kt. Andrew C. Rainbow, G.C.T. to Install the Preceptor Nominate, E.Kt. Mark A Winchester, a Past Master of Weyside Mark Lodge, which was done in a very personal manner. The Eminent Preceptor invested his Chaplain, V.E.Kt. Ian T D Smith, a Past Master of Weyside Mark Lodge, the Constables, and the Officers of the Preceptory.



E.Kt. Mark's guests from Surrey and Middlesex congratulated him on a most successful and enjoyable morning and thanked him for the kind invitation to join him on this special day. We all retired to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a splendid meal together.

A raffle was held during the meal which raised the sum of £700. The Eminent Preceptor had much pleasure in handing a cheque to the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master as a donation to the St John at Jerusalem Eye Hospital appeal.

Our Provincial Grand Secretary is made a Squire Novice

The thirteenth meeting of the Anglo Saxon Prefecture in the Grand Priory of Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Rite of England and Wales was held at Mark Masons Hall on Thursday 4th November 2021.



Congratulations to our Provincial Grand Secretary, Tim Ford, and to Eric Trodd of Stoneleigh Mark Lodge on taking their Squire Novice Degree.

After the remaining business was completed, the Prefecture was closed, and we retired to the dining room for a most enjoyable meal together. In the afternoon a meeting was held to create and commission as Knights thirteen Squire Novices who have all merited this distinction.

The Ceremony was conducted in an impressive and very personal manner by the Most Eminent and Reverend Grand Master, Michael Edward Herbert, G.C.H.C., and his team.

Afterwards the Most Eminent and Reverend Grand Master, Michael Edward Herbert, G.C.H.C., R.Revd.Kt. Kessick Jones, K.C.H.C., R.Revd.Kt. David Jordan, Regional Grand Prefect, Revd.Kt. Kelvin Gane, Prefecture Mareschal, Revd.Kt. Pat Crossan, the Provincial Prior of Surrey; and the newly created Knight, Revd.Kt. Chris Eley, our Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master, posed for a photograph. It was a long day, but a truly memorable and enjoyable one.



The Prefecture was opened in the Fifth Degree of the Order by the Regional Grand Prefect, R.Revd.Kt. David Jordan, K.B.H.C., who welcomed all the Distinguished Guests. After the Muster Roll of Lodges and of Prefecture Officers had been called the main item on the agenda was to promote twelve Fourth Degree members to Squire Novice

This was done in a very personal manner by the Regional Grand Prefect, assisted by the Mareschal, Kelvin Gane, and the Acting Deputy Mareschal, Chris Eley.

Afterwards the members of Suth Seaxe Lodge of Scottish Masters No 9 posed for a photograph with the Regional Grand Prefect, R.Revd.Kt. David Jordan; and the Provincial Prior of Surrey, Revd.Kt. Pat Crossan, who acted as Prior for the meeting.

Surrey Conclave in the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine



R.III Kt Bob Hancock, Intendant General for the Division of Surrey, attended the Surrey Conclave.

He was accompanied by several Divisional Officers together with W Kts Steve Rowlands and Dave Reid, Captain and Deputy Captain of the Sepulchre Guard and four Members of the Sepulchre Guard.

MP Sovereign Jeff Hancock was proclaimed as Most Puissant Sovereign and Eminent Knight Mike Beckerman of Richmond Mark Lodge was consecrated as Venerable Eusebius, on his 79th birthday!

The Intendant General celebrated his 79th on Sunday!

Following the meeting an enjoyable festive was had by all.

The refreshment of Woodstock Mark Lodge

Are you interested in Beer, Wine and Spirits? If you are, David Lawrence will be able assist you!



The reason for the question is that plans are in place to revive Woodstock Lodge as the Grape and Grain Lodge of the Province.

The lodge will meet twice a year, suggested dates so far are 2nd Thursday in February and June, one being an original date of Woodstock Mark Lodge.

The Lodge meeting will serve to have speakers such as Sommeliers, Distillers and Brewers come and further educate us on our favourite tipple. We will also arrange visits to Vineyards, Distilleries and Breweries to see how this tasty treat is made, and also a sample their wares. Don't worry this will almost certainly be a coach trip.

Interested? – You can be a Founder, a Joiner, or even a Newly

Advanced Mason. Contact David Lawrence on david@backtolife.co.uk for more information.



Is Your Raiding Party Ready?

Have you and your lodge members booked in to dine at Welcome Mark Lodge, Sutton on 18th November, when you could have the chance to take the Travelling Keystone back to your Lodge?

If not, contact the secretary, Miguel Godfrey today: migod@ntlworld.com

2022 Burns' Night

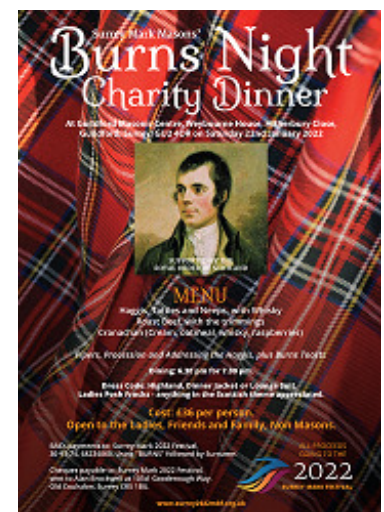
Guildford Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, Hitherbury Close, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4DR on Saturday 22nd January 2022.

Cost: £36 per person. Dining: 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm.

Pipers, Procession & Addressing the Haggis. Plus Burns Toasts.

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

Although this event is sold out Alan Brockwell is keeping a waitlist in case tickets become available. Let Alan know if you wish to go on the list.



Swimathon - support our Provincial Grand Master



Please sign up to Sponsor our Provincial Grand Master, or one of the other plucky swimmers, on Sunday 5th December 2021 at Guildford Spectrum Pool, GU1 1UP

Meet at 10.30am for swim at 11am. Choose your own target & why not bring the family?

The fun pool is also open. RW.Bro. Ian Clark will present medals to all children taking part.

Look out for the sponsorship forms at your Festive Boards – or download one from the web site:

<http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk/Festival-Events/Swimathon-Booking-Form.pdf>



Christmas Day Balloon Race

Join the family fun in our exciting charity fundraising event to enjoy at home.



Launching from Santa's Village, Lapland at 12pm on Christmas Day, 25th December 2021, this eco friendly computer game uses real time weather updates to affect the course of your balloon.

Balloons are just £3 each and can be personalised and decorated by changing shape, colours and patterns. They can be customised to aid winning. Follow your balloon's progress on Google maps 24/7 over the 7 days of the race.

They make an ideal gift to send to those family and friends you may be missing at this difficult time, especially children and grandchildren who will be thrilled taking part.

Great exclusive prizes for Surrey Mark 2022 Festival supporters for furthest distance travelled at the end:

Plus a chance to also win the national prizes which comprise:

- £500 cash
- Apple iPad
- 10 x £10 book tokens

Win

- £30 Amazon gift voucher
- £20 Amazon gift voucher
- 5 x £10 book tokens

Get Started

1. Click here for more information and to go to the race website. [Surrey 2022 Festival - Christmas Balloon Race \(markmastermasons.org.uk\)](http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk)
2. Choose to buy a virtual balloon - you will need to register first time to pay.
3. Your purchase or activation code will be confirmed by email.
4. You are now ready to name, decorate and customise your balloon and follow its progress.

Tip – Choosing the right materials and configuration will make a difference to the flight and remember balloons can burst! It's as real as you can get.



Provincial Grand Officers Mess Open Evening



The 2021 Provincial Grand Officers Mess Open Evening was held on Saturday 18th September at the Guilford Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, Guildford.

It was so good to get together again socially after what seems a long time. The weather was good to us allowing everyone to get together on the terrace for drinks before retiring to the dining room to enjoy a delicious meal together.

Many thanks to Tony Connor for organising this for us, and for running the raffle which generated more funds for our 2022 MBF Festival.





The Order of Royal & Select Masters



On Friday 10th December Weyside Council in the Order of Royal and Select Masters are holding a presentation on the Cryptic Order with a view to attracting potential members, who would also be invited to join in the Festive Board afterwards.

The presentation is the result of work carried out by R.III.Comp. Mik Barnes, our Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, to produce information similar to that which was delivered under the title of 'The Mark meets the Craft' a few years ago.

The District Grand Master of the District of Surrey, R.III.Comp. David Blackburn, our Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Deputy District Grand Master, Ill.Comp. Peter Kipps will deliver the presentation. If this proves successful, they will consider further events.

Brethren, if you want to know more about this beautiful Degree, which completes your Solomonic journey, please consider attending this event.

Contact either the Council Recorder, Ian Neve, on ian@ian-neve.co.uk or the District Recorder, Terry Carpenter, on surreydistrictgrandrecorder@gmail.com

An invitation to Companions of the Royal Arch and Brethren of the Mark Degree

Discover how to complete your Solomonic journey
Guildford Masonic Centre is the venue for Weyside Council's meeting
on 10th December 2021

Have you noticed the 470 year gap between Craft and Royal Arch?

What happened?

Who has the answer?

Please stay for the Festive Board after the presentation.

A presentation about the degrees of the Order of Royal and Select Masters.

Contact the Secretary of Weyside Council, Ian Neve via ian@ian-neve.co.uk or Mob 07940 577453
or the District Recorder Terry Carpenter via surreydistrictgrandrecorder@gmail.com