

# A New Year Message from our Provincial Grand Master

Welcome to the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Surrey Keystone

2021 proved to be a more difficult year than anyone expected, but we still managed to have fun with online quizzes, virtual balloon races, prize draws and 160 attending the Cha Di Da in October.

# 2022



In September we were finally able to resume full meetings and I was delighted that so many of our members were keen to return to their lodges and start enjoying their Mark Masonry once again.

The first meeting of most Lodges was an Installation and I, or members of the Executive, visited 39 such meetings as well as supporting other Lodges whenever we could. This created a heavy workload for our Provincial Director of Ceremonies and his team of Escorting Officers, and I now publicly thank them for their dedication to their duties.

2022 is our Festival Year, I hope you are going to support and get the maximum enjoyment out of the forthcoming events, Burns Supper on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, W Bro John Hardy's sponsored walk and of course our Provincial Annual Meeting on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March. I look forward to welcoming you and seeing you all wearing the 2022 Festival Steward's Jewel.

I also hope you have booked your tickets for the Festival dinner on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> July, the culmination of your fundraising efforts for the Mark Benevolent Fund, when our Festival result will be announced. If not, there are only a few tickets remaining. <http://www.surrey2022mbf.org.uk>

Finally, I wish you and all your families a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2022. Keep safe and well.

*Ian N Clark, Provincial Grand Master.*

## Grand Rank in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners



In December, members of the Provincial Executive and other Brethren went along to Freemasons Hall to support those Surrey Brethren who have been invested with Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank by Most Worshipful Brother His Royal Highness, Prince Michael of Kent, GVCO, Grand Master, the Grand Master, at the Annual Assembly of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners in the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall.

W.Bro. Les Smith – Kintore 333

W.Bro. John Woodville – Richmond 808

W.Bro. Bernie Greenwood – Curfew 1411

After the meeting, the Provincial Grand Master, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, along with other Surrey Brethren gathered for the customary photograph.



# News from around the Province

## Northern Heights get by - with a little help from their friends.....

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September, Northern Heights Lodge was pleased to receive W.Bro. John French, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by several Provincial Officers of the year.



V.W.Bro. Chris enjoyed acting as Director of Ceremonies with his baton. Here we have the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the Worshipful Master with their Escorting Officers.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master took the gavel and said how good it was to be with everyone. He gave an update on the Festival, introduced the Provincial Team, took the minutes, and then handed back the gavel to W.Bro. Brian, as he had work to do. After the Dispensation had been read, Bro. Ahmet Ratip, was declared Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. Ahmet was installed as Worshipful Master by W.Bro. Brian in a most sincere and excellent manner. The Address to the Master was given by V.W.Bro. Chris Eley, and to the Brethren by W.Bro. John French.



The Group Charity Steward, W.Bro. Ken McIntosh, gave a most interesting update on the Festival events being held and the merchandise available. To round up a most enjoyable meeting the Deputy Provincial Grand Master presented MBF Certificates to W.Bros. Geoffrey Nickson and Mike Millership, thanking them for their personal support for the Festival.

After the Lodge was closed, we all sat down to a most enjoyable meal at the Sutton Masonic Hall. If anyone is looking for a small friendly Lodge, they can do no better than to come along to Northern Heights where they will receive a very warm welcome – and an office to cover...

***Their next meeting is a RAM Installation on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 where they plan to hold a RAM Festive Board. This will be a very special occasion and if anyone wishes to join them to experience a RAM Festive Board, please contact the Secretary on [secretarynh@gmail.com](mailto:secretarynh@gmail.com)***

The Royal Ark Mariner Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Ahmet Ratip. As unfortunately only four members were able to attend the meeting W.Bro. John French acted as Senior Warden, W.Bro. Chris Eley acted as Junior Warden, and W.Bros. Ken McIntosh and Martin Baker acted as Deacons.

The Worshipful Commander welcomed the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to Northern Heights RAM Lodge and thanked him and his team for their support. W.Bro. Brian Davis, was declared elected as Worshipful Commander for the ensuing year. The Lodge was then closed in a record time of 14 minutes, and photos taken.

The Mark Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Brian Davies, who welcomed the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and his team to Northern Heights Mark Lodge. Once again, the members of the Provincial Team supported the Lodge by occupying various offices.



The Worshipful Master had much pleasure in presenting the Deputy Provincial Grand Master with a cheque for £500 towards the Mark 2022 MBF Festival. This brings Northern Heights Mark Lodge to Grand Patron level. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master thanked the Brethren of Northern Heights Mark Lodge for their generous donation which, bearing in mind their small numbers, is a tremendous achievement.



# Fine Dining at Knightsbridge Lodge of Mark Master Masons



In December 2021, after a wait of two years, the Knightsbridge Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 1878 held their installation meeting at Surbiton Masonic Hall. Present as members of the Lodge were the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the two Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, along with V.W.Bro. Mik Barnes, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and V.W.Bro. Chris Eley, Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

The Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Richard Knox, our Assistant Provincial Grand Master, who welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes and accounts were approved. The Master Elect, W.Bro. Richard Wileman, was presented to the Installing Master, by the Director of Ceremonies, V.W.Bro. Chris Eley. After a Board of Installed Masters was declared, W.Bro. Richard recited his Obligation, was invested with the Collar and Jewel of his Office and placed in the Chair of the Knightsbridge Lodge of Mark Master Masons. W.Bro. Richard then appointed and invested his Officers. As Senior Warden, W.Bro. Ray Johnson, and as Junior Warden, W.Bro. John Massey.

W.Bro. Ray Johnson and W.Bro. James Walker were declared elected to the Offices of Worshipful Master and Treasurer. W.Bro. Steve Jones, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, gave an abbreviated version of his charity presentation. The Lodge then voted to donate a sum on money to the 2022 MBF Festival which would earn them a MBF Grand Patron Award.

We had four Deputies in the Lodge. Our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, John French; the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Craft Province of Surrey, Richard Wileman; the Deputy Grand Superintendent in the Royal Arch, Richard Knox; and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Province of Kent, Perri Ahmet.

The Lodge was closed in due form and everyone retired to the bar. We were then called into the dining room to be treated to a sumptuous 6 course meal specially prepared by W.Bro. Robbie Dobbie and his team at Glenmore House.

After the meal we played Heads and Tails to win a special Christmas rum cake baked by our Master Chef, V.W.Bro. Jerry Gangadeen. This was won by W.Bro. Jack Love.

The Worshipful Master was pleased to present our Provincial Grand Master with a donation enabling the Lodge to achieve Grand Patron level in the Mark Benevolent Fund. Our Provincial Grand Master thanked the Brethren of Knightsbridge Lodge for their generous donation.



As is the usual custom at Mark Festive Boards, the Brethren of the Allied Masonic Degrees joined their District Grand Prefect for a photo wearing their AMD napkins



# Other News

## A big thank-you to Stoneleigh Park Craft Lodge



On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December W.Bro. Norman Jones, a member of Bond of Friendship Mark Lodge was installed in the Chair of Stoneleigh Park Lodge No 7659.

There as guests of Norman were several members of Bond of Friendship Mark Lodge, along with W.Bro. Chris Eley, our Past Provincial Grand Master.



After W.Bro. Norman was installed in the chair and invested his officers the Lodge approved a donation of £500 towards the Surrey Mark 2022 MBF Festival.

W.Bro. Chris Eley was presented with the cheque and on behalf of our Provincial Grand Master thanked the Brethren of Stoneleigh Park Lodge for their kind donation.

After the Lodge was closed to all dined together in the Elizabethan Suite at Surbiton Masonic Hall.

## Marking Well at North Surrey First Principals Chapter

The Installation Convocation of the North Surrey First Principals Chapter in December was a real Mark family affair. The Chapter was opened by the 1<sup>st</sup> Principal, Greer Kirkwood of Woodgrange Mark Lodge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Principal, Malcolm Clarke of Richmond Mark Lodge, and the acting 3<sup>rd</sup> Principal, Chris Eley of Richmond Mark Lodge.



The main item on the agenda was to install the Principals for the ensuing year. Greer Kirkwood installed David Grimmer of Stoneleigh Mark Lodge into the 1<sup>st</sup> Principal's Chair; Malcolm Clarke installed Norman Woodfin of Stoneleigh Mark Lodge into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Principal's Chair; and Chris Eley installed Martin Wreford of Weyside Mark Lodge into the 3<sup>rd</sup> Principal's Chair.

Also pictured is our Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Richard Knox, Deputy Grand Superintendent in and over the Royal Arch Province of Surrey, of Welcome Mark Lodge; Michael Beckerman of Richmond Mark Lodge, the Scribe E; Michael Ellis of Richmond Mark Lodge, the Principal Sojourner;

Bernie Greenwood of Curfew Mark Lodge, Director of Ceremonies; and Gary Raggett of Collingwood Mark Lodge, Steward.

Attending the meeting was E.Comp. Ian Chandler, Grand Superintendent in and over the Royal Arch Province of Surrey, a member of Frederick Wheeler Mark Lodge; and Trevor Rains, Second Provincial Grand Principal, a member of Pleydell Bouverie Mark Lodge.

# Festival News

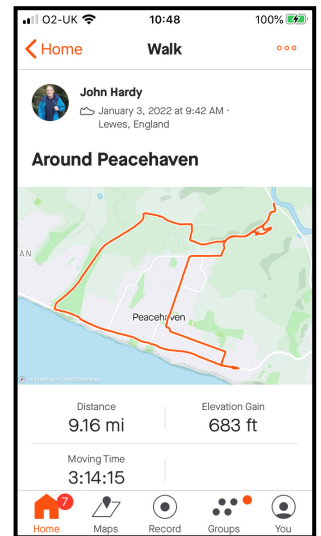
## W.Bro. John Hardy's 122 Mile Walk



Sponsor W.Bro. John Hardy as he completes a series of walks in London, Surrey, and Seaford from December 2021 to February 2022 in support of our 2022 Mark MBF Festival.

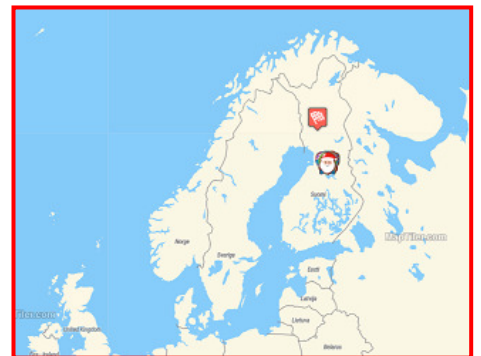
This will culminate in a walk from Mark Masons Hall in London to Croydon Masonic Centre

Sponsorship and gift aid forms are available on the web site.



## Christmas Day Balloon Race

175 Festival Sponsored Balloons were launched 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 the balloons.

Balloons were just £3 each to buy and have been personalised and decorated by changing shape, colours and patterns. We have been following the progress of our balloons on Google maps 24/7 over the 7 days of the race.

***After just one day our Editor's balloon had burst.....***

It wasn't long before the balloons were heading South through Lapland and Finland after splitting into two main groups

After seven days the exclusive prizes of Amazon Gift Vouchers and Book Tokens for Surrey Mark 2022 Festival supporters for furthest distance travelled went to Ted Knight, Les Smith, Derek Harrington, Bob Tuthill and three others.

The event raised £500 towards our Mark 2022 MBF festival.



# Super Prize Draw Raffle

Support the Surrey Mark 2022 MBF Festival with our Super Prize Draw Raffle featuring great prizes.



Tickets are £1 each and are available to buy online at <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/2022-Prize-Draw> or in books of £5 which are available from Steve Jones, the Provincial Charity Representatives, Lodge Secretaries and Charity Stewards and other Brethren.

## The fabulous prizes are:



### First Prize

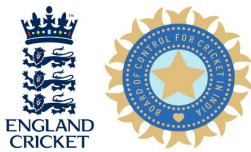
Two Night Stay at a 4 Star Copthorne Hotel with Dinner and Breakfast for two in any UK hotel outside London subject to availability.

*Exclusions apply.*



### Second Prize

A Rehoboam of Chivas Regal 12-year old whisky (4.5 litres or six bottles), with pouring cradle and boxed.



### Third Prize

Two tickets to the England v India One Day Cricket International at the Oval on 12th July 2022.



### Fourth Prize

Three course lunch for two with house wine at The French Table, Surbiton.

**The Prize Draw will take place at the Annual Meeting at Croydon on Saturday the 19th of March 2022.**

## Happy Birthday Roy



Our oldest subscribing member, W.Bro. Roy Miller, P.Prov.G.Insp.Wks., of Croydon Lodge of Mark Master Masons, celebrated his 98<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December.

There to congratulate Roy, and to wish him all the best from his Mark colleagues, was W.Bro. Nigel Feltham.

Roy is now living with his daughter, Gill, and her family in Whyteleafe and is enjoying being spoilt rotten – as he should be....

